**Request for Proposals for**

**President’s Global Innovation Fund**

**Columbia University**

**RFP Issue Date: December 11, 2015**

**RFP Due Date: February 10, 2016**

The Columbia Global Centers are a global network of flexible regional hubs that provide a wide range of activities and resources intended to enhance the quality of research and learning at the University. They are built on the belief that establishing an interactive network of partnerships across geographic boundaries and collaborations within and across traditional academic disciplines can help address complex challenges by bringing together scholars, students, public officials, private sector leaders, and innovators from many fields.

The Columbia Global Centers support faculty in a variety of ways. They are the bases for numerous interdisciplinary research projects, the homes of important student programming across our schools, and the catalysts for academic partnerships across the world.  In many ways, they are prepared to support our faculty’s global aims, and to further their dialogue with stakeholders in the regions relevant to their research. Their presence on the ground provides agency: spurring interactions with local and regional academic communities, institutions, governments, and other partners. These interactions encourage academic reciprocity between local thinkers and the Columbia University scholarly community—espousing a global dialogue that transcends geographic, economic, cultural, and social barriers. By virtue of their interdisciplinary outreach, the network of centers encourages new relationships across schools, institutes, and academic departments at the University. Their decentralized nature allows for collaboration and programming across the network of eight centers—enabling research projects and initiatives that are global in scope and that address the central concerns and challenges of our globalizing societies. The centers also provide critical logistical support and hosting mechanisms, including the use of their own facilities or access to appropriate facilities in the center’s city or other cities served by the center.

The President’s Global Innovation Fund awards grants for faculty members to leverage and engage Columbia’s network of Global Centers. The program functions as a venture fund that enables the development of projects and research collaborations within and across these sites, in order to increase global opportunities for research, teaching, and service. Projects must engage one or more of Columbia’s Global Centers (Amman, Jordan; Beijing, China; Istanbul, Turkey; Mumbai, India; Nairobi, Kenya; Paris, France; Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; and Santiago, Chile). Projects may be based in a city where a Columbia Global Center is located, or in other locations in the regions served by a Global Center. Leveraging the Global Centers will enable the centers and their staff to go beyond their operational capacity—often providing support, counsel, and a network of contacts to concretize and supplement existing research and programming goals. The centers are a conduit to local, regional, and global knowledge, expertise, and networks, and they should be utilized as such.

An overview of Columbia Global Centers, including descriptions of local, regional, and international partnerships, programming and projects, center interests, priorities and thematic focus, and center personnel and space, can be accessed [**here**.](http://globalcenters.columbia.edu/files/cgc/columbia_global_centers_-_appendix_2015_final.pdf)

**What kinds of projects are candidates for funding?**

Successful project proposals will go beyond a standard individual investigator research project: demonstrating cooperative and equitable research partnerships with local and regional stakeholders; building national and regional research capacity; and providing opportunities for students to engage in meaningful partnerships with faculty in research, education, or training.

Eligible project types could include:

* Support for the development/implementation of educational or curricular initiatives at the graduate or undergraduate level (new courses and seminars or fieldwork/travel components of campus-based courses; training or group workshop/internship programs with local partners).
* Support for research collaborations: pilot research projects; linkages with local universities, NGOs, and/or government agencies.
* Scholarly events (conferences, workshops, symposia) in collaboration with local scholars/scientists, and/or institutions/organizations.

Projects will be evaluated on the thoughtfulness and feasibility of their proposed research or educational experience. If you apply to work with multiple centers, make clear how these collaborations will advance your work; proposing multiple collaborations without justification will not advantage your proposal.

Special consideration will be given to those projects which:

* Provide opportunities to students to engage and partner meaningfully with faculty in research, education, or training.
* Forge collaborations with local researchers, educators, and institutions.
* Promote cross-school or interdisciplinary faculty collaborations.
* Provide realistic budgets that effectively leverage the modest funding available.
* Have the potential to attract external support; or seek matching funding opportunities.
* Have the potential to grow into sustainable programs.

**Who is eligible to apply?**

Schools, departments, institutes, centers, and faculty (individually or in groups) are all eligible to apply.

Applications must be submitted by an individual with the authority to serve as a principal investigator, who will assume primary scholarly, administrative, and financial responsibility for the project. Those eligible to apply are: faculty members with full-time professorial titles, modified or unmodified; instructors; and officers of research. Lecturers are not eligible to apply.

Note that faculty whose primary appointments are in Barnard or Teachers College may only submit applications with the permission of their respective provost.

**What kind of funding is available?**

All awards will be made on a competitive basis. Award amounts will be determined individually by project. The funding of a planning grant does not in any way guarantee the automatic funding of a future project grant. We invite two types of proposals:

* Planning grants (up to $20,000), for a period of no longer than one year (non-renewable).
* Project grants (up to $50,000 per year), for a period of up to three years. Multi-year grants will be reviewed and renewed annually, pending adequate progress.

Note that in the last round of funding, no project received maximum funding ($50,000 per year for three years).

**What is required to apply for funds?**

To be considered in this competition, applications for funds must be received by February 10, 2016.

In developing proposals and budgets, applicants are *required* to consult with the director(s) of the relevant Global Center(s) about project feasibility and engagement with the Center, prior to submission, to assess feasibility.

Applicants with projects that include student travel are *required* to consult with Columbia’s Office of Global Programs (for programs that involve undergraduates) or the Dean of Students of the associated school (for programs that involve graduate students). Please note that if your project involves course work or seeks to grant credit, and if the project is funded, proper approvals from all committees and academic offices will need to be obtained.

Though no letter of support is required, principal investigators must inform their Dean of their application.

A completed application must include (**in this order**):

* Cover page (a cover sheet is included at the end of this RFP).
* Executive summary (not to exceed 300 words)

Budget documents

Detailed budget and narrative (a budget sheet is included at the end of this RFP). Budget items should be listed by expense category (e.g., travel, materials production). Note that the budget should not include costs associated with the Global Centers (e.g., facility rental, administrative support provided by the Global Center).

Description of any other funds expected or received for this project.

* Proposal (not to exceed 5 pages) describing the project, the nature of collaboration with relevant Global Centers, proposed partners and participants, inclusion of undergraduates and/or graduate students (and to what extent), and expected impact.
* Letters of support *(required)*
  + From collaborating faculty, describing their commitments.
* Letters of support *(as appropriate)*
  + From external collaborators, other institutions, or other investigators.
  + From other external funding sources.
* Principal Investigator’s biographical sketch (not to exceed 4 pages).

**How will proposals be reviewed?**

Proposals will be reviewed by a committee of faculty representing a range of disciplines and schools, who will submit the results of their review to the Provost. The Provost will make a final recommendation to the President.

PGIF funds are very competitive, and in the past, the RFP has resulted in many more outstanding applications than could be supported. While we cannot predict the number of awards which will be made in this round, roughly 25% of the applications submitted in the first three RFP cycles received some level of funding.

**What is required of grantees?**

Faculty receiving awards will be expected to provide full reporting of funds spent. Unspent funds must be returned.

In addition, fund recipients will provide progress updates and agree to have news of their work shared via external communications, such as the Columbia Global Centers website and the soon to be released Columbia Global platform, or other press releases and publications, and to present their work at appropriate forums such as the Columbia Global Centers Annual Summit on campus. PIs will update Global Center staff periodically, highlighting upcoming conferences, visits to the regions, and general developments on their projects.

**Submission**

Applicants are required to submit the entire application (as **one** PDF file, in the order of the application requirements) via email to [cuglobal@columbia.edu](mailto:cuglobal@columbia.edu) by **February 10, 2016.**

**Contacts**

For further information related to connections to Columbia Global Centers, including in-country collaborators, center interests, priorities, and foci, as well as the purpose of the proposal, please contact: Carrie Bronsther, [cmb2252@columbia.edu](mailto:cmb2252@columbia.edu), 212-851-4003.

For further information about the application process, please contact: Susan Smith, [svs22@columbia.edu](mailto:svs22@columbia.edu), 212-854-3835.

Information on past projects, and overviews of each of the Global Centers can be accessed at the [President’s Global Innovation Fund](http://globalcenters.columbia.edu/presidents-global-innovation-fund) website.

**Request for Proposals for**

**President’s Global Innovation Fund**

**Columbia University**

**Proposal Cover Page**

**RFP Issue Date: December 11, 2015**

**RFP Due Date: February 10, 2016**

**Project Title: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Principal Investigator**(individual assuming primary scholarly, administrative and financial responsibility for project)

Name:

Title:

School(s):

Department/Division/Center/Institute(s):

Email:

Phone:

Please list additional participating faculty on the following page.

**Project Collaboration with Global Center(s)** (pleasecheck all that apply)

\_\_\_ Amman, Jordan

\_\_\_ Beijing, China

\_\_\_ Istanbul, Turkey

\_\_\_ Mumbai, India

\_\_\_ Nairobi, Kenya

\_\_\_ Paris, France

\_\_\_ Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

\_\_\_ Santiago, Chile

**Funding Request**

Type of Grant Requested:

\_\_\_ Planning Grant (up to $20,000 for a period of no longer than one-year; non-renewable)

\_\_\_ Project Grant (up to $50,000/year for a period of up to three years)

Duration:

Academic Unit to Receive Funds:

Total Amount of Funds Requested:

Funds Requested for Year 1:

Funds Requested for Year 2:

Funds Requested for Year 3:

**Request for Proposals for**

**President’s Global Innovation Fund**

**Columbia University**

**Proposal Cover Page (cont’d)**

**Project Title: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Additional Participating Faculty (please list Name, Title, School and Department for each):

**Application requirements check list** (proposals **must** be in a single PDF file in the following order)

1. Cover page

2. Executive summary (not to exceed 300 words)

3. Budget documents

Detailed budget and narrative. Budget items should be listed by expense category (e.g., travel, materials production). Note that the budget should not include costs associated with the Global Centers (e.g., facility rental, administrative support provided by the Global Center).

Description of any other funds expected or received for this project

4. Proposal (not to exceed 5 pages) describing the project, the nature of collaboration with relevant Global Center(s), proposed partners and participants, inclusion of undergraduates and/or graduate students (and to what extent), and expected impact

5. Letters of support *(required)*

* + From collaborating faculty, describing their commitments

6. Letters of support *(as appropriate)*

* + From external collaborators, other institutions or investigators
  + From other external funding sources

1. Principal Investigator’s biographical sketch (not to exceed 4 pages)

**President’s Global Innovation Fund**

**Columbia University**

**Budget Request**

**RFP Issue Date: December 11, 2015**

**RFP Due Date: February 10, 2016**

**Project Title:**

**Principal Investigator:**

**Type of Application:**

**\_\_\_ Planning Grant**

**\_\_\_ Project Grant**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **BUDGET**[[1]](#footnote-1) | |
| *Please provide a summary budget of the proposed project. Add lines or categories as necessary.* | |
| Personnel, including salary and fringe (research assistance) | $ 0.00 |
| Supplies and materials | $ 0.00 |
| Meetings and travel (air fare, hotel) | $ 0.00 |
| Other costs (please specify)[[2]](#footnote-2) | $ 0.00 |
|  | $ 0.00 |
|  | $ 0.00 |
|  | $ 0.00 |
| **Total Year 1 Costs** | $ 0.00 |
| **Total Year 2 Costs** | $ 0.00 |
| **Total Year 3 Costs** | $ 0.00 |
| **Total Cost** | $ 0.00 |

**BUDGET NARRATIVE & JUSTIFICATION**

*Please provide a short description and justification of how funds received from the President’s Global Innovation Fund will be used.*

1. Do not include costs associated with the Global Centers (e.g., facility rental, administrative support provided by the Global Center). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Grant funds should not be assessed administrative fees. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)