

Research Growth Fund Request for Proposals

Cycle 1 Opens:	October 8, 2018, 5pm
Cycle 1 Closes:	November 9, 2018, 5pm
Decision Timeframe:	Notifications by December 31, 2018
Project Start:	Projects may begin as early as January 1, 2019
Grant Period:	Up to 24 months
Review Committees:	SLU Research Councils and Research Planning Committee

The RFP may be updated between Cycle 1 and Cycle 2

Cycle 2 Opens:	<< estimate December 8, 2018 >>
Next Update Scheduled:	<< estimate February 8, 2019 >>

APPLICATION FORM

INTRODUCTION

The Saint Louis University Research Institute is the newest addition to SLU's research enterprise. The SLU Research Institute advances the university's existing research growth ambitions to grow scholarship and research.

Over the course of 10 years, the SLU Research Institute will set the university on the path to becoming a national and international model in promoting teaching, learning and research that exemplify discovery, transformative outcomes and engaged citizenship in a global society – as called for in the university's strategic plan.

The SLU Research Institute will:

1. Achieve and sustain annual research expenditure growth that places SLU among the fastest growing universities in the country
2. Establish eminence in strategic, university-wide research priority areas
3. Raise the profile and reputation of SLU as a world-class research university in the St. Louis area and around the world
4. Recruit and retain world-class research leaders and provide significant investments in their work
5. Increase federal, industry, and philanthropic funding for research done at SLU

The Research Growth Fund is designed to be a flexible source of funding for faculty across the university to help achieve their research and scholarship ambitions and make progress towards the goals of the Research Institute.

ELIGIBILITY

All full-time faculty members (tenure and non-tenure track) appointed in any school, college, or degree-granting center at Saint Louis University are eligible to apply for funding from the Research Growth Fund.

FUNDING

Funding is flexible (both in timeline and use of funds) and can be requested for activities that advance research and scholarship growth at Saint Louis University. Examples of funding include (funding can be requested in one or more category):

Personnel Support: Funding can be used to pay for short-term salary support for personnel working with the applicant. Examples of personnel include: Teaching Assistants for faculty to spend time on research, Graduate Assistants, Postdoctoral Scholars, and Research Assistants. For long-term personnel support (e.g. postdoctoral scholars or research assistants), applicants should include a plan for sustaining the position beyond the 24 month maximum grant period of the Research Growth Fund.

Faculty Time: Funding can be used for freeing up an applicant's time in order to pursue research and scholarly activities, including proposal writing. Examples include: course buyout and adjunct faculty hiring.

Research Infrastructure or Technology: Funding can be used for purchasing equipment, instrumentation, software, or other technologies that advance research and scholarship. If funding is required for technical staff or maintenance contracts for an instrument, then funding may be requested for up to the 24 month grant period. Applicants should include a plan for ongoing maintenance and staffing costs.

Proposal Development: Funding can be requested for activities that will increase the likelihood that an external proposal will be funded. Examples include: cost-sharing or matching funds; re-submission funding for proposals that require funding to address reviewer concerns prior to re-submission; grant writing support; funding for paid external reviewers.

Other: Funding for other activities can also be requested. Examples include, but are not limited to:

- Travel funds for research or scholarship related travel
- Conference registration and travel for applicants to present their work at top conferences in their fields
- Publishing funds, subvention funds, funding for subsidies for reproduction rights

Funding may be requested for an activity not listed here. This RFP supports research and scholarship across all disciplines and therefore does not include an exhaustive list of the funds

required for advancing all forms of scholarship and research. Funds may be requested in the following amounts:

- Category 1: \$2,500 - \$25,000 per year for a maximum of two years (e.g. this category may be appropriate for course buyouts or publishing subventions)
- Category 2: \$25,001 - \$100,000 per year for a maximum of two years (e.g. postdoctoral support, staff support)
- Category 3: A maximum request of up to \$500,000 (e.g. major instrumentation, transformative projects). Funding can be requested for one year (e.g. instrumentation funds), or can be spread over two years.

REVIEW PROCESS

Proposals will be evaluated by one of the [Research Councils](#) or the [Research Planning Committee](#) (School of Medicine), Applicants are asked to determine which council/committee is best suited to review the application. The Research Councils and Research Planning Committees will make recommendations for funding.

The university's [Research Growth Committee](#) will provide oversight to ensure standard processes across the review committees and address any questions and concerns of the committees. The chairs of each of the Research Councils and the Research Planning Committee also serve on the Research Growth Committee. The Research Growth Committee will receive the funding recommendations from each Research Council and will develop a portfolio of projects for funding.

Information about the Research Councils, Research Planning Committee, and Research Growth Committee can be found in Appendix I.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

The metrics used for evaluation will be the same as the metrics for the Research Institute and align directly with the goals for the Research Institute. Evaluation criteria for each section are included in the application form.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Award-winners will submit annual reports and a final report to the Research Growth Committee. The aim for the Research Growth Fund is that the benefits of the awards will continue beyond the funding period. In order to measure the longer-term impacts of the awards, the Office of the VP for Research will send an annual survey to all award winners and ask that award winners keep us informed of research outcomes on an ongoing basis.

APPLICATION

Please apply using the web based [APPLICATION FORM](#)

Part 1: Applicant and Proposal
Name, Department & College
Faculty Rank
Name, Department & College for Collaborators
Which Research Council/Committee should review your proposal? <input type="checkbox"/> Scholarship Research Council <input type="checkbox"/> Applied Health Research Council <input type="checkbox"/> Science and Engineering Research Council <input type="checkbox"/> School of Medicine Research Planning Committee
For which category of funds are you applying? <input type="checkbox"/> Category 1: Annual funding up to \$25k <input type="checkbox"/> Category 2: Annual funding up to \$100k <input type="checkbox"/> Category 3: Total funding up to \$500k
Proposal Description: For what purpose are you requesting funding (i.e. project description)? (300 words)
How will you measure success/what would a successful use of these funds look like? (300 words)
Budget and Budget Justification (250 words)
Proposed Start and End Dates
Please attach a 2-3 page CV or an NIH compliant biosketch for the applicant and any collaborators
If you are requesting something that will require chairperson or dean level approval (e.g. course buyout) please submit documentation of this approval. An uploaded email from your chairperson approving the request is sufficient.
Have you received internal grant funding from Saint Louis University in the past (e.g. President's Research Fund, Interdisciplinary Health Grant, Spark Microgrant, Summer Research Award in the Humanities, Beaumont Faculty Development Fund)? If yes, please list which grants, amounts, and dates.

If yes, please provide a description of the results from that work (e.g. external grants applied for/received, collaborations started).

Proposals will be evaluated using the following evaluation questions:

- Does the proposal, as described, align with the goals of the Research Institute and Research Growth Fund?
- Is the budget appropriate for the work described? Could the proposal be executed under a lower funded category?
- Is the proposal timely (priority will be given to proposals that are ready to start/ready to submit to the IRB)?

**PLEASE COMPLETE EITHER PART 2 OR PART 3
(You may complete both sections, if applicable)**

Part 2: Eminence Potential
Please list up to five of your most relevant scholarly outputs (including books, book chapters, patents, scholarly presentations, journal articles, performances, creative works, digital products).
What scholarly products do you plan to pursue this year?
What scholarly works will these funds allow you to pursue that you would not be able to otherwise? To aid in review, please be as specific as possible. (300 words)
How will the use of these funds directly/indirectly promote the eminence of SLU, either within the community or within the field (e.g. publication in a top journal in the field)? (300 words)
Proposals will be evaluated using the following evaluation questions: Evaluation should be weighted based on rank and tenure (i.e. it is not expected that a junior faculty member have as many scholarly outputs as a more senior faculty member). <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Has the applicant demonstrated a track record of producing scholarly products?● Has the applicant demonstrated that they have used internal funding in a manner that advances scholarship in their discipline?● How likely would these funds directly/indirectly result in a scholarly product?● How likely would these funds directly/indirectly promote the eminence of SLU, either within the community or within the field (e.g. publication in a top journal in the field)?

**PLEASE COMPLETE EITHER PART 2 OR PART 3
(You may complete both sections, if applicable)**

Part 3: External Funding Potential
Please provide your five most recent current/pending grants with funder, total funding amount, and dates.
What external grant funding do you plan to pursue this academic year?
What external funding opportunities will these funds allow you to pursue that you would not be able to otherwise? To aid in review, please be as specific as possible. (300 words)
Please describe how the project will be sustained after the Research Growth funding ends. (300 words)
Proposals will be evaluated using the following evaluation questions: Evaluation should be weighted based on rank and tenure of the applicant (i.e. it is not expected that a junior faculty member have as many scholarly outputs as a more senior faculty member). <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Has the applicant demonstrated a track record of applying for external funding?● Has the applicant demonstrated that they have used internal funding in a manner that enhances their ability to apply for (and receive) external funding?● How likely would these funds assist in securing future sources of funding?● How likely will the project be sustained after the Research Growth funding ends?

Part 4: Impact

Please respond to whichever question(s) is most applicable for your work:

(200 words)

- What impact will this work have in your field of study?
- How will this proposal enhance your work with students, community members and/or patients?
- How will this proposal advance SLU's Jesuit Mission?

Proposals will be evaluated using the following evaluation questions:

- Does the proposal have a direct/indirect impact on the applicant's field?
- Does the proposal enhance the applicant's work with students, community members, and/or patients?
- Does the proposal advance SLU's Jesuit Mission?

REVIEWER GUIDELINES

Rating Scale: Reviewers should rate each category on a 9-point scale.

Overall Strength	Score	Descriptor
High	1	Exceptional
	2	Outstanding
	3	Excellent
Medium	4	Very Good
	5	Good
	6	Satisfactory
Low	7	Fair
	8	Marginal
	9	Poor

Guidelines:

- Reviewers should use the full range of the rating scale in order to differentiate among applications
- Reviewers should give a score for each of the categories as well as an overall rating
- In determining the overall rating, reviewers should consider the relative scoring across categories taking the type of proposal and discipline into account.
- Evaluation should be weighted based on rank and tenure of the applicant (i.e. it is not expected that a junior faculty member will have as many scholarly outputs as a more senior faculty member)

REVIEW FORM

Part 1: Proposal and Applicant
Comments:
Score:
Part 2: Eminence Potential (If applicable)
Comments:
Score:
Part 3: External Funding Potential (If applicable)
Comments:
Score:
Part 4: Impact
Comments:
Score:
Overall Rating: Based on the context of the proposal and the criteria listed above, please provide an overall score for the proposal. In determining the overall rating, please consider the relative importance of each category based on the type of proposal and discipline. Proposals do not have to be strong in each category in order to receive a high overall rating.
Comments:
Overall Rating:

Appendix I: Research Councils, Research Planning Committee, and Research Growth Committee

Applied Health Research Council

The Applied Health Research Council advises SLU's research growth agenda as it pertains to applied health, and facilitates innovative and collaborative research initiatives among faculty.

The council's responsibilities specifically include:

- Facilitating collaborations among SLU faculty who have applied health-related research interests
- Fostering relevant community connections that may advance research interests
- Identifying and supporting strategic research initiatives
- Reviewing and administering the existing Interdisciplinary Health Sciences Grants Program
- Advising the Office of the Vice President for Research on ways to enhance and enable applied health research
- Providing updates of anticipated and actualized research growth to the Research Growth Committee

Members:

- Mardell Wilson, Ed.D., RD, LDN, dean, Doisy College of Health Sciences (Co-Chair)
- Christine Jacobs, M.D., interim chair, Family and Community Medicine; interim director, School of Medicine Primary Care Institute (Co-Chair)
- Erol Amon, M.D., J.D., professor, Obstetrics and Gynecology
- Tricia Austin, Ph.D., PT, ATC, chair, Physical Therapy and Athletic Training
- Ellen Barnidge, Ph.D., MPH, associate professor, Behavioral Science and Health Education
- Brian Boutwell, Ph.D., associate dean for Research, College for Public Health and Social Justice
- Susan Farr, Ph.D., professor, Geriatrics
- Jesus Garcia-Martinez, M.D., Ph.D., associate dean for Research, Doisy College of Health Sciences
- Andrew Hall, D.Sc., assistant professor, Biomedical Engineering
- Paul Hauptman, M.D., associate dean for Clinical Research, School of Medicine
- Leslie Hinyard, Ph.D., associate director, SLUCOR
- Joanne Langan, Ph.D., RN, C.N.E., associate dean for Undergraduate and Pre-licensure Education, School of Nursing
- Norma Metheny, Ph.D., RN, FAAN, associate dean for Research, School of Nursing
- Jeffrey Scherrer, Ph.D., M.A., professor and research director, Family and Community Medicine
- Travis Threats, Ph.D., CCC-SLP, chair, Communication Science Disorders
- Debbie Zand, Ph.D., professor, Pediatrics

Research Planning Committee

The RPC is the advisory body to the Dean of the School of Medicine about policies, activities, and long-term objectives pertaining to research in the School of Medicine. Members are appointed by the Dean to a 3-year term, with the recommendations of the Committee on Faculty Affairs. Activities of the RPC include:

- Review of nominations for awards and fellowships
- Reviews of Research Centers and Cores
- Review of major equipment requisitions
- Administration of Internal Study Section
- Administration of Presidential Research Fund

The Research Planning Committee is currently in transition. If a new committee has not been appointed prior to November 9, 2018, then an ad-hoc committee will be appointed by the School of Medicine Dean in consultation with the Research Growth Committee.

Scholarship Research Council

The Scholarship Research Council advises SLU's research growth agenda as it pertains to scholarship, and aims to grow the eminence of the university's research enterprise by supporting relevant and provocative scholarship. The council's responsibilities specifically include:

- Managing a fund to support scholarly research
- Recommending summer research award funding
- Identifying winners for the annual Scholarly Research Awards
- Developing recognition programs that raise the impact and visibility of scholarly research
- Identifying and enabling strategic research initiatives
- Supporting the pursuit of collaborative funding opportunities
- Monitoring research growth progress
- Advising the Office of the Vice President for Research on ways to enhance and enable scholarly research

Members:

- Chris Duncan, Ph.D., dean, College of Arts and Sciences (Co-Chair)
- Gary Ritter, Ph.D., dean, School of Education (Co-Chair)
- Heidi Ardizzone, Ph.D., chair, American Studies
- April Trees, Ph.D., chair, Communication
- Toby Benis, Ph.D., chair, English
- Laura Franklin, Ph.D., chair, Fine and Performing Arts
- Charles Parker, Ph.D., chair, History
- Kathleen M. Llewellyn, Ph.D., chair, Languages, Literatures and Cultures
- Scott Ragland, Ph.D., chair, Philosophy
- Ellen Carnaghan, Ph.D., chair, Political Science
- Richard Colignon, Ph.D., chair, Sociology and Anthropology
- Peter Martens, Ph.D., chair, Theology
- Penny Weiss, Ph.D., chair, Women and Gender Studies
- Heather Bednarek, Ph.D., associate dean, Richard A. Chaifetz School of Business
- Anders Walker, Ph.D., J.D., associate dean for Research and Engagement, School of Law
- Maureen Wikete Lee, Ph.D., associate dean, School of Education
- Donna LaVoie, Ph.D., associate dean, College of Arts and Sciences

Science and Engineering Research Council

The Science and Engineering Research Council advises SLU's research growth agenda as it pertains to science and engineering, and facilitates innovative and collaborative research initiatives among faculty. The council's responsibilities specifically include:

- Identifying and enabling strategic research initiatives
- Supporting the pursuit of large collaborative funding opportunities
- Monitoring research growth progress
- Formulating and implementing a research space policy
- Formulating and implementing a research instrumentation strategy
- Managing the science and engineering portion of the President's Research Fund
- Advising the Office of the Vice President for Research on other issues to enhance and enable S&E research

Members:

- Michelle Sabick, Ph.D., dean, Parks College of Engineering, Aviation and Technology (Chair)
- Gary Bledsoe, Ph.D., director, School of Engineering
- Bryan Clair, Ph.D., chair, Mathematics and Statistics
- Benjamin de Foy, Ph.D., chair, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences
- Jeffrey Gfeller, Ph.D., chair, Psychology
- Michael Goldwasser, Ph.D., chair, Computer Science
- Riyadh Hindi, Ph.D., associate dean for Graduate Education and Research, Parks College of Engineering, Aviation and Technology
- Jack Kennell, Ph.D., chair, Biology
- Donna LaVoie, Ph.D., associate dean, College of Arts & Sciences
- Ronaldo Luna, Ph.D., professor, Civil Engineering
- Stephen Magoc, MBA, chair, Aviation
- Scott Martin, Ph.D., chair, Chemistry
- Michael Swartwout, Ph.D., program coordinator, Engineering Sciences
- William Thacker, Ph.D., chair, Physics

Research Growth Committee

The Research Growth Committee internally advises SLU's research growth agenda and oversees investments in university-wide research initiatives. The committee's responsibilities specifically include:

- Monitoring progress of SLU's Five Year Research Growth Plan and advising the Office of the Vice President for Research on strategic directions
- Leading in SLU's best interest in growing research initiatives that span across the university and have potential to become self-sustaining, eminent research programs
- Allocating institutional and financial resources to research initiatives
- Supporting faculty leaders by giving individualized advice, making connections for partnerships, and mentoring

Members:

- Kevin Behrns, M.D., vice president of medical affairs and dean of the School of Medicine
- Justin Daffron, S.J., assistant to the president
- Enrico Di Cera, M.D., chair, School of Medicine Research Planning Committee
- Chris Duncan, Ph.D., dean, College of Arts and Sciences; chair, Scholarship Research Council
- David Heimburger, vice president and chief financial officer
- Mark Higgins, Ph.D., dean, Richard A. Chaifetz School of Business
- Christine Jacobs, M.D., interim chair, Family and Community Medicine; co-chair, Applied Health Research Council
- Bill Kauffman, J.D., vice president and general counsel
- Mike Lewis, Ph.D., acting provost
- Sheila Manion, vice president for development
- Monica Matthieu, Ph.D., faculty representative
- Ken Olliff, D.Min., M.B.A., vice president for research
- Michelle Sabick, Ph.D., dean, Parks College of Engineering, Aviation and Technology; chair, Science and Engineering Research Council
- John Tavis, Ph.D., faculty representative
- Bob Wilmott, M.D., vice dean for medical affairs
- Mardell Wilson, Ed.D., RD, LDN, dean, Doisy College of Health Sciences; co-chair, Applied Health Research Council