

# ***Welcome!***

## **2019 Collaboration Initiative Retreat**

October 31, 2019

Nebraska Innovation Campus Conference Center



# Retreat Summary

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- This morning...
  - Collaboration Initiative Grants Program
  - Collaboration Initiative: Research with a Global Impact Program
  - Panel Discussion: Strategies for Peer Review of Applications
  - Initial theme group meetings
- This afternoon...
  - Networking Lunch
  - Work in theme areas / Collaboration Initiative Grants / Research with a Global Impact Grants

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# Collaboration Initiative

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## Purpose

Strengthen the University of Nebraska's research competitiveness by fully leveraging its multi-campus intellectual capacity and research resources.

## Desired Outcome

An increased capacity to address critical issues important to Nebraskans by having the University of Nebraska's campuses be more nationally grant competitive.

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# Grant Opportunities

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## **Funding from the Nebraska Research Initiative (NRI)**

Allocating ~\$2.5 – 3.5 million (direct expenses)

- Planning Grants
- Seed Grants

# General Eligibility

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- Retreat Participation
- Assistant, Associate or Full Professors and equivalent-rank research faculty employed by any University of Nebraska campus are eligible to submit funding applications as Principal Investigators (PI)
- Assistant, Associate or Full Professors of Practice that are members of the Graduate Faculty are eligible to serve as Co-PIs
- **Seed grants:** team members providing core leadership for the team must have individual records of extramurally funded research as a PI or Co-PI
- **Planning grants:** PIs who have not received extramural research funding (PI or Co-PI) must have a Co-PI on their application who is currently grant-active and willing to serve as a research mentor to the team
- Faculty may serve as the lead PI on one planning grant and one seed grant; there is no limit to their participation as Co-PIs

# Collaboration Requirements

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- PI employed by one University of Nebraska campus (UNK, UNL, UNMC and UNO) must identify at least one collaborator affiliated with another campus
- Meaningful multi-campus and appropriate disciplinary collaborations
  - Involvement in plan of work; budget allocation

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UNK N UNO



# Planning Grants

- **Goal:** facilitate and build new research collaboration across University of Nebraska campuses.
- Up to \$20,000 for one year
  - Will support: Planning meetings, retreats, travel to meet program officers at funding agencies, travel within Nebraska, facilitate experimental design/modest data collection (after meet with program officers)
    - Identify extramural funding opportunities that would grow a collective research portfolio in any discipline
    - Identify knowledge gaps that must be addressed to prepare a competitive, extramural application
    - Prepare applications for extramural funding

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# Planning Grants: Evaluation (100 points)

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- a) Plan to interact with potential funding agencies/foundations (20 points)
- b) Justification of the proposed approach and evidence that the completed work plan will help the PI/Co-PI(s) align research question(s) with funding agency/foundation priorities (25 points)
- c) Strategy to identify expertise needs, build collaborations, and prepare competitive extramural research applications (25 points)
- d) Timetable (15 points)
- e) Budget adequate to support the work plan (15 points)

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# Formed/Forming Team Seed Grants

- **Goal:** enhance research collaborations among faculty that have had modest levels of previous collaboration.
  - Up to \$150,000 total over two years
  - Team members providing core leadership for the team *must* have individual records of extramurally-funded research as a PI or Co-PI.
  - Teams must actively generate knowledge/preliminary data to enhance competitiveness for extramural funding
  - Teams expected to submit extramural applications for at least \$200,000/year.

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# Team Strengthening Seed Grants

- **Goal:** strengthen existing research collaborations to allow the team to be more competitive for larger extramural funding opportunities.
  - Up to \$300,000 total over two years
  - Build upon existing research collaborations among faculty with a track record of joint extramural research funding with one or more team members.
  - Addition of new team members to fill gaps in expertise is encouraged.
  - Teams expected to submit extramural applications for at least \$400,000/year.

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# Seed Grants: Evaluation (100 points)

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- Significance, Innovation and Impact of the proposed research (25 points)
- Alignment of research question(s) to priorities of an existing extramural funding opportunity (20 points)
- Ability to enhance competitiveness of the team for extramural funding (20 points)
- Budget and facilities adequate to support plan of work (15 points)
- Meaningful collaborations/roles/responsibilities defined for PI/Co-PIs (10 points)
- Realistic and achievable timetable (10 points)

# Review Process

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**Planning Grants:** Research administrators from 4 campuses

**Seed Grants:** External reviews from at least two disciplinary experts

Numerical score plus reviewer comments plus funding category

|                           |                               |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <i>Exemplary:</i>         | Definitely fund               |
| <i>Very Good:</i>         | Strongly consider for funding |
| <i>Needs Improvement:</i> | Fund only if resources allow  |
| <i>Inadequate:</i>        | Do not fund                   |

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# Timeline:

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- Application submission deadline:  
**Monday, January 13, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.**  
**<https://nuramp.nebraska.edu>**
- Anticipate award notifications prior to June 2020
- Awards start July 2020
- Final decisions made by the Provost and Vice Provost

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# NU Collaboration Initiative: Funding Statistics

## 2017--2018

|                      | # Applications | # Awards | % Success |
|----------------------|----------------|----------|-----------|
| Planning (<\$20,000) | 39             | 16       | 41        |
| Seed (<\$150,000)    | 69             | 20       | 29        |
| Seed (<\$300,000)    | 6              | 2        | 33        |
|                      |                |          |           |

## 2018 -- 2019

|                      | # Applications | # Awards | % Success |
|----------------------|----------------|----------|-----------|
| Planning (<\$20,000) | 38             | 14       | 37        |
| Seed (<\$150,000)    | 73             | 24       | 33        |
| Seed (<\$300,000)    | 17             | 7        | 41        |

# Questions?

**nri@nebraska.edu**

**<http://nebraska.edu/collaboration-initiative/>**

