FFH

SEED GRANTS

2022

INTRODUCTION

The Foods for Health Research Initiative is seeking proposals from the Ohio State community for our Spring 2022 award cycle.

The FFH Seed Grant Program has three primary goals:
1. Foster new collaborations and encourage exploration into promising, novel areas of research.
2. Enable the generation of data, novel tools, and methods needed for successful applications for extramural funding.
3. Advance the vision and mission of FFH.

These goals will be achieved through the funding mechanisms described in this packet. Please address all questions to Matt Teegarden and Julie Manning at ffh@osu.edu.

ABOUT FFH

The Foods for Health Research Initiative is Ohio State's premier program for interdisciplinary research that defines the health impacts of foods using modern technology and informatic approaches. Our growing community is made up of researchers in diverse disciplines across 12 academic units.

OUR VISION
Healthier lives through scientific discovery across food, nutrition, and diet.

OUR MISSION
To advance multidisciplinary research that defines the relationship between foods, disease prevention, and health promotion.

FFH promotes research within the framework of a dual approach to precision nutrition.

Advances are needed to understand how factors such as an individual's health status, dietatry habits, microbiome, metabolome, genome, and lifestyle can all be integrated to produce tailored dietary recommendations for improved health.

At the same time, progress must be made to advance healthy food by understanding the chemical underpinnings of acceptability, elucidating health promoting components, and optimizing production of crops and consumer products.

AWARD OVERVIEW

FFH is pleased to announce two seed grant mechanisms for the 2022 cycle.

INNOVATE $50,000 over 24 months. Aimed at new collaborations & new lines of research. Up to 2 awards available.

STRENGTHEN $20,000 over 12 months. Aimed at enhancing quality of ongoing research studies. Up to 3 awards available.

While FFH will consider research outside fo the following topics, proposals that address one or more of these will recieve priority funding consideration
- Diet, nutrients, and the microbiome in health and disease
- Determinants of interindividual variability in response to dietary patterns, nutrients, and food products or components in health and disease
- Chemical/biochemical underpinnings of food-host interactions that influence ingestive behavior.
- Food product development and crop improvement targeting human health outcomes
- The application of bioinformatics and/or machine learning for the analysis and integration of "-omics" datasets relevant to diet and heatlth outcomes

Research topics that are outside the scope of this funding opportunity include:
- Food microbial safety/foodborne illness
- Food access/food security
- Studies with a scope limited to the impact of singular nutrients/phytochemicals on single biochemical pathways

Proposals will be evaluated by a panel of internal (Ohio State) reviewers. Every effort will be made to match reviewer expertise to each proposal. However, due to the highly multidisciplnary nature of FFH, **proposals should be written in a way that is understandable by a general scientific audience.**

TIMELINE

January 18 Request for proposals released

February 14 (11:59 PM) Letters of intent due

March 31 (11:59 PM)   Final proposals due

May 13 Applicants informed of award decision (FFH reserves the right to adjust this date as necessary to facilitate the review process)

INNOVATE

INNOVATE awards provide up to $50,000 in direct costs for a two-year project. The purpose of this funding mechanism is to build new and compelling teams to generate collaborative research productivity targeting specific future funding opportunities.

ELIGIBILITY

- This opportunity is open to all FFH affiliated faculty.
- One faculty member will serve as principal investigator along with a minimum of one collaborating faculty member as Co-PI.
- Investigators must represent distinct disciplines, and multi-college/academic unit collaborations are strongly encouraged.
- Additional non-funded investigators may also be listed on the application.
- Projects must be distinct from ongoing activities and/or represent significant new collaborations
- The same individual may not serve as PI on more than one FFH Seed Grant application per cycle. PIs may serve as Co-PI on other applications.

AWARD TERMS

- All awards will be transferred to and administered by the faculty/staff's home department. Funds are valid for two years from the date of initial fund transfer.
- No faculty salaries, faculty fringe benefits, or capital equipment (>$5,000 purchase price) will be supported.
- Travel necessary for completion of research is allowed. Travel expenses for presentation of results is allowable up to $2,000. Planned travel should be conducted in accordance to University policy in place at the time of travel.
- 50% of funds will be transferred at the start of the award period, with the second 50% released upon submission of an acceptable mid-term report. Alternative disbursement schemes will be considered if strongly justified.
- No-cost extensions are discouraged, though permissible only in extenuating circumstances.
- A final report must be submitted by the end of the two-year award period. Failure to submit a final report will result in disqualification from future funding opportunities from FFH.
- FFH support must be acknowledged in all resulting publications and presentations.
- The FFH org number 42025 must be included at 0% effort level in the associated PA005 for any future proposal submissions that use data collected with these funds. This will allow FFH to track effort and return on investment to ensure the longevity of the FFH Seed Grant Program.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

Recipients of this award are expected to submit publication(s) to peer-reviewed journal(s) and/or application(s) for extramural funding related to the project within one year of project completion.

LETTER OF INTENT (REQUIRED)

All interested teams must submit a letter of intent outlining the following within 2 pages:
- PI and Co-PI, including short descriptions of past work and expertise, and how your proposed team and research topic is interdisciplinary
- General description of research area and key questions that the team will address
- The significance of this research area in terms of future fundability and impact
- Justification as to why this team is novel and/or why the proposed research is new to the team.
- Three recommended reviewers from Ohio State that meet conflict of interest guidelines (link).
- Format: 2 pages, single-spaced, ½ inch margins, 11-pt type (Calibri or Times New Roman)

APPLICATION FORMAT

Applications are limited to three pages including figures and tables. Section III is not counted towards the page limit. Applications must be saved as a single PDF file using the naming convention "PI-Name_INNOVATE-22.pdf" (e.g., Buckeye_INNOVATE-22.pdf). Documents should be single-spaced with ½ inch margins and 11-point type (Calibri or Times New Roman). Sections will include:

I. Introduction
   a. Title of proposal
   b. PI/Co-PI including names, colleges, and departments
   c. Lay abstract (250 words max)
   d. Problem statement: what is the research question being addressed? Why is it significant, and how does it fit within the goals of FFH? What is the hypothesis?
   e. Innovation statement: What is novel or innovative about the proposed research?
II. Approach and Outcomes
   a. Materials and Methods: describe the study design and the methodology that will be used to collect and analyze data. Address current or potential limitations and how those will be overcome.
   b. Expected Results: describe anticipated findings using applicable references and preliminary data. Discuss the technical value these findings would have.
   c. Outcomes: Describe how the proposed work will be used to advance competitive extramural funding applications. In addition, discuss additional ways in which results will be used (i.e., grant applications, publications, teaching, etc.). Be as specific as possible in terms of use cases and timelines.
III. Project Team, Timeline, and Budget (not included in 3-page limit)
   a. Team: Provide the name, contact information, title, college, and department for each supporting team member (including students). Also describe the relevant expertise and proposed contributions of each member.
   b. Past outcomes: Please provide a short synopsis of outcomes from previous seed awards including the source of funding and related outcomes (publications, grants, etc) if available.
   c. Timeline: Briefly describe how work will progress over the 24-month award.
   d. Budget: Fill out the FFH Seed Grant Budget Table (link)
   e. Budget Narrative: Justify costs, including how cost/sample was calculated (if applicable).

STRENGTHEN

STRENGTHEN awards provide up to $20,000 in direct costs for a one-year project. The purpose of this funding mechanism is to enhance the quality of ongoing research studies, leading to collaborative publications in higher impact journals while providing a foundation for successful grant submissions.

ELIGIBILITY

- This opportunity is open to all FFH affiliated faculty.
- One faculty member will serve as principal investigator along with a minimum of one collaborating faculty member as Co-PI.
- Investigators must represent distinct disciplines, and multi-college/academic unit collaborations are strongly encouraged.
- Additional non-funded investigators may also be listed on the application.
- The same individual may not serve as PI on more than one FFH Seed Grant application per cycle. PIs may serve as Co-PI on other applications.

AWARD TERMS

- All awards will be transferred to and administered by the faculty/staff's home department. Funds are valid for one year from the date of initial fund transfer.
- No faculty salaries, faculty fringe benefits, or capital equipment purchase will be supported.
- Salary support for post-candidacy students is strongly preferred given the short time frame of this award.
- Travel necessary for completion of research is allowed, but must be strongly justified. Travel expenses for presentation of results is allowable up to $1,000. Planned travel should be conducted in accordance to University policy in place at the time of travel.
- 50% of funds will be transferred at the start of the award period, with the second 50% released upon submission of an acceptable mid-term report. Alternative disbursement schemes will be considered if strongly justified.
- No-cost extensions are discouraged, though permissible only in extenuating circumstances.
- A final report must be submitted by the end of the 12-month award period. Failure to submit a final report will result in disqualification from future funding opportunities from FFH.
- FFH support must be acknowledged in all resulting publications and presentations.
- The FFH org number 42025 must be included at 0% effort level in the associated PA005 for any future proposal submissions that use data collected with these funds. This will allow FFH to track effort and return on investment to ensure the longevity of the FFH Seed Grant Program.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

Recipients of this award are expected to submit application(s) for extramural funding within one year of project completion.

LETTER OF INTENT (REQUIRED)

All interested teams must submit a letter of intent outlining the following within 2 pages:
- PI and Co-PI, including short descriptions of past work and expertise, and how your proposed team and research topic is interdisciplinary
- General description of research area and key questions that the team will address
- A short description of how this work will enhance an ongoing research study
- The significance of this research area in terms of future fundability and impact
- Three recommended reviewers from Ohio State that meet conflict of interest guidelines (link).
- Format: 2 pages, single-spaced, ½ inch margins, 11-pt type (Calibri or Times New Roman)

APPLICATION FORMAT

Applications are limited to three pages including figures and tables. Section III is not counted towards the page limit. Applications must be saved as a single PDF file using the naming convention "PI-Name_STRENGTHEN-22.pdf" (e.g., Buckeye_STRENGTHEN-22.pdf). Documents should be single-spaced with ½ inch margins and 11-point type (Calibri or Times New Roman). Sections will include:

I. Introduction
   a. Title of proposal
   b. PI/Co-PI including names, colleges, and departments
   c. Lay abstract (250 words max)
   d. Research statement: What is the overarching goal of this aspect of your/the team's research? Why is it significant? What is the proposed study (or studies) and how do they fit in to the research narrative that will be submitted for extramural funding?
II. Approach and Outcomes
   a. Materials and Methods: describe the study design and the methodology that will be used to collect and analyze data. Address current or potential limitations and how those will be overcome.
   b. Expected Results: describe anticipated findings using applicable references and preliminary data. Discuss the technical value these findings would have.
   c. Outcomes: Describe how the proposed work will be used to advance competitive extramural funding applications. Discuss specific funding opportunities you plan to apply to with this preliminary data. Be as specific as possible in terms of organizations and timelines
III. Project Team, Timeline, and Budget
   a. Team: Provide the name, contact information, title, college, and department for each supporting team member (including students). Also describe the relevant expertise and proposed contributions of each member.
   b. Past outcomes: Please provide a short synopsis of outcomes from previous seed awards including the source of funding and related outcomes (publications, grants, etc) if available.
   c. Timeline: Briefly describe how work will progress over the 24-month award.
   d. Budget: Fill out the FFH Seed Grant Budget Table (link)
   e. Budget Narrative: Justify costs, including how cost/sample was calculated (if applicable)