Indiana University is pleased to announce the 2013-2014 Collaborative Research Grants program (IUCRG). This opportunity is open to faculty on all Indiana University campuses. The goals of this competition are to facilitate and support outstanding research and cutting edge discoveries by teams of experts who have not worked together previously in the project’s subject matter. Teams should include experts from different campuses, schools, departments, or disciplines. The maximum funding per project will be $75,000 but in exceptional cases, when there is a convincing justification, this maximum could be exceeded.

The intent of this initiative is to support research which will significantly advance a research field and in doing so, impact the lives of Indiana residents, the US and the World. The program as a whole is designed to help increase Indiana University’s competitiveness for external funding involving innovative and transformative research; proposals must therefore include explicit plans for securing external funding for projects extending from the findings of the IUCRG. IUCRG recipients are required to submit a proposal for external funding within 18 months from the date that IUCRG funds are available. Applicants should make explicit their plans for targeting external funding including but not limited to the funding agency and institute/program.

IUCRG will fund projects in emerging fields of study, innovative or multidisciplinary research with the potential to significantly increase Indiana University’s research competitiveness, reputation and funding. Proposals should fit at least one of the following subject areas:

I. **Social and behavioral sciences**: innovative multi-disciplinary or multi-collaborator approaches, reliant upon quantitative methodologies of the social and behavioral sciences, to issues of local, state, national or international significance; research into effective approaches to K-12 STEM education (not curricular development) or education for sustainability;

II. **Biological and Health Sciences**: innovative multidisciplinary or multi-collaborator approaches to issues in neuroscience, -omics, biological, biomedical or chemical sciences;

III. **Physical Sciences and Computer Sciences**: innovative multi-disciplinary or multi-collaborator approaches to compelling issues in physical sciences including material sciences, engineering research, or approaches to other areas of research that rely upon innovative uses of technology, engineering, or computer sciences.

All proposals should indicate which category or mix of categories from this list of areas best describes the proposed research. Arts and Humanities proposals that do not fit into these categories should be submitted to Indiana University’s *New Frontiers* seed funding program.

**Eligibility**: All faculty and staff whose appointments allow them to submit external proposals are allowed to apply. A minimum of two faculty members from different campuses schools or departments, or different disciplines from the same campus must collaborate as co-principal investigators on the proposed project. Projects must be for NEW areas of research for the investigators, within their areas of expertise, but not a continuation of previous or current research activities. Faculty previously submitting together for external funding (NIH, NSF, DOD, etc.) are not eligible unless the IUCRG proposal represents a new area of research, or a new collaborator(s) is added to enhance the breadth of the proposed research.

**Submission Deadlines**: Grant proposals must be submitted electronically by the close of business day on December 3rd, 2013 via [http://research.iu.edu/funding_collaborative.shtml](http://research.iu.edu/funding_collaborative.shtml).

**Terms of Awards**: Applicants can request up to $75,000 for one year. Budgets must be justified and consistent with the scope of the proposed project. Applicants must commit to submitting an external funding proposal within 18 months from the start of the award; failure to do so will preclude eligibility for future internal funding programs. Final reports are required at study completion detailing the project’s progress including proposals submitted and funding received. IUCRG support should be acknowledged in all related publications and reports. Recipients of funding in 2013-14 will participate in an open Workshop in the spring of 2015 where awardees will present project results and detailed plans to secure external funding. Award notices are expected to go out no later than February 15th with funds available March 15th, 2014.
Indiana University Collaborative Research Grants
2013-14

Budget Restrictions: Funds may not be used for faculty/administrative salaries or graduate student tuition. Funds may not be paid to collaborators at other institutions, nor to support work in their labs. Course buyout, not to exceed $11,000 per PI, may be allowed. Salaries for technical personnel and graduate student stipends may be allowed. Travel to a conference by PIs may be allowed, but only if a presentation of results from IUCRG research is confirmed and explicit.

Application Format:
Proposals must be submitted in .pdf or .doc format via http://research.iu.edu/funding_collaborative.shtml and must include:

1. Cover Sheet (1 page maximum)
   - Title and Focus Area (I, II, or III) of proposal
   - List of Investigators, including for each one Full Name, Department, School, Campus, Email address
   - Other project personnel (collaborators, technicians, graduate students, post-docs)
   - Specific potential sources of External Funding, including agency, program, program/parent announcement or RfA, etc. For example: NIH, R01 “Bioinformatics in Health Disparity Research” or NSF, “Collaborative Research in Computational Neuroscience.” It is not sufficient to list only an agency and grant type (i.e., “NIH R01”).

2. Project description (12 point font; single spaced, 5-page maximum excluding references) comprised of:
   - Background and Significance of the larger project
   - Goals of the pilot phase of the project (i.e., the phase to be completed with IUCRG funding)
   - Overview of the Research Plan to accomplish goals
   - Project Timeline
   - Necessity of IUCRG funding: explain why IUCRG funding is essential for securing external funding
   - Explicit statement of each team member’s role on the project

3. Budget, submitted using the Work on your budget function on the online application form

4. Budget justification: For each budget category (personnel, supplies and equipment, travel, etc.), please explain the anticipated expenses. Any category with budgeted expenses exceeding $5,000 should be explained in detail. Please note that the suitability of the project budget is an important component of the review criteria.

5. Letters of support from all Investigators’ department chairs or unit heads (e.g. department, division, center, institute, etc.)

6. Letters of support from all Investigators’ deans or equivalent

7. Biosketch or brief Curriculum vitae for each investigator, showing current and pending support. Proposed projects must not overlap with current funding. (4-page maximum each)

8. If a proposal involving the co-primary investigators has been reviewed and declined by any external funding agency, the reviews must be included, along with additional information in the appendix noting how the IUCRG proposal differs from the one submitted for external funding.

No appendices other than funding agency reviews are allowed.

Review Criteria: Funding decisions will result from a competitive peer review of proposals. The Vice President for Research will make the final funding decisions, based on reviewers’ recommendations. Awards will be based on:

- The intrinsic intellectual merit, innovation, and potential impact of the project on the research field(s) involved, including the degree to which it expands the knowledge base or raises new scientific questions across disciplines;
- The strength of the research team and the collaborative nature of the work
- The feasibility and innovation of the project, appropriateness of the research plan and the reasonableness of the budget
- The probability of the project leading to external funding.