



## **Call for Proposals RDI Faculty Seed Grant Program**

RDI invites proposals for projects that will enhance research activity bearing directly on its mission:

*Our mission is to promote understanding of and to generate new knowledge about race and human difference in a rapidly diversifying world. We operate with the understanding that race and intersecting dimensions of human difference remain central to not only how we understand and relate to ourselves and others but also fundamentally shape access to resources. RDI builds upon Emory's strengths in pioneering new knowledge, methods, and technologies related to race and difference and our location in a major urban metropolitan city of the U.S. South. These strengths uniquely equip Emory with the capacity to link local and global issues toward an enhanced understanding of and ability to effectively address persisting inequities.*

The RDI seed grant program supports proposal development, pilot research, and other activities that advance faculty research projects with the goal of attracting external funding. Preference is given to proposals from assistant and associate professors.

### **Eligibility**

All Emory University faculty are eligible to apply for grants under the RDI Seed Grant Program.

### **Procedures for Submitting a Proposal**

Proposal review will begin February 19, 2010 and will continue on a rolling basis until all funds are expended.

Proposals should be no more than three (3) single-spaced pages in length, exclusive of title page, abstract, timeline, references, budget pages and appendices. All research proposals that are approved for funding and involve the use of human subjects must obtain appropriate human subjects approval through the University's Institutional Review Board. Successful applicants are required to cite the RDI's seed grant program as a source of support. In addition, grant recipients will file any papers that emanate from this support with RDI. Applicants who request funding to increase their competitiveness in obtaining extramural funding are expected to prepare and submit a grant application within 12 months following the end of seed grant funding and report back to RDI about the outcome of their application.

### **Seed grant proposal materials consist of the following:**

- **Cover page** The title of your project as well as the mailing address, e-mail, telephone, and departmental affiliation of each investigator should be indicated on the cover page.

- **Abstract** Outline your research in a one-paragraph abstract suitable for public reports and RDI publicity materials.
- **Narrative** Summarize your research question, theoretical foundations, empirical facets of the research (if applicable), and the significance of the eventual project that the seed grant will help to develop. In addition, the proposal must discuss how the project will lead to increased competitiveness in obtaining extramural funding, will enhance scientific knowledge of race and difference, and/or will further the RDI mission of enhancing scholarship on race and difference. Excluding references, the narrative may be no more than three (3) single-spaced pages with a font size of 11 points.
- **Plan for Obtaining External Funding (Appendix A)** Describe your plans for obtaining external funds, including: a) what government agencies or foundations you may approach, and why; b) what contact you have already had with these agencies, if any (e.g. prior applications or conversations with program officers); c) when you expect to apply for funds; d) the expected scale of the eventual project; and e) how the activities funded by the seed grant will help to attract further external support. Also, list current or pending grant applications that are related to the project, including funds requested or received from sources both internal and external to Emory University. The maximum length for Appendix A is one (1) single-spaced page.
- **Relation of Proposed Activities to Existing Research (Appendix B)** If the seed grant is related to ongoing, funded research, describe the relationship: both how the activities funded by the seed grant will benefit the existing project, as well as how the existing project will benefit the activities supported by the seed grant. If applicable to your proposal, the maximum length for Appendix B is also one (1) single-spaced page.
- **Budget and Justification** These awards generally provide funding up to \$5000 to be used for research related expenditures.

***Budget Guidelines***

Proposed projects must expend funds by August 1, 2010. Project budgets cannot exceed \$5000 in direct costs and investigators may request support for any activity that directly relates to the successful conduct of the project. There are no indirect costs paid on RDI Seed Grants. Budget items may include support for data entry, interviews, data acquisition, access to restricted-use data, travel costs related to data collection or meetings with collaborators, summer salary support, and graduate research assistance. Graduate student support is especially encouraged. The initiative will not pay for computer equipment when that computing can reasonably be accomplished with the existing equipment at the University.

- **Abbreviated Curriculum vitae for all investigators (no more than 6 pages per CV)**

**Review and Selection**

RDI project coordinator will screen all submitted proposals to determine whether the proposals meet the program's goals. Faculty whose proposals are deemed to be outside the scope of the Initiative's mission will be removed from further consideration and the investigators will be notified. Proposals that pass this initial screening will undergo formal review by the RDI Faculty Leaders.

The following prioritized criteria will be used in evaluating the proposals:

- 1) The overall quality of the proposed research and its connection to the overall RDI mission;
- 2) The potential of the proposed research to be expanded into an externally funded grant application, or to significantly enhance the research capabilities of Initiative researchers to secure external funding;
- 3) Proposed research that crosses disciplines and solidifies ties between departments or other institutions, especially in the Atlanta area;
- 4) Proposed research for which other sources of funds are not available;
- 5) Proposed research by applicants who are junior faculty or who have not been previously funded under this program

### **Proposal Deadlines**

Highest priority will be given to proposals submitted by February 19<sup>th</sup>. Proposals submitted after February 19<sup>th</sup> will be reviewed as received until funds are expended. Please allow several weeks for the review process.

Send completed proposals to:

**Betsey Patterson, RDI Project Director**  
**betsey.patterson@emory.edu**