Comparative Urban Research - Partnership Initiation Grants – Year 2

For the second year, the Office of the Provost will be funding proposals from faculty interested in initiating or further developing a comparative urban research partnership with faculty from our partner institutions in both Hong Kong and South Africa.

Request for Proposals
We are requesting proposals from faculty interested in initiating or further developing (those who were funded in Year 1), a comparative urban research partnership with faculty from our partner institutions in both Hong Kong and South Africa. Although previous collaboration is not required, it will be necessary to identify specific faculty from collaborating universities in BOTH locations. Projects funded under this program during the first cycle (2014-2015) may apply for additional funding to advance their current collaboration. Faculty in the collaborating institutions should be individuals who share common research interests with the GSU proposer: individuals with whom they believe they can develop a collaborative research. This funding for this Partnership Initiation grant (up to $10,000) is intended to provide the GSU faculty member (or teams of faculty) with travel funds to visit both sites for research-development meetings, and/or to further develop a specific research project. Second year funding is designed so that teams can continue to develop their initiated projects with adequate justification, and the full expectation that external funding will be applied for to continue the project in the coming year. Only projects including participation from faculty in BOTH Hong Kong and South Africa will be eligible for such follow-on seed funding, and viable external funding options will need to be identified as a part of this follow-on application.

Faculty from the following universities must be involved. At least one faculty member from a participating Hong Kong University and one faculty member from a participating South African university must be included in a proposal:

Hong Kong:  Hong Kong Baptist University (HKBU) and/or City University of Hong Kong (CUHK)
South Africa:  University of Pretoria (UP) and/or University of Cape Town (UCT)

Research topics must be specifically urban in focus and nature, and must represent a focus from at least one of the following social science/natural science topics:

a)  city infrastructure and development, including but not limited to, housing, land use, congestion, transportation, utilities.

b)  city governance and public management, including but not limited to, city finance, public/private partnerships, public safety, intergovernmental functioning, role of NGOs.

c)  urban environmental quality, including but not limited to, sustainability, urban ecology and climate, food safety, natural or technological disasters, energy governance, water and air quality.

d)  changing urban populations, including but not limited to, migration, immigration, minority groups, assimilation, aging.

e)  urban health, including but not limited to, policy, communication, education, access to health care, mental health.

f)  social and economic issues of cities, including but not limited to, access to health care, access to educational opportunities, and access to other social services.
g) urban social development, including but not limited to, family/neighborhoods factors, social capital, resilience, quality of life, perceived wellbeing.

**Proposal Requirements (for new projects)**

Abstract of Proposed Research Area/Content (1 page max)

Significance of Research, General Design/Methods, Importance of Comparative Opportunity, and Possible Outcomes. (2 pages max)

Potential Faculty Partnership: include rationale for including faculty member in partnership, and short academic bio including relevant publications/grants for each faculty listed, including GSU faculty member (1 page max per faculty member).

Documentation of Potential Interest by Hong Kong and South Africa faculty members (email communications, documentation of other communications, etc.) The office of the Associate Provost for Strategic Initiatives and Innovation, Dr. Robin Morris, can provide advice on proposal development and also on the potential names and interests of specific faculty, and their contact information, in the partner universities who might be interested in this type of collaboration. Proposals wherein GSU faculty have not contacted and discussed potential partnership and projects with faculty in Hong Kong and South Africa will not be funded.

Proposed Budget for travel (1 page max)

All applications should be sent in one pdf to Keesha Coleman at kcoleman21@gsu.edu by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, January 15, 2016. Funding decisions will be made by Friday, January 29, 2016. All funds must be utilized, and travel completed to both sites by June 17, 2016. A report on the project’s progress, specific faculty contacts at each site and outcomes will be expected no later than July 1, 2016.

**Proposal Requirements (for ongoing projects – Year 2)**

Abstract of Research Project (1/2 page max)

Status/Progress Report; Future Plans for Research Project; Importance of Comparative Opportunity. (2 pages max)

Faculty Partnership: include listing of faculty members/universities in partnership, including GSU faculty members (1/2 page max)

Documentation of Granting Agencies/Foundation/Funding available for application in the coming year, and deadlines for applications (1 page max).

Proposed Budget and Justification (1 page max).

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