

## **Strategic Investment Fund Request for Proposals**

July 14, 2017

The Rector and President of the University of Virginia are pleased to announce a request for proposals for the next round of awards from the Strategic Investment Fund. Proposals will be accepted until 5pm on September 8, 2017. Proposals that are recommended by the Advisory Committee will be brought to a Board of Visitors meeting for approval, with awards anticipated late 2017 - early 2018.

**Eligible projects.** A proposed project must be consistent with the purposes of the Fund and should help the University achieve its goals, at either the school, unit or institutional level. The purposes of the Fund and review guidelines are described in the Guiding Principles <http://sif.virginia.edu/about>. Funding may be requested for up to three years. Funding for a longer time period than three years may be considered if there is a compelling argument for an extended project timeline. In any case, projects that are intended to continue beyond the original project time period must present a plan for showing how it will be made sustainable.

Where a project represents a collaboration, senior leaders from the participating units will indicate their support by signing the proposal. If there is a possibility of additional funding from another source, the contingencies around that potential funding should be clearly explained.

**Eligible proposers.** Any member of the University community (faculty, staff, or student) may make a proposal, including those associated with the Health System or with UVA's College at Wise (UVA-Wise).

University-related foundations may not submit proposals independently, but may be included in a proposal that is made by faculty, staff, or a student and submitted through a dean, vice president, or the Chancellor.

**How to submit a proposal.** All proposers should preview their ideas with their dean, vice president, or the Chancellor to receive guidance and feedback and be evaluated for alignment with school/unit goals prior to submission. All proposals must be signed, submitted, and prioritized by a dean, a vice president, or the Chancellor who will assign to the proposal one of the following categories: A=Priority; B=Recommended but not a priority; C=Not a priority. Deans, vice presidents, and the Chancellor should identify no more than two proposals as "Priority" projects.

The deadline for proposals is September 8, 2017; however, deans, vice presidents, and the Chancellor may set their own earlier deadlines so they may review and prioritize proposals. Please check with the relevant dean, vice president, or the Chancellor concerning the deadline for review within the unit.

Deans, vice presidents, and the Chancellor should not submit any proposals that commit schools or units to providing resources, financial or otherwise, that will not be made available to the project. They should not submit projects that could be funded through existing sources, such as operating budget, philanthropy, Equipment Trust Fund, federal grants, etc.

Anyone, including students, wishing to submit a proposal that is student life-oriented should work with the Office of the Vice President and Chief Student Affairs Officer to develop the proposal.

Proposals must be submitted using the Strategic Investment Fund Project Proposal Form which can be found at this website: <http://sif.virginia.edu/apply-funding>.

Proposals should be submitted via email to Pace Lochte at [lochte@virginia.edu](mailto:lochte@virginia.edu), who will distribute the proposal to members of the review committees.

**Review process.** All proposals are read by the Faculty Evaluation Committee, which prepares written comments concerning each proposal for the Advisory Committee. The Student Advisory Committee will read proposals that are predominantly focused on student life and will prepare written comments for the Faculty Evaluation and Advisory Committees.

The Advisory Committee is made up of the President, the three executive Vice Presidents, the Rector, Vice Rector, and two appointees of the Rector. The Advisory Committee makes its own evaluation of the proposals, taking into account the written remarks of the Faculty Evaluation Committee and with respect to proposals predominantly focused on student life, the views of the Student Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee then makes a recommendation to the Board of Visitors. Only the Board of Visitors can approve expenditures from the Fund. Expenditures from the Fund will vary depending upon the worthiness of the proposals and the level of earnings from the investments that make up the Fund.

The Advisory Committee reserves the right to ask proposers to revise their proposals, and the Board may also amend the proposals. Funding may be awarded for greater or lesser amounts than requested. Whether successful or unsuccessful, all proposers will receive feedback on their proposals.

**Monitoring.** Approved proposals will contain metrics for measuring the success of the project, and all proposers must expect to provide periodic progress reports. For multiyear projects, funding in years two and three will be contingent upon satisfactory progress. All requirements of the University concerning integrity and financial accounting must be observed.

Questions may be addressed to: Pace Lochte, [lochte@virginia.edu](mailto:lochte@virginia.edu), 434-924-7566