College of Education Seed Grants
Call for Proposals
Sponsored by the COE Research Committee

Proposal Due Date: January 12, 2015
Award Notification Date: Early February 2015

1. TRADITIONAL SEED GRANT: Projects must demonstrate a focused research agenda and enhance the College's capacity to conduct significant educational research. Seed funding of research proposals and grant applications comes with the expectation additional funding will be sought through external foundations and/or grants. Using this money as a seed for additional funding is required. The intention of the award is to support summer stipends to allow the research team time to implement the study but, ultimately, it is up to applicants to determine an appropriate budget to achieve their research goals.

Faculty interested in this grant type (e.g., pilot research projects, analyzing new data) should discuss the possibility of a summer stipend and how they are monetized with their department chair. This grant type is useful for summer data analysis or new research.

2. PROGRAM ASSESSMENT and EVALUATION SEED GRANT: This grant provides funding for faculty who are interested in scholarly work related to improving their program’s ability to (a) prepare teachers who are able to have a positive effect on student learning or other school professionals who create positive learning environments to support student learning, (b) measure teacher candidates’ effect on student learning or the effect of the school environment on student learning for candidates in programs for other school professionals, and/or (c) examine how programs align with the priorities of Complete College Georgia (see link for information: http://www.usg.edu/educational_access/documents/GaHigherEducationCompletionPlan2012.pdf).

Faculty interested in this grant type (e.g., program evaluation, teacher/admin prep research) may ask for funds to develop a research/evaluation project during Summer 2015 that can be implemented in Fall 2015, or conduct research in Spring 2015. This grant type is useful for projects that advance both accreditation and scholarship.

Important Notes

All proposed funds must be disbursed by June 30, 2015. This stands for all grant types and should be an important consideration for applicants. Implication: Faculty members who want to use these funds for salary are limited to funding themselves in Summer A term only but work on the project may continue, and likely will, throughout the academic year.

The total amount of funding available for distribution is $10,000. Proposals may be written for up to $10,000, but if there are multiple high quality proposals partial funding may be awarded.

Go to http://coe.georgiasouthern.edu/research/grants-contracts/ rfp/ for the RFP for each grant type, cover page, Department Chair Approval Form, and rubric.

General questions may be directed to Amelia Davis, Chair of the Research Committee (adavis@georgiasouthern.edu). Questions about budget or timeline may be directed to Tracy
Linderholm (tlinderholm@georgiasouthern.edu).
Traditional Seed Grant Opportunity  
Instructions for Proposals 2014-15

To have proposals considered, applicants must follow the instructions and the general terms and conditions included in this document. Proposals may be written for an amount up to $10,000, but if there are multiple high quality proposals partial funding may be awarded. General questions may be directed to Amelia Davis, adavis@georgiasouthern.edu, Chair of the Research Committee. Questions about budget or timeline may be directed to Tracy Linderholm, tlinderholm@georgiasouthern.edu.

Section 1: Application Narrative
The application should not exceed five pages in length and should be organized explicitly into the following sections. The narrative should not contain any information that identifies the primary researcher or any other researcher providing assistance on this project.

I. Research Project Concept: Describe the proposed project and its benefits addressing the following:
   • How it relates to the primary researcher’s research agenda.
   • How it might influence the College’s outreach to P-20 and other community constituents (e.g., adult learners) and/or enhance the College’s capacity to conduct significant educational research.

II. Research Design (see details in the scoring rubric):
   • Identify the research question(s) and the research design (e.g., qualitative, correlation, survey) used to address the intent of the study.
   • Identify the COE faculty member who will be the facilitator for the project and list the names and affiliations of any team members who will collaborate on the project and the expected contributions of each ON THE COVER SHEET ONLY.
   • Provide any additional information to clarify how the team will function in order to accomplish planning the project and developing the proposal.
   • Include a brief review of literature.
   • Explain how this project will bridge any gaps in the literature or begin a new scholarly discussion in the particular field of study.
   • Explain why this study is significant in the researcher’s field of study.

III. Timeline and Benchmarks:
   • Provide a realistic timeline for planning the project and writing the proposal with clear benchmarks.
   • For each benchmark, identify the evidence that will be made available to the Research Committee and Department Chair to verify that the work is underway and on schedule.

IV. Evaluation:
   • List the methods by which the quality of the project proposal will be evaluated by the team and/or others.
• Identify what pieces of evidence will be submitted to the COE Research Committee and Department Chair to verify the completion of the external funding proposal and quality assurance. Applying for external funding is a requirement as part of the overall plan for the body of work. Applicants must identify the sources of funding that will be applied for in the future and be as specific as possible.

V. Budget Narrative:
• Identify the amount of funds being requested and include an itemized budget that clearly shows how the funds will be spent.
• Provide a narrative justification for each item of the budget.
• Proposals may be written for up to $10,000, but if there are multiple high quality proposals partial funding may be awarded. Applicants should note in their budget where they might cut funding if they were awarded less money than proposed in their grant budget.
• All funds must be spent by June 30, 2015.

IV. Additional Funding Source and RFP Information:
• Identify any grant funding being sought at this time or subsequent to this proposal, including (a) funding source, (b) funding amount, (c) funding period, (d) topic, and (e) submission deadline/s.
• Provide a brief explanation that describes why the applicant believes this project should be considered for seed funding.
• Attach a copy of the Call for Proposal document.

Section 2: Funding Stipulations - Eligibility of Applicants, Participants, and Allowable Expenses
• The primary applicant must be a COE regular faculty member currently serving in a non-administrative role and must be identified as the facilitator and primary writer of the research proposal.
• Funds may be used to compensate the facilitator/lead writer and other faculty, administrative staff, or P-12 educators who serve on the grant-writing team. Reasonable stipends to faculty may be requested and would be paid on summer contracts. Any fringe benefit costs imposed by the University will be deducted from proposed faculty stipends.
• Funds could be used to cover course release time (pending approval from Department Chair).
• Budget requests must be directly linked to carrying out the activities outlined in the application with the overall goal of completing and submitting a grant proposal. Examples of other expenditures include materials and/or equipment needed to conduct the research, and payment to research participants.
• Proposals employing graduate student researchers will be given priority, but it is not a requirement.
• All budgeted items must meet guidelines for the use of University funds.
Section 3: Submission Directions

Completed applications should be emailed to Amelia Davis, Chair of the Research Committee (adavis@georgiasouthern.edu). Applications must be received by **6:00 p.m. January 12, 2015**, and include the following:

- A completed Application Cover Sheet with signatures.
- A narrative in the format referred to in Section 1 with budget, not to exceed 5 pages in length. The narrative should not contain any information that identifies the primary researcher or any other researcher providing assistance on this project.
- A signed Department Chair Approval Form. This allows the department chair to acknowledge the possible impact of the budget on departmental resources.

Contact the following COE Research Committee representatives for information about obtaining application forms and information.

Amelia Davis  
Chair, COE Research Committee  
Department of Curriculum, Foundations and Reading  
adavis@georgiasouthern.edu

Locating external funding sources:

Tracy Linderholm  
Associate Dean, Graduate Education and Research  
tlinderholm@georgiasouthern.edu

Bob Mayes  
Director, STEM Education  
Institute  
rmayes@georgiasouthern.edu

The goals of this seed grant are two-fold: (a) to facilitate program improvement, and (b) to enhance faculty opportunities for scholarship in the area of assessment. To have proposals considered, applicants must follow the instructions and general terms and conditions included in this document.

The seed grant will fund faculty research projects geared at improving their program’s ability to (a) prepare teachers who are able to have a positive effect on student learning or other school professionals who create positive learning environments to support student learning, (b) measure teacher candidates’ effect on student learning or the effect of the school environment on student learning for candidates in programs for other school professionals, and/or (c) examine how programs align with the Complete College Georgia priorities (see link for more information: http://www.usg.edu/educational_access/documents/GaHigherEducationCompletionPlan2012.pdf).

Note: Priority will be given to proposals that address the effectiveness of the program curriculum and/or field and clinical experiences for preparing teachers and/or other school professionals to effect student learning or that address the effectiveness of current assessments for measuring impact on student learning.

Award

Proposals may be written for an amount up to $10,000 but if there are multiple high quality proposals partial funding may be awarded. Applicants should note in their budget where they might cut funding if they were awarded less money than proposed in their grant budget. Note: All funds in the proposed budget must be disbursed no later than June 30, 2015.

The Awardee(s) must provide a 3-4 page written report of their findings to the Dean of the College of Education by an agreed upon deadline (specified in the proposal) and present their findings at a Fall 2015 or Spring 2016 Brown Bag hosted by the COE Research Committee.

Guidelines

• Full-time faculty who are appointed in either an undergraduate or graduate program are eligible for this award. Research may pertain to any program in the COE and can be conducted by any full-time faculty member inside or outside of the targeted program.
• The researcher must obtain written permission (e.g., a letter of support) from the program coordinator of the program that will be studied and include it with the application materials. This pertains to faculty who are both members and non-members of the program under study.
• The COE Research Committee will review the proposals and determine which ones are funded.
• All budgeted items must meet guidelines for the use of University funds.
Completed applications should be emailed to the Research Committee Chair, Amelia Davis (adavis@georgiasouthern.edu). Applications must be received by **6:00 p.m. January 12, 2015** and consist of:

1. An Application Cover Sheet with signatures.
2. A narrative including research concept, design, timelines for the project, budget, and plans for scholarship (see seed grant rubric). Proposals must not exceed 5 pages in length. The narrative should not contain any information that identifies the primary researcher or any other researcher providing assistance on this project.
3. A signed Department Chair Approval Form. This allows the department chair to acknowledge the possible effects of the budget on departmental resources.
4. A letter of support from the program coordinator of the program under study.

Contact the following COE Research Committee representatives for information about obtaining application forms and information.

Amelia Davis  
Chair, COE Research Committee  
Department of Curriculum, Foundations and Reading  
adavis@georgiasouthern.edu

Questions about budget or timeline:

Tracy Linderholm  
Associate Dean, Graduate Education and Research  
trlinderholm@georgiasouthern.edu