

OVPR Interdisciplinary Research Scholars Climate & Health Nexus - Fall 2022 Request for Proposals

The Research Development Office (RDO) within the University of Iowa Office of the Vice President for Research (OVPR) seeks collaborative OVPR Interdisciplinary Research Scholars proposals with awards up to \$100k for one year. Successful proposals will focus on the Climate & Health Nexus (CHN) defined as the intersection of climate and health challenges, broadly. The goal is to enable teams of researchers to respond to one of the most pressing societal challenges of our time by advancing research and collaborative networks. For Fall 2022, it is anticipated that up to 10 full proposals will be invited with up to five awards made.

Eligibility Criteria

- Any area of creative or scholarly inquiry that explores the intersection of climate & health challenges, broadly defined, is welcome.
- Only UI faculty are eligible to submit an LOI.
- LOI teams must consist of a minimum of three tenure-track faculty members from at least three departments and two colleges, based on primary appointments.
- Invited teams must participate in the Presentation/Feedback session on November 11 from 9:30am-12pm (see below). After this session, team members may be added, but only from faculty who participated in the session.
- An individual may participate on only one team.

Climate and Health Nexus Process

There are several important activities that will occur before and after proposal submissions.

Prior to Invited Proposal Submission

- Letter of Intent (LOI): Teams must submit an LOI paying close attention to eligibility and review criteria.
- Presentation/Feedback Session: Invited proposal teams must participate in a 2.5-hour presentation and feedback session. Teams will provide eight-minute overview presentations while attendee feedback (open to campus) is collected electronically. The goal is to help teams improve their ideas and build campus connections with interested researchers.

After Awards are Made

- Workshops/Presentations: Awarded teams must participate in two meetings amongst each other. They will present their projects to learn about each other's efforts and discuss potential areas of interaction.
- Invited Speakers: Each awarded team must identify and invite to campus one prominent speaker related to their project's topic. The invited speaker should give a campus presentation and meet with interested researchers. The goal is to exchange knowledge and build connections.

Climate and Health Nexus

Successful proposals must address a research challenge focused on CHN. This is a natural framework for uniting disparate campus research groups in a coordinated fashion to elevate the UI's research in this area, which will likely be a growing federal funding priority area in the future. Further, this theme provides an opportunity for every area of campus, including artists and humanist, to make meaningful

contributions and be impactful partners contributing to the University's societal impact, both locally and globally.

Required Award Outcome

- Collect feasibility/pilot data that enables competitive external grant proposals.
- Sustainability of research through external grant submissions.
- Provide significant societal impact related to CNH.
- Awarded teams will participate in two two-hour awarded team meetings during the project as well as invite one prominent speaker to campus.

Budget

The maximum award is **up to \$100k for one year**.

- Faculty salary is not allowed.
- Subawards are not allowed.
- Funds must be included for the invited speaker. This may include honorarium, travel expenses, and meals/refreshments for meetings and events.
- Staff and student salaries are allowed.
- All other program costs are allowable with appropriate justification. However, travel is allowed only if it directly relates to the conduct of research or for convening meetings.
- Expenditures over budget are the responsibility of the principal investigator's department.

LOI Guidelines

The LOI should be one page with Arial 11-point font and 1" margins using the following headings. The LOI does not require an address line or signature (i.e., respond to the questions below).

1. **What & How?:** What are you doing and how are you doing it?
2. **Why & Who Cares?:** Why are you doing it and who cares?
3. **Success:** What is success for this project? What does success enable you to do that you could not do before?
4. **Team:** Why is this the team that will achieve success?
5. **Budget:** How will you spend the budget and why?

Invited Proposal Guidelines

All documents should be Arial 11-point font and 1" margins.

1. Executive Summary (\leq 250 words; non-technical abstract)
2. Proposal Narrative sections to be included (use these headers; \leq 2 pages)
 - a. **What & How?:** What are you doing and how are you doing it?
 - b. **Why & Who Cares?:** Why are you doing it and who cares?
 - c. **Success:** What is success for this project? What does success enable you to do that you could not do before?
 - d. **Team:** Why is this the team that will achieve success?
3. Timeline – (<0.5 pages)
4. References
5. Sustainability Plan (\leq 1 page): Articulate the sustainability plan for the team's efforts. Please define external funding target areas including agencies, programs, and grants. How would an award contribute to successfully obtaining these grants?

6. Letters of Collaboration (not required for team members): See the InfoReady application site for required template– no deviations. All collaborations must be explained within the project narrative. **Letters of support are not allowed.**
7. Budget Spreadsheet (see the InfoReady application site for required template)
8. Budget Justification: Clearly explains why the requested resources are needed (≤ 2 pages)
9. Biosketches: Team member must submit biosketches. **Please limit to two pages:** use [NIH](#) or [NSF](#) templates. See the InfoReady application site for suggested template.

Review Process and Criteria

LOI submissions will be administratively reviewed by OVPR Senior Staff using the review criteria (and identifying potential synergistic projects). Invited proposals will be peer reviewed by a group of senior campus research leaders in an NIH-style panel review session using the review criteria.

Review Criteria

1. Is it a well-articulated, important project that aligns with CHN?
2. Does it have significant societal impact, both short term and long term?
3. Will achieving success enable the team to sustain their efforts after the award?
4. Does the team have a track record of success (together or individually)?
5. Is the budget necessary to achieve success?

Reporting Requirements

A final project report regarding the research and scholarly advances, societal impact, and a draft external funding proposal must be submitted through InfoReady thirty days after the project end date. Further, brief annual reports for three years following the award are required.

Seeding Excellence Initiative – OVPR Interdisciplinary Research Scholars

SEI, a two-year initiative, aims to sustain the continued growth of the campus research enterprise by providing competitive pilot funding in four strategic areas. The OVPR Interdisciplinary Research Scholars program, one of SEI's four strategic areas, will invest in the success of the University's research efforts in connecting researchers to combat societal challenges i.e., the climate-environment-health nexus. SEI is made possible through funding to RDO from the [public-private partnership](#) (P3) Year 1 funding cycle.

P3 Symposium

Awardees of the SEI programs shall expect to participate in future P3 Symposiums, which will highlight the outcomes associated with the UI's P3 funding mechanism.

FY23 Application Process and Timeline

To apply, log in to the OVPR Interdisciplinary Scholars [submission portal](#) with your HawkID and password. Contact vpr-rdo@uiowa.edu with submission portal questions.

October 3, 2022	LOI Due
October 17, 2022	Full Proposals Invited
November 11, 2022 @ 9:30am-12pm	Team Presentations/Feedback Collection
December 12, 2022	Full Proposals Due
January 13, 2023	Project Start Date