**2020 BLAIS Challenge Awards**

**Request for Proposals**

**Closing Date: August 1, 2020**

The Faculty Research Committee invites CGU faculty to submit proposals for 2020 BLAIS challenge awards in the range of $10,000-$25,000. The BLAIS Foundation is a CGU endowment devoted to the promotion and support of academic cooperation between CGU and the undergraduate Claremont Colleges. New BLAIS Challenge awards will be available on or about September 1, 2020with funds to be spent over a period of up to 21 months (through June 30, 2022)

A proposed BLAIS initiative must have *at least one* of the following features:

* A service or applied research program designed to help local communities outside of the Claremont Colleges and to create or strengthen firm linkages with such off-campus communities, which may be defined by geography, interests, affiliations, or patterns of communication; **or**
* Innovative academic program development, such as a new curriculum, new or enhanced instructional technology, or a thematic series of creative learning experiences outside of coursework (BLAIS challenge awards will not pay for faculty to teach courses)—this list is illustrative, not exhaustive; **or**
* Collaborative academic research meant to result in joint publications or external funding applications.

The initiative must be led by one or more CGU core faculty members (as defined in the faculty bylaws) and include active participation by core faculty at one or more of the undergraduate Claremont Colleges.

BLAIS Challenge Awards may involve a challenge condition (such as matched funding) to be met before all funds are released. Challenge conditions may be proposed by applicants; however, any challenge conditions will be determined and finalized by the committee and definitively stated in the notice of award.

Projects will be judged on the following points: embracing the letter and spirit of the BLAIS mission to strengthen intercollegiate cooperation; clear and ambitious goals; thoughtful, sound, feasible implementation plans; persuasive evidence of interest or support beyond CGU; provisions to develop a new line/lines of internal or external support to for the proposed initiative; reportable measures or milestones to evaluate progress toward the project’s goals; overall benefit to the University.

*Proposals should include all of the following components*, preferably in docx format:

* + A publishable summary of the project, not to exceed 100 words.
  + A clear description of the aims, methods, schedule, and expected products/results of the project, explaining how the project would satisfy each of the eligibility requirements and points stated above. *Maximum* length is 1,500 words, not including references or any of the items below.
  + A detailed budget (see attached template)
  + A list of up to five lead participants, including a clear explanation of what each lead participant will contribute to the project and how the leaders will manage the project.
  + A brief biosketch or CV (2 page maximum) for each lead participant.
  + *If applicable*, letters of interest or support from pertinent community agencies or representatives

Proposed projects may be entirely new or may build on activities already underway, including activities that may have received previous BLAIS Challenge support—however, any earlier BLAIS funding must have been completed and a final report submitted by the date of submission of the new proposal.

All proposals received by August 1, 2020, will be reviewed and responded to by August 31, 2020.

Submit all proposals electronically to [Carrie.Herr@cgu.edu](mailto:Carrie.Herr@cgu.edu)

Budget Template for BLAIS Challenge

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Object Code** |  | **Amount** |
| SO150 | Regular Faculty Salaries |  |
| S0012 | Adjunct or Extended Faculty |  |
| SO179 | Graduate Student Wages |  |
| SO173 | Staff Salaries and Wages |  |
| SO540 | Fringe Benefits: Student = 5%, Regular Faculty & Staff = 28%, Adjunct/Extended = 13% |  |
| SO272 | Postage |  |
| SO297 | Telephone |  |
| SO228 | Duplicating |  |
| SO238 | Travel- Mileage |  |
| SO243 | Travel- Airfare |  |
| SO245 | Travel- Lodging |  |
| SO248 | Travel- International Travel |  |
| SO264 | Honoraria |  |
| SO400 | Office Supplies |  |
| SO229 | Books and Periodicals |  |
| SO508 | Other Current Expenses |  |
|  | TOTAL: |  |