Transformative Research and Innovation, Accelerating Discovery

- internal seed grant program -
Goals

• Why?
  – To stimulate and support innovative research
  – To develop long-term interdisciplinary research collaborations
  – To lead to external grant proposals; increase in funding; inventions and patents; publications and visibility

• Models
  University of Michigan—Mcubed
  Texas A&M University—T3
  University of Virginia—3 Cavaliers

UMich accomplishments from 2 rounds:
  Over $120M in externally-funded grants
  Over 320 publications
  50+ scholarly/artistic products
  20+ invention disclosure reports/patents
  Hundreds of presentations

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TRIADs

- Three faculty collaborating—the TRIAD
  - Faculty from at least two units
  - Not currently working on a project together
- Funds new research
- No traditional peer review!

RULES

- Funding: shared 1/3 VPR, 1/3 unit, 1/3 faculty
- Spending: at least 50% on students or post-docs; no faculty salary
- Deliverables: report, participation in symposium, grant proposal
Funding per project

- Team decides on size at time of submission
- Department Heads and Deans decide on number of faculty they want to fund
- Project owners indicate whether the proposed project competes as part of the grass-roots and/or the strategic competition
- 4th member without funding can join team
How do I create a project?
How do I find projects to join?

Seed Grant Opportunities

- Cube Size
  - Classic ($60k)

Operator: Contains any of these words

Search

Displaying 1 - 2 of 2

A Test Project Proposal

Exploring Black Holes
How do I add comments or indicate interest?

A Test Project Proposal


Cube Size
Classic ($60k)

Posted By
wpadmin

Collaborators
Bob B

Comment On Project
Add new comment
Subject
Process

1. Faculty post or search for projects on website.
2. Faculty may post comments, indicate interest to join.
3. Project owner invites 2 faculty to join.
4. Project owner submits project by deadline.
5. Semi-random lottery awards TRIADs.

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How are projects selected for funding?

- No peer review
- Semi-random selection process
  - Step 1. list of submitted projects is sorted into a random list.
  - Step 2. The first project on the list is funded.
  - Step 3. If the next project (a) contains faculty from a unit that is not represented in the funded projects thus far and (b) the units of all the faculty in the TRIAD still have funding remaining, the project is funded; otherwise, the project is skipped.
  - Step 4. Repeat step 3 until all the submissions have been examined.
  - Step 5. Start at the top of the list of unfunded projects and fund the projects in order—if the units of all the faculty members in the TRIAD still have funding available.
  - Step 6. Continue down the list, funding the projects until all projects are funded or all funds have been committed.
Timeline

- September 1: website opens for posting proposals
- October 15: deadline for final formation of TRIADs
- November 1: announcement of awards
- December 1: Start date; account will be set up in project owner’s department
- Nov. 30, 2020: End date; 6 months extension may be requested