I. RESEARCH PILOT FUNDING: GUIDELINES

PROCESS

The Translational Data Analytics Institute (TDAI) has allocated funds to support institute faculty affiliates in ideating, concepting and piloting viable team science/scholarship projects that align with the institute’s strategic priorities and have the potential for broad impact both in the underlying science and in appropriate translational settings. In addition to funds, this new program will feature facilitated brainstorming and team-building sessions to develop new concepts, proposal development coaching, peer mentoring, and space and computing resources. The process outlined below is designed to promote team science/scholarship with support and guidance from the TDAI staff and faculty leadership.
1. Twice per year (pending availability of funds), TDAI leadership will issue a call for Concept Notes from faculty affiliates. Concept Notes are similar to letters of intent and provide brief summaries of a faculty member’s research interests related to the specific topic of the call (see Section II: Concept Note for details).

2. TDAI Leadership will review all Concept Notes, identify potential overlapping and/or synergistic ideas, and issue invitations to a Brainstorming Session that is facilitated by TDAI staff and geared toward building robust interdisciplinary teams that will ultimately be competitive for extramural funding.

3. Outcomes of the brainstorming session will be one 1-page Quad Chart with a text Supplement per proposed project (templates will be provided).

4. TDAI leadership will evaluate quad charts and supplements and invite select proposed projects to submit a Full Proposal for research pilot funding, which may include request for space and computing resources. Coaching support (optional) will be provided by TDAI staff for proposal development. The number of awards per funding cycle will depend upon availability of funds and amounts requested; total budget available for the fall 2019 call for proposals is $100,000, and we anticipate up to two awards. TDAI leadership will making funding decisions within 30 days of the proposal deadline and share with applicants via email.

Following award, the TDAI leadership team will work closely with awardees to ensure the success of the research programs. This partnership will include mid-year reporting on progress, a process during which the TDAI leadership team may invite other faculty expert(s) to serve as mentor(s) to the research team.

a. **Requirements for Research Pilot Funding**

   When submitted, invited research projects being proposed to receive pilot funding should:
   - Align with goals outlined in the TDAI strategic plan
   - Facilitate interdisciplinary team science/scholarship, defined as representing two or more disciplines and/or external partners
   - Advance foundational and/or applied data science and analytics
   - Be innovative and achieve convergence across disciplines
   - Map to specific extramural funding opportunities in the imminent future
   - Be led by one or more TDAI affiliates
   - Be completed within one year with milestones established on a per-semester basis

Priority will be given to proposals that:
- Have broad translational impact by engaging end-user stakeholders and/or by disseminating research results directly or via university programs and channels
- Have strong potential to lead to extramural funding or dissemination as innovative scholarship
- Are led by TDAI recruits
- Foster team science
- Use and create data assets including analytic tools and data repositories that can be placed in the TDAI data commons
- Leverage other resources and cost-sharing opportunities (note: there is no requirement for cost-sharing)
- Include student or trainee development
- Foster diversity and inclusion via scope of the project and/or makeup of the research team

b. **Pilot Funding Awards**: Release of pilot funding, and any negotiated space and computing resources, will be aligned with the academic year to facilitate release time and graduate student appointments. Depending on anticipated project duration, 1/3 to 1/2 of the funds will
be released prior to initiation of the project, and further funds will be released each subsequent semester (up to 2 additional semesters) provided that semester-based milestones are met (as detailed in the mid-year report). No-cost extensions will not be permitted unless extremely well-justified, and any unused funds at the end of the project will be returned to TDAI for investment in other research pilots. In addition, the spring award start date can be delayed up to the following summer/fall semester, if the intent is to support a graduate student for one year.

c. Expectations

   It is expected that:
   • TDAI’s leadership team will help shape the scope of the proposal as needed and partner closely with the project team to identify resources, resolve technical hurdles, identify future extramural funding opportunities, develop external partnering opportunities and help with dissemination of scholarly products as appropriate.
   • Recipients will submit mid- and end-of-year reports to the TDAI leadership team.
   • The Translational Data Analytics Institute will be recognized in publications as a project sponsor.

With the exception of coaching (which is optional), all steps of this process are required prior to securing pilot funding from TDAI.
II. CONCEPT NOTE

EVALUATION
TDAl Leadership will review all Concept Notes, identify potential overlapping and/or synergistic ideas, and issue invitations to the brainstorming session. Note: Submission of a Concept Note is required for participation in the brainstorming session.

APPLICATION PROCESS
Concept Notes must be:
- two pages or less (excluding PI biosketch)
- single-spaced with 1/2-inch margins and 11-point type
- submitted as a single PDF to tdai@osu.edu

Key Dates
- Concept notes are due by 5 p.m. Eastern Time on Monday, November 25, 2019.
- Applicants will be notified of selection(s) for the brainstorming stage by Friday, December 13, 2019.

Format All sections are required
1. Title of proposed project
2. Principal Investigator(s) – Name(s), affiliation(s) and biosketch(es)
3. Translational Impact – Articulate the problem and describe the gap addressed by the proposed research (150 words)
4. Summary of Project/Approach
5. Team – For all participants, including all faculty, staff and students, provide name, affiliation (college/unit and department), and relevant area(s) of expertise. Indicate TDAI affiliations for faculty. Optional: provide diversity data.
6. Anticipated Project Duration (up to 3 semesters)
7. Estimated Budget (amount; no details)

By signing below, I acknowledge that this request does not present a conflict of interest for any member of the project team, TDAI or the university.

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