

EX[L] Center Faculty-Driven Initiatives Request for Proposals

Background

Faculty-Driven Initiative (FDI) funding is available through the EX[L] Center each academic year to faculty or faculty-led teams who seek to **facilitate research/scholarship through pedagogical innovation that emphasizes experiential learning (team-based, inquiry-driven, hands-on, community-based, participatory, etc.)**.

All full-time faculty are invited to apply (tenured, tenure track, and non-tenure track faculty are eligible). Examples of previously funded FDIs can be found at <https://www.uakron.edu/exl/forfaculty/index.dot>.

Proposal Details

Proposals are limited to two-pages (front-side) plus budget and biosketches and should be submitted to Christin Seher, EX[L] Co-Director **by May 21, 2021** at cseher@uakron.edu. It is expected that proposal budgets will fall within a single fiscal year, to commence in fall 2021 and that all funds will be spent by June 30, 2022. Proposals may be resubmitted in subsequent years, if appropriate. Proposals should address the following within the two-page limit:

- 1) **Description of the project and its overarching objective(s):** what specific need does this community-engaged learning opportunity address?
- 2) **Impact:** how does this project benefit students, UA, the community and/or your scholarship?
- 3) **Evaluation:** what will you use to determine if the project is successful?
- 4) **Fit with the goals of the EX[L] Center:** how does the project promote hands-on, team-based, transdisciplinary, and/or inquiry-driven learning?
- 5) **Partnerships:** who are you working with?
- 6) **Specific ask:** how can EX[L] assist you, financially and administratively, in achieving your objectives? Please include a budget.
- 7) **Scalability:** how can this activity be expanded to impact a larger number of students after the pilot phase, if applicable.

If any aspect of these criteria prevents you from adequately explaining your idea, ignore that criteria and focus on explaining your idea. We will read and consider all submissions and we do not want our expectations outlined here to suffocate creativity. At the same time, if we conclude that the criteria you chose to ignore could have been meaningfully addressed in your proposal that will weaken your submission.

Budget

List all costs with a short explanation. If the project is leveraging other funds, internal or external, please indicate this. Proposals without budgets will not be considered.

Biosketch(es)

In addition to the application narrative and budget document, include a biography for each faculty member involved (no more than ½ page) underscoring interests and experience as they relate to this project.

Evaluation

Applications will be evaluated by a subcommittee of the EX[L] Faculty Steering Committee, with an anticipated notification date of May 15th, 2021.

Here are some of the current ways UA delivers experiential learning to our students:

- *Undergraduate Research*
- *Field Work*
- *Student Teaching*
- *Service Learning*
- *Community-based Research (Participatory Action Research)*
- *Internships*
- *Co-Ops*
- *Practica*
- *Clinicals*
- *Directed Volunteer or Co-Curricular Activities*
- *Study Abroad*
- *Unclasses*
- *Juried Exhibitions & Performances*