

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

UDALL CENTER FELLOWS PROGRAM

Academic Year 2020–21

in association with the

BIO5 Institute Team Scholars Program (BIO5 Scholars)

– Biosciences and Public Policy –



A major priority for the University of Arizona is catalyzing interdisciplinary research activities which lead to external funding. An obstacle for advancement in such activities can be the need for many faculty members to fulfill other academic obligations such as service and teaching, as well as lack of access to appropriate facilities and support. With limited availability of dedicated time and resources focused on research, many promising opportunities may be left not fully explored. To address this need, the [BIO5 Institute](#), one of the Research, Innovation and Impact (RII) University Research Institutes/Centers (URICs), is offering support for Scholarships to allow faculty member release time and other support for full implementation of collaborative, interdisciplinary projects. URICs are intended to be the campus hubs for large scale transdisciplinary work, and yet many faculty are not fully utilizing the resources and connections available at the URICs in their work. The goal of these BIO5 Institute Team Scholarships is to develop, produce and submit a collaborative proposal for external funding, and to enhance the connection of faculty to the BIO5 Institute and other colleagues.

Eligibility. Scholar teams must consist of two or more interdisciplinary investigators who wish to work together to develop new skills, catalyze a new research area, and develop and submit a program-level grant application. The team lead must be a faculty member who will not be taking a sabbatical or other leave during the same academic year, and can be from any unit at the UArizona. Team members may include faculty and/or staff. Applications are invited from research teams working on interdisciplinary research projects or programs in one or more of the BIO5/Translational Bioscience strategic research areas: (1) Aging and Age-related Diseases; (2) Precision Medicine Enabling Omics; (3) Advancing Health Outcomes through Technology; (4) Infectious Diseases and the Science of Microbiomes; (5) Bioinformatics; and (6) Bioimaging.

THIS YEAR, through a joint call with the [Udall Center for Studies in Public Policy](#), additional scholar teams are encouraged that are performing research on one of the topics above, with appropriate public-policy inquiry (including ethics, financing, legislation, governance, public dialogue, Indigenous issues, and other germane subjects). The Udall Center homepage describes the Center's general policy interests and pursuits (<http://udallcenter.arizona.edu/>). In addition, you can read about the 30-year-old Udall Center Fellows Program, of which this BIO5 initiative is a component (<http://udallcenter.arizona.edu/udall-fellows-program>).

Terms of the Fellowship. The Scholarship offers monetary support to faculty to help defray the cost of teaching, and may also provide office and laboratory space, student or post-doc support, and/or core facility use funds to the team, depending upon justified need.

Monetary support can be provided to relieve faculty Scholars of teaching responsibilities for one semester (up to \$15,000 as standard in the Scholar's department). Requests for monetary support of 3 or more faculty Scholars on a single team must be extremely well justified. The department must commit to fully releasing the Scholar from teaching and, to the extent practicable, departmental service obligations for the

supported semester. Monetary support for the faculty will be for one semester, but other monetary support and activities may be for up to one year.

Up to \$5,000 in RII or BIO5 core facility use funds can be provided to the team. Up to one person-year total of post-doc or graduate student time at NIH standard rate can be provided with justified need. Additionally, Scholars are expected to maintain an active presence in the Keating or Biosciences Research Laboratories (BSRL) building for the duration of the Scholarship, and can be provided offices, cubicles, and limited wet or dry lab space in accordance with justified needs of the project.

Over the course of the Scholarship, Scholars shall work with Research Development Services at RII to target, develop, and submit the proposal. By the end of the Scholarship term, the Scholars will either have submitted a proposal or prepared a complete proposal draft (depending on submission due date). Scholars proposing projects with the potential to generate intellectual property will work with Tech Launch Arizona to develop a protection and promotion strategy.

Scholars are expected to present a colloquium on their work during the Scholarship period and to acknowledge the institutional sources of support in grants, presentations, and publications resulting from the award. Scholars are expected to fully participate in BIO5 activities, and to serve on URIC committees including future proposal review committees.

Application Procedure. Each team should submit the following element in a text field:

- (1) a one-paragraph lay abstract describing the significance and impact of the proposed effort.

Each team should also submit the following elements as individual uploaded PDF documents:

- (1) specific plans for the project to be undertaken during the funding period, including identification of a specific funding source and mechanism (e.g. program announcement) for the proposal to be developed (up to four pages);
- (2) information on the investigators to be involved, including any past relevant proposals submitted or funded, or joint publications (≤ 2 pages);
- (3) a brief CV or biosketch (maximum 5 pages) for all personnel involved in the project;
- (4) a listing of the resources requested with justification, including Scholarship support required by the department for teaching relief of the faculty, office, laboratory space needed (specific type and quantity), student/post-doc support, and core facility use funds as applicable,
- (5) a letter of endorsement and commitment of teaching/service release (if applicable) from each team member's department head or director.
- (6) a fully signed cover sheet bearing the signature of the department head/director.

Electronic copies of the full packet should be submitted to Molli Bryson at mollic@email.arizona.edu by **April 20, 2020**. For more information, you may contact Robert Varady at rvarady@email.arizona.edu or call at 626-4393.

Selection. Applications will undergo internal UA peer review, and final selection will be made by the BIO5 director, additionally the Udall Center Director in case of joint public-policy awards, and the Vice President for Research. Specific award guidelines will be detailed in the Notice of Award and Letter of Acceptance. The Scholarship awardees will be announced in May 2020.

Review Criteria. Priority for BIO5 Institute Research Scholarships will be given to projects which engage team members from multiple colleges. Additionally, priority will be given to projects which demonstrate a need of, and synergy from using, BIO5 Institute and RII resources located in the Keating or BSRL buildings. Some examples could be, but are not limited to: use of the Translational Bioimaging Resource, GEMM facility, or BSL3 facility, collaboration with data science groups or other investigator groups located in these buildings, pilot studies with human or animal subjects not practical in the applicant's building, and use of equipment located in the Keating building. Some information on BIO5 research resources is located at <http://www.bio5.org/research/facilities-services>. Contact the Director, Jennifer Barton barton@email.arizona.edu, for additional information.

The specific criteria for review are:

- Alignment of the proposed research with the strategic goals of the BIO5 Institute
- Significance and impact of the project or program
- Plan for leveraging BIO5 facilities, resources, and collaborators
- Excellence of the research plan
- Strength and credibility of the plan for obtaining external support.

Additional Instructions for joint BIO5 Institute/Udall Center proposals. Investigators with an interest in expanding their scientific team to include a policy dimension, or applying their policy expertise to a scientific project, should contact Dr. Jennifer Barton barton@email.arizona.edu and Dr. Robert Varady of the Udall Center rvarady@email.arizona.edu by March 20, 2020. They will determine whether a collaboration is feasible, and where necessary and possible, suggest a partner. In addition to the review criteria above, these proposals will be judged on the potential of the proposed work to producing meaningful, societally-relevant work in translational bioscience. We encourage interested faculty to contact us.

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The BIO5 Institute, the Udall Center, and Research, Innovation and Impact (RII) will provide the successful fellow's department with up to \$15,000 (to be determined) to help replace the fellow's teaching responsibilities for one semester.

Each application must include this signed cover sheet, which indicates that the candidate's department head has given prior approval regarding the applicant's eligibility and the arrangement for teaching replacement, should the applicant be successful.

Name of applicant

Applicant's rank

Applicant's home department or unit

I hereby approve this application and accept the terms of the teaching replacement funds.

Signature, Department Head or Director / Date