

# **HEALTHCARE RESEARCH INITIATIVE**

## Bucknell-Geisinger Research Initiative 2020 Request for Proposals

Bucknell University and Geisinger Health announce the 2020 Request for Proposals to provide financial support from the Bucknell-Geisinger Research Initiative (BGRI) for collaborative healthcare research projects between Bucknell faculty/staff and Geisinger physicians/clinicians/scientists. An important goal in offering this unique funding opportunity is to provide mechanisms for the establishment of long-term collaborative interactions that may also lead to peer-reviewed publications and subsequent external funding. Collaborative efforts and submission are encouraged (but not restricted) to the following areas of inquiry:

**Advanced Analytics/Predictive Models**  
**Biochemistry**  
**Biomedical Devices**  
**Biomedical & Translational Informatics**  
**Genetics and Genomics**  
**Health Economics**

**Imaging Sciences**  
**Kidney Disease**  
**Neurodevelopment and Autism**  
**Neuroscience**  
**Obesity**  
**Systems/Industrial Engineering**

Proposals will be evaluated on the importance of the healthcare challenge being addressed, the quality of the scientific and design methods, the effective use of the requested funds, involvement of undergraduate students, potential for dissemination of results, and prospective future collaborative work or technology transfer beyond the grant period.

Funding for these opportunities will be made available in two stages, with Stage 1 initially targeted to a maximum of \$20,000 and Stage 2 targeted to a maximum of \$100,000. Funds are intended to support faculty, scientists, staff, students, travel, and project supplies. Stage 1 award periods will only be for one year. Generally, Stage 2 awards will also be for one year, but two years may be requested when the significance of the work and the work plan justify such a request. The two funding stages are defined as follows:

- Stage 1** Collaborative pilot projects requiring less than one year of support up to **\$20,000**. These projects represent areas of investigation that require initial resources to develop an idea or potential topic into a substantive project.
- Award recipients will be required to give a presentation of results from their project during the subsequent fall semester.
- Stage 2** Substantive, collaborative projects lasting up to two years requiring a maximum of **\$100,000** of support. The most competitive projects in this category are likely to be those that were invited for proposal based on a project that previously received BGRI funding and thereby demonstrated the benefits of the collaboration and the strength of the research. Stage 2 projects typically include the need for dedicated staffing, such as a postdoctoral researcher, laboratory technicians or programmers, and ‘start-up’ resources to gather the preliminary data required for external funding.

Award recipients will be required to give a presentation of results shortly after the completion of their project. It is anticipated that no more than two Stage 2 projects will be funded.

Guidelines and restrictions regarding BGRI funds are as follows:

- Proposals must be jointly written and submitted by a Bucknell faculty member and a physician/clinician/scientist at Geisinger, with each party making significant contributions toward the effort. Each organization must receive a portion of the budget.
- Funding for projects involving human subjects will be contingent upon approval of the appropriate institutional review board.
- Funding is primarily for personnel, fringe benefits, consultants, supplies, travel, and patient care. In compelling circumstances, equipment may also be supported.
- Overall, the optimal outcomes of these projects are significant results/data and a long-lasting collaboration that is likely to result in a sustained partnership, dissemination of peer-reviewed publications, and the pursuit of external funding.
- Potential for future external funding is of specific importance to Stage 2 projects.
- Bucknell faculty members may request up to one month of summer salary per year.
- Project timelines are firm and should correspond to the dates provided below.
- It is not expected that investigators will receive multiple awards. The intent of this mechanism is to propel opportunities for extramural funding to support ongoing research endeavors.

#### **Stage 1 Application Requirements:**

- Completed Cover Sheet
- Project Description (include details on how the collaborators will interact, such as holding joint lab meetings, etc.)
- Project Budget
- CVs of Principal Investigators (PIs)
- Letter of Support from each PI's Department Chair
- If funding for a related BGRI project has been previously received, include updated Progress Report

**Submission deadline\*:** February 24, 2020

**Funding Decisions:** April, 2020

**Standard Start Date:** May 1, 2020

**Standard Completion Date:** 1 year after start date (*No-Cost Extensions WILL NOT be allowed*)

**Results Presentation Date:** On or before November 1, 2021

#### **Application Submission:**

- \*Both PIs must follow their institution's formal internal grant compliance approval process, and submit their materials through the respective approval portals by February 24<sup>th</sup>.
  - Bucknell PIs must submit the proposal through the Sponsored Projects Approval (SPA) online form: [my.bucknell.edu/script/grantproposals/](http://my.bucknell.edu/script/grantproposals/)
  - Geisinger PIs must notify [grantsupport@geisinger.edu](mailto:grantsupport@geisinger.edu) with their intent to submit a proposal. Internal deadlines will be provided upon notification and will be based on February 24<sup>th</sup> due date.
  - Proposals must be internally approved before being reviewed by the BGRI committee.
- The Bucknell PI must upload the following components through SPA: (1) cover sheet, project description, CVs, and letters of support as a single combined PDF; (2) budget in an MS Excel spreadsheet; (3) budget justification; and (4) if applicable, past BGRI funding progress report as a single PDF.

## **Stage 2 Application Requirements:**

### **Proposal**

- Completed Cover Sheet
- Project Description (include details on how the collaborators will interact, such as holding joint lab meetings, etc.)
- Project Budget
- CVs of Principal Investigators (PIs)
- Letter of Support from each PI's Department Chair
- If funding for a related BGRI project has been previously received, include updated Progress Report

**Submission deadline\*:** February 24, 2020

**Funding Decision:** April, 2020

**Standard Start Date:** May 1, 2020

**Standard Completion Date:** Maximum of 2 years after start date, but preferably 1 year from start date  
(*No-Cost Extensions WILL NOT be allowed*)

**Results Presentation Date:** A maximum 6 months from completion date

### **Application Submission:**

- \*Both PIs must follow their institution's formal internal grant compliance approval process and submit their materials through the respective approval portals by February 24<sup>th</sup>.
  - Bucknell PIs must submit the proposal through the Sponsored Projects Approval (SPA) online form: [my.bucknell.edu/script/grantproposals/](http://my.bucknell.edu/script/grantproposals/)
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## **I. COVER SHEET**

### **I.1 Project Title**

Title of Project	
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### **I.2 Principal Investigator(s)**

<b>BUCKNELL</b>	
Name	
Title	
Department	
Email	
Phone	

<b>GEISINGER</b>	
Name	
Title	
Department	
Email	
Phone	

### **I.3 Proposed Funding Dates**

Proposed Start Date	
Proposed End Date	
If proposed start/end dates differ from the standard funding dates, please explain.	

## **II. PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

Applications must address the following areas with appropriate detail such that the importance, likelihood of success, and potential for future collaborative work may be determined.

- Background
- Specific Objectives
- *For Stage 2:* Overview of Results from Related Stage 1 Project
- Research Methodology and Approach
- Outcomes
- Potential for Work Beyond Grant Period
- *For Stage 2:*
  - Plan for Future External Funding – Description MUST include a commitment to a specific program(s), agency(ies), and deadline(s)
- Plan for Dissemination of Results

Note: Project descriptions must be less than four pages using a 12-point font with 1-inch margins on each side. References and a limited number of essential appendices do not count against the four-page limit.

### **III. PROJECT BUDGET**

All proposals must provide detailed information and justification for planned expenditures for personnel, fringe benefits, consultants, supplies, travel, and patient care. In compelling circumstances, equipment may also be supported. Indirect costs are not allowed.

#### **III.1 BUDGET INFORMATION**

Budget information must be submitted according to standard NIH or NSF budgeting forms and practices. A budget template for preparing a detailed budget (with Bucknell- and Geisinger-specific fringe rates) will be available for download at: [www.bucknell.edu/bgri](http://www.bucknell.edu/bgri). Additional budget and justification resources for Bucknell faculty are available under the OSP site on my.bucknell.edu. Navigate to "Quick Links" -->"Administrative Offices"-->"Sponsored Projects" for more detailed information on OSP resources, policies and procedures. Institutional policies and procedures must be followed when preparing BGRI budgets.

**III.2 Budget Overview and Justification** *(Not to exceed 2 pages, 12-point font, 1" margins)*

While this funding opportunity is intended to support new or existing collaborative projects that currently do not have funding, applications for projects with existing funding are welcome and should describe the existing resources.