**S L A C**

**Innovation Fund (IF) Application**

**About IF funds**

Trainees affiliated with the SLAC program can apply for Innovation Funds for any innovative purpose. Please note that all proposals for IF projects should relate to the goals of the SLAC program, broadly defined. In order, IF priorities will be:

1. Pilot funds to support new research ideas proposed by a team involving SLAC trainees from at least 2 PhD programs (note that divisions in Psychological Sciences have different PhD programs)
2. Pilot funds to support new research ideas proposed by a team including at least one SLAC trainee and a faculty member from a different PhD program
3. Pilot funds to support new research proposed by a single SLAC trainee
4. Funding to organize training not available at UConn by bringing external personnel to UConn, provided it benefits the broader SLAC community
5. Funding to travel for training not available at UConn, with higher priority for training that will have benefits to SLAC personnel in addition to the trainee who travels
6. Other innovative activities – we cannot anticipate all possibilities; if you have an idea, propose it!
7. Conference travel will be funded occasionally, but only when: (1) a compelling rationale for innovative outcomes is provided, and (2) the trainee seeks other funding first and is unable to obtain sufficient funding from sources such as advisors, faculty co-authors, departments, or the graduate school. Highest priority will be given to trainee talks or posters where the trainee is the primary presenter. We typically will not support secondary co-authors or more than one trainee per presentation.

Please note: You will be required to submit a short (1 page) progress report on your project every six months. You will also be required to submit a short final report on the project when it is complete. You must also provide us with information about any products or positive outcomes that result from your project.

***INSTRUCTIONS: Complete this form and email it to Charlotte Nelson <charlotte.nelson@uconn.edu>***

**DATE**       **Applicant**

**Current or former SLAC trainee?** **[ ]  YES**

**Name of proposal (make this descriptive, so the casual reader can understand your goal from the title)**

**Total funds requested**        **Requested start date**        **Expected completion date**

***Note:*** Most grants are in the range of $100 to $2,000. With exceptional justification, larger amounts will be considered, especially for team applications involving trainees from more than one PhD program.

**Is this an individual or team application? Individual** **[ ]  or Team** **[ ]**

If Team, list members, and specify whether they are students or faculty (e.g., Henry James (S), William James (F))

**Ethics approval:** *Does your project require ethics approval (for human or animal subjects)?* [ ]  YES [ ]  NO

*Skip the rest of this section if the project does not require ethics approval*

Have you already obtained approval?[ ]  YES, ethics approval #:       and expiration date

If you require but do not yet have ethics approval, indicate when your protocol was / will be submitted for ethics approval:

*Note that if your application is successful, no funds will be provided to you until you have all required ethics approvals.*

**Conference/workshop travel:** *Note that SLAC trainees may request travel separately; only apply for IF funds for travel if you have exhausted your SLAC travel funds for the year*

*Is this proposal for conference/workshop travel (without any other innovative component, such as training)?*

[ ]  YES [ ]  NO

*Skip the rest of this section if this is not a travel request*

Have you sought funding from your advisor?

[ ]  YES, amount available:

Have you sought funding from any other faculty co-author?

[ ]  N/A [ ]  YES, amount available:

Have you sought funding from your department?

[ ]  YES, amount available:

Have you sought funding from the Graduate School?

[ ]  N/A (annual limit reached) [ ]  YES, amount available:

Have you sought funding from any other possible source (e.g., if the meeting offers travel grants to students)?

 [ ]  N/A [ ]  YES, amount available:

Total funds available from other sources:

Total amount requested from SLAC:

Are you presenting at the conference: [ ]  No [ ]  YES, primary presenter; [ ]  YES, secondary presenter;

Conference / workshop title:

Location:

Conference presentation citation (in APA form), including title and all authors.

***Please complete each of the following items concisely.***

**Short project abstract (about 100-200 words):**

**Project description and predictions.** This does not need to be very detailed, but you do need to describe the purpose of the project and how it will be achieved. For non-research studies, this project description can be quite short (1-2 paragraphs.) If you are proposing a research study, please describe the purpose of the study (1-2 paragraphs), as well as the research design / methodology (1-2 pages).

**Please provide an estimated timeline of project activities (e.g., by when do you expect to collect data?). If your project requires IRB approval, be sure to include IRB milestones within the proposed timeline.**

**Innovation.** A good starting point for thinking about innovation in science is the "Final report from the NSF innovation and discovery workshop" (Schunn et al., 2007, URL: <http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2007/nsf0725/nsf0725.pdf>). **Explain how your project is innovative. This could, for example, take the form of a description of how the ideas significantly push boundaries that people have been unable or unwilling to push before; or it could emphasize the unusual nature of the collaboration that you propose and the way you plan to achieve communication between contributors. These cases are meant as examples, but are not meant to be restrictive, so other approaches to innovation are welcomed. (1 paragraph):**

**Connection to SLAC goals.** How does your project relate to overall SLAC goals or to specific subgoals (such as promoting diversity, creativity, innovation, SLAC related research topics etc.)?  **(1 paragraph):**

**Works cited.**

**Likely research or other products.** Innovation projects do not need to result in journal articles or conference presentations, but it is good for you and for SLAC when that happens. What research (or other) products could result from your project? (This can be a brief paragraph indicating planned outlets and topics---we recognize that this may change once you start the project.)

**Budget and justification.** Supply a short itemized budget**.** Also, provide an estimated timeline of spending. Note that you are typically expected to use funds within one to two semesters.