



Office of the Vice President for Research and Economic Development

Date: May 22, 2008
To: UNT Faculty
From: Vish Prasad, Vice President for Research and Economic Development
Re: New Initiative for Research Infrastructure Support

The Office of Vice President for Research and Economic Development, in consultation with the Office of Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, plans to invest \$1 million in further improving the research infrastructure at UNT, and provide support for bridging the gaps that may exist in experimental and computational research laboratories. The goal is to leverage efforts being made by the Deans and Chairs to strengthen research enterprise in their areas, improve research productivity of their faculty, and enhance graduate and undergraduate research experience. With the contributions from the Deans and Chairs, the total investment in this program could be as high as \$1.7 million.

We plan to support projects that may cost anywhere between \$25,000 (minimum) and \$200,000 (maximum). Our expectation is that the Deans together with chairs, Center Directors, PIs, and Co-PIs will provide 30-50% of the project cost (30% for projects below \$50,000, 40% between \$50,000 and \$100,000, and 50% for projects over \$100,000). In case the money from the Colleges is not available from FY'08 budget, it can come from their FY'09 budget. Our office will work with the Dean's Office on managing the budget to meet the urgent needs of faculty if the projects need to be completed within the summer months of this year.

For this solicitation the proposals may include purchases and upgrades of equipment including computers, workstations and peripherals; renovation of space; and construction projects for climate control (such as air-conditioning). Priorities will be given to projects that:

- serve more than one faculty,
- are multi-disciplinary,
- are crucial to meet the goals of existing externally-funded research projects,
- will lead to bigger and better proposals and new funding from external sources, and
- are critical to UNT's mission.

The proposals may include (as applicable):

- description of purchases and/or renovation work with full justification and estimates,
- a list of journal publications, other refereed publications, conference presentations and seminars and invited talks by the proposers within the last three years,

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- a list of performances and/or exhibits by the proposers during the last three years,
- a list of doctoral, masters and undergraduate students supervised (with the beginning and end dates) as well as the periods when each student was supported on grants and their stipends,
- for proposals involving more than one faculty: explain what kind of access each faculty has to the facility, and provide evidence of collaborations such as joint funding, publications and presentations, and joint doctoral advisement,
- circumstances for the special need if the proposers are new and have been given start-up support (applicable to both junior and senior hires within the last three years, provide the details of start-up packages),
- projects that are currently funded with the title, names of PIs, names of agencies, funding amount, period, and the project summary with accomplishments thus far,
- a list of funded projects during last three years with details as above,
- a list of pending proposals with details as above,
- a list of new proposals under preparation with names of programs/agencies and expected dates of submissions,
- endorsements from the chairs and deans with their financial commitments.

Please note that we may request progress reports and details on the utilization of requested equipment and/or renovations every year for the next three years.

For details and questions, contact Dr. Ruthanne Thomas or Dr. Kenneth Sewell, Associate Vice Presidents of Research.

An application form to request research infrastructure support is available at <http://ored.unt.edu/docs/index.html>. The proposals should be submitted electronically to Sarah Sprinkle at Sarah.Sprinkle@unt.edu by 5:00 p.m., June 27, 2008.