Internal grant programs at Lehigh
Common characteristics

All programs

• are **investments** in Lehigh research.
• are intended to give rise to **new opportunities** for the people involved and for Lehigh.
• ask applicants to present their work as a **narrative of possibility**.
Common narrative

• What important work do you think you could do?
• Who, other than you (and people just like you) should care deeply about it?
• What’s holding you back?
• How will the investment make a tangible difference?
# Lehigh research investment programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Budget max</th>
<th>Requires collaboration</th>
<th>Goals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FRG</td>
<td>$ 6,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>Conduct / completion of projects; expanded scope and impact; new opportunities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIG</td>
<td>$ 25,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>Enable initiation of new projects and programs; take existing programs in new directions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CORE</td>
<td>$ 60,000</td>
<td>✓ (min 2)</td>
<td>Establish and grow productive multi-faculty research programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accelerator</td>
<td>$ 100,000</td>
<td>✓ (min 3)</td>
<td>Building on established strengths and collaborations, accelerate growth in areas of potential national &amp; international prominence.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FRG Program

- Offered Fall and Spring*
- Supports *conduct* and *dissemination* of research.
- Emphasis on *expanded scope and impact*, and on opening up *new possibilities*.

- Should *enhance impact*, *raise reputations*, *give rise to new possibilities*.

*Fast Track FRG*: For cases of fleeting opportunity
FIG Program

• Offered in the Spring
• Supports *initiation* of new projects and programs, and taking existing programs in *new directions*, and solidifying *new collaborations* among Lehigh faculty.
• Emphasis on *new possibilities* that are unlikely to exist without the CORE investment.

• Should lead to work of *scope and duration well beyond what is supported by the FIG grant.*
CORE Program

- Offered in the Spring
- Supports establishment and growth of multi-faculty research programs.
- Emphasis on expanded scope and impact, and on opening up new possibilities.
- Should lead to work of scope and duration well beyond what is supported by the FIG grant.
Accelerator Grant Program

• Offered in the Fall
• Requires identification of a **significant opportunity**: a line of research of rising importance in which Lehigh can establish a leadership position
• Intended to enable a **strong team** to more quickly pursue the opportunity
• Provides **significant flexibility** in use of funds, over a two-year period
• Requires at least one tenured member of the faculty on the team; PI must be tenured
1. The Opportunity

- Identify a research area of clear and rising importance.
- Identify **who will value the work**, and who will naturally be motivated and able to support it.
- Explain how your **team is positioned to lead** in this area.
2. The Team, Resources and Approach

Show that your team is in a great position to pursue the opportunity, including

- the particular capabilities of the team members, and your ability to work together productively
- your approach to the work
- critical resources – physical resources, existing funded projects, relationships, etc. – you will bring to bear
3. Goals and use of funds

• Accelerator grants provide latitude in allocation of funds over the two-year award period.
• You should have clear initial goals, and means for making decisions about future directions.
3. Goals and use of funds

- Describe your initial goals and first steps
- Describe how you will determine allocation of resources over time

- Aggressive pursuit of external support is expected
  - Identify sources, programs and strategies for competing successfully
  - Long-term goals should include a path to major multi-investigator programs
Budget

Concise, tabular budget with planned allocations by category
Selection Criteria

• Have the applicants identified a compelling opportunity?
• Have the applicants shown that they have a competitive advantage in this area?
• Do the applicants present a well-conceived plan for building their program?

Read the full Selection Criteria in the Guidelines! They will be provided verbatim to reviewers, and serve as the sole basis for their reviews.
QUESTIONS?
HOW TO SUCCEED
Tips for success

• Read the guidelines. If anything is unclear, ask!
• Read the review materials (score sheets, etc.).
• Follow the prescribed format carefully.
• Write clear prose.
• Remember that reviewers are reading across fields. Limit highly specialized material to what is necessary, and keep it concise.
Ways to fail

• Describe a compelling problem or research area, then fail to describe what, specifically, you can do.
• Write a dense, highly technical proposal as you might for your individual disciplinary community. At minimum, you are taking a big chance.
• For CORE or Accelerator programs,
  ▪ describe a single project that happens to have a large budget.
  ▪ propose a project that’s not a truly substantive collaboration and get some colleagues to sign on saying they’ll help.
Due dates

- FRG due date – Friday, **October 6**
- Accelerator letter of intent – Friday, **October 13**
- Accelerator proposals – Friday, **October 27**

...at 5:00 PM