FACULTY RECRUITMENT INNOVATION FUND

This University has long recognized that in every population there are people of great intellectual promise seeking an environment that will enable them to make fundamental and significant contributions to bodies of knowledge. The Office of the Provost is pleased to provide financial assistance to support academic units as they prepare to develop an excellent and diverse pool of faculty candidates to consider for appointment at the University of Chicago.

The Faculty Recruitment Innovation Fund is a program to support units that appoint tenure-track and School of Medicine track faculty to build skills, practices and processes that will enable them to attract candidates from members of groups historically underrepresented in the academy.

While we are open to a variety of proposals, preference will be given to proposals that offer concrete suggestions for identifying, developing relationships with, and generating applications from scholars historically underrepresented in the academy. The level of support will be determined by the Office of the Provost on a case-by-case basis depending on the nature of the program proposed, though some more standard funding ranges are listed below. No grant will exceed $20,000.

Innovation Fund applicants are invited to be imaginative about outreach activities. Potential program areas include:

- Visiting another campus
- Hosting a lecture series, symposium, or campus visit
- Focused networking activities (e.g., attending conference, attending meetings)
- Collaborating on research
- Visiting scholars
- Creating short-term visiting professor appointments

Anticipated funding ranges are provided below:

- $5,000 for campus visits, lecture series, networking
- $10,000 for lecture series, symposium
- $20,000 for research collaboration
- $20,000 for visiting scholars or short-term visiting professor appointments

Funding in the amount of $2,000 is also available to bring an additional candidate to campus for interviews during a faculty search.
Application: Applications will be no more than two-to-three pages and describe the following:

- Your unit’s long-term goals for faculty diversity.
- Your unit’s past efforts in creating an inclusive environment, including successes and areas for improvement.
- Your unit’s current activities, practices, and programs for increasing faculty diversity.
- The activities proposed for this project including milestones and outcomes.
- How the proposed activities will help your unit make progress towards your long-term goals regarding faculty diversity.

Applicants should also submit a detailed budget (downloadable budget template here) and a letter of approval from the dean, deputy dean, or department chair (an email will suffice). The final application packet and approval letter should be emailed to recruitmentfund@uchicago.edu.

Deadline: Proposals will be accepted on a rolling basis until June 30, 2020.

Reporting: A final report, due at the conclusion of the project, must be submitted to the Office of the Provost. Awardees failing to file a final report will be ineligible for future grants from this program.