

Request for Proposals
2018-2019 ND-ECI Seed Funding Program
“Building bridges among disciplines through environmental change research”
Due Date: Tuesday 1/7/2019

We invite proposals from Notre Dame Faculty to advance interdisciplinary research as part of the Notre Dame Environmental Change Initiative (ND-ECI). For the 2018-19 round of seed funding, ND-ECI will fund research that falls under the umbrella of environmental change, with the intent of building collaborative bridges between Science/Engineering and the Social Sciences/Humanities.

There is increased recognition that some of the world’s most critical environmental issues reside at the intersection of the physical, biological and social sciences. We will make little progress to resolve these grand challenges if we do not take into account their social drivers and consequences. With this RFP, we hope to synergize scholarship that bridges disciplines on our campus, tackling questions that reside where physical processes generate environmental problems that are tempered or exacerbated by human interventions.

We encourage proposals that include translational outcomes and/or the inclusion of innovative training experiences for students/postdocs. Given the limits of seed funding, funding models that include creative matching would be welcome.

Project Duration: Project funds will generally be available for one year from the start date of the project (TBD by investigators). For larger scopes of work, funds may be distributed incrementally according to a benchmarked timeline (see #7 in proposal elements).

Awards: We expect requests for funding to range between \$25,000-50,000. Requests for a larger proposal from a synergistic group of faculty may be considered but should be discussed with the ND-ECI leadership prior to proposal writing.

Proposal Preparation: Please contact Program Manager Kara Primmer for questions about proposal preparation or to vet any larger project ideas or cost-sharing strategies.

Due Date for Proposals: Submit proposals by **1/7/19 at 5pm** to Kara Primmer at khuegell@nd.edu

Evaluation Process and Timetable: The evaluation committee will include ND-ECI Director Jennifer Tank and Associate Directors Diogo Bolster and Patrick Regan. ND-ECI Leadership Team Members Kara Primmer and Brett Peters will serve as ex-officio members. If needed, ad hoc reviewers may be recruited due to the number or technical complexity of submitted proposals. We will announce decisions by **Tuesday 1/22/19**.

Proposal Required Elements:

Total Page Limit will be FIVE pages. Please describe your proposed research using the provided headings in the order below:

1. **Title, lead investigator and other** investigators (with departmental affiliations in parentheses)
2. **Description of research activity and/or question to be addressed (including emphasis on new collaborative/disciplinary bridges).**
3. **Approach and methods** or other appropriate narrative as needed to describe activities.

4. **Importance and potential impact of research activity.**
5. **Goals and mechanisms for translation to scholarly products, management/policy, or new proposals.**
6. **Project/activity timeline and deliverables:** Please include start and end dates and any interim dates of importance (i.e. target date for a workshop or trip).
7. **Budget Narrative and Justification:** Please provide information on the funds you are requesting (specific line items, time commitments, rates of pay as applicable). Add any brief narrative that is essential to justify the budget, and indicate how you are leveraging existing resources.
8. **Prior Support:** If you have received prior support from ND-ECI, please indicate what support was received. Provide a list of submitted proposals, products, and publications that resulted from the initial seed funding. Discuss any other relevant indicators of the successes from that prior funding including the successes of postdocs and RAPs who may have been funded as part of your award. This section may be up to one page.
9. **Literature Cited.**

If successfully funded, the following Terms of Award will be required:

- Lay Abstract suitable for use on the ND-ECI website.
- Annual progress report at the completion of the project.
- All resulting proposal submissions or publications should be affiliated with ND-ECI.