Faculty Research and Creative Activities Award (FRACAA)

Manuel Bautista
FRACAA Chair
Professor of Physics
manuel.bautista@wmich.edu
Overview

• encourage and support **faculty** in research, original artistic activity, and inventive technology.

• increase external funding at WMU.

• grants shall be awarded up to a maximum of $10,000.00
Deadlines

• Submission deadline: 21 January 2020
• Award announcement by 30 April 2020
• Project year 15 June 2020, through 14 June 2021.
Eligibility

• board-appointed faculty

• applicant whose appointment at WMU terminates prior to or during the program year of award implementation may submit an application, but shall not receive an award until she/he has an appointment at WMU covering the program year of implementation

• Previous FRACAA awardees and co-PIs are eligible every third year following the latest award

• No FRACAA Research Screening Committee member is eligible
Award Conditions

Awardees are required to:

• submit proposal(s) to an external funding source(s) within 18 months of the end of their award period

• present their findings at the annual Research and Creative Activities Poster Day within one year from the end of the project

• Present a progress report mid-way through the project period and a final report 18 months after the award.
Proposal components

• Proposals are submitted under one of three categories: quantitative sciences, qualitative scholarly, and creative arts.
• Proposals shall be written for general faculty comprehension
• A proposal consists of the following sections:
  - proposal narrative (*maximum of 7 pages, 12pt font, 1” margins, must NOT contain the applicant’s name*)
  - budget worksheet and justification (*maximum of 2 pages, form provided*)
  - references
  - other supporting documents only if absolutely necessary
Budget categories

• Faculty release time, during the academic year only
• Student research assistance or student help
• Travel for the conduct of project activities
• Supplies
• Equipment
• Professional services**
Not allowed in budget

• faculty salary
• Tuition or other education expenses
• projects solely for student research and creative activities
• travel for the sole purpose of presenting research and creative activity
• professional services in violation of budget restrictions
Proposal evaluation criteria

- Merit of the proposed activity
- Context of the project
- Project procedure and planning
Merit of the proposed activity

• Proposal advances new hypotheses, research questions, art forms or modes of exhibition.
• There is a clear rationale.
• Proposed activity is well conceived and organized.
• Based on its merit, the proposal has the potential to secure external funding.
Context of the project

• Proposal is clearly written for an audience of peers and professionals, yet non-specialist.
• Proposal makes a strong case that activity will make a meaningful contribution within its own field.
• Activity will address a broad scholarly issue.
• Adequately describes steps to be taken in order to secure external funding.
Project procedure and planning

• Methods are clearly stated & appropriate for proposal.
• Timeline is clear.
• Data analysis/evaluation is planned & appropriate.
• Proposal details access to appropriate resources, equipment, facilities needed to complete activity.
• The costs for the proposed budget are clearly itemized and justified (using university guidelines when available).