FY 2018 ICTAS Junior Faculty Award Request for Proposals (JFA-RFP)

ICTAS is soliciting white papers from Virginia Tech faculty for a funding opportunity with anticipated support beginning July 1st, 2017 (FY 2018). ICTAS is requesting a 4-page (maximum) proposal for panel review and subsequent consideration for funding. ICTAS intends to award up to 10 awards of up to $80K total over two years ($40K for each of the two years). **Note that there is a limit of one white paper submission per PI.**

Junior Faculty Award (JFA) Proposals
Proposals will demonstrate an interdisciplinary, collaborative research relationship between the PI (a tenure-track, non-tenured faculty or junior research or AP faculty) and other tenured or tenure-track faculty members. Proposal topics must be aligned with one of the following Destination Areas (Data Analytics and Decision Sciences, Integrated Security, Global Systems Science, Intelligent Infrastructure for Human-Centered Communities, and Adaptive Brain and Behavior) or Strategic Growth Areas (Materials). Awards in this category are for up to two years, maximum amount of $40K per year with funding in the second year contingent on demonstration of satisfactory technical performance and scholarship at our annual review, and availability of resources. Faculty are limited to two funded JFA projects per pre-tenure period.

Proposal Submission
Submit by email to ictasrfp@vt.edu no later than **5pm Monday March 13, 2017.**

In the body of the email, include:
1. Proposal Title
2. PI
3. Co-PI
4. Destination Area/Strategic Growth Area (may list up to 2)
5. Budget amount requested

Attach a PDF proposal of not more than four pages with the following sections:
1. Proposal Title
2. Statement of Problem and Proposed Solution
3. Proposed Research and Differentiating Technical Approach
4. Interdisciplinary Approach and Potential Benefit to ICTAS Mission
5. Potential for external funding
Additionally, include a 4 page NSF or NIH biosketch that includes current funding (this does not count toward proposal page count)

All awards are subject to continuing availability of funds. Past awards in the ICTAS Seed RFP may be found at: http://www.ictas.vt.edu/research/pastAwards.php

Review Process
Proposals will be grouped into topical areas for review by ICTAS Faculty. Selection criteria are as follows:

- Potential for external funding
- Cutting edge science and technology
- Clear association with one or more of the Destination Areas or Strategic Growth Areas
- “Interdisciplinarity” (collaboration between VT faculty members of diverse disciplines) is required
- Transformational potential
- Contribution to sustainability (in particular, proposals that seek to use existing space, facilities and processes at Virginia Tech as the test bed for sustainable solutions will be well received)

Additionally, reviewers will consider:

- Results and impact of previous ICTAS seed funding (if relevant)
- Reasonable link between requested funds (budget details) and proposed outcome
- The specific role of team members must be clearly defined along with a statement defining the interdisciplinary contributions of the team
- Probability and impact of success

Panel review process will emulate the standard NSF style with rankings of Excellent, Very Good, Good, Fair, and Poor

Rankings will be tabulated for each panel for consideration and recommendation for funding by ICTAS.

Programmatic Considerations for ICTAS Seed Funding
- Funds for faculty salary are not eligible for ICTAS Seed funding, and must not be included in the proposed budget.
- All funds should be budgeted as direct costs (Overhead – indirect costs – are not accepted for ICTAS Seed funding).

Questions/advice? Please Contact: Jon Greene, 540-231-8566, greenej@vt.edu