

STETSON UNIVERSITY

**CALL FOR PROPOSALS:
Willa Dean Lowery Fund to Support Research
in the Natural Sciences at Stetson University
for
Funding Cycle 2021-2022**

The core focus of Stetson University's mission is *learning* and the priority is the creation of a stimulating, inclusive learning community. Stetson's faculty members inspire and model a commitment to lifelong learning through the [Teacher-Scholar](#) role. The Willa Dean Lowery Fund advances the teacher-scholar role by encouraging proposals for innovation in natural sciences research. The fund is made possible through the continued generosity of longstanding Stetson patron Dr. Willa Dean Lowery '48, whose exceptional career ranged from bacteriologist, and obstetrician and gynecologist to public health officer and theologian. Her pioneering vision has been critical in boosting Stetson's footprint in the natural sciences. Through her support of the natural sciences, Stetson University has bestowed Lowery Grants for meritorious scientific research projects, several of which have garnered national recognition.

Proposals are invited for natural science projects that show promise and contribute to the faculty member's development as a teacher-scholar. Funding is based on the quality of the proposal (see Review Criteria) and the potential contribution to the tenured/tenure-track faculty member's teacher-scholar agenda, to the culture of research we wish to establish for undergraduates, and to the College of Arts and Science's wider recognition for excellence in science. Faculty may propose new projects, work that builds on or anticipates a sabbatical project, strengthens summer grant research, and more. Faculty on sabbatical may apply.

Proposals that include undergraduate researchers are strongly encouraged as are proposals that involve collaboration among Stetson faculty in scientific disciplines. Requests for funding for chemicals, research materials and supplies, or instrumentation are appropriate. Proposers may also request summer stipends. Requests for support for a course reassignment/reconfiguration is allowed and will require a compelling presentation of the plan for meeting research goals and supporting the Natural Sciences Division's teaching obligations in major or General Education courses. In short, the Fund seeks to support what best advances scientific research at Stetson University.

PROPOSALS SHOULD INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

1. **Cover Page.** See below.
2. **Abstract.** The abstract should briefly describe the purpose of the project, the overall objective, project plans, anticipated results, and the potential impact. (200 word maximum)
3. **Project Description.** Provide a brief project description (no more than two pages). Include the following:
 - *Innovation:* Describe the innovative features of the project and/or identified need related to the scope of the discipline. Provide specific and clear evidence of this innovation and/or need. Describe any background or context that non-disciplinary reviewers will need to understand your project.
 - *Goals:* Clearly list the project goals and anticipated outcomes.
 - *Potential for deep impact.* Explain the impact (breadth/depth) this project will have on the mission and strategic goals of Stetson University; on the program/department/curriculum such as research with students; and on the disciplinary/interdisciplinary field(s).
4. **Project Activities.** Describe specific activities, responsible parties and why these parties are necessary for the success of the project, and the timeline related to the goals. Include descriptions of any products (publications, presentations, scholarly artifacts, materials, workshops, courses, etc.) that will result.
5. **Measurement of Project Impact.** The proposal must include a plan for examining the impact of the project. This might include some type of assessment design to benchmark gains towards desired scientific outcomes and Stetson University's strategic goals.
6. **Dissemination Plan.** Describe how/when you plan to disseminate the results of your project including presentations at professional conferences, publications, and plans to share with the Stetson community.
7. **Project Sustainability Plan.** Describe how you plan to sustain/institutionalize the successful ideas learned from your project. For example, how will you encourage adoption/broader participation at Stetson using these best research practices?
8. **Budget tied to goals.** Use a separate page to provide a budget with brief explanations (justification) of how each request will further the project goals. Describe other sources of funding (summer grant, external grant, etc.) for this project.
9. **Curriculum Vitae.** Attach to the proposal application. (2 pages maximum)

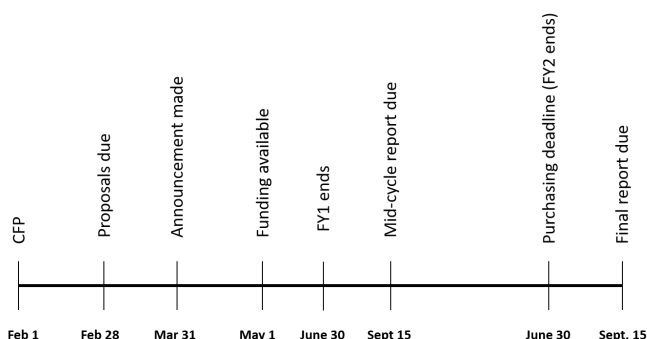
FUNDING

Grants are available for up to \$10,000 per project. Proposal requests can range from a minimum of \$2,000 up to \$10,000 per project. Given the timeframe of the scientific research process, projects may span the full 16-month funding period (see Funding Cycle and Deadlines).

FUNDING CYCLE AND DEADLINES

The deadline for proposal submission is **February 28, 2021** for the **2020-2021** funding cycle. Proposals submitted after deadline will not be considered. Awards will be announced by March 31, 2021.

February 1, 2021	Call for Proposals
February 28, 2021	Proposals due
March 31, 2021	Awards announced
May 1, 2021	Funding Cycle begins
September 15, 2021	Progress report due
July 15, 2022	Expenditure deadline
September 15, 2022	Final report due



REVIEW CRITERIA

Each proposal is rated using the criteria listed below.

Criteria	Possible Points
Abstract clearly demonstrates the purpose of the project, the overarching goal, the project plan, anticipated results, and potential impact	5
Innovation is novel and challenging	10
Goals demonstrate potential for significant advancement in science/science education/student research	15
Project plan demonstrates compelling need and appropriate timeline	25
Study is well designed and demonstrates methodology appropriate for project implementation	25
Realistic plan for disseminating result is tied to anticipated project outcomes	5
Plan for sustaining project is feasible and appropriate	5
Budget expenditures are reasonable, justified, and directly aligned with the proposal plan	10
TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS	100

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

1. Complete [online application](#) (opens February 1).
2. Complete abstract on application.
3. Attach the 2-page proposal (12pt type).
4. Attach a budget that includes justification for each request; include description of other funding.
5. Attach your curriculum vitae (2 pages maximum).
6. Submit items MSWord (.doc or .docx) or Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) format attachment
7. Submit on/before February 28, 2021.

Applications should be directed to the associate provost's office at Associate.Provost@stetson.edu. A committee will be selected by the dean to consider applications; the secretary of the Natural Sciences Division will chair, and the dean and associate provost for Faculty Development will serve as *ex officio* members. The deadline for submission is **February 28, 2021**. Successful applications will receive notification by March 31, 2020. Applications not selected for awards will receive response to help in strengthening for re-submission. A progress project report is due on/before September 15, 2021 from successful award recipients and final report by September 15, 2022. Questions should be directed to Associate.Provost@stetson.edu.

REPORTING

Each successful project investigator will be required to submit a progress and a final report.

September 15, 2021 Progress Report (with abstract) to Dean's Office of the College of Arts and Sciences. Submit a copy of the report to Associate.Provost@stetson.edu.

September 15, 2022 Final Report (with abstract) to Dean's Office of the College of Arts and Sciences. Submit a copy of the report to Associate.Provost@stetson.edu. Final project reports will be stored on a secure server at the duPont-Ball Library.

Progress Report Guidelines

1. *Project Title and Grant Recipient(s)*
2. *Abstract:* Original or amended
3. *Progress to achieving your goals:* A brief summary describing progress toward meeting each goal

Final Report Guidelines

1. *Project Title and Recipient(s)*
2. *Goals and progress to achieving your goals:* The extent to which each goal was met, achieved or not; evidence to support progress to goal or the level of attainment/achievement of the goal; include artifacts.
3. *Changes:* Any changes you made to the proposed work and the change in impact/outcome; what might have surprised you (that is, did not anticipate), etc.
4. *Impact:* Provide evidence of impact of the work on the following. Provide supporting artifacts as evidence:
 - The discipline, field of study, interdisciplinary, cross-disciplinary area
 - The institution (alignment to Stetson's [mission, values](#), and [strategic goals](#))
 - The department/college or school/university
 - Students (teaching and learning, skill/ability/disposition development, etc.)
 - Your own professional development as a [Stetson Teacher-Scholar](#)
5. *Student Engagement:* If applicable,
 - Indicate the number of students involved
 - Describe the primary learning goal and their inquiry engagement
 - Describe the impact of this project on increasing students' ability to (choose one, more or other) think critically; and/or solve a problem; and/or integrate learning; and/or other desired skill, ability, disposition.
6. *Plan for Sustainability:* Describe how you plan to sustain the project.
 - a. Creating/strengthening internal/external professional partnerships and networks/collaborations
 - b. Developing scientific and/or scholarly dispositions of others to advance this work
 - c. Integration in course work, course design or re-design
 - d. Development of new scientific initiatives or strengthening existing initiatives.
7. *Plan for Seeking Extramural Funding:* Describe your plan for seeking external funding or other support. Include any sources of potential funding or other support; and describe assistance you would need in pursuing these sources.
8. *Acknowledgements:* Provide any professional acknowledgements including the Willa Dean Lowery Fund.



Willa Dean Lowery Fund Application Cover Sheet

Proposal Submission Deadline: February 28, 2021

*Maximum funding for any single grant: \$10,000; Minimum funding: \$2,000
Proposal must be limited to two pages plus a budget page in addition to the single page cover sheet and CV.*

Project Investigator Name: _____

Department: _____

Email Address: _____

Collaborator(s)

Affiliation

Project Title: _____

Abstract (200-word maximum):

Budget Requested (\$2,000 minimum /\$10,000 maximum): _____

In a sentence or two, why do you think Dr. Lowery would find interest in this project?

I/We acknowledge that I/we must submit written reports to the dean of the College of Arts and Sciences (and copied to Associate.Provost@stetson.edu) as a Willa Dean Lowery researcher on/before the deadlines aforementioned. I/We acknowledge that reports will be shared with the fund benefactor, Dr. Willa Dean Lowery, and will be used in other reports.

Signed: _____
Signed: _____
Signed: _____

Date: _____
Date: _____
Date: _____

Attachments:

- Attach the 2-page proposal (12pt type).
- Attach a budget that includes justification for each request; include description of other funding.
- Attach your curriculum vitae (2 pages maximum).