



CALL FOR PROPOSALS:
Willa Dean Lowery Fund to Support Research
in the Natural Sciences at Stetson University
for
Funding Cycle 2016-2017

The core focus of Stetson University's mission is *learning* and the priority is the creation of a stimulating, inclusive learning community that encourages a lifelong commitment to learning. Stetson's faculty members inspire and model this commitment through the [Teacher-Scholar](#) role. The Willa Dean Lowery Fund to support faculty research in the Natural Sciences advances the teacher-scholar role at Stetson University by encouraging proposals for innovation in scientific research.

Proposals are invited for natural science projects that show promise and contribute to the faculty member's development as a teacher-scholar. Funding will be awarded on the basis of the quality of the proposal and the potential contribution to the tenured or 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 and non-scientific disciplines. Requests for funding for chemicals, research materials and supplies, or instrumentation are appropriate. Proposals may also request summer stipends. Requests for support for a course reassignment/reconfiguration will be allowed, but will require a compelling presentation of the plan for meeting research goals and supporting the Division's teaching obligations in major or General Education courses. In short, the Fund seeks whatever best advances scientific research at Stetson University.

PROPOSALS SHOULD INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

- 1. 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)
- 2. Project Description.** Write a brief 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 and explain the project goals.
 - *Potential for deep impact.* Explain breadth/depth of impact 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 field(s).
- 3. 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, workshops, etc.) that will result.
- 4. 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.
- 5. Dissemination Plan.** Describe how/when you plan to disseminate the results of your project including presentations at professional conferences, publications, as well as plans to share your outcomes with the Stetson community.
- 6. Project Sustainability Plan.** Describe how you plan to sustain/institutionalize the successful ideas that have been learned from your project. For example, how will you encourage adoption/broader participation at Stetson using these best research practices?
- 7. 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.
- 8. Curriculum Vitae.** Please attach to the proposal application. (2 pages maximum)

FUNDING

The Fund will distribute \$10,000 to a project or projects selected for support. Requests can range from a minimum of \$2,000 to the full \$10,000. Given the timeframe of the scientific research process, projects may span the full 16-month funding period (see Funding Cycle).

FUNDING CYCLE AND DEADLINES

The deadline for proposal submission is **February 1, 2016 for the 2016-2017** funding cycle. Proposals submitted after deadline will not be considered. Awards will be announced by February 28, 2016.

December 1, 2015: Request/Call for Proposals

February 1, 2016: Proposals due

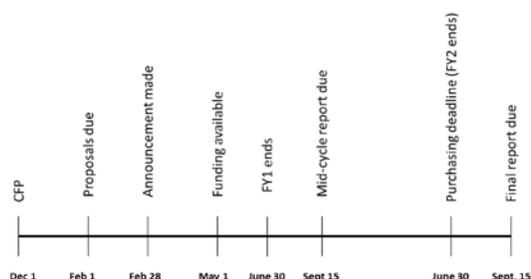
February 28, 2016: Awards announced

May 1, 2016: Funding Cycle begins

September 15, 2016: Mid-cycle report due

June 30, 2017: Expenditure deadline

September 15, 2017: Final report due



REVIEW CRITERIA

Each proposal will be rated using the criteria listed below.

Criteria	Possible Points
Abstract briefly describes the purpose of the project, the overarching goal, project plans, anticipated results, and potential impact	5
Innovation described is novel and challenging; identified need for project is compelling	10
Goals are significant and relate to advancement in science/science education/student research	20
Project plan is based on identified need and appropriate timeline	20
Study is well designed and describes appropriate methodology for project implementation	25
Realistic plan for disseminating result is tied to anticipated project outcomes	5
Plan for sustaining project is suitable	5
Budget expenditures are reasonable, justified, and directly linked to proposed plan	10
Total Possible Points	100

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

1. Complete cover sheet (found on the following page).
2. Complete abstract on cover page.
3. Attach the *2-page proposal* (single-spaced, one-inch margins, 12pt type).
4. Attach 1-page budget which includes justification for each request; include description of other funding.
5. Attach your curriculum vitae (2 pages maximum)
6. Submit items 1-5 in a **single** MSWord (.doc or docx) or Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) format attachment as **LastName_WDL16-17.doc** (or.docx or .pdf or other Word Processing format)
7. Submit to PDC@stetson.edu on/before February 1, 2016.

Applications should be directed to the Professional Development Committee t PDC@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 1, 2016. Successful applications will receive notification by February 28, 2016. Applications that are not selected for awards will receive response to help in strengthening for re-submission. A project report is due on/before September 15, 2017 from successful award recipients. Questions should be directed to *BrownCenter@stetson.edu*.

REPORTING

Each successful project investigator will be required to submit a project report (with abstract) on/before September 15, 2017 to Dean’s Office, College of Arts and Sciences. Submit a copy of the report to *BrownCenter@stetson.edu*. Project reports will be stored on a secure server at the duPont-Ball Library.

STETSON UNIVERSITY

Willa Dean Lowery Fund Application Cover Sheet

Proposal Submission Deadline: February 1, 2016

Maximum funding for any single grant: \$10,000.

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 your project would impress Dr. Lowery as an example of Stetson research? _____

I/we acknowledge that I/we must submit a written report to the Dean, College of Arts and Sciences and on work as a Willa Dean Lowery researcher on/before September 15, 2017. This report will be shared with the fund benefactor, Dr. Willa Dean Lowery. Submit a copy of the report to BrownCenter@stetson.edu.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Signed: _____

Date: _____