

Ciocca Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship

Research in Innovation and Entrepreneurial Mindset

Call for Proposals

Ciocca Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship is an interdisciplinary university hub with a mission to enhance opportunities to experience, research and advance innovation and entrepreneurial thinking. The Center supports an interdisciplinary and collaborative environment to prepare students in the application of the Jesuit perspective and responsible entrepreneurship principles to the development of innovative ideas, the creation of new ventures, becoming dynamic leaders in an evolving workplace, and the creation of value to enhance society.

To advance these interests, the Center supports research and promotes thought leadership opportunities relevant to the trends, methods and challenges relating to innovation and entrepreneurial practices. We invite faculty to submit proposals for significant projects that address a compelling topic in this area. While this is an open call for proposals, we are particularly interested in topics that address the intersection of innovation and entrepreneurship with any of the current challenges we face as a society, to include topics such as diversity, equity and inclusion, the changing nature of jobs and careers, opportunities for addressing the challenge of global climate change, the future of education, and so on.

To be clear, research proposals MUST address the intersection of a particular focus area with respect to topics/themes/challenges in the areas of innovation and entrepreneurship/entrepreneurial mindset (simply performing research in an area that is considered “innovative” is not sufficient). Faculty interested in discussing the applicability of their proposal scope, typical budget expectations, etc. are encouraged to contact the Center prior to submitting a proposal.

Proposals may be led by any faculty with an academic year appointment, unless explicitly approved by the Center prior to submission. Expected outputs of funded projects will include a publication in the academic literature or works presented in an appropriate professional or creative venue, a thought leadership article/posting in the popular press or on the Ciocca Center web site, a presentation to the Santa Clara community, and periodic summary reports to Ciocca Center. Proposers will also provide an abstract and a final report to be posted on the Ciocca Center website. Previous grant recipients are ordinarily not eligible to receive a new grant until the earlier grant has been completed and a final report has been submitted; any exceptions should be accompanied by an explanation and an interim report.

Significant projects in the range of \$10,000-\$30,000 for up to 18 months of effort will be considered. Funds may be used for up to one month of faculty summer salary or an academic year course buyout if approved by the faculty member's department; funds may also be used for student support, travel, supplies, and publication fees. Funds are generally not awarded for tuition remission, equipment, general use computing resources, or office furniture. Proposals may include interaction with non-SCU personnel from industry or other academic institutions if such involvement fundamentally improves the quality of the proposed work; cost-sharing from other organizations is encouraged in such cases.

Proposals should be submitted as a single .pdf file via email to CioccaCenter@scu.edu, no later than 5 pm on January 31, 2022. Proposals should be limited to 5 pages and are expected to include a title and

contact information for the research team as well as sections that motivate the topic, review current literature/practice, describe the methodology/approach to be used, summarize expected results/contributions, and highlight the qualifications of the research team. A separate page (apart from the 5 page proposal) should provide a project budget, itemizing wages and benefits, travel costs, funds for supplies, etc.

Proposals will be evaluated by a broad faculty/staff committee and will be judged on criteria to include:

- Appropriateness of the proposed topic to the mission of the Center;
- Quality of the research plan;
- Anticipated impact of the completed work;
- The research team's experience in the topic area.

Recommendations by the review committee will be reviewed by the Center's Faculty Advisory Board, with final award decisions made by the Provost. A document describing details of the proposal review and evaluation process is available on the Ciocca Center website in order to provide further insight into how proposals are reviewed and evaluated.