Clinical Research Institute Small Grant Program

Request for Proposals

The newly expanded Smith College School for Social Work Clinical Research Institute (CRI) will promote clinically sophisticated and culturally responsive research and program evaluation. Our goals are to test and strengthen social work services and contribute to our knowledge of excellence in clinical practices.

The CRI aims to identify specific themes to foster research in areas that are understudied and/or in great need. The CRI is offering a small research grant to social work doctoral students in an accredited program. This grant was developed with a gift from an M.S.W. class of 1991 alumna, Laurie Peter, and her partner, Betsy Bernard.

The grant of $5000-$7000 will serve as seed money to support novel research, program or intervention evaluation, research related to new aspects of ongoing projects, and the dissemination of that research. Funds can be used for data recruitment, collection, transcription, or analysis of primary or secondary data. Travel costs related to research planning or data collection will be considered. Conference costs and participant stipends are not eligible.

Terms

1. The current CRI priority area is interpersonal violence. The current award will be granted for studies of violence in same-sex relationships.
2. Principal investigators must be doctoral students at an accredited school of social work.
3. Applications will be reviewed by a three-member committee consisting of the CRI Director, one SSW faculty member, and one reviewer external to SSW.
4. Grant work should begin within one month of award notification. All funds must be expended by June 30, 2017. There will be no carry over beyond this date.
5. Grantees must submit documentation of expenses.
6. Recipients must submit a working paper of results geared to submission for publication.
7. Recipients should acknowledge the CRI in any published work based on the grant and should notify the CRI of any such publications.
8. Grantees may be expected to give a research presentation to the Smith College School for Social Work community.

Application Deadline for 2015-2016
December 15, 2015

Notification Date
February 2016
Application Instructions

Proposals should be submitted as a single file and contain the following sections in the order listed below:

1. A cover sheet that includes (a) the title of the proposed research project, (b) the subject area of the research, (c) the investigator(s) name(s), (d) the investigator’s institution and program, and (e) contact information.

2. A brief narrative (3-5 single-spaced pages, excluding figures and references) delineating (a) the research question and the study’s aims, (b) a brief review of the literature informing the study, (c) the research design, methods, and data sources, and (d) the likely significance of the proposed research for the field of social work.

3. An itemized budget and an explanation of each line item.

4. A current Curriculum Vitae.

Please note that Human Subjects Review approval (or a waiver in the case of secondary data analysis) is required before any funding may be disbursed.

Contact Information

For questions, contact the CRI Director Marsha Kline Pruett, Maconda Brown O’Connor professor, at mpruett@smith.edu or 413-585-7997.

Applicants should submit their proposals electronically to Melissa Henry, administrative assistant, at mhenry@smith.edu.