



## CALL FOR PROPOSALS

### Colleges of Engineering, Agricultural Sciences, and Earth-Ocean-Atmospheric Sciences Seed Grant Opportunity Funded by The Gaulke Center for Marine Innovation and Technology

**Proposal Deadline:** Friday, March 15, 2024 by 5:00 pm PT

**Funding Amount:** We anticipate 3 awards at up to \$50,000 each for one year, with a possibility for a one-year time extension

**Eligibility:** Each proposal must include PIs in at least 2 of the 3 participating colleges (CoE, CAS, CEOAS) – *but PIs from all colleges at OSU can participate*

Sparked by conversations of harnessing strengths at OSU in developing solutions to the world's pressing problems, the goal of this Call for Proposals is to link researchers from the College of Engineering (CoE), College of Agricultural Sciences (CAS), and College of Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Sciences (CEOAS) to promote the development of multidisciplinary teams around **Marine Innovation and Technology**.

- **CAS** is uniquely advantaged to pursue transformative research that addresses significant world challenges for coastal food systems and conservation; agricultural competitiveness and resilience; food innovation for health, markets, and access; and working and natural landscapes. We engage in transdisciplinary research related to coastal food systems and conservation of marine natural resources in all five of the Earth's ocean basins.
- **CoE** leads research and innovation to address key global challenges in clean energy, resilient infrastructure and coastlines, health-related engineering, and advanced manufacturing while driving breakthroughs in artificial intelligence, robotics, advanced manufacturing, and clean water. We engage around numerous aspects of the marine innovation ecosystem and are positioned well to partner in research and development.
- **CEOAS** is on the frontlines of fundamental and solutions-based marine research, and in the development of innovative sensors and marine measurement capabilities. We engage in marine technological development from the largest to smallest scales. For example, we are leaders in facilitating the design, construction and operation of state-of-the-art research ships and wave energy extraction test facilities, and we are at the forefront in developing and utilizing sensors to study the physics, biology, and chemistry in marine environments across all vital scales. Our research addresses some of the most pressing challenges that our environment and society face, such as climate change and climate change mitigation and adaptation, food insecurity, and coastal natural hazards.

Together the potential exists for these three OSU colleges to create solutions to some of the world's most pressing problems that are lodged in the cracks between traditional disciplines. This call is around Marine Innovation and Technology.

This investment is meant to “seed” efforts to nucleate teams, collect initial data, develop concepts, and/or expand the capabilities of existing teams in creative new ways. **The goal is to lead and support innovative research and the development of technology that helps society better understand, protect, and utilize the ocean and its environment.**

## Eligibility

Each submission **must include at least one team member from two of the three colleges.** Participation from other OSU colleges, agencies, and other universities may be included. An individual can be on multiple proposals.

Two types of projects will be funded:

- One-year pilot projects that can develop concepts to the point of being attractive to federal funding agencies.
- High-risk, high-reward projects that can transform our abilities to understand the marine environment but are unlikely to attract government funding at this point.

## Funds

Proposals selected for funding will be supported with one year of funding of up to \$50,000. A one-year time extension is possible.

Proposals must include a working budget but do not need to be routed through Cayuse for approval. Funds cannot be used to support faculty salaries. Funding will be assigned to project leads within CoE, CAS, and/or CEOAS. Other OSU partners will have access to funds but no formal transfer of funds will occur outside of CAS/CoE/CEOAS to other internal or external entities.

Awards must be expended within 12 months of receipt of funding unless a one-year extension is approved. Any unused funds will be returned to the colleges.

## Proposal Format

The proposal should include the following sections and be no longer than 5 pages total with 12-point font. References, if any, are the only thing excluded from the 5-page limit.

1. **Description of the idea and the initiative** – How is the idea transformative? How will the proposed activities advance science and society? How is the team uniquely positioned to pursue/accomplish this initiative? What is the disciplinary gap that is addressed by the proposed collaboration? The potential for a transformational impact should be clearly stated.

2. **Plan of action** – This section should include information about your planning and team development process, project initiation including initial/pilot/concept testing, scale-up proposal development, etc. State clear goals, such as submitting a proposal to a specific grant program including planned deadline, and the steps that the team will take to achieve that goal. How will the seed funds be used to achieve this?
3. **One-year budget** – Provide a budget table of major expense categories (personnel, supplies, travel, etc.) indicating the split between colleges and a brief (half-page) explanation of how major expenses relate to the plan of action. Examples for use of funds include planning retreats, proposal development assistance, travel for coordination meetings with partners, course release, non-faculty personnel support (students, postdocs), generating data for proof-of-concept, logistical or technical support, or the purchase of key equipment. Do not include indirect costs. **PIs are encouraged to work with their college proposal support staff** to ensure a realistic budget.
4. **Milestones** – Stated timeline and milestones identified by the team. Milestones should include the submission of any proposals for external funds.
5. **Partnerships** – Briefly describe the role of each partner (individuals and/or organizations).
6. **Goals** – What will success look like for the team? (SMART goals should be specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound.)
7. **Long-term sustainability plan (both programmatically and financially)** – What specific funding programs will be pursued in this area, and what is needed to be competitive for that funding?

## Submission and Review Process

Proposals are due **Friday, March 15, 2024 by 5:00 pm** Pacific Time as a single PDF document submitted via InfoReady: <https://oregonstate.infoready4.com/#competitionDetail/1930455>

Funding decisions and funding availability decisions will be made on or about April 15, 2024. Proposals will be reviewed by the research leadership for all colleges, and input provided to the Deans for a final decision.

**Questions should be directed to the Associate Deans for Research:** Shawn Donkin (CAS, [shawn.donkin@oregonstate.edu](mailto:shawn.donkin@oregonstate.edu)), Brady Gibbons (CoE, [brady.gibbons@oregonstate.edu](mailto:brady.gibbons@oregonstate.edu)), Jim Lerczak (CEOAS, [jim.lerczak@oregonstate.edu](mailto:jim.lerczak@oregonstate.edu)).

**Teams and prospective teams are encouraged to seek guidance and input into the formulation of their plans to maximize effectiveness and alignment with program priorities.**