

The 2022 IRC Faculty Research Fellowship

The Office of the Vice President for Research, the College of Arts Humanities and Social Sciences (CAHSS) Dean's Office, the College of Engineering and Information Technology (COEIT) Dean's Office, and the Imaging Research Center (IRC) are pleased to announce a funding opportunity for two tenured or tenure-track faculty members, one in CAHSS and one in COEIT, to collaborate together, and with the IRC, on new research. The Fellowship can be used to advance a current project or begin an entirely new project.

The IRC Faculty Research Fellowship (IRC-FRF) has, in the past, been intended as seed funding for media and visualization research that advances communication, expression, and/or visual analysis of only CAHSS-related content. This year, given the commitment of the IRC toward advancing interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary collaboration at UMBC, the 2022 IRC-FRF is re-imagined and formulated to stimulate and catalyze collaborative research between the two colleges.

What We Fund

The IRC-FRF will fund an interdisciplinary research project involving collaboration between faculty from CAHSS and COEIT. Preference will be given to projects that align with current research in the IRC to best leverage and align with current IRC capacities. Presently, the IRC has significant commitment to research in Virtual and Augmented Reality.

Successful applications will describe projects that seem likely to generate an opportunity for significant external funding in the future. Proposals should also describe plans for publishing and/or other opportunities to bring visibility to the work, the IRC, the collaborating departments, colleges, and to UMBC.

What We Do Not Fund

The IRC does not simply provide technical services to the proposed research project, but must be involved as a research partner. The IRC is a cross-disciplinary research lab developing new digital media technologies and practices to achieve something not currently being done, or which could be improved upon in a significant way. The IRC brings expertise in media research, concept development, design, engineering, modeling and animation, interactivity and filmmaking to collaborative research projects. We encourage (but do not require) prospective applicants to make an appointment with Anita Komlodi, Associate Director of the IRC, to discuss their proposal ahead of time.

The Award

This year's award will be \$22,000: \$6,000 per faculty member (2 x \$6,000) for stipend and/or other research-related expenses, and \$10,000 to directly support the research project in the IRC in the form of staff support, undergraduate or graduate student support, additional equipment or

supplies, travel, and other appropriate expenses. Awardees may choose to use their \$6000 as summer research funding for faculty stipends for the PIs, and/or to pay students or other faculty as co-investigators, or even equipment or supplies.

The IRC-FRF awards are to fund research for a total of 18 months, with the possibility of a 6-month, no-cost extension.

Deadline

March 1, 2022

Review Criteria

- Quality of proposed project and significance in the fields involved.
- Feasibility and clear match of proposed research to the IRC's research efforts, mission, expertise, facilities and budget.
- Qualifications of the faculty members for the proposed research.
- Appropriateness of the budget.

Links

- [Click here for the application in Word format.](#)
- [Click here for the application in PDF format.](#)
- [Click here for past examples of IRC/CAHSS SFRF Awards.](#)
- [Click here for answers to our most Frequently Asked Questions.](#)

Preparation and Review

Through this application process, IRC Associate Director Anita Komlodi will work similarly to a Program Director for a Federal Agency grant proposal. She should be contacted to answer questions, help create strong matches between research projects and the IRC's specific expertise, and advise on budget preparation. Anita sits in with the review committee to answer questions, but does not vote on the actual awards. These pre-proposal meetings with the IRC are important and Anita will make every effort to be available. Please contact her early and often!

Past review committee members have included: Bev Bickel (Language Literacy and Culture), Lisa Moren (Visual Arts), John Sturgeon (Visual Arts and Lipitz Professor), Jason Loviglio (Chair, Media Communication Studies), Nicole King (Chair, American Studies), Kathy O'Dell (Former Associate Dean and Visual Arts), Linda Baker (Psychology and Former Research Council). This year's review committee will be a different mix of faculty from across both CAHSS and COEIT. Award announcements will be made during April, 2022.

Contact

Anita Komlodi: komlodi@umbc.edu

Directions For Submitting a Proposal

The proposal must be submitted as a PDF file by email to: Anita Komlodi, Associate Director of the Imaging Research Center, komlodi@umbc.edu no later than 5pm, March 1, 2022. It should be single-spaced, with one-inch margins, using a 12-point font. It should include this application page with the faculty members' Department Chairs' signatures. The proposal must include:

TITLE PAGE: See attached.

CONDITIONS OF AWARD SIGNATURE PAGE: See attached. This must be signed by the applicants' Department Chairs.

SUMMARY (half page): This should be written in non-technical language. Please keep in mind that all reviewers will not be experts in your field.

NARRATIVE TEXT (3 pages): Include a clear and concise statement of: the specific aims and significance of the proposed research; a description of the research methods and what is critical to the research that requires collaboration with IRC facilities and expertise; and a statement of expected results of the research.

SIMPLE BUDGET (1 page): Estimated budget and budget justification (one page). It is strongly recommended to work with the IRC on preparing this budget.

FUTURE POTENTIAL (1 page): Include an objective discussion of: 1) the potential that a future follow-on proposal will have for attracting external funding, including potential funding source(s); 2) new venues of dissemination of research; 3) significance of the support for the completion of the project and for the applicants' scholarly career.

BIBLIOGRAPHY (1 page): If appropriate

CURRENT CV(S): Abridged; maximum 5 pages (per collaborator) with focus on research and scholarly accomplishments.

LETTERS OF SUPPORT: The applicants' Department Chairs should write a brief letter of support. This can be emailed separately.

LINKS TO MEDIA MATERIALS (1 page): If appropriate.

Application Form

TITLE OF PROPOSAL:

CAHSS Investigator's Name:

Highest Degree:

Year Awarded:

Academic Title:

Department:

Date of Initial Appointment At UMBC:

Campus address, phone and email:

COEIT Investigator's Name:

Highest Degree:

Year Awarded:

Academic Title:

Department:

Date of Initial Appointment At UMBC:

Campus address, phone and email:

Names of other UMBC Faculty Collaborators (if any):

- 1.
- 2.

Conditions of An Award

The Applicants affirm that if they are awarded an IRC Faculty Research Fellowship, they will:

- Prepare brief annual reports by April 1 of the two years following the receipt of the award, to the Director of the IRC giving a short narrative of what was accomplished during the previous year and noting efforts toward publication, exhibition, dissemination, and application(s) for, or awards of, external funding (which aids in the IRC's own reporting responsibilities).
- Work with the IRC to seek publishing and further funding opportunities, if suggested by the results of the proposed IRC-FRF research.
- Assist the IRC, if necessary, with publicity materials about the project.

- Credit, in all publications, presentations and exhibitions, the IRC researchers, technical staff and student research assistants who are involved in the proposed research.

The period of the grant is 18 months from the date of the award with the possibility of a single 6-month no-cost extension.

Other and Pending Support

Please indicate whether you are also submitting a proposal for either of these two 2022-23 university-wide fellowships:

SRAIS _____

SFF (Summer Faculty Fellowship) _____

Or other 2022-23 CAHSS Summer Faculty Research Fellowships (SFRFs):

CIRCA FRF _____

Dresher FRF _____

MIPAR FRF _____

List any other funding from SRAIS, SFF, or any of the 4 SFRF in the past five years. If none, write: n/a.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

List any other concurrent 2022 summer funding. If none, write: n/a.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Signature Page

I have read and accept the conditions under which this fellowship will be awarded:

APPLICANT'S

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

DEPT. CHAIR'S

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

The Department Chair should submit a paragraph-long recommendation by e-mail to the IRC Associate Director, [Anita Komlodi \(komlodi@umbc.edu\)](mailto:komlodi@umbc.edu) on behalf of the applicant and the proposal by February 15, 2022. A committee of CAHSS and COEIT faculty will review applications.