

**Emory SYNERGY II_Nexus Call for Proposals
2022**

To be distributed before Monday, November 1, 2021

Dear Colleagues:

The Provost's Office, the Woodruff Health Sciences Center, Emory School of Medicine, and Emory College of Arts and Sciences announce the 2022 cycle (Round 5) of "Synergy II_Nexus" Awards. As in past years, the intent of the funding program is to seed collaborative research across our schools that leads to the growth of new synergistic research collaborations of faculty in the 3 WHSC schools (SOM, RSPH, Nursing) with those from ECAS, Candler, Law, Goizueta, or Oxford. It is intended that collaborative projects equally enhance the scholarship of both co-leaders and that Synergy II_Nexus seed funding leads to longer-term shared projects between faculty members that is sustainable through extramural support.

With each previous funding cycle, we have sought to identify meaningful themes around which to structure the Synergy II_Nexus RFA. This round of funding will have the following guidelines:

- As a means of expanding/diversifying the portfolio of agencies supporting research at Emory, for this year's Synergy II_Nexus RFA we are seeking projects that would have a probability of success with extramural agencies such as the National Science Foundation, the Department of Defense, the Department of Energy, DARPA, etc. Thus, this year for Synergy II_Nexus we will prioritize seed funding for collaborative research from across our schools and any of their divisions/departments and research centers (with eligibility as restricted within this RFA) *in those fundamental, basic areas of scientific research supported by the indicated agencies.*
- In this funding cycle we also explicitly encourage where feasible the intentional inclusion of members of our undergraduate communities as participants in the research.

We anticipate funding up to 4 awards at a maximum of \$100,000 each with an award term of one year. Applicants must present a credible plan describing how they will make substantial progress with one year of funding. Carryover of funds to a second year will be considered with justification under special circumstances. Funds not expended within 12 months (24 months if an extension is approved) must be returned.

Eligibility

- This RFA is available only to those individuals defined by our 8 schools as (a) regular, full-time members of the Emory faculty and (b) for whom independent "research" is a responsibility formally designated within the employment contract.
- Faculty members may participate in a single Synergy II_Nexus Award application during any annual award cycle.

- Successful applications will have at least one faculty member with a regular, full-time primary appointment from a WHSC unit and at least one with a primary appointment from ECAS, GBS, Candler, Law, or Oxford, with each contributor playing an equal role in the scholarship.
- One individual should be chosen as the corresponding PI.
- The proposal cannot be duplicative with other funding at the time of the award. *These collaboration awards are not intended to support already established projects or minimal extensions of ongoing research programs.*

The application deadline is Saturday, January 15, 2022 at 11:59 am with funding anticipated to be released by Friday, April 1, 2022.

Application

Application formatting:

- Use paper size no larger than 8 ½" x 11"
- Provide at least one-half inch margins (top, bottom, left, and right) for all pages
- Font size must be 11 points or larger (smaller text in figures, graphs, diagrams, and charts is acceptable as long as it is legible when the page is viewed at 100%)
- Text color must be black (color text in figures, graphs, diagrams, charts, tables, footnotes, and headings is acceptable)
- The following fonts are acceptable: Arial and Calibri

Applications will consist of:

1. **A cover sheet:** indicating the title of the project, faculty involved, faculty role in the project, faculty member's school(s) and department(s) and contact information.
2. **A research proposal (3 pages max)**, which should include four sections that succinctly describe the following:
 - A. Describe the research question to be addressed. Why is the problem important? Explain why it cannot be solved by individual investigators and their close collaborators, but rather requires equally weighted scholarly contributions from investigators in different academic domains.
 - B. Does the project represent a new research direction at Emory? If so, how?
 - C. What research approach or approaches will be pursued during the year of funding? What specifically will be done?
 - D. What is the expected impact of the proposed project beyond the initial funded phase, including what future work would be enabled?
 - E. How will the effort be sustained? What sources of extramural funding might be sought?

The research proposal section should be no more than three pages. References are not included in the three-page limit.

3. **A minimal, one-page budget** that describes how the funding will be allocated. How will it be apportioned among the participants? Any budget amount up to \$100,000 can be proposed. Neither faculty salaries nor indirect costs are permissible in the budget.
4. **A biosketch for each PI. For consistency please use the National Institutes of Health biosketch form** (guidance will be provided to those not familiar with the NIH biosketch). All current and pending support from all sponsored and non-sponsored sources should be provided. Each biosketch is limited to five pages.

Each proposal must be submitted with the above four items compiled into a single PDF. *The PDF file name format must be: Last name of Corresponding PI dot First Name of Corresponding PI dot pdf. For example: Smith.John.pdf*

Please send your proposals to Vice Provost Lanny S. Liebeskind at chemLL1@emory.edu (copy to Barbara Walsh at barbara.walsh@emory.edu) not later than Saturday, January 15, 2022 at 11:59 am.

We look forward to seeing your innovative and collaborative ideas for building scholarly communities around compelling research ideas.

Jonathan S. Lewin, MD, FACR
Executive Vice President for Health Affairs
Executive Director, Robert W. Woodruff Health
Sciences Center
President, CEO, and Chairman of the Board, Emory
Healthcare

Ravi Bellamkonda, PhD
Provost
Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

Vikas P. Sukhatme MD ScD
Woodruff Professor
Dean, Emory School of Medicine
Chief Academic Officer, Emory Healthcare

Michael A. Elliott, PhD
Charles Howard Candler Professor of English
Dean, Emory College of Arts and Sciences