

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
MIZZOU ADVANTAGE
Round 2 Funding Opportunities
May 2010**

MIZZOU ADVANTAGE

Mizzou Advantage centers around five areas in which MU is uniquely positioned in the worlds of higher education and research:

- Food for the Future
- Media of the Future
- One Health, One Medicine: The Convergence of Human and Animal Medicine
- Sustainable Energy
- Understanding and Managing Disruptive and Transformational Technologies

The goal of Mizzou Advantage is to raise MU's stature and impact by enhancing our activities in five areas in which we have world-class research and education programs today. To achieve this goal, we must strengthen relationships among faculty, centers, departments, and external collaborators working in and across these five areas—building networks of individuals and organizations both within the campus and more broadly with external partners and collaborators to advance our strengths in these areas. A detailed description of the Mizzou Advantage initiative can be found at <http://mizzouadvantage.missouri.edu>.

The first-round RFP under Mizzou Advantage resulted in 11 “network” and 15 “fellow” awards totaling \$913,410. Awards were made in April, and projects are already underway. A listing and summary of these proposals can be found at <http://mizzouadvantage.missouri.edu>. We encourage you to take a look at these wide-ranging proposals in the Model Proposal File at <http://research.missouri.edu/funding/model.htm>. Enter “Mizzou Advantage” as the Agency, and enter either “Fellow” or “Network” as the Funding Program or Mechanism. (Applicants should be aware, however, that the guidelines and format for Round Two have changed based on lessons learned during the review process and feedback from facilitators, submitters, and the review committee.)

As with the first round, this second round requests two types of proposals: network grants and seed (formerly “fellow”) grants. **Network grants** foster communication between scholars in diverse areas, helping focus thinking on key topics and helping identify areas in which networks exist but are lacking one or more key elements for success, while **seed grants** provide initial funding for projects which will result in more specific, tangible outcomes, such as larger project proposals to granting agencies, major conferences which will reposition Mizzou in the eyes of policymakers, funders and leading scholars, or shape larger state, national or international research priorities. The two may overlap conceptually, but network proposals generally improve communication and dialogue among scholars and stakeholders, while seed proposals provide initial funding to realize a more specific and tangible goal. Further details on each type of grant are included below.

A total of \$1.5 million is available for awards in this round. Mizzou Advantage facilitators, named this spring and listed below, are available for consultation as proposals are developed.

- Food for the Future–Jo Britt-Rankin (britt-rankinj@missouri.edu)
- Media of the Future–Charles Davis (daviscn@missouri.edu)
- One Health, One Medicine–Carolyn Henry (henryc@missouri.edu)
- Sustainable Energy–Cerry Klein (kleinc@missouri.edu)
- Disruptive and Transformational Technologies–Carsten Strathausen (strathausenc@missouri.edu)

We encourage you to meet with one or more facilitators – particularly in the early stages of proposal development – to assist you in identifying existing resources on campus or potential off-campus partners, to develop methods for identifying and recruiting new members of the network, and to help facilitators identify disciplinary areas underrepresented in the networking process, and from which additional representation might be solicited. Facilitators can help applicants develop stronger proposals and identify resources, both on and off campus, that will increase the breadth and quality of proposals submitted, but facilitators will not sit on the review committees and will not make decisions regarding which proposals are funded. If your proposal contains an educational component, you may also wish to consult with the Mizzou Advantage Education Coordinator, LuAnne Roth (rothl@missouri.edu).

The five Mizzou Advantage areas are defined broadly, and proposals examining the artistic, humanistic, political or policy dimensions of each area are encouraged. Where appropriate, proposals which incorporate the University's strong social science, humanities and arts faculty and related resources or offsite private-sector partners will be welcomed. Similarly, all faculty and academic staff (regular, non-regular, early career, established) are eligible to apply.

CALL FOR NETWORK PROPOSALS

Network awards in this round will fund networking activities that will build relationships, create new and productive collaborations, deepen MU's presence in each of the five initiatives, and define networks and the gaps within them so that we can better identify areas for productive faculty hires. These activities, then, should forge relationships among departments, individual faculty, and external collaborators who are working on related topics in the broad initiative areas, and who are not now working together in substantive ways. Ideally, these collaborations will enhance the work of all and perhaps open new opportunities that no one person or center could pursue alone.

Strong, interdisciplinary collaborations among our faculty, our centers, and external collaborators will be key to achieving the goal of Mizzou Advantage. MU currently has strong national stature in the five areas, and the networking activities for this RFP must be grounded on our strengths. But it is important to note that there are many faculty members on campus who work in each of these five subject-matter clusters who are not connected with each other, and all of the initiative areas provide opportunities for a very broad range of disciplines and approaches. Bringing faculty together in effective collaboration is key to enhancing our international position.

Forming the relationships among such faculty—building strong networks—is the critical objective of this network RFP. We are looking for creative and novel ways to ensure that we develop and sustain effective networks.. This might involve outside catalysts, internal mechanisms and events, new methods of communication and sharing research on campus, etc. Examples could include workshops, brown-bag lunch series, receptions, bringing nationally prominent speakers to campus for conferences, and/or other kinds of events that bring faculty together within and/or across the five areas.

Amount: Up to \$20,000

Project Period: February 15, 2011 – December 31, 2012 (No-cost extension requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis.)

Proposal Deadline: November 15, 2010

Round Two Network Proposal Format

(Note that format guidelines for this RFP are different from those in the first round.)

- Fill out the attached summary form and email it to mizzouadvantage@missouri.edu. (You may submit this at any time but are encouraged to do so as soon as you are able.) The proposal summary should be no more than 100 words and must be written to allow comprehension by scholars in other disciplines or by the public at large.
- Project narratives are limited to five single-spaced pages. Margins should be at least one inch. Font size should be at least 11 point. The project narrative will be submitted online.
- Provide a detailed project budget. If the budgeted amount exceeds \$20,000, your budget must list the source of the additional funds.
- Provide a resume, not to exceed 2 pages, for each PI and collaborator.
- Appendices and other attachments are not allowed.

Proposal Submission

An online proposal submission system will be developed by the end of September, 2010 and will be available on the Mizzou Advantage webpage (<http://mizzouadvantage.missouri.edu>).

Proposal Preparation

The project narrative for network proposals should be organized around the following section headings:

1. Goals
Describe the goals and objectives of your project. Explain how they relate to or advance the purposes of the Mizzou Advantage.
2. Collaboration
Is the partnership appropriately broad? Appropriate breadth depends on the project proposed, and may include private sector partners, a range of internal partners including junior or senior faculty from a range of disciplines or intellectual backgrounds, faculty from other institutions, officials of funding agencies, foundations, or organizations, and policymakers or opinion shapers appropriate to the questions being addressed. Are external collaborators (foundations, national associations, corporations, museums, investors, historical archives, other) included as appropriate to the project? In some cases the partners may not be

fully identified; if so, are appropriate methods for identifying and recruiting partners proposed?

3. Project Rationale

Explain the rationale for the proposed network activities. Are the questions proposed for study compelling? Do they offer significant promise for substantive research across disciplines, encourage fresh approaches to existing problems, or advance the visibility and stature of MU in areas of strategic importance? Explain how the topics are broadly important, and why the activities proposed are likely to engage faculty in productive ways.

4. Outcome(s)

What do you anticipate the outcome(s) of this project will be? Explain how the proposed activities will have real and beneficial outcomes, and whether the impact will be lasting (e.g., by being sustainable in the longer term, in terms of longer-term impact, or through other significant outcomes).

Proposal Review

Proposals will be evaluated by a review committee using standard agency review procedures, including recusal in any cases of real or perceived conflicts of interest. Formal recusal guidelines will be posted to the website (<http://mizzouadvantage.missouri.edu>). If there is considerable variance between the scores of the individual reviewers, one or more additional reviews will be solicited to ensure fairness and consistency. While some reviewers will be the same as in the first round of funding, others will be new. The review criteria and score sheet to be used by reviewers are provided with this RFP.

Awards will be announced February 15, 2011.

CALL FOR SEED PROPOSALS

Seed projects are intended to produce a coherent, substantive result that will significantly elevate the stature or impact of MU. Successful proposals should have a sustainable structure that will give rise to further development or tangible outcome after the funding period. Outcomes of the seed grants should be substantive grants, major conferences, or other measurable academic or related products that position MU for large-scale collaborations, greater influence and stature or provide significant impact.

Amount: Up to \$50,000

Project Period: February 15, 2011 – December 31, 2012 (No-cost extension requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis.)

Proposal Deadline: November 15, 2010

Round Two Seed Proposal Format

(Note that format guidelines for this RFP are different from those in the first round.)

- Fill out the attached summary form and email it to mizzouadvantage@missouri.edu. (You may submit this at any time but are encouraged to do so as soon as you are able.)

The proposal summary should be no more than 100 words and must be written to allow comprehension by scholars in other disciplines or by the public at large.

- Project narratives are limited to ten single-spaced pages. Margins should be at least one inch. Font size should be at least 11 point. The project narrative will be submitted online.
- Provide a detailed project budget. If the budgeted amount exceeds \$50,000, your budget must list the source of the additional funds.
- Provide a resume, not to exceed 2 pages, for each PI and collaborator.
- Appendices and other attachments are not allowed.

Proposal Submission

An online proposal submission system will be developed by the end of September, 2010 and will be available on the Mizzou Advantage webpage (<http://mizzouadvantage.missouri.edu>).

Proposal Preparation

The project narrative for seed proposals should be organized around the following section headings:

1. Mizzou Advantage Goals

Explain the purpose of the proposed project, and how it furthers the Mizzou Advantage goals of raising the impact and stature of MU.

2. Interdisciplinary Nature and Collaborations

Discuss the project's background, justification and collaborators included in the proposal.

The personnel should represent an appropriate range of disciplines which will allow new and significant outcomes by virtue of their combined approaches, skills, capabilities or the viewpoints they represent. These contributions should be explained. Are external collaborators (foundations, national associations, corporations, museums, investors, historical archives, other) included as appropriate to the project?

3. Intellectual Merit

What is the intellectual merit of the project proposed? Explain the project's importance, the methods and activities proposed and why they are appropriate for accomplishing the project's stated goals. Explain and justify the project's timelines and budget in relation to the project's goals and expected outcomes.

4. Outcome(s)

Define the specific outcome or outcomes of the proposed project. Will the results be sustainable, either in terms of subsequent funding or lasting impact? Explain how the proposed project will result in a tangible outcome or outcomes that advance one or more of the initiative areas or position MU as a leader in one or more fields.

Proposal Review

Proposals will be evaluated by a review committee using standard agency review procedures, including recusal in any cases of real or perceived conflicts of interest. Formal recusal guidelines will be posted to the website (<http://mizzouadvantage.missouri.edu>). If there is considerable variance between the scores of the individual reviewers, one or more additional reviews will be solicited to ensure fairness and consistency. While some reviewers will be the same as in the first round of funding, others will be new. The review criteria and score sheet to be used by reviewers are provided with this RFP.

Awards will be announced February 15, 2011.

**MIZZOU ADVANTAGE
Round 2 Funding Opportunities–Network Proposals
Reviewer Score Sheet**

CRITERIA	SCORE (1-5, 5 best)
Does this project have clear goals that further the Mizzou Advantage?	
Does the project represent an appropriately broad collaboration? Are internal and external partners included as appropriate to the project?	
Is there a compelling rationale for the project?	
Will the project produce a useful outcome or outcomes?	
Overall score - This should represent the “whole” of the project rather than “the sum of its parts.”	

**MIZZOU ADVANTAGE
Round 2 Funding Opportunities–Seed Proposals
Reviewer Score Sheet**

CRITERIA	SCORE (1-5, 5 best)
Does this project have appropriate goals that further one or more of five initiative areas and the broader goals of the Mizzou Advantage?	
Is the project appropriately interdisciplinary in nature, and does it demonstrate broad collaboration (internal and/or external) as appropriate to the project?	
Does the project have significant intellectual merit?	
Are clear and tangible outcomes specified, and are they appropriate to the scope of the project?	
Overall score - This should represent the “whole” of the project rather than “the sum of its parts.”	

**MIZZOU ADVANTAGE
Round 2 Funding Opportunities
Summary Sheet**

Project Title: _____

Type of Proposal (check one): **Network Proposal** **Seed Proposal**

Mizzou Advantage Area(s) (check all that apply):

- Food for the Future
- Media of the Future
- One Health, One Medicine: The Convergence of Human and Animal Medicine
- Sustainable Energy
- Disruptive and Transformational Technologies

Does the proposal include an educational component?

- Yes No

Project Director/Principal Investigator:

Name _____

Email _____

Department _____

Contact person (if different than PD/PI):

Name _____

Email _____

Additional Participants	(check one):		Department/Organization
	internal	external	
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____

Attach additional sheets with participants' names/affiliations as required.

PROJECT SUMMARY (100 words or less):