Pilot Research Funds

During Spring 2019, pilot funds will be used to support research conducted by faculty affiliates and student members of the Consortium for Families & Health Research (C-FAHR) – in the context of personal career development, to promote interdisciplinary research collaboration among C-FAHR affiliated members, with a special focus oriented toward providing key pilot data for securing external funding. There are three types of awards:

**Faculty Pilot Grants** to support faculty-led research efforts leading to new proposal for extramural funding. A C-FAHR affiliated faculty member must serve as principal investigator, with preference given to proposals that contain all C-FAHR members. The proposal may request funds for equipment, supplies, research-related travel (for field work or data collection), hourly wages for research assistants, and other uses as approved by the Executive Committee. Funds cannot be used to cover faculty release time or to attend conferences. Maximum funding is $10,000.

**Development of Training, Center or Infrastructure Grants** can be supported by release time for the PI. The PI must have a specific submission in mind and detailed timeline for completion. Should no submission occur, the faculty must agree to teach a replacement course in a later semester or return the funds. Maximum funding is $10,000.

**Graduate Student or Postdoctoral Research Award or Travel:** Student affiliates may request funds to assist in the development or execution of an independent research project, such as a master’s thesis or dissertation. Funds may be used to cover expenses related to data or software needs, participant payment, research-related travel such as field work, equipment, or other reasonable costs associated with the proposed research. Funds cannot be used toward a graduate student stipend or hourly wages of the PI. Funds can be used for travel to present or disseminate findings. The graduate student or postdoctoral fellow must serve as the PI for the proposal, and both the student and faculty advisor must be current affiliates of C-FAHR at the time of the application. These applications must include a brief letter of faculty support. Maximum funding is $1,000 for research award, $500 for travel.

**Stipends for ICPSR statistical workshops.** A limited number of stipends will be available for students, postdoctoral fellows, and faculty to attend one of this year’s statistical workshops (see below). Include in your proposal how the workshop will facilitate your research in families and health. Cost of the workshop is $1700, stipends may cover partial or full cost, depending on interest.

1. **Dynamical Systems Analysis**, Jonathan Butner (jonathan.butner@psych.utah.edu) and Brian Baucom (brian.baucom@psych.utah.edu), University of Utah, Department of Psychology, June 17 - 21
2. **Level, Change, and Acceleration: Modeling Correlated Changes in Longitudinal Data and Intensive Repeated Observations**, Pascal Deboeck (pascal.deboeck@psych.utah.edu), University of Utah, Department of Psychology, June 24 – 28
To Apply

Prepare a 2-page statement describing your funding request. It should be single spaced with minimum font size of 11 point. Lengthier applications will not be reviewed; appendices will not be reviewed. For pilot research and project-related requests, the statement should include: a project title, a succinct description of the project including specific aims, methods, a timeline for start and finish, budget and justification, and any specific program announcement to which the eventual external grant will be directed. For student travel requests and applications for summer statistical training, the statement should describe specifically how the training and/or travel will support your professional development. Please also identify which course or conference you plan to attend. Applications from students require a brief letter of support from a faculty advisor. Where applicable, please indicate whether other funds and resources are available to help with the project, and if so, the approximate dollar amount(s) and source(s).

Proposals are due by end of day (11:59) on March 18th, with award letters available by April 5th.

A proposal may be submitted before IRB approval is obtained, but documentation of final IRB approval or exemption is required before funds will be disbursed.

Only current C-FAHR affiliates are eligible to apply for these funds. Membership applications are accepted on a rolling basis and will be reviewed at least monthly. For membership instructions see https://cfahr.utah.edu/membership/index.php. The PI must also be a faculty member at the University of Utah. Teams, however, may include collaborators at other universities who are not C-FAHR members.

Application Review

Proposals will be reviewed and prioritized by the C-FAHR Executive Committee. Proposals will be funded in order of priority and within the availability of funds. The Executive Committee reserves the right to not fund proposals that do not meet a minimum standard of quality, even if funds are available. Committee members do not review proposals for which they are the PI or Co-Investigator.

Funding preference will be given to projects that have clear relevance to the scholarly and creative mission of the C-FAHR, have the potential to lead to future extramural funding, and that involve interdisciplinary collaboration among C-FAHR affiliated members. Priority will be given to faculty teams that have a specific program announcement or RFA that they are targeting. The following specific criteria are used in ranking/rating proposals. These are not necessarily in order of priority. Fulfillment of all criteria is not required for any given proposal, but fulfillment of multiple criteria will improve a proposal’s priority score.

- Quality of design and methods
- Feasibility
- Availability of other resources (such as matched funds) to help complete the project
- Involvement of multiple C-FAHR faculty (new collaborations are especially encouraged)
- Multidisciplinary projects
- Involvement of “new” researchers
- Contribution to building research collaborations for future work
• Contribution to the career trajectory of the PI, especially in regards to external research funding

If a proposal is not funded, brief written feedback from the C-FAHR Executive Committee will be given to the applicant, who has the option to apply again in a future funding cycle.

**If Selected**

PIs are encouraged to use C-FAHR student affiliates as research assistants, whenever possible. Students who are supported on the C-FAHR pilot grants, should submit an application to be a C-FAHR member.

All presentations and publications resulting from the award should formally recognize C-FAHR. This includes presentations, posters, or manuscripts. For example: “*This study was supported (in part) by the Consortium for Families and Health Research at the University of Utah.*”

At the completion of the project, the PI is required to submit a final report to the C-FAHR Executive Committee describing the progress and outcome of the project, including the accomplishment of the specific outcome(s) designated in the request letter, or in extenuating circumstances, an alternative timeline or outcome. Please note specifically the submission of relevant manuscripts or grant applications. Final reports should be brief (less than one single-spaced page) and submitted electronically. PI will also be required to present at an upcoming C-FAHR event.

To submit applications or final reports send to [C-FAHR-info@utah.edu](mailto:C-FAHR-info@utah.edu). If you have questions, please contact Cindy Berg ([Cynthia.Berg@psych.utah.edu](mailto:Cynthia.Berg@psych.utah.edu)) or Becky Utz ([Rebecca.utz@utah.edu](mailto:Rebecca.utz@utah.edu)).