**Call for Proposals**

**Interdisciplinary Health Research**

**Deadline: March 31, 2021**

**Background:**

To help promote interdisciplinary research capacity, fortify the integration of undergraduate (UG) and graduate programs, and foster collaboration between different academic units at DKU, the Global Health Research Center (GHRC) has set aside funding (CNY 150K) to support student-led, team-based, interdisciplinary projects addressing current and emerging issues in global health through innovative research, education, and practice. This call for proposals aims to solicit research proposals from all UG and graduate students at DKU. All eligible proposals will be reviewed and up to 5 proposals will be funded. All projects will be hosted by the GHRC and managed by the Office of Research Support and Technology Transfer.

**Guidelines:**

* The proposed project must be initiated and led by students. Any UG or graduate student at DKU is eligible to apply (including both on-campus and off-campus students). Each student can only submit one proposal as a project leader or co-leader. UG and graduate students are strongly encouraged to form a team to submit a joint proposal (multiple Project Leader mode).
* All proposals must include at least one full-time DKU faculty as a mentor to provide research guidance and advice (up to 2 research mentors are allowed).
* The duration of the proposed project is expected to be 12 months.
* Each PI of the funded project is required to submit a report within one month after the end date of the project (May 31, 2022) to summarize accomplishments, scholarly projects, and student engagement, etc. The GHRC will provide detailed instructions about the summary report in December 2021. Expected outcomes may include but are not limited to scientific papers, technical reports, workshops, courses, training sessions, community impacts, and capacity building.
* Eligible proposals will be reviewed by a panel of reviewers considering the following aspects:
* Scientific value
* Scientific rigor (implementing the highest standards & best practices of scientific method)
* Social impact (a significant, positive change that addresses a pressing social challenge)
* Feasibility (whether the project can be completed within 12 months)
* Capacity building for UG and graduate students at DKU
* Opportunities for collaboration between different academic units at DKU

**Types of Research:**

Multidisciplinary research is strongly encouraged as long as the focus is on addressing one or several health issues. Possible examples are given below (these are just indicative, not exhaustive):

* Studying the health, social, economic, and/or geopolitical impacts of Covid-19
* Designing and delivering health education programs to students and residents in Kunshan
* Exploring self-awareness of health using interviews and/or focus groups
* Applying machine learning approaches in health research and healthcare industry

**Proposal Instructions:**

* Each proposal should include the following information: (i) students and faculty mentors’ names, titles, and emails, (ii) project title, (iii) project description, (iv) references, (v) detailed budget plan, and (vi) short biography for each student and faculty mentor (up to 3 pages for each).
* Maximum funding per project is 30,000 RMB. The project budget should adequately fit the scope of work being proposed and be well justified. Student stipend but not summer salary for faculty is allowed. The proposal review committee may request a budget revision or additional justification if deemed necessary.
* The project description is up to 2 pages excluding references (font size 12, single spaced, and 1-inch margin) and should be arranged as follows: Title, Background, Aims, Significance, Approach, and Anticipated Products.
* Please compile the full proposal in one PDF file and send it to Dr. Chenkai Wu ([chenkai.wu@duke.edu](mailto:chenkai.wu@duke.edu)) and Weixi Jiang ([weixi.jiang@duke.edu)](mailto:weixi.jiang@duke.edu)) with the subject line of “Application for Interdisciplinary Health Project”.
* Institutional Review Board (IRB) or Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) approval is required before starting any research projects involving human subjects or animals. You could contact the Office of Research Support and Technology Transfer for more information.

**Key Dates:**

* Application deadline: March 31, 2021 (Beijing Time)
* Funding decision notification : April 15, 2021 (Beijing Time)
* Project starting date: June 1, 2021 (Beijing Time)
* Project end date: May 31, 2022 (Beijing Time)

**Contact:**

Please direct all questions to Dr. Chenkai Wu ([chenkai.wu@duke.edu](mailto:chenkai.wu@duke.edu)) with the subject line of “Questions for Interdisciplinary Health Project Application”.

**Information Session**

On xxx **at xx (China Time)** the Global Health Research Center will host an information session via Zoom to give an overview of this call for proposal, the types of projects students and faculty might consider proposing, and guidance on the proposal development process.

**Global Health Research Center Information Session**

**Date and Time:** xxx, 2021 at xx am (China Time)

**Zoom Meeting Link:** xxx

**About the Global Health Research Center**

The Global Health Research Center (GHRC) is the first research center on DKU campus. It was established in collaboration with the Duke Global Health Institute to address health issues in the world in 2013. The GHRC is built upon the principles of scientific excellence and policy relevance. Our **mission** is to improve health in China and the world by conducting high-quality research that leads to informed policy making and innovative approaches to health challenges. Our **vision** is to eliminate health disparities in China and the world and achieve improved health for all.

Using interdisciplinary approaches, we collaborate with partners on research projects that address five focused areas: Health Policy and Systems, Environmental Health, Non-communicable Diseases, One Health, and Healthy Aging and Longevity. Over the past 7 years, GHRC faculty and staff have published nearly 500 articles in peer-reviewed journals, including The Lancet, JAMA, Circulation, PLOS Medicine, and BMC Medicine. **With contributions from the GHRC, DKU has been listed as 1% in clinical medicine (global health) subject for 3 consecutive years since 2018 according to the Essential Science Indicators (ESI) ranking.** GHRC faculty and staff have led numerous research projects funded by international and national agencies, including the World Health Organization, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Medical Research Council in the UK, National Science Foundation of China, Ministry of Science and Technology of China, and other international and national agencies. Since 2013, we have won over 28 million RMB external research funding.

The GHRC is becoming one of the leading global health institutions in China and surrounding regions. Since 2015, DKU has been selected by the WHO Asia Pacific Observatory (APO) on Health Systems and Policies as a Research Hub. Six projects were carried out in collaboration with several domestic and international research institutions. In the same year, DKU was elected as the second chair institution by the Chinese Consortium of Universities for Global Health (CCUGH). The GHRC has served as an excellent platform to support a variety of novel educational and research activities both within and outside of DKU. We have provided abundant opportunities for students in different disciplines to study, research, and practice in the field of global health. We have organized over ten large events: Kunshan Forum titled “Non-Communicable Diseases and China's Health System Reforms” in 2015, 2nd Annual Conference of the CCUGH in 2016, Conference on Digital health technology innovation: Partnership between Academic and Industry in 2017 and the fifth anniversary symposium titled “Achieving Universal Healthcare in China and Globally – Through Innovation and Partnership” in 2018. In addition, over 120 seminars have been organized for graduate and undergraduate students, faculty and staff who are interested in global health issues, which help them be informed about the forefront of modern global health research, as well as provide an excellent platform for students and researchers to discuss hot issues, career path and updated research progress.