

The Willem P. Roelandts and Maria Constantino-Roelandts Grant Program
in Science and Technology for Social Benefit
Request for Proposals
Research Grant Program Fall 2014

The Center for Science, Technology, and Society (the Center) requests research proposals in science and technology for social benefit. The mission of the Center is to accelerate global, innovation-based entrepreneurship in service to humanity. Researchers from all disciplines and academic fields are encouraged to apply for funding through this program. The deadline is Thursday October 16, 2014, at 5pm.

I. Program goals and funding priorities

The Roelandts Grant Program funds faculty and student research projects that use science and technology for social benefit, broadly defined. The program encourages innovative uses of scientific knowledge and technological development to address social needs, locally and globally. The Roelandts Grant Program seeks to fund a diversity of research activity, especially new and innovative projects, and those that serve the social enterprise movement. The program will award about \$45,000 to about twenty projects this funding cycle.

The program preferentially funds research projects that can address the needs of social enterprises (which we describe as “priority funding”), especially the [200+ social enterprises that have come through](#) our [Global Social Benefit Institute](#). [Social enterprises use business strategies](#) and innovative technologies to address human needs, for example, helping people escape poverty. Proposals that can demonstrate communication and collaboration with social enterprises will be prioritized in the allocation of funds. Proposal for fundamental research or basic laboratory research are welcomed, but all proposals must clearly explain how research will benefit human society or meet human needs.

There is no set funding limit for priority funding (i.e., when collaborating with social enterprises). Otherwise, the limit on the amount requested is \$2000 for a 10 month grant, and \$5000 for an 18 month grant.

The Center will hold **two application workshops** to help faculty and students strengthen their proposals improve their likelihood of success. These will be held on **Thursday, Oct 9, 5.15-6:15 pm, and Monday, Oct 13, 5.15-6:15 pm** in the Frugal Innovation Lab (School of Engineering).

II. Eligibility

All SCU faculty are eligible to apply. Students are not able to apply directly, but are strongly encouraged to work closely with a faculty member, who would apply on their behalf. Any faculty member may serve as the applicant, also known as principal investigator (=PI). Faculty can apply on behalf of more than one student team, or on behalf of a student team and him/herself.

It is anticipated that awards will be announced no later than **Friday, November 7, 2014**. The start date on the grant will be the date of the award.

Awardees are expected to submit a report describing project outcome(s) to the Center upon completion; provide a short blog post and photos or video documentation of the research project; and present at the Roelandts poster sessions (in May). Public presentation or publication of results in refereed journals is also encouraged.

III. Instructions for application

The deadline is Thursday October 16, 2014, at 5pm. The Center has a web-based submission system at <http://www.scu.edu/socialbenefit/education/Roelandts/> Applicants should prepare their application information based on the questions below, and may find it helpful to assemble this information in one Word document prior to applying, and then copy and paste from that document into the on-line application.

Note that parts one, two, three of the application, including the budget, will be submitted through an on-line form. After you fill out the on-line form, you will upload text of research proposal itself with a document, which may include photos, charts, and tables.

Part one: the applicant(s)

1. Surname of principal investigator (note: must be a SCU faculty member)
2. First name of principal investigator
3. Email address of principal investigator
4. Academic department of principal investigator
5. Name of chairperson of principal investigator's academic department
6. Student researcher 1 first and last name
7. Student researcher 1 email address
8. Student researcher 2 first and last name
9. Student researcher 2 email address
10. Student researcher 3 first and last name
11. Student researcher 3 email address
12. Student researcher 4 first and last name
13. Student researcher 4 email address
14. Student researcher 5 first and last name
15. Student researcher 5 email address

Part two: funding priority

1. Is this proposal a request for priority funding (working with social enterprises)? y/n
2. Name of social enterprise partner (if applicable)
3. Web address of social enterprise partner (if applicable)
4. Please describe the communication or collaboration with this social enterprise partner (1000 character limit, if applicable)

Part three: title and budget

1. Title of the research proposal
2. Amount requested
3. Is the requested funding period for 10 months? Or 18 months?
4. Please enter whole dollar amounts in the following fields (which correspond to university budget categories):

- Supplies
- Travel
- Student wages
- Contracted services
- Special events
- Miscellaneous

Please provide a brief explanation for your budget in this text box: (1000 character limit). A budget explanation provides a justification, or rationale, for the more expensive items in your budget. Why do you need them? What will you do with items you purchase, services you pay for? For example, if you are requesting funds for international travel, justify the expense of a trip (vs., for example, several skype calls).

Part four: the research proposal

Upload in a Word document the research proposal, organized in the following sections. It should have at the very least the following five components. See details in “evaluation criteria for proposals” below.

- Title
- Abstract
- A definition of the problem (social and technical) you seek to address
- Research plan (what you would do)
- Outcomes and impacts: how might this research provide benefit to society?

IV. Evaluation criteria for proposals

Applicants should use this as an outline for their research proposal. You should attempt to answer as many of [Heilmeier’s Catechism](#) questions as you can in your proposal. Note that some questions below are taken directly from this.

- ***Title***
- ***Abstract***
 - Provide a ~200 word overview of what problem you wish to address, what your research will do, and what beneficial social outcome you hope to achieve. Who might benefit and how?
- ***A definition of the problem (social and technical) you seek to address***
 - Provide a concise definition of the social, environmental, or technological problem you intend to research. If applicable, you should explain how your research project will contribute to the mission of one or more social entrepreneurs, or more generally, how you will promote the use of science or technology to benefit underserved populations worldwide. If applicable, you may reference the Millenium Development Goals.
 - What is the social benefit outcome that this research might support?
 - Who might directly or indirectly benefit from this research?
- ***Research plan***
 - What are you trying to do? Articulate your objectives using absolutely no jargon.
 - What's new in your approach and why do you think it will be successful?

- Provide a research plan, preferably including materials and methods. Justify this with published literature, if possible. Describe what you propose to do, who you will do it with, where and when. Provide a schedule of activities, with specific milestones.
 - Is there innovation and/or creativity in your approach to the research?
 - Describe clearly to nonspecialists the technologies or science you are investigating.
 - Are there social, cultural or economic dimensions to the issue that might shape the application of science and technology for social benefit?
- ***Outcomes and impacts: how might this research provide benefit to society?***
 - If you're successful, what difference will it make?
 - If this a request for priority funding, how will you share your results with social enterprises or the social entrepreneur movement?
 - How are the results likely to attract the attention of scholars studying the conditions under which science and technology can provide social benefit to society?
 - How will the results of the study positively impact the problem as defined above?

V. Restrictions

Funds awarded through this program may *not* be used for faculty salaries or tuition remission, and cannot be used for course reductions, but they may be used for travel to professional conferences at which the research is being presented. Requests for student research assistants should include benefits, calculated as 0.85% of wages during the academic year and 8.5% during the summer.

Proposed research that entails the use of human subjects, laboratory animals, radiological hazards, biohazards, or recombinant DNA must comply with university policies and external requirements. Consult the Faculty Handbook at the URL below (Sections 3.7.8–3.7.10) for information on policies involving Human Subjects, Biosafety, and Animal Care and Use:

<http://www.scu.edu/provost/policies/facultyhandbook06.cfm>