ICAT MINI SEAD GRANTS

Submission Due Date
FALL — SEPTEMBER 16, 2022
SPRING —JANUARY 20, 2023

Grants Available
2 GRANTS AT $6,000 IN EACH SEMESTER

SUMMARY

ICAT invites applications for projects that leverage the combined strengths of science, engineering, art, and design to tackle real-world challenges. These funds can be used to pursue a range of transdisciplinary activities that are creativity-fueled and human-centric.

RESEARCH AREAS

Proposals should involve one or more of the research themes represented by ICAT:

Designing a More Sustainable World

Creativity that spurs change. This work supports our ecological and cultural resilience.

Empowering Data

Pioneering new possibilities with data. Projects explore and present data in some unexpected and surprising ways, introducing new perspectives that can pave the way for lifechanging discoveries.

Making Big Discoveries with Immersive Technologies

Immersive technologies are changing the research landscape. These projects use visual design, 3D modeling, animation, programming, motion capture integration, and true 360-degree sound to open up entire new worlds of exploration and discovery.

Amplifying the Arts

Art and technology continually define and redefine our world. The collision of art, technology, and experimentation drive innovation in all directions. These projects demonstrate how technology can advance artistic practice and how art and design can elevate and improve scientific discovery and output.

Engaging Community

Science should be available to everyone. Research shouldn't be hidden in labs and buried on computer hard drives. Interactive technology brings data to life and tells the stories of researchers and their work, while sculptures and other works of art show data and computational processes in unexpected, captivating, and often very accessible ways.

Reimagining Education

These projects create educational environments that prepare students to confidently enter a world requiring creativity, adaptability, and collaboration. This work is changing where students learn, what students learn, and how students learn.

Bridging Physical Distance

With the propagation of the COVID-19 pandemic, what was once a matter of convenience is now a requirement. These projects go far beyond videoconferencing software and include the use of augmented and virtual reality technologies to bring people from around the world together in shared immersive digital spaces to connect, learn, and experience.

Creating the Future of Work

Advances in technology are changing the ways we work. From the aesthetics, functionality, and even physical locations of our workplaces to the ways we collaborate with our co-workers and communicate with our clients, these projects focus on efficiency, productivity, and value

Project teams must include one or more disciplines from two or more colleges.

SPACE AND SUPPORT

In some instances, ICAT can provide workspace in support of SEAD projects for the duration of the project award year. This will be somewhere within the Creativity and Innovation District on an as needed basis and when available.

As part of your proposal please indicate if you are requesting:

Assistance from ICAT staff

ICAT specialists are available to become project team members for approved projects and are available to support projects using various facets of the Cube, including spatialized sound, immersive environments, visualization, and motion capture.

ICAT Studios

ICAT is also home to a number of unique spaces and studios on campus that may be utilized for ICAT SEAD grant projects. For information about ICAT studios please visit http://icat.vt.edu/studios/. Please include requests for these spaces as part of your proposal document

ELIGIBLE INVESTIGATORS

All faculty members at Virginia Tech are invited to submit an application to support faculty projects, not student work/thesis.

In keeping with Virginia Tech's Principles of Community(http://www.inclusive.vt.edu/), ICAT recognizes the critical importance of diverse teams of scholars. ICAT seeks to diversify its research teams along multiple dimensions. ICAT is dedicated to InclusiveVT — serving in the spirit of community, diversity, and excellence to create a community that nurtures learning and growth for all of its members.

FUNDING INFORMATION

- Funds will be awarded to the PI's home department unless otherwise authorized by ICAT. All project expenses must be posted to Banner within 30 days of the project's end date.
- Unspent funds must be transferred back to ICAT within 45 days of the project's end date.
- Funds will not be awarded for conference travel, food, outside artist fees, or honorariums.
- Funds can be used to buy out faculty time during the academic year or summer, pending home department approval.
- Funds may be used for equipment, software, materials, and student wages.

SUBMISSION

1. Cover sheet to include:

    a. Signatures of all team members
    b. Signature of faculty advisor

2. Proposal Document
   (PDF submission to Melissa Wyers at mwyers68@vt.edu)

   Proposal format: Submissions will be limited to 5 pages (8 1/2"X 11"), in PDF format, 3MB or under, including all text and images. No video or audio files, please. Address each section in your proposal using Times New Roman 12 point font.

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Times New Roman 12 pt

Complete team information

- PI Information: name, college, major, email, and home department
- Team Member Information: names, college, major, emails, and home departments
- Faculty Advisor(s) Information: name, department, and email

Statement of Need/Project Description	- Statement of innovation - Linkage to ICAT focal areas – see first page - Where project work will happen and if technical resources from ICAT are needed
Methods and Strategies	- Describe the activities that will be conducted as part of your project
Goals and Objectives	- Describe the overall outcome your project aims to achieve - Describe project outputs - Describe plans for future funding, exhibition, etc.
Plan for Evaluating Project Success	- Describe how you will evaluate if your project has been successful - Describe anticipated outcomes and deliverables

Timeline	- Timeline – typically one year in duration
	- Budget and Budget Justification
	    • Total budget request
	    • Detailed budget justification

REVIEW CRITERIA

The proposals will be reviewed by ICAT members and then evaluated based on the following criteria:

1 Intellectual merit and innovation

2 Interdisciplinary nature of the team

3 Correlation to the mission of ICAT and its studios

4 Broader impact of the project

5 Potential channels to advance the proposed research

6 Timeline

7 Clear outcome and deliverables

8 Alignment with project categories and/or themes

AWARDS

Awards will be announced by September 30, 2022 (Fall) and February 3, 2023 (Spring).