FACULTY-STUDENT COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH:
DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAM
2017 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
www.calstate.edu/csuperb

Key Dates & Information:
RFP Release Date: August 25, 2016
Proposal Due Date: February 6, 2017 before 5:00 p.m. pacific time
Award Notification: May, 2017
Maximum Award Amount: $15,000
Project Duration: Up to 18 months from the project start date (approximately June 1, 2017)

Program Description:
The California State University Program for Education and Research in Biotechnology (CSUPERB) aims to increase the overall number of externally funded biotechnology research investigators across the California State University (CSU) system. In addition CSUPERB recognizes the importance of research experiences in biotechnology student success. Research is a form of engaged learning, but also offers students the opportunity to acquire abilities on which to build a life science career. The Faculty-Student Collaborative Research Development (RD) Grant program aims to provide CSU faculty with continuing resources to fill gaps in external funding for ongoing research projects or to pilot new, but as-yet unfunded, research directions for established investigators. The RD grants will also support continued involvement of CSU students in faculty scholarship and research programs.

2017 Research Development Review Criteria:
• Project plans and budgets must be tied to data collection necessary to address issues raised by peer reviewers, funding agencies or organizations for subsequent submission or re-submission of external-to-the-CSU research grant applications.
• Research projects must be original and/or innovative.
• Research projects must be feasible within the time and budget proposed.
• Research projects must involve CSU students in a significant way.
• If applicable, proposals should include letters of support from co-PIs or key collaborators detailing their role and commitment to the research project.
**Eligibility Criteria:**
The proposed research project must be biotechnology related. CSUPERB defines biotechnology as a fusion of biology and technology. BIO ([https://www.bio.org/what-biotechnology](https://www.bio.org/what-biotechnology)) lists biotechnology examples, applications and sectors; CSUPERB explicitly adds to these lists health IT and medical device research and development. CSUPERB welcomes and encourages applications from CSU faculty in all disciplines related to the current practice of biotechnology, including but not limited to life sciences, physical sciences, clinical sciences, math, computer science, agricultural science, engineering, and/or business.

**Investigators & Key Collaborators:**
The Research Development Grant program is open to tenured/tenure-track (T/TT) CSU faculty who have received external support for their CSU-based research projects. Other CSU staff may be listed as co-Principal Investigators (PIs) or key collaborators. CSUPERB will consider only one proposal per PI at a time to this program. Investigators applying to this program are welcome to apply to other CSUPERB grants and awards programs.

**Development Nature of the Proposal:**
The aim of the Research Development Grant program is to support established CSU PIs who face a gap in external funding for ongoing research programs or who face difficulty getting funding for a new research direction. Research Development Grants should provide PIs the additional time and support needed to strengthen a competitive renewal or resubmission.

As a result, applicants must describe or provide evidence of attempt(s) to obtain external-to-the-CSU funding for the research project described in the CSUPERB Research Grant proposal. Evidence might include abstracts of submitted grant proposals, panel reviews, scores or other evaluations from colleagues, reviewers, or sponsored program administrators.

Existing support from collaborators or other CSU sources (*e.g.* intramural grants, release time, shared and donated equipment, and other seed program funds) should be clearly identified and described. PIs can include letters of support demonstrating institutional or collaborator support to bolster the feasibility of the research project.

CSU faculty without any current or previous external grant support should consider applying instead to the New Investigator Grant program.
Budget:

CSUPERB will accept Research Development grant proposals with budgets up to $15,000. Duration of the award will be 18 months from the project start date (approximately June 1, 2017). Exact project start dates are contingent upon award conditions, including IRB, IBC, or IACUC approvals on campus. Please note these awards will be made with fiscal year 2016-2017 CSU general fund dollars, pending the California state budget.

CSUPERB grants are issued as a result of an internal competition within the CSU and are not subject to Facilities and Administrative (F&A), or indirect, costs. F&A costs are not allowed as a grant-funded expense in proposals submitted in response to RFPs from programs, like CSUPERB, that receive the majority of their support from legislatively appropriated funds, CSU lottery funds or student fees (including State University fees). The F&A foregone at the campus/auxiliary’s federally negotiated off-campus rate may be shown as cost match on the proposal. This amount may be used by the auxiliary or enterprise fund as an offset to the university’s cost allocation plan, in accordance with EO 753/1000.

Budget Restrictions:

- Faculty salary budgets up to $5000 per individual are allowed, including fringe, for academic year release time, academic year additional employment and/or summer salary. To justify the budget need, indicate how much time each individual will spend on the project and when s/he will be working on the project in the “Salaries” section on the budget table.

- Identify supported students by name in the budget table, if possible, along with the student’s status (undergraduate or graduate student), the proposed hourly pay rate, the number of hours each student will work on the project, and whether they will be working during the summer and/or academic year. Student salaries should be aligned with amounts determined by campus human resource (HR) departments. CSUPERB will not approve any salary or rate in excess of campus limitations. Applicants are responsible for ensuring funds paid to students are not in conflict with campus limitations or other limitations set by campus graduate or undergraduate programs. Employment of foreign nationals is limited to individuals determined to be eligible to receive compensation in the United States by the applicant’s campus HR review and clearance process.

- Travel to professional meetings is not allowed with Research Development grant funds. Apply to CSUPERB’s Travel Grants Program to cover these costs.

Proposal Submission:
Proposals, including signed cover sheet, must be submitted electronically on the 2017 Research Development Grant proposal template at the program’s submission web site (www.calstate.edu/csuperb) by Monday, February 6, 2017, before 5:00 p.m. pacific time.

Proposals must adhere to style and length guidelines provided in the proposal template. Failure to follow these guidelines may result in proposal rejection during administrative review. Both the 2017 proposal template form and the Research Development Grant submission link can be found on the CSUPERB website.

Proposals that are complete and meet eligibility requirements will be evaluated for merit by a review panel comprised of CSU faculty with expertise reflecting the applications received. The proposal review meeting will be held in April 2017. The CSUPERB program office makes final funding decisions. Funding decisions are based on recommendations made by the review panel, available funds and CSUPERB strategic priorities. As part of the proposal review process, all PIs will receive written reviews. CSUPERB will not make awards to faculty members who have outstanding, past-due final reports for grants made under this or other CSUPERB grant programs.

**Post-Award Reporting Requirements:**
Successful PIs are required to submit final report to the CSUPERB within 90 days of project end date. Detailed instructions and report forms are available at www.calstate.edu/csuperb in the “Grants Admin” section. Final reports help document the need for and help justify continuation of the program. CSUPERB may also contact PIs and co-PIs for longer-term impact reporting. Successful PIs and their students are strongly encouraged to present the results of their CSUPERB-funded project at the January 2018 or 2019 Annual CSU Biotechnology Symposium.

**Program Contacts:**

**Submission questions:**
csuperb@mail.sdsu.edu
Phone: 619-594-2822

**Program and RFP questions:**
James Schmitt
Program Administrator, CSUPERB
jscschmitt@mail.sdsu.edu
619-594-5299

Susan Baxter
Executive Director, CSUPERB
sbaxter@mail.sdsu.edu
619-594-2822