Stengl-Wyer Endowment Grants Program
2021-2022 Request for Applications

OVERVIEW
Funded by the Stengl-Wyer Endowment, the Stengl-Wyer Endowment Grants Program (Grants Program) supports initiatives in research, educational activities, and research-driven enhancements to facilities and collections. **Applications are due by 4:59PM CST on June 14, 2021.**

*Initiative 1: Research*
Research grants will be awarded to faculty for new high-impact research projects. Support of ongoing, large-scale operation of a research program is not within the scope of the program. Research grants are limited to 1 year and no more than $100,000. Small budget projects are welcome, and the budget may be considered in award selections.

*Initiative 2: Educational activities*
The Grants Program will support educational activities such as 1) innovative models for support of graduate students to study the diversity of life and interactions between organisms and their natural environments, and 2) undergraduate summer research summer fellowships and streams within the Freshman Research Initiative. Educational activity programs may be proposed for up to 3 years with a maximum total budget of $150,000.

*Initiative 3: Research-directed enhancements to facilities and collections*
The Grants Program will support research-directed enhancements of the college’s biological field stations, the college’s natural sciences collections, including the Biodiversity Collection. Enhancement programs may be proposed for up to 3 years with a maximum total budget of $150,000.

ELIGIBILITY
- Tenure track and non-tenure track CNS faculty, and those with active Principal Investigator status in CNS are eligible to apply.
- A Principal Investigator (PI) previously awarded a **Research** grant may apply for a subsequent Research grant. However, funding of research projects by the same PI in consecutive years is not intended. Co-PIs with limited roles on Research grants are not affected.
- A PI previously awarded a grant for an **Educational Activity** or **Enhancement** is eligible to apply for a Research grant but is discouraged to apply for a subsequent Educational Activity or Enhancement grant during the period of performance of the awarded project or program.
- Non-awarded applicants from previous cycles may resubmit their proposals once for a total of two submissions.

APPLICATION COMPONENTS
All application documents should be formatted using 1-inch margins and no smaller than 11-point font. Recommended fonts are Arial, Georgia, Helvetica, and Times New Roman. The following documents are all required and must be submitted by the application deadline of 4:59 PM CST on June 14, 2021:

1. **Lay Summary.** In 200 words or less describe for a general audience the proposed project and its potential impact on the study of the diversity of life and interactions between organisms and their natural environments.

2. **Research/Program Plan.** Limit to three (3) pages. Organize the proposal in the specified order using the section headings (Rationale and Vision, Participants) and the following instructions:
   a. **Rationale and vision.** Explain the innovative and transformative nature of the proposed project, and how it supports one or more of the Stengl-Wyer Endowment Grant Program initiatives.
   b. **Participants.** List participating project members providing a clear explanation of each member’s role in the project.

3. **Bibliography/References.** List sources in a document separate from the proposal. No page limit.

4. **External Funding Leveraging.** Limit to one (1) page. Describe your plan to leverage the funding requested from the Stengl-Wyer Endowment Grant Program with external funding sources. Include an anticipated timeline with milestones for development of external proposals, names of potential sponsoring agencies, and relevant deadlines for those agencies.

5. **Budget and budget justification.** No page limit. Submit a detailed budget outlining expenditures in appropriate categories. Budgets may include tuition and stipends for graduate students. Budgets should not include faculty salary (e.g., summer salary) or indirect costs/facilities & administrative fees. Funding levels for maintenance and operations (M&O) for the field stations and the collections are being determined separately, and should not be included in the research proposals. Other resources that will be committed to the effort, such as support from academic units, should also be outlined. Clearly justify each major expense. Budgets for multi-year proposals (educational or enhancement only) should show costs for each year proposed.


**APPLICATION SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS**
Applications must be submitted through CompetitionSpace, UT-Austin’s online submission interface, by **4:59PM CST on June 14, 2021**. All required application components (listed in the Application Components section above) should be combined and uploaded as a single pdf. To apply:

1. Click the “Apply Now” button at the top right of this page or go to [https://utexas.infoready4.com/#competitiondetail/1839933](https://utexas.infoready4.com/#competitiondetail/1839933).
2. Click the “Apply” button on the CompetitionSpace page.
3. This will take you to a login screen. Click “University of Texas login” to enter your UT EID and password.
4. You will be taken to an online application form. Complete the application form, upload the required application components, and click “Submit Application” at the bottom of the page. You also have the option to save a draft application and return later to submit it.

REVIEW PROCESS
The following competitive review process will be used to determine specific activities and funding levels:

1. Faculty (individual or in small teams) submit proposals describing their vision for a research project, educational activity, or enhancement within the budget and duration specified in the Overview section of this request for applications.
2. A committee of three faculty (separate from the Stengl-Wyer Endowment Committee) will evaluate the submitted proposals to identify the projects and programs that will have the greatest potential to advance the study of the diversity of life and interactions between organisms and their natural environments.
3. The committee will present their recommendations to the Stengl-Wyer Endowment Committee for final approval.

AWARD NOTIFICATION
Announcement of awardees: August 1, 2021
Award Start Date: September 1, 2021

CONTACT INFORMATION
Program website: https://cns.utexas.edu/swe/endowment-grants

Program questions should be directed to the Stengl-Wyer Endowment Program Directors: swe@austin.utexas.edu.

Application submission interface questions should be directed to CNS Strategic Research Initiatives: CNS_SRI@austin.utexas.edu.

The form and timing of Stengl-Wyer Endowment Grant awards is subject to change in subsequent years.

The content of this announcement is relevant only for the 2021 competition cycle.