Auburn University Title VI
Mentor Research Grant Application

**Purpose:** The purpose of the Research Grant Project is to promote retention of African American junior faculty by supporting research and creative activities through well-designed research projects. For example, these projects should lead to the authorship of scholarly publications, invited presentations, submission of extramural funding proposals, or other creative academic works.

**Objective:** The program is designed to provide a supportive environment that will encourage and promote the professional development of African American junior faculty. This environment is to be assisted by a one-on-one relationship of the junior faculty member (mentee) with an experienced and successful senior colleague (mentor).

**Eligibility:** African American tenure track faculty with no more than three years in rank.

**Awards:** Awards up to $25,000 annually can be considered. For Title VI awards exceeding $5,000, some level of cost from sharing is anticipated. Total amount available for all awards in this category is $150,000.

**General Regulations:**
1. During an academic year, a junior faculty member will enlist the collaboration of a senior colleague mentor to participate in this program.
   a. The mentor must be willing to serve and should be a successful colleague at Auburn University or from outside Auburn; however, preference will be given to Auburn University colleagues.
   b. The mentor can be either a former major professor or postdoctoral advisor to the mentee.
   c. The credentials of the mentor will be an important evaluation factor.
   d. Preference will be given to faculty who have not previously received this support.
2. Grants will customarily be made for one year; however, the end date may be extended if sufficient justification exists and there is satisfactory progress of the project. A request for an extension must be made in writing to the Provost.
3. Priority will be given to projects for which departmental and other funds are available.
4. Title VI Research Grant funds cannot be used:
   a. To support research activities or publication of research results which partially fulfill the requirements for a higher degree.
   b. For work which is not carried out during the applicant’s appointment at Auburn University.
   c. To support a graduate student’s thesis or dissertation research; however, the employment of a graduate student on a faculty member’s research project funded through the Title VI Research Grant Program is encouraged.

**Budget:**
1. For the objectives enumerated in this application, up to $25,000 in Title VI funds will be made available to each selected candidate; however, awards exceeding $5,000 will require matching funds from the mentee’s department or other university sources.
2. These funds can be used to develop preliminary data, travel to a site having resources not available at Auburn, supplies, release time, meeting with potential sponsors and/or agencies, etc.
3. Budget may include faculty salary, technical and secretarial assistance, product or proposal development costs and travel.
4. Please use the following format, and include the justification for each spending category:
   - Salaries & Wages $
   - Research Assistants $
   - Undergraduate Students $
   - Benefits $
   - Supplies $
   - Travel $
   - Equipment $
   - Other (specify) $
   - Total Project Costs $

Procedure/Timeline:
1. The project period will not exceed 12 months.
2. Applications must be submitted 6 months prior to the year for which the grant is requested. At that time, the mentee, in collaboration with the mentor, will submit a brief, no more than five (5) pages and description of the proposed research project.
3. The Title VI Committee will review the submitted proposals for selection.
4. A six-month project progress report is due to the Title VI Committee.

Requirements:
1. A plan of work that describes the proposed project.
2. A progress report is due six months after the award of the proposal.
3. A final report is due within three months of completion of the project.

Proposal Development:
The proposal should contain the following sections:

1. Cover Sheet – to include signatures of the applicant’s dean, department head/chair, mentor, and the applicant.
2. Project Summary - not to exceed 1 page.
3. Project Description - not to exceed 5 pages and to contain the following:
   a. Proposed research area which includes anticipated objectives and methodology.
   b. Proposed collaboration between mentor and mentee, this includes a statement of the proposal or product to be produced. Justify why the mentor was selected for this project (see number 5 & 6 below).
   c. Proposed source of outside funding. State any assistance you may need in identifying sources of funding and in making contacts.
   d. Schedule for the plan of work. State specific milestones and their expected completion dates.
4. Budget
5. Qualifications of the mentor and mentee
6. Letter of agreement from mentor
7. Letter of support from the dean and department head and any other university sponsor

If you need additional information, please contact:

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