

May 10, 2005

Center for Research in Entrepreneurial Activity

*Kauffman Foundation Research Grants
and Pre-proposal and Literature Review Grants*

Call for Proposals

Deadline for Submission of Proposals:

Applications will be considered as submitted

The Center for Research in Entrepreneurial Activity (CREA) has funds to support research on topics that will add to our understanding of the sources and effects of entrepreneurship. Interested faculty at the University of Kansas are invited to apply for funding from the Center to support their work. These grants are made possible through the generosity of the Kauffman Foundation of Kansas City.

Support is available for two types of projects:

(1) *Research grants* are intended to support work intended for a top journal or other prominent academic outlet, or to lead to a proposal for additional funding from another external agency to support projects of a larger scope than those funded by the Center. The grants will typically provide support for summer salary and other needs relevant for a major research project (e.g., research assistance, data, or travel).

(2) *Pre-proposals or literature reviews* are intended to allow a scholar to survey and get acquainted with an area but without the expectation of a research publication. The pre-proposals or literature reviews will receive funding of \$2,000.

In selecting proposals, CREA will emphasize research on entrepreneurial activity that (a) has important economic consequences and (b) leads to innovations. We especially encourage proposals that have relevance for Kansas and contiguous states. The aim is to provide an understanding of entrepreneurship that can transform industries, cities and regions, and in the end help entrepreneurs, investors, educators, opinion leaders and policy makers make decisions that promote risk taking and innovation in the public interest.

Proposals from all disciplines are welcome. This program is open only to faculty and researchers at the University of Kansas.

I. Research Grant Proposals

Call for Proposals. Interested scholars should submit the following items.

(1) A proposal of five pages or less (11 or 12 font type) addressing the following topics:

Statement of Aims. A summary of the aims of the project (250 words or less).

Research to Date. A description of the state of knowledge in this field.

Significance. An explanation of potential importance of the project.

Methods. A description of the research methods and relevant data sources.

Expected Outlet. A target journal or journals, or publisher; or source of additional funding.

(2) A bibliography of relevant works.

(3) A brief (no more than 2 pages) C.V. of the principal investigator(s) emphasizing research relevant to the proposed project.

(4) A completed budget statement using the form provided and listing personnel costs (including fringe benefits), consumable materials, travel and other costs. Budgets would ordinarily provide for one month of summer support plus other costs consistent with the scope of the project.

Human Subject Compliance. If your project will involve human subjects confirmation of approval from HSC-L will be required before any funds are awarded. Be sure to check the appropriate box on the application form.

Deadline. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis so long as funds remain.

Award Criteria. In the case of established scholars, CREA Directors will select projects based on the relevance of the proposal to entrepreneurship and on a proven ability to publish in top-tier journals and premier academic publishers. In the case of junior faculty, selection will be based on relevance and academic promise. We expect to award a total of 8 to 12 grants for research to be undertaken in 2005 and the first part of 2006. CREA Directors are committed to supporting only established scholars with proven records and junior scholars with strong promise.

Budget guidelines. Funds requested should be commensurate with the effort undertaken and the scope of the project proposed. As a general guideline we expect that the average award will be for about \$25,000-\$30,000 in *direct costs*. These funds can be used to: provide summer support for the faculty member directing the research, hire

undergraduate or graduate research assistants, purchase relevant data, cover travel expenses, or pay other relevant research costs.

Note that, in general, University rules require that grants cover tuition expenses for graduate students who are appointed more than 40% time. The guidelines require that you budget for 9 hours of enrollment during the Fall and Spring Semesters and 3 hours during the Summer. Tuition rates vary depending on the school in which the student is enrolled.

Entrepreneurship Workshops, Progress Reports and Presentations. Award recipients will attend periodic Workshops at which they will present their proposals or their work. The Workshops will also include selected outside scholars, who will present their work and attend presentations by KU faculty. Our expectation is that these Workshops will (1) stimulate progress on the funded research, (2) provide discussion and feedback, and (3) highlight KU's efforts in entrepreneurship research and the Kauffman Foundation's support of those efforts. Tentative dates are as follows:

April 2005	Presentation of proposals
October 2005	Presentation of preliminary work
April 2006	Final presentation of projects

Attendees at each event will include: (1) the eight to twelve award recipients, (2) a recognized entrepreneurship scholar who would present his or her own work and participate in the discussion, and (3) other interested KU scholars, including faculty receiving grants for pre-proposals and literature reviews (see below).

II. Pre-Proposals and Literature Reviews

This program will award grants of \$2,000 direct costs for pre-proposals and literature reviews that will culminate in a presentation at either the October 2005 or April 2006 meeting. These grants are designed to encourage faculty to explore connections between their current research and aspects of entrepreneurial activity. In our view, this is a low-risk way for capable researchers who have not done work on entrepreneurship to explore a topic and get feedback. We hope that it will help generate additional local interest and expertise. The grants may be applied toward summer salary or research expenditures at the discretion of the recipient. (Expenditures may be for any research purpose; they are not tied to the grant.)

Interested applicants should fill out the one-page form for the pre-proposal or literature review and attach a curriculum vitae.. We will also accept applications for pre-proposals and literature reviews on a rolling basis as long as funds remain available..

Recipients of pre-proposal and literature review awards will be expected to attend the workshops described above.

Each pre-proposal or review will culminate in a presentation at a workshop.

For questions, contact the directors:

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