UNIVERSITY *of* ROCHESTER

Goergen Institute for Data Science
Seed Funding Program

Call for Proposals for 2022-23

1. Synopsis and Review Criteria

The Goergen Institute for Data Science (GIDS) invites proposals for seed grants in data science. The GIDS seed funding program aims to support collaborative research efforts toward attracting major external funding, with a particular focus on work aligned with at least one of the following research priorities in data science:

1) Foundations of machine learning and artificial intelligence (AI)
2) Imaging, optics, and computer/human vision
3) Life sciences and biomedical data science
4) Health analytics and digital health
5) Human-data-system interfaces (including human-computer interaction, augmented and virtual reality (AR/VR), robotics)
6) AI-augmented learning and work

PIs will be expected to identify which of these six areas their proposal is most closely aligned with, although exceptional proposals in other data science-related research areas will also be considered. PIs will also be expected to identify specific external funding opportunities they are planning to pursue based their seed grant.

Proposals will be evaluated based on their intellectual merit and on their potential to attract collaborative external funding in areas of interest for GIDS. Proposals will be reviewed by anonymous reviewers from the University community with relevant expertise.

2. Award Information

The maximum budget for GIDS seed grants is $20,000. Grants will be awarded for September 1, 2022 through August 30, 2023. Funds can be used for student/post-doc support, equipment, materials and supplies, software, publication costs, travel, and other justified expenses. Funds may not be used for faculty salaries.

3. Due Date

Proposals must be submitted by 5 p.m. (ET) on Wednesday, June 15, 2022.

4. Eligibility

Principal investigators (PIs) must be full-time faculty members at the University of Rochester. Each proposal must have a PI, and may include up to three co-PIs, and other senior personnel, as needed. The PI or at least one of the co-PIs must be a GIDS affiliated faculty member. There are no limits on the number of proposals per faculty member.

5. Submission Instructions

The following information must be submitted as part of the application. All documents should be in 11 point, Times New Roman font, single column.

i. Project title, names of the PI, co-PIs, senior personnel, amount of funding requested, GIDS research area (this information will be entered into an online form).

ii. Project abstract (up to 400 words).

iii. Project description (3 pages maximum). The project description must clearly describe the intellectual merit of the proposed work. It should also indicate the specific external collaborative funding opportunities the project team is planning to pursue based on their seed grant. References can also be included as additional pages in the project description document.

iv. CVs/biosketches of the PI, co-PIS, and all senior personnel (NSF or NIH style is preferred but not required).

v. Budget spreadsheet (template available on the GIDS website).

vi. Budget justification (1 page maximum).

Proposals must be submitted electronically via REDCap.

For questions about the GIDS seed funding program, contact Mujdat Cetin (mujdat.cetin@rochester.edu).
For questions about the submission process, contact Sylvia Tiballi (sylvia.francisco@rochester.edu).