**Call for Proposals – DIAG ARA 2020**

The Diversity and Inclusion Action Group at the William Allen White School of Journalism and Mass Communications is releasing this funding opportunity for the **2020 DIAG Applied Research Award.**

**Purpose:** The research award aims to promote applied research in an area of mass communication science that can directly benefit our understanding, acknowledgment, interaction with, research and/or acceptance of diversity. The "applied" requirement implies that findings from the funded study must be directly applicable to a community or a group and directly address one of more of the previously stated criteria.

**Award amount:** $5,000 (One or more awards totaling $5,000).

 **Applicants**: The award is open to faculty as well as graduate students (Masters or PhD). Students having the role of Principal Investigators should have a faculty mentor that will act as a supervisor of the project. Any tenured, tenure-track, lecturer or professor of the practice in the School of Journalism and Mass Communications is eligible to apply.Either individuals or teams of researchers can apply for the research award. Multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary research projects are encouraged, but the Principal Investigator must be faculty or a graduate student in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication.

**Application process:** A research proposal addressing the following sections should be submitted to the DIAG together with biosketches (NIH format - https://grants.nih.gov/grants/forms/biosketch.htm) of the Principal Investigator and all co-investigators.

**Structure of the proposal:**

1. Title of the research proposal (up to 95 characters)

2. Which population/community/group is the target of your research proposal? (up to 200 words)

3. Why are you interested in this population/community/group? (up to 500 words)

4. Specific aims. How will your research advance our understanding, acknowledgment, interaction with or acceptance of diversity? (up to 500 words)

5. What is your previous experience with this topic? (up to 300 words)

6. What is your research question/hypothesis? (up to 200 words)

7. Research method. How do you plan to answer your research question/test your hypothesis? (up to 500 words)

8. Protection of human subjects (up to 300 words). IRB Approval will be required for the disbursement of funds, but not for the proposal.

9. What is your timeline for completion? (Gantt chart)

10. Challenges and limitations? (up to 300 words)

11. How will your research impact the community you are studying? (up to 500 words)

12. Budget and budget justification (up to 400 words)

All proposals should be submitted electronically in PDF format, US letter page size, Arial 11, single spaced, .5” margins. Images and graphics (but not tables) do not add to the word count stipulated above for each section. All the above sections must be addressed in the proposal. Failure to include all sections or exceeding the number of words on any section will automatically disqualify proposal.

**Review and scoring:** Each proposal will be peer reviewed by two researchers. This is a single-blind peer review process. All those submitting proposals will receive the reviewers’ scores and comments. DIAG will review each proposal and score it per its significance, investigator, innovation, approach, human subjects protection. If there are more than four proposals submitted, DIAG may conduct interviews with the PI's to establish the recipient of the award. DIAG may also decide unilaterally to award one or multiple awards, up to $5,000 total. Proposal will be scored on a ranking scale, from 9-poor to 1-Exceptional for each scoring criteria. No proposal with a combined score of 5 or higher will be funded.

**Important dates:**

First day to receive proposals: April 30th, 2020, 8:00am CET.

Last day to receive proposals: May 5th, 2020 by 5:00pm CET. No applications will be accepted after the deadline.

Winner(s) will be announced at the last faculty meeting of the Spring semester.

**Submission of proposals:** Please send your proposal and supportive materials as a single-document PDF file via email to Jammie Johnson at jamjohn@ku.edu.

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