

FY2020 Interdisciplinary Seed Grant RFP

Integrative Science and Solutions for Freshwater Systems

with financial support from

The Fralin Life Science Institute in support of
the Global Systems Sciences Destination Area at Virginia Tech

The Freshwater Systems team, as part of the Global Systems Sciences Destination Area (GSS DA) requests proposals for seed grants to foster development and submission of interdisciplinary proposals to a major funding source (e.g., federal funding agency) to enhance new knowledge that informs management and restoration of waterbodies and associated watersheds. Funding priority will be given to proposals that develop new collaborative, interdisciplinary research teams across departments/colleges and that support any of the following critical problems: anthropogenic pressures on watersheds, inadequate quantity and quality of fresh water, losses of biodiversity and biosphere integrity, and transmission of water-borne disease. Preference will be given to proposals with at least one faculty member affiliated with the Freshwater Systems team.

Freshwater Systems has approximately \$40,000 available to fund seed grants for \$5,000-10,000. Please submit proposals by May 31, 2019. Awards will be announced by June 15, 2019 and the project period of performance is July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020.

Requirements: These awards will provide seed money to a group of faculty PIs for data collection that will result in submission of a collaborative proposal by July 1, 2020. If you receive an award, you are committing to providing a research summary at a freshwater mini-symposium on campus during 2020. Please acknowledge the Fralin Life Science Institute for support in all manuscripts and presentations benefitting from this funding.

Eligibility: For a seed grant proposal to receive full consideration, at least one faculty member affiliated with the Freshwater Systems team should be a PI on the proposal submission; additional faculty from Virginia Tech and outside the University can be part of the collaborative team(s).

Application procedure: All applications must be no longer than two pages (one-inch margins and text single-spaced in Arial 11) and should include the following information:

- Potential to organize and link faculty members across disciplines.
- Clear plan for how this support will lead to a collaborative external proposal submission.
- Likelihood that proposal(s) produced from work will be competitive with the identified funding entity/RFP.
- Pertinence of research topic to freshwater systems.
- Feasibility of proposed work within budget and timeline constraints.

- Budget

All files should be sent in a single pdf file by e-mail to Janet Webster; E-mail address: jbwebste@vt.edu. Label files as LAST NAME_FWSApplication2019;

Please direct any further questions to Tess Thompson (tthompson@vt.edu), Stephen Schoenholtz (schoenhs@vt.edu), or Janet Webster (jbwebste@vt.edu).