

Carleton University
Office of the Vice-President (Research and International) - OVPRI
Multidisciplinary Research Catalyst Fund (MRCF)
Call for Proposals (Due February 25th, 2019)

1. Objectives and Expected Deliverables

This program provides resources and support to enable multidisciplinary research teams to achieve a demonstrable increase in research impacts that go beyond individual researchers. The deliverables for each team include but are not limited to:

- A Carleton-led application to a major funding opportunity within one year of the funding start date. Examples of major funding opportunities include the Canada Research Coordinating Committee's New Frontiers in Research Fund (Transformation and International Streams).
<http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/127.nsf/eng/home>
- A plan to boost the research productivity of the multidisciplinary research cluster on a sustainable basis. The plan should address the impact on society and on the regulatory framework, as well as the potential economic development (if appropriate).
- A communications and outreach plan to promote Carleton's multidisciplinary research excellence in the area, including a web site, brochures, and a professional presentation.

2. Funding: Initial investment of up to \$50,000 for one year (up to 10 awards).

3. Resources: Successful teams will be assigned an OVPRI champion to work with the team members and faculty-based research facilitators in realizing the MRCF deliverables and developing external research funding proposals. Additional resources may be provided as needed.

4. Eligible Expenses: Convening workshops, research support staff (e.g. grant writer, graduate student, web developer), teaching release, and partner travel. Funds cannot be transferred to other institutions.

5. Deadlines

Application submission deadline:	Monday February 25 th , 2019
Funding start-date:	Monday March 18 th , 2019

6. Evaluation Criteria

6.1 Research Excellence and Vision

- Addresses an important challenge that our society faces, where Carleton has a pre-existing strength and a potential competitive edge relative to other institutions.
- Has a potential to achieve transformative outcomes in terms of impact on society, benefits to Canada, and, as applicable, has a potential to generate economic development.
- Links to external demands or societal needs/directions, thereby demonstrating potential for external partners, increase in research funding at Carleton, and sustainability into the future.

6.2 *Team Strength and Synergy*

- Established excellence of the members of the team in terms of research productivity and funding.
- Four or more faculty members, meeting the following criteria:
 - Includes at least one Early Career Researcher¹.
 - Demonstrates interdisciplinarity/multidisciplinarity and ideally involves more than one Faculty.
 - The researchers in the team should preferably be eligible to receive funding from more than one granting agency (e.g. SSHRC, NSERC, CIHR, or the Canada Council for the Arts).
 - Includes potential external partners from research institutions (e.g. NRC), industry, NGOs, foundations, hospitals, government, or international partners.
 - New emerging and established clusters are eligible to apply.

6.3 *Plan for Achieving MRCF Program Objectives*

- Includes Carleton-led external funding applications, increase in research productivity, impact on society, potential economic development, and communications and outreach strategy.
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7. Application Instructions

Submit application to coris@carleton.ca no later than 4:30pm on **Monday February 25th, 2019**.

Applications will be reviewed by a committee comprising faculty researchers and the associate deans (research). External experts will be consulted as appropriate. The committee will be chaired by the Vice-President (Research and International).

An application comprises one attachment that includes the following sections:

7.1 *Multidisciplinary Research Cluster Overview (maximum ¼ page)*

- Provide a lay summary of the multidisciplinary research cluster.

7.2 *Project Description (maximum ¾ page)*

- Describe the research area, including a vision that responds to an important societal challenge.
- Outline the transformative opportunity that this funding will enable, including impact on society, benefits to Canada, and, where applicable, economic development potential.
- Describe the benefits to Carleton and the integration with academic programs (graduate and UG).

¹ Early Career Researchers are defined as individuals who have five years or less experience since their first academic appointment as of the application deadline, with the exception of career interruptions (e.g., maternity or parental leave, extended sick leave, clinical training, and family care) that occurred after their appointment.

7.3 Team Strength and Synergy (maximum 1 page)

- List the research team members and describe their role in the project. Discuss how the members constitute an interdisciplinary/multidisciplinary team and how this cluster is positioned to address the important societal challenge.
- Describe existing external partners, and their contribution to the project.
- Discuss how the cluster will meaningfully engage underrepresented groups and early career researchers. Underrepresented groups include, but are not limited to, the four designated groups (women, Indigenous peoples, members of visible minorities, and persons with disabilities).

7.4 Project, Communications, and Outreach Plan (maximum ½ page)

- Describe the plan for achieving the MRCF program objectives as outlined in the “Objectives and Expected Deliverables”, Section 1 of this call for proposals.

7.5 Budget and Budget Justification (maximum ½ page)

- Include an itemized budget with justification (up to \$50,000).
- Indicate any anticipated resources needed from OVPRI that would facilitate success.

7.6 Need for Infrastructure Funds through CFI JELF Application (if applicable; maximum ½ page)

- If applicable, describe the need for infrastructure that could help enable the cluster.
- Include a brief description of the major items, and estimate the total cost.

7.7 Curriculum Vitae (any format)

- Provide links to the researchers’ websites (preferable), or attach curriculum vitae of a maximum of five of the Carleton team members.

8. Attachment Guidelines

- Explain any acronyms and abbreviations fully.
- Pages must be 8 ½" x 11", single-spaced, 11 pt Times New Roman font, and standard margins (1”).