One of OSU’s top strategic goals is to advance partnerships between the University and industry. This request for proposals seeks to further that goal by stimulating new industry collaborative research partnerships. Proposals submitted through this request are expected to be at the intersection of OSU’s and the corporation’s strategic interests such that the two parties willingly share in the cost of the project. It is intended to be a seed grant matching program that could produce further engagement.

OSU’s primary interest can be found in the OSU Research Agenda, which focuses on answering the following questions: How do natural systems work and how can we live sustainably within them? What factors and systems influence and promote health, wellness and long-term quality of life? What fundamental understanding, discoveries and solutions are needed to advance economic and social well-being?

The corporation’s primary interest is case dependent and should be outlined in the proposal.

Terms of the Grant Program
Grants will support new partnerships including:
- Projects involving faculty members new to industry R&D collaboration combined with any company including existing OSU partners
- Projects involving faculty members experienced with industry R&D collaboration combined with a company or major business division of a company with no prior OSU R&D partnerships

OSU has provided a total of $50,000 from which five or more grants of up to $10,000 will be awarded as a match to an equal or greater corporate investment in the project.

The following is the schedule for the program:
- Request for proposals to be issued by April 30, 2014 and will remain open until funds are exhausted or by December 31, 2014.
- Proposals are to be submitted to the Research Office (Direct to Tracy Elmshaeuser / tracy.elmshaeuser@oregonstate.edu)
- Funding decisions will be made by the Research Office beginning July 1, 2014 and ending December 31, 2014.
- Final reports addressed to the VP for Research are due to the Research Office by the project end date.

Proposal Guidelines
Grant proposals should be no more than 5 pages in length and include the following information:
- Executive Summary
- Description of how the proposed research advances both company’s and OSU’s strategic interests
- Work plan
- Description of how the seed investment will be leveraged toward greater opportunities (e.g. federal funding, state funding, or potential corporation research and development investment).
- Budget (Assume no IDC).
- Rationale for team including complementary knowledge and skills needed for success.
- Letter of commitment from the corporation indicating the level of cash match that will be provided
Selection Criteria
Proposals will be evaluated by a selection committee and scored with the following weighting (100 points total):

- Potential to advance Company/OSU strategic interests: 40 points
- ROI: leverage toward future opportunities: 25 points
- Strength of team: 20 points
- Student engagement in the project: 15 points

The selection committee will adjust the total score using an estimated probability of success and provide recommendations to the VP for Research who will make funding decisions.

If you have any questions, contact Brian Wall: brian.wall@oregonstate.edu