Purpose and Goals

A central goal of the SU ADVANCE initiative is to prepare women faculty to excel at the interface of interdisciplinary and/or cross-sector (academia-industry-community) research. Toward that end, funding is available through the SU ADVANCE initiative to facilitate the development or enhancement of collaborations between female STEM faculty\(^1\) and their fellow researchers in for-profit industry, in government, or not-for-profit research labs or other organizations. In addition, funds can be used to enhance interdisciplinary collaborations either on-campus or with those at other Universities. These grants are aimed at heightening the professional visibility and social networks of female faculty in preparation for tenure and/or promotion.

Funding Available

Faculty can apply for reimbursement of expenses related to (but not limited to) any of the following: conference registrations, travel (including meals while away), printing, or submission fees. **Funding cannot be used for dependent care expenses.** The total funding available for this purpose in each fiscal year of the SU ADVANCE program is $16,000; reimbursements will be provided for up to $4,000 per person per year. All funding is provided on a reimbursement basis. Original receipts (or evidence of the charge to the home department) must be submitted for funds to be released.

Submission Guidelines

In a single-page document, please indicate:

1) **Your purpose in requesting funds.** *What will the funding enable you to do?* For example, funds might enable you to travel for a week to collaborate on a grant application (or pay for someone else’s travel to Syracuse for the same purpose). Alternately, you may want to attend a conference that you normally would not attend, but which features work by both academic and industry researchers. Attending will provide you with an opportunity to extend your network in ways that might have future payoff in terms of collaborative work.

2) **Short term outcome.** *If you are able to access these funds, what will you achieve?* You may, for example, submit an application for funding under the NSF’s Grant Opportunity for Academic Liaison with Industry (GOALI) program. Alternately, you will be able to network with specific researchers you’ve pre-identified as program participants, thereby heightening the possibility of future collaborations.

3) **Long term outcome.** *How will achieving the goal, above, help with your longer term career goals?* For example, you will broaden your profile in preparation for promotion or you will explore new facets of your research that will reinvigorate your research program.

4) **Timeline for activities.** *If you are able to access these funds, when will your expenses be incurred?* Relatedly, please indicate the anticipated time-lapse between the expenditure and your ability to judge if you have been successful in achieving your short term goals.

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\(^1\) Per our grant guidelines, “STEM faculty” means a tenure-track or tenured faculty member with an appointment in one of the following departments: Biology, Biomedical and Chemical Engineering, Chemistry, Civil and Environmental Engineering, Communication Sciences & Disorders, Earth Sciences, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, School of Information Studies, Mathematics, Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, Physics, or Psychology
5) **Anticipated Costs.** Please include a proposed budget. Any costs incurred above the proposed budget will be at the applicant’s expense.

**Review Criteria**

Grants will be awarded as submitted until all funds are expended. Please contact Marie Garland, Executive Director of SU ADVANCE to inquire about the availability of funds prior to completing your proposal.

Successful proposals will demonstrate concrete plans for the use of funds as well as clear connection between plans and both short- and long-term goals. Reviewers are drawn from the SU ADVANCE Corridor initiative leaders and include Dr. Shobha Bhatia, Meredith Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering (ADVANCE Co-PI); Karin Ruhlandt, Distinguished Professor and Chair of Chemistry (ADVANCE Co-PI); Mary Ann Tyszko, Vice President Strategic Business Development and Innovation; and Laura Welch, Deputy Director, CASE.

*NOTE: Acceptance of an award indicates your willingness to participate in all evaluation activities associated with the grant program and to provide advice and counsel on how best to use funds for other faculty seeking to establish cross-sector opportunities.*

To apply for these funds, please email your single-page proposal to mgarland@syr.edu with the subject line: **Cross-Sector/Interdisciplinary Opportunity Grant Proposal.**