**CALL FOR PROPOSALS**

*The CWSIS program is a strategically focused investment strategy that enhances faculty capacity and University prestige.* This initial call for proposals is being viewed as a pilot program that will provide the Office of the Vice President for Research and Economic Development (OVPRED) an opportunity to experience a small-scale version of a larger intramural award program before a long-term commitment to the award program is made. The pilot provides a platform to test what works and what does not. It allows for an adjustment to the strategy for full-scale implementation hopefully in the fall of 2021. The pilot is flexible enough to adapt as uptake or information increases.

\* With this background it is important to note that **The OVPRED will fund external reviews for up to five (5) proposals from each constituent school or college that participates in the intramural award programs (i.e., across CWSIS and RSP combined). In addition, the OVPRED will fund between eight (8) and 12 proposals from both the CWSIS Program and the RSP Program in toto, not per program. This first year being a pilot program, the five-proposal limit and the proposal funding cap will allow the OVPRED to evaluate the services availed during the proposal review process and focus resources for a larger program in the fall.**

**CALL FOR PROPOSALS**

The competitive CWSIS program supports scholarship in areas of creative work and social impact that have strong potential to enhance program and university rankings and bring greater visibility and recognition of our faculty and institution. In addition to raising the visibility and influence of Auburn University, CWSIS projects may attract external funding in the forms of grants, industry partnerships and contracts, private foundation funding, and donor support. Investing in CWSIS supports the University’s strategic plan by elevating scholarly impact, investing in outstanding people who advance the university’s mission, and providing an elevated Auburn experience for our students. The Program will provide opportunities for faculty to apply for funding in the following disciplines:

**Design and the Arts:** Architecture, landscape architecture, interior architecture, interior design, industrial design, environmental design, apparel design, consumer and design sciences, graphic arts, visual arts, studio arts, performing arts (music, dance, theater, etc.), creative writing, and other relevant fields.

**Humanities:** English, foreign languages, literature, linguistics, philosophy, history, history of art and architecture, archaeology, ethics, and other relevant fields.

**Social Impact Scholarship:**  Applicable scholarship within business, education, social sciences, health and well-being, and relevant activity in other fields such as quantitative and qualitative research, policy research, urban and community planning, design for health, best practices/evaluation research, outreach scholarship, and other social impact scholarship.

**Interdisciplinary Research:**  Proposals that connect the Creative Work/Social Impact disciplines with STEM disciplines may fit with either the CWSIS or the new Research Support Program (RSP) program areas.  Teams developing these types of submissions should determine whether the proposal fits more with CWSIS or with the RSP and submit to the best fitting program area.  Interdisciplinary research proposals submitted to the CWSIS may have funding/resource needs outside of typical CWSIS proposals.  Collaborative teams should consult with the ADR’s associated with their colleges/schools for input and guidance.

The Office of the Vice President for Research and Economic Development (OVPRED) announces the 2021 call for proposals for the CWSIS Program. **Proposals for 2021 are due by 4:45 p.m. on March 24, 2021.** Proposals will undergo a thorough evaluation during the month of April through a two-step process: **(1st step; down select)** conducted by ADRs and their faculty review teams, and **(2nd step)** conducted by an external reviewer and possibly an internal faculty member.

Funding for all CWSIS grants is for a two-year period. Successful awards are contingent upon a 1:1 required match from the college/school/department.

**Click here for** [**CWSIS**](https://cws.auburn.edu/ovpr/pm/CWSIS/home) **information**.

For additional assistance, please contact Dr. Bob Holm (programmatic assistance; rzh0021@auburn.edu, 4-5877) or Ms. Giovana Brannan (administrative/financial assistance; brannsg@auburn.edu 4-4784).

**Key Dates:**

January 25, 2021 Request for Proposals Window Opens

March 24, 2021 Proposals Due (not later than 4:45 pm)

April 1-30, 2021 Proposal Review

May 14, 2021 OVPRED will finalize and approve funding decisions; final decisions will be emailed to lead PIs