



## Call for Proposals for FY18 Initiative Funding

March 16, 2017

Among the recommendations outlined in both the 2016 Strategic Plan Update and the Flagship 2020 Commission is a call for focused investment in areas that will continue to enhance the excellence of our two primary missions: education and research. While the University's base operating budget is not expected to grow, new sources of revenue along with the continuing work to modernize the University's budget model may allow us to create a pool of resources to direct towards critical needs and new initiatives. I write, therefore, to invite proposals from the deans for investment of these potential and precious resources in programs, needs, and opportunities that will have a significant positive impact on the University.

1. Proposals will be due May 1, 2017, and decisions will be announced by July 1, 2017 or as soon thereafter as possible.
2. Colleges/schools should submit one proposal per initiative. More than one proposal per college may be submitted, up to a maximum of five (5). If more than one proposal is submitted, a priority order should be identified.
3. Multi-college proposals will be considered along with proposals from individual colleges and will be counted towards the maximum allowed submission according to the number of participating colleges.
4. Priority will be given to proposals that address one or more of the following strategic goals:
  - Major research initiatives related to UMCEED – the UM Center for Economic and Entrepreneurship Development – as defined in SB 1052. Research areas include cybersecurity, virtual/augmented reality, neuroscience, and data analytics.
  - Proposals that address critical needs to manage undergraduate academic enrollments. These could include resources to support high enrollment majors or proposals to develop new majors including cross-unit (department or college) majors that will create alternate academic paths for students.
  - Enhancement of a core area of research and scholarship excellence that has the potential to raise the profile of the University.
  - New opportunities for interdisciplinary/multidisciplinary research, scholarship, creative endeavors, or community service or engagement projects that cross unit/college boundaries.
  - Identification with an economic driver that benefit the state OR ties to the University's land-grant mission through engaged scholarship that serves the broader community.
5. Proposals should be submitted in PDF format through the following website:  
<http://www.provost.umd.edu/APAC/proposal>

Each proposal should not exceed 3 pages of 12 pt. text plus budget details, and the dollar-amount of the request should not exceed \$300,000 in permanent funds and/or \$500,000 in one-time funds. Colleges/schools should expect to provide matching funds and local resources if the initiative is selected. Proposed initiatives may span more than one fiscal year, but if so, a timeline for implementation should be included with annual benchmarks. For successful proposals, an annual progress report will be expected for five (5) years.

Feedback on the proposals will be solicited from the deans, from the Provost's Academic Planning Advisory Committee (APAC), and from others as needed. Deans will be asked to rank proposals from colleges/schools other than their own. The following criteria should be considered in the review:

- Centrality to mission and strategic goals of college/school and or university
- Relevance to identified initiative areas
- Potential for advancing excellence and quality
- Efficient and effective use of proposed resources and commitment of college/school resources
- Expected impact
- Quality of leadership of proposed effort

APAC will then review and rank proposals with input from the deans' review.

Thank you for participating in this effort.



Mary Ann Rankin  
Senior Vice President and Provost