Pre-Application Workshop: September 8, 2009

Application Deadline: September 25, 2009

Grants Announced: November 9, 2009

Grants Awarded: January 4, 2010

I. INTRODUCTION

The Vice President for Public Service and Outreach solicits proposals from members of the University of Georgia faculty for financial support of research projects through the Poverty and the Economy Faculty Research Grants Program. The program is sponsored by the University of Georgia Research Foundation, Inc.

The goal of the program is to support and encourage strong programs of applied research and creative scholarship related to poverty and the economy in the state of Georgia, while further developing and maintaining the excellence of the overall research program of the university. Faculty members throughout the university who are interested or engaged in research related to analyzing and eliminating persistent poverty are eligible to apply. Research that builds on the understanding of the public policy barriers that inhibit or limit an individual’s ability to participate fully in the economy and build personal wealth are of particular interest.

It is expected that this grant program will better inform how the university can address the issue of persistent poverty through teaching, research, and service. Hence, applications that show connectivity to existing university programs and competencies (e.g., economic development, health care, family and children, housing, and education/workforce development), and that reflect collaboration across academic and service units are highly encouraged.

It is also expected that this grant program will initiate new programs of research with the potential for continuation based on extramural funding. In this sense, these grants will be considered “seed funding” for research to establish routes of inquiry for which longer-term financial support is sought from sources outside the university. Of special interest, are proposals that reflect capacity building for the university; reinforce the linkages between research, application, and policy; and show greater return on the university’s investment in both its public service and education programs. Unit participation with matching resources is required and must be reflected in the application. A listing of
potential extramural funding sources subsequent to the UGA-funded research is also required.

Finally, in recognition of the importance of applied research in this area, the Poverty and the Economy Grant Program has added a sixth major focus of review for Faculty Research Grant Proposals: Use of research findings by end users. Proposals must contain a detailed plan of action that addresses how the research will be applied and/or transferred to end users and potential end users of the knowledge.

A committee of peers will review the applications and make funding recommendations to the Vice President for Public Service and Outreach. In preparing proposals for this grants program, an applicant should remember that the review committee will not include specialists in every field. It is very important, therefore, that proposals communicate the significance of the research work to scholars from other disciplines as well as provide enough detail to permit technical evaluation by those more familiar with the area. The format requirements for proposals, given in these guidelines, are written with this need in mind and it is essential that proposals follow them as closely as possible.

II. PROGRAM GUIDELINES

Eligibility for Grants

Eligibility for Poverty and the Economy Faculty Research Grants is limited to professors, associate professors, assistant professors, and instructors of the University of Georgia who are on tenure-track appointments according to Board of Regents policy, and to individuals holding the appointment of permanent assistant, associate, or senior research scientist in the university’s “Research Professionals” classification system. Public Service and Outreach faculty of all ranks are also eligible for Poverty and the Economy Faculty Research Grants. Temporary, visiting, adjunct, or part-time faculty are not eligible, nor are post-doctoral research associates.

Only one proposal may be submitted by any eligible individual. If appropriate, proposals may be submitted jointly by more than one individual and collaborative approaches are encouraged, but no individual may serve as proposer on more than one project, whether joint or single.

A strong priority is placed in this program on the “seed funding” concept to create ongoing research initiatives that address poverty and the economy.

Amount of Grants

Although no limit has been established for individual grant awards, a total of $100,000 is available in 2010 and it is expected that four to six grants of $15,000-$30,000 will be awarded.
Use of Grant Funds

Grants for this program are intended to support the development of programs of research and creative scholarship related to poverty and the economy. **Grants are not a source of continuing support for an ongoing program, nor should they be viewed as an alternative source of funds for programs already developed to a level which normally would justify support from external agencies.** Neither should they provide “matching” funds, where such funds are required as part of an external proposal, or travel funds to attend professional meetings; support for these items is provided by individual units, or in special cases, through the Office of the Vice President for Research.

Poverty and the Economy Faculty Research Grants will provide support for the following categories of expenditure:

1. General expenses of research, such as supplies, equipment, materials, and services that are essential to the project. (Publication costs are not allowed.) Only equipment essential to the specific research being proposed will be funded. The program does not expect to fund requests for generic research equipment such as new computers.

2. Travel costs, including subsistence, that are essential for the conduct of the research.

3. Graduate research assistants as support staff for research. (Grants are not intended to support a student’s thesis or dissertation research. Proposals requesting graduate student stipends should make clear the role played by the student in the faculty member’s research program.)

4. Other labor costs essential to the project.

**NOTE:** Summer salary support is no longer provided by this program.

**Deadlines**

Proposals must be submitted by **September 25, 2009**, via email to ovprip@uga.edu using the application form available at:

http://www.ovpr.uga.edu/docs/forms/iga/FRG-Application.pdf

Successful applicants will be notified on **November 9, 2009**.

Grants will be awarded January 4, 2010, with a project completion deadline of December 31, 2010.
III. PROPOSAL FORMAT

Each proposal in this program will be reviewed by a committee of faculty members. These individuals serve their colleagues on a voluntary basis, and it is imperative that proposals be submitted in a format which does not make inordinate demands on their time. For this reason, limitations on both length and style have been established and will be enforced. Proposals must be prepared using the application form titled “Faculty Research Grant Proposal,” which is available at:

http://www.ovpr.uga.edu/docs/forms/iga/FRG-Application.pdf

The full version of Adobe Acrobat version 7 or 8 is required to be able to save the file once it is complete. If you do not have the software, contact your IT person to obtain it OR print the application and scan it so you can submit an electronic version of the proposal.

Proposals must be submitted via e-mail to ovprip@uga.edu on the form found at:

http://www.ovpr.uga.edu/docs/forms/iga/FRG-Application.pdf

The proposal application form consists of the following:

Cover Sheet, Page 1: The first page should be completed according to directions and the box marked “For Science and Poverty and the Economy Proposals” should be checked. No signatures are needed.

Biographical Information, Page 2: The principal investigator’s biographical sketch should be included on this page. Do NOT attach a curriculum vita. Follow directions at the bottom of the page to include additional information.

Compliance Information, Page 3: Complete the Compliance Requirements Form if appropriate, indicating which areas of compliance (if any) will be required for the project. If your proposal is selected, funding will not be released until the compliance requirements have been met.

Budget, Pages 4 and 5: Complete the (1) Personnel Funding Worksheet, and (2) Budget Justification Worksheet. These worksheets will assist in deriving budget amounts for the proposal cover sheet and should also be attached to provide additional information. The appropriateness of the budget will be considered during the evaluation process and budgets may be adjusted by the review committee. Each item in the budget must be justified as an expenditure required by the research plan and not available through other sources. If large items of equipment are requested, this section must indicate whether similar equipment already exists on campus and, if so, how fully it is currently utilized and why the equipment was not requested as part of the recruitment package.
Letter of support, Limit of one (1) page: from the faculty member’s mentor or department head endorsing the project and focusing on the significance of the project.

Overview, Limit of two (2) single-spaced pages: This section should describe in a way which can be understood by faculty members in different areas from your own:
   a. The research question you propose to answer (first paragraph),
   b. The contribution of this research to the theory, methodology, practice or literature of your field,
   c. How this research differs from earlier research in the field,
   d. How this project will contribute to a significant stream of research.

Research Plan, Limit of four (4) single-spaced pages: This section should provide a detailed description of what you propose to do and its purpose and significance, identify relevant research questions, and establish the merit and feasibility of the project. It should describe methods and procedures in detail, facilities available, and a timetable for completing the work. Research plans that demonstrate connectivity to existing UGA programs and competencies, reflect collaboration across academic and service units, and indicate long-term capacity building for the university will be preferred.

Unit Participation, Limit of one (1) page: Unit participation is defined as some level of monetary commitment on behalf of the unit to support the proposed research. Proposals that demonstrate higher levels of participation on behalf of the unit are preferred. Please indicate in dollar amounts the total match for how much the unit plans to support the research. Be sure to include a description of the unit participation.

Future Support, Limit of one (1) page: Potential sources of support for continuing the program initiated by the grant should be identified. If external support will be required, agencies to be approached should be specified. Also, if this research is included in any currently pending external proposal, that proposal should be identified. A listing of potential extramural funding sources is required. (A list of potential resources for poverty research funding is attached in the Appendix.)

End Users, Limit of one (1) page: End users and potential end users of research results must be identified, and a detailed plan of implementation provided. Proposals will be evaluated on the feasibility of the plan of implementation, cost of implementation and timeframe for distributing the information. Proposals that include implementation work are more likely to be funded.
IV. EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS

The goal of the Poverty and the Economy Faculty Research Grants program is to support and encourage strong programs of applied research and creative scholarship related to dismantling persistent poverty in the state of Georgia, while further developing and maintaining the excellence of the overall research program of the university. Thus, the quality and significance of the proposed research relevant to the university-wide research agenda will be distinguishing criteria in awarding grants. There is also a strong expectation that funded grants will lead to subsequent support from extramural sources. The program’s mechanism for reporting outcomes is aimed at tracking this activity (see Section V. (3), follows).

Preference will be given to “pilot studies” opening a new area of research. Proposals that amplify specific aspects of a well-developed program or explore new departures from it will also be considered. Research proposals that demonstrate connectivity to existing UGA programs and competencies, reflect collaboration across academic and service units, indicate long-term capacity building for the university, and show greater return on the university’s investment in both its public service and education programs will be preferred. Where such factors are relevant, the proposal must make them clear.

Preference will also be given to proposals that incorporate an implementation component, demonstrating impact of research results.

Among the major points which reviewers will consider, are:

1. **General:**
   a. Does the proposal communicate the importance of the work and the enthusiasm of the proposer?
   b. Have the proposal format guidelines been followed?

2. **Significance:**
   a. Is the importance of the project within its field, and across fields, made clear as it relates to research on poverty and the economy?
   b. Will successful completion of the project have an impact upon poverty policy arenas?
   c. Is the project significant to the development of a program of scholarly activity relating to poverty and the economy?

3. **Project Design:**
   a. Are the objectives clearly defined, and is the basic question to be answered clearly identified?
   b. Are all necessary facilities or research sites available?
   c. Does the proposer have the necessary background and expertise?
   d. Are project activities well planned, and do they realistically fall within an appropriate timetable?
   e. Does the research further the goals of the Poverty and the
Economy Faculty Research Grants program?

4. **Budget:**
   a. Have all items requested been justified?
   b. Does the budget clearly indicate the extent of unit participation?
   c. Is the amount requested reasonable and consistent with the total funding available to this grant program?
   d. If equipment is requested, has the possibility that it is already available elsewhere on campus been explored?
   e. If support for graduate students is requested, is it clear that their activities are essential to the proposer’s research program?

5. **Appropriateness to this Program:**
   a. Is the proposal consistent with the “seed funding” concept, for which longer-term financial support is sought from external sources?
   b. Will the proposed project lead to further funding from external sources if continued support is needed and normally available in this area of research?
   c. Would it be more appropriate for this proposal to be submitted directly to an external sponsor?

6. **Impact – Use of Research Findings by End Users:**
   a. Who will the research benefit?
   b. How will the research results be implemented after the research is completed?
   c. Who are potential/actual partners in implementation?
   d. When and where will it be implemented?

V. **GENERAL CONDITIONS OF GRANTS**

1. **Time Period:** Grants will ordinarily be made for use during a 12-month period from the date of the grant award.

2. **Continued Eligibility:** It is expected that those who receive a Poverty and the Economy Faculty Research Grant will continue to meet the eligibility requirements as regular faculty or research professionals. Any grant recipient who, because of resignation or any other reason, fails to remain eligible at least through the award year may be required to return the grant.

3. **Reports:** An initial report will be required by the end of the 9th month after the award of the grant summarizing what has been accomplished during the grant period. A final report will be required by the end of the 18th month after the grant was awarded to include information on publications and grant proposals generated as a result of the grant. Forms
for both reports will be distributed to grantees by the University of Georgia Research Foundation, Inc., and can also be found at:
http://www.ovpr.uga.edu/forms/index.html#rf

4. **Duplicate Funding**: If external funding is subsequently obtained to support any of the items requested in the proposal, the grantee must promptly notify the University of Georgia Research Foundation, Inc.

5. **Credits**: Funds for the Poverty and the Economy Faculty Research Grants awarded will come from the University of Georgia Research Foundation, Inc., and any publications resulting from the projects awarded should acknowledge the source of funds.

6. **Other**: All research carried out under the sponsorship of a Poverty and the Economy Faculty Research Grant is subject to all of the university’s standing policies regarding research. In particular, projects involving human subjects, laboratory animals, biohazards, recombinant DNA, etc., must obtain the necessary approvals before commencing work. Money awarded cannot be released until these forms, when appropriate, have been submitted and approved.
APPENDIX

The University of Georgia
Initiative on Poverty and the Economy
Resources for Poverty Research Funding

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<th>U.S. Department of Health and Human Services:</th>
<th><a href="http://www.hhs.gov">http://www.hhs.gov</a></th>
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<tr>
<td>The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is the United States government's principal agency for protecting the health of all Americans and providing essential human services, especially for those who are least able to help themselves.</td>
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<th>GrantsNet</th>
<th><a href="http://www.hhs.gov/grantsnet/">http://www.hhs.gov/grantsnet/</a></th>
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<tr>
<td>GrantsNet is an Internet application tool created by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Office of Grants Management and Policy (OGMP) for finding and exchanging information about HHS and other Federal grant programs. GrantsNet serves the general public, the grantee community, and grant-makers (i.e. state and local governments, educational institutions, non-profit organizations, and commercial businesses). GrantsNet provides a variety of Department-wide grants policies governing the award and administration of grant activities, publishing these in grants policy directives, regulations, and/or manuals.</td>
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<th>ACF</th>
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<td>The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) is a federal agency funding state, territory, local, and tribal organizations to provide family assistance (welfare), child support, child care, Head Start, child welfare, and other programs relating to children and families. Actual services are provided by state, county, city and tribal governments, and public and private local agencies. ACF assists these organizations through funding, policy direction, and information services.</td>
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<td>The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is recognized as the lead federal agency for protecting the health and safety of people - at home and abroad, providing credible information to enhance health decisions, and promoting health through strong partnerships. CDC serves as the national focus for developing and applying disease prevention and control, environmental health, and health promotion and education activities designed to improve the health of the people of the United States. CDC, located in Atlanta, Georgia, USA, is an</td>
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<td>National Institutes of Health:</td>
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<td>The mission of the National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities is to promote minority health and to lead, coordinate, support, and assess the NIH effort to reduce and ultimately eliminate health disparities. In this effort NCMHD will conduct and support basic, clinical, social, and behavioral research, promote research infrastructure and training, foster emerging programs, disseminate information, and reach out to minority and other health disparity communities.</td>
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<th><strong>National Poverty Center:</strong></th>
<th><a href="http://www.npc.umich.edu/opportunities/research_grants/">http://www.npc.umich.edu/opportunities/research_grants/</a></th>
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<tr>
<td>The National Poverty Center at the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy at The University of Michigan. Annually, the NPC provides funds to young scholars to conduct innovative research around a specific area of interest. Preference is given to non-tenured researchers with full-time academic appointments and researchers using new approaches and innovative methods. Recipients are required to present their work at the national research conference in the following year, to place the work in our Working Paper Series, and to be available to participate in dissemination activities based on their research.</td>
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<th><strong>Institute for Research on Poverty:</strong></th>
<th><a href="http://www.irp.wisc.edu/initiatives/funding/usdasgp/guidelines.htm">http://www.irp.wisc.edu/initiatives/funding/usdasgp/guidelines.htm</a></th>
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<td>IRP is a center for interdisciplinary research into the causes and consequences of poverty and social inequality in the United States. As one of three Area Poverty Research Centers sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, it has a particular interest in poverty and family welfare in the Midwest.</td>
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<th><strong>The University of Kentucky Center for Poverty Research:</strong></th>
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<td>The UK Center for Poverty Research (UKCPR) was established in October, 2002 as one of three federally designated Area Poverty Research Centers with core funding from the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE) in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The UKCPR is a nonprofit and nonpartisan academic research center housed in the Department of Economics at the University of Kentucky. The other two Area Centers are the Institute for Research on Poverty at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the Rural Policy Research Institute at the University of Missouri-Columbia.</td>
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The National Poverty Center is located at the University of Michigan.