CFI JELF: Update on Allocation and Internal Process
September 18, 2019

STATEMENT ON COLLABORATION AND SHARED SPACES:

The Office of the Vice-President (Research) strongly encourages the creation of shared research spaces, the use of communal equipment, and the adoption of core facilities whenever possible. All applications for funding of new research infrastructure should seek to establish shared research resources or to add new capabilities to existing core facilities. Such applications will be given a higher priority in adjudication decisions involving the Office of the Vice-President (Research) over applications involving single-users or those with more limited potential for shared use.

1. JELF 2020-2023 Faculty allocation amounts

The CFI has advised that our total institutional JELF allocation for the period of 2020-2023 is $14,425,000. The institutional amount is determined based on the percentage of Tri-agency funding received by UofA compared to the rest of the country in the most recent 3-year period with reporting available. In a similar fashion, the distribution of the institutional allocation across the institution has been determined based on the amount of Tri-agency funding secured by each Faculty.

The last CFI intake for this allocation will be October 2023. In order to effectively make use of the entire amount, faculties are encouraged to select projects early for the full amount available, as the allocation amounts from any unsuccessful applications remain with the institution and there is potential to resubmit applications or to allocate the amounts to other projects. Ideally the full institutional allocation should be earmarked for specific projects by early 2022, with as many proposals as possible being submitted by the June, 2022 CFI intake. Then there will be time to receive results from those submissions and either resubmit or allocate to different projects for submission before the end of the 2022-2023 allocation. Projects that are not ready for submission can also be deferred to a later CFI intake.

Distribution of the 2020-2023 JELF allocation has been approved by the VPR as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ALES</td>
<td>$947,846</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENG</td>
<td>$3,089,899</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FoMD</td>
<td>$4,020,122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCI</td>
<td>$2,585,769</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Faculties</td>
<td>$1,903,075</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategic Priorities</td>
<td>$1,878,289</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$14,425,000</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Faculty-Managed Streams:**

Researchers from the Faculties of Medicine & Dentistry, Science, Engineering, and Agricultural, Life & Environmental Sciences will apply under these streams.

**Review process:** Requests to Apply (RTAs) submitted under these streams will be reviewed by the appropriate Faculty, and recommendations to the VPR as to whether or not the project should go forward are to be submitted to the RSO by the Faculty. Deadlines for submission to RSO will be outlined in the RTA for each CFI intake.
**Resubmissions:** In the event that a proposal is not funded by the CFI, the allocation amount associated with that proposal is not returned to the Faculty-Managed allocation but is held centrally. A request to resubmit the proposal may be submitted for consideration by the VPR through a separate process. The RSO will provide information regarding this process as necessary.

**Centrally-Managed Streams:**

**Review process:** RTAs for the Centrally-Managed Streams are reviewed by the VPR office. Faculties must provide letters of support for submission with the RTA. Final decisions regarding allocation of the Centrally-Managed Stream allocations are made at the discretion of the Vice President (Research).

**Other Faculties Stream (formerly Combined Faculties Stream):** Researchers from all Faculties EXCEPT Medicine & Dentistry, Science, Engineering, and Agricultural, Life & Environmental Sciences may apply under this allocation.

**Strategic Priorities Stream (formerly Emerging Priorities Stream):** Researchers from all Faculties may apply under the Strategic Priorities Allocation Stream. Eligibility Criteria for the Strategic Priorities stream:

- Projects must involve researchers from more than one Faculty. Projects involving only one Faculty should apply under the appropriate Faculty-Managed or Other Faculty Streams.
- Projects must be collaborative, benefiting a broad group of researchers. Demonstration of existing collaborative relationships between participants will strengthen the request.
- Projects must be aligned with an area of strength and strategic importance to the Institution. This includes but is not limited to alignment with the Signature Areas.
- A plan must be in place to ensure that the cross-faculty collaboration will proceed as described. What this looks like will be unique for each project, but may involve existing core facility structure, steering committees, participation in research groups, etc.
- Each Faculty involved in the request must demonstrate support for the project through commitment of a portion of its Faculty-Managed JELF allocation to the project (see below).
- Allocation Request Amount: The CFI contribution to the project will normally be divided equitably between the Strategic Priorities Allocation and the allocation of each of the Faculties involved.
  - E.g. A project involving two Faculties that will benefit users across campus: one-third of the total JELF allocation would come from the Strategic Priorities Allocation, with the remaining allocation being split between the two Faculties. The Faculties may negotiate the amounts to be contributed from their respective allocations.

2. **Standardization of Request to Apply process and release of Internal Request to Apply (RTA) form for June 2020 CFI Intake**

During the 2017-2020 JELF allocation period, a standard Request to Apply (RTA) form was used for the centrally-managed streams while each of the faculties with directly managed allocations were encouraged to develop internal processes for project selection. We found that the projects that completed the RTA form were more prepared to begin working on proposal development when required, while those that did not use the form were often missing key information that was needed to begin working with RSO and/or F&O on key aspects of proposal development. As a result, for the 2020-2023 allocation we are expanding the use of the standardized RTA form to include all streams.
All researchers who are interested in developing a Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) John R. Evans Leaders Fund (JELF) proposal to the CFI submission intake of June 15, 2020 will be required to complete the RTA form.

Please review the DRAFT VERSION of the Request to Apply form for the 15 June 2020 CFI intake. If you have any questions or comments about the form, please provide them to Kara.Allanach@ualberta.ca by no later than Sept 23, 2019 to allow time to clarify the contents prior to the go-live date of the form, which is October 1, 2019.

Detailed instructions for the internal RTA process, including timelines and additional important documents to assist with the development of the RTA, are accessible through the form. You must be logged in using your UofA CCID to access the form.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, please go to the RSO JELF webpage or contact:

Kara Allanach, Manager – Institutional Projects, Ph: 780-492-8936, kara.allanach@ualberta.ca
OR
Nancy Klimczak, Assistant Director – Partnerships and Institutional Projects, Ph: 780-492-1452, nancy.klimczak@ualberta.ca