



UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES
3F, Quezon Hall, Diliman, Quezon City
Tele/Fax: (632) 9264736; 9818500 local 2528 or 2529
Email: ovpaa@up.edu.ph

Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs

4 November 2020

Memorandum No. OVPAA 2020-134

To: UP Faculty and Researchers
Through: Chancellors, Deans, Institute Directors
cc: Vice-Chancellors for Research and Extension/Research and Development
Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs


From: Maria Cynthia Rose Banzon Bautista
Vice-President for Academic Affairs

Subject: Call for applications to the Emerging Interdisciplinary Research Program (EIDR) Cycle 9

The impact of universities on society and the country is now measured in terms of efforts implemented by academe to address the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The 2018 scorecard of the Asia Pacific region in addressing the SDGs for the 21st century showed that despite some progress in addressing the SDGs since 2000, the region still fell way below the 2018 targets. Against this backdrop, the UP System is now calling for applications to the Emerging Interdisciplinary Research Program (EIDR) Cycle 9. Full proposals that address SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being), SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy) and SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) will be considered.

The global COVID-19 pandemic has spurred various research into the treatments, drugs and vaccine in the fight against the virus. The pandemic which placed different parts of the country under community quarantine and the ensuing loss of jobs and economic difficulties did not only impact the health of people. It brought to the fore the need to look after the mental well-being of students, their parents and families during this difficult time. Proposals to address SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being) may consist of research projects to prepare for and battle against epidemics and pandemics, to reduce mortalities from diseases such as tuberculosis, dengue, polio and other diseases.

Due the current COVID-19 pandemic, the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs through the UP System Committee on Remote Learning recognized the opportunities to explore technological solutions for remote learning. Proposals to address SDG 4 must consist

of innovative solutions to facilitate remote learning. These interdisciplinary, multi-disciplinary, inter-CU collaborations for educational-technological solutions must allow for offline access to both teachers and students who have unstable or faulty internet connectivity.

Proposals to address SDG 7 must provide solutions that will ensure access to reliable and sustainable energy especially for vulnerable consumers or those who are affected by power interruptions.

SDG 12 points to the implementation of sustainable consumption and production programs. Proposals on reducing food waste at the retail and consumer levels and on reducing food losses along production and supply chains are invited.

As in previous EIDR projects, each project must not exceed P2.5M per year for 2 years of project implementation. A program proposal may be submitted comprising of a maximum of 4 project components. The proposals will be evaluated by the System Committee on Remote Learning. The shortlisted program/project proposals will be presented to the EIDR Evaluation and Monitoring Committee who will evaluate which projects will be endorsed and recommended for funding.

Attached are the pertinent guidelines and the current research and creative work priority areas. These and the application forms may be downloaded from the OVPAA website (ovpaa.up.edu.ph).

Proponents must provide the names of three external experts who could review their proposal. Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. novelty and intellectual merit of the proposed research and/or creative program
2. significance and broad impact of the priority areas it intends to address
3. strategy and methodology for its execution
4. proponents'/investigators' competence/track record
5. involvement of foreign collaboration
6. feasibility for completion in 2 years, in cases with strong justification, renewable for another 2 years
7. availability of facilities and equipment to the proponents
8. foreign/external counterpart funding

The results of the evaluation will be released within 2 months. Proponents will be informed of the reviewers' comments and suggestions and will be asked to submit revised proposals for final evaluation.

The deadline for submission of proposals is on 7 December 2020.

Thank you.