

Provost's Investment Fund Spring 2022

January 19, 2022



We respectfully acknowledge the University of Arizona is on the land and territories of Indigenous peoples. Today, Arizona is home to 22 federally-recognized tribes, with Tucson being home to the O'odham and the Yaqui. Committed to diversity and inclusion, the University strives to build sustainable relationships with sovereign Native Nations and Indigenous communities through education offerings, partnerships, and community service.

Meeting Notes

- Please ask questions at the end of the presentation by raising your hand or submitting your questions in the Chat at the bottom of your screen.
- The webinar recording and any presentation materials will be available after the meeting at <https://provost.arizona.edu/content/provost-forum>

Panelists

PIF Reviewer:

- Colin Blakely
 - Associate Vice President, Strategic Initiative and Director of School of Art (PIF Fall 2019)

PIF Award Recipients:

- Saumya Debray, PhD.
 - Professor, Computer Science
 - **From Natural Language Contract to Smart Contracts (PIF Fall 2021)**
- Jeong-Yeol Yoon, PhD.
 - Professor, Biomedical Engineering
 - **Medical device Training Program for Undergraduate and Graduate Education (PIF Fall 2021)**

Facts about the Provost's Investment Fund

- The Provost's Investment Fund is designed to ensure that we can be nimble and proactive in funding high-impact projects that align with University's strategic goals and support our ambitions for institutional excellence and distinctiveness.
- Funding comes from the annual allocation from the Responsibility Centered Management (RCM) budget model.
- Spring and Fall cycle for open competitive submissions
- PIF Proposals are peer-reviewed.

Provost's Investment Fund Spring 2022 Cycle

Submission Deadline	Official Response By
12 p.m, February 23, 2022	Early April 2022

- Submit proposal via UA Competition Space <https://arizona.infoready4.com/#provost>
- \$1 million is available to award for Spring 2022
- Eligibility: Full-time Faculty and Staff; Department Heads / Chairs / Directors
- Templates are available in [UA Competition Space](#)

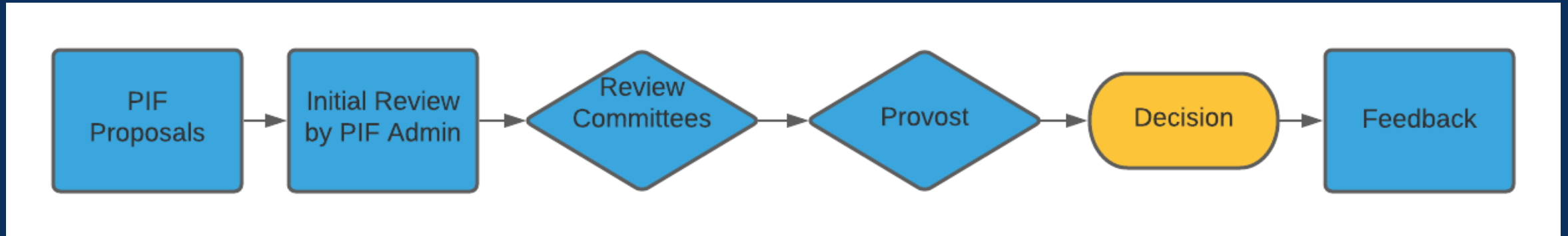
Provost's Investment Fund Spring 2022 Cycle

FAQs

- Funding range from **\$15,000 to \$100,000 per year for a maximum of two years.**
- Funding is based on Fiscal Year – please plan your budget accordingly.
- Approved funding starts in Fiscal Year 2022/2023 (July 1, 2022).
- Leadership buy-ins are required (letter of support from Dept Head and Dean/VP).

Provost's Investment Fund Spring 2022 Cycle

Review Process



Contact Nina Bates at ninaari@arizona.edu if you'd like to serve a PIF reviewer

Evaluation

Weighted Evaluation Criteria

1. Evidence that the request addresses the goals of the Fund and directly supports UArizona's **strategic plan, institutional goals** and **priorities** (20%)
 2. Evidence that the request promotes UArizona's aspirations for institutional **excellence, distinctiveness,** and **inclusivity** (20%)
 3. Evidence that the request promotes **excellence** in the host department and/or college / division and / or support unit (10%)
 4. Likelihood of **high impact** or **return on investment** to UArizona, relative to other submissions (20%)
 5. **Feasibility** of the business plan (practical timeline and budget) and **funding sustainability** plan (30%)
- Each criterion is scored on a scale of 1-5 (1 being the lowest and 5 being the highest).
 - Reviewers will provide feedback on the strengths and weaknesses for each proposal, to be shared with proposers.

Best Practices –Reviewer

Colin Blakely

- Follow the submission guidelines.
- Strongly address / respond to the evaluation criteria.
- Strong business / funding sustainability plan.
- Tell the same story in the budget and proposal narrative.
- Define success: determine the end goals of the proposal and how success is measured.
- Explain the impacts that will flow from the project.

Best Practices – Applicant

Saumya Debray and Jeong-Yeol Yoon

Writing a good proposal

Goal: To tell a persuasive story so that the funder:

–understands* what you plan to do; and

–believes that your plans align with the funding goals

and so is persuaded to provide funds to implement your plans.

*at an appropriate level of detail

Best Practices – Applicant

Saumya Debray and Jeong-Yeol Yoon

Do:	Don't:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Help reviewers understand your plans<ul style="list-style-type: none">– proposal language should be appropriate to the reviewer backgrounds and technical expertise• Explain how your plans match the program goals<ul style="list-style-type: none">– address evaluation criteria carefully	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Obscure your message behind jargon<ul style="list-style-type: none">– For PIF: The administrative letter of support can speak to the technical strength of the proposed work• Make stuff up to impress the reviewer• Fail to address things that need to be addressed

Best Practices – Applicant

Saumya Debray and Jeong-Yeol Yoon

Evaluation criteria:

- 30%: practicality of timeline, budget; funding sustainability
- 20% each:
 - Strategic alignment, institutional goals, funding priorities;
 - Institutional excellence, distinctiveness, inclusiveness;
 - Likelihood of high impact, return on investment
- 10%: promotes excellence in the host department/unit

Proposal sections:

Executive summary:

- Research goals (elevator pitch)
- Tasks (elevator pitch)
- Impact of the work (e.g.: potential for commercialization (if appropriate))
- Follow-on funding

Alignment with UA strategic plan and institutional goals

Alignment with funding priorities

Excellence, distinctiveness, inclusivity

Business plan

Funding sustainability



Competition Space Demo

Nina Bates

PROVOST - CALENDAR

Spring 2022 Provost's Investment Fund PDF

▼ Dates

Internal Submission Deadline: Wednesday, February 23, 2022 at 12:00 pm
[ADD TO CALENDAR](#)

▼ Details

Administrator(s): Office of the Provost (Owner)

Category: Provost Investment Fund

Award Cycle: FY2022

Supporting Documentation: [PIF Spring 2022 Guidelines](#)
[Budget Template](#)
[Letter of Support Template](#)
[PIF Proposal Template](#)

▼ Description

We are pleased to announce that \$1 million is available to award from the Provost's Investment Fund (PIF) for the spring 2022. We are seeking proposals that are innovative, aspirational, and explicitly aligned with the [University's strategic plan](#) and following institutional priorities areas for funding:

- Increasing students' success, graduation, and retention, especially for groups underrepresented within the relevant disciplines.
- Promoting growth and opportunities to generate new revenues for the institution.
- Expanding student experiential learning.
- Enhancing research capacity.
- Promoting diversity and inclusivity.

Funding requests may range between \$15,000 to \$100,000 per year for a maximum of 2 (two) years. The initiative is expected to be financially sustainable through the generation of new resources or the reallocation of other resources after the PIF funding period.

In response to the feedback we received during the previous academic year, we will provide succinct and specific feedback for all proposals that are not funded to help team strengthen future submissions for PIF or other funding sources.

Application Tools

[Apply](#)

Supporting Documentation

[PIF Spring 2022 Guidelines](#)

[Budget Template](#)

[Letter of Support Template](#)

[PIF Proposal Template](#)



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OF ARIZONA

**THANK YOU
&
QUESTIONS**



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