

Dear TC Faculty,

I am pleased to announce we are bringing back the Provost Investment Fund program. A call for proposals for the 2024-2025 academic year is now available on the Office of the Provost website. Building from conversations emerging this year through the TC Commitments Dialogues, and through our Public Good initiatives, we have taken some new directions with the awards. Our hope is that these grants will inspire collaborations between faculty, between faculty and students, and between faculty and staff, and meet new challenges and opportunities in creative ways. Proposals for awards are due **April 1st, 2024**. Decisions will be made by the last day of classes.

We also want to remind faculty of additional grant awards that are available.

You can read more from the links below. If you have any questions about the awards, please contact provostsoffice@tc.columbia.edu.

Provost Investment Funds

The goal of the Provost Investment Funds Program is to support innovative projects that add lasting value to the College. In the 2024 cycle, we will extend our discussions on public good and TC commitment to focus on projects that enhance value for our students, amplify the impact of our scholarship, strengthen our role as reliable partners, and improve our organizational operations. These grants encourage collaboration between faculty, staff and students. They are \$20,000 awards and the proposals are due April 1, 2024.

[Dean's Faculty Diversity Research Awards Program & Fellowship Program](#)

The Office of the Provost and Dean of the College and the Faculty Executive Committee's (FEC) Subcommittee on Race, Culture, and Diversity are pleased to issue a call for proposals for the Dean's Faculty Diversity Research Awards Program and the Dean's Fellowship Program for Teaching and Diversity. The Dean's Faculty Diversity Research Awards Program supports faculty research projects related to diversity for one semester.

Provost Investment Funds

The goal of the Provost Investment Funds Program is to support innovative projects that add lasting value to the College. Drawing from our year-long discussions about commitments to students, scholarship, communities of practice, our role as partners, and our aspiration to evolve into a more effective, agile, inclusive, and innovative organization that serves the public good, we invite project proposals that may fall in one of four categories.

1. **Student Success Initiatives:** Projects that add value for students by expanding opportunities, increasing retention, enrollment, and student success
 - a. Examples:
 - Creation of new revenue-generating certificates, continuing and professional studies series, 4+1 partnerships
 - Signature experiences for students; opportunities to engage with alum, career professionals, leaders and policy-makers
 - Summer Seminar for ABD students

2. **Strategic Partnership Strengthening Initiatives:** Projects that add value by strengthening partnerships between TC and external agencies and that improve our capacity to serve as strong partners
 - a. Examples:
 - TC mini-credentials for our alum on dealing with stress, burnout, loneliness, continued learning for new challenges; Alumni learning circles; webinars and virtual networking opportunities
 - Creation of a community-engagement hub to strengthen coordination and communication of community-engaged work via communications, TC hosted exhibitions, virtual spaces to share projects, CE flash talks, and tracking of consequential outcomes from research projects.

3. **Community Impact Scholarship Enhancement Initiatives:** Projects that expand or accelerate the impact our scholarship can have in communities of practice
 - a. Examples:
 - Research based micro-credential series reviewing the latest work in a field for working professionals
 - Partnerships with external groups to facilitate learning exchange on the latest advances in practice and create new placement and/or learning opportunities for students

4. **Organizational Excellence and Innovation Initiatives:** Projects that seek to improve how we operate as an organization to become more inclusive, innovative, effective, sustainable and agile in responding to challenges and opportunities

a. Examples:

- Projects that improve routine student-facing activities to be more accessible, and supportive of their pathways
- Creation of new ways for faculty to share their research projects and courses with each other virtually

Proposal Submission

Each proposal should be 5 pages or less and include the following:

- A principal investigator (who should be a full-time faculty member at TC), and collaborators (who can be other full-time faculty or staff)
- A description of the proposed initiative and a rationale for how exactly it would add value to Teachers College
- Target audience, and intended outcomes
- A timeline for when and how the project will be implemented
- Metrics of success—how we will know specifically if the project has added value one year later—please be very concrete
- A budget: This grant supports faculty research and scholarship during the Spring and Summer of 2021 by providing up to \$20,000 to be used for budgeted expenses (i.e., summer salary, research assistant, travel, materials, etc.) associated with the proposed research. Funds must be spent in the 2024-2025 academic year.

Preference will be given to proposals that include:

- Collaboration across departments and/or roles/divisions (e.g. between faculty, between faculty and staff, and/or between faculty and students)
- Plans for sustainability—how this project could be institutionalized into TC once the funds are gone
- Clear added value—through revenue-generation, enrollment, added digital and/or improved retention, increased reputation, added organizational capacity, student experience, recruitment, and reach