Tyndall National Institute of Ireland - OSU Institute for Materials Research Partnership Program:
TNI-OSU/IMR Catalyst Funding

Request for Proposals [Spring 2023]

KEY DATES:

Request for Proposals (RFP)	Tuesday, January 10, 2023
Virtual Teaming Open House	Friday, January 13, 2023 – 9:00AM ET / 2:00PM GMT
Proposals Due	Monday, February 27, 2023
Anticipated Award Decisions	Monday, March 20, 2023

POINTS OF CONTACT:

Technical & Reporting Questions	OSU/IMR – Steven A. Ringel, ringel.5@osu.edu TNI – Graeme Maxwell, graeme.maxwell@tyndall.ie
Proposal Submission & Questions	OSU/IMR – Joanna Gardner, gardner.306@osu.edu TNI – Louise Lucey, louise.lucey@tyndall.ie
Fiscal Questions	OSU/IMR – Greg Godic, godic.3@osu.edu TNI – Graeme Maxwell, graeme.maxwell@tyndall.ie

GOALS OF TNI-OSU/IMR CATALYST FUNDING:

- Stimulate collaborative research between TNI and OSU/IMR investigators in areas of mutual interest
- Enable access to core research facilities for partners
- Accelerate and enable joint authorship of scholarly works
- Strengthen jointly authored research proposals through programs such as the NSF & NIH U.S. – Ireland schemes and other third parties, including industry
- Nucleate a broad-ranging **TNI-OSU/IMR Partnership** that over time may include numerous joint research efforts, exchanges of personnel and research sabbaticals

DESCRIPTION OF THE TNI-OSU/IMR CATALYST FUNDING:

This is a new opportunity to accelerate high impact collaborations between colleagues at The Ohio State University's Institute for Materials Research (IMR) and the Tyndall National Institute of Ireland (TNI). Both TNI and IMR recognize that each have many common interests along with

complementary assets, some of which might be unique to one organization. This program aims to greatly increase the success of research by enabling collaborations and access to state-of- the-art research facilities at TNI and IMR.

WHAT IS COVERED BY TNI-OSU/IMR CATALYST FUNDING:

- Facility access and user fees
- Sample preparation, processing, fabrication, and measurement costs
- One trip to the partner site to enable face to face meetings and to strengthen collaboration and knowledge of each other's capabilities. Seminar presentation at partner site expected.

WHAT IS NOT COVERED:

- Subsidizing an existing funded project
- Substituting for other funding opportunities
- Salary, student stipends/tuition, travel outside of the site visit mentioned above, conference attendance, etc.

SCOPE OF FUNDING:

TNI and IMR are committing approximately equivalent matching funds:

- €15K for TNI PI and $15k for OSU PI, per award, including up to €/$2.5k maximum for travel to partner site, if desired
- TNI funds are to be spent at TNI; OSU funds are to be spent at IMR
- Funds must be fully spent within 6 months of award date

EXPECTATIONS:

- Monthly 1-page max technical progress report
- Final report 30 days after project close (2 page technical plus list of pending or current publications and proposals, and a plan for next steps in collaboration)
- Project Management:
    - TNI participants will attend an introduction to project management course (max 2-day duration) if they have not already done so.
    - OSU participants are expected to familiarize themselves with the Project Management for Research Toolkit, to be provided upon award.

PROPOSER ELIGIBILITY:

1. A Principal Investigator (PI) may only submit one proposal in response to this RFP.
2. Each team should be comprised of one PI at OSU/IMR, and one PI (typically a staff researcher or higher) at TNI.
3. All proposed research must be clearly distinct from ongoing externally or internally funded research.
4. If a PI from OSU or TNI is interested in proposing but does not have an established collaboration within the partner institution, we invite you to attend the **Virtual Teaming Open House to be held on Friday, January 13, 2023 – 9:00AM ET / 2:00PM GMT**. Prior

to the event, you must submit the following to Joanna Gardner (gardner.306@osu.edu) via email, at which time a Zoom link will be provided:

a. Contact Info: Name, Title, Department, Email Address
b. Research Area
c. A few lines describing proposal idea to include the relevant facility (or facilities) from the lists below.

ELIGIBLE FACILITIES FOR EXPENSES:

- All IMR-supported core facilities are available. See https://imr.osu.edu/research/facilities/ for complete list of facilities. Preference is given to projects requiring access to one or more of:
  - Nanotech West: https://nanotech.osu.edu/
  - CEMAS: https://cemas.osu.edu/
  - NSL: http://ensl.osu.edu/
  - SEAL: https://seal.osu.edu/
- TNI supported facilities:
  - SP&S facilities – including fabrication, characterization, and analysis
  - https://www.tyndall.ie/services
  - https://www.tyndall.ie/process-and-product-development
  - https://www.tyndall.ie/oacf-characterisation-facility
  - https://www.tyndall.ie/emaf
  - https://www.tyndall.ie/electronics-packaging-and-reliability-services

PROPOSAL FORMAT:

- Title page
  - Project Title
  - Names and contact information for the PIs from both institutions
- Maximum of 3-page proposal consisting of:
  - 200 words or less Executive Summary or Abstract
  - Project Description and Objectives
  - Statement of Work outlining tasks, risks, and schedule
  - Facilities needed
  - Detailed Budget
  - Expected 6-month outcomes
  - Targeted publication and follow-on funding opportunities
- 1 page CV for each PI (not included in page count)

Note 1: IMR will administer its part of the TNI-OSU/IMR Catalyst program under IMR's Global Partnership Grant (GPG) program. IMR's share of each project will be spent within IMR.

Note 2: TNI will administer its part of TNI-OSU/IMR Catalyst program under TNI's Catalyst

Program. TNI's share of each project will be spent within TNI.

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS:

Proposals should be simultaneously submitted as a PDF by email to both OSU-IMR and TNI.

- OSU-IMR Submission Contact: OSU/IMR – Joanna Gardner, gardner.306@osu.edu
- TNI Submission Contact – Louise Lucey, louise.lucey@tyndall.ie

Note 1: Proposals not conforming to the required format and deadlines will not be reviewed.

EVALUATION PROCESS AND CRITERIA:

Proposals will nominally be considered up to twice per year. The selection of awards will be made by the OSU/IMR-TNI leadership team. The proposals will be evaluated based on these criteria:

1. Technical quality and uniqueness – ambition combined with realism.
2. Strategic alignment with TNI and IMR research areas (for IMR see https://imr.osu.edu/signature-areas)
3. Likelihood to lead to near term joint publication and proposal development
4. Capabilities and promise of the proposing team
5. Appropriateness of planned use of funding and executing in less than 6 months