

Birck Nanotechnology Center Kirk Seed Research Grant: Call for 1-page proposal

We are happy to announce a small seed research grant program at Birck Nanotechnology Center for 2018-2019, supported by Birck's Kirk Endowment. Each selected project will receive \$10K (approximately equal to a ¼ RA appointment) for one semester or summer. The goal is to support early-stage work to obtain key preliminary results important for pursuing continued funding support. To be eligible for the seed grant, the project must represent **new** research or collaboration different from what the proposers have already been working on actively, and not part of or continuation of a currently or previously funded research project. The proposal can be submitted by any Birck-affiliated active faculty member, or any Purdue faculty member (on WL campus) not yet affiliated with Birck but collaborating with a Birck-affiliated active faculty member for the seed project. Birck staff scientists can also participate as long as the proposal team contains at least one Purdue faculty member. While single-PI proposals are acceptable, priority will be given to collaborative proposals that will involve participation of faculty members from different disciplines, or will enable faculty member(s) not currently affiliated with Birck to become actively involved in Birck research.

Timeline: We will accept proposals 3 times a year, for projects during the Fall'18, Spring'19 and Summer'19. The corresponding due dates for the 1-page proposal and report are listed in the table below. We expect to support ~1 seed project for each target period, depending on the number and quality of the proposals received. Based on the interests and outcome in 2018-2019 we will evaluate whether and how to continue (or even expand) the program in future years.

Proposal due date	Target project period	Project report due date
07/10/2018	Fall 2018	End of Spring 2019
11/10/2018	Spring 2019	End of Summer 2019
3/31/2019	Summer 2019	End of Fall 2019

Proposal: 1-page including figures and references. There is no fixed format, but please make it readable. In the proposal please briefly describe: 1) motivation of the research; 2) research objectives over longer term; 3) specific near-term work that will be performed during the seed grant period (one semester or summer); 4) strategies to pursue continued funding to support the work based on the preliminary results obtained by the seed grant; 5) conceptual budget (up to \$10K). Please also justify how the project qualifies as new research/collaboration, and may contribute to grow Birck research portfolios, capabilities and interdisciplinary synergies etc.

Report: Before the end of the subsequent semester (or summer), the PI of the seed project funded during the previous semester (or summer) should submit a 1-page report on the activities and accomplishments, including efforts made to pursue continued funding support. Timely submission of the reports is a prerequisite for the PI to be eligible for future Birck seed grants.

Submission: the 1-page proposal/report and any questions/comments related to the seed research grant program should be submitted by email to the Associate Director of Research for Birck Nanotechnology Center at (yongchen@purdue.edu) and Cc:< jjturner@purdue.edu >.