CALS Innovation Venture Investment Program

The iViP funds novel and potentially transformative research in any area of inquiry that has the potential to fundamentally change our understanding of an important principle or paradigm, and/or involves a significant technology advance. Successful proposals will often involve levels of innovation and risk that precludes support by standard external funding mechanisms. Proposals should present a compelling case for sustained activity after the funding period through external financial support and/or commercialization.

Award Duration and Amount:
The period of support is typically from six months to two years; maximum support is $90,000 per project.

Eligibility:
Applications will be accepted from faculty (i.e., tenured, tenure-track, continuing, continuing-eligible or non-tenure-track research) who hold a primary appointment in any CALS unit. Applicants must have a research appointment, an ORCID digital identifier, and be up to date with UA COI/COC training and disclosure requirements. All individuals funded through this mechanism must be ALVSCE employees.

Important Dates:
Submission Deadline: May 15*
Award Notifications: June 15*
*if selected date falls on a weekend or holiday, deadline will be moved to the next business day

Application Process: Submit the following documents in a single pdf to zaidaz@arizona.edu:

- Proposal Title
- Abstract: 250 words or less
- Proposal Narrative: Format is intentionally flexible though narratives should not exceed five pages in length, either in the format of a standard grant proposal or a white paper
- References Cited
- Budget:
  - should provide enough information to clearly communicate and justify all project costs
  - personnel costs are allowable with the exception of UArlona faculty and personnel at other institutions
- CV of PI and any co-PIs (short version with information most relevant to the proposal; approximately 5 pages recommended)

Review Criteria:

- the project should be novel and have the potential for transformative outcomes and significant impact
- the project should not be presently funded in whole or part from other sources
- the project should not extend other funded projects in order to obtain preliminary data for a grant proposal or a grant proposal resubmission.
- there should be evidence that the project will create significant sustained activity beyond the funding period (grant, contract, company launch etc).

Terms of Award:
- project leads are required to present a mid-project update and a 1-2-page final report describing project outcomes and next steps