### vcuarts QATAR

# ESTABLISHING AN INTERNAL GRANT PROGRAM FOR FACULTY

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Melissa Throckmorton, MPA, Director of Research, Development, and Strategic Projects at VCU.



## **Our Conversation:**

- WHO WE ARE
- CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS
- IMPLEMENTATION:
  - VCUARTS QATAR
  - VCU Monroe Park and Health Sciences Campuses
- CONCLUSION
- Q&A





## Who Are We?

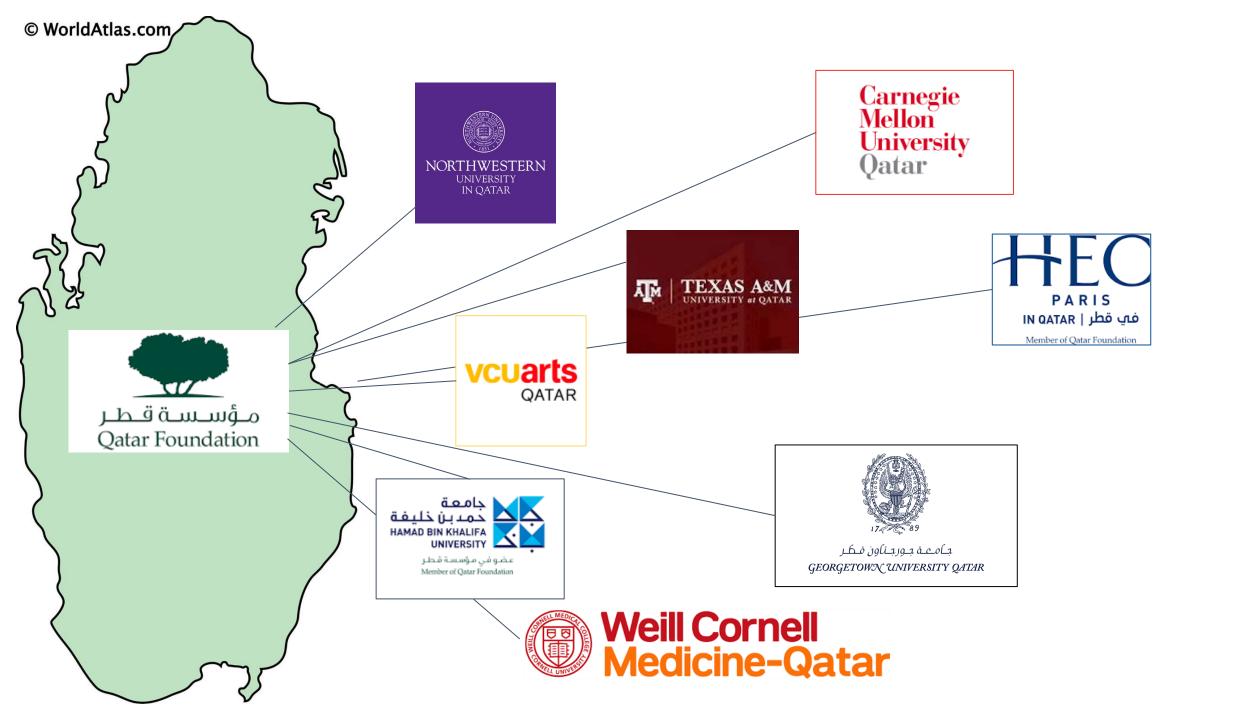






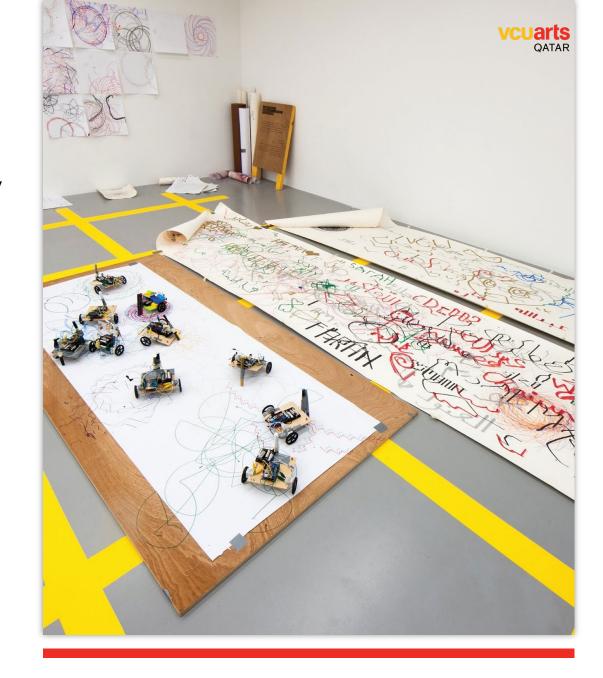
#### **QATAR LOCATION MAP**





#### INSTITUTIONAL FACTS

- » VCUArts Qatar is international Branch Campus of VCU
- » Established in 1998- and celebrating its 25th anniversary
- » A top-ranked art and design program in the U.S.
- » Offer five bachelor's programs:
  - BFA Graphic design
  - BFA Interior Design
  - > BFA Fashion Design (Last Batch)
  - BFA Painting and Printmaking
  - BA Art History
- » 1 MFA Master of Fine Arts
- » 60 faculty-309 students enrolled from 41 different nationalities



## INSTITUTIONAL FACTS University -Wide External Research

- » 3 main campuses: Monroe Park, Health Sciences, VCUArts Qatar
- » FY2023 \$464.6 million total sponsored funding: 71% increase over 2018 and a 14% increase over FY2022.
- » VCU Massey Comprehensive Cancer Center now 1 of 2 NCI-designated Comprehensive Cancer Centers in Virginia, and 1 of 56 in the U.S.
- » \$27.5 million/7-year award Wright Regional Center for Clinical and Translational Science (CSTS): VCU, Eastern Virginia Medical School, Old Dominion University and Virginia State University.







#### **RESEARCH AT**

#### **VCUARTS QATAR**

- » Research is an integral part of VCU's mission.
- » Seed funding programs provide:
  - > The opportunity to conduct research critical to attracting and retaining a high caliber of faculty.
  - To advance VCU as a community of nationally and internationally recognized scholars and researchers in the arts, humanities, and sciences.
  - Funding comes from the dean's funds, which allocate \$100k to provide the funding support.
  - Small institutions often have to rely on available resources, such as the technology services department and online tools, to facilitate the application process.
  - Large Institutions leverage their eRA systems to support their internal funding competitions.

## **Challenges and Solutions**





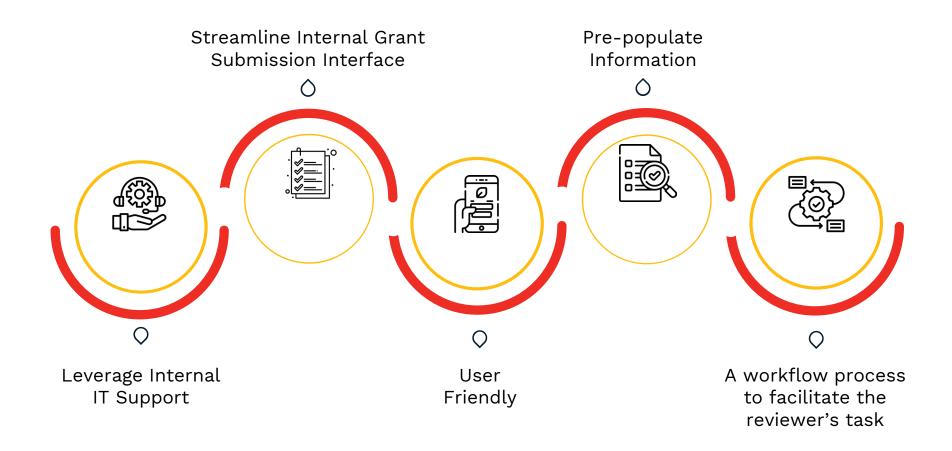


#### **APPLICATION PROCESS PRIOR 2015**





#### IMPROVE FUNDING PROCESS



# Implementation: VCUArts Qatar







#### INTRANET PORTAL

Moved to digital funding process, thus improving time consumed in applying and vetting as well as application consistency.

Removed
department/program chair
from the approval process,
increased the speed of
proposal screening and
removing administrative
burden on chairs.

Qualities of current and previous proposals have improved by introducing fixed templates for applications.→ The outcome of this new process has resulted in clear understanding by faculty of the goals to be met as well as transparent communication of the vetting process.

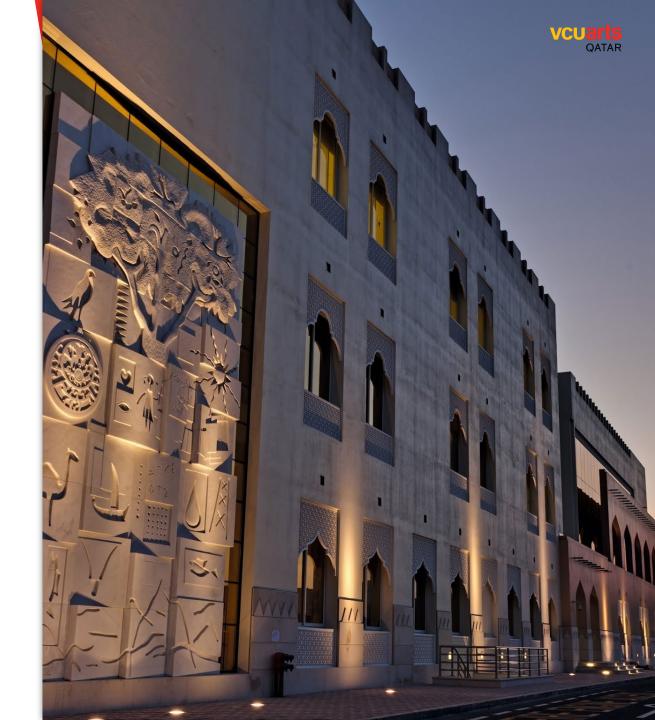
#### **JOT FORM**

We also used third party tools to streamline applications → Jot form

The application was clear with respect to amount of information that was required, for example Narrative was

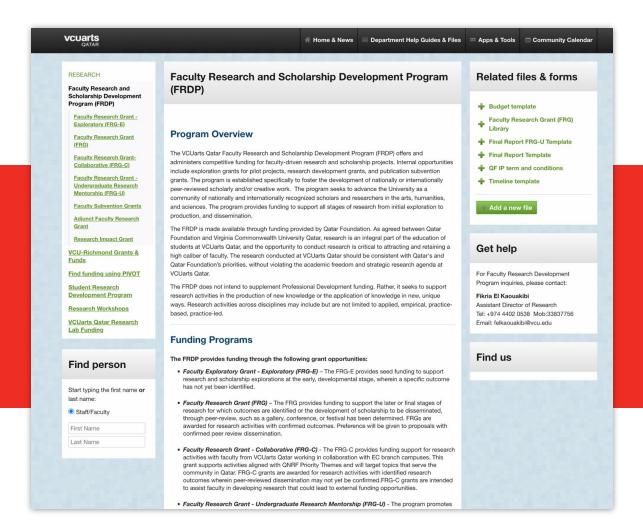
750 words.

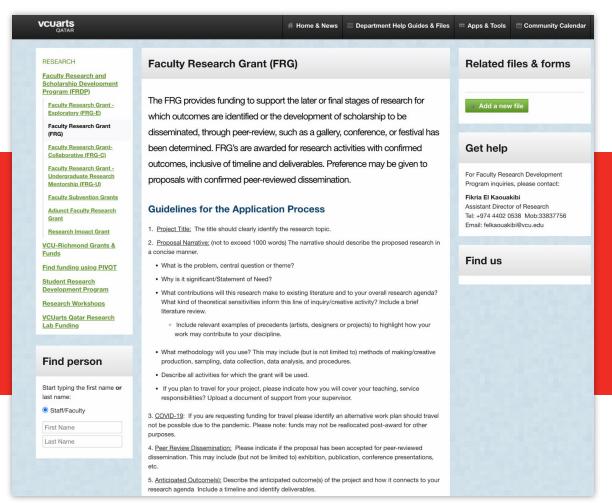






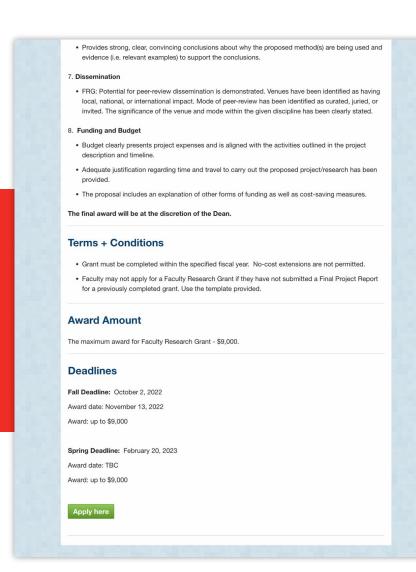
#### **EXAMPLE**







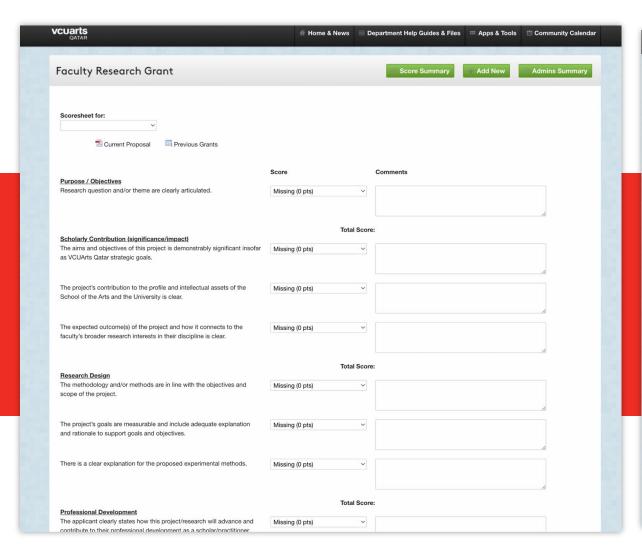
#### **EXAMPLE**

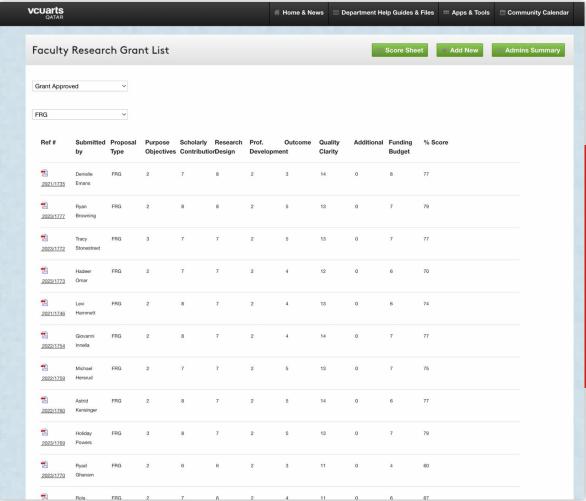


vcuarts QATAR	# Home & News	■ Department Help Guides & File	Apps & Tools	☐ Community Calendar
Faculty Research Grant		Score Summary	Score Sheet	Admins Summary
Principle Investigator*:  Email*:  Proposal Type*:  Title*: In no more than 100 words, summarize your proposed project. If awarded, this text was a summarize to the control of the contro	rill be used for announ	cing your grant on our website.		
Project Narrative*: In 1000 words or less, describe your proposed project related to the exhibition, perfo and intellectual assets of the School and the university. If you plan to travel for your part of the school and the university of the school and the university of the school and the university.				ur field, to the profile
				6
Proposal  Please upload proposal here  Upload only pdf files:				
Choose File No file chosen				



#### **EXAMPLE**





# Implementation: VCU Monroe Park and Health Sciences Campuses





## ONCVCU RESEARCH



#### **Catalysts To The Present**

- » 2010 2021: Presidential Research Quest Fund (PeRQ)
  - \$500,000 administrative investment
  - Unit required cost share 40%
  - > Fund provides 60%
- » 2015 moved to electronic applications (eRA RAMS-SPOT)
  - Systems Include conflict of interest/research compliance and approval/sponsored programs/ordering
- » 2015 2019
  - 99 total research projects
  - > \$2.6M in PeRQ and \$1.9M unit cost share
  - \$4.5M leveraged into \$29.5M external funding
  - > ROI = 6.6:1 (July 2016 June 2021)
- » ROI + <u>One VCU Research Strategic Plan</u> + <u>Quest 2028: Together We</u>
  <u>Transform Strategic Plan</u> + Administrative/BOV Support = **Fully Implemented Internal Funding Initiative**



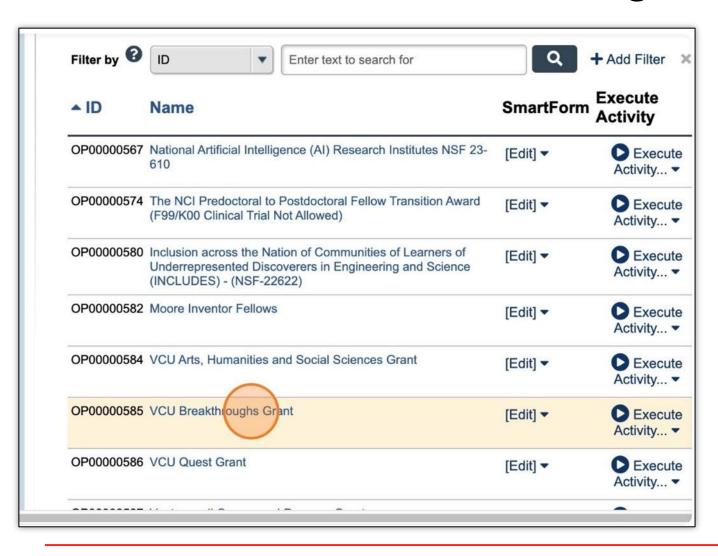
#### RAMS-SPOT PORTAL

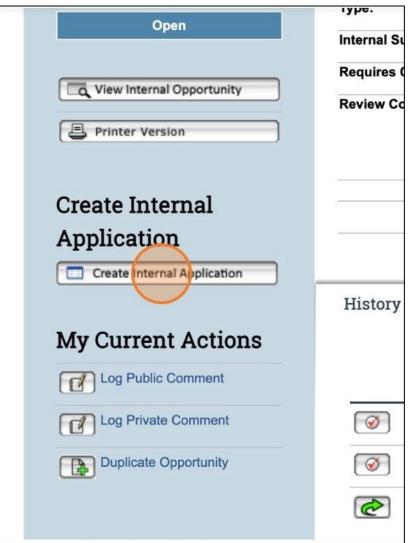
Moved to digital funding process, replaced forms with online application questions, streamline application packet format as well as application consistency.

Added electronic routing (copy of external approval by department chairs and unit AORs) increasing flexibility.

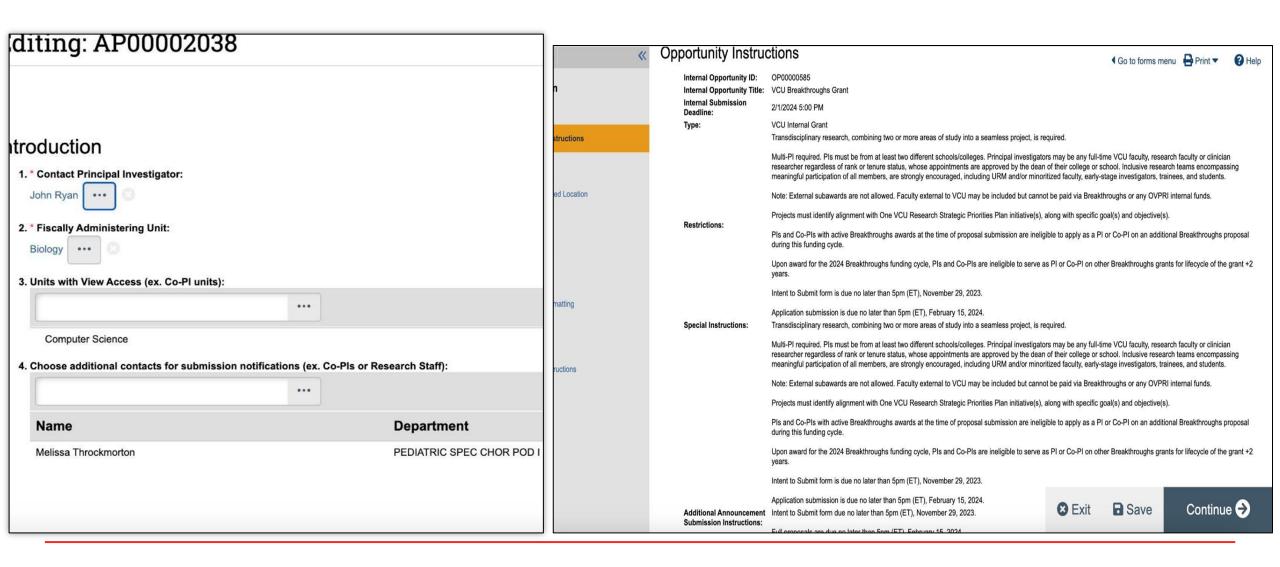
Quality of current and previous proposals have improved by introducing fixed templates for applications.→ The outcome of this new process has resulted in clear understanding by faculty of the goals to be met as well as transparent communication of the vetting process.















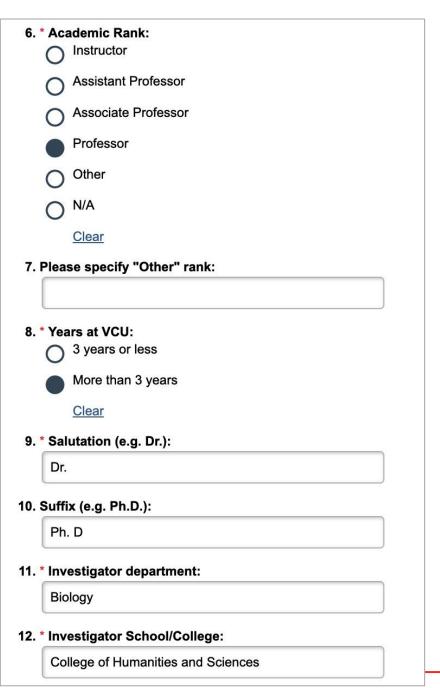
Info	nation Only - SRAI Conference
	s a Revised Application:
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Class	
<u>Clea</u>	
	this project involve community engagement: s
Clea	
4. * Wil	ny part of this project be conducted outside the US:
Clea	
5. * Wil	his project involve students (undergraduate or graduate) and/or post docs:
	s
0	
Clea	
* If y	, which will be involved:
	/iew Undergraduate Students
<b>~</b>	
~	view Graduate Students

	g the human experience
Achievin	g a just and equitable society
O Optimizin	ng health
O Supporti	ng sustainable energy and environments
O None	
Clear	
project suppo	ndary initiatives of the Strategic Research Priorities Plan (for more information about the initiatives: https://research.vcu.edo prt? (Select all that apply): g the human experience
Enrichin  Achievir	ort? (Select all that apply):  g the human experience  ng a just and equitable society
□ Enrichin □ Achievir □ Optimizi	ort? (Select all that apply):  g the human experience  ng a just and equitable society  ing health
□ Enrichin □ Achievir □ Optimizi	ort? (Select all that apply):  g the human experience  ng a just and equitable society
□ Enrichin □ Achievir □ Optimizi	ort? (Select all that apply):  g the human experience  ng a just and equitable society  ing health
□ Enrichin □ Achievir □ Optimizi □ Support	ort? (Select all that apply):  g the human experience  ng a just and equitable society  ing health
project support Enrichin Achievir Optimizi Support None	ort? (Select all that apply):  g the human experience  ng a just and equitable society  ing health



	This project is:  Single Investigation									
	Multi-invest	igator (co-Principal Investigators)								
	Clear									
2. *	Add all Princip	al Investigators, Co-Investigators, and	d other indiv	duals associated with	this project:					
	+ Add									
		FirstLastRole	Other Role	School, College, or Unit	Campus PO Box	Email	Tenure Status	Academic Rank	Other Rank	Years VCU
	☑ Update	Milos Manic Principal Investigator/Co- Principal Investigator		Computer Science	PO Box 843019	mmanic@vcu.edu	Full-time, tenured	Professor		More th years
	☑ Update	John Ryan Principal Investigator/Co- Principal Investigator		Biology	PO Box 842012	jjryan@vcu.edu	Full-time, tenured	Professor		More th
3. *	Requested pro	ject start date:								
	7/1/2024									
4. *	Requested pro	ject end date:								
- 1	6/30/2026									
	By selecting Ye Yes No	es, you confirm the FIR is updated in t	he AIRS sys	tem for all COI investi	gators:					
	ileai									

#### Personnel 1. \* Select the individual: John Ryan 2. \* Role on Project: Principal Investigator/Co-Principal Investigator Co-Investigator Collaborator Other (specify) Clear 3. Other role on project: 4. \* School, College, or Unit: ... Biology 5. \* Tenure Status: Full-time, tenured Full-time, tenure-track Full-time, non tenure-track N/A







13. * Fiscal administrator for this investigator:	
Melissa Throckmorton State of the state of t	
14. * Chair of the Investigator:	
Rima Franklin •••	
15. * Associate Research Dean for this investigator (can be found on the VCU Research Development Advisory Council we	ebsite):
Angela Reynolds •••	
16. * Dean for this investigator:	
Catherine Ingrassia •••	
17. * Does this investigator have a financial or non-financial relationship with an external entity that may be in conflict with include: paid or unpaid consulting for a company or organization interested in the research; holding an ownership into organization interested in the research.):	
Yes No Clear	Requested by RAs on
	the Research
18. % Project Effort (leave this blank if you are submitting to a limited submission):	Strategic Plan
3	Advisory Council. Two
	RA members.Also
19. % Salary Requested (leave this blank if you are submitting to a limited submission):	included on the
1	budget form.



AP000020 Information Only - SRAI Conferen

#### **Funding Details**



\$200,000.00

2. \* Has support for this or a similar project been requested from other internal sources (e.g. Cancer Center, Council for Community Engagement) or from external agencies (e.g. National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation, Spencer Foundation) within the last year:

O Yes



Clear



#### Submission Formatting Criteria

Refer to the VCU Breakthroughs Grant RFA for all content and formatting requirements. No page numbers are required.

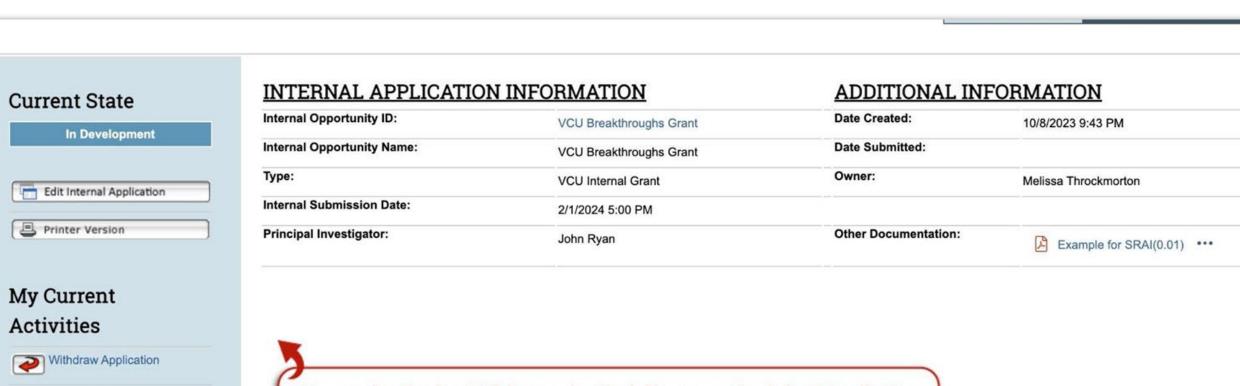
Find the Intent to Submit form link in the RFA. Intent to Submit form is due no later than 5pm (ET), November 19, 2023.

Find VCU Breakthroughs Application and blank Biosketch forms under "additional documents".

Upload ALL application documents via a single PDF file including:

- 1. VCU Breakthroughs Application
- 2. Biosketch form (complete for all PI(s) and Co-I(s) as applicable)





Your application has NOT been submitted. Please use the *Submit Application* activity to the left of this workspace to start the application process or use the *Withdraw Application* activity to withdraw the application.

(Internal Application Workspace)

Log Public Comment

Submit Application

History Changes

Personnel



Name		
here are no items to display	/	
Select the dean level units	that need to approve this application:	
	Approver(s)	
Jnit	Applotoi(o)	
<b>Jnit</b> There are no items to display		

Meant to expedite application approval and so that Deans and AORs are aware of both actual project effort and effort requesting salary. Lesson learned is it actually slows the process. Many PIs are running again the clock and do not plan for this around internal applications. So it actually increased administrative burden. It is an ongoing but slow culture shift.

#### oneVCU Research Funding - FY 2024 Round Operational Timeline (at-a-glance)

Fund Name	Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences	VCU Breakthroughs	VCU Quest	
RFA Release	September 15, 2023	September 15, 2023	September 15, 2024	
Campus Open Office Hours for RFA Questions October 10, 2024		October 10, 2024	October 10, 2024	
Intent to Submit Deadline	November 1, 2023	November 29, 2023	n/a	
Submission Deadline	January 19, 2024	February 1, 2024	March 15, 2024	
First layer of reviews  Who Review Period Meeting  Second layer of reviews	<ul> <li>Subject Matter Experts</li> <li>February 2 - 20, 2024</li> <li>Meeting: February 28-March 1, 2024</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Subject Matter Experts</li> <li>February 2 - 20, 2024</li> <li>Meeting: February 28-March 1, 2024</li> </ul> <ul> <li>Advisory Council</li> <li>April 4 - 19, 2024</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>ReDAC School/Colleges</li> <li>April 2 - 16, 2024</li> <li>Meeting: n/a</li> </ul> ReDAC members	
Who Review Period Meeting	174	<ul> <li>April 4 - 19, 2024</li> <li>April 22-24, 2024</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>April 19 - 26, 2024</li> <li>Meeting: May 1 or June 5, 2024</li> </ul>	
Executive Level reviews Who Review Period Meeting	<ul> <li>Provost/VPRI</li> <li>March 12 - 26, 2024</li> <li>Meeting: March 27-April 2, 2024</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>VPRI/Provost/Interim Senior Vice President, VCU Health Sciences &amp; Interim CEO, VCU Health System</li> <li>May 3 - 17, 2024</li> <li>Meeting: May 20 - 24, 2024</li> </ul>	• n/a	
Notice out	April 2024	June 2024	June 2024	
Award date/start	May 15, 2024	July 1, 2024	July 1, 2024	

#### oneVCU Research Funding - FY 2024 Round (at-a-glance)

**VCU Breakthroughs** 

VCU Quest

Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

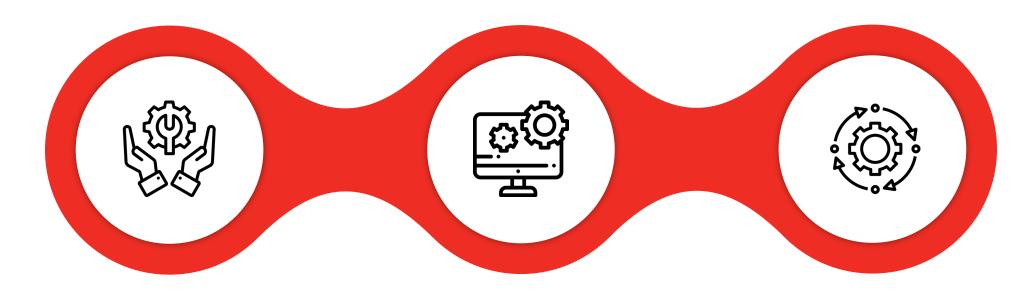
project

**Fund Name** 

RFA Release	September 22, 2023	<b>September 22, 2023</b>	September 22, 2024
Campus Open Office Hours for RFA Questions	October 10, 2024	October 10, 2024	October 10, 2024
Intent to Submit Deadline	November 1, 2023	November 29, 2023	n/a
Submission Deadline	January 19, 2024	February 1, 2024	March 15, 2024
Notification	April 2024	June 2024	June 2024
Award date/start	April 15, 2024	July 1, 2024	July 1, 2024
Per submission funding:	Up to \$10k per eligible project	Up to \$200k	Up to \$50k
Cost-share	OVPRI 50% and Provost 50%	OVPRI 100%	OVPRI 75% and Unit 25%
Award Term	Up to 12 months	Up to 24 months	Up to 18 months
Est. # Awards	Up to 12 awards	Up to 14 awards	Up to 22 awards
Fund Release Schedule	100% of funding released at project start	Year 1 funds are released in accordance with proposed budget. Year 2 funds released following successful mid-term report.	Year 1 funds are released in accordance with proposed budget. Year 2 funds released following successful mid-term report.
Category	Pilot/Small project funds for part of a larger	Large scale program funding	Seed funding



#### CONCLUSION



Leverage IT support to make internal funding efficient and user friendly Use third party software to make your work easier and more streamlined

Involve all parties to get the buy in of the new system by introducing them to the new system.



## VCUarts QATAR

Q&A

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

**Contact us for further inquiries** 

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## **MELISSA**



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