Joint Impact Acceleration Account: internal funding call

Deadline 7th July for Expressions of Interest

Digital Futures
We are inviting expressions of interest from any academic colleagues looking to work together on cross-disciplinary projects and collaborate with non-academic external partners from any sector to accelerate the impact of their research.

Please note, the funding is not for primary research, but to accelerate the impact of research.

Applicants can apply for small grants of £3-5,000 up to large grants of £10-15,000.
Projects requesting over £15,000 will require some external partner cash contribution.

Theme
The theme of this call is focused around:

- Social science researchers collaborating with engineering and physical sciences researchers in fields such as digital media, data or technology together with external non-academic partners.
- Collaborations that incorporate a social, economic, political, cultural or community perspective.
- Collaborations that take a holistic view of the application and impact of digital media, data or technology to realise the benefits of digital applications, or the challenges e.g. digital inequalities.

Criteria
Applications should:

- Be cross-disciplinary partnerships – intra or inter-faculty – between physical and social sciences (if required, we can help you to identify a suitable partner from another discipline).
- Have a well-balanced social-physical sciences collaboration.
- Have a named external non-academic partner(s).
- Explain how the project builds on previous EPSRC funded research or appointments; this only applies to the applicants from EPSRC disciplines. (Please get in touch to discuss if unsure).

Process
1. **You are invited to submit a short expression of interest** (please see further information in the section below).
2. **Selected applicants will be invited to attend an online facilitated collaboration workshop** to explore your impact project ideas and collaborating with colleagues from other disciplines and external partners.
3. **You will be invited to an online pitch session** to present your joint proposal for cross-disciplinary collaboration to the funding panel.
4. **Decisions will be announced**, and grants will be awarded to successful project teams following the pitch session. All funding awards will be subject to the completion of a project plan and Head of Department approval.
**Timeline**

- **7 July** – deadline for expressions of interest – please send via email to esrciaa@lancaster.ac.uk
- **13 July** – Facilitated Collaboration Workshop
- **Two weeks** to develop your idea and project proposal. Support will be available including a facilitated ‘pitch perfect’ skills session ready for the final step.
- **27 July a.m. Pitch Session** – invitation to make a short 5-minute pitch of your joint cross-disciplinary proposal to the funding panel and answer any questions.
- **Decisions announced on 27 July.**

For any queries please contact us by emailing esrciaa@lancaster.ac.uk

**Expression of Interest**

Please visit the [website page](#) for context and to understand the impact acceleration funding opportunity (this refers to an application form, however for this funding opportunity you are not required to complete the application form).

Please submit the following template in a word document and email to esrciaa@lancaster.ac.uk by the end of 7 July 2021.

Please provide a brief outline of the proposed collaboration using the following headings (500 words in total between headings 3 and 4):

1. **Names of staff**
   (Include job title, discipline and department for each)

2. **External non-academic partner organisation(s)**
   (Name of organisation; type of organisation; named contact; address/location)

3. **Summary of the proposed project activity**
   (Title, key objectives and proposed impact activity; link to EPSRC research or appointments if applicable)

4. **The link to your research**
   (A brief non-specialist summary of the research to be applied)

5. **Start date and duration**
   (Estimated)

6. **Impact and benefits**
   (Anticipated impact and benefits for academic team and your external partner(s))

7. **Funding amount requested**

If you are not sure if your proposed project will be eligible, please get in touch to discuss this with us first esrciaa@lancaster.ac.uk

*Thank you for your interest in the call.*