

President's Cup
Promoting Creative Interdisciplinarity
2015 Announcement

Oklahoma State University's President's Cup recognizes and rewards creative interdisciplinary instruction, research, and/or service.

Interdisciplinary teams are invited to submit projects for consideration. Complete applications must be submitted electronically by the close of business on Friday, September 18, 2015, and will include a Cover Page and Project Prospectus summarizing (1) the interdisciplinary project on which the team has been working, (2) the extent and nature of the interdisciplinarity (3) the main results of the project, and (4) the implications of the project for supporting the land-grant mission of the University. The project must be either ongoing or have been completed within the most recent calendar year (January 2014 - the present).

For the purposes of this competition, "interdisciplinary" is defined as a project that crosses, at minimum, two academic departments/schools within a college. The project may, but does not have to, involve two or more colleges within the University. Each project team must involve at least two OSU faculty members (tenure track, clinical and/or research appointments).

Each year up to three prizes may be awarded. The President's Cup will rotate to the First Prize winner. First Prize will also include \$5,000 for professional development. Second and Third Prize, if awarded, will be \$3,000 and \$2,000, respectively, also for professional development. See the *Frequently Asked Questions* for the monetary award distribution. All winning team members will receive a certificate recognizing their achievement in the year's competition.

Winners will be recommended by a committee chaired by the Associate Provost of Graduate Education and may be composed of faculty, administrators, and/or others as chosen by the President or his designee. Winners will be announced at the University Awards Convocation in the fall. Decisions will be final.

The required Cover Page and "Frequently Asked Questions" document are attached. Questions about the competition should be directed to Dr. Sheryl Tucker, Associate Provost of Graduate Education.

President's Cup
Promoting Creative Interdisciplinarity
2015 Frequently Asked Questions

1. For the purposes of this Competition, what is creative interdisciplinarity?

Creative interdisciplinarity synthesizes or combines the information, knowledge, ideas, approaches, etc. of two or more fields in new, imaginative and unexpected ways, resulting in original or novel frameworks and perspectives. In contrast, multidisciplinary incorporates distinct ideas from more than one field, but the approach is not integrated.

2. When is the due date?

Applications must be submitted electronically to grad.dean@okstate.edu by “close of business,” which is 5 pm central time on Friday, September 18, 2015.

3. Where are paper copies of the Application submitted?

No paper copies of the Application are requested or required.

4. What electronic file format may be submitted?

Files should be submitted as e-mail attachments as either pdf or Microsoft Word.

5. How will the receipt of the Application be acknowledged?

Receipt of Applications will be acknowledged via an email “reply to all” to those listed on the proposal submission message.

6. Is the Cover Page included in the five page limit?

No, the cover page is separate from the page limit. The Prospectus is limited to five pages.

7. What are the formatting requirements for the Prospectus?

All pages in the Prospectus (this does not include the Cover Page items) must be double-spaced, 1” margins, and 12 pt. font. If literature citations are included, they may be 10 pt. font.

8. Is the Cover Page allowed to be more than one page?

Yes, please include all the information that is requested. Because of the variability in team composition, abstracts, etc., the Cover Page may be longer than a single page.

9. Does the Cover Page information need to be repeated in the body of the five page prospectus?

No, the cover page information need not be repeated within the body of the proposal; however, aspects may be included as needed to add clarity to the proposal.

10. With respect to this Competition, what defines faculty?

The term faculty is inclusive of all OSU (Stillwater, Tulsa, and Center for Health Sciences) faculty in tenured/tenure-track, clinical and/or research positions.

11. Who may be included on the project team?

Project teams may recognize contributions from undergraduate or graduate students, postdoctoral associates, external collaborators, etc. However, at least two faculty members from OSU, as defined above, must be on the project team. Please note teams that comprise of members all from similar disciplines (or colleges in some cases) may lessen the impact and perceived extent of the interdisciplinarity.

12. What level of technical writing is appropriate for the Application?

The review committee will be composed of a diverse group of individuals. It may include faculty, staff, students, alum, and/or community members. Given the disciplinary diversity inherent in interdisciplinary projects, Applications should avoid unnecessary jargon and be clearly written for an educated lay audience.

13. Does the project have to incorporate instruction, research, and service?

No, projects may focus on just one or on multiple parts of our mission. However, the most compelling projects will reach across all or multiple aspects of OSU's mission.

14. Is there a limitation on the number of submitted Applications a person can be involved with in the Competition?

No, a person may be involved in multiple projects and listed on multiple teams. Please note that each Application must be distinctly different and cannot be a smaller subset of a larger project. All such submissions will be disqualified.

15. Will preference be given to projects that integrate more than one aspect of OSU's mission?

Yes, the most compelling projects will reach across all or multiple aspects of OSU's mission and capture the spirit of the Award.

16. How specific should the results of the project be?

The results and implications of the successful, creative interdisciplinary projects should be spelled out and be as specific as possible. For example, one might list publications, presentations, students trained, student placements, performances, demonstrations, faculty recognitions or awards.

17. Will preference be given to projects that cross colleges?

Potentially, as the most compelling interdisciplinary projects integrate multiple disciplines. Activities and impacts that capture the spirit of the Award will be the most compelling.

18. May projects include external collaborations?

Yes, projects may include external collaborators.

19. Can an external collaborator be substituted for one of the “two or more” academic departments/schools/colleges?

No, each project team must involve at least two faculty members as defined above.

20. Can an external collaborator be substituted for one of the “two” OSU faculty members?

No, each project team must involve at least two OSU faculty members as defined above.

21. Will external collaborations be given preference?

There is no preference for particular types of projects. Activities and impacts that capture the spirit of the award will be the most compelling.

22. May winning entries reapply in subsequent years?

Projects awarded First Prize are ineligible for subsequent competitions in perpetuity. Minor modifications of projects that have won First Prize are ineligible for future competitions.

23. How will monetary awards be distributed?

The funds from the monetary award will be transferred to a single account designated by the team lead after the Award announcement is made.

24. How can I appeal the Award decision?

Decisions are final.