This is a solicitation for proposals through the Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (PScCoR) to be awarded in Fall 2017 with a 12-month performance period. The purpose of PScCoR is to provide funding for activities that will lead to external funding for research. Please note that this RFP is only for faculty who plan to re-submit a proposal that has not already been funded by a federal agency. Funding will be available to successful applicants starting July 1, 2017. Questions should be directed to Deanna.Whorton@mail.wvu.edu or 304-293-5913. This RFP and the required Cover Page can also be obtained at http://research.wvu.edu/researchers/funding/internal-grants, along with the internal evaluation forms.

Guidelines for proposal preparation:

- You should provide copies of the panel summary and external reviewers’ comments for the original proposal in their entirety. List the agency for the original submission, an interpretation of the grading scale (i.e., for 1-5, is 5 excellent? Or is 1 excellent?) and the amount of the original request. Do not include a copy of the original proposal.
- Description of proposed work is limited to three pages and should include:
  - A brief project description written for a non-specialist. The internal reviewers do not get copies of the original proposal, thus this description needs to stand alone.
  - your response(s) to the funding agency reviewers’ comments;
  - and an abbreviated budget (note: faculty summer salary is limited to the lesser of one months salary or $10,500, including benefits). Include specific explanation of how the funds requested from the Research Office will address the concerns of the referees and lead to a successful resubmission.

Conservative budgets may improve competitiveness and should not exceed $25,000. Include fringe benefits on all salaries. Do not include any F&A costs. Equipment is not an allowable expense, unless it is supported by cost share from the department or college. Salaries for non-WVU partners will not be covered. Consider carefully, the timing of your subsequent resubmission and allow a sufficient duration for this work to be completed.

- Separately you should attach:
  - any references you desire to include,
  - the completed PScCoR cover page, 
  - a bio-sketch for the PI and co-PIs in the format of the relevant funding agency (e.g., 4-pages for NIH, 2-pages for NSF, etc.),
  - and the outcome of any previous (last 5 years) of PScCoR funding received by any of the PIs/co-PIs.

Any proposal missing any of the required items listed above, exceeding the length limit or exceeding the bio-sketch length limit will be returned without review. Each proposal must be forwarded electronically through the Dean/Director of the Principal Investigator (PI). The most significant review criterion is to what extent the requested PScCoR funds will contribute to subsequent federal funding for the research activity. See internal evaluation sheet available online. Successful PScCoR applicants will agree to submit for pre-review to the Research Office the revised resubmission relevant to this application, and to complete a final report on research developments and progress on external award submissions and decisions along with additional referee reports. Publications resulting from a PScCoR award must acknowledge PScCoR program support.

Timeline:

- May 15-Colleges submit PScCoR applications to Research Office.
- June 9-Internal and College Reviews completed and returned to Research Office.
- June 23-Research Office notifies PIs about funding decision.

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1 Example of an abbreviated budget:

$XX for faculty salary and fringe; $XY for technical salary and fringe; $YY for student salary and fringe; $ZZ for supplies and consumables. Total: $XX+XY+YY+ZZ