Prentice Institute for Global Population and Economy: Seed Grant Request for Proposals

2023

Application deadline: April 6, 2023

Contents

Summary

The Prentice Institute for Global Population and Economy is announcing a third release of the Prentice Institute Research Seed Grant (award up to $8,500). This grant has the broader goal of supporting the Institute's mission and mandate of: (1) promoting and conducting research on changing human populations and the potential impacts on social, environmental, and economic issues; (2) seeking to understand long-term changes in human and economic environments, within an historical context, with particular attention to the role human actions play in influencing these outcomes; and (3) communicating Institute and Affiliate work to stimulate further research, and affiliated funding, and to enable individuals, governments, and corporations to make better, and evidence-informed decisions.

The Prentice Institute has funding available to support multiple grants in several programs, but applicants cannot hold more than one grant from any program simultaneously.
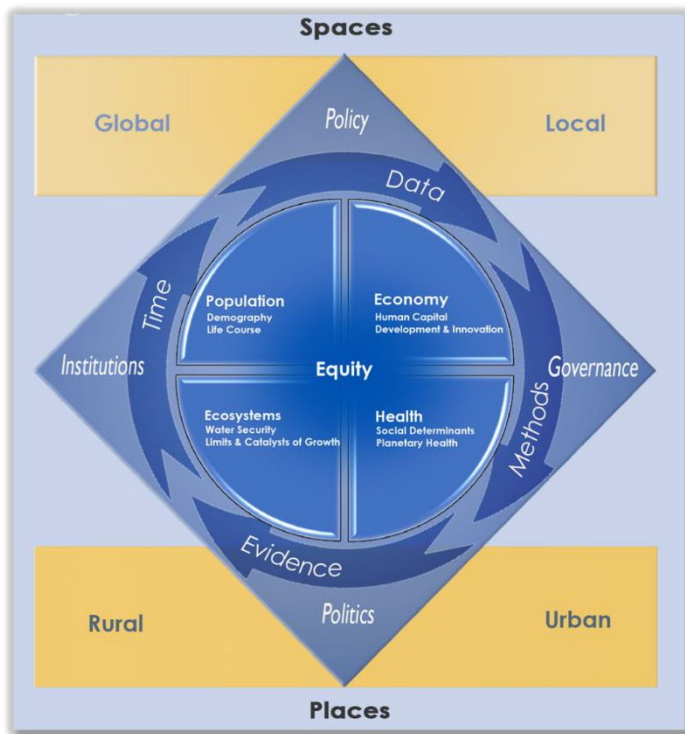
Application and Deadline

Applicants should submit a completed and signed application with all applicant's CVs, in PDF format to prentice@uleth.ca. Please include the appropriate acronym of the grant for which you are applying in the subject line. For questions about the application process, or to discuss the potential fit and alignment of the proposal with the mandate and operations of the Institute with the Director, please contact the Institute at prentice@uleth.ca or (403)-380-1814.

Applications are due no later than 5pm, April 6, 2023.

Prentice Institute Research Seed Grant (PIRSG)

Description & Objectives

This funding opportunity is part of the Prentice Institute for Global Population and Economy's set of granting awards at the University of Lethbridge. Broadly, the mandate of the Prentice Institute is to conduct and support research focused on changing human populations and the potential impacts of these changes on social, environmental, and economic factors. The Institute also conducts and supports research on long-term changes in human and economic environments, with an emphasis on the role human actions play in influencing these outcomes. From the perspective of knowledge translation, the Institute also seeks to communicate research in effective ways to communities, governments, organizations.

Within the context of this mandate, the Prentice Institute funds research projects focused on one or more of the following areas: (1) Populations, (2) Economy, (3) Ecosystems, and (4) Health. The objective of the Prentice Institute Seed Grant is to foster the development of projects across institutions and organizations focused on one or more of these core areas, and that address a clear research-related knowledge gap or need.

The maximum amount per grant is **$8,500 over one year**.

Eligibility

Research Affiliates of the Prentice Institute with an academic appointment at the University of Lethbridge are eligible to apply as project leads. If you are not currently an Affiliate, but wish to apply for funding, first please contact prentice@uleth.ca to apply for Research Affiliate status. Projects must be directly related to the Prentice mandate to be considered for funding. External affiliates and collaborators are eligible for inclusion in research teams.

Funding for "bench" science, extensive travel, hosting or visiting scholars is not usually considered eligible. Eligible projects may include knowledge synthesis and scoping activities, pilot or demonstration projects, partnership-based knowledge mobilization activities, and smaller-scale research development projects.

How to Apply

To apply, the nominated principal applicant will send a signed, completed application, along with CVs for all applicants to prentice@uleth.ca by April 6, 2023. A complete application will include the following components:

1. **Abstract** should include a succinct description of the research written for an intelligent reader who is relatively uninformed in the field of study.
   - Define the scope, purpose and limitations of the project.
   - Comment on the potential significance of the study to the Prentice Institute, the discipline, researcher, and/or society at large.

2. **Detailed Description.** Describe the proposed research in the form below, addressing the following points:
   - The problem or subject to be researched. Define the problem clearly and concisely, providing any background information essential to understanding the importance of the work. Include a statement of the potential significance, future use, relevance or application of the results, and an explanation of how the results will be disseminated.
   - State the hypotheses or theoretical framework. The choice of methodology, data to be collected, the structure and procedure of experiments, and analysis to be done, are all to some extent based on assumptions, theoretical considerations or hypotheses. A statement of these is essential to understanding the proposal.
   - Set out and describe the methods and procedures that will be used (how the research will be done), and the sequence of events. Also indicate the resources required, personnel, facilities, equipment, materials and others, with emphasis on those items included in the budget.
   - State what is to be done by whom (researchers, or other personnel), how, and when.
   - Identify those potential sources of funding that might be leveraged to further related research projects, if this seed project is successful.
   - Please Include references, where appropriate .

3. **Team Composition**
   - Outline the skills and contributions of each team member.
   - Submit a short CV listing each applicant's education, recent (5 years) relevant publications, and prior research activity, or attach each applicant's current SSHRC Personal Data Form.

4. **Other Funding for this Application:** Provide information regarding other granting agencies or sources from whom you have received, requested or plan to request funding for this research. Include the name of the granting agency, the status of request, and the amount requested or awarded.

5. **Budget:** Provide a budget and budget justification.

- Personnel costs must include each employee's title and type of work to be performed, the estimated number of hours/months to be worked, and the rate of pay per hour/month (including 15% benefits). Rate of pay must meet at least the minimum standards set by the University. A grant may be used to pay for research assistants, but neither a grantee nor a member of the grantee's family may receive remuneration.

- Travel costs, if any are to be considered, must be itemized, and include the purpose of the travel for each destination, all affiliated costs (including in-kind if applicable) and the duration of travel. Travel costs will be reimbursed as per rates in the University of Lethbridge Travel and Business Expense Policy and Procedures. A grant may be used to pay for travel directly related to research, including travel by research assistants in the performance of their assigned duties.

- Other items necessary for research may be considered for funding at the discretion of the Prentice Institute Research Advisory Committee.

- Research projects requesting retroactive funding, extensive travel, or for teaching development will not be considered.

Review Process

All applications are reviewed by the Prentice Institute Research Advisory Committee. The criteria used to evaluate applications are as follows:

- Fit with the mandate of the Prentice Institute;
- Overall merit of the research proposal;
- Originality and significance of the proposed research, including suitability of research strategies/methods, importance of the overall research program, suitability of the timetable;
- Likelihood of project developing into an externally fundable project;
- Research record of the applicant/lead researcher;
- Training of graduate students;
- Justification of the proposed budget.

Reporting Requirements

Upon completion, successful candidates will be expected to:

- Submit an executive summary (1 page).
- Submit a summary of the project (3 pages).
- Submit a full report of the project, reflecting the evaluation criteria above, and including a full financial statement (maximum of 10 pages).

Questions

Questions can be addressed to Lars Hallstrom at prentice@uleth.ca or at (403)-330-1814.