

## CALL FOR PROPOSALS

**Deadline: July 15, 2018, with an expected award notification by August 15.**

### **Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute (STRI)-Arizona State University (ASU) Collaborative Initiative**

**Background:** STRI and ASU have recently launched a five-year collaborative research initiative, following on a successful earlier partnership that finished in 2015. The new effort will focus on understanding and managing tropical human and ecological systems, and on training the next generation of tropical scientists. Funding and support for the collaboration comes from STRI, the ASU President's Office, Provost's Office, Knowledge Enterprise Development, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, School of Life Sciences, Global Institute of Sustainability, School of Sustainability, School of Molecular Sciences, Fulton Schools of Engineering, and Center for Biodiversity Outcomes. Total resources are approximately \$200K per year.

There are two research foci:

- (1) Resilience, adaptive evolution, and the effects of changing environments on plant, animal, and microbial phenotypes, and community and ecosystem functions.
- (2) Integrating biological data with socio-economic models to sustain biodiversity during climate change and human development.

**Proposals:** We will consider the following types of proposals in this initial Call:

- (1) Team-building visits (up to \$3-4K, for travel and lodging expenses).
- (2) Workshops (up to \$20K, for expenses to convene at ASU or STRI).
- (3) Pilot data projects are for 1 year to support grant proposals (target budget up to \$50K/year, may include travel, lodging, supplies, stipends, or salary).

*Note to graduate students: There will be a separate call for proposals in September 2018 for support to attend training courses held in January and June 2019 at STRI. You are welcome to respond to both calls.*

**Who can submit:** Proposals may be submitted by ASU and STRI researchers, including faculty, research associates, postdocs and graduate students. Each application must include participants from both STRI and ASU.

**Criteria:** Awards will be based on:

- (1) High degree of contribution to graduate student research and training in the tropics.
- (2) High likelihood of producing research of major significance to tropical science.
- (3) High level of joint enthusiasm for the project from both ASU and STRI partners.
- (4) Clearly identified an external funding source to be targeted with preliminary results gained.

During years 1-2 of this project, we will use workshops and team-building visits to build interdisciplinary teams focused on specific grant targets, as well as to recruit ASU scientists lacking current connections to STRI.

**Content of the Proposal:** Proposals must include the following components:

- (1) Type of proposal.
- (2) Applicants (Names, Affiliations, Email).
- (3) Title of proposal.
- (4) Project Summary (< 1 page).
- (5) Project description (< 5 pages, specific objectives, methods/organizational details, significance).
- (6) Itemized budget. The budget should include an 8.5% administrative service charge that will cover the costs of ASU's administration of the finances and any other required administrative support.
- (7) Two-page (NSF Biosketch style) curriculum vitae of applicants.

**Budget help:** This website lists the costs of research at STRI (ASU researchers are category B): <https://stri.si.edu/plan-your-visit/fees>.

**How to submit a proposal:** Submit your proposal as a pdf file, through the InfoReady platform: <https://asu.infoready4.com/#competitionDetail/1772590>

Please upload your application with the file name: "Applicant last name(s)\_STRI\_ASU."

**Proposal review will be done by the leadership team.**

**Requirements for awardees:**

All awardees will be required to submit a final report one year after receipt of access to funds, that should describe how the funds were used, any outcomes/results, why it was important, and how the award has facilitated applications for future research funding.

**Questions?** Contact any member of the leadership team:

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