

Request for Collaborative Pilot Projects IMFAHE'S Nodal Award Program 2018 Special "Shark Tank" Edition



Award amount: \$4,000; typical amount – awards may vary

Posted date: January 9th, 2018

Deadline for submission of one-page project concept sheet:
April 10th, 2017

Mandatory presentations to "Shark Tank" reviewers: IV
Innovation Camp at University of Valladolid, **July 2nd 2018**

Anticipated award date: July 2nd 2018

OVERVIEW AND GOALS OF THE NODAL AWARD PROGRAM

A key goal of the International Mentoring Foundation for the Advancement of Higher Education (IMFAHE) is to encourage and support the development of scientific and entrepreneur collaborations among national and international institutions and persons that promote breakthrough basic science, new translational research, job creation as well as projects with social impact.

To advance this goal, IMFAHE has created a unique platform of talent that connects professionals and students from 5 different continents in the world catalyzing mentorship relationships. IMFAHE has created as well, in collaboration with Spanish Universities, 43 Excellent Fellowships (up to date, 50% hosted by Harvard University and MIT) and now is launching for the first time in Spain a pilot project that is designed to enhance or create new inter-programmatic "nodal point" interactions between members from the International Mentor Program (students affiliated to 11 Spanish universities and Spanish professionals affiliated to international institutions like Google, Harvard or Princeton). Collaborations between discipline-based programs (biomedicine-engineering-economics/entrepreneurship) are also encouraged.

SELECTION PROCESS: SHARK TANK EDITION

If you want to participate in this Award, please, prepare with your team (composed with at least 2 IMP's mentees from 2 independent Spanish universities enrolled at IMP 2017-18 and 1 international mentor) a 1-page idea for an inter-programmatic, collaborative pilot project and a budget justification for a total of \$4000 in direct costs. From these submissions, teams will be selected to pitch their idea, in person, to a panel of IMFAHE and its collaborative

institutions reviewers (like on the Shark Tank television show: <http://abc.go.com/shows/shark-tank/about-the-show>). Five minutes will be allotted for each presentation, and the “shark tank” reviewers will be allowed 10 minutes to ask questions. You will be notified if your team is selected for in-person review before June 10, 2018. If selected, your team must be able to present on the IV IMFAHE’s Innovation Camp at University of Valladolid. Do not apply if you are not able to participate on this day.

AWARD INFORMATION

It is anticipated that at least two pilot projects will be awarded. Typical projects will be awarded at \$4,000 (direct costs). However, larger or smaller awards may be allocated, at the discretion of the “shark tank” reviewers, based on the pool of proposed projects and the negotiations between the reviewers and the applicants. IMFAHE has a particular interest in proposals aimed at understanding and devising solutions to relieve disparities in the society, to health issues, and job creation. The anticipated award date is July 2nd, 2018. Projects must be ready to commence immediately after receipt of award.

ELIGIBILITY AND REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must be part of the International Mentor Program 2017-18 at IMFAHE’s Foundation. Projects must propose a new collaboration between students from 2 independent institutions (*working in collaboration with IMFAHE during the calendar year 2017-18) and 1 international mentor. Collaborations involving students from different specialties are preferred.

CONCEPT SHEET SUBMISSION INFORMATION: 3 items

- **Project Coversheet:** Please list the title of project and the name and institution programmatic affiliation of each collaborator.
- **Project Description:** The concept for the project should be briefly presented in no more than one page. In a second page a budget justification should be included. Additional material will not be accepted.
- **Biosketches:** [Europass Biosketch](#) for each collaborator.

Submission Due Date: Please submit a single PDF containing each concept sheet submission item (listed above) on or before April 10, 2018

Submit to: Maria Soriano and Zafira Castano (Email: mariasorianocarot@gmail.com, president@imfahe.org), indicating in the subject “IMFAHE’S Nodal Award Program 2018 Special Shark Tank Edition”

REVIEW CRITERIA

Submissions will be reviewed by designated senior members of IMFAHE and its collaborative institutions, and meritorious concepts will be recommended for oral presentations. The IMFAHE’s Executive Committee will provide final approval for funding. Projects will be awarded on the basis of the following review criteria, as ascertained through the interaction with reviewers during the oral presentation:

- **Excellence, merit and impact.** Proposals should address important problems or critical barriers to progress in the field. The aims should advance scientific knowledge, technical capability and/or propose clear improvements compared with the beneficiaries' best alternative option. Proposals need not have preliminary data, and should clearly state the magnitude of impact (i.e. roughly how many people are expected to derive benefit directly from the project in 5-10 years).
- **Innovation.** Applications should challenge and seek to shift current paradigms by using novel theoretical concepts, approaches or methodologies, instrumentation or interventions. High risk/high reward proposals are favored.
- **Translation and Social Impact.** Projects that have the opportunity to stimulate direct application to treatment or prevention in health disease, as well as social impact and job creation are encouraged. Projects with at least one woman in the team will be positively evaluated.
- **Strength of inter-programmatic nodal collaboration.** Projects should foster inter-institutional collaborations and collaborations across IMFAHE's partners, and be in a supportive environment (i.e. demonstrate that they will have the tools and support needed to develop the project successfully). Proposals must involve the creation of new inter-programmatic "nodal point" interactions. Proposals that stimulate trans-disciplinary research between IMP specialties (ie. Biomedicals with engineering) will be favored in decisions between equally ranked applications.
- **Potential to gain independent funding.** Projects should have the potential to lead to future independent external funding from other institutions and foundations.

PROGRESS REPORTS

A progress report is required after the first year of funding. Grantees may be required to present their project and relevant finding at IMFAHE's meetings.

A final report, including a summary of expenditures, is due at the end of the project period. Should an awardee leave the original institution where he or she applied, the remainder of the award will be forfeited (i.e., funds may not be transferred to a non-IMFAHE's collaborative institutions).

IMFAHE'S COLLABORATIVE INSTITUTIONS IN SPAIN

Universities of Valencia, La Laguna, Valladolid, Europea Miguel de Cervantes de Valladolid, Oviedo, Autónoma de Madrid, Politécnica de Valencia, Sevilla, Málaga, Politécnica de Cataluña and UNIR.