

University Seminars Funding Program AY20

Title:	University Seminars Funding Program
Award Period:	August 1, 2019 – May 31, 2020
Purpose:	To provide funding to foster sustained discussion of issues that cross traditional disciplinary boundaries
Deadline:	Noon, Friday, June 14, 2019
Amounts:	Funding range: up to \$4,000 per year. Funding may be renewed for up to two additional years
Administrative Contact:	univseminar@gwu.edu
Website:	http://research.gwu.edu/university-seminars

Program Purpose

The University Seminars Funding Program was established in 1985 to foster sustained discussion of issues that cross traditional disciplinary boundaries among members of the George Washington University (GW) faculty, possibly including their distinguished counterparts in universities, research centers, federal agencies, international organizations and private industry throughout the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. The goal is to connect the traditional research and scholarly endeavors of the academy across disciplines, thereby ensuring an exchange of perspectives and information. The seminars should promote new inquiry rather than already established programs.

Only topics that warrant intensive continuing inquiry are approved as organizing themes for University Seminars. These are designed to support faculty who want to explore a cross-disciplinary subject and as seed money to start up a collaborative project, and are not for credit nor are they courses.

University Seminars meet periodically during the academic year on the GW campus. The initial nucleus of each seminar is a group of highly qualified faculty from a range of appropriate departments and schools, and possibly distinguished individuals from outside the GW academic community. The chair of each seminar serves as convener. Distinguished guests may be invited to give presentations to stimulate discussion. However, the University Seminar ought not be perceived only as a lecture series. The goal is to encourage dialogue on cross-disciplinary issues of importance in such a way that there are demonstrable outcomes such as publications, white papers, grant proposals, curriculum reforms, scholarly discussion blogs, and the development of new courses, conference proceedings, or contributions to public policy.

Eligibility

A regular active status university faculty member must act as the convener of each University Seminar. The faculty member must be continuing in service at the university through the award period.

Proposal Components: Due Friday, June 14, 2019 by 12:00pm

Proposals are to be submitted through [OVPR's InfoReady Portal](#). Please select the "Login for George Washington University Users" and login with your George Washington University NetID and password.

Paper and emailed copies of proposal components **will not** be accepted; complete proposals must be submitted via [OVPR's InfoReady Portal](#).

The application will consist of the following components:

Discussion, Participants and Plan (no more than 3 pages, single spaced)

- A discussion of the topic to be addressed and its importance
- A discussion of how the seminar will connect academic research and inquiry across disciplines and/or to larger cross-disciplinary issues in the areas of culture, business, policy, science, or other areas of similar dimension
- A discussion of anticipated outcomes, processes and/or products
- Names, affiliations, and expertise of GW faculty and any external participants who are committed to being a part of the seminar
- A plan of action for Academic Year 2019-20, including your ideas for specific events and activities

Budget (1 page limit)

- A proposed high-level budget that does not exceed \$4,000. Allowable costs may include facilities, marketing, catering, honoraria, speaker travel and student support/compensation.

Prior year(s) events and outcomes (1 page limit, *for renewal applications only*)

- Summary of prior year(s) events and outcomes

Review Process

Funding decisions will be based on the merits and design of the proposed seminar and on the clarity of the written proposal. Factors such as the merit of the topic to stimulate discussion, a demonstration of cross-disciplinary exploration and anticipated outcomes will be considered. Proposers should address each item outlined in the **Proposal Components**.

Award Administration

Once awarded, OVPR will transfer the funds (up to \$4,000) to the faculty member's department. All award expenses should be charged to the PI's department. The PI is expected to expend the funds in a manner consistent with the approved budget and in keeping with the university's policies. At the conclusion of the award, the PI will submit a status report detailing the outcomes of the seminar and how the funds were spent.

When appropriate, University Seminar events should be shared with the Office of the Vice President for Research (OVPR) and publicized broadly within the GW community. OVPR is available to provide assistance with outreach and publicity upon request. Promotional materials should mention support from the GW University Seminars Funding Program.