

Emerging Opportunities Program Information

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graham.umich.edu/emopps

Agenda

Graham Overview

Emerging Opportunities Overview

Timelines

Catalyst Grants

Transformation Grants

Questions and Discussion

Graham Sustainability Institute



Challenge

Sustainability solutions demand the discovery and application of knowledge that spans natural, social, economic, and technological boundaries, and is useful to stakeholders.

Approach

Engage, empower, and support faculty and students from all U-M units, with student involvement spanning undergraduate, masters, professional, doctoral, and postdoctoral levels. Integrate this talent with external stakeholders to foster sustainability solutions at all scales.

Program Areas

Translational Science

Emerging Opportunities

Water Center

Learning

Graham Scholars

- Undergraduate

Dow Fellows

- Master/Professional
- Doctoral
- Postdoctoral
- Distinguished Awards

Campus

Planet Blue Ambassadors

Planet Blue Student
Innovation Fund

Sustainability Cultural
Indicators Program

Student Sustainability
Initiative

Translational Science

Through our Translational Science work, we:

Facilitate

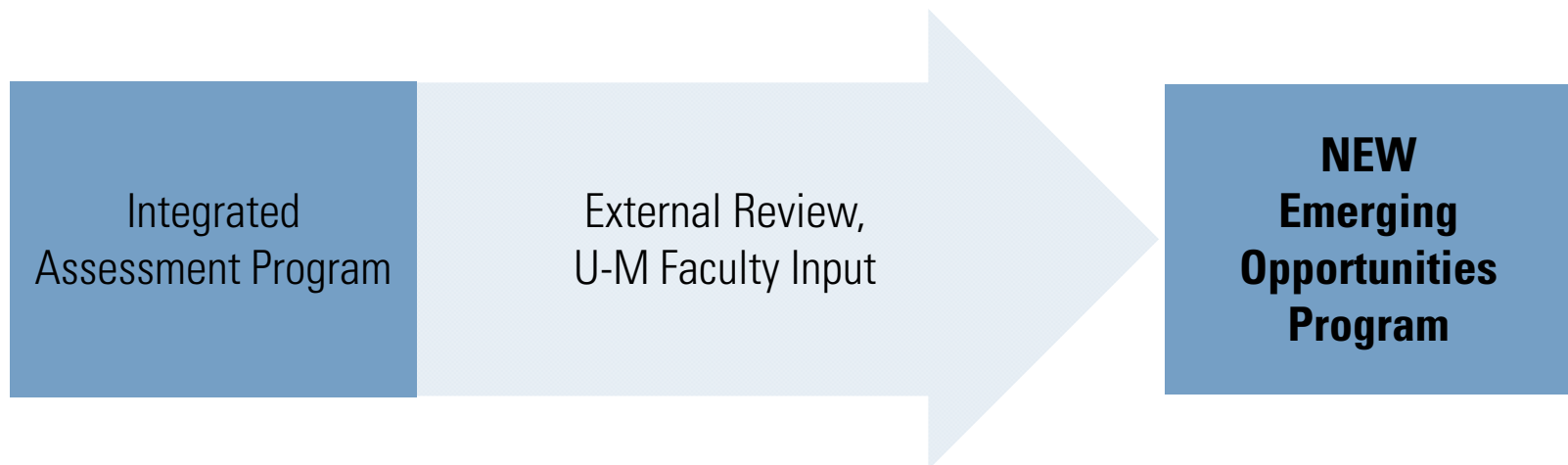
multi-stakeholder
assessments on
complex sustainability
issues

Support

interdisciplinary
research teams

Connect

science to real-world
decisions



Aims to stimulate and respond to emerging opportunities to bring together the diverse expertise and inclusive engagement needed to advance sustainability

Emerging Opportunities Program

	MCubed Sustainability Block Incentives	Catalyst Grants	Transformation Grants	Other Support and Resources
Activities	Unrestricted	Conference Hosting, Project Planning, White Papers, Workshops	Collaborative Research and Assessment Initiatives	Faculty Networking, Stakeholder Engagement, Project Management and Evaluation, Special Initiatives
Support	\$10,000 per grant 1 year grant period 3 grants per MCubed cubing cycle	\$10,000 per grant 8 month grant period 4 grants annually, 2 per funding cycle	\$100,000 - \$150,000 per year 1-3 year grant period 1 new grant per year	Graham Staff
Schedule	Concurrent with MCubed, estimated every 2 years	Semiannual RFP (Fall and Winter)	Annual RFP (Fall)	Ongoing

Emerging Opportunities Project Characteristics

We consider a number of factors in determining whether and how we support projects, including:

Actionable Question

Is the project framed in a way that will yield actionable options for decision makers and practitioners?

Faculty Interest & Expertise

Is there clear faculty interest and multidisciplinary expertise to address the topic, with preference given to projects that draw on the breadth and depth of expertise of U-M faculty, and researchers from other institutions when appropriate?

Engaged Partner

Does the project have a specific external partner (or partners) willing to invest their time, provide input, and work with researchers to identify actionable options?

Emerging Opportunities Project Characteristics

We consider a number of factors in determining whether and how we support projects, including:

Sufficient Information

Does sufficient information exist to enable an effective synthesis and analysis or to frame an emerging issue?

Advancing Scholarship

In addition to identifying actionable options, can the work also lead to scholarly outcomes?

Student Opportunities

Does the project offer student opportunities to engage across disciplines, appreciate diversity, think systemically, and pursue action-based learning worldwide?

Program Timeline

	Transformation	Winter Catalyst	Fall Catalyst
RFP Release	September 8, 2016	Early January 2017	September 2017
Letters of Intent Due	December 19, 2016	February 13, 2017	October 2017
Proposal Deadline	February 13, 2017	March 20, 2017	November 2017
Award Announcement	Mid April 2017	Mid April 2017	Late December 2017
Project Start	May 2017	May 2017	January 2018



Catalyst Grants

Are intended to support a range of relatively short-term, small-scale collaborative activities.

Projects that receive catalyst grants are likely to be at an earlier stage than transformation grant projects.

\$10,000, 8 month grant period

2 funding cycles/year – up to 2 grants per cycle (Next Opportunity – Winter 2017)

Letters of Intent Due: February 13, 2017

Proposals Due: March 20, 2017

Anticipated Project Start Date: May 2017

5 page narrative

- Context
- Outputs/Outcomes/Impacts
- Approach (activities, data, evaluation, scholarship)
- Team (PI/Co-I **must** represent at least two disciplines and two U-M academic/research units, external collaboration, students)

Budget: no IDC, no equipment

Appendices: PAF, timeline, resumes, other docs

Complete details in the [RFP](#)

Catalyst Grants

Are intended to support a range of relatively short-term, small-scale collaborative activities.

Projects that receive catalyst grants are likely to be at an earlier stage than transformation grant projects.



Transformation Grants

Are intended to support a wide range of collaborative research and assessment projects.

In comparison to catalyst grants, transformation grants are intended to support projects with potential for significantly greater impact.

\$100,000 - \$150,000 per year, 1-3 year grant period

1 new grant per year

Letters of Intent Due: December 19, 2016

Proposals Due: February 13, 2017

Anticipated Project Start Date: May 2017 (1-3 years)

10 page narrative

- Context
- Outputs/Outcomes/Impacts
- Approach (activities, partners/stakeholders, data, technical review, evaluation, scholarship)
- Team (PI/Co-I **must** represent at least two disciplines and two U-M academic/research units, external collaboration, students)

Budget: no IDC, equipment >\$5K discouraged

Appendices: PAF, timeline, resumes, other docs

Complete details in the [RFP](#)

Transformation Grants

Are intended to support a wide range of collaborative research and assessment projects.

In comparison to catalyst grants, transformation grants are intended to support projects with potential for significantly greater impact.

Proposal Evaluation Criteria & Process

Project approach

Project team

External partners

Feasibility

Potential impact

Scholarship

Student opportunities

Catalyst Grants

Internal review by U-M faculty and
Graham staff

Transformation Grants

Internal and expert review with
Graham Institute's Executive
Committee providing final review

Requirements of Grant Recipients

Catalyst

Two project check-ins

Brief mid-project report

Final report

Share project outputs with Graham

Participate in annual meeting of sustainability researchers

Respond to Graham assessment efforts

Mention Graham support in reports, publications, and presentations

Transformation

Quarterly check-ins

Semiannual written report

Final report

Share project outputs with Graham

Participate in annual meeting of sustainability researchers

Respond to Graham assessment efforts

Mention Graham support in reports, publications, presentations, and communications



Questions & Discussion

Complete application materials at graham.umich.edu/emopps

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The Graham Sustainability Institute engages, empowers, and supports faculty and students from all U-M units and integrates this talent with external stakeholders, fostering sustainability solutions at all scales. We believe that diversity is key to individual empowerment, and the advancement of sustainability knowledge, learning and leadership. Individuals, corporations, foundations, government agencies, and the University of Michigan support the Institute. See: www.graham.umich.edu