



MHI and CICMHE Research Funding Program

Research Start-up Grants

2017 Guidelines for Proposal
Preparation and Submission

Proposal Due Date: September 1, 2017

MHI/CICMHE Research Funding Program

Research Start-up Grant

Context

MHI has a goal of supporting research and teaching in material handling, logistics, and supply chain as demonstrated through a long-standing commitment to the College Industry Council on Material Handling Education (CICMHE). One critical component of this goal is to develop and support faculty who conduct research on topics that are important to the future of the material handling, logistics, and supply chain industry. To meet this objective, MHI provides a three-part research grant program:

Type 1: Research Start-up Grants

Type 2: Research Spark Grants

Type 3: Research Partnership Grants.

This program influences and supports the work of researchers at different stages in their careers. The intent is to assist in the development of world-class researchers who focus on material handling, logistics, and supply chain as they initiate and perform high-value, high-impact research that is aligned with the needs of the industry.

Purpose and Principles of the Research Start-up Grants

The purpose of the MHI/CICMHE Start-up Grant is to support new professors as they launch their research careers focused on areas related to material handling, logistics, and supply chain. Proposals are judged primarily on the quality of the research plan, the focus of the research, and the achievements of the proposer. MHI/CICMHE funding is provided with no specific research deliverable required, thereby providing flexibility on usage of funds. MHI/CICMHE plans to award up to two Start-up Grants annually depending on the availability of funds. MHI/CICMHE pledge to provide grantees with opportunities to engage with industry members and other academic researchers as they advance their careers.

Eligibility

MHI/CICMHE Start-up Grants are reserved for faculty who are within 48 months of starting their first full-time faculty position at the time of submitting their proposal. Faculty are limited to receiving one grant Start-up Grant.

Funding Levels

Proposals are expected to be in the range of \$10,000-\$25,000. In addition, grant recipients may be eligible to apply for additional travel funding to present their work at MHI/CICMHE meetings, trade shows, and other events. Participating institutions must agree to waive overhead costs for Start-up Grants.

MHI/CICMHE Research Funding Program

Proposal Format and Development

Proposals consist of the following:

- Cover sheet containing the proposer's contact information and requested level of support;
- Career development plan (up to three pages)
 - A research and teaching plan that addresses, in reasonable detail, goals for the next 3-5 years and how these connect with material handling, logistics, and supply chain management
 - A brief and broader statement on full career plan;
- Curriculum vitae (up to three pages); and
- Best papers authored or co-authored by the proposer (up to three).

Reporting Results

In addition to following and continuing to develop their proposed career development plan, MHI/CICMHE requests grantees to provide a brief update on the status of their career development. This update may be provided in any number of ways including a short document, or a presentation at an MHI/CICMHE meeting or event. Grantees are also strongly encouraged to participate in CICMHE's research colloquium (International Material Handling Research Colloquium) and teachers' institute (Material Handling Teachers Institute).

In order to publicize the accomplishments of grantees to MHI members, the following information is requested from awardees at the completion of the grant:

- General information on research conducted that was supported in some way by this grant
 - General description of the research
 - Publications that were generated
 - Students involved
 - Number of undergraduate and graduate students involved, and
 - Number of UG and G students impacted indirectly;
- Additional external research funding made possible by the MHI grant;
- Information about industry interactions made possible by the research grants
 - Direct involvement by industry
 - Indirect involvement (attended presentation, etc.);
- Dissemination at conferences, tradeshow, and colloquia; and
- Description of how this funding influenced your career and research trajectory.

Time Line

Proposals are due by September 1, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. ET. MHI expects to announce awards by October 31, 2017.

Contact

All questions, requests for clarification, and requests for additional information should be submitted via email to Pat Davison and Delana Hopkins at MHI. Electronic versions of proposal in PDF format should also be submitted to Pat Davison (PDavison@mhi.org) and Delana Hopkins (DHopkins@mhi.org).