



16 September 2020

Dear Colleagues

Call for Submission for FIRLT Proposals November 2020

Please receive the 2020 call for the submission of Fund for Innovation and Research into Learning and Teaching (FIRLT) proposals. The call (click here for the [new regulation for FIRLT](#)) is advertised on the notice board on the University's website. We request that additional encouragement for the submission of proposals by your faculty and/or department is provided to interested academics.

Academic and support staff are invited to submit proposals for funding of research and innovation projects that aim to **enhance learning and teaching at SU**. Proposals highlighting, but not limited to, the following themes are invited:

- i. **Innovative assessment at SU**. Assessment for learning is integral to enhancing student experience and engagement. How might you show that assessment is important to you and your students?
- ii. **Curriculum / Programme / Module renewal**. Invigorating, investigating and interrogating efforts for renewal reflect your commitment and indicate that your teaching matters at SU.
- iii. **Decolonisation and/or Social Justice in learning and teaching at SU**. Ensuring that our graduates exit the institution as critical citizens and change agents means that our teaching must reflect the SU graduate attributes.

Given the unique Emergency Remote Teaching, Learning and Assessment context we have experienced in 2020, proposals that explore aspects and dimensions of this context are encouraged.

The FIRLT guidelines and criteria (below) for applicants apply. All proposals have to be completed on the electronic FIRLT application form that can be accessed at <https://goo.gl/forms/bM5hcDxNOSnnPRJg2>. An email in support of the proposal from the Head of Department/Dean/Director must be sent to finlo@sun.ac.za **prior** to submission of proposals. Prior consultation with the relevant CTL advisor is compulsory. The closing date for applications is **6 November 2020** and the outcome of the selection process will be communicated to applicants in December 2020 or as soon as possible thereafter.

Given the COVID19 context, we are currently exploring the options for support activities and a possible Writing Retreat for FIRLT recipients and applicants. Faculties will be informed regarding these in due course.

For more information, contact FIRLT at finlo@sun.ac.za.

Kind regards

Dr Melanie Skead
Director / Direkteur
e: mskead@sun.ac.za

Ms Jean Lee Farmer
Advisor / Adviseur
e: finlo@sun.ac.za

Sentrum vir Onderrig en Leer / Centre for Teaching and Learning / Iziko Lokufundisa Nlolwazi

saam vorentoe · masiye phambili · forward together



FUND FOR INNOVATION AND RESEARCH INTO LEARNING AND TEACHING (FIRT) Guidelines and criteria for application for funding: 6 November 2020

1. General information

Any appointed Stellenbosch University lecturer or team of lecturers or Centre staff responsible for learning and teaching may submit a project proposal for this funding.

2. Exclusions

Proposals will not be considered if:

- Any of the investigators on a project have reports outstanding on previous projects
- Previously funded projects have not been presented at the annual SU Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) conference after completion of the project.

3. Criteria for the selection of proposals

- Relevance and feasibility of the proposed project
- Proposals marked *Innovation* must include a brief description of how the project will finally be evaluated
- Proposals marked *Research* must include a theoretical framework, research design and offer findings/results on completion of the project
- Anticipated benefit/influence on learning and teaching at Stellenbosch University
- Ethical statement must be included
- A detailed activity and an aligned budget
- Name and designation of all individuals involved and how they will be remunerated must be provided
- Projects will be only be considered to a maximum of two rounds. This remains subject to availability of funding.

Note:

- Applicants may be primary investigator (PI) on only one project per round of funding
- The PI should be a permanent SU staff member or, if contracted to SU, the contract should extend at least six months beyond the end of the project
- The PI is responsible for obtaining the necessary ethical clearance and/or institutional permission before beginning the project
- Second round applications must give background and results with respect to prior projects funded
- Requests for equipment must be motivated and include quotations. The fund will cover such requests only when demonstrated that these are central to the success of the proposed project. After completion of the project, assets should be made available for wider use in the faculty and managed by the CUA manager.

4. FIRT does not fund

- Editing of research outputs/papers
- Attendance, registration and travel to conferences
- Travel for class visits to other institutions
- Translation services
- Master's or doctoral studies
- Payment to the applicant for research work undertaken (full-time employed SU staff)
- Payment to the applicant or co-applicant for work undertaken during contracted time (contract staff)
- Journal page fees
- Design of short courses i.e. courses which generate third-stream income
- Work considered to be 'business-as-usual'
- Retrospective applications or parts thereof.

5. Successful applicants will be expected to

- Start the project within 6 months of receipt of the award
- Submit a progress report every six months, including a copy of the cost centre transactions and balance. The template (see link) serves as guideline when preparing your report on your FIRLT project: <http://www.sun.ac.za/english/learning-teaching/ctl/Documents/FIRLTFINLOreportprojecttemplate.pdf>
- On completion of the project, a closing report must be submitted and all unspent funding returned to the FIRLT cost centre
- Publish the final report on the FIRLT website
- Provide copies of all related publications to the FIRLT administrator.

6. Questions regarding FIRLT may be directed to the CTL advisor in your faculty or any of the following committee members:

- Dr Melanie Skead, Director: Centre for Teaching and Learning, mskead@sun.ac.za
- Dr Nicoline Herman, Deputy Director: Centre for Teaching and Learning, nherman@sun.ac.za
- Ms Jean Farmer, Advisor: Centre for Teaching and Learning, finlo@sun.ac.za
- Dr Faaiz Gierdien, Curriculum Studies, Faculty of Education, faaiz@sun.ac.za
- Dr Taryn Bernard, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, tbernard@sun.ac.za
- Prof Susan van Schalkwyk, Director: Centre for Health Professions Education, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, scvs@sun.ac.za
- Dr Margaret Blackie, Chemistry and Polymer Science, Faculty of Science, mblackie@sun.ac.za
- Dr JP Bosman, Director: Centre for Learning Technologies, jpbosman@sun.ac.za
- Prof Ashraf Kagee, Psychology, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, skagee@sun.ac.za