

Joint Education Research Group (JERG)

Call for 2015 School-Based Education Research Proposals April 2015

JERG funds small/pilot research projects that address school-based student learning and achievement and/or teacher growth. Proposals in either English or French are welcome.

Proposals for collaborative, school-based education research are invited from teams that may include any PEI teacher or group of teachers working with a UPEI faculty member(s), and potentially with a pre-service teacher and graduate student. The UPEI faculty member will take responsibility for managing the research funds and project completion. PEI teachers will take responsibility to ensure that the research is practical and useful to them, and that access to the schools is ethically arranged. Where a pre-service teacher or graduate student is involved, the team will ensure that they are included and mentored as valued research partners.

JERG is being offered with a very tight timeline to match budget deadlines. The process is managed by the Coordinator of Graduate Studies, Dr. Liz Townsend, in collaboration with a faculty member who has managed JERG in the past, Dr. Sandy McAuley.

With acknowledgement that the call for proposal submissions is very tight, the timeline for 2015 - 2016 JERG projects is:

Dates	Actions	Responsibility
April 15, 2015	Call circulated to UPEI faculty who will identify a school-based partner	Faculty of Education Newsletter
April 27 th at noon	Proposals due in PDF format as a single file to Cathy Hennessey, cahennessey@upei.ca	Graduate Studies Coordinator
April 28 th	Proposals reviewed by Graduate Studies Coordinator and Dr. McAuley in consultation with experts as needed	Graduate Studies Coordinator
April 29 th end of day	Funding announcement.	Graduate Studies Coordinator
April 30, 2016	Final Report due to the Dean of Education	Faculty Researcher
April 30, 2016	Final date for funding claims with Financial Services	Faculty Researcher

Funding Available:

Proposals are invited for research requiring pilot, seed funding to a maximum of \$3,500.

Eligibility:

Any topic of interest to the Faculty researcher and K-12 partners is eligible for funding.

Examples include but are not restricted to:

- observational research to record practice and analyze teaching processes and outcomes
- action research to measure teacher assessment of student outcomes
- critical analysis of measurement tools for evaluating student achievement
- implementation, assessment and documentation of innovations in teaching and learning

Note that while previously funded JERG projects are eligible to apply, priority will be given to new projects.

Proposal Guidelines (5 – 7) pages maximum, including title page and references):

Each proposal should include:

- Cover page, including team names and e-mail addresses
- Brief background literature and a research question
- Summary of theory, values, assumptions that explain and/or guide the research
- Methods, e.g., Action-Research, measurement tools, narratives, etc.
- Research participants or subjects and how they will be engaged
- Timeline from start to finish, including Final Report & Expanse submission
- Ethics, confirming UPEI ethical approval or other ethics requirements where applicable
- Knowledge translation and mobilization plans, including how the Final Report may be used, and how the results will be presented to at least one PEI forum (e.g., PEITF, UPEI research event, conference, etc.)
- References that have been used in writing the proposal
- Budget (based on UPEI Research Services allowable expenses, and UPEI Human Resources policies for personnel costs): Funding may cover costs such as:
 - personnel to assist with the research or a project
 - travel, especially for team collaboration or for the project itself
 - teleconference or digital communication for the team or project
 - small equipment, e.g. digital technology
 - Miscellaneous small costs

Proposals should be submitted as a single PDF file to Cathy Hennessey
cahennessey@upeil.ca no later than April 27th at noon.

JERG Proposal Review Criteria

Criteria	Maximum	Rating
Clear focus on issues in the educational domain such as diversity issues in k-12 schooling, assessment, or specific educational or curricular issues	5	
Clear context for research, e.g., educational or curricular context, rural or urban PEI, or other cultural context	5	
Clearly describes how the research will be done & the rationale for the research question, approach, methods, participant/subject selection	5	
Provides a clear timeline of research activities from start to finish of knowledge sharing/translation and budget completion	5	
Clearly demonstrates a plan and access to expertise to analyze the findings (e.g., for qualitative, quantitative, critical analysis)	5	
Attends appropriately to ethical issues and includes required consent processes	5	
Includes key references that demonstrate awareness of existing research on which to build the proposed research	5	
Adds to the knowledge base about learning and education that will be communicated through a knowledge exchange, translation, dissemination, mobilization plan	5	
Builds capacity in PEI education research partnerships	5	
Additional merit	5	
SCORING TOTALS	50	

Ratings out of 5: 1=unsatisfactory (incomplete & sketchy), 2=partly satisfactory (complete yet needing more planning), 3=satisfactory, 4=quite satisfactory (good), 5=very satisfactory (excellent)