Lakehead University Agricultural Research Station (LUARS)

Agricultural Research Capacity Development Program

Guidelines and Procedures

Lakehead University and the Thunder Bay Agricultural Research Association have entered into a partnership allowing Lakehead University to assume the management and research direction of the Thunder Bay Agricultural Research Station (hereinafter referred to as the Lakehead University Agricultural Research Station (LUARS) effective April 1, 2018).

With funding from the Agricultural Research Institute of Ontario (ARIO) and the addition of LUARS, Lakehead University is in a position to significantly increase research programming in the areas of agriculture, agri-business and food security. LUARS is committed to the establishment, operation, promotion, and transfer of agricultural research for the further development and diversification of the agricultural sector in Northwestern Ontario and in the Thunder Bay area in particular, through small plot research and extension.

The Vice-President Research and Innovation (VPRI) is pleased to announce another call for proposals through the LUARS Agricultural Research Capacity Development Program. Areas of research priority for LUARS to be supported include, but are not limited to: agriculture, agri-business, environmental studies, water management, soil science, food security, natural resources management, and other areas that can demonstrate the project has an agricultural focus. In addition, research projects that are based at LUARS and address the emerging regional research needs of the economy of Northwestern Ontario will receive priority.

Eligibility: The LUARS Agricultural Research Capacity Development Program is open to all full-time tenure-track and tenured faculty members

Grants Available: Up to $30,000 total per project will be available for projects ranging from 1 – 3 years. Projects that leverage matching funds and partnerships are encouraged but not required. Funds may be used to support the following: 1) research expenses, including supplies, materials, equipment and travel; 2) stipends or salary support for the training of graduate students; and 3) organization of workshops and conferences involving community partners with the goal of expanding LUARS-relevant research.

Deadline: October 25, 2019

Application requirements: All applications must be submitted through the Romeo Research Portal; the following information will be required:
1) Description of proposed research and training activities, and how activities will lead to sustaining LUARS in the long-term;
2) Current CCVs of the applicant(s); and

3) Letter(s) of support indicating cash and in-kind contributions from partner institutions and/or industry (if applicable).
4) Specific details on the use of land and facility at LUARS (if applicable).

Approval procedure: The VPRI will establish an internal peer review committee to rank and recommend projects for funding based on the following criteria:
  a) The merit of the research project and degree to which the proposed activities increase interdisciplinary research and research capacity at LUARS;
  b) The impact of the project on the training of graduate students;
  c) Potential impact of the project's expected outcomes;
  d) Appropriateness of proposed expenditures and budget justification;
  e) The academic excellence and research background of all researchers involved in the project;
  f) Ability to leverage or attract external research funding or funding from community/industry partners; and
  g) Demonstrated commitment from partner organizations through financial or in-kind support of the collaboration (recommended but not mandatory).

A final report outlining evidence of project deliverables and projected research outcomes must be submitted through the Romeo Research Portal within two months of completion. Researchers will be ineligible to submit future funding applications until the final report has been submitted.

For additional information, please contact Dr. Andrew P. Dean, Vice-President Research and Innovation (VPRI) at 807-343-8201 or at vpresearch@lakeheadu.ca.

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