Proof of Concept Proposal

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**Statement of Purpose**

The Proof of Concept (PoC) Fund aims to support AUC’s faculty and staff by providing funds to drive projects with significant commercial potential towards achieving key commercial milestones, that will help transform early stage research into investment-ready technologies, thereby increasing their chances of success and opportunities for uptake into the market. At the end of the PoC Fund certain technology risks should be removed and potential should be demonstrated to enable the technology to be ready for further investment; a licensing agreement, a joint development plan with external organizations, a large grant application for translational funding to enable the next stage of commercial development, or in some cases licensing into a new faculty-led startup company formed around the technology.

**Eligibility**

Eligible projects include those in which have applied for IP protection in the form of a patent application within the past five years through AUC’s Technology Transfer Office.

**Proposal Preparation Guidelines**

The following sections are required in the proposal. Please complete each section quantifying your inputs wherever possible and insuring that evidenced based rationale, from either primary (i.e., customer validation) or secondary sources (i.e. Published reports or databases), is included to support your statements.

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| **1.BACKGROUND** |
| **1.1 Problem: Describe the problem/opportunity your technology is intended to address** |
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| **1.2. Current treatment options: What are the current solution/treatment options? What are the shortcomings of the current treatment options?** |
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| **1.3 .Define unmet need: What is needed to address the problem and/or treatment gap identified above?** |
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| **2. POTENTIAL TECHNOLOGICAL SOLUTION** |
| **2.1. Solution Overview: Provide an overview of your solution.** |
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| **2.2. Competitive Analysis: How is your proposed solution better than existing/emerging competing technologies?** |
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| **2.3. Technology: Provide a summary of the core technology and how it works. *(Include necessary references in Appendix)*** |
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| **2.4. Value Proposition/Advantages: How does the proposed solution benefit various stakeholders (customers, buyers, consumers)? This can be from both social and economic perspectives.** |
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| **3. AIMS OF THE PROJECT, OVERVIEW OF METHODS AND THE TEAM** |
| **3.1. What is the current Development Status (describe technology development efforts/number of tests/results to date)** |
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| **3.2. Please state what you expect to achieve during the requested funding period.** |
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| **3.3. Please break this down into milestones that can serve as checkpoints for the project.** |
| |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **No.** | **Milestone** | **Start Date** | **End Date** | **Description** | **Min. Target to proceed to next milestone** | | **1** |  |  |  |  |  | | **2** |  |  |  |  |  | | **3** |  |  |  |  |  | | **4** |  |  |  |  |  | |
| **3.4. What are the specific deliverables for your project? Insert information in table** |
| |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **No.** | **Activity** | **Start Date** | **End**  **Date** | **Resources needed** | **Relevant Milestone No.** | | **I** |  |  |  |  |  | | **II** |  |  |  |  |  | | **III** |  |  |  |  |  | | **IV** |  |  |  |  |  | |
| **3.5. Please describe/link how the funds will be used to achieve the deliverables.** |
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| **3.6. Please name they key personnel that will be involved in the project and provide a brief background for each team member.** |
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| **3.7. Does your project or intended end product require compliance with any health, safety, legal, ethical or environmental regulations, expectations, or standards? If so, why or why not? Please elaborate.** |
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| **3.8.What is the anticipated regulatory pathway for this technology? And/or what standards or standard tests will you be performing and how many of each of these tests will you perform? What studies have you carried out and what remaining studies are required for regulatory approval, and what are the targeted end points?** |
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| **3.9. .Are there areas in which believe that your project has gaps in expertise where you need some sort of additional support for the program? For instance, advice in various areas such as scale up expertise, adjacent/complementary technical field, business modeling, ethical, social and cultural, marketing, business strategy, management, regulatory, project management, etc.** |
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| **3.10. Who are the expected end users for this technology? How will it be used or administered, and how does this compare with current practices?** |
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| **3.11. If relevant, where and how can the technology be manufactured? Do you anticipate technical or capacity constraints to manufacture?** |
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| **3.12. What is the approximate delivered cost of the technology at the moment based on your lab scale work to date? And what is your expectation of cost of the final product using your technology? Who is expected to pay for it?** |
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| **3.13. Please describe the anticipated path towards further development beyond this funded project (eg: collaborations, spin-out, partnerships, licensing arrangements) and each team member’s ideal role.** |
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**E. APPENDIX FOR REFERENCES**