CELSS Grants for Graduate Students’ Dissertation Chapters

The Columbia Experimental Laboratory in the Social Sciences (CELSS) is starting a new funding program supporting PhD dissertation chapters that utilize data collected in the lab. The maximum budget is $3,000. Higher requests may be considered only in exceptional circumstances.

Eligibility
The funds are restricted to doctoral students who have previously obtained a graduate student seed grant from CELSS and can demonstrate that the project has high probability of becoming part of their dissertations. Applicants must show a good faith effort of obtaining funding from external sources. In addition, the proposal must have been presented at a workshop or colloquium with some faculty presence (for example, in the Economics department: a field colloquium, the Cognition and Decision Lab meeting, or the Experimental Lunch).

Applicants must be advanced doctoral students at Columbia in Economics, Political Science, SIPA, or the Business School, the four departments or schools that are members of CELSS.

Application
The deadline for Fall 2016 applications is October 31, 2016. Later applications may be considered on a rolling basis, depending on funds’ availability.

The application must include: (1) a cover letter; (2) a paper summarizing the results from the initial CELSS grant; (3) the budget; (4) the applicant’s cv; (5) the endorsement of the student’s thesis adviser. The proposal must be presented at either the Cognition and Decision Lab meeting or the Experimental Lunch.

The cover letter (maximum 2 pages) should outline briefly the basic rationale of the research, the question under study, and the experimental procedures. Please note that the length constraint will be enforced strictly.

The endorsement of the thesis adviser can be an email to the CELSS director (celss-director@columbia.edu). The adviser needs to state explicitly that he/she (1) is familiar with the work done so far, (2) is confident that the project can produce a high quality dissertation chapter; (3) will be responsible for following the progress of the project.

The applicant should submit the items mentioned above in electronic form in a single compressed folder, and send the application to the CELSS manager, at celss-manager@columbia.edu. The title of the e-mail should be “Application for CELSS Funding; Dissertations” and the name of the compressed file should be “LastnameFirstname_CelssFundingApp”.

Note: Unless part of a class, any experiment at CELSS requires approval by the Institutional Review Board (http://www.columbia.edu/cu/irb/) and the respect of the rules of use for the laboratory (http://blogs.cuit.columbia.edu/celss/rules/). Failure to comply with IRB and CELSS rules will result in the withdrawal of the grant.

The funding allocation expires at the end of the second semester following the grant (here: December 2017). Unused funds will be reappropriated by CELSS.