



The Buck Lab for Climate & Environment – Grants Program

Background

Through a very generous gift from Colby College Trustee Sandy Buck '78 and Sissy Buck, Colby established the Buck Lab for Climate and Environment, a nexus for Colby students, faculty and community partners to collaborate on environmental scholarship, teaching and learning, civic engagement, and career explorations. The Buck Lab is also an incubator to incentivize new and broad-reaching interdisciplinary work to further understand and solve the world's daunting environmental and climate-related challenges. By disseminating the insights gained from the environmental work of students, faculty, and staff, the Buck Lab creates a highly visible public face for Colby's strong contributions to and leadership role in the study of the environment.

Says Sandy Buck, "There has never been a more important time for innovative thinking and investment in environmental issues. Having worked with Maine's environmental organizations for a long time, I see how hungry they are for collaboration, and how much we have to do to change course and leave this planet in a better place for the next generation. I can't think of a better way to do it than providing opportunities for young people who are passionate about this work."¹

Through a series of grants programs, The Buck Lab support student and faculty research, experiential learning opportunities in the classroom and in the field, student internships with new collaborative partners doing environmental work, community engagement, professional skills development, career networking, and travel to professional meetings.

Buck Lab Student-Faculty Collaborative Research Grants for 2020-21

Colby faculty in the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences and interdisciplinary programs who are proposing new research or are engaged in existing research related to any aspect of the study or exploration of climate and environment and involving current Colby students as research assistants are invited to apply for a Buck Lab Student-Faculty Collaborative Research Grant. Research may be proposed as part of student-faculty scholarship in existing projects. We will accept proposals for remote and in-person research, and will advise on COVID-19 as needed. There will be two rounds of grants available during each academic year to support research projects in January/spring and summer/fall.

Guidelines

Buck Lab Student-Faculty Research Grants will be awarded competitively, and the award amount will vary depending upon the nature and location of the research project, quality of the research proposal, feasibility of the project, availability of funds, and other factors deemed important by the grants committee. If the proposed project will be carried out in more than one

¹<http://www.pressherald.com/2016/12/14/colby-to-launch-internships-in-sustainability-and-climate-change/>

academic year, please address each year's activities in your proposal. A decision will be made about funding the first year of the project, and subsequent years' support may also be addressed. Before submitting an application, faculty are welcome to discuss their research plans, the mission of the Buck Lab, and the grant guidelines and submission process with Buck Lab Director Gail Carlson (gcarlson@colby.edu).

All successful grant recipients will be required to report back to the Buck Lab and the Colby community on their research experience and outcomes. At a minimum, students involved in these collaborative research projects will present their results at a dedicated Buck Lab session at the Colby Liberal Arts Symposium (CLAS). Faculty will be asked to submit to the Buck Lab a short description of their experience and at least one photo or other form of image/figure for use in Buck Lab communications materials. Any publications, presentations or other formal output resulting from this funded work should acknowledge the support of the Buck Lab for Climate & Environment.

Deadlines: Review of applications for summer grants will begin on Monday, April 5, 2021.

Submission: Faculty must complete a Buck Lab Student-Faculty Research Program grant application as described below. All materials must be submitted electronically to bucklab@colby.edu by the deadline. Grant awards will be made by the Buck Lab Grants Committee.

Proposals

Proposals should be concise and clear and include all sections indicated below. Please use one-inch margins, 12-point font, single-spacing, and do not exceed four (4) pages in length. Save your file as a PDF with the following label that indicates you are applying for a faculty-student research (FSR) grant: **YourLastName_BuckLabFSR_Date**.

Please include:

PROJECT INFORMATION

- At the top, faculty name, title and department/program. Include your name in a heading on all pages of the document.
- Indicate that you are applying for a Buck Lab Student-Faculty Collaborative Research Grant.
- Project title, names and class years of student collaborators, and names and affiliations of other collaborators, if any

ABSTRACT

- 150 words or less
- Briefly summarize the research question, environmental significance, proposed methodological approach and desired outcomes of your project.

INTRODUCTION

- Provide background information and description of environmental problem and how your proposed research project fits with research and knowledge in this field
- Include references to key literature in the field

- Include a statement about the connection of your proposed project to the mission of the Buck Lab.
- Describe student involvement and learning/experiential outcomes for students

APPROACH

- Provide a detailed research plan, including:
 - Location where research will be carried out and rationale for this location
 - Research partners, resources, organizations, field stations, etc. – all people and places that will provide resources, collaborate, serve as guides, mentors, research subjects, etc.
 - Expected start and end date for this project
 - Planned methodologies
 - Equipment, data or source materials needed
 - Tentative timeline of activities
 - If needed, confirmation that the Colby Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval for human subjects research has been granted (see www.colby.edu/psych/irb)
 - Issues related to safety, cost, research feasibility, etc. that may be of interest to the grant committee

OUTPUT

- Describe expected final products from this research, including manuscript, student honors thesis, research paper or poster, exhibit, performance, conference presentation, archive, etc.

BUDGET

- Use a table format for each expense category (travel, lodging, food, site transportation, supplies, other expenses). See sample table below.
- Indicate *Unit Cost* (e.g., estimated lodging cost per night), *Number of Units* (e.g., number of nights' lodging) and *Total Cost* (e.g., unit cost x number of units)
- Make sure all budget items are justified by your project description.
- Economy in budget planning is encouraged
- If relevant, include a student stipend if needed to cover the equivalent amount of work study earnings or summer earnings that would otherwise be earned during the grant period, not to exceed \$400 for Jan 2018 and \$2,500 for summer 2018.
- Include the total amount of funding requested in bold.
- If the proposed project will be carried out in more than one academic year, please separate budget items and totals by year.
- Indicate in narrative form if you are seeking funds for this project from sources other than the Buck Lab. Include a stipend if needed to cover
- Include the total amount of funding requested in bold in the bottom row.
- Indicate in narrative form if you are seeking funds for this project from sources other than the Buck Lab

LastName Proposed Budget				
	Unit Cost	No. Units	Total Cost	Expense Justification
Travel				
Lodging				
Food				
Transportation				
Stipend				
Other expenses				
TOTAL			TOTAL	

Are you applying for funds for this project from sources other than the Buck Lab?

Disbursement of funds

Successful grant recipients will receive funds via reimbursement to faculty after purchases are made. Faculty must keep and submit all original receipts covering all expenses. Receipts must show clearly the date, what was purchased and for how much. Submit all receipts and, once the research project is concluded, an organized budget report to bucklab@colby.edu.

Liabilities and consent

Faculty and students are responsible for any expenses or liabilities incurred during their research travel and activities that are in excess of the approved award from the Buck lab. Award recipients are solely responsible for insuring their own safety during all research activities. Colby College and the Buck Lab for Climate & Environment are not responsible for health or safety issues that may arise as a result of this grant award.

Faculty are responsible for checking on travel warnings to their research locations (e.g., from the U.S. State Department). Students need to submit a travel waiver as required by the Off-Campus Study Office and Risk Management Office for travel to countries with travel warnings. For projects that require international travel, students are encouraged to sign up with the college's new travel registry through the off-campus study office (<http://www.colby.edu/offcampus/travel-registry/>).