Based on Duke’s rich tradition of interdisciplinary work and drawing on the intellectual assets of the entire University to address global issues, the Duke Global Health Institute seeks to reduce disparities in health through programs and activities in global health education, research, service, and policy. Likewise, the vision of the Pratt School of Engineering is for its faculty to be catalysts for generating and integrating knowledge across the disciplines required to address complex issues facing a global society. Harnessing the research experience, insight and creative energy of these dynamic faculties in engineering and global health has great potential to successfully address complex global health problems.

Through this RFP, the Pratt School of Engineering and the Duke Global Health Institute are offering funding for pilot research projects that utilize an interdisciplinary research approach to engineering and global health. This year we are encouraging applications from engineering faculty who are new to global health work. Thus, we seek and will give special consideration to applications from engineering and global health faculty who seek to use the pilot grant support to establish new collaborations and projects in global health research. We will provide these pilot funds with the larger goal of enabling investigators to leverage preliminary findings and data to obtain larger awards of external funding and develop collaborations in low- and middle-income countries. Proposed projects can be developmental (pre-field) or field based, and there must be a strong emphasis on innovation and the potential for future product development shown in the proposal. The project leadership must include at least one faculty member from Pratt and one from DGHI.

To apply, please submit a proposal (3 page single space maximum) describing the proposed project goals, approaches, timeline, plans to use seed funding to secure external funding, and bibliography. Include a budget for up to $50,000 for personnel (staff or student but not faculty support), supplies, or travel. No indirect costs can be provided. Project duration should be 6-12 months. Include biosketches of key personnel, and a letter of support from international collaborators if appropriate.

Proposals will be reviewed based on the quality of the proposed studies, their relevance to the application of engineering to Global Health, the relevance to research priorities of DGHI (https://globalhealth.duke.edu/research), and potential to leverage the pilot grant to secure extramural funding.

Proposals must be submitted by 5 pm, Tuesday, July 15, 2014 to: Kelly.Deal@Duke.edu. Awards will be announced by August 15, 2014 to begin September 1, 2014.

Released May 1, 2014
Eligible Applicants
All Duke University faculty in the School of Engineering and DGHI are eligible to apply for funding. Proposals must include faculty leads from Pratt and DGHI. Faculty new to global health are strongly encouraged to submit proposals. Additional collaborators from low- and middle-income countries are encouraged.

Budgets
The budget for a pilot project may include: supplies; salary support for technicians, research assistants, and graduate students; research-related travel (but not travel to scientific meetings); and other justifiable research expenses. Faculty salary and indirect costs are not allowable expenses. Applicants may apply for up to $50,000 one year. Smaller proposals for shorter periods are also encouraged. Depending on application budgets, we expect to make 2 awards.

Application Requirements
Applications must propose work that is applicable to health problems in low- and middle-income countries (a listing of eligible countries can be found at the World Bank website). The application must include co-principal investigators from the School of Engineering and DGHI (http://globalhealth.duke.edu/whos-involved/institute-faculty; http://www.pratt.duke.edu/directory). If the project is sufficiently far advanced, applicants are encouraged to identify collaborating in-country investigators, and should describe plans for how the results generated will be applied to obtain future external funding.

Cover Page. Must include the following information:
- Proposal title
- Name, title, departmental affiliation, address, e-mail address, and telephone number of all proposed investigators
- Designation of Co-Principal Investigators

Abstract (250 words maximum)

Research plan (3 page maximum – single spaced, 12 point font, 1” margins all the way around) including:
- Statement of scientific and engineering objectives and their significance
- Work already completed related to the proposed work
- Description of the research team and research setting
- Proposed methods and plans for data analysis
- Applicability of project goals to low and middle-income countries and plans to develop a collaboration with researchers in that country
- Potential for future grant support and specific plans to achieve external funding goals
- Contribution of each investigator to the project

Appendix materials (1 page maximum each-- single spaced, 12 point font, 1” margins all the way around) including:
- Research schedule and milestones
- Collaborative nature of the project
- Relevance to mission of the DGHI
- Letter of support from a collaborating researcher in a low or middle income country, if applicable
- Budget and justification -Budget should include support for each co-PI's lab
Bibliography (not limited to 1 page; not counted in 3 page Research Plan page limit)

Curriculum vitae OR NIH biosketch for each investigator including current grant support and limited to four pages for each investigator

Submission Format
Please combine all required elements into a single pdf document and submit via email to kelly.deal@duke.edu with the subject line of “Engineering/Global Health Pilot Grant Submission.”

Inquiries
We welcome the opportunity to answer questions from potential applicants. For advice about overseas sites where projects could be undertaken, linkages with potential overseas collaborators, advice on preparing budgets for international projects, and questions about biostatistical support, please contact:

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