Dear Colleagues,

The Robert H.N. Ho Mind, Brain, and Behavior Initiative (MBBI) provides opportunities for Colgate faculty, staff, and students whose interests address topics related to mind, brain, and behavior to enhance their own work and their connections with colleagues from across campus. MBBI support is intended for faculty and staff from across departments, programs, and divisions at Colgate.

The MBBI Executive Advisory Committee here solicits proposals seeking funding for scholarly and curricular programmatic work connected to mind, brain, and behavior. Both smaller (<$5,000) discretionary grants and larger (up to $20,000 or more) funding opportunities are available, as described in the guidelines below. This round of funding will support projects to be undertaken in spring 2023, summer 2023, and the 2023-24 academic year.

Guidelines

Proposals are welcome from all divisions at Colgate. Both ongoing and one-off events that promote MBBI-related activities or projects that enhance scholarship, teaching, student involvement, or other ideas for exploring topics involving mind, brain, and/or behavior are encouraged.

Proposals with budgets of less than $5,000 are reviewed for discretionary funding on a rolling basis and can be submitted anytime by email to MBBI chair Ken Belanger (kbelanger@colgate.edu). In this email, provide a brief (1 - 3 paragraph) description of the proposed project, activity, or event(s), including the project rationale and potential outcomes, an approximate time frame, names of those organizing the project, and others who may be impacted or benefit from the project. Also provide a detailed budget indicating how the requested funds will be used. Funding decisions on these discretionary grants will normally be made within two weeks of submission.

Proposals with budgets of greater than $5,000 will be reviewed competitively by the MBBI Executive Advisory Committee after the January 27, 2023, submission deadline (see below). We anticipate that the total budget for most proposals will be less than $20,000, but high-impact proposals with larger budgets are encouraged, as well.

Proposals seeking these competitive funds must include the following components:
- Project title and name(s) of applicant(s)
- Project description (maximum of four pages)
- Statement of connection to mind, brain, and behavior (maximum of one page)
- List of any other project collaborators, including faculty, staff, and students with a brief indication of their role in the project
- CV or resume of applicant(s) and major contributors to the project
- Proposed project budget that clearly indicates expenses for any travel, housing, living expenses, supplies, services, equipment, student wages, or other costs associated with the project. (A downloadable template budget form can be found in the Research Council funding guidelines.)

Applications should be submitted as email attachments with the subject heading “MBBI proposal submission” to Laura Billings (lcbillings@colgate.edu) by Friday, January 27, 2023. Funding decisions will be communicated in February 2023. This Spring 2023 round of funding will provide
support up to August 31, 2024. Please reach out to the MBBI advisory committee chair if you have questions about your project idea and/or potential budget.

Proposals for initiatives relating to topics on mind, brain, and behavior, broadly defined, are encouraged. Some potential project ideas include:

- Research that involves Colgate faculty (or faculty and students) exploring questions relating to mind, brain, and behavior, broadly defined. Projects that involve collaboration across different academic disciplines to work on mind, brain, and behavior-related scholarship are particularly encouraged, but innovative projects within a single discipline also may be supported.

- Reading groups, teaching tables, or curricular development around topics related to mind, brain, and behavior.

- MBBI-centric travel opportunities for small teams to attend national conferences, visit leaders at other institutions, or undertake other travel with the intent to capture the latest developments in the field and to bring back innovative ideas and approaches for use at Colgate.

- Visits to Colgate by a distinguished scholar or scholars for all-campus lectures and faculty/student interactions. Scholar(s) would ideally visit Hamilton for multiple days and engage in conversations with Colgate faculty and students to allow for interactions that significantly impact idea sharing, scholarship, and/or teaching in MBBI-related fields.

We encourage proposals from across campus. Please feel free to reach out to any member of the MBBI advisory committee if you have questions.

Respectfully,

The MBBI Executive Advisory Committee
Ken Belanger – Professor of Biology (chair)
Carolina Castilla – Associate Professor of Economics
Steve Chouinard – Senior Associate Athletics Director for Health and Performance
Nick Diana - Assistant Professor of Computer Science
Laura Festine – Director of University Grants and Sponsored Research
Krista Ingram – Associate Dean of the Faculty for Faculty Recruitment and Development; Professor of Biology
Carrie Keating – Professor of Psychological and Brain Sciences
Spencer Kelly – Professor of Psychological and Brain Sciences and Neuroscience
Ben Lennertz – Assistant Professor of Philosophy
Wan-chun Liu - Associate Professor of Psychological and Brain Sciences and Neuroscience
Darcie Loveless – Senior Associate Director of Donor Relations