Partnerships for Broader Impacts Design
Application for New Partnerships
Deadline: August 20, 2018

Please direct all questions and applications to:
Eve Klein
Senior Research Associate
Institute for Learning Innovation
eve.klein@freechoicelearning.org

Project Overview

Partnerships for Broader Impacts Design is a three-year National Science Foundation-funded project to create a and toolkit that will assist universities and informal science education organizations (ISEs) in developing robust institutional partnerships through collaborative design of education-based Broader Impacts (BI) experiences. The project builds on the successful Portal to the Public framework, a national public engagement training program for scientists. The project centers on the experimental development of Broader Impacts Design (BID) teams that function across organizations within each partnership.

The project is a collaboration between Cornell University, Oregon State University's Center for Research on Lifelong STEM Learning, Pacific Science Center, Sciencenter, University of Washington - Bothell, University of Wisconsin - Madison, and the Wisconsin Institutes for Discovery, and is led by the Institute for Learning Innovation.

This project involves three stages of work:

1. Identify best practices and common attributes of BI-focused university/ISE partnerships
2. Develop and disseminate a best practices framework and set of tools
3. Work iteratively with practitioners in both ISE and university-based BI roles to refine the new framework

The project's core research question centers on the characteristics of durable institutional partnerships. The resultant tools and framework will be based on the work of the core partners identified above and on the experiences of the partnerships accepted through this call for applications.

Project Activities and Goals

The overarching goal of this project is to advance the field of informal science learning by creating cross-institutional partnerships that both contribute to, and are sustained by, structures around the design of BI experiences. The project seeks to address several established challenges associated with meeting the National Science Foundation's Broader Impacts criteria, many of which arise from the ad-hoc nature of BI support efforts.

To address these challenges, this project will help universities and ISEs to develop lasting BI-focused partnerships with core team members – one at the university and one at the ISE – who are well versed in BI, supported by their institution, and familiar with their partner institution's culture and priorities. These core team members make up the backbone of the BID team, and will be poised to work with individual PIs to help them identify the skills, expertise, and resources necessary to produce meaningful BI work.

New Partnerships

The project seeks up to six new partnerships to join our efforts. Each partnership must consist of one university and one ISE organization. These partners will create or grow their own institutional partnerships, and will build a BID team to support local PIs as they develop their own BI activities. One core team member from each of the two partnering organizations will be responsible for leading the effort, for building institutional support, for recruiting and collaborating with PIs, and for engaging other members of the academic and non-academic community whose perspectives are essential to building strong, high-impact BI activities (e.g., staff at community-based organizations, religious leaders, or other academics).

Partnerships selected to join the BID project are expected to participate in the following ways:

- Attend in-person workshop in November (see below for details)
- Establish or strengthen partnerships at an institutional level*
- Work with a minimum of 3 PIs to develop their proposals and BI activities
- Develop evaluation plan for BI proposals and for funded BI activities
- Test BID tools and provide feedback
- Participle in periodic calls with other BID teams
- Provide progress reports to BID project leadership team as needed
- Participate in research and evaluation activities, which includes completing a short quarterly survey (approximately 10 minutes) and participating in up to two individual interviews or focus-group calls (approximately 1 to 2 hours). Researchers may also be present and observing team activities at the BID workshop, and during meetings with the project leadership team. Prior to participating in these activities, participants will be provided with an "Explanation of Research" document and given the opportunity to ask questions to the research team about their involvement. Additional research activities may occur and will be designed to aid teams is planning, conceptualizing, and reflecting on their work.

*By "institutional" partnerships, we mean those that are strategically placed, woven into the operational fabric of the organization, have the explicit support of individuals in leadership positions, and are designed to withstand staff-turnover.

Planning workshop

Selected partners will begin their BID work at a two-day planning workshop in Seattle, WA, November 7-8 2018. Each partnership will be expected to send two staff members, one from each institution, to this workshop.

Expected Timeline:
- August 20, 2018: Applications due
- By September 1, 2018: Applicants are notified
- September - October 2018: Review preparatory materials
- November 7-8, 2018: Planning workshop
- December 2018 – August 2019: BID team activities

Financial Support for Travel

Travel expenses to and from the workshop in Seattle will be covered. Eligible expenses include airfare, ground transportation to/from the airport and meeting sessions, and lodging (up to three nights). Breakfast and lunch will be provided during the workshop.

APPLICATION

UNIVERSITY PARTNER

Institution Name:	
Primary Contact Person:	
Position/Title:	
Department:	
Current Mailing Address:	
City, State, Zip Code:	
Phone Number:	
Email address:	

If your institution is recognized as a minority-serving institution (MSI), please indicate which of the following best describes your organization.

[   ] Historically black college or university (HBCU)
[   ] Black-serving non-HBCU
[   ] Hispanic-serving institution
[   ] Asian Pacific Islander-serving institution
[   ] American Indian-serving institution
[   ] Tribal college or university
[   ] Other minority-serving (please describe) [   ]

Does your institution have current Carnegie Community Engagement Classification?

[   ] Yes   [   ]   No

Approximately how many graduate students attend your institution?

[   ] Fewer than 1,000   [   ] 5,001 – 10,000
[   ] 1,001 – 5,000   [   ] More than 10,000

According to the Carnegie Classifications, what level of research activity occurs at your university?

[   ] R1 (Highest)   [   ] R3 (Moderate)
[   ] R2 (Higher)   [   ] Other (please describe) [   ]

In what type of area is your institution located?

[   ] Urban   [   ] Suburban   [   ] Rural

What support systems exist on your campus for Broader Impacts work?

INFORMAL SCIENCE EDUCATION PARTNER

Organization Name:	
Primary Contact Person:	
Position/Title:	
Department:	
Current Mailing Address:	
City, State, Zip Code:	
Phone Number:	
Email address:	

What kind of institution or organization are you?
[ ] Science and/or technology museum
[ ] Natural history museum
[ ] Zoo or aquarium
[ ] Children's museum
[ ] Nature center, arboretum, or park
[ ] Other: _____

Approximately how many people (visitors/members of the public) do you serve annually?
[ ] Fewer than 25,000   [ ] 100,001 – 500,000
[ ] 25,001 – 50,000   [ ] 500,001 – 1,000,000
[ ] 50,001 – 100,000   [ ] More than 1,000,000

In an average year, taking into account seasonal variation, approximately how many staff members in your organization fall into the following categories?
Full-time Employee: [   ]
Part-time Employee: [   ]
Unpaid Volunteer: [   ]

In what type of area is your institution/organization located?
[ ] Urban   [ ] Suburban   [ ] Rural

Please provide a brief description of the public programs and events run by your organization.

What (if any) collaborations has your organization had with researchers in your area?

INSTITUTIONAL CONTEXT

How would participating in the BID project benefit each of your institutions? What outcomes or impacts are you hoping to achieve through this work, for your institutions, for your community, or for any other group?

What is the history of partnership or collaborations between the two partnership institutions? Note that a robust history is not required for participation.

MEMBERS OF THE BID TEAM

For this project, you will build a BID team with two core team members, one at each of the two partnering organizations. These two team members will be responsible for recruiting PIs who seek support for their Broader Impacts efforts, and for identifying additional areas of expertise that are necessary to ensure that BI projects are designed to serve the needs and interests of all stakeholders.

At each of the two partner organizations, who would likely be responsible for attending the workshop and serving as a core member of the BID team? Please indicate name, title, and a brief description of each person's anticipated contributions to the project.

LETTER OF SUPPORT

The BI project is working to create durable institutional ISE/University partnerships that have documented support from the organization's administration. **Please include, attached to this application, a signed letter of support from a member of each organization's senior leadership team.** For university partners this letter may come from leadership in an office of research and/or a division of outreach and engagement. If you have questions about who may constitute an appropriate representative, please contact eve.klein@freechoicelearning.org.

Thank you for your interest in joining the Partnerships for Broader Impacts Design project. We look forward to reviewing your application.