**Arts, Sciences and Engineering
& NYS Center for Emerging and Innovative Sciences
Pilot Award Program in AR/VR
Request for Pilot Award Applications
Application Deadline: May 31, 2017**

The purpose of this Pilot Award Program is to support exploratory projects related to the science, technology, and applications of virtual and augmented reality. Activities funded by this program may range from single investigator projects to multi-investigator, multi-disciplinary efforts. Preference will be given to proposals that are highly innovative, impactful, and have a high potential for follow-on funding.

Pilot awards will be for one-year, and will provide up to approximately $50k p/project in funding (depending on the availability of funding and number of meritorious applications).

Projects that bring together researchers from the various schools in the University are encouraged. Matching funds will always be viewed favorably, and will be expected for projects with investigators whose primary appointments are outside of Arts, Sciences, and Engineering.

Program Details
Eligibility: The principal investigator (PI) of each proposal **must** be a member of the faculty, eligible to serve as a PI on externally funded research awards. At least one of the principals **must** be from AS&E.

Eligible Projects: Projects from a broad range of activities are encouraged; including vision, auditory and multi-sensory perceptual sciences, enabling technologies and technology demonstration projects, specific applications of AR/VR, innovative uses of AR/VR in education and training, computing and data management in AR/VR, and new, more efficient and effective approaches to AR/VR content creation.

Review Criteria:
1. <u>Innovation:</u> Projects cannot be simply continuations of ongoing funded research.
2. <u>Strategic Impact</u>: Projects should represent activities that will be significant to the broad field of AR/VR. Projects that leverage areas of particular local strength and/or align with other University priorities will be viewed favorably.
3. <u>Team Qualifications</u>: Multidisciplinary teams are encouraged when it clearly benefits the project.
4. <u>Potential for Extramural Support:</u> Articulation of a well thought out plan to pursue extramural funding.

Important Dates and Deadlines:
- **May 31, 2017 at 5:00 PM – proposals must be received**. *Note that the submission portal will close after 5:00 PM.*
- **June 15, 2017.** Notification of awards will be made.
- **July 1, 2017.** Anticipated start date. Note: All animal and human subject protocols must be approved prior to the start date. No funds will be released until these approvals have been documented.

Submitting a Proposal
Online submission: Proposals must be submitted electronically via the online submission system at
https://www.rochester.edu/fort/pumpprimer/

Application Format: The following information must be provided:
1. Application information (via the online submission system):
    a. Title of the Pilot Project
    b. Contact PI's name and contact information.
    c. Any Co-investigators (names and contact information)
    d. Amount of funds requested*
    e. Involvement of human subjects or vertebrate animals
    f. Chair's endorsement (online form)
    * Funds may not be used to support faculty salaries

2. Abstract (limited to 1 page, < 500 words, font size no smaller than 11 point) which includes the following:
    a. Project title and lead PI name
    b. Description of how the proposed project addresses an important problem or takes advantage of an opportunity in the field of AR/VR
    c. Specific goals of the Project
    d. Overview of Methods to be employed

3. Research Plan (limited to 3 pages, font size no smaller than 11 point) which includes the following:
    a. Significance of the research
    b. Brief summary of previous work in the field where applicable
    c. Approach
    d. Brief timeline (limited to one year)
    e. Outline of plans for follow-on funding
    f. References (limit of 10)

4. Short CV - NSF or NIH style Bios for all participants - no more than 5 pages.

5. If the proposed project builds upon current externally funded research, briefly describe and list the source of support and briefly explain how the new project is related to the previous work.

6. Budget and brief Budget Justification: Please use NSF/basic form or simple table in Word

7. Regulatory Information - If applicable (no page limit, font size no smaller than 11 point):
    a. Human Subjects
    b. Vertebrate Animals
    c. Select Agents
    d. Multi-PI Plan, if applicable

Proof of IACUC, IRB, RSRB and/or UCAR review and approval is not required at the time of submission, but will be required before a final award is made

Notes:
   a) Include the page number and name of the contact PI in the footer of all pages of the proposal.
   b) No letters of support are required, however in cases where project participants are from outside of AS&E letters from Department Chairs or Deans committing matching support dollars is requested.

For additional information contact:
For questions on the Pilot Program: Cindy Gary, Assistant Dean for Grants & Contracts
Hajim School of Engineering & Applied Sciences (585) 273-5173; cindy.gary@rochester.edu or Debra
Haring, Assistant Dean for Grants & Contracts, Arts & Sciences (585) 273-2289;
debra.haring@rochester.edu
For questions on submitting the application in online portal: Paula Losey (585) 275-5286;
paula.losey@rochester.edu