# 2020-2021 MBB Faculty Awards

The main goal of the Mind Brain Behavior Interfaculty Initiative (MBB) is to foster a better understanding of mind, the brain, and behavior by creating and promoting interdisciplinary experiences, education, and research. We are pleased to announce the availability of the 2020-2021 MBB Faculty Awards.

**PURPOSE:** These awards are intended to support faculty members who want to examine MBB-related issues through interdisciplinary research, education, or experiences.

**WHAT IS INTERDISCIPLINARY?** As fields change, it becomes increasingly difficult to identify what defines interdisciplinary research. MBB encourages applicants who are combining elements of their own field with methods or insights from another field, especially if those methods and insights have not already been appropriated by the faculty member's original field, and so long as it advances the agenda of the MBB initiative.

**WHAT KINDS OF PROJECTS AND EXPENSES QUALIFY?** This will be the eighth year we are offering these awards in this particular iteration, and we have intentionally built in a fair amount of flexibility in how these awards might be used, but please know that MBB is primarily interested in supporting novel, interdisciplinary, Harvard faculty-led projects that are relevant to MBB’s mission. These awards should increase productivity and/or facilitate inter-faculty collaboration. Therefore, all proposals must be explicitly cross-disciplinary, involving at least two principals, each from a different discipline. We have not set a maximum award amount, but we typically cap awards at $50,000, with the hope that complementary support can be secured through non-MBB funding vehicles. **Only on rare occasions, and only for proposals of the highest caliber, will MBB grant an award amount that exceeds $50,000.**

An MBB Faculty Award could be used to support, up to the award amount, and including fringe benefits in the case of salary support:

* Personnel (Postdoctoral Fellow, Visiting Research Fellow, Research Assistant)
* Research Equipment or Supplies
* Study Participant Payments/Costs
* Developing and Hosting Interdisciplinary Workshops, Conferences, or Seminars

These are just a few examples of the types of projects or expenses that would qualify. All Harvard faculty members who currently work or wish to work in MBB-related fields are encouraged to apply. These awards cannot be used as salary support for the Principal Investigator(s).

# EXPECTATIONS: Award recipients will be expected to:

* Communicate their interdisciplinary experience, the fruits of their work, and the insights gained. This might include a presentation to an MBB audience or may involve a written report;
* Participate in other MBB activities, e.g., attend MBB-sponsored events, faculty receptions, etc.;
* Submit a final report to MBB, including financial summary, at the end of the award period;
* Submit copies of any papers or publications that result from the research, and acknowledge their MBB award in such papers and publications.

# APPLICATION DEADLINE: January 24, 2020 - We will be unable to accept late submissions. Funds are intended to support projects that coincide with Harvard’s fiscal year, i.e., July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021. Each applicant will be required to request a specific award amount and to submit an itemized account of how the award will be used. MBB cannot guarantee that all successful applicants will receive the full award amount.

**FACULTY RESEARCH AWARD APPLICATION – 2020-2021**

**Principal Investigator**First Name:
Last Name:
Harvard ID Number:

Department:
Office Address:

Email:

Website: http://

**Co-Investigator**First Name:
Last Name:
Harvard ID Number:

Department:
Office Address:

Email:

Website: http://

**Co-Investigator (if applicable)**First Name:
Last Name:
Harvard ID Number:

Department:
Office Address:

Email:

Website: http://

**Please check the applicable box or boxes. This is an application for support for:**

* Postdoctoral Fellow
* Visiting Research Fellow
* Research Assistant
* Research Equipment or Supplies
* Subject Fees
* Interdisciplinary Workshops, Conferences, or Seminars
* Other - Please explain in a few sentences

**As you complete the following sections of this application…**

1. Please know that your proposal will be reviewed by a committee whose members are drawn from a variety of disciplines. Please avoid specialized discipline-specific vocabulary whenever possible. Where such terminology or language is felt to be required, please define each usage in language appropriate to a general academic readership.
2. Please adhere to page (or word number) limits where indicated and please use a standard font type and size wherever and whenever possible.
3. Please offer a clear account of the role to be played by personnel for whom salary is requested, be it technical or postdoc. In the case of postdoc, the role should be substantial with respect to the intent of the program and not simply the task of organizing symposia, etc. And please include a budget justification, i.e., what the funding will support.
4. Please remember that funding can be awarded only for a single year at a time.

**If you are applying for support for a fellowship\*, a research or support staff member\*, or research expenses, please complete this section.**

Project title:

Project start date:

Project end date:

Total funds requested from MBB:

Are any other funds available for this project?: \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_No

If yes, what source(s)?

What is the total amount available from other sources?

1. **Technical Description (no more than 300 words)**Please provide a succinct description of the problem, background theory, relevant hypotheses and planned methods.
2. **Non-Technical Description (no more than 300 words)**

Using non-technical terms, please describe the set of questions that your project aims to address and the methods you will use to answer them. Describe how this work fits with the mandates of MBB, focusing especially on its interdisciplinary nature.

1. **Detailed Project Description**

Please include a more detailed description of your proposed project (approximately 3 to 5 pages), including background, aims and hypotheses, methods, data collection and analysis (where appropriate), any preliminary or anticipated results, how this research is relevant to MBB, and any other information that you would like the review committee to consider.

**\* If you are applying for support for a fellowship, please also complete this section.**

**Fellowship Candidate Information**

Name:

Email address:

Mailing address:

Degree: Degree date:

Current advisor:

Advisor’s mailing address:

Identify support the candidate is applying for that would run concurrently with the period covered by this application (type, source, amount, dates):

Identify the candidate's other potential funding sources for this project:

**Please include the candidate’s CV with this application packet.**

**If you are applying for support for developing and launching a workshop, conference, seminar, symposia, course, or other non-experimental project, please provide the following:**

1. **Introductory summary/hypothesis**
2. **Background information, including any preliminary work for this project**
3. **Significance, expectations, possibilities, alternative perspectives**

Please discuss a projection of themes likely to arise from the effort that will be carried forward jointly within the two or more disciplines. When possible, comment on whether a potentialcadre of interested faculty or students has been identified, whether the subject or topic matter is substantially mature with cogent texts/sources already available, and whether a set of likely and plausible speakers have been identified/approached.

1. **Statement of relevance for MBB (Why MBB should support the project)**
2. **Progress report if this is a request for a second year of funding**

***Application Packet Checklist***

* Application form
* A budget (next page)
* Applicable supporting documents

**Please email a pdf version of this application packet to** **Andrea Martinez** **by January 24, 2020.**

**Mind Brain Behavior Interfaculty Initiative Faculty Award**

**2020-2021 BUDGET PAGE

PI(s):\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
Project Title:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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