UFII-Fellowship Program:
Post-Doctoral
2021

Timeline

- Application Deadline: January 25th, 2021
- Anticipated Notice of Awards: April 2021
- Earliest Start Date: May 1st, 2021

Purpose and Areas of Interest

In an effort to further its mission to develop and nurture research and education studies in Data and Computational science, as well as in Artificial Intelligence at the University of Florida, the Informatics Institute is offering 2 year fellowship awards to support Graduate Students in enhancing their education in research in a UFII thrust area at the University of Florida. The award is intended to be a supplement of support for Graduate Students who are currently supported and or employed by their College, Department, or mentoring PI, and who are on track for their PhD.

All Post-Doctoral Associates supported by the program will be provided an office for 1 year at UFII in order to foster the secondary goal of the program, promoting interdisciplinary communication and collaboration to help solve challenging problems. After the year the Post-Doctoral Associate will be moved to and fully supported by their sponsoring Department.

Estimated Number of Awards and Award Amounts

UFII hopes to make a total of 3-4 awards with each award to exceed nor more than $55,000 depending on the quality of submission and budget availability.

Required Application Documents

To be competitive proposal must be multi-/interdisciplinary and must involve faculty mentors from at least two Departments/Units/Colleges.

A complete application packet for the UFII Post-Doctoral Fellowship consists of the following in one single PDF file with a maximum file size of 2 MB.

1. **Cover Page:** Include title, the Post-Doctoral Associate’s Name, list of PI’s, Co-PI’s and all faculty contributing time to the project and mentorship of the Post-Doctoral Associate with their departmental/college affiliations, email address of primary contact PI, project start date and amount of support requested.
2. **Abstract:** Explain the rationale for the work to be accomplished by the Post-Doctoral Associates in terms that can be understood by an “intelligent non-expert”. *(Maximum 4 pages).*

3. **Biosketch or CV of the Post-Doctoral Associate**

4. **Project Budget:** The Post-Doctoral Associate’s salary and fringe are the only expenses allowed. Using the UFII Budget Template, outline the amount of salary and fringe that will be covered by UFII Funds. IDC is not included as this is an internal submission. Please check with your individual Dean’s Offices as 10% SPA may apply from their office should you be awarded.

   **Cost Share required:** All budgets must show a minimum of 50% support for the requested Post-Doctoral Associate from another source (research, departmental, college funds, etc). The Post-Doctoral Associate **Cannot** be charged 100% to UFII funds for the full 12-month period. This cost share is not reported in any UF systems, but is a show that the Post-Doctoral Associate has support outside of UFII funds.

   No cost extensions will be very strongly discouraged. PIs will be required to provide justification on why the support was unused or needs to be extend beyond the 1 year.

5. **Literature Cited** *(no page limit)*

6. **Key Personnel:** A list of the individuals to be involved and details of their participation. *(No page limit).*

7. **Key Personnel Biosketches:** A current biosketch of the Principal Investigator and each of the Co-PI’s (NIH or NSF- style biosketch suggested) and a list of their currently funded research with percent time commitment to each funded project. *(Maximum of 4 pages for each individual.)*

8. **Appendices:** If necessary to support the proposal, should be brief; please do not attach manuscripts or other lengthy documents.

9. **UFII Signature Coversheet:** This is a coversheet that should be signed by all the relevant parties that will show college/departmental awareness of any funds committed for the cost share portions.

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**How UFII Fellowships Work**

All UFII Fellowships are awarded via internal cash-based funds with a project number. In which, the awarded balance is deposited for the department/PI’s use on the awarded student’s salary and/or tuition dollars. The employment of the awarded Post-Doctoral Associate is managed by the PI’s department and not by UFII. This award does not affect the Post-Doctoral Associate’s already established salary or tuition amounts.

All awards are reviewed for compliance with the established spending restrictions as stated in this RFA. Any violations will be requested to be removed and are the sole liability of the PI’s department/unit/college.

**Awards are made to the specific Post-Doctoral Associates submitted.** Any exchanges or changes should be immediately communicated to Alethea Geiger (ageiger0213@ufl.edu) and/or George Michailidis (gmichail@ufl.edu). Please attach a justification for the change as well as the replacement Post-Doctoral Associate’s CV. The continuation of funding in this situation is at the discretion of the UF Informatics Institute and is based on qualification of the replacement Post-Doctoral Associate selected.
Eligibility

- Principal investigators (The Lead Mentor in the case of this RFA) must meet the guidelines for Principal Investigator status as outlined by UF’s Division of Sponsored Programs.
- The Submitting PI must not have received funds from prior UFII programs within the last three years.

Awardee Requirements

- Awarded Post-Doctoral Associate will be required to present at least one poster session at a UFII Sponsored or other event approved by Dr. George Michailidis regarding their research.
- Awarded Post-Doctoral Associate will be required to present at least one talk at the weekly UFII Journal Club, hosted for all UFII Fellows (both Post Doc and Graduate Student) and their mentors.
- All presentations and publications resulting from work funded by UFII Fellowship must include a funding citation:
  "Research reported in this publication was supported by the University of Florida Informatics Institute Fellowship Program."
- Awardees must notify the UFII during the funding period if there is a significant change in the scope of work that would affect the outcome of the project or necessitate re-budgeting, extension of time, or a change of the nominee the award covers.

Review Process and Criteria

Proposals submitted by the faculty to UFII will be reviewed by faculty review panels, which include members of the UFII Steering Committee. The faculty review panels will make recommendations to the Director of UFII and a decision will be finalized.

Budgeting and Spending Requirements

- Funds must be used to cover the requested Post-Doctoral Associate’s salary and fringe only.
- Cost share required: All nominations must show a minimum of 50% of support for the Post-Doctoral Associate during the 1 year duration of the award from other sources (research grants, departmental funds, etc.). This is not tracked within the UF cost share systems but is a show to UFII the Post-Doctoral Associate has outside support.
- Funds are non-transferable.
- Funds must be used in the 12-month period following their release. Any un-spent funds will be returned to the UFII at the end of the 12-month funding period.
- Continued funding during the award period is contingent on compliance with awardee requirements.

Application Instructions

All applicants/or mentors will need to submit the completed application package via the UFII
Fellowship Submission portal. All files must be of a maximum file size of 2MB or smaller. All applications must include the required documents as outlined in the “Required Application Documents” section.

All applications must use single spacing; font size no smaller than 11 point; minimum 0.5 inch margins; tables and figures legends can be in 10 point.

Contact for Questions

Please email questions to Alethea Geiger (ageiger0213@ufl.edu) or George Michailidis (gmichail@ufl.edu).