



Call for Proposals

DE CASTRO RESEARCH AWARD

The de Castro Research Award supports and enhances the research and creative work of faculty in the College of Media, Communication and Information. The award is made possible through funding provided to the college by Jimmy de Castro, a media industry pioneer and 1974 graduate of the University of Colorado Boulder.

The de Castro Award is designed to align with the core goals of CMCI's strategic plan (Academic & Inclusive Excellence; Creativity & Innovation; Public Scholarship & Global Citizenship), which in turn are linked to the strategic imperatives of the CU-Boulder campus (Shaping tomorrow's leaders; Top university for innovation; Positive impact to humanity).

The de Castro Award is intended to support proposals for original and high-quality research, creative work, or a combination, by CMCI faculty that:

- is oriented toward issues of central societal significance, e.g., social, environmental or economic justice, or focused on issues related to supporting and enhancing global citizenship; and
- articulates a public-facing aspect, e.g., work that can be shared or presented beyond a strictly-limited academic audience through a variety of forms, means and venues.

The de Castro Award also is intended to serve as an internal seed grant to help faculty launch projects that might be successful in winning external funding in the future.

2021 Special Focus: *In keeping with the growing campus and college commitments to anti-racism, preference will be given to proposals that emphasize issues of racial injustice, including: institutional racism, anti-Black racism, settler colonialism, white supremacy, unacknowledged social advantage, racist policies, environmental racism, cultural appropriation/misappropriation, intersectionality, anti-racism, racial justice, reconciliation, restorative justice and decolonization.*



Size of Awards and Allowable Costs:

Annual awards may range up to \$10,000 for a collaborative project, and up to \$5,000 to support the work of individual faculty members, the latter of whom might request funding for expenses related travel to conduct research and field work and/or present that work; paying for professional or technical services (e.g., book indexing, video/film editing).

The proposed budget must include itemized costs and may not include salary or stipends for the applicant. Examples of budget requests that are allowed include, but are not limited to, graduate or undergraduate student support, equipment, publication costs and travel-related expenses.

If requesting funding for travel, the applicant must include a justification for why the travel is necessary and how it is related to the proposed work. If the travel is related to attending a meeting (for example, to conduct an interview), please give specific reasons why the meeting must take place in person, and explain why meeting in that location is necessary. Proposals should provide details regarding the outreach that has been done to coordinate meetings, for example, indication that subjects have agreed to the meeting.

Eligibility Requirements

Eligible recipients of the de Castro Award will have full-time CMCI faculty appointments that include a required research/creative work component. Tenured and tenure-track faculty, as well as full-time CMCI instructors and full-time visiting CMCI faculty members whose terms of appointment include weighting for research and/or creative work, are also eligible to apply.

Faculty are eligible for one award per year, and may be included in only one application, whether individual or collaborative. Although faculty may apply for awards in consecutive years, preference will be given to faculty who did not receive an award in the prior year.

A recipient of a de Castro funded project may apply for additional support in the year after being awarded, although priority will be given to applicants who have not previously received an award. Awardees may also roll over unspent funds from one fiscal year to the next. Money not spent within 2 years from the date of receiving the award will return to the fund.

Collaborative projects must involve two or more full-time CMCI faculty members, and may include graduate students or advanced undergraduate



students. Applicants may be from within a single CMCI department, but priority will be given to collaborative projects involving faculty from more than one CMCI department. Collaboration also may include faculty from other CU-Boulder colleges and schools, and may include work on community-based projects, as outlined by [CU Boulder's Office for Outreach and Engagement](#). Community-based projects are centered on collaborative efforts between academic researchers and non-university partners who work to generate social action and social change.

Awardees who leave the University of Colorado without having used all of a de Castro award for a proposed project will not take that funding with them.

Award Evaluation Committee:

The evaluation committee will be comprised of the CMCI Associate Dean of Graduate Programs and Research as ex-officio chair and three faculty from three different departments. Membership will rotate to new faculty every year, always representing no fewer than three different departments from CMCI, and rotating through the college.

Faculty may not serve on the award evaluation committee in a year in which they have applied for a de Castro grant. Faculty also may not serve on the committee in a year in which a domestic partner has applied.

The committee will submit its ranked recommendations to the CMCI Dean, who will announce the awardees.

Application Guidelines and Timeline:

Faculty are invited to submit a 3-page proposal that concisely explains the nature and scope of the project and directly addresses how it meets the criteria outlined above, notes the projected goals or outcomes, provides a budget indicating the needed and expected use of funds and a timeline for completing the project.

The proposal should clearly state what the outcome(s) of the research or creative work will be, including specifics on what the public-facing aspect will be, as well as what your role will be in presenting and/or publishing the final work. Other areas that should be addressed are the originality of the work and previous related work. If the proposed work is a departure from previous work, please specify your relevant experience, collaborators (if any), and



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methodology. Applicants should cite relevant work that they have produced, as well as work by others that is illustrative of the proposed project.

Also required are CVs for all faculty applicants and graduate students who are included in the project.

Applications are due March 1, 2021, and should be submitted to Sarah Mandos: sarah.mandos@colorado.edu.

Awardees will be announced by March 29, 2021, and the funds will be made available shortly thereafter.