Global Visiting Scholar Award

I. Purpose
The Global Visiting Scholar Award is intended to support departments or schools in hosting an international scholar who will enrich the learning and/or scholarship of the unit. Preference is given to proposals that include plans for high impact student experiences, or research collaborations with specific outcomes, such as peer-reviewed publications and/or, proposals for external funding. While no fixed number of awards has been set, we anticipate awarding grants sufficient to cover airfare and housing for a visiting scholar, either in the West Grace North Residence Hall (VCU Globe) pending availability or through a housing stipend of up to $800 per month. Hosting units are expected to provide additional support such as office space and lab equipment, and some stipend, often through an adjunct teaching assignment. Length of visits may range from one week to one academic year. The final number and amount of awards will depend on the merits of each proposal as determined by faculty reviewers and availability of funding.

GEO invites proposals in all disciplines and world regions, however, proposed projects involving China and/or global health are especially welcome.

Applicants who have not identified a visiting scholar may wish to visit http://scholarsatrisk.nyu.edu as a resource. VCU is a partner in the Scholars at Risk Network.

II. Award and Online Submission Information
a. The final number and amount of awards will depend on the merits of each proposal as determined by faculty reviewers and availability of funding.
b. Awards are not intended to fund one-time events, attendance at professional meetings, equipment purchases, or other expenses covered by existing budgets.
c. Applications must be submitted online by 5:00pm January 20th, 2015. Full instructions for the preparation of online submission are provided in this document. The online submission form goes live December 15, 2014.
d. Award selections will be announced no later than March 3, and the funding period is FY16.

III. Required Application Components
a. Cover Sheet – Submit title and contact information using online form.
b. Abstract – (250 word max). Briefly describe the proposed goals, key activities, and anticipated results.
c. Narrative – (must not exceed 8 pages)
   i. Statement of need, significance, barrier, and/or challenge(s) to be addressed, as related to the Quest for Distinction
   ii. Relationship of proposed activities to the initiatives or priorities of the PI’s university unit(s)
   iii. Reasons this particular scholar was selected.
iv. Detailed description of the work to be done by the visiting scholar, and ways in which the scholar will engage with students, faculty, and others

v. Evaluation plan and anticipated outcomes, especially as they relate to the three international priorities:
   1. increase recruitment and retention of international students and scholars
   2. increase global engagement of VCU students and faculty
   3. expand VCU’s global footprint through research, teaching, and service, particularly as they impact global health

vi. Detailed timeline for accomplishing immediate, mid-range, and long-term goals.

vii. Department or school preparations for the scholar’s visit


e. Appendices
   i. Current curriculum vita(s) for PI listing similar projects/programs, grants, publications, and past collaborations related to the proposed work
   ii. Current curriculum vita(s) for visiting scholar listing similar projects/programs, grants, publications, and past collaborations related to the proposed work
   iii. Signed Letters of Support
      1. Dean of each participating unit addressing the proposal’s fit with the unit’s strategic goals and approval of the proposed budget including cost-sharing
      2. Chair/Director of each participating unit addressing the proposal’s fit with the unit’s strategic goals and approval of the proposed budget including cost-sharing (or supervisor/s if different)
      3. Appropriate authority at the visiting scholar’s home institution
      4. Other appropriate authorities, as necessary (e.g., IT Director of School or College, third-party study abroad program provider, chair of graduate curriculum committee)

IV. Evaluation Criteria – Proposals will be reviewed as appropriate by the Global Strategies Advisory Panel and the Global Learning Advisory Panel. Proposals will be evaluated using the following criteria:

a. Overall merit (40%)
   i. Alignment with the goals of Quest for Distinction
   ii. Alignment with the initiatives or priorities of the PI’s university unit(s)
   iii. Evidence that an award will result in a significant impact on students and/or faculty
   iv. Evidence that this scholar’s expertise will address a need at VCU

b. Proposed activities (40%)
   i. Program description
   ii. Evaluation plan and targeted outcomes
   iii. Timeline
   iv. Preparation for scholar’s visit
c. Budget (10%)
   i. Budget justification
   ii. Unit and partner cost share as appropriate

d. Appendices (10%)
   i. CVs of Principal Investigator and visiting scholar
   ii. Required letters of support

V. Contacts, questions, and funding requirements
a. Global Education Office contacts:
   i. Project-related questions: Dr. McKenna Brown (mbrown@vcu.edu, 8-8361)
   ii. Budget questions: Mr. Osama Alami (oalami@vcu.edu, 7-7474)
   iii. Submission and review questions: Dr. Melodie Fearnow-Kenney (mdfearnnowken@vcu.edu, 7-3909)

b. Award recipients agree to provide timely notification of project-related travel and to submit a final report to GEO staff at the end of the award period.

c. Grant citation language: “This publication [or project] was supported by the VCU Global Education Office through a 2015-16 Quest Global Impact Award.”