



## ELEVATE Faculty Collaborative Excellence Program

### Cluster Proposal Guidelines

- I. Rationale
  - Clearly articulate the strategic importance of the proposed cluster area.
  - Explain how the cluster aligns with the university's mission and strategic goals.
  - Highlight the potential impact on research, education, and public service.
- II. Existing Strengths
  - Provide evidence of the university's existing strengths in the proposed area, or a rationale for building in a new area, including:
    - Current faculty expertise.
    - Relevant research centers, institutes, or programs.
    - External funding, publication or performance record, and ongoing research projects.
- III. Proposed Positions
  - Detail the proposed cluster composition, specifying:
    - The roles and expected contributions of each proposed position.
    - How each new position will enhance the cluster's intellectual diversity and interdisciplinary collaboration.
    - Include potential candidates for recruitment (if known) or desired qualifications for each position.
- IV. Interdisciplinary Collaboration
  - Describe how the cluster will foster interdisciplinary collaboration across different Schools and departments.
  - Outline plans for joint research projects, cross-departmental courses, and collaborative grant applications, publications, or performances.
- V. Support and Resources
  - Detail the resources and support that will be provided to the cluster, including:
    - Office and laboratory space.
    - Start-up funds.
    - Access to research facilities and administrative support.
    - Include plans for mentorship and professional development for early career faculty.