SAIL-GSB Human-Centered AI Call for Proposals

Submission deadline: Feb 2, 2018

Overview and Eligibility

Artificial intelligence (AI) is beginning to impact human lives and organizations at all scales, from the needs of individuals to the economic transformation of nations to the philosophical basis of being human. AI has the potential to change how humans live, work, and communicate; transform the way organizations make products and conduct business; modify our homes, cities, and environment; and challenge today's social, legal and policy norms. Designing, studying, and making use of this technology from a human-centered, global point of view will significantly enhance AI's potential for positive impact.

This call for proposals aims to support innovative and interdisciplinary seed research in Human-centered Artificial Intelligence. Proposals should be for support of new, ambitious and speculative ideas with the objective of getting initial results and should be distinct from existing sponsored research. We encourage proposals that involve collaborations of faculty and students across different fields, with a preference for supporting AI-related research bridging two or more Departments and/or Schools and for the advancement of a human-centered focus.

This opportunity exists through the generous support of the members of the Stanford AI Lab and the Graduate School of Business.

Eligibility:

We welcome proposals which:
1. Come from students, staff and Stanford faculty;
    o Each proposal must have a Stanford faculty or researcher who qualifies as a Principal Investigator (PI) according to Stanford University Policy;
2. Foster interdisciplinary collaborations bridging faculty, fellows, post-docs, students, and/or staff, preferably across different Departments and/or Schools;
3. Initiate pilot or early-stage research which explores the impact of AI in new fields and applications and/or brings a new approach to the design or implementation of AI solutions.

Priority Areas:

Preference will be given to high-impact projects that:
A. Investigate cutting edge AI solutions to support or advance humanity, addressing problems where the development and/or implementation of AI would have a positive benefit on society in the following areas:
    a. Next generation AI technology inspired by neuroscience, cognitive science and behavioral science;
    b. Human-centered AI technology that better augments, communicates, collaborates and interacts with people;
    c. Research on impact of AI and automation in economics, society, law, ethics, philosophy, education, healthcare, and other related areas of social sciences and humanities;
B. Foster interdepartmental and interschool collaborations involving disciplines outside traditional computational fields such as but not limited to economics, law, education, business, public policy, sociology, philosophy, biology and medicine;
C. Make a persuasive case that results will catalyze further support from internal and external stakeholders.

Deliverables

Awardees must be willing to attend and present the results of their work at the new HAI Seminar Series supported by SAIL and GSB, or SAIL affiliate program meetings or workshops. Appropriate projects may also be requested to present at other venues, such as SAIL Faculty Lunches, GSB seminars, etc.

Award Guidelines and Selection Criteria

Selection Criteria

SAIL will review proposals based on:
- Scientific merit of the proposal, with quality, innovation and creativity balanced by the project's likelihood of success.
- Alignment with the Priority Areas listed above.

Award recipients will be notified by mid-March and funding will be available starting Spring Quarter but may be delayed to coincide with the 2018-2019 Academic Calendar if the recipients prefer.

Budget Guidelines

Award amounts will be based on analysis of a budget request. Proposals may request up to $50,000 for 12 months.

- Funds may be used for salary and tuition support of faculty, graduate students and other research staff, operating supplies, minor equipment items, prototyping expenses, imaging time, and travel directly associated with the research activity.
- The grants will not support general staff or administrative support.
- No indirect costs will be charged but an 8% infrastructure charge will be imposed.

Seed Grant Proposal Submission Guidelines

The proposal should follow the guidelines below. Proposals are due on **February 2, 2018 at 5:00pm PST**. Those selected by a team of reviewers and ad hoc experts will be informed by mid-March.

By Feb 2, please submit the following to: https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=hai-rfp-2017 **

1. Proposal: (no longer than 2 pages! PDF, single-spaced, 11 point, 1 inch margins)
   a. Problem statement
   b. Core research idea
   c. Technical approach
   d. Team involved (faculty, postdocs, staff, and/or students, as appropriate)
   e. Informal sketch budget (e.g., "25% RA 2qtrs, $18K; fieldwork travel, $3K, accom $4K")
2. References (no max or min limits, at the end of the same PDF file)

Contact Information

Questions regarding this Call for Proposals can be addressed to Erika Strandberg (erika.strandberg@stanford.edu).