October 9, 2020

Academic Deans and Associate Deans for Research
Purdue West Lafayette

RE: Annual Showalter Trust Competition

Dear Colleagues:

I solicit your submission of pre-proposals for 2021 Showalter Trust awards from eligible faculty members in your college. The default project period for these awards is July 1, 2021 through July 31, 2022. Guidelines, templates, and instructions are available on the EVPRP website at the following URL:
http://www.purdue.edu/research/funding-and-grant-writing/funding/showalter.php

The Showalter Trust specifies that the following areas of research have priority for funding:

1. Environmental research, including air and water pollution research;
2. Research in the field of biochemistry and molecular biology;
3. Research in the area of human disease prevention, diagnosis, progression, treatment and control;
4. Research in the area of new technologies for food production, preservation, distribution and safety; and
5. Research in medical and biophysical instrumentation, including the analysis of large datasets.

The benefactor’s Last Will & Testament prohibits the use of funds to support research in psychiatry, sociology, or social studies.

Showalter Trust awards are limited to those at the rank of assistant professor (tenure-track or research) at the time of application. Priority is given to projects that have a high potential to compete for or leverage federal funding and to create programs with a life span longer than the Showalter award. Interdisciplinary proposals that establish new research relationships and/or new research thrusts are welcome, but it is not necessary to submit a collaborative project or involve an established investigator. Use of funds is limited to Purdue University, West Lafayette campus, but collaborators need not hold a position at Purdue and faculty collaborators can be of any rank. The project budget is limited to $75,000 total costs. Capital equipment expenses are allowed only if substantial (75 percent or more) matching funding is provided. Applicants are encouraged to discuss their research project and intent to submit with their Associate Dean for Research.

The Showalter Research Trust Internal Selection Committee reviews and selects the most meritorious pre-proposals for development of full proposals and ranks the full proposals before they are submitted to the external committee that decides which projects will be supported. The internal selection committee is appointed on an annual basis by an Associate Vice President for Research and includes representatives of college-level units that submitted Showalter pre-proposals.

Pre-proposals must be submitted to the Office of the EVPRP by an Associate Dean for Research or comparable college-level official by 5:00 PM Wednesday, November 12, 2020 via e-mail to showalter@purdue.edu. Each college may submit up to six ranked pre-proposals. The process used by a college to select the pre-proposals is the responsibility of the college.

Sincerely,

Theresa S. Mayer
Executive Vice President for Research and Partnerships
Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering