

SEAOC Foundation Research Initiative

2016 Proposal Solicitation

The SEAOC Foundation Research Initiative is intended to provide financial support for innovative projects that will serve SEAOC and its members through initiatives that improve and promote structural engineering practice. As outlined below, the scope of possible initiatives is broad with the goal of soliciting creative project proposals from SEAOC members. Subject to the availability of resources and the quality of proposals, the Foundation expects to fund one or more projects per year, through one-year grants with funding up to \$5,000 per project.

Project Ideas: This initiative covers a broad range of possible projects with the key requirement that the projects benefit the SEAOC membership, the structural engineering profession at large, and/or the community at large on issues that involve structural engineering. Such benefits could occur through the advancement of knowledge, the transfer of technology, and/or an increased awareness of the value of structural engineering. Suggested ideas may include but are not limited to the following:

- *Research:* Both fundamental and applied, intended to aid in the advancement of structural engineering.
- *Testing:* Focused testing on an issue of engineering interest. The grant might increase the scope of an existing testing project or be used for preliminary tests to develop a larger proposal to funding agencies.
- *Publications:* Development of a unique publication of value to the SEAOC membership, the engineering community at large, and/or the public. The publication could be a report or paper, published in either hard copy or electronic form.

Eligibility: The Principal Investigator and Grant Applicant must be a current SEAOC Member.

Proposal Submittal Requirements: Proposal submissions shall consist of a Project Description, Budget and Budget Justification, and Qualifications for the Principal Investigator and other significant project participants. The Proposal submission is limited to 5 pages (8-1/2 x 11 sheets, single spaced, 11 point font) excluding resumes and shall address (1) the objectives and scope of the project, (2) the project work plan, (3) project deliverables, such as a report, paper, seminar or other outcome, (4) the project schedule, and (5) a list of key personnel and their roles in the project. The Budget and Budget Justification is limited to 1 page and should include a breakdown and brief justification of how the requested funds will be spent. The Qualifications of the Principal Investigator and other key investigators should include a short (1 page) resume, including a statement on the unique qualifications of the individual as related to the project.

Submittal Process: The proposal, including all of the information requested above and a cover letter, should be submitted electronically as a PDF file. Proposals should be submitted to the SEAOC Foundation office via email at dschinske@seaoc.org. **Proposals will be accepted from March 21, 2016 through close of business Friday April 29, 2016.**

Grant Awards and Funding: Proposals will be reviewed and award decisions will be made by the SEAOC Foundation Board of Directors. Award decisions are expected to be announced by early June 2016.

It is anticipated that the project funding will be awarded in two installments: (1) initial award – 60% of total budget, (2) final award made up submittal of final project report, including accounting statement on funds expended and summary of project deliverables – 40% of budget. The project is expected to be completed within one year of the award date; and for budgeting purposes, indirect (overhead) charges are limited to 10% of the award amount. The Foundation reserves the right not to make the final award payment if the final report is not submitted within 6 months of the end of the one-year award period. Any significant changes to the project scope, work plan and/or budget should be submitted in writing for review and approval by The Foundation.

Interim Progress Reports: The awardee shall report to the SEAOC Foundation Board of Directors on the progress of the project when milestones are reached or revisions to the project scope are required. Until after the completion of the project and the release of such information to the public, the awardee should not publish, present or distribute to the public or engineering groups, any oral or written conclusions or interim results of the project without the prior consent of the SEAOC Foundation Board of Directors. Any permitted interim publication or presentation should indicate that the project is in-progress and contain the language listed below under Final Deliverables.

Final Deliverables: The final project deliverables should be submitted to the SEAOC Foundation Board of Directors for review of compliance with original proposal submitted before release to the public. By accepting the award, the awardee permits SEAOC or its representatives the right to publish in part or in whole the final project deliverables. Grantees may also be asked to present their work at the SEAOC Annual Convention.

The following language should be prominently included within or attached to the final deliverables:

The SEAOC Foundation Research Initiative

This study was undertaken as a *2015 Research Initiative* of the Structural Engineers Association of California Foundation. The Research Initiative is intended to provide financial support for innovative projects that will serve SEAOC and its members through initiatives that improve and promote structural engineering practice. This initiative covers a broad range of possible projects, with the key requirement that the projects benefit the SEAOC membership, the structural engineering profession at large, or the community at large on issues that involve structural engineering. For more information contact the SEAOC Office.

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