



Template for Strategic Investment Funding Proposals, FY 2018

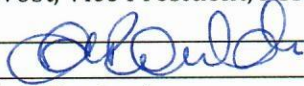
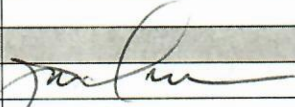
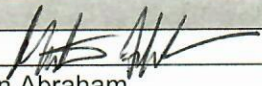
Proposals must be submitted to the YSU Budget Office, no later than February 1, 2018

Section I: Proposal name and contact information

Title / name of proposal:	Food Labs - A la mode
Contact person name and title:	Zara Rowlands, Chairman, Human Ecology Department
E-mail address:	zcshah@ysu.edu
Phone number:	(330) 941-2021

Section II: Approvals of the appropriate College Dean and/or Division Officer

To certify that the proposal is aligned with the strategic objectives of the department, college or division, signature approvals are required by the appropriate Department Chair or Director, College Dean, and/or area division officer, i.e., Provost, Vice President, Associate VP.

Signature of Dept. Chair or Director	
Name (printed/typed):	Zara Rowlands
Title:	Chairman, Dept of Human Ecology
Date:	
Signature of Dean (if applicable):	
Name (printed/typed):	Joseph Mosca
Title:	Dean, BCHHS
Date:	1/19/18
Signature of Division Officer:	
Name (printed/typed):	Martin Abraham
Title:	Provost
Date:	1-31-18



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Section II: Description of the proposal and its alignment with the YSU 2020 Strategic Plan

Please summarize the proposal and specify how it aligns with the YSU 2020 Strategic Plan.

The Food Labs in Cushwa Hall have not been updated since they were established in the 1970's. They are crucial to the recruitment and training of students in 3 dietetics programs and 2 Hospitality Programs if we are to meet the YSU 2020 strategic goals as follows:

(1) Student Success: Training students for management positions in industry - skills that are in demand in healthcare and Hospitality Industry, not only the use of equipment, but on managing the environment, purchasing equipment and training employees. (2) Research: Human Ecology and Chemistry depts have discussed developing an MS Food Science/Chemistry to prepare students for careers in Food Product Development & Analyses, Food Industry Safety and Regulation. (3) Accountability/Sustainability: We compete for students with regional 2 yr and 4 yr institutions boasting superior food service training facilities. We can develop MS Culinary Nutrition and MS Hospitality/Recreation and Leisure with upgraded facilities. The single lab space is heavily used for current undergrad programming. (4) Regional Engagement: Workforce development for the burgeoning Hospitality industry and Healthcare in the Valley and nationally - Resorts with health conscious clientele and a la carte acute & longterm care food service, are a new market for dietetics and hospitality graduates.

Section III: Shared governance and stakeholder engagement

Was the proposal developed collaboratively and with input from all stakeholders? Please describe the process used to develop your proposal.

Input was sought from the following individuals:

1. Dietetics Advisory Board - comprised of current students, alumni, and dietetics professionals in practice domains. - knowledgeable about industry trends and skill/competency requirements.
2. Instructors for Food Lab coursework - input on limitations of the lab space and equipment with regard to meeting course competencies. Safety issues with placement of electrical outlets in proximity to leaky/dated plumbing and lack of power outlets at work stations.
3. Program Directors - discussion of program curricula and industry standards, and skills for entry-level practice. Confer red with Part-time faculty who work in the industries related to their assigned courses for input on equipment needs.
4. Preceptors for Dietetics and Hospitality - Provided input on where our students lacked training and experience, and how they compare with interns and field experience students from other area universities in Food Service preparation. Since many preceptors are also employers, they can evaluate the employability of our students based on their skills.
5. Department faculty - discussion that the Human Ecology lab spaces are the only spaces in the College that have not been updated in the last 30 years, that the spaces are so outdated and ill-equipped that they are unlikely to entice students or their parents during SOAR, CRASH and Y-day events.

Full and Part time Faculty formed teams to evaluate lab spaces, and data collected from stakeholders, and produce wish lists for upgrades and equipment.
Department Chairman presented request for lab space rennovation and upgrades to the BCHHS Dean.



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Section IV: Return on Investment

If applicable, describe how the proposal may generate new revenue to support related expenses or other strategic initiatives. If there are benefits other than revenue-generation, whether tangible or otherwise, you may also describe those.

Recruitment and retention of students is crucial to sustaining our programs and building programs that anticipate Industry trends. The department currently has no graduate programs and little hope of increasing student research and faculty scholarship without graduate students. We have opportunities to develop graduate programs in both the dietetics and hospitality areas, but not the facilities to support them since we currently have one lab space and no research equipment with food service applications. Graduate Degrees that are not offered in the region, and that have been or are under development by HMEC Department Program Directors:

MS - Public Health/Coordinated Program in Dietetics (Ready to submit)

MS - Hospitality Management - Recreation & Leisure (developed) or Event Planning (in development)

MS - Culinary Nutrition (in development)

MS - HHS-Didactic Program in Dietetics (4+1 - in development with Health Professions Dept)

MS - Food Chemistry (on back burner - collaboration with Chemistry Dept)

Section V: Proposed funding amount requested (NOTE: Available strategic investment funds are one-time dollars left over from the prior fiscal year. Consequently, proposals requiring multi-year funding will require additional consideration.)

Single year funding request:	\$ 150,000.00		
Multi-year funding request (if applicable):	\$	No. of years:	

Section VI: Space utilization and/or modification

If applicable, describe any special and/or additional building or space requirements that would be needed to pursue your proposal.

The space was not originally designed for food preparation or service and lacks many of the basic requirements such as a Ventilation system, power outlets that do not abut the plumbing, isolated electrical outlets so that other electrical work in the college does not endanger our food storage. The spaces are small as they were intended as classrooms and the egress from room to room is convoluted, which is not efficient or safe for food service. There are smaller rooms only used for utility, which could be absorbed to gain space for the lab and food service areas so that pantry and cold food storage is streamlined as it would be in industry. Specific Upgrades: The wiring would need to be isolated from other systems so that our refrigerators and freezers are not accidentally disconnected. The plumbing and grease management systems would also need updating. A ventilation system for food service would need to be installed. The current systems would never pass a industry food service safety inspection.



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Section VII: Personnel costs / additions

If applicable, explain any additional costs associated with the need to add staffing and/or faculty resources required to pursue your proposal.

Staffing:

A Part-time lab manager - since the lab is heavily used, a dedicated manager who handles equipment purchasing and service, lab assistant training, and supplies inventory would help to keep the space coordinated, prepped and cost effective. Student lab assistants cannot adequately manage the lab given their rigorous and changing schedules.

As graduate programs are approved, there will be additional student advising and field experience coordination needs. The proposed programs have been thoughtfully designed to make maximum use of pre-existing coursework and minimizing new course development. Full-time faculty may be re-assigned for program coordination and Part-time faculty may fill instructional needs so, at this time, no additional full-time faculty may be needed.

Section VIII: Enterprise risk management

If applicable, describe the risk mitigated by your proposal, or the risk elevated if your proposal is not funded.

If more graduate programs are not developed across campus, those colleges and departments with fewer graduate programs will continue to decline. The University has struggled to advance the goal of robust scholarly output because graduate programs fuel scholarship.

While more undergraduate programs are incorporating research into the curriculum, the complexity of projects tends to be limited because this is their first experience with the research process and their ability to carry the higher research functions is needs development. Undergraduate Program faculty often have added responsibilities for advising the larger numbers of students, larger programs to coordinate, and greater responsibilities where those programs are accredited, so there is little time left to devote to a scholarly agenda.

By updating our facilities, we can grow our existing programs, and offer graduate programs, which will advance our students into career paths instead of only preparing them for entry-level positions. Enrollment growth will justify the addition of faculty for programs and reduce the burden on the skeleton faculty currently in place.