Behavioral and Social Sciences
Innovations in Behavioral and Social Health Sciences (i-BSHS)

Innovations Award

The Innovations Award is part of the Innovations in Behavioral and Social Health Sciences (i-BSHS) program sponsored by the Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences in the Brown University School of Public Health. i-BSHS is a series of presentations and discussions designed to foster social interaction, promote collaboration, and stimulate new research in key areas, including innovative research in intervention development, health disparities, community engagement, and technology. This award is an opportunity for Brown University School of Public Health faculty to share work and gain recognition for new and innovative science or public health practice in the behavioral and social sciences.

Eligibility

Any Brown University faculty member with a primary or secondary appointment in Behavioral and Social Sciences, or group of faculty members affiliated with the Brown University School of Public Health, may be nominated for this award. Any eligible faculty member, or group of full-time members, may propose themselves for this award. Adjunct faculty members are NOT eligible for this award.

Criteria

The Innovations Award is designed to inspire new and innovative research ideas in the behavioral and social sciences among faculty in the Brown University School of Public Health. Faculty members may self-nominate for this award by submitting an application to the BSS i-BSHS committee. Successful applications will meet the following criteria:

1. Innovation. The research introduces something new and creative to your field of research. The application should demonstrate true innovation in the discipline. This may include innovative research interventions, use of technology, novel approaches to community engagement, or new ways to address health disparities. An innovative approach would be considered an advance in your field as a whole.
2. The work has clear implications for behavioral and social science theory or public health interventions.
3. Promising completed or preliminary data demonstrate support for the theoretical approach or potential for efficacy.
4. Research must be current. Research may be in process (with pilot or preliminary findings) or recently completed. To qualify, your findings should not have been published more than one year ago.

The award will not be limited to those projects deemed entirely successful. On the contrary, sometimes innovative research results in unexpected or negative outcomes that suggest new avenues for inquiry.

**The Award**

Innovations Award recipients will receive $500 for their research fund account. Award recipients comprised of groups will split the award evenly amongst group members. Award recipients will be required to present their research at an upcoming i-BSHS event, time and date to be determined. Award winners will be duly acknowledged in BSS internal and external communications.

**Selection Process**

The i-BSHS committee, comprised of BSS faculty members, will select the award winner. Each nomination will be reviewed to assure that it is the work of an eligible faculty member and will be appraised with respect to:

1. Significance and innovation- 40%
2. Timeliness and originality of concept - 30%
3. Broad appeal to Public Health, Behavioral and Social Sciences faculty and students - 30%

The committee reserves the right not to confer the Award if submissions do not meet requirements or are of insufficient quality (a minimum 80% average score).

**Submission Guidelines**

Submit a completed application by **January 31, 2015** to Laura Joyce (Laura_Joyce@brown.edu).
Innovations Award

Application Form

Name: ________________________________________________________________

Primary Department Affiliation: __________________________________________

Secondary Department Affiliation (if any): _________________________________

Faculty Title: __________________________________________________________

Phone: ______________________ Email: ________________________________

Co-Investigators (Please list any co-investigators. Include name, faculty title, school affiliation, department, and email address.) ________________________________

Title of Proposal: _______________________________________________________ 

Public Health Impact Statement (maximum 300 characters (not including spaces))

Research Project Period: ______________________________________________

Abstract (maximum 3000 characters (not including spaces))

   A. Description of the innovative research project or method
   B. How the innovation adds to or advances current practices or methods in the field
   C. Data supporting the success or promise of the novel innovation
   D. Strengths and weaknesses

Print this form and return the hard copy, or a scanned electronic copy, along with your Abstract, to Laura_Joyce@Brown.edu. Applications are due by January 31.