The UNH Center for Infrastructure Resilience to Climate is dedicated to accelerating and advancing the development of new methods and approaches to planning, design, and operation and maintenance of climate and weather resilient transportation and building infrastructure systems. UCIRC is also working to develop and implement effective public policy solutions concerning these pressing issues.

The UCIRC Pilot Studies Program supports student scholarship on research pilot projects related to the UCIRC mission. UCIRC is invested in seeding future research through the use of these pilot projects. Three to five grants, up to $10,000 each, will be awarded to UNH faculty in the 2018 spring semester. This funding is for the support of a pilot study that utilizes undergraduates or graduate students. Preference will be given, but not limited, to proposals that directly respond to an agency call and UCIRC’s goals.

The UCIRC Pilot Studies program is structured as follows:

1. Awards of up to $10,000 will be provided. Funding can be used to support students and post-docs, purchase supplies, and pay for conference travel to present research findings. Requests for research faculty salary will be reviewed on a case by case basis and may be allowed if there is a clear connection to the UCIRC community and opportunities for future engagement. No more than 50% of the budget should be allocated to post-doc or research faculty support. Travel funding will take the form of expense reimbursements, contingent upon the receipt by UCIRC of a report on the funded activities.
2. UNH tenure-track, research, clinical, and extension faculty are eligible to apply. Interdisciplinary projects are encouraged and more than one faculty member may be part of a project.
3. Funding is for 6 – 10 months, ending no later than December 31, 2018.
4. Students will work directly under their project advisor(s). The advisor(s) will certify that the student is making appropriate progress on a quarterly basis via a one-page update.
5. Students are expected to present their research at either the Graduate or Undergraduate Research Conference.
6. Deliverables include a 2-3 page brief that will be published electronically on the UCIRC website and a plan for publishing the results and/or pursuing additional funding.

Application process:

Faculty should submit, via email, a two -page narrative proposal (maximum 1,000 words, not including references) and a brief budget with justification. The narrative should include the products expected and also detail how the project will be used for a future funding opportunity to continue or expand the work, the agency involved, and other pertinent information. Please email this information to Lee.Friess@unh.edu by January 31, 2018. A current CV should accompany the application.

Jo Sias Daniel (Director), Jennifer Jacobs (Deputy Director), and Curt Grimm (Carsey School of Public Policy and UCIRC) will review the proposals. Consideration will be given to a proposal’s relevance to UCIRC goals, the feasibility of completion, and the qualifications of the applicant(s). Please direct any questions to Lee.Friess@unh.edu.