The United States-India Educational Foundation (USIEF) announces an open competition for the support of projects through the Obama – Singh 21st Century Knowledge Initiative (OSI). Announced by the US and Indian governments, OSI aims to strengthen collaboration and build partnerships between American and Indian institutions of higher education. Proposals should support the program’s goals of encouraging mutual understanding, facilitating educational reform, fostering economic development, and engaging civil society through academic cooperation with Indian post-secondary educational institutions.

The following fields are eligible:

- Energy, Climate Change & Environmental Studies
- Education & Educational Reform
- Public Health
- Sustainable Development & Community Development
- International Relations & Strategic Studies

The OSI enables U.S. colleges and universities and Indian counterpart institutions to pursue objectives cooperatively through exchange visits of faculty, administrators, post graduate Indian students, and U.S. graduate students who can demonstrate the ability to work independently. The OSI is not designed to specifically support study abroad activities for undergraduate students but does encourage the development of education abroad programs for U.S. undergraduate students.

The project design should include a series of exchange visits and activities that will lead to the achievement of the project’s objectives within a three-year period, and should describe a process for evaluating the results of project implementation. The design should also provide for the effective administration of the project.

Exchange activities may include but are not limited to curriculum design, research collaboration, team teaching, focused series of exchanges, seminars, among other activities. Activities should be designed to develop expertise, advance scholarship and teaching, and promote reliable, long-term communication between partner institutions.

Programs must maintain a non-political character and should be balanced and representative of the diversity of American and Indian political, social, and cultural life. “Diversity” should be interpreted in the broadest sense and encompass differences including, but not limited to
ethnicity, race, gender, sexual orientation, caste, religion, geographic location, socio-economic status, and physical challenges.
The maximum award will be $190,000 for a three-year period.

**LIMIT ON NUMBER OF PROPOSALS PER ORGANIZATION**
USIEF will only accept one proposal per institution.

**KEY DATES**
- Internal Letter of Intent due: July 24, 2014 (by midnight)
- Internal Proposal due: August 7, 2014 (by midnight)
- Internal Notification: August 21, 2014
- Sponsor Proposal due: November 3, 2014

**SUBMITTING A MANDATORY LETTER OF INTENT**
Faculty members interested in applying are required to submit a letter of intent (LOI). An LOI is required but not binding.

1. Click [here](https://depot.northwestern.edu/xythoswfs/webui/_xy-e6644919_1-t_YEitahzW) to access the LOI form.
2. Name the LOI as follows: “LastName-FirstInitial-LOI-USIEF-OSI-2014”, replacing “LastName” with your last name and “First Initial” with your first initial.
3. Submit the complete LOI form by clicking on the Depot link:
   https://depot.northwestern.edu/xythoswfs/webui/_xy-e6644919_1-t_YEitahzW

**SUBMITTING AN INTERNAL PROPOSAL**
If interest exceeds the number of submissions the university is allowed, invitations to submit internal proposals will be sent to all faculty who submitted an LOI. Proposals should be prepared with 1/2 inch margins, all around, 11 point font size and type and are required to contain the following components:

1. Cover page, which includes a descriptive title of the project, the geographic areas affected by the project (for both the US and India), and a list of key personnel and partner institutions (one page, max).

2. Introduction (ONLY for applicants who previously submitted an internal proposal to this program) that includes the following components (one page, max):
   a. Summarize how your proposal differs from your previous submission(s).
   b. Summarize how your application as a whole differs from your previous submission(s) (i.e., publications, honors, awards, accomplishments, etc.).

3. Executive summary of proposed project, which includes a statement of need and project objectives and a brief statement of the long-term impact (one page, max).

4. Narrative of proposed project (3 pages, max) including:
a. Statement of need together with an outline of project objectives and the anticipated benefits of the project as a whole for each U.S. and Indian participating institution.

b. A description of partnership activities and the relationship between the project activities and program objectives.

c. Description of participating institutions and relevant academic departments/schools and the rationale for their cooperation with one another in pursuit of project objectives.

d. Plan to sustain program achievements without additional OSI support.

5. Biosketches for all personnel named on cover page (two pages max, for each).

6. Letter of support from your department chair/division chief.

The following OSI review criteria will be used by NU’s Limited Submission Advisory Committee in evaluating the internal proposals:

(1) Project objectives should have significant and ongoing impact on the participating institutions and their surrounding societies, communities, or countries and foster a deepened understanding of critical issues in one or more of the eligible fields. Special consideration will be given to proposals which include Indian junior faculty development as a component of the grant activity.

(2) Strategies to achieve project objectives should be feasible and realistic within the projected timeframe.

(3) Proposals should demonstrate substantive support of diversity by explaining how issues of diversity are included in project objectives for all institutional partners.

Prepare your proposal as a SINGLE PDF FILE. It should be named "LastName-FirstInitial-USIEF-OSI-2014," replacing "LastName" with your last name and "FirstInitial" with your first initial.

**UPLOADING THE INTERNAL PROPOSAL TO DEPOT**

1. Click on the Depot ticket provided in the email inviting you to submit the internal proposal.
2. Click the Upload button.
3. Click the Browse button and navigate to your file on your hard drive or network.
4. Click the OK button in Depot. Note: You will get a tiny confirmation message upon upload. If you do not see it, you may contact Karen Cielo k-cielo@northwestern.edu for a confirmation.

Depot access will expire after the deadline, as such late submission is not possible. Also, the Depot system does not allow you to overwrite an upload. If you need to upload a revised proposal BEFORE the deadline, contact Karen Cielo k-cielo@northwestern.edu.
COLLABORATION OPPORTUNITIES
The Office of Research Development offers assistance in identifying and facilitating collaborations, putting together interdisciplinary teams, programmatic and administrative development of large, cross-school proposals, and leveraging institutional resources for outreach and education. Contact Fruma Yehiely (yehiely@northwestern.edu), Director of ORD, for more information.

CONTACT AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Fruma Yehiely, Director of ORD, 847-491-1074, yehiely@northwestern.edu
Limited Submissions web site: http://www.research.northwestern.edu/ord/fundinglimited-submissions/