

**Western Connecticut State University Sigma Xi Chapter
Rudy Ruggles STEM Interdisciplinary Research Award**

Award Description:

Successful research approaches and problem solving often require diverse skill sets. There is increasing recognition that STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) innovation is stronger when it includes expertise from multiple disciplines. The Rudy Ruggles STEM Interdisciplinary Research Award is a competitive grant to incentivize and promote partnerships between scientists from diverse disciplines, job sectors, and career levels to collaborate on STEM research.

Award Launch Date: December, 2022

Award Amount: \$1,000

Award Frequency: One per year

Award Intent:

The award may be used for any aspect of promoting successful interdisciplinary research collaborations including, but not limited to, travel, food, and lodging for research partners, research supplies, funding for student stipends, and tools or technology to support research communication. This award may be used to supplement existing research by adding an interdisciplinary component, to support an aspect of an in-progress interdisciplinary research collaboration that is not already funded by another source, or as seed funding for new collaborations.

Award Eligibility:

- Each submission should include at least one Sigma Xi member from the northeast region.
- Each submission should have at least two members representing at least two different STEM disciplines. Team members can also include disciplines outside of STEM.
- Team members can represent any career level (e.g., student, professional, retired), any job sector (e.g., academia, government, industry), and STEM discipline. Teams that represent diverse career levels and job sectors are encouraged.

Award Requirements:

Award applications will be evaluated by the WCSU Sigma Xi Awards Committee.

Applicants should submit the following in their award application:

- 1–2-page description of proposed project. Description should include project background, why the project is needed, clear statement of research goal, how interdisciplinary cooperation strengthens the project, and how funds will be used.
- CVs for each team member.

The award winner will be required to present at a Sigma Xi meeting by the spring following the award distribution to provide an update on the research and how the interdisciplinary nature of the project enhances the success of achieving project goals.

All application materials should be submitted as a single PDF and emailed to rayda.krell@corveva.com

Award Submission Due Date: March 31, 2023

Award Winner Announcement Date: April, 2023 (at the spring WCSU chapter Sigma Xi meeting)

Award Distribution Date: June 1, 2023