UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI
COLLEGE of
ARTS & SCIENCES

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CONVERGENCE RESEARCH GROUPS

Convergence science brings together knowledge, ideas and tools from several disciplines to stimulate innovative research. It represents a significant cultural shift for institutions of higher learning, which have traditionally been organized around discipline-based departments. The College of Arts and Sciences recognizes the need to foster and carefully nurture the creation of interdisciplinary faculty groups to test original research ideas that address some of the grand challenges facing humanity in this century. Some areas of particular interest include, but are not limited to problems related to diversity, migration, social justice, disease spread, the increasing interdependence among nations, cultures and values, digital humanities, biodiversity, global change, ecological balance, renewable energy, water, sustainable communities and development, data science, networks, ecosystems, and human health.

The College is requesting proposals along these lines with the following specific characteristics:

(1) The authors should include tenured or tenure-track faculty members from at least two different departments in the CAS. Faculty from other colleges/schools can be included, if required to complete the research team.

(2) The proposed project should take a truly interdisciplinary approach, gaining an edge from sustained collaboration at the interfaces between academic disciplines

(3) The project should pursue the solution of a complex current problem.

Each proposal should consist of (*i*) a narrative section that will not exceed three single-space pages including references, (*ii*) biographical sketches (preferably in NSF format, maximum of two pages each) of all investigators involved in the project, (*iii*) current and pending support for all the investigators, and (*iv*) budget. The budget cannot include any salary requests for participating faculty, but salaries for postdoctoral associates and/or graduate students are certainly allowed. **Proposals should be submitted electronically to akaifer@miami.edu by the end of business of Monday, October 27th.**

A team of experts will review and evaluate all proposals received in response to this request. The College anticipates funding at least two projects, each up to $60,000 in direct costs per year, with the possibility of renewal for a second year of funding. An award in this program is expected to result in the submission of a major grant application to a federal agency or foundation.