NSF / ASRC TRANSPHERE PROGRAM
APPLICATION

TRANSPHERE – A transdisciplinary dialogic pedagogy for conceptualizing research questions with transformative potential*

ELIGIBILITY: POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHERS in any STEM, STEM education, or Social Science field, at any CUNY college

We anticipate selecting up to approximately 18 postdocs, for up to 3 BootCamp cohorts

Bootcamp meetings will be on Zoom (schedule to be negotiated with selected participants)

Weekly meetings are about 2 1/2 hours; we will likely not meet mid December-January; schedule details TBD

Final postdoc presentations are planned to be in person.

The TRANSPHERE program is funded by the National Science Foundation (*grant #2203605) as a pilot research study to evaluate the pedagogical strategy and the potential for scalability.

The research and evaluation aspects are integrated into the training program.

As such, a section of this application provides information about the research in order for you to agree or disagree to consent to your participation in the project.

This form cannot be started and saved for later.

Please read through the full application instructions below to prepare your submission.

Application Deadline - June 15, 2023, 6 PM

We aim to send notifications of acceptance by the end of June.

Scheduling will proceed after the applications and acceptances are processed.
What is your discipline / field of research? *

Briefly summarize the research you are currently working on and your responsibilities *

Explain, in about 1/2 page, your long term research interest(s). *

Briefly describe your prior experience with coming up with research questions or problems. *

Identify some challenges you have encountered in the past, when coming up with research questions or problems. *

Describe any strategies you use when deciding on a research question or problem. *
What do you hope to get from participating in the bootcamp; what do you expect to offer the group? *

Which types of positions are you considering for your next career step? *
- [ ] tenure track faculty position
- [ ] non tenure track faculty position
- [ ] research lab in industry
- [ ] research lab at a government agency
- [ ] other
- [ ] Other:

Do you have experience with or interest in discussing your research ideas in an interdisciplinary setting? *
- [ ] Yes - I have done this and find it exciting
- [ ] Not really
- [ ] I have limited experience but am enthusiastic about the idea
- [ ] Other:
Have you completed your research trainings / certifications as required by CUNY? (see https://www2.cuny.edu/research/research-compliance/) *

- Yes
- No
- I am now aware of this and will do so ASAP

What is your gender identity? *

- female
- male
- transgender woman
- transgender man
- non-binary
- agender (don’t identify with any gender)
- prefer not to state

Research has shown that highly diverse groups are more effective; our intent is that the groups be diverse in more than one dimension.

What is your racial and/or ethnic identity? - Copy *

- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Black or African American
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
Research has shown that highly diverse groups are more effective; our intent is that the groups be diverse in more than one dimension.

In what geographic region (or country) have you lived the longest? *

Requirements for participating in the bootcamp include the following. Please check all that you agree to abide by. - Copy*

1. Attend a minimum of 80% of bootcamp meetings.

3. Make up any work missed if absent.

4. Complete weekly assignments on time and submit drafts at least 24 hours before the start of the meeting at which the work will be discussed.

4. Provide constructive feedback to peers.

5. Practice impeccable research ethics. No exceptions.

Please upload your CV or biosketch here. *

Choose File  Remove File  No File Chosen

File uploads may not work on some mobile devices.

E. Postdoc Agreement:

- I commit to attending (nearly) all bootcamp sessions, to keeping up with writing and peer review assignments, and to fully participating in the peer support and review components of the bootcamp. Also, I understand that if I miss 2 or more sessions and/or do not submit drafts within the expected timelines, I may be asked to leave the Bootcamp.

Signature *
NSF / ASRC TRANSPIRE PROGRAM - INFORMED CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE RESEARCH

THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

Advanced Science Research Center (ASRC)

Sponsored Programs

Information about the RESEARCH study

Title of Research Study: EAGER GERMINATION: TRANSPIRE – A transdisciplinary dialogic pedagogy for conceptualizing research questions with transformative potential

Principal Investigator: Linda Vigdor, MFA, PhD; Associate Director of Proposal Development, ASRC

Research Sponsor: National Science Foundation

Purpose:

The purpose of this research study is to pilot and evaluate a transdisciplinary training pedagogy as a theory of change. The research will evaluate the TRANSPIRE pedagogical model to document whether, how, and why habits of mind shift from a traditionally siloed disciplinary focus and how this process shapes the conceptualization of societally impactful research questions.

By submitting the Bootcamp application you are also giving initial consent to use the information collected on the application as research data if you are accepted to participate in the TRANSPIRE program.

Additional research consent information:

If accepted into the program, we will then seek your official consent to include you in the research and evaluation activities associated with the TRANSPIRE Bootcamp program and note that participation in the program is voluntary. The purpose of the research includes evaluating the effectiveness and potential scalability of a pedagogical model for helping emerging researchers (postdoctoral researchers, in this case) to conceptualize...
research questions that have the potential to address grand challenges facing science and society. Below is an overview of the intended research:

Most of the research and evaluation activities are integrated into the TRANSPIRE activities; participation in the research/evaluation will include the following:

- Bootcamp application (with demographic questions, academic CV, and short essays (1 paragraph to 2 pages) about the applicant’s research); the application will be a data source (to be used only if the postdoc is accepted into the TRANSPIRE program)
- Participating in the Bootcamp group Zoom meetings to discuss work-in-progress and other materials; Zoom meetings will be recorded for the evaluator’s use and serve as data. Recordings may also have a pedagogical value to the postdocs. As such, the recordings will be available only to members of the recorded group and to the PI and evaluator. The recordings will be transferred to a password-protected ASRC server and deleted from the original recording device.
- Regular writing or related assignments (research questions and statements, and other activities to help clarify these); assignments and drafts will also be a source of evaluation data
- Weekly reflective journals (to be kept in a digital, secured format) over the academic year of the Bootcamp; prompts will be provided. These journals will be available only to the journal author, PI, and evaluator
- Participation in other Bootcamp activities, including two presentations to the Advisory Board, mentors, and potentially, invited guests; these presentations and discussions will be observed and recorded as research and evaluation data
- Occasional questionnaires or interviews conducted by the evaluator
- Participation in a focus group at the end of the year to collectively contribute ideas and perceptions to the evaluation
- Participation in brief questionnaires or maintaining a LinkedIn profile to enable researchers to follow participants’ research career trajectories over a few years or until the postdoc secures a research position beyond the postdoc or research associate level

Risks or discomforts to participants are not expected to be more than would be expected in normal academic interactions. Participating in the TRANSPIRE program and the associated research will not adversely affect postdocs’ position at CUNY (including their postdoctoral position and access to other mentoring or professional development services).