

Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost

P3 Program Preliminary Proposal Information Session

Edith Parker, P3 Coordinator for SPARC

September 16, 2025 & October 14, 2025

Agenda

- P3 Program Overview – Edith Parker
- Qualities of a Successful Proposal – Edith Parker
- Connecting to Institutional Strategic Priorities – Kyle Hughes
- Developing an Assessment Plan – Wayne Jacobson
- Creating a Budget – Mike Weaver
- Tips on Best Practices – Mara Cheney
- Application Demonstration – Mike Weaver
- Q&A

P3 Strategic Initiatives Program: Guiding Principles

- P3 funding is an investment into the University of Iowa's core missions of teaching, research, and scholarship.
- All funds will be used for initiatives that support the UI Strategic Plan.
- \$15 million in annual revenue will not be enough to support all the strategic needs of the university.
- A portion of the funds will be awarded each year through a competitive application process open to all of campus.
 - P3 funds will be most valuable when used to leverage other support or to grow new sustainable efforts in support of the strategic plan.
 - Sustainability of strategic activities beyond P3 support is essential.
 - Proposals for multi-year non-recurring funds (up to 3 years) will be considered, balanced with proposals that could benefit from one-time or shorter-term support.
- Remaining funds may be used for campus projects of high strategic importance, such as key infrastructure projects.
- Some funds may be reserved to provide timely support for strategic plan initiatives throughout the fiscal year.
- The allocation process will be evaluated annually for the purpose of process improvement.

P3 Review Process Timeline – FY2027



Sept. 11	Campus-wide call for preliminary proposals
Sept. 16 & Oct. 14	Info sessions on how to construct a competitive proposal
Nov. 13	Preliminary proposals due
Dec. 15	Invitations issued to submit a full application
Mar. 10	Full applications due
June 16	Project Leaders notified of outcome
July 1	Funding released to awarded projects

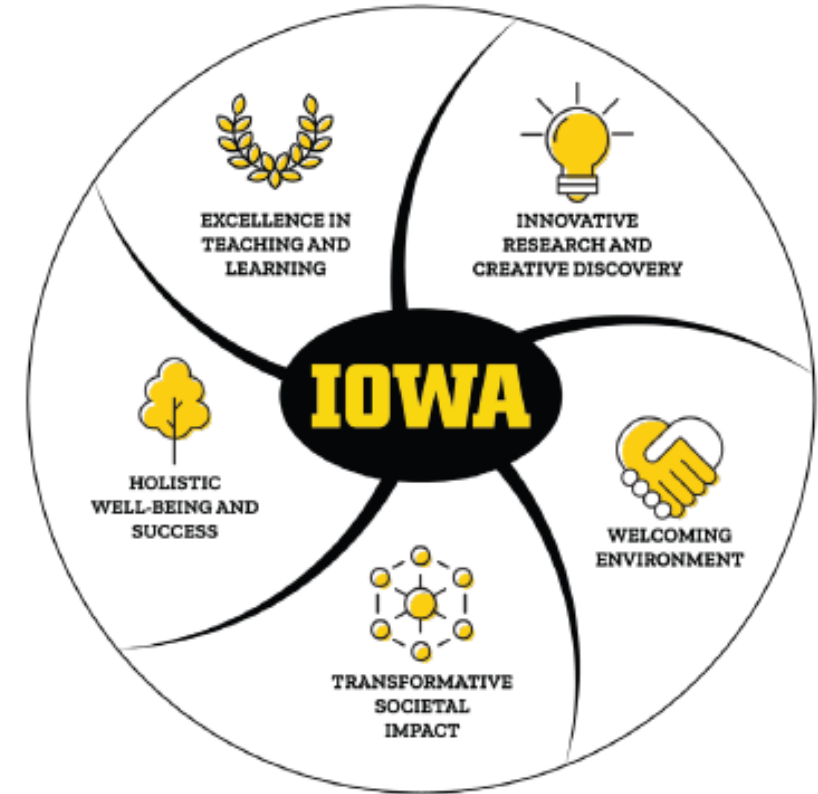
Qualities of a Successful Proposal

Priority will be given to projects that demonstrate the following criteria:

- **Institutional-level high impact** (i.e., a high return on investment) across more than one strategic priority area (excellence in teaching and learning, innovative research and creative discovery, welcoming environment, holistic well-being and success, and/or transformative societal impact). Projects should specifically align with one or more **2022-2027 UI Strategic Plan** goals, objectives, or strategies and have the potential to make measurable (or significant) progress toward one or more overarching metric;
- How project activities are **outside of scope, or unable to be supported, through the current budget model** (project activities should extend beyond core functions or operations related to the central missions of teaching, research, and service);
- The **potential for longevity beyond the funding period**, whether the project is able to leverage additional funds (i.e., grants, philanthropy, and/or other strategies) or to continue project activities by making them a regular part of institutional operations; and
- **Cross-campus collaborations**, including interdisciplinary, cross-unit activities that build on existing strengths and/or areas of opportunity for growth and distinction. Proposals that focus on distinctive collaborative opportunities such as 1) writing and communication, 2) brain science and mental health, or 3) cancer research and patient care are especially encouraged.

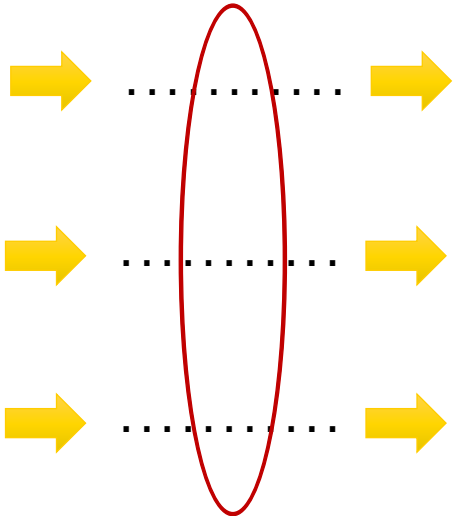
Connecting to Institutional Strategic Priorities

- Funded P3 projects will become tactics under one or more strategy
 - Project leads will collaborate with the relevant SPARC workgroup(s) on project implementation
 - Projects should impact high-level indicators as well as have metrics attached to the specific tactic



<https://strategicplan.uiowa.edu/>

Characteristics of a Strong Assessment Plan

<i>Goal of your initiative:</i>	<i>Logic Model / Implementation Plan</i>	<i>In order to contribute to the university's goal of ...</i>
Support first-year student success in high-stakes gateway courses		Increased rates of student retention and graduation
Facilitate interdisciplinary research partnerships		Increased levels of external research funding
Increase engagement with more communities around the state		Fulfilling the university's public service mission
<i>A strong assessment plan will ...</i>	✓ Focus on direct, proximal outcomes of initiative activities ✓ Monitor interim progress as well as final outcomes ✓ Identify capacity – who is responsible, resources and expertise required to carry out the assessment plan, implementation timeline	

Budget Information

- What to consider when developing a preliminary budget:
 - Include only expenses allowed by the university
 - Discuss this project, and the resources being committed, with the appropriate collegiate/central unit offices
 - Identify resources provided by collaborating units
 - If new personnel are needed to support the activities, be sure there is a plan to sustain these positions after the project period
 - The estimated budget should be realistic (e.g., Can activities be supported with roughly the requested amount?)

Best Practices

- Project timeline considerations
 - Consider the span of time it takes to hire new or reassign existing staff to support the project
- Communication through all stages of the proposal/project
- Collaboration with existing services
- Strong demonstration of institutional level impact and return on investment
- Be succinct when completing the form; attachments are not accepted in the preliminary application process

Q&A