FIU | Kimberly Green Latin American and Caribbean Center

# CALL FOR PROPOSALS

# BUILDING RESEARCH, INNOVATION & DEVELOPMENT FOR GLOBAL EDUCATION AWARD (LACC-BRIDGE)

*Fostering FIU's Academic Research on Latin America and the Caribbean*

The Kimberly Green Latin American and Caribbean Center (LACC) is pleased to announce its call for research proposals under the LACC-BRIDGE Initiative. Focused on any Latin American and Caribbean country or subregion, LACC seeks research projects that aim to understand and address salient issues in the region from any discipline or field of knowledge. Successful proposals will advance knowledge on the region, should be feasible within the 12-month award period, and show a clear path towards broader societal impact through public engagement or policy-relevant ideas.

**Purpose**: The primary objective of the LACC-BRIDGE is to stimulate high-impact research that advances FIU's academic contribution on Latin America and the Caribbean and translates findings into actionable knowledge in global education and policy. The LACC-BRIDGE is designed to promote and support LACC Affiliated Faculty working in/on the region, especially those in the early stages of their academic careers, and simultaneously encourage LAC-related research mentorship among faculty and students.

**Eligibility**: The LACC-BRIDGE is open to any LACC Affiliated Faculty member. The Principal Investigator must hold an appointment in an FIU department, center, or institute. Priority will be given to PIs in the early stages of their academic careers. The proposed research project must also involve an FIU student (undergraduate or graduate).

**Funding Level & Duration**: LACC anticipates funding at least one proposal annually with a maximum award of $30,000 and a project duration of 12 months.

**Allowable Costs:** Funds may be used for salary support (summer salary, OPS student assistants), direct research costs (data acquisition, equipment access, fieldwork travel), and dissemination activities (conference travel, open-access fees). PI salary buyouts are not permitted. Tuition waivers are not available. Successful applicants may use the LACC-BRIDGE to complete a

research project that was terminated due to the cancellation of federal government funding. FIU research compliance regulations apply.

**Oversight and Administration**

An interim report must be filed six months after the project start-date for a 12-month project, or mid-way through a project of a shorter duration. A final report and public presentation of the project findings must be delivered within three months of full completion of the project.

Funded projects will be fully administered through LACC; no transfer of awarded monies will be made.

LACC reserves the right to cancel the award at any time if the project is not progressing as proposed or deviates from the objectives of the LACC-BRIDGE Initiative.

**Deadline for submission**: January 8, 2027, 18:00 EST.

All proposals must be submitted electronically to Apply_LACC@fiu.edu with the subject line "LACC-BRIDGE Proposal." Late submissions will not be reviewed.

**Proposal Content**

Proposals should contain the following sections in a single PDF file:

1. *Project Abstract* (200 words max): A concise summary of the project design and rationale (research question, methods, expected impact, etc.).
2. *Research Narrative* (3-page limit, single-spaced, 12pt font): Must include the following sections:
   - Problem statement and significance
   - Research gap in the academic literature
   - Methodology and research design
   - Timeline and feasibility
   - Intellectual merit and broader impact

*3. Detailed Budget and Justification* (2 pages max): Itemized breakdown of costs and an explanation.

*4. PI/Co-PIs Curriculum Vitae* (1 page per person): Abbreviated CV focusing on relevant expertise.

**Review Process and Contact**

*Review Process:* Proposals will be reviewed by an interdisciplinary review committee appointed by LACC. Evaluation criteria include methodological rigor; project feasibility; extent to which all costs are itemized in the budget justification and the costs are reasonable in relation to the

objectives, design, and potential significance of the proposed project; extent to which the research will support the generation of information for the benefit of diverse constituencies; and broader impact for FIU scholarship on Latin America and the Caribbean.

*Notification of Decision:* Applicants will be notified by February 26, 2027.

*Contact/Inquiries:* For all administrative or technical queries, please contact Verbolet Moise (vmoise@fiu.edu). Questions regarding the scope and fit of a research project may be directed to Liesl Picard (picardl@fiu.edu) or José Miguel Cruz (jomcruz@fiu.edu). Please note that communication may be limited during Winter Break.