

RFP# UCA-26-023 – Entrepreneurship & Innovation Consultant Q&A

Scott Maloney crain consulting

Commensurate with Section A, Sub-Section 2, we wish to submit some questions to further our understanding and ensure our ultimate response is laser focused on the university's goals. For your consideration, our clarifying questions are as follows:

- Does UCA seek to maintain existing IP policy as-is or seeks recommendations for policy/process updates?

UCA has a standing Board policy that defines ownership, disclosures, URC (University Research Council) review, and OSP/ORSP roles. The existing policy will serve as a baseline, but we may need to revisit and/or update policy to accelerate growth in this area.

- Are there further definitions for expected on-site cadence at the Innovation campus and availability requirements for “regularly accessible” space, and can a consistent, non-travel presence be seen as a benefit?

This work will require on-site presence at a routine and regular (weekly, monthly) basis.

- Are there any statewide initiatives relevant to this RFP already in place or soon-to-be in place that would be important for this project to productively interact with?

Statewide initiatives related to talent, workforce, and economic development would align with this RFP.

- Are there any current IP or TT assets (disclosure templates, prior disclosures, license templates, invention committee, IP counsel) and baseline metrics for a subset of UCA innovations that are of particular importance to the university?

Not at this time.

Holly Meadows tremonti consulting

General information:

1. Can UCA provide its annual research and federal funding expenditure levels (average is fine)? **Approximately \$3.5 million**

2. What percentage of these expenditures are competitively awarded federal research grants? **Over 80%, if we count pass-throughs and sub-awards.**

3. Does UCA currently have a dedicated technology transfer office or staff? If so, how many staff members and what roles are currently covered (e.g., licensing, IP management, compliance)?

UCA maintains a formal “Intellectual Property and Technology Transfer” policy under Research Compliance, rather than a separate licensing office. The Research Compliance Office lists a Research Compliance Officer contact; the Office of Research & Sponsored Programs (ORSP) staff includes a Director, Grant Administrators, and a Proposal Development Specialist. We do not have specific personnel for licensing or IP management.

4. If no formal TTO exists, which office(s) or administrators currently handle research disclosures, IP protection, and commercialization matters?

We have a multifaceted approach to TTO/Disclosures/Licensing. Per UCA policy pages, Research Compliance oversees IP & technology-transfer policy and processes; ORSP handles sponsored programs administration. Contract review is governed by Board policy. Thus, in practice, this indicates Research Compliance + ORSP + contract review handles disclosures, protection, and related compliance/commercialization steps.

Research Portfolio & Industry Engagement

5. What are UCA's strongest research areas or clusters (e.g., health sciences, engineering, data science) that are most likely to generate intellectual property?

UCA's largest research areas are Life and Physical Sciences, with additional activity in Engineering and Computer & Information Sciences. We have a growing portfolio of research in Education. From an IP-generation perspective, life sciences, chemistry/biomedical-related work, applied engineering/industrial, and computing/data science look promising.

6. Does UCA already have formal industry partnerships or consortia that the consultant would be expected to leverage?

We have a number of advisory boards that may be helpful with this work moving forward.

Grace Rains arconductor

- On page 2, under pricing, it states that all pricing should be included on the official bid sheet only, but on page 12, it asks for a listing of fees. Is the listing of fees encompassed in us completing the official bid sheet? **Correct.**

- On page 2, it asks for a redacted copy, is that required if we choose not to redact, or are there areas of the proposal that you would like to be redacted? **Not required if no information needs to be redacted.**
- On page 12, it asks for a minimum of 3 "governmental references" - are these references from governmental agencies only? And if so, is a city municipality allowable? **Yes. References should be comparable to UCA.**
- Are there any addenda that we need to acknowledge in our proposal (page 18)? **No.**
- Page 20 outlines a request for a list of "deliverables" based on the official bid pricing sheet - is this in addition to what we provide in 4.b (page 12)? Or do we provide the information outlined in 4.b. on the page 20 form? **Provide the information on the form.**