Statement of Purpose

The BCoE [http://www.unh.edu/broadband/] at the University of New Hampshire is an unbiased resource for government, universities, researchers, communities and corporations providing factual information about broadband. A gift from the YAS Foundation will support innovations in the field of broadband technology and application. These funds will be directed at projects and programs that support BCoE’s key areas of focus:

- Technologies enabling broadband access for those underserved and unserved.
- Policy, financial and human studies addressing affordable broadband, or “broadband for all.”
- Practical applications and services to empower “smart cities” and “smart campuses” using broadband.
- Advanced research of innovative broadband technologies to help maintain our nation’s competitive status globally.

These targeted areas of work directly support BCoE’s vision of establishing UNH as a global leader in maximizing the effectiveness of broadband on commerce, innovation, competitiveness and quality of life. Its four key objectives are to:

- Establish UNH as a thought leader and advance the effective use of broadband technologies at the university.
- Engage with corporations, industries and other technology leaders to expand broadband research.
- Assist communities around the globe to realize broadband benefits.
- Influence public policy and regulation.

Request for Proposals

BCoE is requesting proposals in the area of Smart Communities/Smart Campuses.

Although there are different definitions of Smart Cities/ Towns/ Communities/ Campuses, most focus on communities that utilize information and communication technology through innovative applications and integrated systems to improve sustainability, economic competitiveness, livability, education and service delivery. We are particularly interested in proposals that would lead to larger funding opportunities announced by the Obama administration.

Proposals need to show how the project stimulates the best possible use of broadband networks and sensors and where possible include partnerships with internal and external stakeholders. Examples of applications that might be funded under the Broadband Innovation Fund include:

- Creative use of GIS to improve efficiency of community/campus services.
- Open data systems that inform students, citizens and policy-makers.
- Smart grid applications designed to improve reliability and promote energy saving.
- The ability to connect the university agriculture knowledge to local farmer needs.
- Programs designed to enhance citizen participation in the civic life of their communities.
- Streamlining complex government/university processes to enhance service delivery with broadband.
- Faster and more efficient fire and police response through better use of Internet networks.
- New technology that extends broadband utilization to underserved populations.
- Networked sensors to enhance decision-making in transportation, education, coastal and ocean mapping, building maintenance, energy and water utilization, etc.

These are just examples. We encourage all new ideas and innovations.

A total of $75,000 is available to fund up to three accepted proposals. Each project will be funded for one year and be assigned a BCoE mentor. Continuation requests based on project performance will be considered in year 2.

**Proposal Requirements**

Prepare the proposal in 12 pt. font and include the following information:

- **Goals and Objectives.** Include clear and measurable goals and objectives. Be clear about how this project relates to Smart Communities/Campuses and why it is innovative. (One page)

- **Faculty and staff involvement.** Please list key faculty, staff and student involvement in the initiative. Briefly describe the nature of their contributions, effort and key roles. If others outside of UNH are involved, please describe their contributions. (One page)
c. **Budget and justification.** Please provide a line item budget and brief justification. Why are funds necessary to accomplish the proposed activities? (One page). Please do not include fringe benefits or F&A in the budget request.

d. **Activities timeline.** Please provide an activities timeline that lists objectives, milestones, time-lines for completion, deliverables, and persons responsible. (One page)

e. **Evaluation Strategy.** Please describe how you will evaluate this initiative. How will you know that the external evaluation is a success? (One page)

**Timelines**

- Deadline for submission: March 18, 2016
  - Deadline for review: April 1, 2016
  - Announcement of Awards: April 15, 2016

**Submission Requirements**

Please submit as ADOBE PDF attachment to: Jan Nisbet, Senior Vice Provost for Research (janisbet@unh.edu)

Subject: BCoE grants program

Cc: Diana Couture (Diana.Couture@unh.edu)