Overview

All research conducted in the Intermountain Healthcare Simulation Learning Center (SLC) must receive approval from the SLC Advisory Committee. The purpose of this review process is to identify space, equipment, and staff support requirements, ensure that the SLC can meet the needs of the research study, and provide oversight for the utilization of SLC resources.

Investigators who would like to conduct research in the SLC must contact the Research Liaison to the SLC Advisory Committee for advisement prior to submitting this application. Investigators who are submitting extramural research grants proposals must also consult the Research Liaison during the budget development process. Note that most grant applications (including the CON Research Grants) require a letter of support from the simulation facility.

Eligibility and Cost

CON Faculty
All CON faculty (regular, research, clinical, adjunct) are eligible to conduct research in the SLC. CON faculty must obtain funds to cover the cost of non-durable supplies. CON faculty are also encouraged to seek intramural or extramural support to cover the cost of simulation center staff and technical support as required by the particular study. Unfunded pilot studies that may lead to the development of proposals for extramural funding and small research studies in areas that have few granting opportunities may be approved for a funding waiver. Unfunded studies that require significant resources must also be approved by the SLC Director of Operations and the Dean of the College of Nursing.

CON Graduate Students
CON graduate students are eligible to conduct research in the SLC, however MS, DNP or PhD students must have approval from their faculty supervisor and/or supervisory committees prior to submitting the proposal. Graduate students and their advisors should consult with the Research Liaison for the SLC Advisory Committee during the proposal development process for consultation on resource utilization issues. CON graduate students must obtain funds to cover the cost non-durable supplies, and if possible, the cost of staff technical support.

Non-CON Faculty and Graduate Students
University of Utah faculty and graduate students outside the College of Nursing may submit proposals to use the SLC for research purposes. Costs associated with use of the SLC will be billed at the current daily/half daily rates for University groups. The cost of non-durable supplies used during the research study are not included in the daily rates and can be purchased through the SLC.

Non-University Researchers
Researchers who do not have an academic appointment at the University of Utah may submit proposals to use the SLC for research purposes. Costs associated with use of the SLC will be billed at the current daily/half daily rates for non-University groups. Rates differ for profit vs. no-profit groups/companies. The cost of non-durable supplies used during the research study are not included in the daily rates and can be purchased through the SLC. Please note that to obtain IRB approval (see page 2), non University of Utah researchers must have a faculty sponsor associated with the project.
IRB Approval
All research conducted in the Intermountain Healthcare SLC at the CON must have University of Utah IRB approval prior to final approval of the project (see http://www.research.utah.edu/irb/). The Principal Investigator (PI) must have submitted the IRB application prior to submitting the application and research proposal.

Submission and Review
Prior to preparing the application form and research proposal, please contact the Research Liaison to the SLC Advisory Committee to arrange a meeting to discuss your study. The Research Liaison will provide guidance as you prepare your application and proposal. The Research Liaison will also arrange a meeting with the SLC Director of Operations to discuss resource needs and utilization.

The completed application form and proposal should be sent in electronic format to the SLC Research Liaison (contact information listed below). At any point during the review process the investigator may be asked to review the proposal based on committee feedback.

Submission Deadline
Proposals are due two weeks prior to the SLC Advisory Committee meeting dates. Meeting dates are listed on the online CON Calendar. Proposals received after the due-date will be reviewed at the next month’s meeting. If unusual circumstances ensue, the investigator may approach the Research Liaison for an exception.

Proposal Review
Proposals will be reviewed and evaluated according to criteria listed on page 3 of the application.

Research Liaison to the Simulation Learning Center Advisory Committee:
Alexa Doig, PhD, RN
Assistant Professor
College of Nursing, University of Utah
Email: alexa.doig@nurs.utah.edu
Phone: 801-581-4381
Instructions for Submitting an Application and Research Proposal

The application should consist of the following items:

1. **Application Form**
   
   Download and complete the application form.

2. **Research Proposal**
   
   The proposal should be limited to a maximum of **five single-spaced typed pages**, not including references. Include the following sections in the proposal or modify as appropriate:

   a. Objectives/research questions/hypotheses
   b. Rationale for conducting study/background/significance
   c. Methods
      
      • Design
      • Setting and sample
      • Instrumentation/measures
      • Data collection procedures in the SLC – include details regarding specific use of SLC equipment, staff technicians, simulation facilitators
      • Data analysis
   d. Impact on the Simulation Learning Center
      
      • Describing why you are proposing to conduct this research in the SLC versus other settings or facilities
      • If appropriate, provide a rational or justification for SLC resources identified in the application form (e.g. use of the Advanced vs. Basic Preparation Studios, high vs. low fidelity simulation, etc.)

   *Note:* A copy of the e-Protocol Summary for the study’s IRB application may be used as the body of the Research Proposal (parts a-c).

3. **CV or Biosketch for Principle Investigator** (for non-CON faculty/students only)
**General Evaluation Criteria**

*Note*: Studies with partial funding or no funding must also be approved by the SLC Director of Operations and the Dean of the College of Nursing.

*For research with funding (or partial funding) to support utilization of the Simulation Learning Center*

1. Is the application complete and contain sufficient information and realistic outline of required resources with discussion of each?
2. Is the study in alignment with the SLC mission and vision? ([http://nursing.utah.edu/SLC/mission.html](http://nursing.utah.edu/SLC/mission.html))
3. Is the funding sufficient to cover the costs associated with the project? If not, does the SLC have the resources to support the project?
4. Can the SLC accommodate the space personnel, equipment and/or supply requirements of the project?

*For research without funding to support utilization of Simulation Learning Center*

1. Is the application complete and contain sufficient information and realistic outline of required resources with discussion of each?
2. Is the study in alignment with the SLC mission and vision? ([http://nursing.utah.edu/SLC/mission.html](http://nursing.utah.edu/SLC/mission.html))
3. Does the SLC have the resources to support the project?
4. Can the SLC accommodate the space and personnel requirements of the project?
Scientific Review Criteria

The scientific review may be waived for projects that have received funding through a peer-review process (e.g. the CON Research Committee, a University Seed grant, the NIH, or a private research foundation). However, a full description of the project must still be included in this proposal.

1. Does the investigator(s) clearly delineate in the proposal, the:
   • Project goals and objectives?
   • Significance and potential impact of the project?
   • Project methods?

2. Are the described methods congruent with the goals, objectives, and expected outcomes?

3. Does the investigator(s) address any potential barriers or technical difficulties, and options for addressing the barriers or difficulties?

4. Is the proposal written in a cohesive, clear, scholarly manner, and with sufficient level of detail to support understanding?

5. Are key references cited in the proposal?

6. Does the proposal reflect the investigator(s)’s capacity necessary to carry out the proposed research?

For CON Faculty

7. Does the investigator(s) delineate how this funding will interface with currently available alternate/complementary/supplemental funding approaches for the proposed research study, or with potential future funding opportunities?

8. Is the proposed research congruent with the investigator(s)’s program of research? Does the proposed research extend the program of research? If not, is pertinent rationale provided for new direction?

9. Does the significance of the proposed work contribute to the intellectual and career development of the investigator(s)?