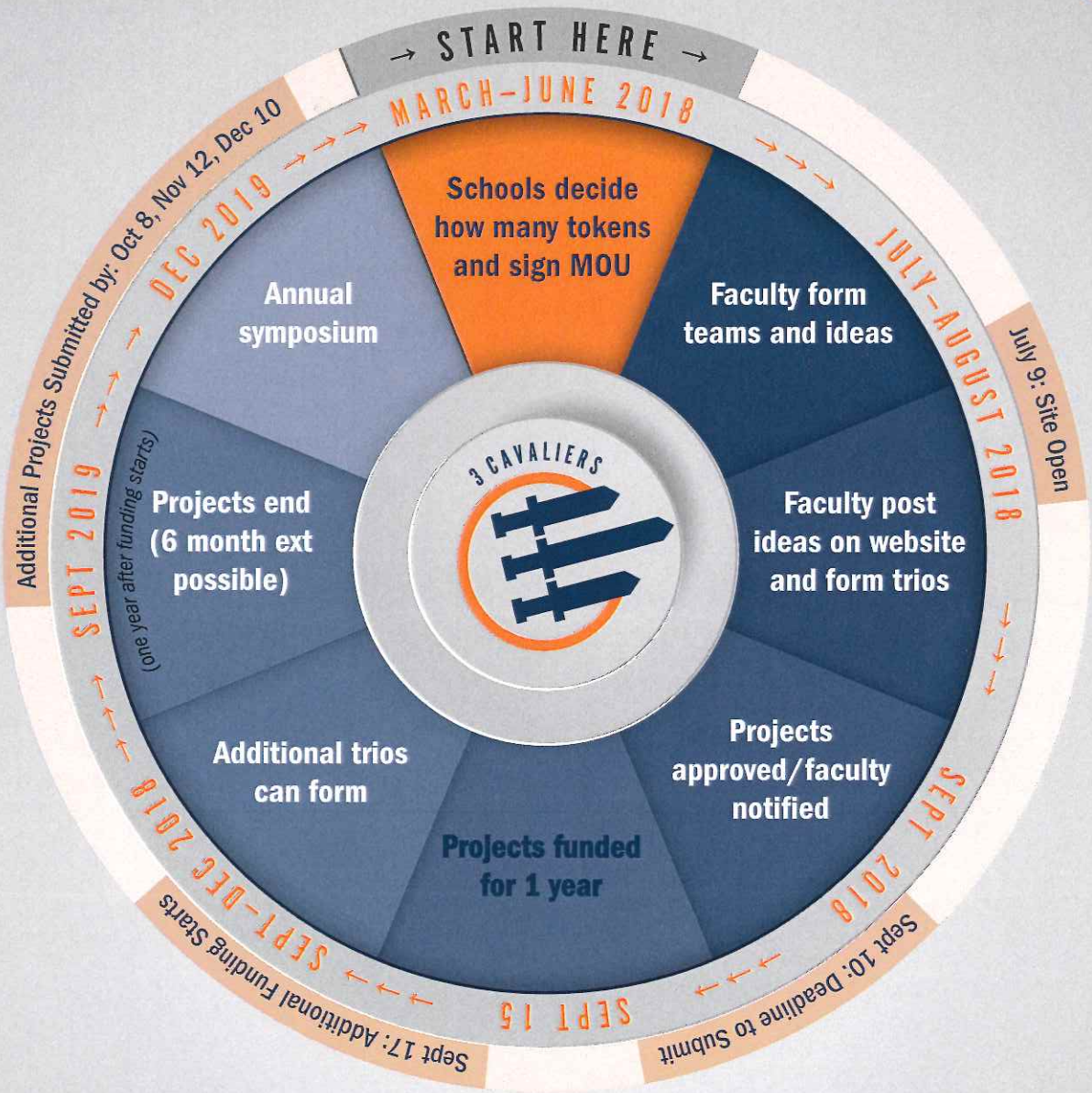
University of Virginia
3 Cavaliers

Creative. Collaborative. Consequential.



TRIO
(Made up of 3 Faculty members)
3 x $20K = $60K

MINI TRIO
(Made up of 3 Faculty members)
3 x $5K = $15K

FACULTY 1 ($20K) | FACULTY 2 ($20K) | FACULTY 3 ($20K)

ONE TOKEN

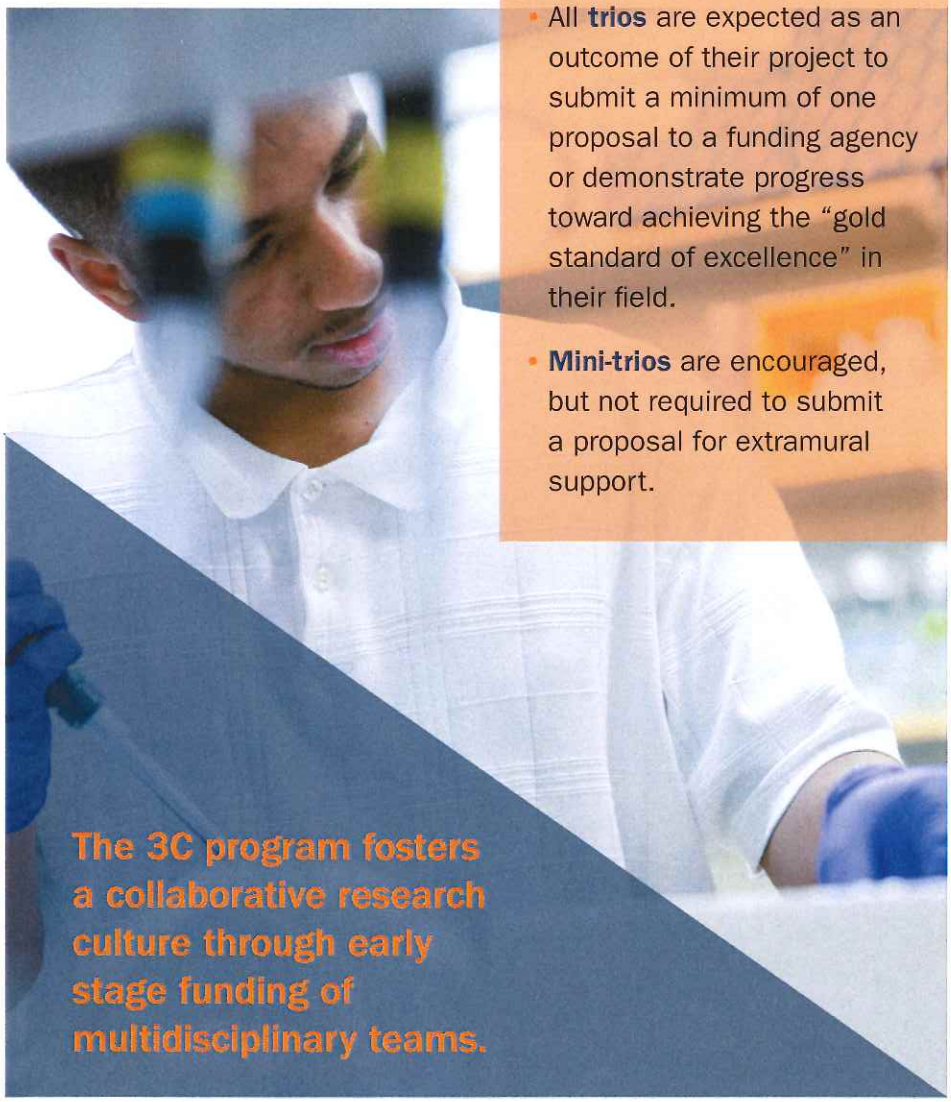
Program Features

- Each independent faculty member in the program as defined by their unit (e.g., tenured or tenure-track faculty, Research Faculty) will receive one token, allowing them to form a Trio.
- A **token** is a voucher that can be exchanged for the matching funds for their project.
- Individual **token values** are designated at $20,000 and $5,000 based on the scale of the project and can be used together to develop $60,000 Trio or $15,000 Mini-Trio.
- Schools/units determine how many tokens they wish to invest in, which of their faculty will receive a token, and the level of faculty contribution and school contribution. VPR office will work with each school to create a specific MOU with terms and conditions.
- Trios received by the submission deadline will be randomly arranged and valid trios will be funded, starting at the top of the list, keeping only a diverse portfolio as additional selection criteria, until all funds have been assigned.
- Once formed they are referred to as Cavalier Trios or "trios" for short.
- If funds are not exhausted, the program will remain open for additional trios submitted anytime over the following several months and the trios will be approved as they are received on a first-come first-served basis until funds are exhausted.

Terms to Know

An **"interdisciplinary" team** is one involving two or more units where the faculty members are not currently funded or working together on the topic. Faculty are strongly encouraged to look beyond school boundaries. The project must bring together three experts from diverse fields to address new research problems.

- A **unit** is a school, college, or division (e,g, humanities, physical sciences, clinical, basic science).
- All **trios** are expected as an outcome of their project to submit a minimum of one proposal to a funding agency or demonstrate progress toward achieving the "gold standard of excellence" in their field.
- **Mini-trios** are encouraged, but not required to submit a proposal for extramural support.



This program is modeled after the highly successful Mcubed program at the University of Michigan.

For additional information, please contact Cheryl Wagner, Cheryl-vpr@virginia.edu

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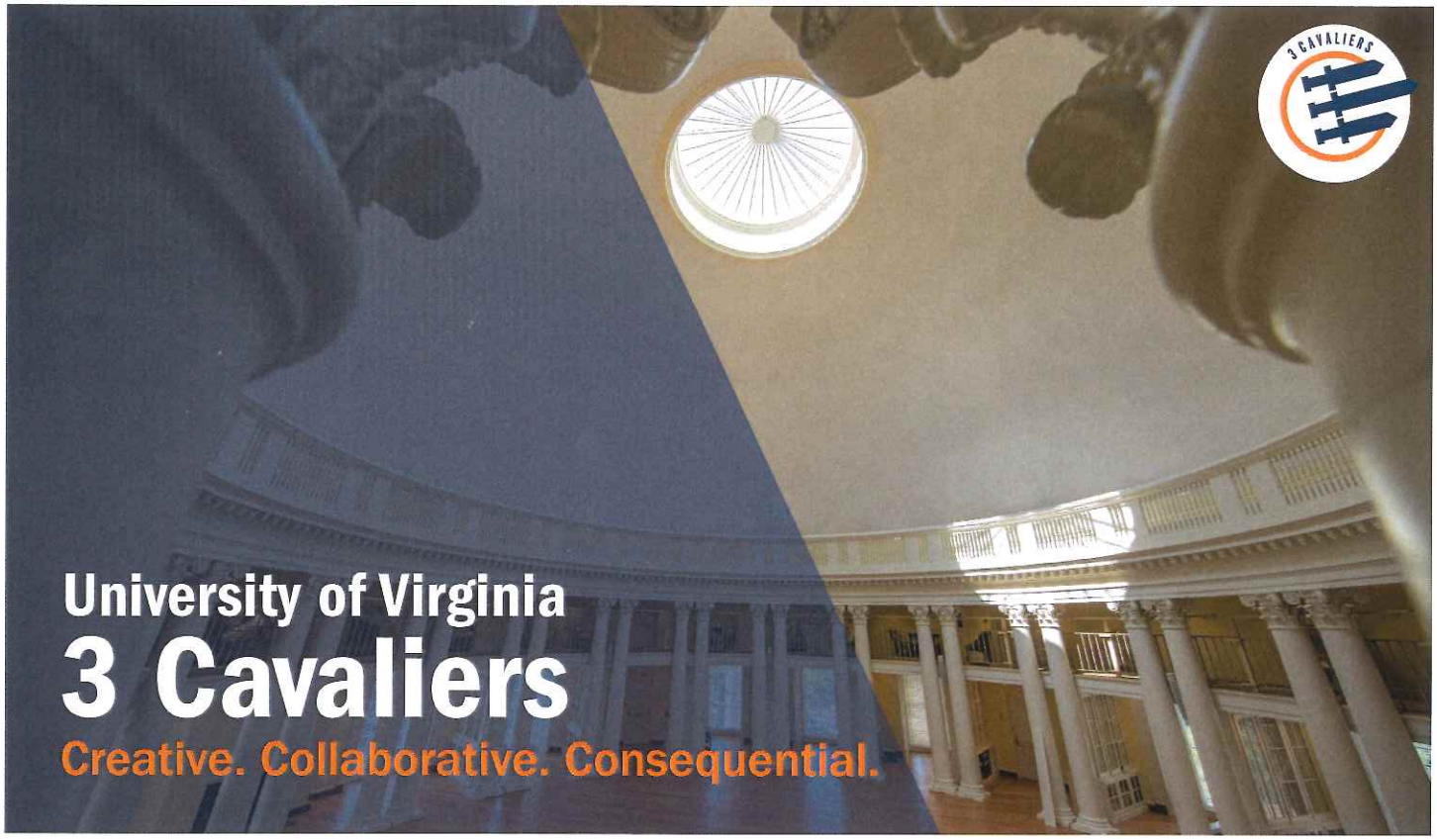

Fostering a collaborative research culture through early-stage funding of multidisciplinary teams pursuing new research ideas.

The 3C program provides funding for groups of three collaborative faculty members spread across at least two disparate disciplines, located in different units or schools, to self-assemble, formulate and explore creative, consequential interdisciplinary research ideas that might not be ready for more traditional funding.

3 Cavaliers is: Seed Funding for projects at a level of $60K or $15K. Three faculty collaborating on a new idea. A faculty expertise database.

Funding Opportunity

Why participate in 3C?

- Find new collaborators to partner with in the faculty database.
- Funding for projects not yet ready for external funding. Projects must be new research.
- Only administrative review of projects. Selection algorithm process does not evaluate the quality of the project, only that the project meets the administrative requirements of the program and weighted to account for portfolio diversity.
- Funding to support your student/postdoc. Funds can be used for staff support, for equipment, supplies, publication costs or other costs. Funds may not be used for faculty salary.
- July, 2018 ..... Website open
- September 10, 2018 . Project submission deadline
- September 24, 2018 ..... Funds available
- Sept 24-Dec 10, 2019 ..... Additional projects
- December 2019 ..... Symposium

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How Does It work?

STEP 1. All faculty members access the program through the 3Cavaliers webpage. This site enables them to build/edit a faculty profile, create a project, invite collaborators to join their project or find a project to join. Once there are three tokens committed to a project, the project creator is able to officially request a trio via the site.

STEP 2. Faculty token holders may create a project description and invite other faculty to participate in a trio, or can ask to join a project that is being formed.

STEP 3. Once a Trio is formed, the project creator (lead faculty member) will submit the project to the 3C program via the website by the deadline (Sept. 10, 2018).

STEP 4. Submitted projects are checked to verify they meet the requirements and funded in random order until all funds are spent.

STEP 5. Projects will be notified of the award, funds set up for immediate use.

STEP 6. Research project. Time period 1 year, possible 6 month extension.

STEP 7. Submit final report and participate in annual symposium required.

Requirements:

- A **token** is a voucher that can be exchanged for the matching funds for their project. Each unit provides their faculty with a token, which is authorization to participate and the portion of matching funds is committed for the project.
- **One token per faculty member.** Faculty recipients of tokens are only eligible for one token which is equal to $20K or $5K.
- **Three tokens per trio** – Tokens must be redeemed in groups of three to form a "trio." Multi-trio groups are acceptable and encouraged to fund larger projects (e.g., 9 faculty members can form 3 trios attached to one project).
- **No Review** – There will be no review requirement beyond mutual agreement of your peers to participate in the project for redeeming tokens.
- **Choice of funding level** – Faculty members can choose one of two different funding levels for a trio. A trio is worth $60,000, and a mini trio is worth $15,000. Details of funding distribution for each unit will be posted on the website.
- **Interdisciplinary trio** – The trio must be interdisciplinary; i.e., each trio must contain tokens from at least two different units. The units are typically defined as a school or college although there can be exceptions.
- **Trio is NEW research** – All three faculty members of a trio at the time of submission cannot be simultaneously on an existing sponsored research project. The funds cannot be used for extending existing, externally funded projects, or for projects with sufficient preliminary results to be competitive for funding by external agencies (e.g., NIH, NSF).
- **Trio supports students/postdocs** – at least 50% of the trio's funding must be used to support UVA undergraduate students, graduate students or postdocs. The remaining 50% of the funds can be used for equipment, supplies, lab fees, subject incentives, staff support, publication cost and travel. Faculty member salaries are not allowable expenses.
- **Symposium participation** – Each trio will be represented at the 3C Symposium. A brief report and participation in the symposium is the only required deliverable from the 3C funding. At least one member of the trio team should be present throughout the day's events. Trio teams will showcase their work through either a poster presentation or featured TED-talk like presentation. (December 2019)
- **3C website for trio creation** – To receive funds, one participant must enter the project information (title of project, description, etc.) into the 3C website, and this faculty member is the owner of the project. The owner then invites two other participants to join the project and form a trio. Following trio notification they have been awarded, funds will be set up rapidly, and a project PTAO will be quickly available and managed in the owner's unit. Participants can post as many projects as they want, but they can only add their token to one project.
- **Funding period** – Formed trios will have one year to spend the funds. A possible max of six months extension may be made.