## UCalgary Rapid Energy Innovation Kick-Start Awards (UREIKA)

### 1. Overview
The **UCalgary Rapid Energy Innovation Kick-Start Awards (UREIKA, pronounced EUREKA)** provide funding to support creative and innovative energy-related research and design activities. The intent is to support graduate students and postdoctoral fellows who have innovative ideas to launch a small concept or project that is out-of-the-box and has a significant contribution to the field. The applicants will need to utilize existing equipment or facilities for their projects. The timeline of the project is 6 months.

### 2. Purpose
- Engage with the energy community, in particular, graduate students and post-doctoral scholars (trainees), across campus.
- Ignite out-of-the-box thinking in our graduate students and postdoc community.
- Promote awareness among trainees of different styles and approaches towards energy research, innovation and creativity from different disciplines.
- Provide applicants with professional experience such as proposal writing, budgeting, project administration.

### 3. The Award
3 competitions: each one with up to $10K of funding support over 6 months to be awarded to an individual or a group. Each competition will provide two awards at up to $5,000 each – one from the STEM and the other from the non-STEM areas, based on the number and merit of the applications received from each of the areas.

### 4. Applicant Eligibility
This competition is open to individuals or project groups. Applicants or project participants must be current masters, PhD students or postdoctoral fellows from any faculty at UCalgary.

### 5. Competition Timeline

| Competition | Milestones |
|---|---|
| **Competition 1** Attitudes on Energy: What actions can be done to motivate evolution? | **Feb 16, 2024** - Launch of Competition 1 and call for proposals |
| | **Apr 05, 2024** – Application deadline |
| | **May 15, 2024** – Winner announced, project starts |
| | **Nov 15, 2024** – Project ends |
| **Competition 2** Energy Transition: Relationship between Society and Solutions | **Oct 15, 2024** - Launch of Competition 2 and call for proposals |
| | **Dec 15, 2024** – Application deadline |
| | **Jan 31, 2025** – Winner announced, project starts |
| | **Jul 31, 2025** – Project ends |
| **Competition 3** (Big question: TBD) | **Dates TBD** |

### 6. Source of Funding and Award Administration

The Global Research Initiative (GRI) office will administer, receive and process applications prior to an evaluation process by an independent Selection Committee. The GRI office will be administering the funds and will help process expense claims.

### 7. Application Process

Applications will be invited three times a year from current graduate students and postdoctoral fellows from all departments and programs at the university (refer to the timeline in Section 5). The application form will include applicant(s) information, a proposal template, and a budget template in a single word file.

### 8. Funding Principles

*Eligible expenses –*

- Project-related travel and subsistence (meals and accommodation)
- Dissemination of research results including publication fees and networking
- Professional development courses

*Ineligible expenses –*

- Compensation-related expenses like salaries or stipends
- Computers and electronics or other equipment

For expense reimbursement, tri-council and university-specific requirements and restrictions will apply.

### 9. The Selection Process

Following the closing date for applications, the GRI office will perform a preliminary eligibility screen and forward the applications to the Selection Committee. The Selection Committee will consist of internal and external multidisciplinary panel of experts. Evaluation will be based on a set of criteria:

- Alignment with the Big Question – 20%
- Project/Concept Design – 20%
- Originality and How Innovative - 20%
- Feasibility- 20%
- Applicability to society - 20%

### 10. Responsibilities of the Award Recipients

- Studies must be completed on/before the project end date.
- Award recipients will be required to submit a report (can be in different formats, e.g., written report, artistic contribution with written description, technical design with written description, model or test results with written description etc.) of their findings and achievements within 30 days of the project end date.
- Expense claims must be submitted to the GRI office within 15 days of the project end date.
- Unspent funds will be recovered by the GRI office.
- All publications, presentation and dissemination efforts from the research resulting from UREIKA must carry the following acknowledgement: "**This research was undertaken thanks in part to funding from the Global Research Initiative at UCalgary and the Canada First Research Excellence Fund.**"
- If applicable, the successful applicant must provide evidence of appropriate Research Ethics Board approval, along with consent forms where human subjects are involved in the study before the funding is released.
- Award recipients must ensure that they have consent of their supervisors to carry out the proposed study before accepting the award.