SI Strategic Theme Support

The Si leaders are increasingly focusing on large strategic issues (e.g., Fire, Virtual Reach, Food Systems, etc.). These efforts have cross-SI significance and have the potential to influence the work of many. A list of current crystal ball and initiative themes are available on the SI web site.

Funding Support

A limited amount of funds are allocated by UC ANR leadership to develop and grow these strategic ideas. Fund use is based on SI leader discussion and consensus. Funds to date have been used to support conferences, webinars and trainings.

Principles for partial support to promote strategic agreed themes.

Partial Event and Webinar Support

The advent of COVID has seen a dramatic increase in virtual outreach across UC ANR. This growth in the use of virtual tools has highlighted the opportunities for expanded reach. Further, this growth in virtual events is expected to continue post COVID.

Given the breadth of the organization, webinars and trainings often emerge related to major strategic themes. Here are the principles as to which of these events might be supported using SI strategic theme funds:

1. ***The webinar/training is part of an existing SI thematic effort (one already approved by the SI leader group).***

   If yes, then the proposed webinar or training is part of the plan and so would be supported in some form (per the relevant SI leaders plans).

   If no, see #2.

2. ***The webinar is consistent with an SI strategic thematic effort, but it is not a formal part of the ongoing SI-led activity.***

   If no, not supported.

   If yes, then partial support ($200) can be provided based on the recommendation of the relevant SI leader(s); assuming the relevant SI leader(s) feel the proposed effort is a good fit and well planned out to have an impact.

   Fund size. Each year, the SIs will assign a certain amount of funds for category 2 (e.g., $3,000 = 15 webinars with partial support). When used up, no more such applications are funded or the SIs can assess the budget situation and assign further funds.