



**Cavanagh Fund**  
**Ethical Solutions to Social Problems**  
**Call for Proposals**

The *Cavanagh Fund* supports innovative research that develops practical, ethical solutions to today's most pressing social problems. The Fund honors the legacy of Fr. Gerald Cavanagh, SJ—a pioneering scholar in business ethics and a founder of the Social Issues in Management (SIM) Division of the Academy of Management. Fr. Cavanagh believed that business ethics should be applied and action-oriented—that management scholarship should not only deepen theory but also help address the real challenges facing organizations and society.

**Funding Priorities**

- We welcome projects focused on designing and/or evaluating practical approaches to improving social outcomes in and through business.
- Each research team must include at least one academic, one industry practitioner, and one student from any discipline.

Priority areas include, but are not limited to:

**1. The Dignity of Work, Morality, and Spirituality**

- Improving the dignity of low-wage work
- Integrating meaning, purpose, and spirituality in the workplace
- Embedding ethical decision-making in business operations

**2. Race, Inclusion, and Society**

- Designing programs that advance workplace equity
- Addressing leadership disparities
- Leveraging technology to reduce bias

**3. Ethical Norms and Organizational Values**

- Strengthening ethical governance
- Promoting accountability in global supply chains
- Translating corporate values into practice

#### **4. CSR and Social Entrepreneurship**

- Developing CSR initiatives with demonstrable social impact
- Scaling social entrepreneurship to address systemic challenges
- Designing sustainable and profitable business models for social good

#### **5. Business Ethics in Education**

- Innovating ethics education to prepare future business leaders
- Collaborating with industry to develop relevant ethics curricula
- Empowering students to design businesses that serve society

#### **Timeline**

- **Call for Proposals Released:** July 2025
- **Deadline:** March 30th, 2026 at 11:59pm ET
- **Review Period:** April – May 2026
- **Awards Announced:** Summer 2026
- **Award Amount:** Up to \$20,000

#### **Application Process**

Access and read carefully the [submission guidelines](#) to see all requirements and a more detailed [call for proposals](#). Proposals should clearly articulate the project's potential to create practical, positive social outcomes and outline a clear plan for implementation and/or evaluation.

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