



Office of Research and Sponsored Programs

Newsletter, April 2009

ANNOUNCEMENTS.....	2
ORSP HAS MOVED TO HOLMES ENGINEERING	2
GRANTS.GOV SUBMISSION GUIDELINES	2
ORSP WEBSITE.....	2
HAVE YOU COMPLETED YOUR GENIUS/SMARTS PROFILE IN INFO ED?	2
ORSP PROGRAM: STUDENT TRAVEL AWARDS	2
ORSP PROGRAM: FACULTY TRAVEL AWARDS	3
DO YOU NEED HELP WITH PROPOSAL PREPARATION?	3
CONGRATULATION\$.....	4
AWARDS DURING THE LAST MONTH	4
SUBMISSIONS DURING THE LAST MONTH	4
FUNDING OPPORTUNITIE\$.....	6
BIOLOGY.....	6
LIVING STOCK COLLECTIONS FOR BIOLOGICAL RESEARCH	6
IMPROVEMENTS TO BIOLOGICAL RESEARCH COLLECTIONS (BRC).....	6
ENVIRONMENTAL.....	7
BASIC RESEARCH TO ENABLE AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT (BREAD).....	7
INTERNATIONAL STUDIES.....	8
JOINT US – UK RESEARCH PROGRAM: ENVIRONMENTAL BEHAVIOR, BIOAVAILABILITY AND EFFECTS OF MANUFACTURED NANOMATERIALS	8
SBIR/STTR	8
SBIR PHASE I SOLICITATION.....	8
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING & MATHEMATICS	10
CREATING NEW CYBER-ENABLED DATA ON INNOVATION IN ORGANIZATIONS.....	10
NSF GRADUATE STEM FELLOWS IN K-12 EDUCATION (GK-12).....	12
ENGINEERING RESEARCH CENTERS.....	12
SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES	13
DECISION MAKING UNDER UNCERTAINTY COLLABORATIVE GROUPS	13
“STIMULUS FUNDING” PROGRAMS	15
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT	15
NIH LIMITED COMPETITION: RESEARCH AND RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE “GRAND OPPORTUNITIES”	16
NIH LIMITED COMPETITION: THE HETEROGENEITY IN AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS	17
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR COMPETITIVE GRANT OPPORTUNITIES.....	18
IMPORTANT NOTICE RE NSF STIMULUS FUNDING	19

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ORSP HAS MOVED TO HOLMES ENGINEERING

The Office of Research and Sponsored Programs has moved to the new Holmes Engineering (HE) building. Please come visit us at our new location in HE, Suite 112.

GRANTS.GOV SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Due to heavy traffic on the grants.gov server, ORSP has been advised to begin the submissions process to grants.gov two working days prior to the submission deadline date. This means ORSP needs your completed proposal **four** days prior to the submission deadline. The Grants.gov icon is shown next to this month's Funding Announcements that require this submission process. If you wish to apply for a grant through grants.gov, contact Beth Rieger at brieger@fgcu.edu.



ORSP WEBSITE

ORSP offers a multitude of services to assist you in preparing and submitting grant applications. Our website at <http://www.fgcu.edu/orsp> provides easy access to the forms, announcements, and other useful materials. We would like to include links to websites associated with the many externally funded projects currently active. Send the URLs to dstremke@fgcu.edu and the link will be added to ORSP's site.

HAVE YOU COMPLETED YOUR GENIUS/SMARTS PROFILE IN INFO ED?

In order to process your proposals, ORSP needs a GENIUS/SMARTS investigator profile in our web-based database system. To edit a Genius profile, use an on-campus computer and go to <http://fgcu-mako.primary.ad.fgcu.edu>. Click on "Login"; then on "Profile"; and proceed to edit the information contained in your profile. Please select keywords that describe your research interests. For further assistance or if you have any questions about these InfoEd products please contact Lucia Soria at asoria@fgcu.edu. If you have a GENIUS/SMARTS profile, you can search InfoEd's SPIN Plus from any on-campus computer to find funding. Call Lucia at ext.7020 to send you instructions.

ORSP PROGRAM: STUDENT TRAVEL AWARDS

ORSP supports enrolled FGCU students by providing funds on a first-come, first-serve basis so they can present their scholarly works at conferences. ORSP staff will assist the students with the necessary paperwork, both before and after the travel. Within 30 days of travel completion, all awardees are required to submit a one-page report to ORSP describing the benefit of the award and the overall experience. Awardees are required to participate in Research Day in April. The guidelines and application form are at: <http://www.fgcu.edu/orsp/internalPrograms.html>

ORSP PROGRAM: FACULTY TRAVEL AWARDS

ORSP provides travel awards up to \$1,000 for faculty to attend technical workshops or other related activities for the purpose of increasing chances of obtaining a grant. The trip must result in a proposal submission through ORSP. The application consists of the following items: a 50-100 word abstract of the proposed project; workshop information or the specific purpose of the trip; and an estimated budget for travel expenses. Guidelines and application are on our web page at: <http://www.fgcu.edu/orsp/internalPrograms.html>

DO YOU NEED HELP WITH PROPOSAL PREPARATION?

Please contact Beth Rieger at brieger@fgcu.edu to assist you set up your budget and to complete your proposal/application package. ORSP will then enter the budget information into the sponsor's budget form for you and provide you with a copy to help you prepare the budget justification. ORSP needs to receive your completed proposal package three business days (four business days for grants.gov) before the submission deadline. We ensure all the required forms are attached and that your proposal is compliant with the specifications outlined in the RFP/RFA. Remember that additional forms, releases, and agreements may be required, so make sure [you](#) allow enough time for these documents to be prepared. If ORSP receives the completed proposal with less than the three (or four) business days' lead time, we cannot guarantee that the proposal will be submitted.

CONGRATULATIONS

AWARDS DURING THE LAST MONTH

College of Arts and Sciences			
LOH, Ai Ning Denham, Susan Parsons, Michael	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	Is <i>Thalassia testudinum</i> and <i>Halodule wrightii</i> growth light limited in South-west Florida, particularly in Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve?	\$20,000.00
PARSONS, Michael	Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission	Monitoring of Red Tide in the North-western Everglades and adjacent coastal areas	\$20,000.00
TARNOWSKI, Kenneth	Taylor & Francis	Editor in Chief, Children's Health Care: Continuing Editorship	\$6,000.00
VOLETY, Aswani	South Florida Water Management District	Oyster Spat	\$45,000.00

SUBMISSIONS DURING THE LAST MONTH

College of Arts and Sciences			
CREAGAN, Noemi	FGCU-ORSP	Ecotourism and the Economics of Representation: The Social and Natural Environment in the Brazilian Pantanal	\$5,000.00
EVERHAM, Edwin Ceilley, David	FGCU-ORSP	Babcock Ranch Land Use History: Research Initiative Proposal	\$4,998.68
FUGATE, David	FGCU-ORSP	Measurement of Langmuir Cell Dispersal of Suspended Sediments	\$5,000.00
GOEBEL, Anna	FGCU-ORSP	Identifying patterns of divergence and divergence times of species in the boreal toad species group (<i>Anaxyrus boreas</i>)	\$5,000.00
MacDONALD, James	FGCU-ORSP	Possible identification of a previously unidentified ophiolite within the Manastash ridge, central Cascades, Washington State	\$ 4,685.00
MCCLURE, Randall Cooke, Rachel	FGCU-ORSP	The Information Behaviors of Today's Student Researchers: A National Study	\$5,000.00
Mujtaba, Mustafa	FGCU-ORSP	Antiviral inducing properties of superantigen peptide mimetics	\$5,000.00
RODRIGUEZ, Walter	Career Learning Company	eCertification Lab: A Virtual Resource for Certification Information and Processing	\$30,000.00
CRUZ-ALVAREZ, Marilyn	FGCU-ORSP	Are transposable elements ("jumping genes") involved in the genetic differences between cauliflower and broccoli?	\$ 5,000.00
ELGART, Alison	FGCU-ORSP	Foraging strategies of Kibale Forest primates: the toughness variable	\$ 5,000.00
College of Education			
GISCHEL,Carolynn Hibbard, Susan	FGCU-ORSP	Effect of General Education Teacher Training in Behavior Analysis Principles on Challenging Student Behaviors	\$5,000.00

College of Health Professions			
CHAPA, Deborah Zellner, Bruce	FGCU-ORSP	The Best Screening Method for Diabetes Mellitus	\$5,000.00
HUNT, Dennis Chapa, Deborah McCash, Linda	FGCU-ORSP	Disease Management of Heart Failure (HF) Patients through Multidisciplinary Education and Exercise (MEE)	\$5,000.00
POLK, Marydelle	Department of Health and Hu- man Services	Reducing Obesity Risk in Hispanic Families through Cultural Immersion and Second Language Education for Advanced Practice Nurses	\$206,918.00
RUDER, Shirley	FGCU-ORSP	Measuring Nurse Readiness to Meet Patients' Spiritual Needs	\$5,000.00
College of Business			
CSAVINA, Kristine	FGCU-ORSP	Gait Analysis for an Older, Adult Population Relative to SW Florida and Future Patient Populations	\$5,000.00
GEIGER, Chris	FGCU-ORSP	How does substrate stiffness affect intracellular trafficking in the lung?	\$5,000.00
WRIGHT-ISAK, Christine Ruder, Shirley	FGCU-ORSP	Advertising and Nursing Compared as Professional Institutions in Society: Quantitative Measures of Perceptions	\$5,000.00
ORNDOFF, Cynthia	Department of Labor	FGCU Youth Build 2009 - 2012	\$523,159.00
College of Professional Studies			
MADANOGLU, Melih	FGCU-ORSP	Franchising: Financially Viable Strategy for U.S. Restaurant Firms	\$5,000.00
Academic Affairs			
SUMMER, Linda	Corporation for National and Community Service	Americorps VISTA	\$10,908.00

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

BIOLOGY

LIVING STOCK COLLECTIONS FOR BIOLOGICAL RESEARCH

Since the 1970s, NSF has supported the partial operation and improvement of outstanding collections of living organisms through the Living Stock Collections for Biological Research (LSCBR) Program and its predecessors. Such collections have played a key role in the advancement and preservation of knowledge by providing well-characterized and documented experimental organisms to U.S. and foreign researchers at modest cost.

The LSCBR program is administered by the Division of Biological Infrastructure with the goal of strengthening infrastructure critical to the conduct of basic research in areas within the purview of the NSF Directorate for Biological Sciences (BIO). Thus, requests for support by the LSCBR program are expected to describe stock collection activities that emphasize maintenance and provision of living organisms (including viruses and bacteriophages) needed for basic research in the biological sciences. In addition to the collected organisms, biological reagents relevant to their study (such as isolated DNA, DNA libraries, antibodies, etc.) may be included in the collection when appropriate. To facilitate public access to collections supported on an ongoing basis by the LSCBR Program, all such collections must have an up-to-date web site that provides information about the contents of the collection and about procedures for ordering strains.

In addition to requests for longer-term support of basic collections activities, the LSCBR program accepts requests for short-term support for the development of innovative approaches to handling living stocks, or for one-time improvements in operations of established collections, including collections not otherwise supported by the LSCBR program. Requests for short-term funding to move valuable established collections to a new institutional home, or to consolidate or combine collections are also considered. In general, such requests must include an explicit plan to incorporate the collection into another collection.

The LSCBR program does not expect to renew awards for support of these short-term projects. The program does not support establishing new collections. NSF does not support the collection of specimens in order to create a new collection. A strategic plan for the long-term support of these collections should be submitted.

Deadline: July 15, 2009 Submission is via NSF FastLane.
http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2009/nsf09550/nsf09550.htm?govDel=USNSF_25

IMPROVEMENTS TO BIOLOGICAL RESEARCH COLLECTIONS (BRC)

The Improvements to Biological Research Collections Program provides funds for improvements to network, secure, and organize established natural history collections for sustained, accurate, and efficient accessibility of the collection to the biological research community.

The BRC program is encouraging collaborative proposals to network collections on regional and continental scales, especially collaborations that bring large and small collections together into networks. The BRC program also provides for enhancements to existing collections to improve collections, computerize specimen-related data, and develop better methods of specimen curation and collection management through activities such as symposia and workshops.

Biological collections supported include those housing natural history specimens and jointly curated collections such as preserved tissues and other physical samples, e.g. DNA libraries and digital images. Such collections provide the materials necessary for research across broad areas of biological sciences.

The *NSF Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide* (PAPPG) includes revised guidelines pertaining to mentoring provisions: Each proposal that requests funding to support postdoctoral researchers must include a description of the mentoring activities that will be provided for such individuals. Proposals that do not comply with this requirement will be returned without review.

Deadline: July 24, 2009 via NSF FastLane

http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2009/nsf09548/nsf09548.htm?govDel=USNSF_25

ENVIRONMENTAL

BASIC RESEARCH TO ENABLE AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT (BREAD)



The Basic Research to Enable Agricultural Development (BREAD) Program will be offered in 2009 to support basic research to build a foundation for generating sustainable, science-based solutions to problems of agriculture in developing countries, testing innovative hypotheses leading to novel and creative approaches and technologies. The Program, which is a continuation of ongoing activities funded under the Plant Genome Research Program, will be supported by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation through funding provided to NSF.

The BREAD Program will support basic research in US academic institutions and non-profit research organizations with partner institutions in other countries, including developing countries. Projects that meet the BREAD program goals would include those that develop science-based concepts, derived from basic research, for improving current agricultural crops, developing new crops, increasing crop productivity, developing efficient production practices or novel technologies. The program will welcome novel, imaginative, and creative ideas from individuals and groups of scientists in all fields of science and engineering as long as the outcomes of the proposed work meet the program objectives.

Prior to the release of the Program Solicitation, NSF intends to hold workshops to provide additional information about the BREAD Program and its goals. Once final plans for the workshops are developed they will be posted on the Plant Genome website.

Further information on BREAD is available on the Plant Genome Research Program page at http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5338

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

JOINT US – UK RESEARCH PROGRAM: ENVIRONMENTAL BEHAVIOR, BIOAVAILABILITY AND EFFECTS OF MANUFACTURED NANOMATERIALS

The US EPA, as part of its Science to Achieve Results (STAR) program, in conjunction with the UK Environmental Nanoscience Initiative (UKENI) [a collaborative initiative funded by the UK Natural Environment Research Council (NERC); the UK Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC); the UK Government Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA); and the Environment Agency of England and Wales)], is seeking joint applications from US and UK partners that:

- (1) propose integrated model(s) of fate, behavior, bioavailability and effects for several important and representative nanomaterial classes over key environmental pathways using intrinsic material properties and life cycle analysis as a starting point for model development;
- (2) validate and refine these model(s) through interdisciplinary research, addressing key assumptions and areas of uncertainty; and
- (3) develop effective methods and tools to detect, assess, and monitor the presence of nanomaterials in biological and environmental samples.

The outputs of this program will be used to further scientific understanding of the fate, behavior, bioavailability and effects of nanomaterials and risk management policy development.

Deadline: August 5, 2009 via e-mail

http://epa.gov/ncer/rfa/2009/2009_uk_nano.html

SBIR/STTR

SBIR PHASE I SOLICITATION

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) invites small business firms to submit research proposals under this Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Solicitation. The SBIR program is a phased process uniform throughout the Federal Government of soliciting proposals and awarding funding agreements for research (R) or research and development (R&D) to meet stated agency needs or missions.

EPA is interested in advanced technologies that address GREEN BUILDINGS and EPA TECHNOLOGY NEEDS. The following topics are included in this solicitation:

Green Building Materials and Systems	Water Infrastructure
Innovation in Manufacturing	Air Pollution
Nanotechnology	Biofuels and Vehicle Emissions Reduction
Greenhouse Gases	Waste Management and Monitoring
Drinking Water and Water Monitoring	Homeland Security

The proposed research must directly pertain to EPA's environmental mission and must be responsive to EPA program interests included in the topic descriptions in this solicitation.

In order to facilitate proposal reviews by external peer reviewers with specialized expertise and by EPA technical personnel with focused program needs and priorities, offerors must designate a research topic for their proposal. The same proposal may not be submitted under more than one topic. An organization may, however, submit separate proposals on different topics, or different proposals on the same topic, as long as the proposals are not duplicates of the same research principle modified to fit the topic. If such duplicates are submitted, only one will be reviewed. Refer to Sections IV, V, and VI for additional requirements. Where similar research is discussed under more than one topic, the offeror shall choose the topic most relevant to the proposed research. It is the complete responsibility of offerors to select and identify the best topic for their proposals.

Sbir Phase I Research Topics

Green Building

- Green Building Materials And Systems
- Building Materials and Site Management
- Energy and Indoor Environmental Quality
- Water Use and Management

EPA Technology Needs

Innovation In Manufacturing	Diesel Construction And Truck Retrofits
Nanotechnology	Waste Management And Monitoring
Greenhouse Gases	Cleanup Of Contaminated Sediments
Drinking Water And Water Monitoring	Waste-To-Energy Systems
Water Infrastructure	Hazardous Waste Monitoring
Air Pollution	Homeland Security
Air Pollution Control	Decontamination
Air Pollution Monitoring	Detection
Biofuels And Vehicle Emissions Reduction	Microbial Viability Assessment
Ethanol, Biodiesel And Other Biofuels	Drinking Water and Wastewater Security

This Solicitation Is For Phase I Proposals Only.

To stimulate and foster technological innovation, including increasing private sector applications of Federal research or R&D, EPA's program follows the SBIR program's uniform process:

Phase I involves a solicitation of proposals to conduct feasibility related experimental research or R&D related to described agency requirements. The objective of this phase is to determine the technical feasibility and preliminary commercialization potential of the proposed effort and the quality of performance of the small concern with a relatively small agency investment before consideration of further Federal support in Phase II. The Government is not obligated to fund any specific Phase I proposal. The maximum dollar amount of awards under this Phase I solicitation is \$70,000 and the term of performance should not exceed six months.

http://es.epa.gov/ncer/rfa/2009/2009_sbir_phase1.html

Due Date: May 20, 2009 (hard copy receipt)

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING & MATHEMATICS

CREATING NEW CYBER-ENABLED DATA ON INNOVATION IN ORGANIZATIONS

Innovation is recognized as a driving force contributing to United States competitiveness by generating new knowledge and creating new jobs, more income and wealth. Although currently our comprehension of innovation is insufficient to guide policymakers, new opportunities exist to advance our understanding of the innovation ecosystem by building on the research of social, computer and information scientists. New ways of capturing, analyzing and protecting data make possible a greater understanding of the relationship between the dynamics of human interaction, organizations, and the innovation process. For example, computing advances, such as wireless and sensor technologies and image understanding offer expanded potential for scientists, policymakers, and organizations themselves to collect and integrate heterogeneous data about individuals and organizations. Other computing advances, in the fields of visual analytics and data mining can be used to make sense of vast amounts of heterogeneous data. Economists and behavioral and social scientists have made major advances in understanding the creative process, innovation at the micro, meso, and macro organizational levels, as well as the formation and evolution of social networks and structural influences. At the same time, new cyber-enabled advances in confidentiality protection promise the capability for the analysis of sensitive data by maintaining data utility without revealing individual identities—so that researchers can generalize and replicate scientific results.

The purpose of this Dear Colleague Letter is to advise you about funding opportunities at the National Science Foundation, the Kauffman Foundation and the Sloan Foundation to inform the future development of a data infrastructure for the study of innovation within and across organizations. Research of interest to these programs can range from the innovative application of existing technologies through the creation of new approaches, and possible combinations that could create a transformative, interdisciplinary research agenda.

Programs at the National Science Foundation support research to explore ways of collecting, analyzing, sharing, and disseminating data on organizations and innovation. NSF is particularly interested in encouraging broad interdisciplinary cooperation of researchers in the social and behavioral sciences and economics and computing fields to develop theoretically-guided methods of collecting and analyzing data on innovation. Proposals with the following features are particularly encouraged.

- The collection of data using cyber tools that enable the study of innovation by individuals within organizations.
- The study of cyber-enabled teams, broadly defined, that communicate and innovate.
- The design of new concepts and technologies that facilitate the innovation process.
- The capture and analysis of data describing how new communication modalities and technologies are used, adopted, and diffused within organizations and how they enable innovative processes.
- The capture and analysis of data on the role of IT and innovation within organizations, broadly defined, particularly the use of IT, the role of IT as a process enabling innovation, and IT as disruptive technology.

- A focus on privacy and confidentiality issues that emerge when collecting data on organizations and individuals within organizations. This would include policies to ensure anonymity and sanitization of the data, retention and storage protocols, transformation prior to dissemination, and retaining usability. Also of interest is how to convey the quality of such confidentiality measures to the humans who are the subjects of study.
- The development of approaches that ensure the collaboration and engagement of organizations in providing data to the research community as well as permitting data sharing so that empirical analyses can be generalized and replicated.
- The development of appropriate metrics to evaluate the success of the different approaches.

There are a variety of funding opportunities. Researchers may submit proposals to the programs listed below for review. Separate, but conceptually related proposals from teams of researchers could be submitted to different programs. Also, researchers may request that their proposal be co-reviewed by different programs. Principal investigators should consult the specific solicitations, program announcements, or program descriptions to make sure they are meeting relevant proposal requirements. In all cases, researchers are advised to contact the appropriate program officers for guidance before submitting proposals or send an email to innovate@nsf.gov for more information.

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences Directorate

Science of Science & Innovation Policy Contact: Julia Lane (jlane@nsf.gov)

Science, Technology, and Society Contact: Laurel Smith-Doerr (lsmithdo@nsf.gov)

Innovation and Organizational Sciences Contact: Jacqueline Meszaros
(jmeszaro@nsf.gov)

Law and Social Sciences Contact: Susan Haire (shaire@nsf.gov)

Economics Contact: Nancy Lutz (nlutz@nsf.gov) and Dan Newlon (dnewlon@nsf.gov)

Sociology Contact: Pat White (pwhite@nsf.gov)

Computer and Information Science and Engineering Directorate

Trustworthy Computing Contact: Karl Levitt (klevitt@nsf.gov), Sylvia Spengler
(sspengle@nsf.gov) and Lenore Zuck (lzuck@nsf.gov)

Information and Intelligent Systems Contact: Doug Fisher (dhfisher@nsf.gov) (Data Mining, Visualization); David McDonald (dmcdonal@nsf.gov) (Social Informatics)

Foundations of Data and Visual Analytics Contact: Larry Rosenblum (lrosenbl@nsf.gov)

Creative IT Contact: Mary Lou Maher (mmaher@nsf.gov)

Office of Cyberinfrastructure Contact: Jon Stoffel (jstoffel@nsf.gov)

ALFRED P. SLOAN FOUNDATION

Economic Institutions, Behavior and Market Performance Contact: Daniel Goroff
(Goroff@sloan.org or Gail Pesyna (Pesyna@sloan.org))

EWING MARION KAUFFMAN FOUNDATION

Research and Policy Contact: E.J. Reedy (ereedy@kauffman.org)

NSF GRADUATE STEM FELLOWS IN K-12 EDUCATION (GK-12)

This program provides funding for graduate students in NSF-supported STEM disciplines to bring their leading research practice and findings into K-12 learning settings. Through collaborations with other graduate fellows and faculty from STEM disciplines, teachers and students in K-12 environments, and community partners, graduate students can gain a deeper understanding of their own research and place it within a societal and global context. The GK-12 program provides an opportunity for graduate students to acquire value-added skills, such as communicating STEM subjects to technical and non-technical audiences, leadership, team building, and teaching while enriching STEM learning and instruction in K-12 settings. This unique experience will add value to the training of U.S. graduate students and will energize and prepare the students for a broad range of STEM careers in a competitive globalized marketplace. Furthermore, the GK-12 program provides institutions of higher education with an opportunity to transform the conventional graduate education by infusing and sustaining GK-12 like activities in their graduate programs.

Deadline: May 19, 2009 via NSF FastLane

http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2009/nsf09549/nsf09549.htm?govDel=USNSF_25

ENGINEERING RESEARCH CENTERS

The goal of the Generation Three (Gen-3) Engineering Research Centers (ERC) Program is to create a culture in engineering research and education that links discovery to technological innovation through transformational fundamental and engineered systems research in order to advance technology and produce engineering graduates who will be creative US innovators in a globally competitive economy. These ERCs will be at the forefront as the US competes in the 21st century global economy where R&D resources and engineering talent are internationally distributed. Recognizing that optimizing efficiency and product quality are no longer sufficient for US industry to remain competitive, these ERCs will optimize academic engineering research and education to stimulate increased US innovation in a global context. They will develop this culture of discovery and innovation through a symbiotic relationship between academic researchers, small innovative firms, larger industrial and practitioner partners, and organizations devoted to entrepreneurship and innovation. In essence this solicitation requires that the efforts be devoted to creating, developing, and enhancing capacities in ERCs from transformational fundamental research to technology commercialization and creating a continuous pipeline in engineering education from middle school to graduate studies.



In order to achieve this, Gen-3 ERCs will:

- Advance discovery and build bridges from science-based discovery to technological innovation to realize transforming engineered systems.
- Partner with foreign universities and provide unique opportunities for research and learning collaboration that will prepare U.S. engineering graduates for leadership in innovation in a global economy.
- Form teams of faculty and students who are diverse and talented individuals who will prepare diverse and talented domestic and international graduates who can function in a global world where research, design and production efforts cross national borders.

- Function with transforming engineering education programs that rest on partnerships with pre-college institutions to attract students to engineering and strategically impart in engineering graduates the capacity to create and exploit knowledge for technological innovation.
- Function with partnerships with industry and other users, organizations devoted to stimulating entrepreneurship and innovation at the local level, and small firms engaged in the ERC's research program to speed translation of research results to innovation.

Deadline: May 15, 2009 via NSF FastLane or grants.gov

http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2009/nsf09545/nsf09545.htm?govDel=USNSF_25

SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

DECISION MAKING UNDER UNCERTAINTY COLLABORATIVE GROUPS



The NSF is sponsoring The Decision Making Under Uncertainty (DMUU) collaborative groups competition offers awards to support teams of researchers who will advance fundamental understanding of decision making under uncertainty for climate change and related long-term environmental risks. The focus of these collaborative groups will be to generate fundamental new knowledge as well as information and tools that decision makers will find useful to help them incorporate climate change and related long-term environmental risks in their decision making. The focus of these collaborative groups should be to provide new knowledge about how public officials, firms in the private sector, other groups, and/or individuals can incorporate existing knowledge about climate change and related long-term environmental risks into their decisions. In addition to generating societally useful information and tools, DMUU collaborative groups should enhance basic understanding within and across the social and behavioral sciences as well as related science and engineering disciplines.

NSF expects to support a set of collaborative groups that will conduct research on decision making under uncertainty related to climate change and related environmental risks. In the context of this competition, decision making is defined broadly and includes actions associated with adaptation to climate change and related environmental risks as well as decisions associated with mitigation strategies. "Decision makers" is a term that is considered broadly and may include private citizens; informal and formal groups, firms, and organizations; and governments ranging from the local to state, federal and international levels. As scientific research has increased knowledge about the causes and consequences of climate change and related environmental risks, awareness has grown of the need to better understand how decision makers can identify and choose more effectively among alternative courses of action. The goals of NSF's DMUU collaborative groups funding opportunity are:

- Improve understanding of all facets of decision making related to climate change and related long-term environmental risks for which much information exists but significant areas of uncertainty remain.
- Increase knowledge of the content and form of information needed by decision makers to make sound decisions.
- Develop tools to support decision makers and increase their ability to make sound decisions over multiple time scales.

- Facilitate interactions among researchers and decision makers, thereby enhancing fundamental research and increasing the speed with which new research findings are adopted and used by decision makers.

To accomplish these goals, NSF seeks proposals for interdisciplinary collaborative groups that will produce new knowledge, information, and tools related to decision making under uncertainty associated with climate change and related environmental risks. Collaborative groups are expected to conduct integrative research on scales larger than would be expected through individual research projects. The size, structure, collaborative arrangements, and operation of each group should be appropriate for the proposed research, education, and outreach activities. To be competitive, proposals should outline plans for a collaborative group that will do all of the following:

- ***Conduct fundamental research on decision making associated with climate and related environmental change.*** The research should be well grounded in relevant theoretical frameworks based in the social and behavioral sciences as well as other appropriate science and engineering disciplines. The proposed research program should advance basic understanding about decisions dealing with issues like risk perception, resilience and vulnerability, disaster reduction, trade-offs, equity, framing, tipping points, complexity, and probabilistic reasoning associated with risky phenomena. The research program should also advance understanding of decision making under uncertainty specifically associated with climate and related environmental change. Research conducted by the collaborative group must be interdisciplinary in character and draw on expertise from multiple disciplines.
- ***Develop tools*** that people, organizations, and governments can use to better understand the risks associated with climate and related environmental change and the options they have to address related risks. Proposals must address how the basic research can help people and/or organizations make better-informed decisions to cope with the potential consequences of climate change and related environmental risks.
- ***Provide education and research opportunities for U.S. students and faculty.*** The individuals and groups to be served through these educational efforts may be varied and may include undergraduate and graduate students, postdoctoral researchers, students from groups underrepresented in the social and behavioral sciences, K-12 teachers, and/or visiting scientists and engineers.
- ***Develop and disseminate tangible products*** for researchers, decision makers, and other relevant stakeholders. As part of its dissemination plan, the collaborative group may include the development of user-friendly web sites and/or other mechanisms to facilitate the dissemination of climate change information and its effective use in decision making.

The collaborative group must be based at a U.S. academic institution, where the collaborative group will be directed by a faculty member and integrated into the institution's academic programs. Other institutions, including non-academic institutions, may participate as partners with the lead institution, with their funding coming through subawards.

http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2009/nsf09544/nsf09544.htm?govDel=USNSF_25

Due Date: July 14, 2009 via NSF FastLane or grants.gov.

“STIMULUS FUNDING” PROGRAMS

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

The Lee County Board of County Commissioners will receive a special grant allocation from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) under The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 ("Recovery Act") for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) projects.

LCBCC is seeking Letters of Interest for Capital projects utilizing the following guidelines:

- Projects **must** be able to demonstrate adequate current and future operating funds from sources other than Lee County Government funding.
- Projects **must** meet the goal of the CDBG program which is to create suitable living environments, provide decent affordable housing and create economic opportunities, primarily for persons of low and moderate income.

Additional funds may be available under the HOME program if projects address affordable housing and all HOME regulations.

Projects will be evaluated based on the following priorities:

- Projects that can be commenced by September 1, 2009.
- Organizations with experience working with CDBG and HOME (if applicable) funded projects.
- Projects which address/support:
 1. The homeless population including: homeless shelters: transitional or permanent housing
 2. Economic development
 3. Youth Centers
- Projects which utilize existing, preferably foreclosed, buildings by rehabilitating rather than construction of new units.
- Projects which have a secure and adequate source of operating funds already available.

Details regarding the Recovery Act can be found at: <http://www.hud.gov/recovery/cdblock.cfm>

Details regarding CDBG objectives and requirements can be found at:

<http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/communitydevelopment/programs/entitlement/>

Details regarding HOME objectives and requirements can be found at:

<http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/affordablehousing/programs/home/>

Please submit a Letter of Interest (email version is acceptable) which includes narrative explanation of the project with as many specifics as possible including anticipated cost.

Letters are due by **Thursday, April 16, 2009** at 5:00 p.m. and must be delivered to the attention of Deanna Gilkerson at Lee County Human Services (dgilkerson@leegov.com). The short turnaround time is necessary due to the fact a detailed plan must be submitted to HUD with 60 days.

NIH LIMITED COMPETITION: RESEARCH AND RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE "GRAND OPPORTUNITIES"



NIH solicits through this limited competition applications from domestic institutions/organizations proposing to develop and implement critical research innovations to advance the research enterprise, stimulate future growth and investments, and advance public health and health care delivery. The purpose of the "GO" grants program is to support high impact ideas that lend themselves to short-term funding, and may lay the foundation for new fields of investigation. The "GO" grants program will support large-scale research projects that accelerate critical breakthroughs, early and applied research on cutting-edge technologies, and new approaches to improve the synergy and interactions among multi and interdisciplinary research teams. The initiative seeks novel approaches in areas that address specific knowledge gaps, scientific opportunities, new technologies, data generation, or research methods that would benefit from an influx of funds to quickly advance the area in significant ways. Applicants may propose to address either a specific research question or propose the creation of a unique infrastructure/resource designed to accelerate scientific progress in the future. This program is a trans-NIH effort supported by Recovery Act funds. For those projects that span the missions of Institutes, Centers and Offices (ICs), support may come from Recovery Act funds allocated to the Common Fund.

Only applications with budgets greater than \$500,000 total costs per year for a project period of two years are expected to be considered. The total annual cost for individual awards is expected to vary, depending on the scope of the project and the number of participating institutions.

This program is designed to provide investigators and institutions with the opportunity to address these unique challenges by engaging in new avenues of research where progress would produce a significant impact on growth and investment on biomedical or behavioral science and/or health research.

The scope of the "GO" grants program includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Groundbreaking, innovative, high impact and cross-cutting research projects that can be readily deployed and that will improve and accelerate biomedical research.
- Basic, clinical and translational projects that could fundamentally enhance the research enterprise and that require the participation, interaction, coordination and integration of activities carried out in multiple research laboratories.
- Creation of large scale unique resources, accelerated application of high throughput, and other novel technologies.
- Deployment of critical infrastructure, resources, tools, and methodologies that substantially accelerate collaborative, multi and interdisciplinary basic, translational, and/or clinical research.

- Implementation of large scale research projects that are carried out using new and creative collaborative agreements and partnerships with industry and small businesses to accelerate the pre-clinical and clinical testing of new therapeutics.
- Creative approaches to overcome barriers to basic, translational, or clinical research using novel tools, technologies, and services.
- "GO" projects are expected to demonstrate the following:
 - The work cannot be reasonably expected to be carried out successfully without support provided by "GO" grants.
 - Specific outcomes of the proposed project promote and advance the mission of the NIH to improve health.
 - The project is ready to be deployed immediately upon funding.
 - A rapid infusion of significant funding will accelerate current and future research in the area of study and there are appropriate measurable outcomes to evaluate the short and long-term effects of the project.
 - The proposed project is something that no other entity is likely or able to do, and is there a public health benefit to having the results of the research in the public domain.
 - The project or generated results and resources can be expected to become integrated with other NIH and privately funded research within a reasonable timeframe.
 - Projects that would require funding beyond this timeframe should provide a detailed plan for maintaining the research efforts without any expectation of further financial assistance from the sponsoring IC or other NIH components. Applicants are expected to provide a list of outcomes and include plans to obtain long-term support for research endeavors carried out with "GO" grant funding.

LOIs (not required) are due to NIH by **April 27, 2009** and applications are due **May 27, 2009 via grants.gov**.

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-OD-09-004.html>

NIH LIMITED COMPETITION: THE HETEROGENEITY IN AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS

Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) are neurodevelopmental disorders characterized by differences in three core domains of functioning: social behavior; communication abilities; and restricted, repetitive or stereotyped patterns of behavior. Although these core features exist at varying degrees among all individuals with ASD, considerable heterogeneity exists within this population, which suggests there may be multiple causal factors as well as multiple developmental trajectories for these individuals. Indeed, a clear barrier to understanding the causes of ASD has been the heterogeneity within this spectrum of disorders. In addition, greater knowledge of the range of ASD phenotypes may lead to more precise diagnostic and screening instruments and will increase the potential for more targeted treatment and intervention strategies.



Approaches to the study of ASD have evolved over time, as more is learned about these disorders. As with many neurodevelopmental disorders, brain dysfunction may precede behavioral abnormalities by months or years, however without identified biomarkers for detection of those with, or at risk, for an ASD, diagnostic methods must rely on behavioral observations

which often occur after the onset of symptoms. As a result, intervention efforts may miss a critical window of opportunity to alter the developmental trajectory for these individuals.

Differences in policies, resources and organization across geographic regions result in marked disparities in the types of services and supports available, as well as in the associated financial costs to individuals and families. Very little is known about how differences in policy and infrastructure are related to the variations in access to services and care received, and in turn, how these variations affect outcomes for individuals living with an ASD.

Most individuals with an ASD will continue to experience difficulties across their lifetime. However symptoms often change in form and severity over time. Although considerable research has been conducted on the earliest phases of ASD, less is known about adolescence, adulthood, and late life stages, or about the transitions between these stages. Little research has been carried out to determine prognostic factors or how adults with an ASD currently function or are best supported.

In response to the urgent public health significance of ASD, Congress passed the Combating Autism Act (CAA) of 2006. Through this Act, Congress intended to accelerate the pace, and improve coordination of scientific discovery in ASD research. The CAA required the development of a Strategic Plan for ASD Research (<http://iacc.hhs.gov/reports/2009/iacc-strategic-plan-for-autism-spectrum-disorder-research-jan26.shtml>), which was created with the input of the scientific community, as well as advocates and advocacy organizations, including parents, providers, and individuals with ASD. The plan consists of short and long term research objectives across a range of topics, including those relevant to the heterogeneity of ASD, such as the gap areas discussed above.

Deadline: May 12, 2009 via grants.gov

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-MH-09-170.html>

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR COMPETITIVE GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act provides \$750 million for a program of competitive grants for worker training and placement in high growth and emerging industry sectors. Of that amount, \$500 million is targeted for research, labor exchange, and job training projects that prepare workers for careers in energy efficiency and renewable energy as defined in the Green Jobs Act:

- energy efficient building construction, and retrofitting
- renewable electric power
- energy efficient and advanced drive train vehicles
- biofuels
- deconstruction and materials use
- energy efficiency assessment for residential, commercial, or industrial sector
- manufacturing of sustainable products using sustainable processes

The remaining \$250 million will be for projects in other high growth and emerging industry sectors with a priority for projects that prepare workers for careers in the health care sector and projects that are tied to industry sectors where jobs are being created as a result of Recov-

ery Act investments such as infrastructure investments. In order to maximize the impact of these competitive grants and leverage the other investments in the Recovery Act, the Department of Labor (DOL) is collaborating with other Federal agencies and developing a multi-pronged investment approach with these funds. DOL plans to issue Solicitations for Grant Awards (SGA) no later than June 30, 2009. The SGA will provide specific requirements for use of the funds, certification, data reporting, performance measures, and other necessary information. DOL will be publishing the grant opportunities on Grants.gov. Information on grant opportunities will also be available on DOL's Recovery Web site: <http://www.dol.gov/recovery> .

This synopsis is for information purposes only. Specific funding opportunities related to this notice will be forthcoming and will be posted on www.grants.gov under a unique funding opportunity number and Recovery Act description.

IMPORTANT NOTICE RE NSF STIMULUS FUNDING

On February 17, 2009, President Obama signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act) into law. One of the principal purposes of the law is to "provide investments needed to increase economic efficiency by spurring technological advances in science and health".¹ During the signing ceremony President Obama stated,

"Even beyond energy, from the National Institutes of Health to the National Science Foundation, this recovery act represents the biggest increase in basic research funding in the long history of America's noble endeavor to better understand our world. Just as President Kennedy sparked an explosion of innovation when he set America's sights on the moon, I hope this investment will ignite our imagination once more, spurring new discoveries and breakthroughs that will make our economy stronger, our nation more secure, and our planet safer for our children."²

In response to this landmark legislation, NSF has developed policies, procedures, and Frequently Asked Questions for use by the awardee community. These documents provide up-to-date information regarding NSF's implementation of the Recovery Act, and are available at www.nsf.gov/recovery . The key elements of NSF's implementation of the Recovery Act are highlighted below.

NSF Programs Receiving Recovery Act Funding

The Recovery Act supplements NSF fiscal year 2009 funding by \$3.0 billion. NSF currently has many highly rated proposals that it has not been able to fund. For this reason, NSF is planning to use the majority of the \$2 billion available in Research and Related Activities for proposals that are already in house and will be reviewed and/or awarded prior to **September 30, 2009**.

The Foundation also expects to expeditiously award funds as specified in the Recovery Act for:

- the Math and Science Partnership program (funded at \$25 million)
- the Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program (funded at \$60 million)
- the Major Research Equipment and Facilities Construction Account (funded at \$400 million)
- the Academic Research Infrastructure (ARI) program (funded at \$200 million)
- the Science Masters program, (funded at \$15 million).

Solicitations for these latter two programs will be posted this spring.

NSF will post a solicitation this spring for the Major Research Instrumentation Program (MRI) in order to make a sufficient number of awards to utilize the \$300 million provided in the legislation. The Foundation currently anticipates that no other solicitations will be posted that are solely in response to the Recovery Act.

Funding Prioritization

NSF will ensure that Recovery Act funds are awarded in a timely manner while maintaining its commitment to its established merit review processes. In keeping with this, NSF's overall framework for Recovery Act investments emphasizes the following:

- All grants issued with Recovery Act funds will be standard grants with durations of up to 5 years. This approach will allow NSF to structure a sustainable portfolio.
- Funding of new Principal Investigators and high-risk, high-return research will be top priorities.

With the exception of the MRI, ARI and Science Masters programs, the majority of proposals eligible for Recovery Act funding include those that are already in house and will be reviewed and/or awarded prior to **September 30, 2009**.

NSF also will consider proposals declined on or after **October 1, 2008**. The reversal of the decision to decline must be based on both the high quality of the reviews received on the initial submission and the lack of available funding at the time the original decision was made. The cognizant program officer will contact the institution when a reversal is being considered by NSF. Specific procedural information regarding this new process is available on the NSF Recovery website.

Special Award Conditions

The Recovery Act mandates a significant level of transparency and accountability. The law and implementing guidance identify specific award conditions for awards made with Recovery Act funding. Therefore, award notices will include special award conditions identifying the funding as coming from the Recovery Act, and indicate the specific awardee reporting responsibilities mandated by Section 1512 of the Recovery Act.

Given the goals of the Recovery Act, awardees will be informed that they are expected to expend funds in a timely manner on allowable award costs and that NSF will be monitoring awards for expenditures. If, after 12 months, no allowable expenditures have taken place, NSF may consider reducing or terminating the award and reallocating the funds.