

Nevada NASA Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research



NASA EPSCoR WORKSHOP and TRAVEL SUPPORT for NASA COLLABORATION & PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT

A NASA EPSCoR goal is to facilitate new research collaborations among NASA Centers and NSHE faculty by competitively awarding travel grants and workshop funds. The State of NV provides the 1:1 match required by NASA EPSCoR for travel and workshop awards. Please submit a budget with balanced federal and state match funds. Unrecovered F&A (i.e., ICR) must be included on the State match (SPM) direct cost. All requests should not exceed \$20,000 total (Federal plus State match). Budget justifications are required providing a clear breakdown of anticipated costs.

The overall goals of the NV EPSCoR Research Infrastructure Development (RID) program are:

- Improve the capabilities of Nevada faculty/researchers to gain support from sources outside the NASA EPSCoR program that are most relevant to NASA research and missions;
- Contribute to the overall research infrastructure, science and technology capabilities, higher education, and/or economic development of Nevada;
- Develop partnerships between Nevada research assets, NASA Centers, and industry; and
- Work in close coordination with the NASA Space Grant program to improve the environment for science, mathematics, engineering, and technology education in Nevada.

Ultimately, proposed activities must demonstrate how Nevada's research infrastructure and research competitiveness will be enhanced by building new collaborations that lead to the development and submission of proposals that align with NSHE's, the State's and NASA's strategic objectives.

The science priorities for the current RID grant focus on research efforts that meet NSHE, NV and NASA strategic objectives and include the following topics. After each priority focus area stated below, the NASA strategic objectives (from the 2014 NASA Strategic Plan) are listed. Other science topic areas will also be considered.

- Autonomous systems for extraterrestrial and terrestrial missions; (NASA Objective 1.1: Expand human presence into the solar system and to the surface of Mars to advance exploration, science, innovation, benefits to humanity and international collaboration; NASA Objective 2.1: Enable a revolutionary transformation for safe and sustainable U.S. and global aviation by advancing aeronautics research, and Armstrong Flight Research Center Strategic Goal 2)
- Materials science; (NASA Objective 1.1 –stated above, and NASA Objective 1.7: Transform NASA missions and advance the National's capabilities by maturing crosscutting and innovative space technologies)
- Advanced assimilation of satellite observations for earth system models and planetary surface processes; (NASA Objective 2.2 Advance knowledge of Earth as a system to meet the challenges of environmental change, and to improve life on our planet)
- Initiation of a CubeSat project (NASA Objective 2.2 –stated above.)

Workshops

Topical workshops provide a unique opportunity for NSHE researchers to discuss and form collaborations for training and proposal development purposes. Workshop awards may provide one to two days of meeting time for specific training and proposal development efforts. Workshops also provide potential to develop collaborations among NSHE faculty, NASA scientists/engineers and industry.

Travel Grants

Early-career and mid-career faculty who are engaged in research re-alignment will be given priority for travel grants. Travel grants will be awarded to cover costs for NSHE faculty to travel to NASA Centers and in some instances to visit businesses involved in NASA missions. Although travel grants are designed to only cover travel costs (within the U.S. only), some salary coverage may be considered for Desert Research Institute (DRI) faculty and university research faculty who do not have state-supported salaries.

Reviews: The NV NASA EPSCoR Director will evaluate and award travel and workshop grant requests that meet the above requirements on an ongoing basis until available funds for that year are awarded.

Based on the outcome of this team building workshop or travel, those receiving funding, will be expected to:

- 1) submit a preproposal to the ongoing Nevada NASA EPSCoR CAN competition – announced annually in early Sept;
- 2) submit a NASA EPSCoR RID proposal for seed grant funding; or
- 3) submit a proposal directly to NASA or another external agency (non-EPSCoR).
- 4) for travel grants only, provide statement of new collaboration and potential future proposal efforts that were discussed.

LETTERS OF SUPPORT:

Although it is not required, if available, letters of interest from NASA Center (or businesses engaged in NASA missions) personnel may be submitted electronically to either Lynn Fenstermaker (lynn.fenstermaker@dri.edu) and/or Gibran Chavez-Gudino (gibran@nshe.nevada.edu).

REQUIRED REPORTING

All travel and workshop activities must be included in our annual report to NASA. Below is the list of outcomes of which NASA requires reporting:

- Patents and Publications/Collaborations
- New Collaborations
- Technical Transfer Activities
- New Grants (resulting from workshop/collaborative travel)
- Information on Faculty/Research/Student participants and their basic demographics
- If applicable: any New or Revised Courses that Target STEM skills if also a product of a workshop or travel grant.

To apply for travel or workshop support, please go to the application form at:
<https://www.research.net/r/epscoctravelworkshop>

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