

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS (RFA)

WRPI FACULTY RESEARCH INCENTIVE AWARD PROGRAM 2011-2012

Application Deadline: 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 6th, 2011

Applications received after the deadline will be considered on a funds available basis.

The CSU Water Resources and Policy Initiatives (WRPI) reflects the CSU comparative advantage in addressing current and emerging statewide water issues. WRPI will contribute to a long-term, sustainable water supply for California through education, research and policy development while balancing the needs of urban, agricultural and environmental concerns. WRPI will link the capabilities and resources within the twenty-three California State University campuses to provide academic preparation, applied research and policy development that addresses all aspects of water use. Please visit www.calstate.edu/water for additional information.

WRPI is requesting applications for assigned time funding for the 2011-2012 academic year. The purpose of the WRPI Faculty Research Incentive Award Program is to stimulate CSU tenured/tenure-track faculty members to develop and submit full proposals to external funding agencies and organizations to promote education, training and professional capacity development with the water industry, governmental agencies, and the wider community. Furthermore to develop new and advanced water technologies and services that will help drive economic development and job creation. In accepting an Award, a Principal Investigator (PI) commits to develop and submit a full proposal for external funding through their host campus research office.

Applications from single PIs are permitted but collaborative applications involving faculty from multiple CSU campuses that promote interdisciplinary, integrative research and/or educational initiatives and that include regional and disciplinary diversity are preferred. Applications seeking assigned time funding to develop new, previously un-submitted full proposals and are consistent with the **(DRAFT) WRPI Strategic Plan** shall be considered; applications seeking assigned time to revise and re-submit existing proposals shall not be considered.

SUPPORT PROVIDED

WRPI anticipates making multiple awards for the 2011-2012 Academic Year. This document serves as the RFA for Fall 2011 and Spring 2012 semesters, or for Fall 2011, Winter 2012 and Spring 2012 quarters. Assigned time funding is provided based on the system-wide Minimum Annual Rate for Assistant Professor/Lecturer B. At present, this rate is \$1656 per semester

weighted teaching unit (WTU) and \$1104 per quarter WTU. Awards are not subject to campus indirect costs (facilities and administrative fees).¹

Each individual applicant may request funding for assigned time equivalent to one course (nominally up to 3 semester WTUs or 6 quarter WTUs). Collaborators may request assigned time funding for different academic terms in the 2011-2012 academic year if it is demonstrated that each PI will do the proposed work during the respective semesters/quarters and that a proposal for external funding is submitted within twelve (12) months of the start of the assigned time award. Proposals demonstrating judicious use of assigned time funding will be highly regarded.

Limited travel funding (up to \$1,000) for full proposal development will also be considered. No other monetary support is provided, but awardees will have the support of the WRPI Executive Committee and Staff in the preparation of their proposals. *All funding described in this announcement is contingent upon general state funds received by the California State University.*

ELIGIBILITY

All CSU tenured/tenure-track faculty members are eligible to apply. Each applicant must have established a Fresca profile (<http://fresca.sfsu.edu/>) prior to submitting an application for assigned time funding. The Fresca profile must contain at a minimum contact and biographical information, areas of interest and at least five publications. Members of the WRPI Executive Committee, lecturers, research faculty, and staff are eligible to be co-investigators but *cannot* receive assigned time funding.

REQUIREMENTS AND LIMITATIONS

Recipients of Awards are to use their assigned time to develop full proposals to external funding agencies or organizations that will further WRPI's goals and objectives. Proposals may cover a wide variety of topics including, but not limited to, increasing knowledge on water related issues and/or improving water use efficiency (broadly defined) that is aligned with WRPI's mission; infrastructure (including electronic) or equipment that would help WRPI realize its goals; enhanced faculty professional development; and enhanced student learning.

Recipients must submit full proposals to external funding sources within twelve (12) months of the beginning of the academic term in which the assigned time is received. Submission of letters of intent, preliminary proposals and pre-proposals will not fulfill this requirement. *Recipients will not be eligible to apply for WRPI assigned time funding again until this requirement is met.* Reports will be required upon request to ensure satisfactory progress.

Individual applicants may only submit one request for assigned time in response to this RFA; multiple requests for assigned time will disqualify all requests by that applicant.

¹ Provisional Guidance on Allowability of Indirect (F&A) Costs on CSU Internal Grant Proposals: Grants issued from CSU lottery funds, student fees (including State University fees) or other legislatively appropriated funds, as a result of a competition within the CSU, shall not be subject to indirect/F&A costs. Indirect cost will not be allowed as a grant-funded expense in proposals submitted in response to RFPs from programs that receive the majority of their support from student/university fee revenue or lottery funds. However, the F&A foregone at the campus/auxiliary's federally negotiated off-campus rate may be shown as cost match on the proposal. This amount may also be used by the auxiliary or enterprise fund as an offset to the university's cost allocation plan, in accordance with EO 753/1000.

Recipients may not receive more than one award per academic year.

Awards will not be given to individuals to write or complete manuscripts.

Assigned time, if awarded, MUST be taken during the 2011-2012 Academic Year. Awards cannot be deferred.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Applications are to be submitted by the campus pre-award office as single pdf files to lramos@csufresno.edu using the designated form provided at the end of this announcement. Applications are due by 5:00 p.m., **Tuesday, September 6th, 2011**. Applications received after the deadline will be considered on a funds available basis.

Successful applications will clearly demonstrate understanding and support of WRPI's mission, goals and objectives. The external sponsor to whom the full proposal will be directed must be identified and detail provided on the specific program to be targeted, the projected submission date, and evidence of sponsor interest in the research/educational project proposed. Delineation of the sources to which the PI(s) plans to apply for funding is an essential part of the application.

Applications must be submitted through the campus' pre-award office. Applications submitted by individual faculty members will be returned without consideration.

Application Format Application must be submitted using a standard 12-point font (Times New Roman, Arial, etc.), single spaced, and have margins of one inch on all sides. The following elements must be included:

1) Cover Page (required format follows at the end of this document): Title, targeted funding agency information, the contact and status information for each PI, assigned time request details (provide the title of the class from which each PI will be released and number of WTUs requested; note if these are semester or quarter units), and contact information and authorized signature of each PI's Dean, Chair and campus pre-award officer. *Please type all information except signatures. Signed forms must be scanned and included in final proposal in pdf format.*

2) Narrative (3 pages maximum, not including References, Figures and Tables): The text of the application must not exceed three (3) pages in length. This does not include the Cover Page. Do not begin text of application on the Cover Page.

Describe the proposed activity for which the assigned time funding is requested. A strong application will clearly indicate the significance of the project and how submission of a full proposal will be facilitated by the WRPI award. Please use the headings below to organize your application. Note that these elements comprise the evaluation criteria (point value provided in parentheses). The overall qualifications of the applicants will also be considered.

- **Intellectual Merit and Need (30 points):** Within the context of previous work on this topic, describe the purpose of, need for, and originality of the proposed activity. Indicate whether this project breaks new ground or is part of continuing activity. Clarify the nature of each participant's contribution to the project making clear how the collaboration, if applicable, will increase the scope or significance of the proposed project and its contribution to the discipline.

- **Expected Benefits Related to WRPI (25 points):** State how the proposed activity and subsequent proposal fulfills the mandate of WRPI. Explain how the proposed work will strengthen WRPI and collaboration among CSU campuses, if applicable. A maximum of only 20 points will be allowed if there is no collaboration with another CSU campus.
- **Potential for Student Involvement (15 points):** Describe the nature and extent of involvement of undergraduate and graduate students in the project.
- **Justification for Requested Assigned Time and Travel if Requested (10 points):** Provide an explanation of why the assigned time/travel requested is necessary for the development of the full proposal. Include a brief work plan describing the specific activities in which the PI or PIs will engage. Include timelines and justify the feasibility of meeting designated goals within the prescribed timelines.

The items above combined with information on the targeted funding agency (10 points) and overall qualifications of the applicants (10 points) total 100 points, the maximum possible for any single application.

3) CVs: A 2-page (maximum) curriculum vitae (CV) must be included for each PI. CVs should include appropriate research and education histories covering at least the last three years.

4) Current and Pending Support: List all current and pending internal and external support for research/scholarship for each PI.

5) Letter of Support: Applications must include a letter of support from each PI's department Chair or Dean indicating that such an award would be accommodated in departmental planning and that the release time is justified for the activity proposed. In the event that a faculty member and his/her Chair are both applying for an Award, the faculty member's letter should come from his/her Dean, with the same provisions.

SUBMISSION DETAILS:

Submission Deadline: 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 6th, 2011. Applications received after the deadline will be considered on a funds available basis.

Please combine all the required materials into *one pdf* and submit electronically to lramos@csufresno.edu

Applications must be submitted through the campus' pre-award office. Applications submitted by individual faculty members will be returned without consideration.

For further information contact:

Laura Ramos

(559) 278-2066

lramos@csufresno.edu