CWS Post-doctoral Research Associate Funding Program

The purpose of the CWS Post-doctoral Research Associate Funding Program is to provide support for faculty members for a post-doctoral associate in order to stimulate research efforts. Research projects must be relevant to the CWS mission and address one or more priority research areas. We encourage collaborative efforts among CWS faculty; however, each proposal must have one primary investigator (PI) who will serve as the project lead and mentor for the post-doctoral associate.

Eligibility Requirements
The program is open to CWS faculty members who have not previously received post-doctoral funding from the Center.

Type of Award
CWS will fund post-doctoral research associates at a level of $40,000 per year plus benefits. CWS will provide funding up to $15,000 in supplies per year to support the research activities of the Fellow. CWS expects to fund up to five post-doctoral research associate grants during this 2007 funding cycle.

Proposal Requirements
Faculty members should submit a proposal describing a water-related research project to be undertaken with a Post-doctoral research associate. Proposals should be written for a general scientific audience. Proposals should include:

1. Faculty team information. Include complete contact information for the PI, collaborators, and accounting contact for PI’s department.
2. Project abstract. 250 words.
   a. Goals: List the specific aims of the project.
   b. Background: Include a brief background describing the hypothesis and the relevance of the project to the CWS mission
   c. Methods: Describe the specific techniques used to achieve the goals of the project.
   d. Collaboration: describe the collaborative nature of the project.
   e. Impact: describe the long-term impact of the project (potential extramural funding, educational outreach)
4. Budget: All proposals must include an itemized budget which lists:
   a. Post-doctoral research associate salary including fringe benefits (see MSU Contracts and Grants web page for current rates at www.cga.msu.edu)
   b. Any materials and supplies required to support the research needs of the post-doctoral fellow (not to exceed $15,000)
5. Budget justification.
7. Curriculum vitae: Attach current 2 page CVs for the PI and collaborators.

Evaluation Criteria
Proposals will be distributed to the CWS Advisory Committee and/or review committee for evaluation. Proposals will be peer-reviewed based on criteria below and recommendations for
support or no support will be submitted to the co-directors, who will decide upon funding. All applications should support the mission of CWS. In addition, CWS will use the following criteria to review proposals:

1. Quality of the research proposed.
2. Multi-disciplinary nature of the project and related long-term research program. CWS will give priority to proposals that develop new linkages across campus.
3. Relation to priority research areas of CWS.
4. Fostering new collaboration. CWS will give priority to proposals submitted by PIs who do not have a long history (i.e., no shared based of funded research) of collaboration.
5. Support of junior faculty. CWS will give priority to proposals which substantially involve junior faculty members.

Proposal Deadline and Submission
All proposals are due by 5:00pm on February 1, 2007. Proposals should be submitted via email to Allena Tapia at tapia@msu.edu. CWS accepts proposals in Word or pdf file formats.

Awards
Award decisions will be made by March 15, 2007; funds will be available in August 2007. The lead PI will be awarded the funds and be responsible for managing them. CWS will assist the grant awardees with advertising for a post-doc.

Agreement for Funding
Faculty receiving funding will be expected to:

- Submit a one-page annual report beginning 12 months after funding is awarded. Reports should include any/all publications, including abstracts presented at national and local meetings that are derived from the project.
- Acknowledge CWS in all publications that result from work supported or partially supported with CWS resources such as: “This material is based upon work supported in part by the Center for Water Sciences at Michigan State University.”
- Participate in Center activities, such as review committees, Meet & Greets, seminars, and workgroup meetings.
- Provide a final report to CWS to be posted on the Center web site. Final reports will be due one month after the end of the project.

Program Contact
For questions regarding this program, contact:
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