

----- Original Message -----

Subject: [LTER-lpi] 2010 supplement request call
 Date: Mon, 5 Apr 2010 15:53:43 -0400
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 To: <lpi@lternet.edu>
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April 5, 2010

TO: LTER PIs
 FROM: Todd Crawl (BIO/DEB), Matt Kane (BIO/DEB), Phil Taylor (GEO/OCE), Dave Garrison (GEO/Bio-Oce), Roberta Marinelli (OPP), Tom Baerwald (SBE)
 cc: Dave Campbell (EHR), Deb Winslow (SBE), Rita Teutonico (SBE), Myra McCauliffe (OISE), Peter McCartney (BIO/DBI), Gayle Pugh (GEO/Bio-Oce), Kathie Weathers (BIO/DEB), Buck Sanford (BIO/DEB)
 re: FY '10 Budget information and request for LTER Supplement Proposals
 note: please read all pages carefully and discuss with your colleagues.

As we are sure you all understand, the budget situation for FY 2010 has been more uncertain than usual.

This is in large part due to the new Climate Research solicitations that have now been released and the Continuing Resolution that we had been operating under that authorizes the Foundation to spend only at 90% of FY 09 levels. Nonetheless, we are now soliciting proposals for supplemental support.

Procedures for FY 10 supplements: (a) Schoolyard LTER support is protected in BIO/DEB's budget, so sLTER supplement requests can be submitted again this year. (b) DEB, OPP and GEO will also provide some support for RET, RAHSS and ROA requests. (c) We will also be able to consider requests for individual REU supplements. (d) Funding is also available for the "Other" category (equipment, one-time sampling, etc.). (e) The Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences Directorate (SBE) wishes to help sustain the momentum of social science involvement in LTER to the degree that its budget allows. Therefore, SBE will support some supplement requests this year as they did last year. (f) OISE supplement support for international activities will also be available in limited amounts. (g) Finally, we are very happy to be able to consider requests for funding for IM and database development that will enhance each site's impact on the overall LTER network information systems and availability.

In this uncertain context, we solicit supplement proposals for the following categories and according to the guidelines indicated below. The due date for all proposals is May 7, 2010, and they must be submitted by the LTER lead PI via Fastlane.

1 Supplement support for MCM and PAL should be discussed directly with Roberta Marinelli in OPP. PIs of projects supported by Bio-Oce may wish to talk directly with Dave Garrison or Gayle Pugh. Part A. Education Supplement Requests (Schoolyard, ROA, RET, RAHSS, REU): Up to \$24,000/site may be requested for schoolyard-related activities (SLTER, K-12). We do not know how many RET, ROA, RAHSS or REU supplement requests may be supported. NSF guidelines indicate a maximum of \$10,000/RET, \$25,000/ROA, \$6,000/RAHSS, and \$8,000/REU; any amount up to those levels can be requested. Only TWO REUs per site are permitted. Text is limited to 3 pages for Part A. Use a table in the text to provide details on the budget for this part, reserving the Fastlane NSF budget sheet for the totals by appropriate line. If your request is greater than can ultimately be provided, you will be required to submit a revised budget. Include a clear scope of work. Briefly describe accomplishments from previous support, identify who will participate in the work, what each person will do, and what the relevant experience is for each person involved. Include biosketches as a supplementary document for any senior personnel not part of the most recent renewal proposal. Links to current site or network-level activities must be apparent, and the integration of the proposed and ongoing activities will be the main criterion.

Part B. Social Science Supplement Requests:

SBE suggests a maximum of \$20,000 per site for social science supplement requests. These must be in a separate, clearly labeled section of the proposal, maximum of 4 pages of text, including a separate budget table. In the spirit of the LTER Decadal Science Plan, cross-site social science proposals are encouraged. All social science requests will be reviewed by SBE and funded subject to their priorities and availability of funds. Social science supplement requests should include identification of the social and behavioral science theory within which the planned activity will be grounded, a clear description of what focal questions will drive the work, and what will be done to address those questions. If data are to be collected, explain how they will be collected and analyzed. Identify which social scientists and other scholars will participate in the work, what each person will do, and what experience each has in conducting this kind of research. Include biosketches for those not part of the most recent LTER site renewal proposal as a supplementary document. Links to current site or network-level activities must be apparent and the integration of the proposed and ongoing activities will be the main criterion.

Part C. Supplements for International Activities (information for PIs outside of this solicitation):

As in past years, you may include supplemental funding requests in Part C of your supplemental proposal. OISE encourages all LTER PIs to address inquiries about international interests directly to the appropriate country Program Officer (click International on the NSF homepage for a list of Staff by Country). From the OISE website:

"In addition to the solicitations [on the OISE website, e.g., PIRE], investigators may

also include
international supplemental funding requests for projects already supported by NSF.
Investigators
should consult early in the application process with both the disciplinary program manager
and OISE
country program manager. OISE works with all NSF areas to co-fund new awards and
supplements that meet
these criteria:

- * True intellectual collaboration with foreign research partner (Foreign partner's
2-pg biosketch &
communication outlining project role must be included. If foreign institution will provide
resources,
also include an endorsement letter from the foreign institution.)
- * New international collaborations, as opposed to well-established ones;
- * Clear benefit to U.S. science/engineering community from expertise, facilities, or
resources of
the foreign collaborator; and
- * Active research engagement of U.S. students and junior researchers at the foreign
site."

Part D. Equipment Supplement Requests:

We will entertain requests of up to \$25,000 per site for equipment replacement, upgrades,
new equipment
purchases OR one time sampling needs. You must provide a clear justification for how the
equipment or
sampling will enhance your ongoing Long-term data sets or provide justification for the
initiation of
new activities that will become Long term efforts. Supplements should not be submitted
for one-off,
short term activities that could be supported through our core programs.

Part E. Information/Data Management Supplement Requests:

We will entertain requests for up to \$30,000 specifically for information management.
Requests should be
directed at improving the quality and availability of EML metadata and data or improving
network-wide
standardization to facilitate increasing use of site data in synthesis projects. We are
encouraging
activities which would better enable dynamic loading of site data into Network
architecture or promote
standardization of data and practices to improve cross-site data integration. These might
include:
improvements in completeness and accuracy of metadata, evaluation and improvement of
linkages between
metadata and data, evaluation and improvement of data quality, automating EML generation
for new data
types (e.g. GIS, non-tabular, or non-LTER data), development of software tools or style
sheets to
improve the usefulness of EML to LTER sites and end-users, adoption of emerging Network
standards (e.g.
keyword, attribute, or taxonomy vocabularies), initiatives promoting or improving
standardization and
integration with LNO developments (e.g. refinement or expansion of current best practices
for EML), or
exploring dataset annotation with emerging semantic tools.

Expected milestones will be improvement in the quality of site data, improvement in
metadata with better
conformance to best practices, enabling dynamic loading of data and persistent
availability of
quality-checked site data through the Network Information System, and the emergence of
standard
practices to allow successful and more efficient use of LTER data by synthesis working
groups and

projects such as EcoTrends. We recognize that there may be an advantage to co-development of approaches among sites and proposals may address funding for the purpose of travel or communications with other sites.

These requests will be evaluated on the basis of what their impact will be on the overall LTER network information systems.

Please note that your total request for your site cannot exceed \$160,000.

Best,

Tac (for the NSF LTER team)

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