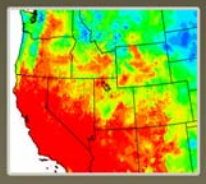
EPSCoR

Nevada Infrastructure for
Climate Change Science, Education, and Outreach


Policy, Decision Making, Outreach


Cyberinfrastructure


Climate Modeling


Education


Ecological Change


Water Resources

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS:

NSF EPSCoR Climate Change

Community and State College Faculty Fellowship Program: Summer 2009

Nevada NSF ESCoR Office
Nevada System of Higher Education
755 E. Flamingo Road
Las Vegas, NV 89119-7363

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

Review of applications will begin on April 6, 2009

Introduction

The Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) received a Research Infrastructure Improvement (RII) Award from the National Science Foundation's Experimental Program for the Stimulation of Competitive Research (NSF EPSCoR) for Climate Change research in Nevada. This award creates a statewide interdisciplinary program focused on understanding the effects of regional climate change on ecosystems, improving communication between researchers and policy makers, and better educating the public on climate change in Nevada. The program has six areas of interest: Climate modeling; Ecological change; Water resources; Education; Cyberinfrastructure; and Policy, decision making and outreach. The project encompasses a wide range of disciplines, including (but not limited to) Biology, Civil Engineering, Climatology, Computer Science, Ecology, Education, Environmental Studies, Geography, Hydrology, Journalism, Natural Resources, and Political Science. The goal is for interdisciplinary science teams to build capacity in climate change research to measure environmental changes, develop climate models, translate climate-change science for decision makers, create computer systems to make climate data more accessible, and develop new ways to teach about climate change. For more information on Nevada's NSF EPSCoR Climate Change Program, visit http://www.nevada.edu/epscor/

Fellowship Program Details

This NSF EPSCoR Fellowship Program welcomes applications from Community and State College faculty to conduct research in areas related to climate change during Summer 2009. The duration of the Fellowship program will be approximately 8 to10 weeks over the summer depending on the length of the research project. Each Research Fellow selected to participate in this program will receive a $9,000 award. Additional funds will be provided to cover fringe costs calculated at the appropriate institutional summer rate, and, if necessary and on a case-by-case basis, relocation expenses for the summer. At the conclusion of the Fellowship period, each Fellow must submit a final report describing their research and detailing how their insights will be integrated into Community and State College curricula. The NSF EPSCoR project will fund two Community College Fellows in 2009.

Each Research Fellow must work with at least one faculty sponsor in one of the climate change research areas supported by Nevada's current NSF EPSCoR grant: Climate Modelng; Ecological Change; Water Resources; Policy, Decision Making, and Outreach; Cyberinfrastructure; and Education. Sponsors must be faculty at UNLV, DRI, or UNR engaged in research in one of these six areas. Fellowship applicants are expected to contact prospective sponsors to discuss possible research projects prior to submitting an application. For your convenience, contact information for faculty members directly involved in this program is provided below.

In collaboration with their Faculty Sponsors, Fellows will be expected to develop and conduct specific research projects in an area of mutual interest. As part of their Fellowship, participants may, for example, develop educational activities, conduct policy studies, operate scientific instruments, analyze data, or develop computer software models. Each Fellow is expected to spend some time applying new insights to the enhancement of science, policy, or science education at their home institutions. Prior research experience is not required.

NSF EPSCoR Climate Change Research Program Details

The six component areas of the NSF EPSCoR Climate Change Program are listed below. Applicants may contact the listed component leads for suggested faculty sponsors, although they may contact any prospective faculty sponsors in NSHE conducting appropriate climate change research.

Climate Modeling: Develop the capability to model climate change at a regional and sub-regional scale and assess its effects on ecosystems and resources to evaluate the effects of different future climate scenarios and adaptation strategies. *Component Lead: Dr. Darko Koracin, 775-674-7091, darko.koracin@dri.edu*

Ecological Change Component: Develop data collection, modeling, and visualization infrastructure to determine and analyze effects of climate change on ecosystems and disturbance regimes. *Component Lead: Dr. Franco Biondi, 775-784-6921, fbiondi@unr.nevada.edu*

Water Resources Component: Develop data collection, modeling, and visualization infrastructure to better quantify and model changes in water balance and supply under climate change. *Component Lead: Dr. Michael Young, 702-862-5489, Michael.Young@dri.edu*

Policy, Decision Making, and Outreach Component: Develop data collection and modeling infrastructure to assess climate change effects on human systems and responses to better understand institutional and societal aspects of climate change and to enhance policy making and outreach to communities and stakeholders. *Component Lead: Dr. William James Smith Jr., 702-895-4439, bill.smith@unlv.edu*

Cyberinfrastructure Component: Develop a Data Portal and software frameworks that will support interdisciplinary climate change research via integration of data from observational networks and modeling. *Component Lead: Dr. Sergiu Dascalu, 775-784-4613, dascalus@cse.unr.edu*

Education Component: Develop educational infrastructure to train students at all levels and provide public outreach on climate change issues. *Component Lead: Dr. David M. Hassenzahl, 702-895-4457, david.hassenzahl@unlv.edu*

Application Guidelines, Review of Applications, and Deadlines

Review of applications will begin on **April 6, 2009**, although applications will be accepted until the Fellowships are awarded (expected by May 1, 2009). Review and approval of applications will be done by the NSF EPSCoR Climate Change Management Team: Drs. Gayle Dana (Nevada NSF EPSCoR), Nick Lancaster (DRI), Tom Piechota (UNLV), and Scott Mensing (UNR).

Please note only complete files will be reviewed.

Application Materials

1. A cover letter indicating specific areas of research interest and a brief description of the research to be conducted in conjunction with the applicant's faculty sponsor.
2. A resume indicating teaching and research experience.
3. Two recommendation letters limited to two pages each. One letter should be from the instructional dean or department chair of the applicant's home institution. The second letter should be from the faculty sponsor.

Required Format for submission of application materials:

All application materials are to be submitted as a single PDF document attached to an e-mail sent to Alice Ward at alice_ward@nshe.nevada.edu***. The "subject" line of your email should follow this format: < last name_ first name initial_CCFellowship>***

An exception to the single document rule applies to letters of recommendation which may be sent separately (as attachments) by the instructional dean or department chair and the faculty sponsor.

If you have any questions, please contact Alice Ward:

Ms. Alice Ward
NSHE - System Sponsored Projects Office
755 E. Flamingo Rd.
Las Vegas, NV 89119-7363
Phone: (702) 862-5590 Fax: (702) 862-5594: email: Alice_ward@nshe.nevada.edu

Administrative and Reporting Details

Duration of the Fellowship program is approximately 8 to 10 weeks over the summer depending on the length of the project. Each fellow will be required to submit a two-page final report describing their research and detailing how their insights will be integrated into Community and State College curriculum materials. Each Fellowship will provide $9000 plus fringe cost for two summer months. Special requests to pay relocation expenses will be considered on a case-by-case basis.