



High Performance Network Connection proposed for Hofstra

Hofstra University is presently exploring the possible submission of a grant proposal to the National Science Foundation's High Performance Network Connections Program (HPNC). The purpose of the program is to enable research and education at the forefront of science and engineering via the establishment of high performance (45 mbits per second or greater) Internet connections to a national research network; and to prepare the next generation of scientists, engineers, and other researchers, especially individuals in traditionally underserved groups, to use advanced networking in support of discovery, learning and innovation. To be successful, our proposal must demonstrate that faculty at Hofstra are conducting research which will benefit from the investment in such a connection. In addition, the education and training component of our proposal must offer appropriate plans to enrich our curriculum for computer science and other majors in the areas of advanced networking and grid computing. We are anxious to hear from all faculty whose research would benefit from this new Internet2 connection and faculty who are interested in curriculum development and training in the specified areas following the connection. Costs associated with this upgrade are considerable, perhaps cost-prohibitive without grant assistance of this kind. For this reason, it is critical that interested faculty share with us how they would use this connection.

A meeting will be scheduled shortly to discuss the possible submission of this grant proposal and for faculty to share ideas for use of the connection. Persons unable to attend the meeting are urged to advise us of their interest via e-mail as soon as possible. Contact Tom Murphy (ext. 3-6810, thomas.o.murphy@hofstra.edu) or Lanny Udey (ext. 3-5163, lanny.r.udey@hofstra.edu).

Teacher Quality Research Grants

Letter of Intent due date: March 6, 2003.

U.S. Department of Education

Application due date: April 18, 2003.

URL: <http://www.ed.gov/offices/IES/tq/tqRFA.doc>

The purpose of the research program on Teacher Quality is to improve student learning by providing evidence of effective strategies for improving the preparation of classroom teachers and the instructional strategies they use. The program will support research on the key issues of teacher quality that are likely to lead to substantial gains in academic achievement for all students and a lowering of the achievement gap between minority and non-minority students and between economically disadvantaged students and their more advantaged peers. The focus of the 2003 competition will be professional development for teaching first grade reading and sixth grade mathematics. Applicants should propose professional development studies in early reading (Grade 1), middle school mathematics (Grade 6), or both that will test at least one of the following: (1) the effectiveness of a professional development model by comparing it to an alternative program or model, (2) the components of a professional development model by varying the implementation of one or more components in the model, or (3) the relative effectiveness of using alternative methods of delivering the professional development. Up to 15 grants may be awarded as a result of this competition. The typical award will be approximately \$300,000 per year for 4 years. For further information, visit the URL cited above or contact Tom Murphy at ext. 3-6810.

Social and Character Development Research Grants

Letter of Intent due date: March 6, 2003.

U.S. Department of Education

Application due date: April 25, 2003.

URL: <http://www.ed.gov/offices/IES/scdr/SACDRFA.doc>

The goal of the Social and Character Development research initiative is to conduct rigorous evaluations of school-based interventions or curricula for which, at least, some "soft" evidence of the effectiveness of the proposed intervention already exists. Applicants may integrate components from different existing interventions that have empirical support to create a new, improved or more comprehensive program, but this initiative is *not* intended to support the development of new interventions or curricula. In addition, although the interventions must be school-based, they may include student

participation in other settings (e.g., volunteering in community agencies). The long-term goal of this initiative is to provide scientific information to assist schools in choosing specific school-based interventions that promote positive character development, reduction of negative behaviors, or both. Through *cooperative agreements* awarded by the Institute of Education Sciences, grantees will work with the U.S. Department of Education, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and a national evaluation contractor, funded through a separate competition by the Institute of Education Sciences, to carry out randomized experiments of selected social and character development interventions. The Department may award up to 8 grants as a result of this competition and expects the typical award will be approximately \$450,000 per year for 4 years. For further information, visit the URL cited above or contact Tom Murphy at ext. 3-6810.

Effective Mathematics Education Research Grants

Letter of Intent due date: March 6, 2003.

U.S. Department of Education

Application due date: April 18, 2003.

URL: <http://www.ed.gov/offices/IES/emer/MathRFP.doc>

The purpose of the research program on Effective Mathematics Education is to support the identification of interventions and approaches in mathematics education that will result in improving mathematics achievement for all students and closing achievement gaps between minority and non-minority students, and between economically disadvantaged students and their more advantaged peers. The focus of the 2003 competition will be middle-school mathematics education - improvement of mathematical competence in grades 5 through 8. The research must be carried out in school (or other education delivery) settings. The Department may award up to 15 or more grants as a result of this competition and expects that the typical award will be approximately \$350,000 per year for 4 years. For further information, visit the URL cited above or contact Tom Murphy at ext. 3-6810.

Instructional Materials Development

Preliminary Proposal due date: May 1, 2003.

Division of Elementary, Secondary and Informal Education

Full proposal due date: August 26, 2003.

Directorate of Education and Human Resources, National Science Foundation

URL: <http://www.nsf.gov/pubsys/ods/getpub.cfm?nsf03524>

The goal of the IMD program is to enhance science, technology, and mathematics (STM) content knowledge, as well as the thinking skills and problem solving abilities, of all students, pre-Kindergarten through grade 12 (preK-12), regardless of background, ability, or plans for future education. The IMD program encourages learning by all students through promoting positive dispositions toward science and technology and of themselves as learners. A broader cross section of students may pursue education in scientific and technological disciplines through the use of real-world contexts. The Instructional Materials Development (IMD) program includes three components: **Instructional Materials for Students:** Supports the creation and substantial revision of comprehensive curricula and supplemental instructional materials that are research-based; enhance classroom instruction, preK-12; and reflect standards for science, mathematics, and technology education developed by national professional organizations. **Assessment:** Supports the creation of tools for assessing student learning that are tied to nationally developed standards and reflect the most current thinking on how students learn mathematics and science. Projects can also focus on assistance to schools and districts in implementing new assessments. **Applied Research:** Supports research for development of the IMD program and projects; provides evidence for the effectiveness of materials and feedback for strengthening the portfolio; and identifies possible new directions in instructional materials and assessment. Proposals may be submitted for projects in any field of science, technology education, or mathematics (STM) typically supported by NSF. For further information, visit the URL cited above or contact Tom Murphy at ext. 3-6810.

HOFSTRA UNIVERSITY

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Reminder...

There's still a lot of winter left and weather-related emergencies can prove devastating to grant-writers. *Please plan ahead!*

Mailing label