Information Technology Workforce (ITWF) Program

National Science Foundation

Application due date: January 21, 2004

Since its inception in 2000, the Information Technology Workforce Program (ITWF) has supported basic research studies on the under representation of women and minorities in information technology (IT). On September 25, NSF issued a revised ITWF program announcement expanding its portfolio to include implementation/intervention projects that - based upon research findings - seek to increase the numbers of women and underrepresented minority students and/or faculty in IT in the Nation's colleges and universities. Implementation projects must incorporate rigorous programs of evaluation and dissemination. Implementation projects may be funded for up to 4 years and will generally range from $75,000 to $250,000 per year up to a maximum award of $1,000,000. Depending on the availability of funds, 8-10 proposals will be selected for funding in the ITWF program. Cost sharing is not required. For further information, visit the URL cited above and/or contact Tom Murphy (ext. 3-6810) in the Office for Research and Sponsored Programs.

Major Research Instrumentation (MRI) Program

National Science Foundation

Application due date: January 22, 2004

The Major Research Instrumentation Program (MRI) is designed to increase access to scientific and engineering equipment for research and research training in our Nation's academic institutions. This program seeks to improve the quality and expand the scope of research and research training in science and engineering, and to foster the integration of research and education by providing instrumentation for research-intensive learning environments. The MRI program encourages the development and acquisition of research instrumentation for shared use across academic departments, among research institutions, and in concert with private sector partners.

The MRI program assists in the acquisition or development of major research instrumentation by U.S. institutions that is, in general, too costly for support through other NSF programs. The maintenance and technical support associated with these instruments is also supported. Proposals may be for a single instrument, a large system of instruments, or multiple instruments that share a common or specific research focus. In 2003, Hofstra University received an award in excess of a quarter million dollars for acquisition of a supercomputer through this competition, thanks to a team headed by Harold M. Hastings. As was the case last year, cost sharing is not expected to be required of predominantly undergraduate institutions like Hofstra; however, final determination on this matter is yet to be made. For further information, visit the URL cited above and/or contact Tom Murphy (ext. 3-6810) in the Office for Research and Sponsored Programs.

Bridges for Engineering Education (BEE) Planning Grants

National Science Foundation

Application due date: March 1, 2004

The Bridges for Engineering Education (BEE) Planning Grants solicitation is a collaborative effort between the Directorate for Engineering (ENG) and the Directorate for Education and Human Resources (EHR). This program provides an opportunity for institutions to compete for planning grants to develop proposals that improve:

- The engineering content in K-12 education.
- The pedagogy in undergraduate engineering.
- Engineering technology degree programs.

Estimated number of awards: 30. Support level: up to $100,000. Cost sharing is not required. For further information, visit the URL cited above and/or contact Tom Murphy (ext. 3-6810) in the Office for Research and Sponsored Programs.
Grants for the Department-Level Reform of Undergraduate Engineering Education
National Science Foundation
Application due date: March 1, 2004

The NSF Grants for the Department-Level Reform of Undergraduate Engineering Education solicitation encourages proposals that build on the pioneering efforts of the NSF Engineering Education Coalitions, support the goals of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) Criteria for Accrediting Engineering Programs, (http://www.abet.org) and reflect current advances in the science of learning. Departments or multiple departments may update and reconstitute elements of the core curricula in existing engineering disciplines or invent elements of completely new curricula for emerging engineering disciplines or cross-disciplines. The proposed efforts should define the interfaces between the new elements and existing programs and streamline and update course offerings to make the curriculum both more attractive and effective by:

- Introducing emerging knowledge related to information technology, bioengineering, microelectronics, microelectromechanical systems (MEMS), nanotechnology, cognitive theory, etc.
- Eliminating legacy materials emphasizing the application of rote solution techniques and replacing them with content emphasizing the fundamental, underlying behavior of physical and biological systems and the social systems in which they are employed.
- Exposing students to the computational methods employed by practicing engineers to solve engineering problems, preferably in collaboration with industry leaders in developing tools implementing such methods.
- Making full use of modern teaching methods, including mentoring, team-based and experience-based learning, computer simulation, and distance learning.

Prior receipt of a Planning Grant for the Departmental-Level Reform of Undergraduate Engineering Education is not a requirement for participation in the implementation component of this solicitation. Estimated number of awards: about 3 to 4 implementation grants of up to $1,500,000 each. Cost-sharing is not required. For further information, visit the URL cited above and/or contact Tom Murphy (ext. 3-6810) in the Office for Research and Sponsored Programs.

Graduate Teaching Fellows in K-12 Education
National Science Foundation
Application due date: June 2, 2004

This program supports fellowships and associated training that enable graduate students and advanced undergraduates in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics to serve in K-12 schools as resources knowledgeable about both the content and applications of these disciplines. Academic institutions apply for awards to support fellowship activities. Institutions are responsible for: 1) selecting Fellows; 2) partnering with school districts for placement of Fellows in schools; 3) providing appropriate training for Fellows, and 4) designing and implementing an effective mechanism for documenting the outcomes of the project. The Fellows serve as resources for teachers in science and mathematics instruction. Expected outcomes include improved communication and teaching skills for the Fellows, enriched learning by K-12 students, professional development opportunities for GK-12 Teachers, and strong partnerships between institutions of higher education and local school districts. As an agency-wide activity the GK-12 program supports projects from the full spectrum of National Science Foundation (NSF) disciplines including the social, behavioral and economic sciences, mathematical and physical sciences, biological sciences, engineering, computer and information science, and the geosciences. Awards are for initial projects of up to three years (Track 1, Initial Track) with the potential to apply for a follow-on project of up to five years (Track 2, Follow-on Track). The number and size of awards will vary depending upon the scope of projects and availability of funds; however, it is anticipated that approximately 20 institutional awards in the range of $300,000 to $600,000 per year for a period of two to three years will be made for Track 1 proposals. The stipend for a graduate student will be $21,500 for a 12-month tenure. In addition, the grantee institution will be allowed a cost-of-education allowance of $10,500 per tenure year per graduate student in lieu of tuition and fees normally charged to students of similar academic standing. The stipend for an undergraduate student will be $5,000 per academic year and $5,000 per summer. Cost-sharing is not required. For further information, visit the URL cited above and/or contact Tom Murphy (ext. 3-6810) in the Office for Research and Sponsored Programs.

To access the Office for Research and Sponsored Programs online…
www.hofstra.edu/research or www.hofstra.edu/grants
Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grants and Fellowships:  Education

Dissertation Grants Program
American Educational Research Association / Institute of Education Services
URL:  http://www.aera.net/programs/ies/dissertation

The AERA/IES Dissertation Grants Program provides financial support of up to $15,000 for 1-year projects, or up to $25,000 for 2-year projects.  Research topics may cover a wide range of education-related issues.  Priority will be given to research that addresses mathematics and literacy education and the education of poor, urban, or minority students.  Additional topics may include cultural and linguistic diversity; alternative forms of educational assessment; school persistence; early childhood education; contextual factors (individual, curricular, and school related) in education; materials (curriculum) development; school reform; and the quality of educational institutions.  Preference will be given to research that intersects theory and practice in such areas.  The goals of the AERA/IES program are to:  stimulate research on U.S. education policy and practice related issues, with a priority for the education of poor, urban, or minority students and for mathematics and literacy education; attract a cadre of talented scholars and enhance their research preparation; build a network of such scholars whose collaborations focus on high priority educational issues; and, contribute to basic knowledge, the improvement of practice, and the informing of policy in educationally important contexts.  For further information, visit the URL cited above and/or contact Tom Murphy (ext. 3-6810) in the Office for Research and Sponsored Programs.

Dissertation Fellowships for Research Related to Education
Spence Foundation
URL:  http://www.spencer.org/programs/fellows/dissertation.htm

The Dissertation Fellowship Program seeks to encourage a new generation of scholars from a wide range of disciplines and professional fields to undertake research relevant to the improvement of education.  These fellowships support individuals whose dissertations show potential for bringing fresh and constructive perspectives to the history, theory, or practice of formal or informal education anywhere in the world.  Although the dissertation topic must concern education, graduate study may be in any academic discipline or professional field.  Candidates should be interested in pursuing further research in education once the doctorate is attained.

Applicants must be candidates for the doctoral degree at a graduate school in the United States.  These fellowships are not intended to finance data collection or the completion of doctoral coursework, but rather to support the final analysis of the research topic and the writing of the dissertation.  For this reason, all applicants must document that they will have completed all pre-dissertation requirements by June 1 of the year in which the fellowship is awarded, and must provide a clear and specific plan for completing the dissertation within a one or two-year time frame.  For further information, visit the URL cited above and/or contact Tom Murphy (ext. 3-6810) in the Office for Research and Sponsored Programs.

Dissertation Fellowship Program
Association for the Study of Higher Education / Lumina Foundation
URL:  http://www.ashe.missouri.edu/fellowship/aboutfellowship.htm

The Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE), with financial support from the Lumina Foundation for Education, announces the ASHE/Lumina Foundation Dissertation Fellowship Program.  Lumina Foundation is interested in enhancing access to postsecondary education, increasing opportunities for better student retention and attainment, and improving programs for nontraditional students.  More specifically, Lumina Foundation wishes (1) to stimulate research on topics related to financial aid, student retention and success, and adult learning and learners; (2) to improve the higher education research community's involvement in research on these topics; and (3) to inform improvement of institutional, state, and federal polices and programs that promote and support access and retention.

To that end, Lumina Foundation has provided ASHE with funding for fellowships in the amount of $12,500 to support dissertation research on the broad topics of financial aid, student retention and success, and adult learners and learning.  The fellowships will support up to one year of activity that will be conducted through the students’ home universities and can be used to support costs of supplying data, dissemination of project results, travel, tuition, and salary for the fellows.  There is funding for eight fellowships a year for a three-year period, with the first fellowships awarded in 2003.  Doctoral students affiliated with any accredited doctoral program may submit a proposal.  For further information, visit the URL cited above and/or contact Tom Murphy (ext. 3-6810) in the Office for Research and Sponsored Programs.
Other Education-Related Programs and Grant Competitions

Best Buy Children’s Fund
URL: http://communications.bestbuy.com/communityrelations/Grant.asp

Best Buy Children’s Foundation supports programs that enhance kids’ educational learning experiences through the use of innovative technology. Funding is provided to K-12 technology and youth programs. Grant competition is generally not open to school districts; rather, applicants must be classified as IRS 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations to qualify for funding. Hofstra is such an organization.

Foundation for Child Development
URL: http://www.ffcd.org/

The Foundation for Child Development (FCD) has a special interest in children in low-income, working families, particularly those families that are struggling to meet their children’s basic human needs. The Foundation makes grants nationally to nonprofit institutions for research, policy analysis, advocacy, leadership development, and a small number of program development projects in New York City. Three cross-cutting themes guide the Foundation’s work: linking research on children and families to formation of relevant policies and programs; identifying fresh approaches to crafting sound social strategies for children and families; and nurturing new generations of leaders connecting child development research to policy. FCD is particularly concerned about all children’s access to early childhood education programs and to health care. FCD does not fund the direct provision of preschool education or child care or health care. FCD also has a strong interest in the development of national and state policies that promote economic security for low-income families. City, county, or state-level grants in these areas are directed to projects that can affect formation of national policy.

The Northrop Grumman Foundation
URL: http://www.northropgrumman.com/com_rel/cr/foundation.html

The sponsor's purpose is to provide support for education opportunities to the nation’s youth. The sponsor is committed to supporting diverse and sustainable programs that create innovative education opportunities. Its priority is to provide assistance to literacy, math, science and technology programs spanning pre-college through collegiate levels. The Northrop Grumman Foundation has completed its 2003 funding process. Note: The Northrop Grumman Foundation will no longer be accepting grant proposal requests for the remainder of 2003. Interested parties should check this website before submitting proposals for consideration in 2004.

Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE)
Comprehensive Program
U.S. Department of Education
URL: http://www.hofstra.edu/pdf/ORSP_FIPSE.pdf

The purpose of the FIPSE grant program is to provide financial support to improve postsecondary education opportunities. As with past rounds of FIPSE competition, several. Several invitational priorities have been established.

Invitational Priority 1: Projects to improve the quality of K-12 teaching through new models of teacher preparation and through new kinds of partnerships between schools and colleges and universities that enhance students’ preparation for, access to, and success in college.

Invitational Priority 2: Projects to promote innovative reforms in the curriculum and instruction of various subjects at the college preparation, undergraduate, and graduate/professional levels, especially through student-centered or technology-mediated strategies, and including the subject area of civic education.

Invitational Priority 3: Projects designing more cost-effective ways of improving postsecondary instruction and operations, i.e., to promote more student learning relative to institutional resources expended.

Invitational Priority 4: Projects to support new ways to ensure equal access to postsecondary education and to improve rates of retention and program completion, especially for underrepresented students whose retention and completion rates continue to lag behind those of other groups, and especially to encourage wider adoption of proven approaches to this problem.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: $156,000 per year. Estimated Number of Awards: 50-55. For further information, visit the URL cited above and/or contact Tom Murphy (ext. 3-6810) in the Office for Research and Sponsored Programs.