

**NOTE: See previously-posted opportunities available on our [funding pages](#).**

Below please find recent grant and related announcements. Please send Jon MacDonagh-Dumler ([macdon47@msu.edu](mailto:macdon47@msu.edu)) information you think should be included, especially about interdisciplinary environmental conferences.

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## **ESPP Funding Opportunities: March 04, 2013**

### **OPPORTUNITIES FOR FACULTY**

#### **[Dear Colleague Letter: Research Experiences for Undergraduates \(REU\) Supplemental Funding - NSF 13-068](#)**

The NSF Directorate for Computer and Information Science and Engineering (CISE) invites its grantees to submit requests for Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) supplemental funding. Interested grantees are encouraged to submit their REU supplemental **funding requests by April, 2013.**

### **Engineering**

#### **[Research Initiation Grants in Engineering Education RIGEE – NSF 11-507](#)**

**Full Proposal Deadline: March 31, 2011**

Last Thursday in March, Annually Thereafter

**Award Information:** Contact the Cognizant Program Officer, Richard N. Smith  
telephone: (703) 292-8071, email: [rsmith@nsf.gov](mailto:rsmith@nsf.gov)

**PI Limit:** At least one (co)PI must be a member of an engineering department AND not have received engineering education funding through EEC in the last three years.

The Research Initiation Grants in Engineering Education (RIGEE) program enables engineering faculty who are renowned for teaching, mentoring, or leading educational reform efforts on their campus to initiate collaborations with colleagues in the learning and cognitive sciences to address difficult, boundary-spanning problems in how we educate engineers. Engineering degree programs, like other systems, face significant challenges in the next decade. Such challenges include, but are by no means limited to:

- How to address the rapid increase of knowledge within engineering disciplines while keeping the cost and time required for a degree manageable.
- Addressing the impact of globalization on degree programs from the perspective of competition for jobs as well as enabling effective collaborations between global partners.
- Developing ways to effectively measure learning, especially in emerging disciplines or where learning is closely tied to projects, discovery, or computational tools such as visualization and simulation.

- Helping faculty address changing student motivations and attitudes.
- Making meaningful and lasting impact on the chronic problem of inclusion of under-represented groups in engineering.
- Adding skills in innovation and entrepreneurship without diluting engineering fundamentals given already over-crowded curricula.

These, and many other challenges in engineering education, are highly cross-disciplinary. Solutions require deep knowledge of engineering ways of thinking and solving problems as well as theoretical insights and expertise from the humanities, learning sciences, economics, education, neuroscience, and other disparate fields of study. RIGEE awards support engineering faculty in initiating research collaborations on such boundary-spanning problems or developing expertise outside their own engineering discipline. The RIGEE program specifically targets those individuals who are outstanding engineering educators, allowing them to build from this base to develop wider, research-based innovations in engineering education.

## **Geosciences and Cyberinfrastructure**

### **EarthCube NSF 13-529**

<b>Full Proposal Deadline: March 26, 2013</b>	<b>Test Enterprise Governance</b>
<b>Full Proposal Deadline: March 26, 2013</b>	<b>Research Coordination Networks</b>
<b>Full Proposal Deadline: May 22, 2013</b>	<b>Building Blocks</b>
<b>Full Proposal Deadline: May 22, 2013</b>	<b>Conceptual Designs</b>

EarthCube is a community-driven activity sponsored through a partnership between the NSF Directorate of Geosciences and Office of Cyberinfrastructure to transform the conduct of geosciences research and education. EarthCube aims to create a well-connected and facile environment to share data and knowledge in an open, transparent, and inclusive manner, thus accelerating the ability of the geosciences community to understand and predict the Earth system.

This serves as an umbrella solicitation for EarthCube. It differs from traditional NSF solicitations because funding opportunities will be amended to the solicitation in response to emerging community needs and priorities defined in collaborative activities. This solicitation provides the overarching description, vision, and goals for EarthCube that will remain unchanged over time. Amendments to the solicitation will add information on funding opportunities. Notifications announcing any EarthCube solicitation updates with Amendments will be sent through the NSF solicitation alert system.

The overarching description, vision, and goals of EarthCube and the first funding opportunity (Amendment I) can be found in the Program Description section. In Amendment I, all specifications of the proposal call are described, including:

- (a) what types of proposals are being solicited;
- (b) pointers to the relevant community documents that guide the call and determine the focus of funding opportunities;
- (c) specific funding mechanism(s) employed;

- (d) proposal due dates or submission windows;
- (e) any special review criteria and/or reporting criteria; and
- (f) other specifics of the funding opportunity.

As community guidance moves EarthCube forward, new Amendments will replace old Amendments. A listing of all Amendments can be found on the NSF EarthCube Program website: <http://www.nsf.gov/geo/earthcube/>

### **Integrated NSF Support Promoting Interdisciplinary Research and Education – INSPIRE NSF 13-518**

<b>Letter of Intent Due Date:</b>	<b>February 20, 2013</b>	<b>INSPIRE Track 2 Inquiries</b>
	<b>March 29, 2013</b>	<b>INSPIRE Track 1 Inquiries</b>
<b>Full Proposal Deadline:</b>	<b>May 13, 2013</b>	<b>INSPIRE Track 2 Full Proposals</b>
	<b>May 29, 2013</b>	<b>INSPIRE Track 1 Full Proposals</b>
	<b>May 29, 2013</b>	<b>Director's INSPIRE Awards Full Proposals</b>
<b>Anticipated Type of Award:</b>	<b>Standard Grant or Continuing Grant</b>	
<b>Estimated Number of Awards:</b>	<b>45 to 60</b>	
<b>INSPIRE Track 1 Awards:</b>	<b>30 to 40</b>	
<b>INSPIRE Track 2 Awards:</b>	<b>10 to 15</b>	
<b>Director's INSPIRE Awards:</b>	<b>3 to 7</b>	
<b>Anticipated Funding Amount:</b>	<b>\$63,000,000 pending availability of funds</b>	

The INSPIRE awards program was established to address some of the most complicated and pressing scientific problems that lie at the intersection of traditional disciplines. It is intended to encourage investigators to submit bold, exceptional proposals that some may consider to be at a disadvantage in a standard NSF review process; it is not intended for proposals that are more appropriate for existing award mechanisms.

INSPIRE is open to interdisciplinary proposals on any NSF-supported topic, submitted by invitation only after a preliminary inquiry process initiated by submission of a required Letter of Intent. In fiscal year 2013, INSPIRE provides support through the following three pilot grant mechanisms:

- INSPIRE Track 1. This is essentially a continuation of the pilot CREATIV mechanism from FY 2012, which was detailed for 2012 in Dear Colleague Letter NSF 12-011.
- INSPIRE Track 2. These are "mid-scale" research awards at a larger scale than Track 1, allowing for requests of up to \$3,000,000 over a duration of up to five years. Expectations for cross-cutting advances and for broader impacts are greater than in Track 1, and the review process includes external review.
- Director's INSPIRE Awards. These are prestigious individual awards to single-investigator proposals that present ideas for interdisciplinary advances with unusually strong, exciting transformative potential.

All NSF directorates and programmatic offices participated in INSPIRE in FY 2012 and are continuing their participation in FY 2013.