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) information you think should be included, especially about interdisciplinary environmental conferences.

_____________________________________

ESPP Funding Opportunities: April 16, 2013

OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS AND RECENT GRADUATES

**NSF Earth Sciences Postdoctoral Fellowships NSF EAR-PF 13-548**

Full Proposal Deadline: July 18, 2013

July 18, Annually Thereafter

**Anticipated Type of Award:** Fellowship

**Estimated Number of Awards:** 10 fellowships per year

**Anticipated Funding Amount:** $87,000 per year per fellowship, FY 2014-2015.

The Division of Earth Sciences (EAR) awards Postdoctoral Fellowships to recent recipients of doctoral degrees for research and training in topics relevant to Earth sciences. The fellows must develop and implement 1) research projects that seek to address scientific questions within the purview of EAR programs and 2) plans to broaden participation in Earth sciences. The program supports researchers for a period of up to 2 years with fellowships that can be taken to the institution of their choice (including facilities abroad). Because the fellowships are offered only to postdoctoral scientists early in their career, doctoral advisors are encouraged to discuss the availability of EAR postdoctoral fellowships with their graduate students early in their
doctoral programs. Fellowships are awards to individuals, not institutions, and are administered by the Fellows.

A research plan whose focus falls within the scope of any of the EAR disciplines is eligible for support. The list of EAR programs can be found at [http://www.nsf.gov/div/index.jsp?div=EAR](http://www.nsf.gov/div/index.jsp?div=EAR) and include EarthScope, Geobiology and Low Temperature Geochemistry, Geomorphology and Land Use Dynamics, Geophysics, Hydrologic Sciences, Petrology and Geochemistry, Sedimentary Geology and Paleobiology, and Tectonics.

**OPPORTUNITIES FOR FACULTY**

**Dear Colleague Letter - United States and United Kingdom Clean Water Collaboration NSF 13-082**

The [Global Grand Challenges Summit](http://www.nsf.gov/div/index.jsp?div=EAR) initiative between the national academies of engineering in the UK, US, and China brings together leading international engineers, future engineers, innovators, and policy makers to share their ideas on solutions to the world’s most pressing challenges. In the context of the Grand Challenges Summit, the UK Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) and NSF announce a joint, parallel activity to encourage collaborative research between leading researchers and students from the UK and US.

The Directorate for Engineering (ENG) will consider supplement funding requests for collaborative research with UK-based research groups in the area of clean water. Within clean water research, areas of particular interest include water treatment and purification, water reuse, storm water use, the water-energy nexus, urban water sustainability, and the resilience of water infrastructures. The supplement funding requests must be for existing active NSF awards that are managed by any ENG program officer. Supplement funding requests must be within the scope of the existing NSF active parent award. The supplement budget request must not exceed $50,000, and the duration of the proposed activities must not exceed one year. Prior to submitting a supplement funding request, an email request for authorization to submit such a supplement request must be sent to the following NSF/ENG program officers:

Bruce Hamilton, bhamilto@nsf.gov
Widening Implementation & Demonstration of Evidence-Based Reforms – NSF WIDER 13-552

Full Proposal Deadline: July 03, 2013

Anticipated Type of Award: Standard Grant or Continuing Grant

Estimated Number of Awards: 30 to 50

Grants will be made in 4 tracks.

1. Planning grants: up to 20 awards
2. Institutional Implementation grants: up to 12 awards
3. Community Implementation grants: up to 12 awards
4. Research grants: up to 10 awards

Anticipated Funding Amount: $20,000,000

The chief goal of WIDER is to transform institutions of higher education into supportive environments for STEM faculty members to substantially increase their use of evidence-based teaching and learning practices. Through this process, WIDER seeks to substantially increase the scale of application of highly effective methods of STEM teaching and learning in institutions of higher education, by employing instructional materials and methods that have a convincing evidentiary basis of effectiveness. In particular WIDER seeks this transformation for high enrollment, lower division courses required for many STEM majors and taken by many other students to fulfill general education distribution requirements.

Included in our broad definition of effective STEM teaching and learning are not only instructional practices in traditional learning environments, but also modern laboratory methods and field research, proven distance education methods (or hybrid designs incorporating both face-to-face and distance methods), and improved approaches to motivating student interest in STEM. In all cases, the primary goal of WIDER is to
increase substantially the scale of these improvements within and across the higher education sector.

AGRICULTURE

**USDA Agriculture and Food Research Initiative – Foundational Program**

USDA-NIFA-AFRI-003958

**Closing Date for Applications:** May 22, 2013

In FY 2013, subject to availability of funds it is anticipated that approximately $136 million will be made available to support new awards within the AFRI Foundational Program.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) established the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) under which the Secretary of Agriculture to address food and agricultural sciences in six priority areas, including: 1) plant health and production and plant products; 2) animal health and production and animal products; 3) food safety, nutrition, and health; 4) renewable energy, natural resources, and environment; 5) agriculture systems and technology; and 6) agriculture economics and rural communities.

BIOLOGY

**Dimensions of Biodiversity  NSF 13-536**

**Full Proposal Deadline:** May 6, 2013

**Anticipated Type of Award:** Standard Grant or Continuing Grant
Estimated Number of Awards: 10 Awards contingent on availability of funds
Anticipated Funding Amount: $18,000,000 to $24,000,000

The goal of the Dimensions of Biodiversity campaign is to transform, by 2020, how we describe and understand the scope and role of life on Earth. The campaign promotes novel, integrated approaches to identify and understand the evolutionary and ecological significance of biodiversity amidst the changing environment of the present day and in the geologic past. This campaign takes a broad view of biodiversity, and currently focuses on the integration of genetic, taxonomic/phylogenetic, and functional dimensions of biodiversity. Successful proposals should integrate these three dimensions to understand interactions and feedbacks among them.

Dimensions of Biodiversity FY2013 again includes a partnership with NASA. The partnership will support the use of satellite remote sensing as a tool to address research questions that integrate the genetic, taxonomic/phylogenetic, and functional dimensions of biodiversity.

EDUCATION

**EHR Core Research NSF 13-555**

Full Proposal Target Date(s): July 12, 2013
February 04, 2014
First Tuesday in February, Annually Thereafter

Anticipated Type of Award: Standard Grant or Continuing Grant

Estimated Number of Awards: 28
Anticipated Funding Amount: $20,000,000

The EHR Core Research (ECR) program establishes a mechanism in the Directorate for Education and Human Resources to provide funding in foundational research areas
that are broad, essential and enduring. EHR seeks proposals that will help synthesize, build and/or expand research foundations in the following core areas: STEM learning, STEM learning environments, workforce development, and broadening participation in STEM. We invite researchers to identify and conduct research on questions or issues in order to advance the improvement of STEM learning in general, or to address specific challenges of great importance. Two types of proposals are invited: Core Research Proposals (maximum 5 years, $1.5 million) that propose to study a foundational research question/issue designed to inform the transformation of STEM learning and education and Capacity Building Proposals (maximum 3 years, $300,000) intended to support groundwork necessary for advancing research within the four core areas.