National Space Grant College and Fellowship Program

Spring Meeting

March 3-5, 2016

Topics

- Questions Submitted to the Program Office

- Reporting Update

- Success Stories

Funding

Q: When will Consortia receive their Year-2 funding? Are you going to award those with anniversary dates sooner in that particular order? For instance, our anniversary date is April 10 and we are wondering if we can expect a year 2 award by then or not.

A: Funding is contingent upon the submission of a satisfactory annual progress report and approval from the cognizant technical officer. The review and procurement process will take approximately 30 to 60 days from the submission of the report. This timeframe can take longer if deficiencies or issues are identified in the report. Consortia will be notified electronically of funding approval or issues that must be resolved prior to receiving funds.

Augmentation

Q: When is the makeup date for the Augmentation Telecon?

A: Tentatively March 15-16.

Augmentation

Q: If some program elements between the Base proposal and the Augmentation proposal will have no change, can those elements be referred to briefly or do they need to be restated in whole?

A: They should be restated in whole.

Augmentation

Q: Given that funding is intended to augment the Base award, can the executive abstract summarize the Base project with the augmented elements integrated into the summary? Or should the abstract primarily summarize the Augmentation project with a brief reference to the Base?

A: The executive abstract should summarize the Base project with the augmented elements integrated into the summary.

6

Cost-Share

Q: May we count excess cost share from our Base budgets towards the Augmentation cost share?

A: Minimum cost-share requirements are listed in the base and augmentation solicitations. If a grantee proposed extra cost-share that exceeds the minimum requirement in the base award and wants to shift the excess cost-share to the augmentation budget, **submit budget revisions to the base award that reflect the reduced cost-share**. Also submit a cumulative budget of the base + augmentation that shows NASA funding and cost-share funds.

Cost-Share

Q: If a proposal includes more NIFS funding than the required minimum, can the required cost share be reduced (according to the formula in Item 1.5 on page)?

A: No. The required minimum is a fiscal scheduled requirement, the amount is not formula based (unless less than maximum is requested). Reference: Solicitation, p.4, section 1.5 Cost-Sharing Requirement.

Publications

Q: The new data submission requirements state that all NASA-funded peer reviewed publications be submitted to the NIH medical and biological publication data base. Can additional information be provided on this process?

A: We are waiting on information from the Office of General Council.

Good Question!

SMART Objectives

Q: In writing the Space Grant augmentation proposal, do we develop a new set of SMART objectives or amend the objectives from base proposal to include additional funding if we plan to augment some existing programs?

A:Please develop and add them as needed – new objectives and targets for new activities, increased targets for increased current activities. Ideally, these should stem from your Strategic Plans. If you have not reviewed and revised your Strategic Plans recently, you should consider doing so.

SMART Objectives

Q: Should the reported targets in the SMART table for the Base award include Year 1, or should it just be Years 2 and 3?

A: Provide a separate table for Years 2 and 3. The program office will send out a directive to that effect.

SMART Objectives

Q: Could you please provide an example row of acceptable entries for the SMART table (Appendix B, p. 20 of 20 in the RFP)? -- Appendix B: Sample Table of SMART Goals and Objectives.

A: One example: A **S.M.A.R.T. goal (or objective)** is defined as one that is specific, measurable, achievable, results-focused, and time-bound. The point is that you should use a planning process that flows from the Goal and Objectives in you Strategic Plan to arrive at appropriate targets for your projects.

APD Page Limit

Q: For future APD reports (FY16 and beyond) would it be possible to increase the recently established 8-page limit by a few pages? In order to maintain quality and respond adequately to all required categories, more space is needed.

A: Not for the near future. Many well-written APD's make it within the eight-page limit. Remember, these are succinct summaries – not a compendium of separate activities. We suggest that you develop your own report format documents and distribute them to your target audiences for better impact. We do not have reassurance that the on-line APD's are read by large numbers of the right people.

International Students

Q: Does NASA has any opportunities for international students other than the ones listed here: https://intern.nasa.gov/non-us-opportunities/index.html?

A: Not for Space Grant. Foreign-national students and faculty enrolled in accredited US institutions can be supported through EPSCoR. The majority of NASA's education programs require U. S. citizenship or enrollment in a U.S. college or university.

Consortia Staff Involvement

Q: Is there a reason why we are not asked to report staff involved in Space Grant and EPSCoR activities? Usually, we are only asked to track faculty, students, and educators.

A: This is good idea. We will consider adding a short section to the APD for such reporting.

Longitudinal Tracking

Q: Can we discuss longitudinal tracking? For example: 1) The history behind the metrics; 2) Why do we go back to 2006?; 3) How long do we track students? 4) Are these the only metrics we need? 5) How many "next" steps do we capture?

A: In 2005, the Office of Education adopted the formal requirement to longitudinally track all significant awardees. 2006 was the first year the longitudinal tracking form was rolled out the entire consortia. Students are tracked until making their "next-step." You only need to track a student through their first next-step.

Reporting

- FY2010-FY2015 Base Award No Cost Extension (NCE) Reporting
  - NCE Reporting will be collected under FY2014 screens
    - ○ Update Current Activities with new data
    - ○ Create a new Project Activity with new data if current activities are not applicable
    - Complete Project Cost tables to show full award amounts for FY2014
- FY2015-FY2018 Year-1 Reporting
  - Year-1 Funding will be collected under FY2015 screens
  - No new OEPM screens in FY2015; Same routine as previous years
- Community College/Technical School Reporting
  - Reporting will not take place until after Base Award Reporting is complete
  - Program Office will send out directives
- Report Often, do not wait until the last minute

NASA ID's, Security Training, OEPM Access

- Initial Request submitted by Program Office
- Enter your Information
- Approval Stages
- Provisioning
- **SECURITY TRAINING**
- Program Office request to access OEPM/OSSI
- Approval Stages
- Provisioning
- **ACCESS**

Success Stories

"The Scholar program allowed me to focus my time and energy on STEM activities in the Space Hardware Club student organization and Outreach events with BalloonSat and other activities. ASGC's support has been the critical influence that has enabled my participation and leadership in those activities. Thanks to ASGC, I am now working for the Department of Defense at the Naval Air Systems Command's Fleet Readiness Center Southeast as a civil servant aerospace engineer. I work on the F/A-18 subsystems team. We find engineering answers to the problems the depot maintenance team discovers."

(Markus Murdy - 2013 & 2014 Space Grant Scholar, 2013 NASA MSFC Intern, University of Alabama in Huntsville).

Success Stories

Ryan McCormick was funded as a NASA Nebraska Space Grant student fellow in 2010-2011 working on surgical robots under Dr. Shane Farritor, a Nebraska faculty member who was a Space Grant Fellow himself while attending graduate school at MIT. Under Dr. Farritor's mentorship, Ryan was able to further his research in the surgical robotics area when he was also funded for an internship experience at Lockheed Martin Space Systems in the summer of 2011. Ryan is now a full-time robotics mechanical engineer at JPL working on Mars 2020 and future Mars Sample Return concepts.

Success Stories

Two student researchers, Brian Patchett (physics major) and Natalie Sullivan (chemistry major), have been working on an acoustic levitation system for research on the biomechanical analysis of breast cancer cells. Brian's and Natalie's efforts resulted in significant improvements in the technology of acoustic levitation and gained significant media coverage after presentation at the 170th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America in Jacksonville, Florida (Nov. 2-6, 2015). This research also led to an international patent application with Brian and Natalie as co-inventors.

Questions

Back-up Slides

New Consortia Members

Ohio Space Grant Consortium Interim Director

Dr. Jed Marquart

Professor of Mechanical Engineering

Ohio Northern University