

June 3, 2009

ACADEMIC DEANS
CENTER DIRECTORS

Dear Deans and Directors:

The DoD has opened another round of the National Security Science and Engineering Faculty Fellowship Competition (NSSEFF). This was the competition that generated some controversy when announced last year, as it was unclear whether there would be issues surrounding the need for security clearance. Security clearance is no longer required.

Below and attached is a breakdown of the call. Please take note of the application process:

Purpose:

The NSSEFF program provides extensive, long-term financial support (5-years) to highly innovative university researchers to conduct unclassified, basic research on topics of interest to DoD. NSSEFF ensures that our nation has an active, long-term, well informed, and aggressive research and engineering portfolio that attracts creative and energetic scientists, engineers, and their students.

\$ Amount:

Each Fellow will receive up to \$4,250,000 in long-term financial support (up to \$850,000 per year for up to 5 consecutive years) to conduct basic research on topics of interest to the DoD. No cost sharing is required.

Eligibility:

Though, unlike last year, a security clearance is not required for the award the DoD is requiring that the PI be a permanent resident or citizen of the U.S. The NSSEFF award is not meant to be an early career award. It is expected that successful applicants will have a record of substantial scientific contributions. Applicants selected for NSSEFF awards are likely to have received awards or honors, or have a named position or a position of distinction, such as an elected fellow of a national professional society.

Application Process:

UCI is not limited in the number of proposals that can go forward, however a mandatory letter of intent to nominate must be submitted, over the Chancellor's signature, by June 23rd, 2009.

Therefore, interested applicants should forward to my office (by email to or@research.uci.edu):

The following information is required by June 10, 2009 in order for my office to prepare a Letter of Intent to Nominate due to DoD on June 23, 2009:

- PI's full name, title(s), faculty position (rank), department affiliation(s) and email address
- Research Topic (short sentence, preferably one line)
- DoD Technical Subject category that relates to the proposal (the categories are listed in Section 1 of the agency announcement. See link below.)

The following information is required by June 17, 2009 in order for my office to prepare individual University Nomination Cover letters, that are due to DoD on July 7, 2009 (with the whitepaper):

- Statement on the significance of the proposed research in relation to the frontiers of knowledge in the PI's field and the PI's overall record of academic and professional accomplishments that make the applicant an outstanding researcher and deserving of the award

The full Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) is available on the OR website at: <http://www.research.uci.edu/afosr.pdf>. The summary chart (as mentioned in the BAA) is available here: <http://www.research.uci.edu/summarychart.ppt>

Questions about the nomination process for this opportunity may be directed to my office by calling (949)824-5796 or email to OR@research.uci.edu .

Best regards,

Susan V. Bryant.
Vice Chancellor for Research