US National Science Foundation

AHRC-NSF Memorandum of Understanding

In September 2006, the Arts and Humanities Research Council of the UK and the Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences Directorate (SBE) of the US National Science Foundation signed a Memorandum of Understanding to facilitate the peer-review and joint-funding of UK-US collaborative research in areas at the intersection of the two agencies' missions. As the missions of the AHRC and SBE overlap but are not identical, interested parties should consult the websites of the two (http://www.nsf.gov/dir/index.jsp?org=SBE) for a sense of the themes of relevant programs. Appropriate domains may include scientific work in fields such as Political Science, Sociology of Religion, Linguistics, Cultural Anthropology, Archaeology and Geography as well as Science and Technology Studies and Ethics and Values in Science. In addition to standing core programs, the NSF's Human and Social Dynamics priority area is soliciting proposals that foster breakthroughs in understanding the dynamics of human action and development, as well as knowledge about organizational, cultural, and societal adaptation and change. This competition may also provide opportunities for collaborative funding by the AHRC and NSF.

Human and Social Dynamics

The final competition for funding under the 'Human and Social Dynamics' program is described in NSF solicitation 08-508 and the deadlines are as follows:

Full Proposal Deadline(s) (due by 5 p.m. proposer's local time):

- Full Proposal Deadline: February 19, 2008 Type 1 Full Research Proposals (\$750,000 limit)
- Full Proposal Deadline: February 22, 2008 Type 2 Full Research Proposals (\$1,250,000 limit)

Further details are available at

http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=nsf08508.

Guidance for UK partners applying to the program is available at http://www.ahrc.ac.uk/.

Following the recommendation in Sir Gareth Roberts' report on UK-US research links that Research Councils should reduce the element of double jeopardy when supporting collaboration, NSF peer review processes will be used to assess collaborative proposals under this scheme. AHRC will nominate one UK-based reviewer for each proposal whose input will be formally incorporated into the peer review process.

Should you have any questions, please contact <u>Pippa Craggs</u>, International Development Officer or Dr. <u>Rita Teutonico</u>, Science Advisor for Integrative Activities or others listed at the HSD website.