

FISCAL YEAR 2010 APPROPRIATIONS REQUESTS

GENERAL QUESTIONNAIRE -- REP. Michael Burgess (TX-26)

Must be completed and submitted NO LATER than COB February 27, 2009

Please submit completed questionnaire to matt.johnson@mail.house.gov

PLEASE NOTE: ALL REQUESTS MUST INCLUDE A FORMAL LETTER OF REQUEST ON OFFICIAL LETTERHEAD EXPLAINING THE PROJECT. THIS QUESTIONNAIRE SHOULD ACCOMPANY, NOT REPLACE, A FORMAL LETTER OF REQUEST AND ANY OTHER QUESTIONNAIRE

I. PROJECT BACKGROUND & PURPOSE

1. Please provide a formal name for this project:
Center for Advanced Scientific Computing and Modeling (CASCaM)

2. Please describe the project and its purpose:

CASCaM is a multidisciplinary center for advanced scientific computing and modeling created at the University of North Texas. Such approaches come at reduced costs (e.g., chemicals, time), and increased safety (e.g., reduce handling of toxic chemicals, radioactive materials) versus traditional laboratory methods. Modeling and simulation allows one to observe the response of materials under extreme operating conditions, e.g., high temperature and pressures.

3. Please outline the project plan, including the finance plan: Working closely with the Department of Energy, CASCaM is conducting scientific investigation and research in the area of bio-inspired carbon sequestration (one of the most promising means for reducing the buildup of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere).

FY 2010

Personnel	\$1,190,000
Computer hardware and software	\$1,170,000
<u>Operation and Maintenance</u>	\$140,000
TOTAL	\$2,500,000

II. BENEFIT TO THE 26th DISTRICT AND/OR THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

1. Please explain how this project will improve life, the economy or the general welfare of the 26th District and/or the country at-large. Please be specific (i.e. outline number of jobs created, savings to economy or taxpayers, improve national security):

CASCaM has recently developed multiple approaches to accurately and efficiently calculate the energy content of chemicals, which is critical to solving a vast array of problems ranging from carbon sequestration to catalyst development for the more economical use of natural gas. FY08 funding from the Department of Energy has supported these developments, with a focus upon bio-inspired carbon sequestration (one of the most promising means for reducing the buildup of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere). CASCaM's expertise can model new transportation fuels, strategies for catalytic detection and destruction of chemical warfare agents; next-generation materials for fuel

cells and the hydrogen economy; development of improved aerospace materials; modeling of catalysts for production of value-added biomass-derived products; atmospheric modeling to understand the fate of environmental pollutants; development of improved materials for nuclear plants; and, modeling of organic polymers in areas including photoconductivity (converting sunlight to electricity) and electronics (optical computers, batteries and display devices).

2. Please explain why this project should be considered a priority:

CASCaM is a cutting edge research organization with expertise to help solve some of our country's critical needs today. It can save the U.S. taxpayer significant amounts of money because experiments are performed on computers (so the expensive 'trial and error' phase of many experiments can be simulated computationally, i.e., you do not have to detonate an explosive to determine the yield and sensitivity of the munitions), and can aid in reducing the critical time to bring new innovations and developments to market. In addition, CASCaM is designed to allow researchers from all over the country utilize the Center's capabilities in the fields of medicine, energy, national defense, and the environment.

III. REQUEST

1. Amount of money you are requesting: \$2.5 Million

2. Agency from which you are requesting funds: U.S. Department of Energy

3. Account from which you are requesting funds: Sciences, Biological and Environmental Research

IV. FUNDING HISTORY

1. What is the total project cost and can you provide a federal-state/local-other funding breakdown?

Total Project Cost: Dependent upon needs of the Department of Energy.

2. Has the project ever received federal funds before? If so, please elaborate.

FY 2005: U.S. Department of Education \$248,000; FY 2008: U.S. Department of Energy \$717,000

3. Has the project received state, local or private funds before? If so, please elaborate.

No

4. Can you demonstrate a commitment for future funds from state, local, or private sectors? If so, please elaborate to the extent possible.

N/A

5. How do you intend to spend federal funds for this project (operating, construction, studies, equipment purchase, salaries, other)?

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TOTAL	\$2,500,000

6. Does the project request stem from a currently-funded federal program (i.e., an already existing congressional authorization)? If so, please explain and be as specific as possible.

The Sciences, Biological and Environmental Research Account in the DOE budget is funded by an annual appropriation.

V. PROJECT HISTORY

1. Please briefly explain the level of support for the project in the local and any other community (if letters of support exist, please attach to this form).

N/A

2. Has the project encountered any objections within the local or other interested communities? If so, please describe (if letters or official records exist noting objections to the project, please attach to this form).

No

3. Please briefly explain the current stage and expected timeline of the project in a great a detail as possible.

These are dependent upon the needs of the Department of Energy. Ongoing collaborative projects include:

VI. CONTACTS

1. Who is the primary point of contact for the request?

Dr. Vish Prasad, Vice President for Research, University of North Texas

2. Contact information (telephone and e-mail):

3. Mailing address of entity that would receive the funding?

Hurley Administration Building 175
P.O. Box 310979
Denton, TX 76203-0979

VII. TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS

1. How much of this request can be spent in fiscal year 2009?

2. If this is a highway, transit, rail, or aviation request, did you check eligibility with the state DOT, FTA, FRA, or FAA?

2a. If yes, did the agency indicate the project is eligible under the account requested?

3. If this is an FHWA request, is the project considered by the state and/or regional transportation officials as critical to their needs?

4. If a highway request, is the project on the state's transportation improvement plan?

PRIORITY PROJECT REQUEST CRITERIA

CERTIFICATION:

I, Dr. Gretchen Bataille, ATTEST THAT THIS PROJECT REQUEST MADE ON BEHALF OF
The University of North Texas, MEETS THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

1. All appropriations requests must be a priority for the 26th District and/or the country-at large as defined as enhancing life, liberty, or the general welfare.
2. All requests must be a proper and wise use of federal taxpayer dollars and must be justified as such. Projects that include a commitment to match federal funds will receive priority consideration.
3. All requests will be immediately posted on the website and supporting documentation made available to press outlets and interested individuals.

4. None of the funding requested will be used for a building, program, or project that has been named for Congressman Michael C. Burgess, M.D. No request will be made that Congressman Burgess or his spouse has any financial interest.

5. All requests shall be made in accordance with House of Representatives rules, and within Appropriations Committee deadlines. No funding request will be submitted after the deadline established by the Committee

Name of person certifying Dr. Gretchen Bataille

Title of person certifying President, University of North Texas

Project name as it will appear in the bill Center for Advanced Scientific Computing and Modeling

Legal name of entity making request University of North Texas

Address _____

University of North Texas
Hurley Administration Building 175
Denton, TX 76203-0979

Gretchen D. Bataille 3-4-09
Signature Date