LANL Town Hall
Office of Science Early Career Research Grant Solicitation
"Encouraged" PIs – 09/30/10

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Info, including these slides at
http://science.lanl.gov/
When in doubt, read the call:
http://sc.doe.gov/SC-2/early_career.htm
http://www.sc.doe.gov/grants/pdf/LAB_10-395.pdf

DEADLINES – These are mandatory, no exceptions!

Confirmation of intent to submit a full proposal, 10/4 to me (at this pont we will assign you a proposal number, etc.)
-Chris Trujillo (chrispt@lanl.gov) is SPO-SC budget contact; your group CFO person has to work with Chris to do budget pages for you

Draft proposals that are good enough for DIR review due 8:00 am, 11/1 to me. (this allows me to work the DIR letters)
-Standards for DIR letter: alignment with LANL Office of Science portfolio and LANL quality standards
-we're here to help; the more time you give us, the better feedback you'll get
-we will red team review drafts we receive by 10/20 and get you feedback

Final proposals (completely finished; as a single pdf file) are due 8:00 am, 11/8 to me. (this allows us to work the details of submission)
-One file, fully compliant with the call; ask now, not 7:59 am on 11/8
-You need an FWP document as well as your technical document

Proposals are due 11/9 to SC through the program office.
-Only Chris has the authority to submit proposals to the relevant system
-We will append DIR letter to your file

This is really competitive: We won 5 of 69, of which 22 were Lab, of ~1750 last year
"Hot topics" seemed to be picked preferentially, as well as known priorities

-ask your local SC PM for advice

http://www.lanl.gov/orgs/os/managers.shtml

$10M available for Labs in FY11 (→ ~20 slots possible)

-very little down-selection occurred at pre-proposal stage

SC info, including a great FAQ site , at

http://www.science.doe.gov/SC-2/early_career.htm

-PLEASE ask locally first

Key Requirements

-Ph.D. 2000 or later

-single investigator scope (~0.75 FTE): "> 0.65, ≤ 1.00 FTE"

-minimum lab budget $500k/yr (and maximum budget $500k/yr)

??? Competition is by SC AD (i.e., BES doesn't compete with BER for slots; this is already done; and anecdotal info suggests ~ 2-3/ AD)

-each SC AD has specific guidance on what they want (and do not want) to fund

Each formal proposal must be accompanied by a letter from the national laboratory director to the technical point of contact confirming that the proposed research idea fits within the scope of Office-of-Science-funded programs at the national laboratory.

Who are you?

ASCR	**7**
BER	**7**
BES	**22**
FES	**2**
HEP	**3**
NP	**2**

Eleven of you submitted last year

ASCR	Applied Mathematics
ASCR	Applied Mathematics
ASCR	Computational Science
ASCR	Computer Science
ASCR	Applied Mathematics
ASCR	Computer Science
ASCR	Network Environment Research
BER	Earth System Modeling
BER	Microbial and Plant Processes for Bioenergy
BER	Microbial and Plant Processes for Bioenergy
BER	Microbial and Plant Processes for Bioenergy
BER	Microbial and Plant Processes for Bioenergy
BER	Microbial and Plant Processes for Bioenergy
BER	Microbial Environmental Processes
BES	Physical Behavior of Materials
BES	Physical Behavior of Materials
BES	Synthesis and Processing Science
BES	Materials Chemistry
BES	Catalysis Science
BES	Geosciences Research
BES	Heavy Element Chemistry
BES	Mechanical Behavior and Radiation Effects
BES	Mechanical Behavior and Radiation Effects
BES	Biomolecular Materials
BES	Scientific User Facilities-Related Research
BES	Experimental Condensed Matter Physics
BES	Heavy Element Chemistry
BES	Materials Chemistry
BES	Experimental Condensed Matter Physics
BES	Physical Biosciences
BES	Catalysis Science
BES	Catalysis Science
BES	Mechanical Behavior and Radiation Effects
BES	Neutron Scattering
BES	Computation and Theoretical Chemistry
BES	Mechanical Behavior and Radiation Effects
FES	Plasma Theory and Modeling
FES	Low-Temperature and High-Energy-Density Plasma Science
HEP	Experimental High Energy Physics
HEP	Theoretical High Energy Physics
HEP	Experimental High Energy Physics
NP	Nuclear Theory
NP	Nuclear Theory

Proposal thoughts/suggestions/advice

http://www.sc.doe.gov/grants/pdf/LAB_10-395.pdf

- Field Work Proposal (FWP) Format (Reference DOE Order 412.1A)
- Proposal Cover Page
- Budget (DOE Form 4620.1) and Budget Explanation
- Project Summary/Abstract (no more than one page)
- Project Narrative (**No more than 15 pages long**)
- Appendix 1: Biographical Sketch
- Appendix 2: Current and Pending Support
- Appendix 3: Bibliography and References Cited
- Appendix 4: Facilities and Other Resources
- Appendix 5: Equipment
- Appendix 6: Other Attachment (optional)

There is a "three strikes" rule:

An individual PI can submit to this call only three times in their period of eligibility (first 10 years since Ph.D.)

Submitting a preproposal does NOT count as a strike; submitting a full proposal does

There will be tons of proposals:

Follow the call guidance closely, including format, topical area, bureaucratic details, etc.

Review Criteria (directly from http://www.sc.doe.gov/grants/pdf/LAB_10-395.pdf)

Proposals will be subjected to scientific merit review (peer review) and will be evaluated against the following evaluation criteria which are listed in descending order of importance:

1. Scientific and/or technical merit of the project.
2. Appropriateness of the proposed method or approach.
3. Competency of the personnel and adequacy of proposed resources.
4. Reasonableness and appropriateness of the proposed budget.

The following announcement-specific evaluation criteria will also be used during the scientific merit review (peer review):

5. Relevance to the mission of the specific program (e.g., ASCR, BER, BES, FES, HEP, or NP) to which the proposal is submitted.
6. Potential for leadership within the scientific community.

Elements of a good proposal (my personal opinion)

A well framed problem, consistent with SC mission (as defined e.g., in workshop reports)

A testable hypothesis (don't just admire the problem)

A plan to answer the question consistent with 5 years of single investigator effort

An answer to 'why you' to execute this plan, consistent with personal history

A cv consistent with SC's highest standards

LANL SC Program Managers

John Sarrao (ASCR, BER, BES)

Don Rej (FES, HEP, NP)

Advanced Scientific Computing

Applied Mathematics: Pieter Swart, T-5

Computer Science: Pat McCormick, CCS-1

Scientific Discovery through Advanced Computation: Beth Wingate, CCS-2

Basic Energy Sciences

Materials Sciences & Engineering: John Sarrao, SPO-SC

User Facilities: Alan Hurd, Lujan Center

David Morris, MPA-CINT

Chemical Science, Geosciences, & Biosciences: David Thorn, ADCLES

Biological & Environmental Research

Biological Systems Science: Gary Resnick, B-8

Joint Genome Institute: John C. Detter, B-6

Climate and Environmental Sciences: James Bossert, EES-DO

Climate Science (Observation): Manvendra Dubey, EES-14

Climate Science (Modeling): Phil Jones, T-3

Fusion Energy

Research: Glen Wurden, P-24

ITER & International: Scott Willms, C-CSE

High Energy Physics

Rajan Gupta, T-8

Advanced Technology R&D: Bruce Carlsten, ISR-6

Nuclear Physics

Scott Wilburn, P-25

Isotope Production and Applications: Kevin John, SPO-SC

Questions?

Thanks for your interest in LANL Office of Science Programs