Request for Proposals: Spring 2009

Deadline: April 15th, 2009

The **Center on Global Change** (CGC) is soliciting proposals from Duke faculty to establish innovative collaborations in all aspects of global change science, policy, and education. Proposals can include working groups, workshops, symposia, or other activities. Priority will be given to activities with a clear description of scientific advancement and plans for submission of large-scale proposals to agencies or foundations. Proposals to CGC are due **April 15th, 2009,** with projects to begin during the FY09/10 fiscal year.

The CGC's strategic priority is climate change and energy research. It currently administers the Department of Energy's National Institute for Climatic Change Research (http://www.niccr.duke.edu) for the southeastern U.S. and co-directs the Climate Change Policy Partnership with the Nicholas Institute. Last year (the 2008/09 fiscal year), projects examining water resources, particularly the intersection of water and climate change, were specifically requested. Some examples of this priority were:

1) the effects of climate change on water resources today and in the future,
2) interactions of changing water resources on human health, including the abundance of toxins and the prevalence of disease, and
3) environmental policies and their consequences for water quantity and quality (e.g., biofuels, afforestation, etc.) .

This year, the CGC will continue to accept water-related proposals but will fund proposals in all areas of global change science. The collaborations that form these proposals may be wholly within the Duke community or may involve faculty and scientists from other institutions. Examples of previously funded projects can be found at http://www.nicholas.duke.edu/cgc/groups.html.

Proposed projects should be in the $10,000-$50,000 range. The CGC anticipates funding two to three projects this year.

Working groups

A working group is an interdisciplinary collaboration of faculty that may include postdoctoral associates, graduate students, and/or undergraduates. Working groups convene at the Center to develop new science initiatives that involve synthesis of existing knowledge, to develop and implement novel research programs, and to organize proposals that will ensure continuing support. *Working groups will be expected to focus on new research activities that would be difficult to develop initially under traditional funding mechanisms (e.g., federal agencies) but that are likely to lead to successful proposals after the working group's activities.* Working groups are expected to submit one or more grant proposals to outside funding organizations administered through the Center. The Center will provide administrative, financial, and technical

support to the proposal preparation and submission process, and well as administrative, logistics, and financial management support once an award is made.

Working groups typically last between one and two semesters, although longer projects are also possible. Most working groups have between three to six faculty members who represent several disciplines.

Other interdisciplinary activities

The Center will entertain proposals for workshops, symposia, and other novel activities that focus on global change science and policy. Such activities might involve the Center staff for coordination, logistics, and funding. Activities might span several days or involve several intensive efforts over a period of a year. Funds may include participation by visiting scholars. These activities need to describe how research and synthesis will be undertaken and what follow-up proposals will be submitted to agencies or foundations.

Graduate training

Working groups may choose to develop graduate courses that can be taken for credit. These courses should be flexible in format and engage graduate students from several departments. Courses should complement working group goals while broadening the opportunities for multidisciplinary training.

The proposal

Proposals should be approximately 3-5 pages in length (not including resumes/CVs) and include the sections outlined below.

A. Statement of need
B. Objectives
C. Timeline
D. Anticipated outcomes, including publications and grant proposals
E. Other activities, including courses, meetings, outreach, partnerships
F. Membership, including organizer, other faculty, postdocs, graduate students
G. References
H. Budget
I. Resumes or CVs of investigators

Proposal review

Proposals will be peer reviewed by an *ad hoc* panel composed of faculty and administrators who are not in the pool of applicants.

Proposals will be evaluated against the following criteria:

- Alignment with the Center's global change mission
- Contribution to interdisciplinarity at Duke
- Contribution to graduate education
- Potential for generating successful proposals to external sources of funding

- Potential for generating notable publications
- Potential for long-term sustained collaboration

Submission

Please send electronic versions (pdf format preferred) to Karen Johnson at: koj2@duke.edu by April 15.

Contacts

Prior to proposal submission, principal investigators may contact Rob Jackson (CGC Faculty Director) or Karen Johnson (CGC Administrative Coordinator) for feedback on potential proposals:

Rob Jackson: jackson@duke.edu or 660-7408
Karen Johnson: koj2@duke.edu or 681-7181