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Subject: W.M. Keck Foundation - Call for Concept Papers - LIMITED SUBMISSION
Date: Wednesday, May 27, 2009 9:37:25 AM

Call for Concept Papers for the W.M. Keck Foundation

This is a call for concept papers that address research projects in the fields of Science and Engineering or Medical Research that will form the basis for a proposal to the W.M. Keck Foundation. **Deadline for receipt of concept papers to the Office of the Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies is June 30, 2009.**

The W.M. Keck Foundation supports outstanding research that will have a significant impact on solving complex issues and problems. The Foundation encourages projects that are of high risk but that also have the potential for transformative impact. High risk projects may expand the boundaries of the field, present unconventional approaches to intransient problems, or challenge a prevailing paradigm. Transformative impact includes projects that create an entirely new field of research, development of new instrumentation which enables observations that were not previously possible, or the discovery of new knowledge that challenges prevailing perspectives.

Program Areas

The Science and Engineering Program supports university research at the forefront of numerous fields and across disciplinary lines, facilitating exploration

of new technologies as well as the use of technology to address new questions. Past grants have supported specific research programs, interdisciplinary projects, prototype experiments and the development of vital scientific instruments. Grants range for $500,000 to $1,500,000.

The Medical Research Program seeks to advance the frontiers of medicine through support of pioneering biological research, the development of promising new technologies and the purchase of advanced instruments. Research projects should focus on basic research and be non-clinical in nature. Grants range from $500,000 to $2,000,000.

Use of Funds

Funds requested can be used for equipment purchase, research supplies, support for graduate students to work on a specified research project. Very limited funds can be used for faculty oversight of a research project. No more than 10% of a funding request can be allocated to building renovations necessary for new equipment or a research project.

The Office of the Vice President for Research and the Office of Corporate and Foundation Relations will jointly review concept papers. If your concept paper is selected, the deadline to submit a Phase I proposal to the W.M. Keck Foundation will be November 1.

Programmatic and Budget Criteria

- Significant programs and projects that focus on an merging areas of research at the forefront of science, engineering, and medicine, or which have the potential to lead to breakthrough technologies in these areas

- Projects and projects which demonstrate that the chances of success would be seriously impaired without the assistance of the W.M. Keck Foundation

- Projects or programs that will leverage federal or other private sources of funds in addition to institutional support. The Keck Foundation does not typically fund more than 50% of the costs of an overall project, and does not pay F & A costs.

- Projects and projects that will rely initially on W.M. Keck Foundation funding, but that have alternative sources of funding in the future

Concept papers are limited to one page in 12 point font with 1" margins. Do not include illustrations. Please address the following:

(1) An abstract of the proposed research, emphasizing high risk and transformational aspects of the project

(2) Background information that puts the proposed research into context and/ or describes the University of Oregon's prominence in this particular field of research

(3) A brief description of any pilot studies or data, including unpublished findings, that support the core idea

(4) Brief description of key personnel

(5) Justification of the need for W.M. Keck Foundation support

(6) Estimated budget, including major areas of expenditure, such as personnel, equipment, supplies.

Questions about these concept papers can be directed to Moira Kiltie, Assistant Vice President, Research, at 346-3188 or kiltie@uoregon.edu.

Questions about Keck Foundation priorities, past grants, and the process for applying for Keck funding can be directed to Paul Elstone, Senior Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations, at 346-2166 or pelstone@uoregon.edu.

For more information about the W.M. Keck Foundation and a list of past grant recipients, please review their website: www.wmkeck.org

Please forward this call for concept papers to any of your faculty members or colleagues who may be interested.