Funding Opportunity: Partnerships for Innovation in Sustainable Energy Technologies (PISET)

This program seeds new interdisciplinary research programs in sustainable energy science, technology, and policy with funding for a University of Michigan Sustainable Energy Research Fellowship. Successful proposals will combine innovative research plans with concrete timelines for establishing independent funding.

Program Structure

- Applications are welcomed for new grants from teams of two or more University of Michigan PIs in sustainable energy technologies.
- Interdisciplinary post-doctoral fellow must be necessary to pursue the new research direction.
- A joint mentorship plan must be provided with the proposal.
- Teams may include private partners, but funds will be dispersed only to Michigan faculty.
- Funds must be used to appoint Energy Institute Research Fellows.
- The Energy Institute will advertise the position through appropriate vehicles.
- Postdoctoral candidates will be vetted by the PIs and the Energy Institute

Cost Structure

The Energy Institute will provide $40K towards each fellow appointment. The PIs will equally supplement this funding to provide a salary of at least $40K and corresponding benefits package. Instrumentation and infrastructure must be substantially in place for the project as these costs are not allowable under the project although this is a valid cost sharing mechanism for new proposals. PI contributions must come from discretionary funds or other suitable sources.

Proposal Evaluation Criteria:

- Scientific or engineering excellence, relevance to energy sustainability and anticipated impact
- Infrastructure and research support available from PIs
- Description of a new research direction distinct from ongoing research programs
- Potential for external funding based on results to be developed with Energy Institute funds
- Interdisciplinary nature of the team and appropriateness of the funding mechanism (resumes of potential postdoctoral candidates may be included in the submission).

Projects must be identified with respect to their relationship to current Energy Institute themes and primary projects:
- Carbon-free electric power generation
- Energy storage and efficiency
- Transportation systems and fuels
- Energy policy, economics and societal impact

Seed projects outside the existing Energy Institute initiatives will be considered. The decision to add a new seed area to the Energy Institute initiative will be an explicit part of the review in this case. Energy Institute will conduct reviews of proposals in consultation with ad hoc reviewers as needed from within the U-M.

Proposal Deadlines

The next round of proposals for funding are due September 16th, 2013. PIs can participate in a maximum of one submission each cycle and may have one funded program at a given time.

See Reverse for additional information

energy.umich.edu
Proposal Structure

• Introduction to the problem: 1 page
• Proposed technical approach: 2 pages
• Description of how this will exceed the state of the art: 1 page
• Strategy for attracting external funding: 1 page
• PI profiles and mentorship plan: 1-2 pages

Milestones

Nine months after the postdoctoral fellow’s appointment date, PIs and the fellow will present their project progress and detailed discussion of the project’s past proposals and future submissions.

New grant activity is expected of this program and projects not on this trajectory will be placed on a ramp-down period of nine months maximum at a reduced funding level.

Proposals using results generated on this multi-investigator, interdisciplinary project can be submitted through and administered by the Energy Institute.

Second-year renewal will require a two-page proposal describing how the second year will help to accomplish the program goals.

Examples of Previously Funded Projects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of Proposal</th>
<th>Departments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Experiment &amp; Theory of Li2Mn2O4 Battery Cathodes</td>
<td>Chemistry Materials Science &amp; Engineering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyber-Discovery of High Performance CO₂ Adsorbents</td>
<td>Mechanical Engineering Computer Science &amp; Engineering Chemistry</td>
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<td>Metabolic Engineering of Yeast for Biofuel Production</td>
<td>Medicinal Chemistry/Life Sciences Institute Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology</td>
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<td>Integrated Enzyme and Pathway Engineering and Hydrocarbon Biofuels</td>
<td>Chemical Engineering/Biomedical Engineering Chemistry/Biological Chemistry</td>
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<td>Consumer Uptake of Seamless Multi-Modal Mobility: Energy and Sustainability Implications</td>
<td>UMTRI UMTRI Psychology/Statistics/Marketing</td>
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<td>Chromium Coordination Complexes for Non-Aqueous Redox Flow Batteries</td>
<td>Chemical Engineering/Mechanical Engineering Chemistry Chemical Engineering</td>
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<tr>
<td>Incorporating Future Energy Technology Choices into Climate Forcing Models</td>
<td>Civil and Environmental Engineering Atmospheric, Oceanic and Space Sciences</td>
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Contact

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energy.umich.edu