NC WRRI
RFP Info Session

For follow-up and additional questions
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Faculty Pre-Proposals Due **May 26, 2020**
Student Full Proposals Due **July 13, 2020**
How to get more info

• WRRI website
  • wrri.ncsu.edu
  • Hover over “Research” in top horizontal menu and select “Funding” from drop down menu
  • Or click on “Research” in top horizontal menu and scroll down and click on “Funding” link

• Listservs
  • WRRI News – open to anyone interested in water resources info, including research opportunities (medium traffic, cyclical)
  • NC Sponsored Research – for administrative staff in university offices of contracts/grants, or departmental admin staff, those who help distribute funding announcements (low traffic)
  • Water Research – for faculty interested in funding announcements (low traffic)
  • Email Anna Martin (aearnol2@ncsu.edu) or Lee Cannon (lacannon@ncsu.edu) to sign up for listservs
Who We Are

• Based at NC State University, serving UNC System and all public & private universities in NC

• One of 54 national institutes based at land-grant institutions

• Established by the WRRA in 1965, federally funded by US Geological Survey with NCSU providing state match

• Institutes have a common mission to:
  • Plan, conduct or otherwise arrange for competent applied and peer-reviewed research; and
  • Cooperate with other colleges and universities in the state to develop a statewide program designed to resolve state and regional water and related land problems.
Our Research

• Research priorities informed by, but not limited to:
  • State and federal resource management agencies
  • WRRI Advisory Committee
  • NC-based academic institutions
  • Local governments
  • Community leaders
  • Industry partners
  • Non-governmental entities

• Multi/Interdisciplinary

• Do not fund projects focused on ocean only, monitoring only, or health effects involving human subjects
What’s Important in a Proposal

• Show the applied nature of the research
• Show the significance to North Carolina
• Clear hypotheses and research objectives (beyond just tool or method development, descriptive work/problem characterization)
• Student engagement and support
• Undergraduate engagement on grad student proposals
• Engagement of end-users
• Thoughtful approaches to dissemination of research results (final reports required for all WRRI funded projects)
• Letters of Support
Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

• Sought and Achieved Through:
  • Individual applicants (i.e. the PI)
  • Institutional representation
  • Partnerships
  • Students engaged in the project
  • Communities served by the research
  • Communities engaged in the research
  • Culturally appropriate methods of information dissemination
  • Environmental justice considerations of the research topic
Important Notes about Timelines & Budgets

- 2-year projects funded on an annual basis (consider when planning objectives and budget)
- Year 1 and Year 2 budgets, objectives and milestones should be distinct
- All funds are contingent on federal appropriation of funds
- Year 2 funds are contingent on satisfactory performance of Year 1
- No cost extensions are increasingly difficult to justify unless there are extreme circumstances
Important Notes about Student Projects

• Eligibility considerations for incoming students
• Must be written by the student
• Should not be a back up, duplicate, supplement or pared down version of a faculty submission
• Faculty mentors
• Letters of support from sponsoring faculty member (vs additional letters of support)
Our Review Process

• Faculty Pre-Proposals
  • Reviewed by advisory committee and other in-state subject experts
  • Approximately 50-75% invited to submit full proposal
  • Full proposals reviewed by experts in national/international peer-review process
  • Top tier proposals based on peer review (approximately half) reviewed by Technical Advisory Panel and discussed at day-long TAP meeting
  • TAP meeting results help inform final funding decisions

• Student Proposals
  • Reviewed by advisory committee, other subject experts, and technical advisory panel
  • TAP convenes for day-long meeting to discuss proposals and reviews
  • TAP meeting results help inform final funding decisions
How to Apply

• New online application system – quick online view.
Questions from participants?

• Email Follow Up
  • Nicole Wilkinson McIntosh
    nicole_wilkinson@ncsu.edu
  • John Fear
    jmfear@ncsu.edu

• Note: Due to decreased on campus operations in response to the coronavirus pandemic, all WRRI team members are teleworking. Therefore:
  • Email is the best way to reach us.
  • Please copy another team member on your email in addition to your primary contact to ensure a speedier response.
  • Phone calls and voicemails are not likely to be returned in a timely manner since we are not in the office.