

Luxembourg, 26 August, 2009

Joint FNR/NSF Call “International Collaboration in Chemistry between US Investigators and their Counterparts Abroad (ICC)” 2010

The National Research Fund (FNR) Luxembourg is pleased to launch **the first joint call for project proposals** in the ‘International Collaboration in Chemistry’ between US Investigators and their Counterparts Abroad (ICC) with the U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF).

The NSF and the FNR, which are counterpart national funding organizations in the U.S. and Luxembourg respectively, seek to enhance opportunities for collaborative activities in chemistry between U.S. and Luxembourg investigators. The NSF and the FNR will accept new collaborative research proposals between chemists from the U.S. and Luxembourg who work in academic/public research institutions. The NSF and the FNR will utilize a common set of reviewers and make joint funding decisions.

Call information by the NSF can be found on:

http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?WT.z_pims_id=13627&ods_key=nsf09608.

Call information by the FNR can be found on:

<http://www.fnr.lu/en/Grants-Activities/Research-Programmes/INTER-Programme>

Application, review and funding procedures:

General remarks

- This call is only suitable for projects with a high degree of interaction between the Luxembourg and U.S. investigators: close bilateral cooperation and extensive exchange of scientific personnel are a must.
- The NSF will support the U.S. portion of the collaboration and the FNR will support the costs associated with Luxembourg participation.
- Duration of the projects should be three years. The FNR has earmarked a budget of € 900,000 for this call. Funds for the Luxembourg researchers will be allocated according to the FNR funding guidelines.
- Proposals to this cooperative activity will be submitted via FastLane to the NSF. No special application forms for the scientific parts of the proposals should be submitted to the FNR directly.
- The budget information for the Luxembourg part have to be submitted to FNR in a separate document. The Luxembourg PI should inform the FNR by email (christiane.kaell@fnr.lu) as soon as a collaborative proposal has been submitted to the NSF.
- The NSF part of the proposal is to be prepared in accordance with standard NSF proposal preparation and submission guidelines.
- The FNR has unrestricted access to the electronic documents. An additional electronic copy of the proposal is not needed to be sent to the FNR.
- **Additional information for the Luxembourg applicant’s part of the full proposal:** Note that the only document which must be sent to the FNR by January 29, 2010 concerns the budget details for the Luxembourg research teams according to the FNR guidelines. The budget documents requires the budget Excel spreadsheet. Please add in a separate Word file (if needed) the details for the budget requests.

Application: Please be aware that a parallel call in the "Materials World Network" is launched with similar deadlines. Potential applicants are advised to choose between submitting a proposal to the present ICC solicitation to the Materials World Network program of the Division of Material Research (DMR) of the NSF. Contact the corresponding persons at NSF and FNR in case of questions. The proposals must be written in English.

A *mandatory preliminary proposal* is required, to be transmitted via FastLane to NSF; the deadline is *November 03, 2009 by 5:00 pm of the U.S. proposer's local time*. Investigators should submit this preliminary proposal summarizing the proposed research and collaboration.

The *full proposals* must be submitted via FastLane in accordance with the NSF Grant Proposal Guide (GPG) as a single proposal from the U.S. academic institution. Proposals are accepted by the NSF Division of Chemistry *until January 29, 2010, by 5:00 pm of the U.S. proposer's local time*.

Review: Reviewers will be jointly nominated by the NSF and the FNR. They will assess both the U.S. and the Luxembourg parts of the proposal, each according to the usual national review criteria. In addition, the value added by the proposed international cooperation will be assessed. Preference will be given to proposals where the efforts on the U.S. and Luxembourg sides are balanced and complementary.

The proposals will be reviewed for their scientific excellence, their technical merit and educational impact and for the synergy and value added of the proposed collaboration.

Representatives from the NSF's Division of Chemistry in the Directorate for Mathematical and Physical Sciences, and the Office of International Science and Engineering will manage the review of proposals on the U.S. side. The reviews of the Luxembourg proposals will be managed by the FNR programme manager.

Funding: The NSF and the FNR will make joint and consistent funding decisions and coordinate support for successful proposals. A unilateral funding of a proposal is not possible. After joint consideration of the proposals, the NSF and the FNR will, whenever possible, tell the proposers whether their proposals have been declined or recommended for funding within six months of the submission date.

The funding or declination recommendation are planned to be made available by mid July 2010.

Further information:

Information for the Luxembourg partner may be obtained from the National Research Fund Luxembourg (FNR), Mrs Christiane Kaell, Program Manager; Phone: 00352-261925-34, christiane.kaell@fnr.lu

Information for the U.S. partner may be obtained from the National Science Foundation (NSF), by Dr. Zeev Rosenzweig, Program Director, Division of Chemistry; Phone (703) 292-4956, zrosenzw@nsf.gov