December 08, 2016

Dear Academic Deans,

Please consider whether there might be a nominee from your unit who fits well with the eligibility and selection criteria listed below for this program. As the turnaround time for this is now very tight, Dr. Galbraith will consider nominations on a first come, first served basis. The University may put forward at most two nominations for this program. If your nominee is selected to move forward you will be asked to draft a letter explaining how your nominee fits well with the program criteria. Send your nominations to Hilda.Alajajian@uvm.edu and Dr. Galbraith will let you know as soon as possible if your nominee may move forward, at which time you will be asked to draft the letter of recommendation.

The Institute for Defense Analyses (IDA), a not-for-profit corporation which operates three Federally Funded Research and Development Centers (FFRDCs) in the public interest, is soliciting nominations for the Defense Science Study Group (DSSG) program, a limited competition (see the description at http://dssg.ida.org/) with a deadline date of December 31, 2016.

This long standing program is sponsored by the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) and managed by IDA’s Science and Technology Division (https://www.ida.org/SAC/SACResearchDivisions/STD.aspx). It’s designed to "introduce outstanding science and engineering professors to the United States security challenges and encourages them to apply their talents to these issues". All expenses are reimbursed through IDA; no funding or stipend is received. For information about IDA and the research they conduct see their website at https://www.ida.org/

Eligibility criteria:
• Faculty member in science, engineering or related discipline (the DSSG has enjoyed broad disciplinary representation over the years ranging from medicine to math)
• Outstanding academic accomplishments and a likely future leader in their field
• Preferably within 15 years of their PhD
• Must be a U.S. citizen (to acquire a security clearance)

Selection criteria:
• Academic excellence
• Breadth of interest
• References
• Consideration of discipline
• Geographic distribution
Sincerely,

Hilda Alajajian
Grant Resources Specialist, SPA
802-656-1322

Richard Galbraith
Vice President for Research