May 27, 2016

Dear Deans, Department Chairs and Program Directors,

The Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) has recently announced Inclusive Excellence: 2018 Undergraduate Science Education Grants, a limited competition award, (see the description at [http://www.hhmi.org/programs/undergraduate-science-education-grants](http://www.hhmi.org/programs/undergraduate-science-education-grants)) with an Intent to Apply deadline date of July 12, 2016. The University may put forward a single pre-proposal for this award.

The focus of the proposed work should be on increasing the institution’s capacity to engage undergraduate students in science and supporting their success, especially those students who come to college via nontraditional pathways. Two important populations of students arriving at college through diverse pathways are transfer students and first-generation students. Projects may include disciplines outside of the natural sciences, but the natural sciences should be central to the proposed activities. FYI, UVM student data can be obtained from the Office of Institutional Research ([http://www.uvm.edu/~oir/](http://www.uvm.edu/~oir/)). Please note this year’s solicitation includes advice for pre-proposal preparation.

Key dates for the 2018 competition:

- Internal Letter of Interest to SPA deadline: June 8, 2016 (Nominee)
- Intent to Apply form submission deadline: July 12, 2016 (Jennifer Gagnon)
- Pre-proposal application available: July 14, 2016 (Nominee)
- Pre-proposal deadline: December 6, 2016 (Nominee)
- Invitations to submit full proposals: May 2017 (Sponsor)
- Full proposal deadline: October 2017 (Invited Nominee)
- Announcement of awards: May 2018 (Sponsor)
- First-year payment: September 2018 (Sponsor)

If you are interested in submitting a pre-proposal for this award, please forward a letter of interest to Hilda Alajajian ([Hilda.Alajajian@uvm.edu](mailto:Hilda.Alajajian@uvm.edu)). The letter should be no longer than two pages and include a description of the proposed work, the targeted student population and list of collaborators. Letters of interest will be evaluated on the following criteria: 1) alignment with the program goals; 2) strength of the proposed collaborator team; 3) comprehensiveness of the approach to assess, leverage and improve current student experience activities; 4) potential for lasting institutional change. The deadline for
submitting letters of interest to the Sponsored Project Administration office is June 8, 2016.

If the number of interested applicants exceeds the number allowed, a selection process will occur. Please direct questions concerning this announcement to Jennifer Gagnon, Hilda Alajajian or Richard Galbraith.

Sincerely,

Hilda Alajajian
Grant Resources Specialist

Jennifer Gagnon
Associate Vice President for Research

Richard Galbraith
Vice President for Research