September 25, 2019

Dear Department Chair/Program Director,

Please share with the faculty in your unit.

The National Science Foundation (NSF) has recently announced Ethical and Responsible Research (ER2), (formerly known as Cultivating Cultures for Ethical STEM (CCE STEM)), a limited competition award (see the description at https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2019/nsf19609/nsf19609.htm? ) with a deadline date of February 24, 2020. The University may put forward a single application for this award.

This solicitation has been revised in two major ways. The first is a name change from Cultivating Cultures for Ethical STEM (CCE STEM) to Ethical and Responsible Research (ER2). The second is two new funding categories: 1) Conference proposals designed to bring together researchers and students to foster new ER2 research and the development of new ethical standards for STEM research; and 2) Project Incubation proposals designed to support the development of full proposals by two or more organizations.

The NSF Ethical and Responsible Research (ER2) accepts proposals for innovative research projects that contribute to understanding what it takes to foster ethical STEM research in all STEM fields, including within interdisciplinary, inter-institutional, and international contexts. ER2 research projects will use basic research to produce knowledge about which factors lead to responsible or irresponsible, just or unjust scientific cultures, practices, and sociotechnical systems, and how to best instill this knowledge in faculty and students. Please Note: “NSF does not consider proposals for medical research and hence, the program will not consider proposals focused on ethics for medical students or in medical education. It will consider proposals that address medical informatics, biomedical engineering, systems engineering and social scientific studies of health and medicine.”

If you are interested in submitting an application for this award, please upload a pre-proposal via UVM’s InfoReady Portal for Institutional Competitions at: https://uvm.infoready4.com/ The pre-proposal should be no more than three pages (excluding any references) and include which type of proposal is being submitted (Standard or Institutional Research Grant or Conference Proposal or Project Incubation Proposal), a description of the proposed project and a statement about why you deem the proposal to be competitive for this competition. Pre-proposals will be evaluated on the following criteria: 1) Intellectual Merit; 2) Broader Impacts: 3) Alignment with program goals; 4) Innovation; and 5) Feasibility. The deadline for submitting pre-proposals is, October 28, 2019 before 4:30 pm after which the portal will automatically close.

Please direct questions concerning this announcement to Hilda Alajajian.

Thank you.

Hilda

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