IDAHO IS AN EPSCOR STATE – WHAT THIS MEANS FOR SUPPORTING YOUR RESEARCH

RESEARCH AND FACULTY DEVELOPMENT FACULTY SUCCESS SEMINAR SERIES

Carly Cummings, PhD, CPRA
Director, Office of Research and Faculty Development

Expert Guest: Andy Kliskey, PhD
Project Director, Idaho EPSCoR; Professor, Forest, Rangeland, and Fire Sciences (CNR) and Landscape Architecture (CAA)

Please keep your microphone muted until the Q&A session

Please note that this session is being recorded
This seminar is being recorded

- Please stay muted until the Q&A portion at the end of the seminar
- Type questions into the chat box and these will be addressed during the Q&A portion
We provide proposal development assistance across the spectrum*

Meet goals in the UI strategic plan – grow research and creative efforts across all disciplines

Reach out to discuss ideas with us and request service – uidaho.edu/orfd

*Not including budget preparation

All services are optional and are granted on a first come, first served basis
OBJECTIVES

IN THIS SESSION, WE WILL DISCUSS:

- EPSCoR programs
  - Overview
  - Federal agency funding opportunities for EPSCoR jurisdictions

- Hear from the expert – Andy Kliskey
  - How to connect with the Idaho EPSCoR Office to enhance the competitiveness of your next EPSCoR proposal
**NSF EPSCOR**

**EPSCoR: Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research**

- **Assist NSF’s Mission:** “to strengthen research and education in science and engineering throughout the United States and to avoid undue concentration of such research and education.

- A jurisdiction is eligible to participate in NSF EPSCoR if their most recent 5-year level of total NSF funding is equal to or less than 0.75% of the total NSF budget.

**EPSCoR goals:**

- Catalyze the development of research capabilities and the creation of new knowledge that expands jurisdictions' contributions to scientific discovery, innovation, learning, and knowledge-based prosperity;
NSF EPSCOR

EPSCoR

- Achieving EPSCoR goals:
  - Research Infrastructure Improvement (RII) funding programs
  - Co-funding awards
  - Workshops and outreach
EPSCoR RII Eligible jurisdictions (28):

- Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Delaware, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Vermont, US Virgin Islands, West Virginia, and Wyoming
NSF EPSCOR

EPSCoR Research Infrastructure Improvement (RII) Program

- **Track-1 Program** ([website](#))
  - Up to $20 million over 5 years
  - Research-driven improvements to jurisdictions’ physical and cyber infrastructure and human capital → competitiveness
    - Topical areas chosen by the jurisdiction’s EPSCoR steering committee
  - One proposal submitted *per jurisdiction*
    - Idaho is a current awardee (UI, BSU, ISU)! More on this later…
NSF EPSCOR

EPSCoR Research Infrastructure Improvement (RII) Program

- **Track-2 Focused EPSCoR Collaborations (FEC) Program (website)**
  - PI and represented jurisdictions **must** include Co-PIs (at least 2 jurisdictions)
  - The **primary driver** for RII Track-2 FEC investments is the need to build investigator-driven, inter-jurisdictional research collaborations that have the potential to be nationally and internationally competitive.
  - RII Track-2 FEC proposals are **unique** in their integration of researchers into collaborative teams, and **must** develop a diverse, well-prepared, STEM-enabled workforce necessary to sustain research competitiveness.
  - The recruitment and/or development of diverse early-career faculty are critical in achieving this goal and **must** be an integral component of the proposed project.
EPSCoR Research Infrastructure Improvement (RII) Program

- **Track-2 FEC Program (cont’d)** ([website](https://example.com))
  - Single topic chosen for each solicitation
    - Historically, topics remain the same for 2 years
    - *FY21 topic*: “Advancing research towards Industries of the Future to ensure economic growth for EPSCoR jurisdictions”
  - **Limit on Number of Proposals per Organization**: 1
    - RFD uses internal review process to determine which proposal will be submitted
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EPSCoR Research Infrastructure Improvement (RII) Program

Track-2 FEC Program (cont’d) (website)

Funding & Duration: $5M - $7.5M for projects up to 4 years
  - Based on the number of eligible jurisdictions participating in the project
    - If two RII-eligible EPSCoR jurisdictions collaborate: up to $1 million per year
    - If three or more RII-eligible EPSCoR jurisdictions collaborate on a proposal: up to $1.5 million per year
  - 5 awards are expected

Annual Deadlines:
  - Letter of Intent (required): December 18
  - Full Proposal Deadline: January 25
EPSCoR Research Infrastructure Improvement (RII) Program

**Track-4: EPSCoR Research Fellows Program** ([website](#))

- Principal Investigators (PIs) must either hold a non-tenured faculty appointment at an institution of higher education or an early-career, career-track appointment at an eligible non-degree-granting institution.

- Further develop the individual research potential of PIs through extended collaborative visits to the nation’s premier private, governmental, or academic research centers of their choice.
EPSCoR Research Infrastructure Improvement (RII) Program

- **Track-4: EPSCoR Research Fellows Program** (cont’d) (website)
  - The experiences gained through the fellowships are intended to have lasting impacts that will enhance the Fellows' research trajectories well beyond the award period. These benefits to the Fellows are also expected to improve the research capacity of their institutions and jurisdictions more broadly.
  - **3 applications** per jurisdiction – RFD runs internal competition
    - 2021 *internal competition completed*
  - Upcoming deadlines: April 26, 2021; April 12, 2022
MISSION
Idaho EPSCoR enhances research competitiveness of Idaho by strengthening STEM capacity and capability.

- Primarily provides project direction and management for the RII Track-1 award
- Provides coordination with other research capacity building initiatives
IDAHO INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT STRATEGY

- Track-1
  - Statewide collaboration
  - Stakeholders as partners
- Track-2
  - New faculty positions
  - Synergies among university research institutes
- Track-3
  - Collaborations with primarily undergraduate institutions
  - Landscapes as natural laboratories
- Track-4
  - Integrated research, education, and workforce development
IDAHO RII TRACK-1 AWARDS

- Linking Genome to Phenome to Predict Adaptive Responses of Organisms to Changing Landscapes (GEM3); 2018-2023; $20M plus 20% State match
  - Year 3 Seed grant proposals (Small Research; Large Research, WFD)
    - Due Feb 19, 2021
  - Year 3 VIP Education funding proposals
    - Now
- Proposal development process for next Track-1 ~ 2021-2022
IDAHO EPSCOR RII TRACK-2

- Collaborative awards between an Idaho university and universities in one or more other EPSCoR jurisdictions
- Build interjurisdictional collaborative teams of EPSCoR investigators in scientific focus areas consistent with NSF priorities
  - Genome to Phenome
  - Harnessing the Data Revolution.
  - Industries of the Future
- Future seed funding to support interjurisdiction collaborations
IDAHO EPSCOR RII TRACK-2

- Track-1
- Track-2
- Track-3
- Track-4

- Using Biophysical Protein Models to Map Genetic Variation to Phenotypes; (2017-2021) $6,000,000. ID-VT-RI. PI: Marty Ytreberg


- Note: Limited submission - 1 per institution
IDaho EPSCOR RII Track-4

- Track-1
  - Samrat Choudhury UI; Optimizing the Chemistry of Heterointerfaces in Photovoltaics; (2019-2021) $152K; MGI

- Track-2
  - Michael Strickland UI; Multi-omic Approach Towards an Understanding of the Environmental Implications of Antibiotics on Soil Processes; (2018-2020) $216k; PNNL

- Track-3
  - Eric Haydn, BSU; Investigating Evolutionary Innovations through Metagenomics; (2017-2019); $131k; UC San Diego
NSF EPSCOR CO-FUNDING

• EPSCoR co-invests with NSF Directorates and Offices
• Supports meritorious proposals from individual investigators, groups, and centers in EPSCoR jurisdictions, including Idaho
• For regular (non-EPSCoR) research and education programs
• Co-funding is not a program to which proposals can be submitted

Idaho Co-funded awards

All Nations LSAMP (Minority Participation); Wiencek, McMurtry, Bisbee; 2019-2021; $1M; Division of Human Resource Development
Research Initiation Grant Program (website)

- Facilitate development and enhancement of NASA-aligned research capabilities in Idaho
- New researchers to gain experience
- Established researchers to take a dramatic step in a new direction
- Future proposals for further funding
- Award up to $42,000, 1-year
- Non-federal cash/in-kind match of at least equal amount required
- Past awardees within the last 3 years not eligible to apply
- Deadline: 3/31/2021; Director, Idaho NASA EPSCoR: Dr. Matthew Bernards
Office of Science – 2 programs that alternate years:

- **EPSCoR-State/National Laboratory Partnership** (2019 FOA; new 2021)
  - Supporting fundamental, early-stage energy research collaborations with the DOE national laboratories
  - Information on the DOE national laboratories can be found [here](#)
  - Participation by graduate students and/or postdoctoral fellows is required.
  - Junior faculty from EPSCoR jurisdictions are encouraged to apply. Utilization of DOE user facilities is encouraged
  - User Facilities information [here](#); DOE Office of Nuclear Energy user facilities [here](#)
Office of Science – 2 programs that alternate years:

- EPSCoR-State/National Laboratory Partnership (cont’d)
  - Up to $750K, for up to 3 years
  - Limited submission: 3 applications/institution
  - RFD runs internal competition
Office of Science – 2 programs that alternate years:

- Improve research capability through the support of a group of scientists and engineers working on a common scientific theme in 1+ EPSCoR jurisdictions.
- $1M - $1.5M/year for new awards (renewable, up to 6 years)
- 1 pre-application/institution (this has taken place – look for 2022)
Goals

- **Enhance capabilities** of IHE to develop, plan, and execute science and engineering (S&E) research **relevant to DoD mission**
- **Increase the number of university researchers** in eligible jurisdictions performing S&E research relevant to DoD mission
- **Increase probability of long-term growth** in competitively awarded financial assistance that eligible IHE receive from federal government for S&E research

July 2020 webinar slides [here](#)

FY2020 FOA [here](#)
DOD EPSCOR (DEPSCOR)

Collaborative research grants

- Team: (1) Applicant (PI) and (2) collaborator (Co-PI) must be tenure-track or tenured faculty members
  - PI must have never served as a PI on a prior DoD-funded award
  - Co-PI must have served as a PI on a DoD-funded award in the last 7 years

- Topics detailed in FOA

- Army Research Office, Air Force Office of Scientific Research, Office of Naval Research

White paper submission (Sep. 2020), full proposal by invitation only (Feb 2021)
OTHER FEDERAL PROGRAMS

**NIH Institutional Development Award (IDeA) program**

- Builds research capacities in 23 states and Puerto Rico with historically low levels of NIH funding
- Administered by the National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS)
- Includes [INBRE](#) (Idaho INBRE), [COBRE](#) (UI IMCI, phase 2), [IDeA-CTR](#) (MW CTR-IN)
  - Capacity and infrastructure improvements
  - Local awards offer seed funding
OTHER FEDERAL PROGRAMS

USDA NIFA Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI)

- Food and Agricultural Science Enhancement (FASE) grant program
  - Strengthen capabilities in research, education and/or extension programs
  - 15% of budget set aside
  - New investigator, strengthening standard, strengthening CAP, strengthening conference, seed, equipment, sabbatical, fellowship grants
- Program areas align with Farm Bill Priorities
RFD CAN ASSIST YOU!

Email: ored-rfdteam@uidaho.edu
Url: https://www.uidaho.edu/research/about/orfd
Q&A WITH OUR EXPERTS!

ANDY KLIŠKEY, PROJECT DIRECTOR, IDAHO NSF EPSCOR

MATT BERNARDS, DIRECTOR, IDAHO NASA EPSCOR
Thank you for attending!

See you next time!