POSTDOCTORAL MENTORING PLAN

One postdoctoral researcher will be funded on this project. The postdoctoral researcher’s development will be enhanced through a program of structured mentoring activities. The goal of the mentoring program will be to provide the skills, knowledge and experience to prepare the postdoctoral researcher to excel in his/her career path. To accomplish this goal, the mentoring plan will follow the guidance of the National Academies of Science and Engineering on how to enhance the postdoctoral experience, by providing a structured mentoring plan, career planning assistance, and opportunities to learn a number of career skills such as writing grant proposals, teaching students, writing articles for publication and communication skills. Specific elements of the mentoring plan will include:

• Working with the postdoctoral researcher to establish and implement an Individual Development Plan.
• Seminars, workshops and individual consultations on how to identify research funding opportunities and write competitive proposals.
• Participation in seminars and workshops on teaching and learning, conducted by the University of Idaho and CAES partners.
• Opportunities to network with visiting scholars who are leaders in our field by having lunch or dinner with them when they participate in the seminar and symposia series.
• Travel to at least two conferences each year, two being CPS Week and the International Symposium on Resilient Control Systems and the Other in a related field (travel funds are included in the budget), with the goal that the postdoctoral fellow present a poster or paper at the conference.
• Participation in the PI’s weekly research group meetings, in which members will be expected to present their research regularly, and feedback and coaching will be given to help all members to develop their communication and presentation skills.

Success of this mentoring plan will be assessed by tracking the progress of the postdoctoral fellow through her/his Individual Development Plan, interviews of the postdoctoral fellow to assess satisfaction with the mentoring program, and tracking of the postdoctoral fellow’s progress toward his/her career goals after finishing the appointment.