

December 1, 2008

TO: Faculty Members, Deans, Directors, Department Heads/Chairs

FROM: Prof. Susan Wolf, Chair, Consortium on Law and Values in Health, Environment & the Life Sciences

RE: Consortium--Request for Proposals (RFP) from **Faculty** to fund research and projects on the societal implications of the life sciences (Summer '09 & AY '09-10)

DEADLINE: Monday, March 9, 2009 or until funds are depleted

Submit to: boyle032@umn.edu

The University's Consortium on Law and Values in Health, Environment & the Life Sciences (www.lifesci.consortium.umn.edu) invites proposals from faculty members seeking funding for research, projects, colloquia, or curricular innovation in Summer 2009 and/or academic year 2009-10. This funding initiative aims to encourage work on the societal implications of problems in health, environment, or the life sciences. Proposals are sought from faculty in all departments and colleges at the University. Collaborative proposals crossing traditional department lines are particularly encouraged. Proposals may seek to initiate new work or support research personnel (such as graduate students, professional students, or postdoctoral fellows), release faculty time for research, or otherwise enlarge faculty work on the societal implications of the life sciences. Funds are not designed to provide ongoing support.

The Consortium plans to award a total of up to \$30,000. These funds will be distributed through a competitive peer-reviewed process. Applicants may seek up to \$30,000 each. We expect to fund 1-2 projects for 2009-10. Past award recipients may be found at www.lifesci.consortium.umn.edu/rfps/.

Eligibility Criteria:

Applicants must be current University of Minnesota faculty members.

Evaluation Criteria:

The primary criteria for funding will be innovation, the quality of the project, and the potential impact in furthering work on the societal implications of the life sciences.

Application Process:

Proposals must be submitted electronically to Audrey Boyle, Project Manager of the Consortium, no later than 4:00pm on Monday, March 9, 2009. E-mail all proposals to boyle032@umn.edu. Proposals submitted after the deadline will be considered on a rolling basis, as funds permit. Initial funding decisions for those applications submitted by March 9 will be announced by April 27, 2009.

Proposal Guidelines:

1. Total proposal length must be less than 1000 words excluding budget, biographies, and references/citations.
2. Use the Consortium cover sheet at www.lifesci.consortium.umn.edu/rfps/ and provide complete information including:
 - project title;
 - amount of funding requested with an explanation of how the funds will be used; and
 - documentation of approvals necessary to conduct the project proposed or application date for required approvals (such as Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval, approval for research on animals (IACUC), review regarding conflicts of interest, and environmental permits).
3. Use the Consortium budget form at www.lifesci.consortium.umn.edu/rfps/ and provide complete information. Include the amount and source of established funding and matching funds, if any, as well as other funding pending or sought for this project.
4. Include a statement describing the project's nature and importance.
5. Include an explanation of how this research represents an innovative contribution to interdisciplinary work on health, environment, or the life sciences.
6. Include a work plan with a specific timeline using months or quarters to identify work to be done and completion dates.
7. Include a brief (1-2 paragraphs) biography of the applicant and all co-investigators on the project.
8. Proposals for curricular innovation should attach a letter or email of support from the applicant's department head or dean.

Review Process:

The review panel will include the Chair of the Consortium and members of the Consortium/Joint Degree Executive Committee. Recommendations of the review panel will be submitted to the full Consortium membership for final approval. Review panel members will recuse themselves from decision making as appropriate.

Award terms and conditions

Funds will be released only after documentation of all necessary approvals is received by Audrey Boyle. Awardees will be required to provide a final written report and an accounting of all funds expended at the completion of the project (July 31, 2010 is the latest acceptable date). Funds must be expended by June 30, 2010.

Awardees may be asked to present their final report at a Consortium-sponsored event. Reports or related articles may be considered for publication as appropriate in the *Minnesota Journal of Law, Science & Technology* (www.mjlst.umn.edu). The projects will be featured on the Consortium website including the final report. Each awardee will also be expected to acknowledge the Consortium's support in all written material including publications, conference materials, and syllabi.

Please call Audrey Boyle 612-626-5624 with any questions.

Susan M. Wolf, J.D.

McKnight Presidential Professor of Law, Medicine & Public Policy

Faegre & Benson Professor of Law

Professor of Medicine

Chair, Consortium on Law and Values in Health, Environment & the Life Sciences

Director, Joint Degree Program in Law, Health & the Life Sciences

University of Minnesota

N140 Mondale Hall

229 19th Avenue South

Minneapolis, MN 55455

Tel. 612-625-3406

FAX 612-624-9143