



EPSCoR in Idaho

Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research

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TO: Dr. Lawrence Ford, Idaho State University
Dr. Mark Rudin, Boise State University
Dr. John Tracy, University of Idaho

FROM: Jean'ne M. Shreeve, Idaho EPSCoR/IDeA Project Director

SUBJECT: Idaho NSF EPSCoR Instrument Acquisition and Startup Augmentation Funds

DATE: March 23, 2007

Please remember that the Idaho NSF EPSCoR Research Infrastructure Improvement (RII) Grant (EPS-0447689) includes funding to assist Boise State University, Idaho State University, and the University of Idaho through the following two mechanisms each year:

- *Startup augmentation* funding is to help provide particularly promising new tenure-track faculty members with the best financial start possible to his or her academic research career. At least 30 percent of an eligible faculty member's appointment must be research in a science or engineering discipline normally funded by NSF.
- *Instrumentation* funding is to help purchase multi-user science or engineering research instruments that would be difficult to obtain without the financial assistance of this NSF EPSCoR investment. Instruments for undergraduate instruction are not eligible.

A total of \$100,000 of federal funding (\$50,000 for instrumentation, plus \$50,000 for new faculty startup augmentation) is expected to be available to *each* institution after June 1, 2007. A one-to-one (1:1) non-federal, real dollar match is required for all federal funds expended. *Funding is contingent upon receipt of third-year RII funding from NSF, so these funds should not be allocated until after you receive notice that the RII has been officially funded through May 31, 2008.* However, as vice president / chief research officer please plan how to utilize these funds for science and engineering capacity building under the conditions of this letter. Funds will be made available to ISU and BSU via the regular EPSCoR RII project subcontracts.

These EPSCoR funds may be invested in research areas that correspond to or complement the RII Grand Challenge Initiative or in other research areas of priority at the institution. Supported activities must occur during the NSF RII grant performance period. All funds must be expended before May 31, 2008, and all expenditures (including non-federal match) must be for NSF grant-eligible items.

A letter describing the specific uses of this funding should be provided to Idaho EPSCoR before August 15, 2007. The letter must clearly identify: the instrument(s) or system to be purchased and/or the recipient(s) of the startup funding, the source and amount of non-federal match, and the expected impact that these investments will have on research competitiveness.

Questions regarding this announcement may be addressed to Rick Schumaker at 208-885-5742 or rschumak@uidaho.edu.