



THE nanoSTAR 2008 SEED FUND - REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

With generous contributions from the Office of the Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies, the College of Arts and Sciences, the School of Engineering and Applied Science, and the School of Medicine, the nanoSTAR Institute has established a seed projects fund for 2008. This fund will be used to seed new interdisciplinary cross-school research projects in the three thrust areas of the institute: nanoelectronics, medicine, and energy and the environment. The primary goal of this fund is to promote collaboration and support new projects enabling the development of preliminary results for use in proposal submissions to external sources.

Eligibility:

Proposal teams must include University of Virginia faculty from at least two schools and be led by a permanent, full-time, tenure-track faculty in the professorial ranks (assistant, associate, full).

Selection Criteria:

- The scientific/ technological significance of the proposed research.
- The proposal must present a new research direction or project. Proposals for continuation of existing programs or bridge funding will not be considered.
- Proposals should indicate clearly the funding plans following the seed program, answering, for example, how does the seed funding better position the research team to successfully compete for external funding?
- Identify the specific funding sources/ solicitations that will be pursued.
- Proposal team must include researchers from more than one school with clear plans for cross-school collaboration.
- Proposal teams which have embedded mentoring of junior or new faculty members are encouraged.
- Interactions with industry strongly encouraged.
- Collaborative programs with other academic institutions are acceptable and encouraged, but seed funds must be used at the University of Virginia.
- Projects are expected to range from \$30-60k over 6 to 12 months. However, projects larger than \$30k will have a much higher threshold for justification. Depending on levels proposed, we anticipate support of at least 5 projects.

Submission:

Proposals should be submitted to nanoSTAR@virginia.edu by August 1, 2008.

Proposal Instructions:

1. Coversheet:
project title, funds requested, period of performance, PI and list of participants (w/departments), and one-paragraph proposal abstract.
2. Research Description (not to exceed 5 pages):
clearly identify research problem and significance, research plan, potential impact of research and goals within seed program timeframe and budget.
3. Itemized Budget
4. Researcher Biographies (max 2 pages, i.e. NSF 1 or 2 page format)

Reporting Requirements:

- Final reports (to be posted on the nanoSTAR Collab site) detailing the following items will be required:
 - research accomplishments
 - students supported
 - related papers
 - proposals submitted (funding source, title of proposal, funding level, dates)
- Presentation of results and outcomes of seed project at annual meeting.
- One page summary for brochure/website.

Review Process:

The nanoSTAR Executive Board will review the proposals based on the criteria listed above.