

Joint NSF-FWF call “International Collaboration in Chemistry between US Investigators and their Counterparts Abroad (ICC)” 2009/2010

Synopsis of Program:

The National Science Foundation (NSF) and the FWF seek to further enhance opportunities for collaborative activities in chemistry between U.S. and Austrian investigators. Projects must have clear relevance to areas supported by the NSF Division of Chemistry (see <http://www.nsf.gov/chem>, except the fields of processing technology and materials related chemistry. There are no new funds available for support of these projects. **They will compete with other proposals received by the NSF and FWF.** The NSF and FWF will utilize a common set of reviewers and make joint funding decisions. The use of cyberinfrastructure is strongly encouraged. It can enable our communities to address scientific problems of unprecedented complexity; leverage resources by facilitating the sharing of instrumentation, data, and expertise; and broaden participation. (The NSF Division of Chemistry has established a website to describe cyber-enabled chemistry, www.nsf.gov/chem/cyber.)

Application, review and funding procedures:

General remarks

- This call is only suitable for projects with a high degree of interaction between the U.S. and Austrian investigators. **Proposals with only loose U.S./Austrian cooperation and funding only for the Austrian partner can be sent to FWF at any time within the program “Stand-alone Projects” (Einzelförderung).**
- The usual FWF eligibility requirements hold for the Austrian applicants.
- Proposals to this cooperative activity comprise two portions submitted as a single proposal via the FastLane. **Formal details for the Austrian portion can be found below.** The Austrian PI is asked to send the International Cooperation forms: http://www.fwf.ac.at/de/applications/internationale_kooperationsprojekte.html to Bettina Löscher, Division of Natural and Technical Sciences, FWF; Haus der Forschung, Sensengasse 1, 1090 Wien.
- The NSF portion of the proposal is to be prepared in accordance with standard NSF proposal preparation and submission guidelines.
- Duration of the projects should be three years.
- The NSF will support the U.S. portion of the collaboration and the FWF will support the costs associated with Austrian participation.

Application

Maximum one proposal per applicant is accepted.

A Letter of Intent is required, to be transmitted via FastLane; deadline is November 06, 2009. Investigators should submit this letter summarizing the proposed research and collaboration. FWF does not need neither an electronic nor a paper copy of the Letter of Intent. Details for submission can be found on

http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?WT.z_pims_id=13627&ods_key=nsf09608

The full proposals must be submitted via FastLane in accordance with the NSF Grant Proposal Guide (GPG) (http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=gpg) as a single proposal from the U.S. academic institution. Proposals are accepted by the NSF Division of Chemistry until **January 29, 2010, by 5:00 pm** of the U.S. proposer's local time. The proposals have to be written in English. The project duration should be three years.

It is not necessary to send any additional paper copies to FWF, as the proposal needs to be submitted via NSF's FastLane. FWF has unrestricted access to the electronic documents.

The Austrian PI has to send the International Cooperation forms:

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to Dr. Bettina Löscher, Division of Natural and Technical Sciences, FWF, Haus der Forschung, Sensengasse 1, 1090 Wien.

The FWF supplementary document has to include additionally a scientific CV with the lists of scientific publications of the past five years and information and justification of the requested resources.

Review

Reviewers will be jointly nominated by NSF and FWF. They will assess both the U.S. and the Austrian portions.

Criteria for the Review Process of the full proposals:

1. Quality of the Project / Qualification of the Applicant
 - Soundness of the preliminary work, quality of publications
 - Originality
 - Expected advancement of knowledge (also in relation to the costs)
 - Scientific significance (in its own field and/or across different fields)
 - Broader impact (science policy, social policy, economic or technical reasons)
2. Working Environment / Scientific Environment
 - Staff, institutional, room and instrument requirements and resources.
3. Objectives and Work Programme
 - Clear working hypotheses
 - Reasonable limitation of the topic
 - Appropriateness of the methods
 - Ability to complete the project within the proposed or overall expected time frame
4. Recommendation Concerning the Extent of Funding (only applicable to Austrian portion of the proposal)
5. Additional criteria for this program
 - 5.1 Applicable to the US portion only: What are the broader impacts of the proposed activity?

- How well does the activity advance discovery and understanding while promoting teaching, training, and learning?
- How well does the proposed activity broaden the participation of underrepresented groups (such as gender, ethnicity, disability, geography)?
- To what extent will it enhance the infrastructure for research and education, such as facilities, instrumentation, networks, and partnerships?
- Will the results be disseminated broadly to enhance scientific and technological understanding?
- What may be the benefits of the proposed activity to society?

5.2 **Added value**

- Does the international cooperation have any added value? Or would there have been national partners with the same or a better expertise?
- Are there synergistic effects? Or could the project be split in two independent US and Austrian parts without losing any of its substance?

6. Overall grade

Please provide a grade, following the scale

- Excellent
- Very Good
- Good
- Fair
- Poor

Further information:

Information for the Austrian partner:

Dr. Bettina Löscher, Division of Natural and Technical Sciences, Phone: ++43-1-505-6740-8405, loescher@fwf.ac.at

Information for the U.S. partner:

National Science Foundation, <http://www.nsf.gov/>
4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22230

NSF Division of Chemistry, Directorate for Mathematical and Physical Sciences:
Dr. Zeev Rosenzweig, Program Director, Division of Chemistry (703) 292-4956,
zrosenzw@nsf.gov