

Funding Opportunity Announcement ORSP 2009-001  
Facilitating Research and Creative Work through Cross-Disciplinary Teams  
Office of Research and Sponsored Programs(ORSP)

## I Overview Information

APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY TO [retreat@sfsu.edu](mailto:retreat@sfsu.edu).  
DETAILS BELOW.

### Key Dates

Release/Posted Date: Monday March 16 2009

Application Submission/Receipt Date(s):

#### Centers and Institutes

Monday, May 4: Statement of Intent and budget submitted for external and internal reviews

Friday, June 12, 2009: Funded Proposals Announced

#### Groups, teams, research clusters

Monday, May 18: Statement of Intent and budget

Friday, May 29: Internal review of requests

Friday, June 12, 2009: Funded Proposals Announced

Earliest Anticipated Start Date(s) for all proposal types: July 2009

Technical Assistance: [retreat@sfsu.edu](mailto:retreat@sfsu.edu) or 8-3578

Website: <http://www.sfsu.edu/~orspwww/retreat/index.html>

### Additional Overview

#### Executive Summary

Purpose. ORSP is soliciting applications for research/creative activity through the integration of disciplines in faculty teams.

Budget and Project Period. The total project period for an application submitted in response to this funding opportunity may not exceed one year. The number and size of awards issued under this announcement are contingent on the availability of funds. Funding for awarded groups may be renewable after one year.

Eligible Individuals. Ordinarily, a Team Leader (TL) or an Institute/Center (I/C) director would be a full-time faculty member. Department Chairs or Deans are not eligible as applicants to this announcement, but may be included as key persons of the team. Applications must involve multi- or interdisciplinary research or creative teams. Applications which do not propose a research/creative team will be deemed unresponsive. Applications will be permitted to have more than one TL or I/C Director for functional purposes, although accounting procedures may require one individual to be named as a Contact, should an award be made.

Composition of teams/groups, Institutes/Centers. Groups may be comprised of any full or part-time faculty, Lecturers, postdoctoral fellows, undergraduate and graduate students whether San Francisco State University affiliated, or affiliated with other universities.

Number of Applications. Applicants may submit more than one application as TL or I/C Director, provided each application is scientifically or creatively distinct.

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## Part II - Full Text of Announcement

### Section I. Funding Opportunity Description

#### 1. Objectives

##### Purpose

The purpose of this ORSP funding opportunity is to advance new knowledge or new creative experience through the integration of disciplines and practices.

Distinct disciplinary perspectives contribute significant sources of strength to the overall research enterprise because each discipline has its own intellectual history, experimental and analytic approaches, and theoretical context that produce a unique way of thinking about a problem. Nevertheless, as scientific capabilities move forward, increasingly sophisticated questions arise, and these often require the convergence of perspectives from multiple disciplines. We have also seen in the creative arts a movement toward the merging of practices and approaches across traditional boundaries.

Therefore, these more complex approaches may require multidisciplinary or interdisciplinary groups of faculty. (Multidisciplinary research brings together different disciplines to address a particular issue. Interdisciplinary research integrates concepts and techniques from the contributing disciplines in ways that produce new conceptual frameworks.)

We invite applications from groups that propose to do work across disciplinary boundaries. Responsive applicants should demonstrate the multi- or interdisciplinary nature of the particular disciplines being combined, and provide a rationale for why this particular integration of disciplines will be fruitful.

Applications must involve teams. Applications submitted by individual applicants, in the absence of a team, will be deemed unresponsive.

##### References

Stokols, D, Misra, S, Moser, R, Hall, K, Taylor, B. The Ecology of Team Science: Understanding Contextual Influences on Transdisciplinary Collaboration. *Am J Prev Med* (2008);35(2S):S96-S115.

National Academy of Sciences. *Facilitating Interdisciplinary Research* (2005) Washington DC: The National Academies Press. 306 pp.

### Section II. Award Information

#### 1. Mechanism of Support

This Funding Opportunity will use the ORSP Research Support Account mechanism. The applicant will be solely responsible for planning and directing the proposed group.

This announcement uses a modular budget format. Specifically, applications to support groups/teams should request funding in \$1000 modules. Applicants requesting funds to begin multi- or interdisciplinary Institutes or Centers should request funding in \$5,000 modules. A budget template is provided separately on both the ORSP and retreat websites.

## 2. Funds Available

Because the nature and scope of the proposed work will vary across applications, it is anticipated that the size of each award will also vary. Awards resulting from this funding opportunity are contingent upon the availability of funds.

The total project period for any applications submitted in response to this funding opportunity may not exceed 1 year. The earliest anticipated start date for awards is July 1, 2009.

## Section III. Eligibility Information

### 1. Eligible Applicants

Ordinarily, any full-time faculty member with the skills, knowledge, and resources necessary to develop and oversee the activities of the proposed group as Team Leader or I/C Director is invited to apply. Department Chairs or Deans are not eligible as applicants for this announcement, but may be included as key persons of the team.

### 2. Other- Special Eligibility Criteria

Applicants must propose multi- or interdisciplinary teams to be responsive to this announcement.

Applicants may submit more than one application, provided each application creates scientifically or creatively distinct groups.

- Trans-SF State focus. Applications should address research or creative needs that apply to more than one College, or that "fall between" the missions of the Colleges. A strong rationale should be provided in the proposal if the team is solely within-College, and especially if the team is solely within-Department.

- Multidisciplinary or Interdisciplinary teams. Applications must involve teams made up of more than one discipline. Applications submitted by individual applicants, in the absence of a team, will be deemed unresponsive.

Applications that bring together disciplines that do not typically work together are especially welcome.

- There is no requirement for an applicant to include any individuals who were present during the cluster discussions at the Research and Creative Activities Retreat on March 6, 2009. The Retreat was meant to foster integrative dialogues, not to force collaborations.

#### Section IV. Application and Submission Information

For assistance, contact ORSP through [retreat@sfsu.edu](mailto:retreat@sfsu.edu) or telephone Jackie White at 8-3578.

##### 1. Content and Form of Application Submission

A completed application in response to this announcement will include the following components:

Statement of Intent to form a group/team (3 pp maximum), or Institute/Center (5 pp maximum)

Please include the following information:

- Descriptive title of proposed research or creative team.
- Name, address, telephone number and email address of the Team Leader(s) or Institute/Center Director.
- Participating institutions outside of San Francisco State, if any. These may be community organizations, public schools, art galleries/museums or settings, hospitals, other universities, or industry collaborations.

In this section, describe your overall vision for the creation of the group, activities of the group planned for the next 12 months, formal or informal relationships with other organizations, and sufficient information about the applicant (leader) that will allow reviewers to evaluate the likelihood of the group's success.

For this announcement, the characteristics (not seniority) of the applicant (leader) will be key to determining the viability and success of the group. Therefore, the applicant's previous leadership experiences or potential should be described. The organizational structure of the team and anticipated activities should be described including communication plans, and a process for making decisions.

Project/Performance Site Locations. Describe all locations where the group anticipates performing its activities, including performance spaces, laboratories, galleries, schools or public spaces. Please note whether new space will be required for the group's activities, and for what purpose(s).

List of Key Persons involved in the activities of the group. Provide **relevant** publications within the past 3 years for the applicant and for each key person listed. For each member of the group, describe their role in the team.

Modular Budget. See associated links on the ORSP home page and the Retreat site.

## SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

Applications with Multiple leaders. When multiple leaders are proposed, ORSP requires one individual to be designated as the "Contact" who will be responsible for all communication with ORSP, including coordinating an annual report. All projects proposing Multiple leaders should include a rationale for choosing a multiple leader approach.

If budget allocation is planned, the distribution should be delineated.

### Applications Involving Key Persons from Multiple Institutions

When multiple institutions are involved, San Francisco State must be designated as the prime institution and funding allocations for the other institution(s) can be developed with ORSP staff.

## 2. Application Processing

Applications must be successfully received by ORSP no later than 5:00 p.m. on the submission date(s) listed in Section I (Overview). The application must be in a single .pdf file format, emailed to [retreat@sfsu.edu](mailto:retreat@sfsu.edu) . If an application is not submitted by the receipt date(s) and time, the application may be delayed in the review process or not reviewed.

Once an application package has been received at ORSP, an immediate email message will be sent to the applicant indicating receipt. Applications then will be evaluated for completeness by ORSP. If the proposal is incomplete, the applicant will receive an e-mail notification. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.

Institute or Center proposals will be subject to three levels of review: 1) reviewers outside of San Francisco State University; 2) reviewers within SF State; and, 3) The Provost.

## 3. Funding Restrictions

All ORSP awards are subject to the terms and conditions, cost principles, and other considerations described in ORSP Policy Statements at [http://www.sfsu.edu/~orspwww/\\_policies/policieshome.html](http://www.sfsu.edu/~orspwww/_policies/policieshome.html) .

## 4. Other Submission Requirements

### Appendix Materials

The following materials may be included in the Appendix as electronic attachments: Up to five publications, manuscripts (accepted for publication), abstracts, patents, or other printed materials directly relevant to the proposed activities of the group.

Attachments must be provided to ORSP in PDF format, where filenames have no spaces or special characters, and a .pdf extension is used.

If non-standard attachments are planned as part of the proposal (such as videos, films, art thumbnails, online games), please alert Jackie White.

## Section V. Application Review Information

### 1. Criteria

Only the review criteria described below will be considered in the review process.

### 2. Review and Selection Process

Applications that are complete and responsive to this announcement will be evaluated for merit (i.e., reviewed) by a peer review group convened by ORSP, drawn from members of the University Research Committee, the Professional Development Council, and other expertise as needed.

The following will be considered in making funding decisions:

- a) Scientific or creative merit of the proposed activities, expertise, and membership of the team as determined by peer review.
- b) Availability of funds.
- c) Relevance to program priorities of the Deans who oversee the applicant's Department.
- d) Involvement of undergraduate and/or graduate students
- e) For Institutes and Centers, relevance to University-wide priorities as determined by the Provost in consultation with the AVP Research.

Each of the following criteria will be separately rated during review, weighting them as appropriate for each application:

**Significance:** Has the group chosen an important topic? Is there a clear trans-College or trans-Departmental focus? If the aims of the group are ultimately achieved, how will knowledge or creative practices be advanced?

**Innovation:** Is the group original and innovative in its cross-disciplinary approach? Will the group be developing or employing novel concepts, approaches, performance practices, tools, and/or technologies?

**Membership:** Can the leader devote the time necessary to ensure the completion of the activities planned? Has the leader shown potential in directing faculty? Does the team include faculty from one or more other disciplines? Is there a rationale for bringing together the disciplines represented on the team? Is the work proposed appropriate to the experience level of the leader and team members? For established teams, is there sufficient evidence that the team has collaborated successfully, and will continue to do so? For newly-formed teams, is there sufficient evidence that the team can collaborate successfully?

**Budget:** The reasonableness of the proposed budget, given a 12-month funding duration.

## Section VI. Award Administration Information

### 1. Award Notices

After the peer review of the application is complete and funding decisions are made, a formal notification in the form of a letter will be provided to the applicant, with copies provided to the Chair and Dean.

Selection of an application for award is not an authorization to begin performance. Any costs incurred before receipt of the letter are at the recipient's risk.

### 2. Administrative Requirements

Awardees will be required to submit a progress report at the close of the first year of funding (details to be provided later). Depending upon university priorities and availability of funds, this announcement may be repeated; existing and new groups will be allowed to compete for future funding. In the future it is likely that multiple-year funding for groups will be allowed.

## Section VII. ORSP Contacts

Inquiries may fall into three areas: scientific/research, peer review, and financial or grants management issues:

### 1. Scientific/Research Contact:

Jaylan S. Turkkan, Ph.D.  
Associate Vice President for Research and Sponsored Programs  
8-7091  
[jturkkan@sfsu.edu](mailto:jturkkan@sfsu.edu)

### 2. Peer Review Contact:

Jackie White  
Pre-Award Manager, ORSP  
8-3578  
[whitej@sfsu.edu](mailto:whitej@sfsu.edu)

### 3. Financial or Grants Management Contact:

Alison Sanders  
Director, ORSP  
5-3943  
[asanders@sfsu.edu](mailto:asanders@sfsu.edu)

## Section VIII. Other Information

URLs in Applications or Appendices:

Reviewers will be reviewing the application as a self-contained unit.

Please note that if you use Internet addresses (URLs) in your



application, reviewers are under no obligation to view the Internet sites.