

Call for Seed Grant Proposals for the Center for Sustainable Urban Engineering

The Center for Sustainable Urban Engineering (www.eng.uc.edu/SUE) announces a call for seed grant proposals due **March 17, 2008**. Highlighted in the December 2007 issue of *UC Research* and in the September, 2007 President's Report Card to the Board of Trustees, SUE is a multidisciplinary Center engaging all faculty at the University of Cincinnati with an interest in tackling the problems of sustainable metropolitan development. Broad programmatic interests include (but are not limited to): the built environment; urban planning; education; metropolitan infrastructure; city politics and policies of sustainability; innovative approaches to urban services; criminal justice; education; public and environmental health; legal and business policies; and demographic trends such as ageing populations. In short- SUE engages the long-term objectives of understanding how the built environment impacts the health and wealth of urban dwellers.

For the 2008/9 academic year, SUE solicits seed grant proposals in three distinct tracks.

Track 1 proposals are competitive renewals of existing SUE seed grants previously awarded for the 2007/8 academic year. Each submission must include a two-page summary of prior accomplishments in 2007/8, and a two-page description of work to be accomplished in 2008/9. A maximum of \$20,000 of direct costs may be requested (no indirect costs are allowed).

Track 2 proposals are new projects submitted to SUE (prior unsuccessful proposals may be resubmitted). Each submission must include a two-page description of work to be accomplished in 2008/9. A maximum of \$20,000 of direct costs may be requested (no indirect costs are allowed).

Track 3 proposals are submitted to develop USDOE-GAAN / NSF-IGERT / NIH-training grant like research clusters. Each submission must include a five-page description of research and training to be accomplished in 2008/9. Support for a total of four students may be requested (no indirect costs are allowed). Student training could include the creation of a new course or a regular journal / data club meeting. The research cluster should focus upon interdisciplinary solutions to a single research question (i.e., urban planning, transportation engineering, geography, and environmental health collaborating to evaluate feasible strategies to reduce transportation associated respiratory illness in urban settings).

Track 1 and Track 2 proposals must include a minimum of two-investigators with affiliations in two or more colleges; Track 2 proposal must include a minimum of three-investigator with affiliations in three or more colleges; a brief description of how the project will move the team toward the collection and analysis of critical data supporting future full-scale external proposals in the area of Sustainable Urban Engineering; a detailed scope of work; and a brief budget with justification.

Track 3 proposals are specifically intended to collect preliminary data on the synergy of a group of researchers addressing a single problem in a multi-disciplinary format which include strong cross-training of research students and a plan for significant multi-disciplinary interaction. It is expected that successful Track 3 projects will serve as the basis for large, comprehensive training and research proposals.

Electronic submissions should be sent to sue@uc.edu by March 17, 2008

We anticipate the awarding of projects by March 28, 2008. Our expectation is that the funds will be available by October 1, 2008 (or earlier) and are to be used within one calendar year (or longer if needed); thus, recruitment of new students to work on this interdisciplinary effort is entirely appropriate and encouraged.

Furthermore, we anticipate the awarding of additional seed grants in subsequent years. The final project report for all seed grants will require the preparation and submission (or serious intent to submit) of a full-length proposal to a major external funding agency. Failure to submit a full-length proposal to an external agency will automatically disqualify faculty from future participation in SUE seed grant programs.