SciWomen: Join in the Discovery

Call for Proposal for NSF-supported
RU FAIR ADVANCE Life-Cycle Grants
Cycle IV Deadline: July 25th, 2012

What are Life-Cycle Grants?
The Life-Cycle Grants are available to support Rutgers STEM faculty who are at critical junctures in their professional careers and facing threats to research productivity because of personal life events. The funds help ensure that the pace of research does not diminish, and that scientists can continue their research activities even when their own research or teaching time is seriously limited due to family or life transitions.

How do Life-Cycle grants support faculty?
• Life-Cycle Grants are flexible and can be tailored to your specific needs.
• Grant awards are anticipated to be up to $30,000.
• The support may be used for up to one year from September 1, 2012 – August 31, 2013 for a variety of academic purposes.

Who is Eligible?
The RU FAIR ADVANCE Life-Cycle Grant Program is available to women and men faculty:
• from any Rutgers campus
• in a NSF-supported academic discipline (See attached list of NSF-supported disciplines and the associated fine print.)
• facing or having recently faced an unexpected or complicated personal demand on time that is negatively impacting productivity or the ability to pursue activities that are pertinent to continued career advancement.

Life events/transitions may include, but are not limited to:
• Personal Illness or Disability
• Complications associated with childbirth or adoption
• Events involving spouse, parent, and/or child care (illness, death)
• Combination of major life events

*Preference will be given to candidates whose research and/or proposals help meet RU FAIR/NSF ADVANCE objectives. (See attached list.)

Note: The RU FAIR Life-Cycle grants program complements the university faculty policies. Please see the Rutgers University Human Resources website (http://uhr.rutgers.edu/faculty.htm) for other policies and programs that assist with work-life balance, including leave policies, eldercare, child care and other life events.
Faculty may apply for varying amounts and academic purposes, which may include, but are not limited to:

- Research Support
- Temporary hourly support for
  - technical support to maintain or complete essential experiments
  - undergraduate student support and/or staff support to assist with timely completion of a paper, preliminary data for a grant, or temporary assistance with duties related to teaching to help free up time for research
- Part-time or seasonal support (i.e. Graduate Assistant, Lab Manager, etc.)
- Professional / Consultant Services
- Conference Travel (domestic only)
- Teaching support
- Supplies

**Evaluation**

At the end of the award period, awardees will be asked to participate in a one-hour confidential interview, with RU FAIR ADVANCE Internal Evaluator. The interview will follow IRB approved protocol and the obtained data will be de-identified to preserve the confidentiality of the participant. The participant will be asked to provide specific examples of how the Life-Cycle grant met its intended goal of assisting a faculty member through a personal or family event that would otherwise have affected career advancement.

**What is RU FAIR ADVANCE?**

The Rutgers University Office for the Promotion of Women in Science, Engineering, and Mathematics (SciWomen) has been awarded a five-year Institutional Transformation grant for $3.67 million dollars from the ADVANCE program of the National Science Foundation (NSF). The grant, entitled Rutgers University for Faculty Advancement and Institutional Re-Imagination (RU FAIR), runs from September 1, 2008 - August 31, 2013 and serves the Camden, Newark, and New Brunswick campuses of Rutgers University. The overall goal of the RU FAIR initiative is to remove barriers to recruitment and retention of women faculty, to advocate for greater diversity in senior leadership positions, and to provide higher visibility to the achievements of Rutgers’ women faculty in science, social science, engineering, technology, and mathematics (STEM) disciplines.

The full RU FAIR/NSF ADVANCE proposal and descriptions of the program objectives can be found on the RU FAIR website at [http://sciencewomen.rutgers.edu/rufair](http://sciencewomen.rutgers.edu/rufair).

**For more information**, please contact Dr. Natalie Batmanian, RU FAIR ADVANCE Director at natalie.batmanian@sciwomen.rutgers.edu or 732-445-2771 before submitting a proposal.
Application Process

DEADLINE: July 25, 2012

Your application package should include:

1. A narrative of no more than three double-spaced pages in length addressing five main points:
   - Why this is a critical career juncture?
   - What is the life event you are experiencing and how has it affected your research/teaching progress?
   - How will the requested funds help you through the crisis and enhance your research and/or teaching?
   - What are the costs/consequences of not receiving the funding?
   - If possible, how will your proposed plan help meet RU FAIR/NSF ADVANCE objectives that specifically relate to women faculty in STEM fields. Where appropriate, provide citations to the literature.

2. current curriculum vitae
3. funding record (current and pending)
4. proposed budget
   - Please use the template from the Rutgers Office of Research and Sponsored Programs http://orsp.rutgers.edu/ for the proposed budget.
   - It is not necessary to account for Facilities and Administrative costs (F&A).

5. budget justification
6. letter of support from your department chair is encouraged, but not required.

Proposals can be submitted one of two ways:

1. email to natalie.batmanian@sciwomen.rutgers.edu
   - in pdf or word document format
   - with subject: CONFIDENTIAL: Life-Cycle Grant Application

2. hard copy, please mail in a sealed envelope marked CONFIDENTIAL to:

   Natalie Batmanian, Ph.D.
   Director of RU FAIR ADVANCE
   Office for the Promotion of Women in Science, Engineering, & Mathematics
   RUTCOR Modular Building, Room 122
   Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
   640 Bartholomew Road
   Piscataway, NJ 08854
Review Process

• Life-Cycle Grants will be administered through the RU FAIR ADVANCE program at Rutgers University. Applications will be reviewed by the Life-Cycle Grants Committee and by selected experts as needed with confidentiality of Life-Cycle Grant Applicants maintained as secure.

• Proposals approved for funding may require revision of the requested budget to meet University and NSF policies.

• Because critical life events are not anticipated and cannot, in many cases, be planned for in advance, if your situation changes after you have been awarded a Life-Cycle grant, the RU FAIR Life-Cycle Grants Committee will re-evaluate your award and reserves the right to reduce or increase it to an amount appropriate to the new situation.

Confidentiality Statement
Applications will remain confidential within the Life-Cycle Grants Committee. Protecting the privacy of the individuals is a fundamental responsibility of the program. The obligation to safeguard confidences is subject to certain exceptions which are ethically and legally justified because of overriding social considerations. Where an applicant threatens to inflict serious bodily harm to another person and there is reasonable probability that the applicant may carry out the threat, the committee will take reasonable precautions for the protection of the intended victim, including notification of university enforcement authorities and denial of request.

Disclosure Statements:

1. SciWomen is an office operating within Rutgers University and is subject to all fiscal policies and reporting requirements of the University.

2. This will be the last round of RU FAIR ADVANCE Life-Cycle grants that are awarded through ADVANCE funds as the grant period will end on 8/31/2013.
National Science Foundation's SUPPORTED FIELDS

(Based on required disciplines for fellowship funding)

CHEMISTRY
5230 Analytical
5250 Bio-inorganic
5240 Bio-organic
5260 Biophysical
9994 Environmental
5290 Inorganic
5330 Organic
5350 Physical
5331 Polymer
5370 Theoretical
5399 Chemistry, other (specify)

MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES
7010 Algebra or Number Theory
7030 Analysis
7050 Applications of Mathematics
(including Biometrics and Biostatistics)
7110 Geometry
7130 Logic or Foundations of Mathematics
7140 Operations Research
7150 Probability and Statistics
7170 Topology
7199 Mathematics, other (specify)

COMPUTER AND INFORMATION SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING (CISE)
7240 Artificial Intelligence
(including Robotics and Expert Systems)
7210 Computer Science - Languages and Systems
7200 Computer Science - Theory
7270 Computer Systems Design
(including Signal Processing)
7230 Database Systems
7261 Graphics
7260 Human Computer Interaction
7250 Information Technology and Organizations
7290 Networks and Communications
7280 Scientific Computing
7220 Software Engineering
7299 CISE, other (specify)

PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY
4999 Astronomy
4930 Astrophysics
8040 Atomic and Molecular
8050 Condensed Matter Physics
8160 Nuclear
8180 Optics
8110 Particle Physics
8200 Physics of Fluids
8210 Plasma
8220 Solid State
8260 Theoretical Physics
8299 Physics, other (specify)

ENGINEERING
6210 Aeronautical and Aerospace
6240 Agricultural
6250 Bioengineering and Biomedical
6330 Chemical
6350 Civil
6388 Computer Engineering
6390 Electrical and Electronic
6741 Energy
6470 Engineering Mechanics
6532 Engineering Science
9996 Environmental

PSYCHOLOGY
4125 Cognitive
4120 Cognitive Neuroscience
4130 Developmental
4150 Experimental or Comparative
4189 Industrial/Organizational
4155 Neuropsychology
4165 Perception and Psychophysics
4170 Personality and Individual Differences
4158 Physiological
4162 Quantitative
4190 Social
4199 Psychology, other (specify)
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GEOSCIENCES
5710 Aeronomy
5720 Atmospheric Chemistry
5750 Chemical Oceanography
5770 Climate Dynamics
5740 Geochemistry
5780 Geology
5800 Geophysics
5810 Hydrologic Sciences
5820 Large-scale Dynamics Meteorology
5830 Magnetospheric Physics
5840 Marine Geology and Geophysics
5850 Mesoscale Dynamic Meteorology
5870 Paleoclimate
5860 Paleontology
5880 Physical Meteorology
7799 Physical Oceanography
5890 Solar-Terrestrial
5889 Geosciences, other (specify)

LIFE SCIENCES
0399 Agriculture
0140 Agronomy
4510 Anatomy
4530 Animal Behavior
4531 Animal Science
0999 Biochemistry
1870 Biological Oceanography
1899 Biology
1299 Biophysics
1599 Botany (including Plant Physiology)
1820 Cell Biology
1860 Computational Biology
1840 Developmental Biology
1830 Ecology
4570 Entomology

SOCIAL SCIENCES
0693 Biological Anthropology
0695 Cultural Anthropology
0694 Linguistic Anthropology
0696 Medical Anthropology
0697 Physical Anthropology
0699 Anthropology, other (specify)
0610 Archaeology
9818 Demography
8599 Economics
(Business Administration not eligible)
8799 Geography
9099 History of Science
9499 International Relations
9299 Linguistics
9098 Philosophy of Science
9399 Political Science
9799 Public Policy
9599 Sociology (Social Work not eligible)
9699 Urban and Regional Planning
9899 Social Sciences, other (specify)

Note: For further clarification of research areas supported by the NSF, see the National Science Foundation Guide to Programs (http://www.nsf.gov/pubsys/ods/getpub.cfm?nsf0203).

5 Warning: NSF Fellowships are awarded only for study leading to research-based master's or doctoral degrees. Practice-oriented master's programs are not eligible for support in this program. PhD programs must be science-based.

6 Warning: Research with disease-related goals is not eligible for support by NSF. Applicants in this field will be judged ineligible if their Proposed Plan of Research has disease-related goals and/or is insufficiently focused on basic research questions.

7 Warning: Clinical and counseling psychology are generally not supported in this program; NSF Fellowship applicants in this field will be judged ineligible if their Proposed Plan of Research focuses on mental disease, abnormality or malfunction.

8 Warning: NSF Fellowship Applicants in these fields may be judged ineligible if the Proposed Plan of Research does not demonstrate a scientific approach.
RU FAIR / NSF ADVANCE Initiatives
The RU FAIR ADVANCE grant supports five major initiatives to increase the participation and advancement of faculty women in science, engineering, and mathematics on all three Rutgers campuses.

The five initiatives are:

- **Recruitment and Retention**: Seeks to increase the number of women, especially minority women, on the Rutgers STEM faculty.
- **Communication**: Focuses on communications across campuses, centers, and departments.
- **Networking and Liaison**: Seeks to build collaborations between Rutgers STEM faculty and the Rutgers Institute for Women’s Leadership (IWL) through such mechanisms as interdisciplinary mini-grants.
- **Visibility**: Promotes Rutgers women STEM faculty through expanded faculty profiles and personal stories on the SciWomen website, sponsorship of a lecture series of prominent women faculty, targeted nominations of distinguished faculty members and outstanding postdoctoral associates for awards, and solicitations of press coverage for Rutgers search.
- **Work/Life Balance and Family**: Seeks to bolster the resources available for dual-care families and for families with children.