Request for NSF Track-2 White Papers
Issued: November 10, 2015
Due at Noon, November 30, 2015

FROM: Mark Hoffmann, Associate Project Director, ND EPSCoR
RE: Request for White Papers – NSF EPSCoR RII Track-2

The NSF EPSCoR RII Track-2 program announcement has been released. Interested tenured, tenure-track, research faculty, and full-time researchers are invited to submit white papers to be eligible for selection **as the finalist for the UND submission** to the NSF EPSCoR RII Track-2 program.

Program Information: The solicitation for the next RII Track-2 award has been issued. If you would like to review the solicitation, please see:
http://nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=505263&org=NSF&sel_org=NSF&from=fund

Please be aware that the NSF deadlines for the proposal chosen to go forward from UND are:
- Letter of intent: January 11, 2016
- Full proposal: February 4, 2016

The Research Infrastructure Improvement Program: RII Track-2 awards are expected to provide funds in the range of **$1.0 million per year to collaborations involving two eligible EPSCoR jurisdictions** and **$1.5 million per year for consortia of three or more eligible EPSCoR jurisdictions for a maximum of four years.** Each participating jurisdiction must have at least one Co-PI on the project. The awards promote opportunities for collaborations among EPSCoR jurisdictions in all areas of science, engineering, and education supported by the National Science Foundation (NSF).

Eligible EPSCoR jurisdictions can be found on the NSF EPSCoR site:
http://www.nsf.gov/od/iia/programs/epscor/nsf_oiia_epscor_eligible.jsp

This year there are two main research themes. The White Papers must address one of these areas; please review the solicitation for specific information.

(1) **Understanding the Brain**
(2) **Sustainable Food, Energy and Water Systems**

Evaluation: White Papers will be evaluated on scientific merit, potential for impact on one of the two research themes identified above, the strength of the research collaboration with other eligible EPSCoR jurisdictions, the strength of the research participants, and broader impacts. RII Track-2 white papers must describe a clear, comprehensive, and integrated vision to drive discovery, and train a skilled workforce capable of solving science and engineering challenges in one of the two research areas. Proposals should also include a strong rationale for the establishment of the consortium and clearly demonstrate that the consortium is well-positioned to produce results that cannot be obtained by any single partner working independently.

Checklist Requirements – Submit an electronic copy of the White Paper in the following format and order:

- Must be single-spaced, one-sided pages, 1" margins, with no less than a 10-point font.
- Cover Page (available on the ND EPSCoR website)
- Executive Summary (separate one page)
- Research Concept (no more than five pages)
- Description of collaboration with eligible EPSCoR jurisdiction (no more than 1 page)
- Description of Broader Impacts (no more than 1 page)
- Biographical Sketches of all participants (NSF format - 2 page maximum)
- Current and Pending Support of all participants (NSF format – 2 page maximum)
- Letter from collaborating institution(s) – must be an eligible NSF EPSCoR jurisdiction

Submit to – Mark Hoffmann, (mark.hoffmann@und.edu), with a cc to Cathy Lerud, (cathy.lerud@research.und.edu)

For questions, contact Mark Hoffmann, ND EPSCoR Associate Project Director, at 777-2492.

ND EPSCoR reserves the right to reject submittals that do not comply with these instructions.