

July 22, 2016

TO: UF/IFAS Faculty
FROM: Jackie K. Burns
SUBJECT: 2016 Call for **OSBS Research Awards** – Fiscal Year 2016-2017

The Ordway-Swisher Biological Station (OSBS) is a unique resource for ecosystem and ecological research, boasting >9,500 acres with 15 distinct vegetation communities. OSBS also has newly renovated or newly constructed infrastructure in the form of buildings, equipment, roads and lodging.

UF/IFAS is committed to maximize impacts of research. The IFAS Dean for Research Office requests proposals for seed funding to enhance the research enterprise at OSBS.

Size of Awards: A total of \$250,000 will be awarded under this RFP. No upper limit per award has been established. Projects with a variety of sizes and scopes will likely be supported.

Eligibility: The PI must have their tenure home in an IFAS unit. Each project must fit within the scope of an active McIntire-Stennis REEport project (eligible projects [here](#)), or one must be submitted within one month of the award date (scope [here](#); guidance [here](#)). Tuition, tenure-track faculty salary and equipment items >\$5000 will not be supported. Funds for successful proposals will be made available on or near October 10, 2016 and should be spent within 12 months.

Award Scope and Criteria: The intent of this program is to expand the scope and sustainability of research at OSBS, leveraging its unique characteristics. Proposals will be evaluated based on:

1. Quality of the proposed research;
2. Innovation of the research design; and
3. Potential for this funding to leverage additional funding, preferably from competitive federal sources

How to Apply: To apply, go to the following website <http://researchtools.ifas.ufl.edu/osbs/> to enter the cover page information and upload your proposal by **September 16, 2016 at 5:00pm**. All proposals must be submitted through this website. The information requested includes:

- Cover sheet (entered online):
 - a. Project title
 - b. Faculty affiliation(s) (name, unit, email, phone number)
 - c. McIntire-Stennis (REEport) Project – title and number of existing project (or, if proposing a new project, title only)

- d. If applicable, IRB, IACUC, and/or RCR Training status; these must be in place to receive funding
- e. Abstract (general audience abstract, limited to 200 words)
- Narrative (PDF, maximum 4 pages with one inch margins on all sides, at least 11 point font including tables and figures, but not including literature cited):
 - a. *Background and Relevance*: An overview of the pertinent literature, justification, and relevance of the project to OSBS
 - b. *Experimental Approach*: A description of the proposed research objectives, hypotheses to be tested, analytical methods, and the anticipated schedule
 - c. *Broader Impacts*: A description of anticipated impacts to stakeholders
 - d. *Budget and Justification*: A brief breakdown of costs and their justification by category (e.g., OPS, OE)
 - e. *Literature Cited*: This does not count toward the 4-page limit

Proposal Evaluation: Proposals will be evaluated using the criteria listed above. Proposals not adhering to the specified format or not submitted by **5pm on Friday, September 16, 2016** will not be considered. The Dean for Research will be responsible for final award decisions.

Submission Process: If you have IT issues with the website or do not receive an email confirmation upon submission, please contact Brian Gray (seven7@ufl.edu). All other questions please contact John Davis at jmdavis@ufl.edu or 352-392-1784.