

July 25, 2017

TO: UF/IFAS Faculty

FROM: Jackie Burns

SUBJECT: 2017 Call for **OSBS Research Jumpstart Awards** – Fiscal Year 2017-2018

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 UF/IFAS Dean for Research Office requests proposals for funding to enhance the research enterprise at OSBS.

**Size of Awards:** No upper limit per award has been established. Projects with a variety of sizes and scopes will likely be supported, as in last year's [awards](#).

**Eligibility:** The PI must have their tenure home in a UF/IFAS unit. Each project must fit within the scope of an active McIntire-Stennis REEport project (current eligible projects [here](#)), or one must be active by 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 in mid-October and must be spent within 12 months. Projects funded in last year's competition will be lower priority unless a strong case is made for additional funding this year.

**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 <https://researchtools.ifas.ufl.edu/osbs/> to enter the cover page information and upload your proposal by **September 14, 2017**. 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 **Thursday, September 14, 2017** 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](mailto:seven7@ufl.edu)). All other questions please contact John Davis at [jmdavis@ufl.edu](mailto:jmdavis@ufl.edu) or 352-392-1784.