Space Research Initiative (SRI) Call for UF-Led Proposals

Announcement and Guidelines Release Date: Feb 13, 2020

Proposal Due Date: April 27, 2020

Research, development, demonstration, and project preparation proposals to the Space Research Initiative (SRI) are hereby requested by the Florida Space Institute (FSI) to support proposals for:

- UF-only projects of **two years or shorter duration** in any area of space-related research and development (see below and attached for list of areas).

The primary objective of this call for proposals is specifically to seed efforts that will lead to new external funding in 2021/2022/2023; particular emphasis will be placed on efforts that have good prospects to win substantially large federal awards or industry sponsorships.

Planning grants with a clearly enunciated plan for obtaining extramural funding in the large center-type category are particularly encouraged. Inclusion of NASA scientists/programs and alignment with NASA priorities identified in the 2020 NASA Technology Taxonomy is encouraged (https://www.nasa.gov/offices/oct/taxonomy/index.html**).**

Proposals may be submitted by any UF faculty member (PI) eligible to submit a proposal to an external funding agency (see Policy on Eligibility to Submit Proposals: https://research.ufl.edu/dsp/proposals/eligibility-to-submit-a-proposal-for-external-funding.html). Courtesy, Adjunct, Visiting and OPS faculty; Assistant In, Associate In, Senior Associate In; Research Associates; and Postdoctoral Associates are not eligible to be PIs on Florida Space Institute awards. *Principal Investigators who have not previously been funded by the SRI/FSI are strongly encouraged to apply.*

Proposals will be accepted for budget requests ranging from $100K to $200K ($50K to $100K per year). **Awards will be for two years. Project descriptions should contain clear deliverables for the 1st year and 2nd year of funding.** 2nd year funding is contingent on SRI funds availability. "**No cost extension" will not be provided**.

The earliest start date will be June 1, 2020.

Research, development, demonstration, and project preparation are encouraged for efforts in the following areas plus NASA priorities identified in the 2020 NASA Technology Taxonomy (see link above):

- The solar system, the Sun, and the cosmos.
- Earth science.
- Microgravity science.
- Life and microgravity sciences (including life support technology).
- Space operations including reusable or expendable launch vehicles.
- Research that relates to the development of research-related space instrumentation.
- Management of fluid systems.
- Space commercialization.
- Human factors and systems engineering.
- Spacecraft systems and subsystem for satellites.
- In support of miniaturization, innovative materials, cryogenics, and other technology enabling long-duration space flight.

Other areas of space-related research and development may also be proposed.

Proposals should demonstrate strong potential for specific future funding opportunities, and/or the possibility of garnering industry support for their research, and those funding prospects should be specifically identified and justified in the proposal.

PROPOSAL REVIEW

All proposals received will be reviewed by an *ad hoc* committee. The Vice President for Research at UF, in conjunction with the FSI Director will make all award decisions following these reviews. All information submitted in a proposal will be treated as confidential.

The **evaluation criteria** for proposals will be:

- Goals, merit, clarity, and feasibility of the proposed project.
- Qualification of PIs and team as evidenced by related refereed publications and past award success with the target funding agencies.
- Potential for sustained extramural funding.
- Establishment of relationships with NASA projects/alignment with NASA technology plans.

After evaluation, these proposals will be assigned as "strongly support", "support", "support, if possible" and "do not support", for final funding recommendations.

GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSION

Proposals must be submitted through UFIRST and the title of the proposal MUST begin with OR-DRPD-SRI2020: XXXXXXXXX. Proposals must be uploaded in PDF format only, as ONE file (name file: 2020_SRI/PI last name). PLEASE DO NOT UPLOAD MULTIPLE VERSIONS OF THE PROPOSAL OR SCANNED FILES.

Proposals submitted will go through the standard approval process: PI, Department Chair and Dean. Signatures for investigators outside UF do not need to be obtained at the proposal stage, though they will need to go through the regular routing of proposals at their own institutions.

Proposals must also be submitted through the InfoReady Review portal as a single pdf document

https://ufresearch.infoready4.com/#

Formatting: Proposals should be at least in 11 point font or greater, with at least 0.5 inch margins throughout. Figure legends and tables can be in 10 point font.
Proposals should consist of the following materials in this sequence:

1. **Cover Page** containing the following:

   Proposal Title**: OR-DRPD-SRI2020:**
   Principal Investigator/Institutional, College and Departmental Affiliation:
   Telephone:
    E-mail:
   Co-Investigators:
                       [INSERT NAME, AFFILIATION(S), & CONTACT INFO FOR EACH]
   Project Start and End Dates:
   Proposed Cost to SRI: $

2. **For previously funded SRI awardees- Please provide the following information relating to awards/proposal submissions which have resulted due to your previous SRI award:**

Agency	Total Amount	Title and Status (Funded/Proposed)	UF Proposal #/Award #

3. **Abstract/Overview.** Start as a new page and limit to one (1) page, summarizing each proposal element below.
4. **Project and Approach**. Up to five (5) pages of text MAXIMUM describing the project. If proposals are longer than 5 pages, only the first 5 pages will be reviewed. Figures and tables are included in the 5 page limit; references are not included. Project description to include the following: Describe the proposed project, its technical content, context, strategic value to UF, and each task within the project. Address how the project aligns with the priorities listed in the 2020 NASA Technology Taxonomy (https://www.nasa.gov/offices/oct/taxonomy/index.html).
5. **Management Plan**. Limit to two (2) pages. Include a project schedule, by task, and show deliverables (if applicable).
6. **Facilities, Software Tools, and Equipment**. Describe the required facilities and equipment for the proposed project, making clear what facilities, software tools, and equipment are already available and what must be procured/otherwise obtained to carry out the proposed project. Limit to two (2) pages.
7. **PI and Team**. Describe the qualifications of the PI and each Co-I, limited to one (1) page for each person; include URLs of PI and team web pages on their bios.
8. **External Funding Opportunities**. Include the specific funding agency/company and the specific opportunities planned for submission, by the end of 2021, as a result of the proposed SRI funding, the win likelihood for each, the proposer's past experience with this specific agency/company and their strategic importance to UF's space portfolio. **Proposals that do not address this fully will not be selected.** Limit to two (2) pages.
9. The investigator(s) should describe any potential for commercialization. How may the research relate to current commercial or industrial applications? Could the research lead to new products and markets? If

possible, estimate the time to market, including all certification steps. Proposals should be explicit whether successful results will be published. How will progress toward potential commercial application be measured? Describe funding received to date, and give an estimate of funding required to advance the product to market. List any potential opportunities for the development of intellectual properties. Describe the impact of your results relevant to economic evaluation; including humanitarian impact.

10. **References** should be cited together at the end of the proposal.
11. **Budget**. Start as a new page and describe the budget to support your project by providing detailed budget table. The budget may include all normally allowable costs of research.

    Include the following breakdown:
    I.   *Labor* – List investigators and support staff and percent effort of each.
    II.   *Equipment* – Identify equipment purchased under this award.
    III.   *Subcontract Costs* – Identify consultants or subcontracts, if applicable.
    IV.   *Materials* – List materials that will be purchased under this award.
    V.   *Travel* – List locations, approximate dates and justification of travel.

    Note:
    Facilities & Administrative costs – No F&A is allowed for these projects. Industry funds will be subject to the standard UF F&A rate for industry-sponsored research.
    Cost Share – No cost share is required for this effort.

 12. **Budget Justification**

DEADLINES

The deadline for submission of full proposals through UFIRST and InfoReady Review Portal is 5 PM EST, April 27, 2020. Questions about this call for proposals may also be addressed to Canan Balaban at cbalaban@ufl.edu and Dr. Sobha Jaishankar at sjaishan@ufl.edu.

Receipt of proposals will be confirmed with the principal investigator via an automated e-mail notification from InfoReady Review.

NOTIFICATION OF AWARD

Every effort will be made to notify Principal Investigators of their award status by May 31, 2020. The earliest start date will be June 1, 2020.

REPORTING

Awarded grants will be required to submit reports:
1st year: Comprehensive report at the end of 1st year with milestones achieved to justify the 2nd year funding.
2nd year: Comprehensive report at the end of 2nd year.
Final Report: Two year after the termination of the project a final report is required.

Report template will be sent to the PIs prior to the reporting due dates.

Additionally, if there is a change in the proposed execution of the project, a formal proposal request is needed (1 page is sufficient) that explains the rationale for the change.