IMR INTERDISCIPLINARY MATERIALS RESEARCH GRANTS

IMR Interdisciplinary Materials Research Grants (IMRGs) are intended to stimulate and advance collaborative and multidisciplinary research in materials-allied fields with the specific goal of generating highly competitive external grant proposals that target large, multi-investigator and center-level opportunities.

These grants provide funds of $45,000 to be expended over a 12-month period. Collaborative proposals between two or more faculty members across two or more OSU departments and colleges are strongly encouraged. IMRGs will be considered for a second year of funding on a competitive basis.

ELIGIBILITY

Eligible applicants must be regular faculty of The Ohio State University and a member of the OSU Institute for Materials Research who does not currently have an active IMRG. Researchers with an active IMRG who wish to request a second year of funding should follow a separate reporting/request process and not the instructions in this RFP. Preference is given to multidisciplinary collaborations submitted by Co-Applicants from multiple departments or colleges within OSU.

DEADLINE

Faculty planning to submit an application for an IMR Interdisciplinary Materials Research Grant must first submit a brief letter of intent by 5:00 PM on Friday, January 23, 2009 via email to Layla Manganaro, IMR Program Manager, at manganaro.4@osu.edu. Letters of intent should include the name and departments of the Applicant and Co-Applicants (if known), the proposed project’s title, a short description of the proposed research (less than 100 words), and the names and contact information for at least three suggested external reviewers.

The deadline for proposals for this fiscal year’s IMRG competition is 5:00 PM on Friday, February 13, 2009, with an anticipated start date of July 1, 2009.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Eligible applicants who submitted a letter of intent before the deadline noted above may submit a proposal to the IMR office with the following information and length restrictions:

1. Cover Page (1 page maximum): the names, titles, and departments of the Applicant and any Co-Applicants and contact information for the Lead Applicant only (mailing address, email, phone and fax numbers)

2. Project Description (4 pages maximum): Summary of the proposed research including:
Objectives of the proposed research project
Description and scope of research
Work plan and methodology
Expected outcomes
Research facilities that may be used to conduct the research
A brief statement of the broader impacts of the proposed research
Relation to Planned External Proposal(s): a short statement listing the external agency(ies) and program(s) targeted by the Applicant with deadlines, if known, and how meeting the objectives of the proposed research would translate into external proposal development for the research team

3. References (1 page maximum)

4. Budget Information: A detailed budget for the proposed project and a brief explanation of the proposed budget items. Refer to the “Budget Restrictions” section below when developing your budget proposal. (1 page maximum)

5. Curriculum Vitae of each Co-Applicant (2-page maximum per Co-Applicant)

All applications should use a minimum 11-point font size. Applications longer than the stated page limits or omitting information requested above will not be reviewed.

Please submit your application as an email attachment in one file in PDF format by 5:00 PM, February 13, 2009 to Layla Manganaro, IMR Program Manager, at manganaro.4@osu.edu.

BUDGET RESTRICTIONS

The intent of the IMR Interdisciplinary Materials Research Grants is to enhance research through the financial support of student and postdoctoral researchers and related fee authorizations and user fees, materials and supplies consumed in association with conducting the proposed research. The following expenses are not allowed: faculty salary or benefits (including release time and summer quarter salary), travel, computers and equipment purchases.

REVIEW CRITERIA

The IMR will allocate resources based on the quality of the proposed research, relevance to major funding opportunities and to college- and department-level strategic plans. The review criteria and process are modeled after NSF-style review panels, which will prepare Applicants for major external proposal development.

Review criteria for IMR Interdisciplinary Materials Research Grants are:

- Intellectual merit of proposed research activity: originality, potential contribution to science, technology and education
- Extent to which proposed research fosters interdisciplinary collaborations
- Plan for external proposal development and relation to strategic opportunities
- Relation to department- and college-level strategic plans
- Availability of resources
- Broader impacts
**TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

1. IMR Interdisciplinary Materials Research Grants must be fully expended **within twelve months** of award. Any unused funds at the end of the twelve-month award period must be returned to IMR, unless otherwise agreed upon in writing. If an extension is necessary, the PI should submit a written request to IMR by the end of the 10th month of the project period.

2. A brief technical and financial report will be due at the end of each award cycle.

3. IMRG recipients will be expected to share their research findings at future IMR events, including seminars and workshops.

4. IMR requests that all researchers inform IMR of external proposals and/or awards that result from IMR-funded projects.

5. Recipients of IMR funds shall acknowledge IMR support in publications resulting from IMR-funded research projects. The acknowledgement shall read as follows: *This work was supported in part by The Ohio State University Institute for Materials Research.*

6. Submission of a proposal to this IMR Interdisciplinary Materials Research Grant competition constitutes an agreement to follow the above terms and conditions.

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

Potential applicants may contact Layla Manganaro, IMR Program Manager (manganaro.4@osu.edu or (614) 247-4685,) with any administrative or procedural questions. IMR Director Steven Ringel (ringel.5@osu.edu or (614) 688-3924) is the primary contact for technical questions related to potential research activities.