Call for Nominations for
EPSCoR Supported Graduate Student Fellowships
(Academic year 2012-2013)

Dear BioMed Graduate Program Directors & Department Chairs:

The NSF RI-EPSCoR (Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research) program will support 2 Graduate Student Fellowships starting in academic year 2012-2013. EPSCoR support will cover stipend, tuition and fees for one year of the selected graduate students.

We now announce a competition for these Graduate Student Fellowships.

Competitive applications should address the applicability to the main objectives of the NSF RI-EPSCoR program and overall research focus (see below). While health related projects might be considered, preference will be given for projects that are traditionally funded by NSF and fit the overall mission of the RI-EPSCoR.

http://riepscor.org/Rhode_Island_NSF_EPSCoR/Home.html

➢ The deadline for nominations for these Graduate Student Fellowships for the academic year 2012-2013 is April 5, 2012.

Listed below are the guidelines and requirements for the application.

If you have any questions or if you need any additional information, please contact:

- Professor David Rand: David_Rand@brown.edu
- Associate Dean Elizabeth Harrington: Elizabeth_Harrington@brown.edu

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GUIDELINES for Graduate Student Fellowships:

The overall vision of the RI-EPSCoR award is that RI will be a leader in understanding and predicting the response of marine organisms to climate change. The main research foci of the RI EPSCoR program are:

1) Climate change
2) Marine life sciences
3) Genomics and Proteomics
4) Bioinformatics

These targeted areas of investigation are regionally relevant, nationally significant, and utilize resources unique to RI. A general goal of the EPSCoR program is to integrate state-of-the-art technology and resources to develop larger research programs and more extensive collaborations throughout the state.

With these goals in mind, applications for Graduate Student Fellowships will be considered that demonstrate clear connections with the following criteria:

1) Graduate work focusing on climate change, marine life sciences, genomics, proteomics, bioinformatics, or the interface between these disciplines.

2) Research projects that will increase the competitiveness of future research proposals to NSF in these areas, and explicit plans to submit such proposals.

3) A strong interdisciplinary and/or multidisciplinary component to the research.

4) A clear connection between participating institutions involved in the EPSCoR effort. See http://riepscor.org/Rhode_Island_NSF_EPSCoR/Home.html.

5) Evidence that the research will benefit the scientific resource base of the state of Rhode Island.

Nomination and Selection of EPSCoR Graduate Student Fellowship Recipients:

- Students will be nominated by their graduate program.
- Each graduate program may nominate up to three meritorious candidates whose research and studies foster the advancement of the goals of the EPSCoR award.
- Nominations are NOT restricted to US citizens or permanent residents.
- All nominees must be actively enrolled students within a Brown University graduate program at the time of nomination.
- A nomination package consists of
  - A copy of the student's complete application for admission into the graduate program
  - Current CV
  - Description of proposed research
  - A nomination letter from the Graduate Program and research mentor (combined or individual letters)
- All nomination materials are to be submitted as electronic files in pdf format.
The Selection Committee will be composed of at least six faculty members with wide representation from among graduate programs and be chaired by the Associate Dean for Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies. Evaluation criteria will include academic and research excellence, relevance of proposed research to the RI-EPSCoR goals, potential for success, and diversity/inclusion of students from groups under-represented in the sciences. The Associate Dean will be non-voting, except in the case of a tie.

Students selected via the above process, together with their graduate program director will receive a letter notifying them of their selection.

They will receive an appointment as a Research Assistant from the Graduate School during the period of their support on the EPSCoR grant.

Submit nomination materials to Office of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies, Division of Biology and Medicine c/o Tracey_Cronin@brown.edu

- **Late or incomplete nominations will not be considered for 2012-2013 support.**

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