

**UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA WATER INSTITUTE
2009 PROGRAM INITIATION FUND**

The University of Florida Water Institute recognizes that an integrated approach is needed to address complex issues of water resource sustainability that have state, national and global importance. In order to achieve this, the WI aims to support interdisciplinary working groups consisting of UF faculty, graduate students, and key external experts to focus on integrated analyses of coupled human, ecologic and hydrologic systems. The Water Institute will provide facilitative support for the working groups and fund collaborative projects that will further this program initiative, produce significant progress in the theory and practice of water resource sustainability, and contribute to collaborative learning.

Call for Project Proposals: The UF Water Institute 2009 Program Initiation Fund seeks to fund faculty/student projects that will demonstrate the value of using integrated analysis of coupled human and natural systems to scope problems, engage stakeholders, build consensus and develop solutions for complex water issues in Florida. Issues that the projects may focus on include surface water withdrawals in the Ocklawaha or St. Johns River Basin; development and implementation of springs management plans; or water allocation issues in the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint river basins.

We encourage collaborative or linked team projects that include one, several, or all of the following work elements :

1. Assessing public knowledge, perceptions, interests, attitudes and behaviors regarding the issue across demographic, geographic, economic, social, institutional, and other factors.
2. Conducting conflict analyses to identify existing roles, relationships and potential conflicts among stakeholders and to examine how these conflicts develop, unfold, and are managed.
3. Developing an integrated model of the coupled natural system for use in scenario analyses with a broad range of stakeholders affected by the issue.
4. Using the integrated model to explore hydrologic, ecologic and/or socioeconomic outcomes of alternative population, climate, land use, water use, economic development, and regulatory scenarios.
5. Evaluating the success of the model to improve understanding, build consensus, and improve decision making among stakeholders.

A budget of up to \$200,000 per project is available to support projects that address all 5 work elements for the same issue. Smaller budgets will support projects that address fewer work elements within a single issue, or a single work element across issues.

Funds may be used to support:

- Leadership stipend for faculty leading work elements
- OPS or Graduate Student assistance needed to assist with existing data gathering and analysis, surveys, modeling students, syntheses etc.
- Operating expenses (computer software, printing, data acquisition)
- Travel and meeting costs associated with stakeholder engagement
- Page charges associated with peer reviewed publications
- Travel costs to present results at national meetings

In addition the Water Institute will provide:

- A strategy for integration and cross fertilization of PIF projects engaging research teams across work elements and issues.
- Water Institute Research Coordinator for group facilitation and assistance with stakeholder engagement
- Proposal writing assistance for follow-on projects. Note: All proposals resulting from this effort should be submitted through the Water Institute as Category 3 projects.

Award recipients will be expected to help coordinate and participate in a special session at the 2010 Water Institute symposium.

PROPOSAL GUIDELINES

Proposals must be submitted electronically to the Water Institute by January 16th 2009, to water-institute@ufl.edu. Proposals should consist of the following materials:

- Cover Page with project title, participants, and their affiliations. Signed by the PI and Co-PIs.
- Project Description. Up to 5 pages of text describing rationale for issue selected, background data available to support effort, methods and deliverables of the project
- References (maximum of 3 pages)
- Participants. A list of the individuals to be involved and details of their roles in the project.
- A detailed budget and justification of expenses.
- A project timeline with project milestones and deliverable dates specified (deliverables may include stakeholder workshops, published position papers for state legislators/decision makers/resource managers, peer reviewed journal articles, proposals to external funding agencies, web-available models etc.)
- Plans to obtain external support for the project to supplement the award.
- Brief (maximum of 2 pages) Curriculum Vitae for the Principal Investigator and each of the Co-PIs (NSF-style suggested) and a list of their currently funded research with percent time commitment to each funded project.

Proposals must be emailed to the Water Institute; in Word or PDF format. Formatting requirements: Single spacing; font size no smaller than 12 point; tables and figure legends can be in 10 point.

Every effort will be made to notify Principal Investigators of their award status by February 15, 2009.

QUESTIONS

Contact: Wendy Graham (wgraham@ufl.edu), Kathleen McKee (katmckee@ufl.edu) or Lisette Staal (lstaal@ufl.edu) phone: 352-392-5893