

## **Space Research Initiative (SRI) 2013 Call for UCF-Led Proposals**

## **Announcement and Guidelines**

Release Date: 26 April 2013 Due Date: 31 May 2013

Awards by: 15 August, 2013 (subject to availability of funding)

**Anticipated Funding Available: \$300,000** 

Research, development, demonstration, and project preparation proposals to the Space Research Initiative (SRI) are hereby requested by the Florida Space Institute (FSI) to support UCF-only or joint UCF-UF programs of one year or shorter duration in any area of space-related research and development.

We stress that the primary objective of this call for proposals is specifically to seed efforts that will lead to new external funding; particular emphasis will be placed on efforts that have good prospects to win substantially more dollars than are proposed for.

Proposals received from Principal Investigators who have been awarded under previous SRI 2012-A and/or SRI 2012-B funding cycles must include a written statement demonstrating their efforts in securing external follow-on funding, based on their previous SRI awards.

Proposals will be accepted at any level from \$5K to \$125K. A total of \$300,000 is available in this call for proposals. Proposals will be evaluated in part based on the potential external funding compared to the amount proposed for. Thus, an SRI proposal with a large budget should demonstrate the potential for larger external funding as a result of the SRI work.

Like the previous SRI call for proposals in 2012, proposals to this SRI call need not be joint efforts between UCF and UF. However, joint efforts that have merit as such (not simply pro forma joint efforts) will be recognized in the proposal review for that added value.

Proposals above \$30K will be evaluated and prioritized by technical reviewers selected from within UCF, along with Florida Space Institute (FSI) administrative and executive staff. Proposals of \$30K or smaller will be screened, evaluated, and prioritized solely within FSI. The FSI director will make all award decisions following these reviews.

Research, development, demonstration, and project preparation are encouraged for efforts in the following areas:

- 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.
- 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. While the primary objective of the SRI is to support space related research, consideration will be given to proposals that address technical needs and challenges identified by the DoD and DARPA. The proposer will be responsible for identifying the source documentation of DoD and/or DARPA needs.

As noted above, proposals should demonstrate strong potential for <u>specific</u> future funding opportunities, and those funding prospects should be specifically identified and justified in the proposal.

The SRI 2013 proposal template is attached. Proposals should follow this required format and must be routed through UCF Office of Research & Commercialization for processing and official transmittal to FSI.

Proposals must be submitted to Florida Space Institute through UCF Office of Research & Commercialization by close of business on Friday, May 31, 2013. All proposals must be received electronically, as a single document along with UCF Research ID # information, by your department's Proposal Manager (see attached list) by this date and time.

The evaluation criteria for proposals will be:

- Goals, merit, clarity, and feasibility of the proposed project (30%).
- Qualification of PIs and team as evidenced by related refereed publications and past award success with the target funding agencies (20%).
- The merit, win likelihood, and strategic importance of the associated external funding opportunity/opportunities associated with the proposed project (25%).
- Demonstrated interest from an external funding source, whether federal or non-federal, accompanied with Letters of Interest from such potential partners (15%)
- The presence, relevance, and merit of a UCF-UF collaboration (10%).

Questions about this call for proposals may be addressed to Ms. Sreela Mallick (<u>Sreela.Mallick@ucf.edu</u>) at FSI.

We plan for SRI 2013 funding awards to be announced no later than August 15, 2013.

All funded efforts will be required to report proposal submissions and wins as a result of their SRI funding, and their new external funding to SRI-funding ratio will be tracked by FSI and used in evaluating future proposals by the PI.

Awarded grants will also be required to submit both a brief mid-term project progress report (as per template to be provided at the time of award issue) and a comprehensive final report. 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.



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Revised 04/24/2013