

RESEARCHNOTES

Office of the Associate Dean for Research / Culverhouse College of Commerce / The University of Alabama

For information on funding opportunities and other information related to sponsored research, please visit research.cba.ua.edu or contact Deborah Hamilton (8-2952).

NSF's Decision, Risk, and Management Science

NSF's Decision, Risk, and Management Science (DRMS) program supports scientific research directed at increasing the understanding and effectiveness of decision making by individuals, groups, organizations, and society. Disciplinary and interdisciplinary research, doctoral dissertation research, and workshops are funded in the areas of judgment and decision making; decision analysis and decision aids; risk analysis, perception, and communication; societal and public policy decision making; management science; and organizational design. The program also supports small grants for exploratory research of a time-critical nature, such as decision making in response to extreme events. Funded research must be relevant to an operational or applied context, grounded in theory, and generalizable.

Deadline is August 18, 2008.

http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5423

Case Research Grants

The North American Case Research Association (NACRA) is a nonprofit, voluntary professional association whose mission is to promote excellence in case research, writing, and teaching in business and other administrative disciplines. Grants may support doctoral dissertation research or faculty research in progress. Research previously presented or published is not eligible.

Grant proposals may target one or a combination of the funding categories described below:

1. Using Cases to Build Theory Grant—These grants support research that uses case studies to generate new theories in business and administrative

disciplines such as accounting, business and society or ethics, business policy and strategy, education, finance and economics, information technology management, international business, marketing, not-for-profit, health care, social work, operations/supply chain management, organizational behavior, organizational theory, human resource management, and small business management and entrepreneurship.

2. Teaching with Cases Research Grant—These grants support research leading to a better understanding of the effectiveness of the case method of teaching.

3. Teaching Case Development Grant—These grants support the development of decision-focused teaching case(s) based on field research and a comprehensive analysis (instructor's manual or teaching note). Fictitious cases will not be funded. Disguised cases are permitted. Funding will be awarded for projects that have not been previously presented or published at the time of the grant application. Cases should address issues in business and other administrative disciplines such as those listed above. Special consideration will be given to integrative cases designed for use across multiple courses in a business program.

The final product of the grant research is expected to be an article or case accepted for publication in the *Case Research Journal* or another appropriate journal.

Deadline is June 2, 2008. Amount is \$10,000.

<http://www.nacra.net/nacra/grant.php5>

Walker Foundation

The foundation awards grants to

1. Investigate the causes of economic imbalances;

2. Investigate the effect of the monetary system in fostering a sustainable economy;
3. Investigate causes tending to destroy or impair the free-market system;
4. Explore and develop free-market solutions; and
5. Disseminate information on the results and findings.

The foundation funds two categories of projects: traditional economics and ecological economics with a free-market orientation. The foundation seeks market approaches for addressing economic imbalances and protecting the environment.

Approved projects deal with the research and development of innovative ideas, and the application of ideas developed through seed grants and research.

Deadline is October 1.

<http://walker-foundation.org/net/content/page.aspx?s=5534.0.69.5316>

Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education Comprehensive Program

The Comprehensive Program supports innovative grants and cooperative agreements to improve postsecondary education. It supports reforms, innovations, and significant improvements of postsecondary education that respond to problems of national significance and serve as national models. For FY2008 the department is particularly interested in the following two priorities.

Under invitational **priority one**, the department is interested in projects that have demonstrated promising results in earlier evaluations and that will yield greater impact on a larger scale, using more rigorous evaluation methodologies (at least quasi-experimental). It is expected that the educational activities and interventions that are the subject of proposals will have demonstrated successful outcomes, but not necessarily with methods that meet the rigor of an experimental or quasi-experimental design. Less rigorous methodologies, such as pre- and post-tests and descriptive or attitudinal studies, were appropriate for use in generating the hypotheses that will now be tested on a larger scale, using more rigorous methodologies and reducing or eliminating biases that are common in smaller, anecdotal studies.

The department is particularly interested in proposals for projects that can be expanded, scaled up, and evaluated rigorously to achieve one or more of the following goals:

1. To encourage higher levels of access, persistence, and completion of graduation requirements for higher education students
2. To align curriculum on a state or multi-state level between high schools and colleges, and between two-year and four-year postsecondary programs, to ensure continuing academic progress and transferability of credits
3. To improve the mathematics and science proficiency of postsecondary students, including pre-service mathematics and science teachers
4. To enable postsecondary students, including pre-service teachers, to achieve proficiency in or advanced proficiency or postsecondary institutions to develop programs in one or more critical need languages (Arabic, Chinese, Korean, Japanese, Russian, and languages in the Indic, Iranian, and Turkic language families)

Under invitational **priority two**, the department is particularly interested in projects that are designed to establish, improve, or expand professional science master's degree programs, which combine traditional academic training with specialized knowledge and skills needed for work in science and technology research, product development, manufacturing, or related areas. Projects should include industry partners to ensure that education and training in the professional science master's degree program align with the expectations and needs of business and industry.

The FY 2008 program deadline and further information can be found at:

<http://frwebgate4.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/waisgate.cgi?WAISSdocID=10751810980+0+2+0&WAISSaction=retrieve>

Deadline is May 5, 2008.