

Request for proposals

The *Clarkson Center for the Environment* is pleased to announce that it will continue its seed grant program for Clarkson faculty. Last year, four awards were made with total budgets ranging from \$800 - \$4000.

The seed grant program provides one avenue for initiating collaborative and interdisciplinary work among our faculty. Examples (not exhaustive) of possible projects include: funds to support students and buy supplies to assist in the gathering of preliminary data or information; a mini-sabbatical (some relief from teaching for a semester) in order to develop a new research concept; a small grant for travel to meet with industries or government agencies to learn about funding opportunities or promote a specific research concept; funds for sponsoring one or more speakers on an environmental theme; funds to promote visibility; and support of small group meetings to further the Center's mission. Multi-investigator proposals are strongly encouraged.

A brief report and presentation will also be required upon completion of the grant. It is expected that seed grant recipients are, or will become, Center Affiliates. Cost sharing from other sources is encouraged, but not necessary.

Proposals (typically 3-5 pages) must contain the following sections:

- Project description
- Anticipated outcome
- Way(s) in which the project supports the mission of the Center for the Environment including a description about how the work is interdisciplinary
- Past relevant activities of the principal investigator(s)
- A budget (including any cost-sharing from other sources) and timeline (6-12 months beginning 1/1/06)

Proposals will be ranked by a panel of faculty peers, who will use the following questions as guidelines:

- Is the project innovative and interdisciplinary?
- Does the project support the mission of the Center for the Environment?
- What is the type and quantity of the return to the university and the Center, if the seed grant project is funded?

A copy of the proposal, should be submitted electronically to the Center for the Environment, stoddard@clarkson.edu. The due date for submission is **November 1, 2005**.

The mission of the Center for the Environment is to facilitate the development, promotion and operation of environmental activities within the University and among its partners. Excellence and national visibility can be achieved by the Center through many activities, including the

- Establishment of new and promotion of existing disciplinary and interdisciplinary environmental research initiatives;
- Integration of basic and applied research to provide the increased understanding about complex environmental systems that is needed to solve environmental problems and enable informed decisions and policies;
- Creation and assessment of innovative methods of environmental research and education, with a particular emphasis on a systems approach;
- Development of partnerships with industries, Universities, and other organizations;

Questions on how to apply should be directed to Ms. Pam Stoddard, Administrative Assistant, at 268-3856. Questions on project development should be addressed to Thomas Holsen, Co-Interim Director, Center for the Environment (x3851).

For more details about the Center, its mission and benefits of affiliation, see <http://www.clarkson.edu/cce>