

MEMORANDUM

To: University of Utah Deans, Directors, and Department Chairs

From: A. Lorris Betz
David Pershing
Thomas Parks

Date: March 31, 2009

Re: USTAR Request for Proposals

Over the past two years, twelve USTAR clusters have been created by the University of Utah and approved by the USTAR governing authority: Biomedical Device Innovation, Circuits of the Brain, Diagnostic Imaging, Fossil Energy, IT Networks & Memory, Imaging Technology, Nanotechnology Biosensors, Personalized Medicine, Cell Therapy, Digital Media, Micro and Nano System Integration, and Nanoscale and Biomedical Photonic Imaging. We are pleased to report that team recruitment and hiring have been ongoing within these USTAR clusters.

These teams will bring well-funded research programs with high commercial potential to the state and the university. Funding of these USTAR initiatives is overseen by the eight appointed members of the USTAR governing authority.

The university leadership and the USTAR authority believe that a missing, critical area of research for our nation and state is alternative energy. Therefore, we are seeking proposals in the following areas: renewable energy production, and energy storage and transmission. Identification of a recruitable team that builds on the university's research strengths is particularly important in getting an area funded. Please submit your proposals for recruitment within these areas by April 30, 2009, to the Office of the Vice President for Research. We enclose the guidelines for USTAR proposals which are also available at (www.ustar.utah.edu).

The USTAR Selection Committee, consisting of the two Senior Vice Presidents and the Vice President for Research, will announce the subject areas for USTAR recruitment in the coming year. After review by the Selection Committee in consultation with other members of the cabinet and approval by President Young, new clusters will be announced. Search committees will then be appointed to oversee the recruitment effort.

The USTAR legislation envisions highly integrated, productive interdisciplinary research teams comprising senior, mid-career, and junior faculty members (who may or may not be currently associated with the leader), post-doctoral associates, graduate and undergraduate assistants and

possibly technical staff members. Start-up funding may also be included as required. Where possible, it is desirable to build on existing strengths of the University and the State of Utah, but all USTAR funding must be directed toward new faculty recruitments.

We are eager to continue building world-class research teams through this exciting state economic development initiative. We look forward to reviewing and discussing your proposals.

cc: Michael K. Young
Kim Wirthlin
Jack Brittain
Patti Ross

2009 USTAR Recruitment Proposal

Please provide a summary of your recruitment proposal (not to exceed three pages plus any figures) by answering the following questions:

1. What is your overall vision for this research cluster and how do the various parts of the proposed team interrelate?
2. How does the proposed research area relate to the USTAR priorities? Does it relate well to any of the existing USTAR teams?
3. How does the research focus build upon the research strengths of the University?
4. What are sources of current funding for this type of research and what evidence is there that such funding is likely to grow?
5. Give examples of research teams that might be candidates for this recruitment.
6. List four leading publications in this field.
7. How will expansion of research in this area benefit the greater research community at the University?
8. What are the opportunities for commercialization of discoveries derived from this research? What is the potential market for the products of this research? Can you offer any evidence that your proposed team members have documented commercialization credentials?
9. Are there unusual expenses related to establishing a team in this research area, e.g. expensive equipment?