

RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT (RII 4)
PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

EDUCATION & OUTREACH WHITE PAPER

FOR DISCUSSION
December 14, 2011

TITLE: TRAVEL FUNDS FOR THE FACULTY AND STUDENTS
IN SMALL RURAL SCHOOLS FOR CONFERENCES AND
RESEARCH TRAINING

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Travel Funds for the Faculty and Students in Small Rural Schools for Conferences and Research Training

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Contributing Authors:

Description of Activity:

Travel funds are requested for the faculty and students in NM's non-Ph.D. granting institutions* to present their new research in Energy-Water-Environment Nexus at various conferences, and to carry out collaborative research in UNM, NMSU, or NMT. This request is based on the non-existence of faculty/students travel grant programs, the lack of major research grade instruments, and the high travel expenses in geographically isolated small schools. This activity promises to build the research culture and improve the research training in small rural schools, and helps disseminate the latest research findings of Energy-Water-Environment to the research community and the general public.

The NM EPSCoR office will administer the application, award selection, and reporting of all the travel grants from NM's non-Ph.D. granting institutions. In a single academic year during the award period of RII4, two tenured or tenure-track faculty members from each of these institutions will be selected and awarded the travel grants for them to present their peer-reviewed papers or creative activities at national or international conferences. One faculty member is allowed to receive his/her travel support for only one conference per year. During the award period of RII4, one faculty member can only be supported for no more than two conferences. Each year, three students (graduate or undergraduate) from these institutions will be selected and awarded the travel grants for them to present their research papers at national or regional meetings, or to perform collaborative research in UNM, NMSU, or NMT.

Relevance to Energy-Water-Environment Nexus:

This activity is research-oriented, focusing on the thrust of Energy-Water-Environment.

Target Audience:

Tenured or tenure-track faculty, undergraduate/graduate students

* In this white paper, the NM's non-Ph.D. granting institutions are referred to the four-year, primarily undergraduate institutions, including Eastern New Mexico University, New Mexico Highlands University, Northern New Mexico College, and Western New Mexico University.