



NEWS
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Mechanics of Competitive Research Grant Proposal Development Workshops for Minority-Serving Institutions (MSIs)

Through funding from the National Science Foundation (NSF), the Science and Engineering Alliance, Inc. (SEA) has been awarded a three-year grant to facilitate workshops for young faculty at historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) and other minority-serving institutions (MSIs) on the mechanics of developing competitive research proposals.

Washington, DC June 24, 2009 – The Science and Engineering Alliance, Inc. (SEA) has been awarded a \$244,120 grant from the NSF to conduct workshops for young faculty at HBCUs and other MSIs on the mechanics of developing competitive proposals. Three (3) workshops will be held between January 2010 and January 2012.

“Young faculty at HBCUs and other MSIs usually join the institution as the only person in a new research area, with little or no support and in need of a fast turn around to meet expectations of showing results in their pursuit of tenure. In most cases, the only research connection and mentorship for the young faculty is with their Ph.D. advisor or Postdoctoral advisor. Additionally, searching websites looking for funding opportunities that match with their capability and interest involves enormous time with not much success. This activity continues SEA efforts to train faculty at MSIs on the mechanics of developing competitive proposals,” noted Dr. Robert Shepard, SEA Founding Executive Director and Principal Investigator (PI) for the grant.

SEA is a Washington, D.C. based 501(c)(3) corporation established in 1990 “to address the challenge of establishing an ethnically diverse technical workforce prepared to compete in today’s global marketplace.” Its unique program is dedicated to ensuring that historically underrepresented talent plays a vital role in the nation’s scientific and engineering future. It is believed that by working together, SEA will accelerate the production of globally competitive American scientists and engineers among people of color. Public and private sector organizations seeking to enhance their intellectual talent pool can look to SEA member institutions to provide quality scientists and first-rate scientific research.

SEA members include: Alabama A&M University (Huntsville, AL); Jackson State University (Jackson, MS); Prairie View A&M University (Prairie View, TX) and Southern University and A&M College (Baton Rouge, LA), and two national laboratories -- Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) in Livermore, CA and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) in Gaithersburg, MD.

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