LIMITED FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

TO:        BUMC Faculty  
FROM:      Andrew W. Taylor, PhD, Associate Dean of Research, BUSM  
DATE:      Oct. 16, 2018  
SUBJECT:   NSF Major Research Instrumentation Program (MRI)

OBJECTIVES: The National Science Foundation Major Research Instrumentation Program (MRI): Instrument Acquisition or Development serves to increase access to multi-user scientific and engineering instrumentation for research and research training in our Nation's institutions of higher education and not-for-profit scientific/engineering research organizations. An MRI award supports the acquisition or development of a multi-user research instrument that is, in general, too costly and/or not appropriate for support through other NSF programs. Additionally, an MRI award is expected to enhance research training of students who will become the next generation of instrument users, designers and builders.


FUNDING INFORMATION: Any MRI proposal may request support for either the acquisition or development of a research instrument.

- Track 1: Track 1 MRI proposals are those that request funds from NSF greater than or equal to $100,000 and less than $1,000,000.
- Track 2: Track 2 MRI proposals are those that request funds from NSF greater than or equal to $1,000,000 up to and including $4,000,000.

ELIGIBILITY RESTRICTIONS:

- Boston University may submit three proposals for this opportunity with no more than two submissions in Track 1 and no more than one submission in Track 2.
- Proposals from consortia or organizations will be accepted by the MRI program. For further details and eligibility, please see the program announcement.
- There are no restrictions or limits on who may serve as PI or on the number of proposals per PI or Co-PI.
- Cost sharing of 30 percent of the total project cost is required. Please see the program announcement for further information and other potential budgetary limitations.

INTERNAL SELECTION PROCESS: Interested faculty should submit the following materials by Thursday, Nov. 15, 2018:

- Questions outlined in InfoReady Review application;
• One page project summary of proposed research consisting of an overview, a statement on the intellectual merit of the proposed activity, and a statement on the broader impacts of the proposed activity;
• Letter of recommendation from the appropriate Department Chair or Dean;
• CV/biosketch for PI and other participants;
• Cost sharing plan that includes department and school/college input.

A faculty committee drawn from both campuses will review internal proposals and select three nominees.

DEADLINES: Internal Material Due: Thursday, Nov. 15, 2018 | Sponsor Submission Window: Opens Tuesday, Jan. 1, and closes Tuesday Jan. 22, 2019, at 5 p.m.

In requesting to be considered by the Vice President and Associate Provost for Research for this limited submission funding opportunity, you are making a commitment, if selected, to submit your proposal to the sponsor in a timely manner and to Sponsored Programs in accordance with the Proposal Submission Policy.