Ohio Sea Grant College Program

Call for Research Preproposals   1 February 2010 – 31 January 2012

The Ohio Sea Grant College Program is requesting preproposals for one- to three-year research projects on Great Lakes and marine problems with particular significance to Ohio, the Great Lakes region, and the nation. Approximately $400,000 is available for projects beginning 1 February 2010 and $200,000 is available for projects beginning 1 February 2011. Our preference is to support a greater diversity of smaller projects rather than a few larger projects. Projects should not exceed $60,000 per year, including indirect costs, and projects of up to three years in duration are acceptable. The application and use of research results and the sociological and economic impact of research results are important considerations for Sea Grant funding.

PREPROPOSAL DEADLINE: Ohio Sea Grant must receive a PDF version and a Word document version on its web page *ohioseagrant.osu.edu/research/submit* **by 5:00 p.m. Thursday, 21 May 2009**.

PROPOSAL DEADLINE: Ohio Sea Grant must receive a PDF version and a Word document version **by 5:00 p.m. Thursday, 23 July 2009**.

This announcement will be emailed in April 2009 to past and present principal investigators and those who have requested to be on our distribution list. If you would like to receive a hard copy, contact our office at 614/292-8949 or Nancy Cruickshank at *cruickshank.3@osu.edu*. To receive future email notifications of preproposals, send your request to *cruickshank.3@osu.edu* and type "subscribe RFP list" in the subject line.

Ohio Sea Grant is one of 32 state Sea Grant programs that are part of the National Sea Grant College Program within NOAA, U.S. Department of Commerce. Sea Grant addresses problems and opportunities related to marine resource utilization and management in partnership with government, academia, and industry.

Ohio Sea Grant is a statewide program based at The Ohio State University. The program brings together the best talent within Ohio's colleges and universities, without regard to academic program affiliation. Grants have been awarded to over 250 investigators at 19 Ohio colleges and universities.

Sea Grant's mission is to increase understanding and wise use of the nation's ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes resources. Sea Grant fulfills this mission by promoting educational excellence, responsive research and training, and broad, prompt dissemination of knowledge and technical information. Ohio Sea Grant takes the educational component of this mission very seriously and prefers projects requesting student support rather than faculty support when possible. Historically, about 80 percent of our funded projects have provided no federal Sea Grant support to the principal investigator. However, we allow up to $5,000 including benefits to go to the principal investigators annually. Collaboration with industry and/or state, regional and federal agencies is very strongly encouraged and rewarded. Proposals must include an outreach component and we encourage you to involve our extension agents and/or communications staff on your projects.

Preproposal Preparation Schedule

Thursday, 21 May 2009 by 5 p.m.
Ohio Sea Grant must receive a PDF version and a Word document version by accessing *ohioseagrant.osu.edu/research/submit* and uploading files. Preproposals should include a title page up to two pages of narrative (12 point, Times New Roman font preferred); a Sea Grant budget form (form 90-4) for each year of the project and a summary budget combining all years (forms are available on our web site at *ohioseagrant.osu.edu/research/forms*), a two-page vita for each investigator; and the name, address, telephone and fax numbers, and email address of seven, unbiased, potential reviewers who are not from your institution and who are not your former students or advisers. Fax copies are not acceptable.

Tuesday, 9 June 2009
Researchers will be notified of the status of their preproposals (encouraged or discouraged from submitting a full proposal).

Thursday, 18 June 2009 1 p.m.
Ohio Sea Grant main office
Meeting for Sea Grant investigators to discuss process, answer questions, and explore possible opportunities for collaboration.

Thursday, 23 July 2009 by 5 p.m.
Ohio Sea Grant must receive a PDF version and a word processor version (email attachment or disk, Microsoft Word preferred) of the full proposal (12 point, Times New Roman font preferred); summary and budget forms (available on our web site at *ohioseagrant.osu.edu/research/forms*); and two-page vita for each investigator. Fax and email copies are not acceptable.

Thursday, 27 August 2009
Investigators receive copies of external peer reviews.

Thursday 3 September 2009 5 p.m.
Deadline for Ohio Sea Grant to receive comments (one copy) from investigators wishing to respond to peer reviews.

Monday, 28 September 2009
Researchers will be notified as to whether their proposal will be included in the omnibus proposal submitted by Ohio Sea Grant to the National Sea Grant College Program.

Decision Process Used By Ohio Sea Grant

Ohio Sea Grant uses two review panels, preproposals, full proposals, and externally written peer reviews when evaluating research proposals.

PREPROPOSALS: The preproposal process allows investigators to propose projects and receive feedback without spending the time required to prepare a full proposal. Successfully completing the preproposal process (i.e., being asked to submit a full proposal) does not, however, guarantee funding.

A PDF version of the preproposal (with all pieces of the pre-proposal in one PDF document) and a word processing version (Microsoft Word preferred) must be submitted to Ohio Sea Grant by 5 p.m. on Thursday, 21 May 2009. Fax and email copies are not acceptable. Preproposals should include:

> **All of the documents listed below should be included in a single PDF file:**
> * A cover page of your own design that includes the project title, and the name, affiliation, address, telephone and fax numbers, and email address for each principal investigator; this must be signed by the lead investigator and an authorized institutional representative;
>
> * A maximum of two pages of narrative explaining the objectives, methodology, and rationale for the proposed project (12 point, Times New Roman font preferred);
>
> * A Sea Grant budget form (form 90-4) for each year of the project and a summary budget combining all years (forms are available on our web site at *ohioseagrant.osu.edu/research/forms*),
>
> * A two-page vita for each investigator;
>
> * The name, address, telephone and fax numbers, and email address of seven potential reviewers who are not affiliated with the investigators or the home institutions of the investigators (in all cases this list will be augmented by Ohio Sea Grant); and,
>
> * Up to three short letters of support from partners in management agencies or industry.

A panel of science and outreach experts will review all preproposals. Full proposals are then solicited from those investigators receiving the best reviews. The number of preproposals selected is based on the quality of the preproposals and an estimate of funding that is available. It is inevitable that budget constraints will eliminate some proposals. The first investigator listed on each preproposal will be contacted with the results of the review by Tuesday, 9 June 2009.

FULL PROPOSALS: Guidelines for preparing proposals will be emailed 9 June 2009. Full proposals will be due by 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, 23 July 2009 and will be immediately mailed to reviewers. External written peer reviews are due by Thursday, 25 August 2009 and will be distributed to investigators immediately (minus the names of the reviewers). Investigator's comments on these reviews are due by 5:00 p.m. on 3 September 2009. After reviewing the proposals, the peer reviews, and the investigator's comments, an external review panel will recommend to the Director which proposals to support and include in Ohio Sea Grant's omnibus proposal to the National Sea Grant College Program.

NATIONAL SEA GRANT REVIEW: The staff of the National Sea Grant College Program will review all full proposals, external reviews, and investigator's comments obtained by Ohio Sea Grant and will ascertain that state Sea Grant programs are not duplicating research. Funding decisions should be made by mid-November 2009.

Ohio Sea Grant's Priorities and Strategic Plan

Ohio Sea Grant is currently developing a strategic plan for the period 2009-2013. The plan will seek to improve the economy, education, and the environment using research, education, and outreach, in partnership with government, academia, and the private sector. The plan will build on the National Sea Grant Program strategic plan (*www.seagrant.noaa.gov/focus*) and its focus areas: hazard resilient coastal communities, healthy coastal ecosystems, safe sustainable seafood supply, and sustainable coastal development. Priority will be given to projects that address the priorities of the National Strategic Plan locally on Lake Erie, including projects that enhance the economic value of Lake Erie and projects that enable improved management of Lake Erie. Projects that can create jobs and enhance economic activity through improved practices, product creation, and specialized training are encouraged, along with human dimensions studies and proposals documenting the economic value of Lake Erie natural resources and the impact of cleaning up Lake Erie Areas of Concern. Priority will also be given to supporting at least one project at Old Woman Creek NERR focusing on healthy coastal ecosystems. This project will be co-funded by Old Woman Creek and Sea Grant.

Ohio Sea Grant's Current Research Program

Listed below are titles of research projects funded by Ohio Sea Grant since 1 February 2008.

Project Number	Project Title
R/ER-080	Phosphonates in Lake Erie: An Unrecognized P Source for Phytoplankton and Microbes?
R/ER-081	Winter Assessment of Microbial Biomass and Metabolism in Lake Erie
R/ER-082	Causes and Consequences of Hypoxia in Lake Erie: The Role of Nitrogen
R/LR-013	Temperal and Spatial Analyses of Walleye and Yellow Perch Genetic Stock Structure: A High Resolution Database for Fishery Management (Part 2)
R/LR-014	Otolith Microchemistry as a Natural Tag for Mixed Stock Analysis of Hatchery Reared Steelhead
R/PS-040	Sonochemical Degradation of Pharmaceuticals and Personal Care Products in Municipal Systems
R/PS-041	Fate of Inorganic Nanoparticles in Surface Water Environments

For a complete list of Ohio Sea Grant-funded projects, visit the project report page on our web site at: ohioseagrant.osu.edu/research. *This site can also be accessed to get more information on any of the project numbers listed above.*

Questions Asked of a Research Proposal

OBJECTIVES: What are the goals of the project? What do you hope to accomplish? Objectives should be stated so as to be verifiable upon completion of the project. Quantifiable and hypothesis-based objectives are often a good idea, as is development of a timeline or schedule.

METHODOLOGY: Describe your research plan and methods. Specify any standard techniques, special equipment, computer models, etc. that you plan to employ. Be as explicit as space allows.

RATIONALE: Summarize the problem or opportunity being addressed. Why is this an important issue? The project does not need to promise to fully solve a problem, but it should be a logical step toward a solution. Identify groups that can use the information being developed (involving these groups in your proposals is encouraged) and/or explain how this information is applicable to the problem or opportunity being addressed. Include a literature review as space allows.

POINTS TO CONSIDER: A significant consideration in submitting a proposal to Sea Grant is the matching funds requirement. You must show $1 of nonfederal support for every $2 of federal support. Matching nonfederal support may include:

- salaries, wages, and benefits of those working on the project;
- expendable supplies and equipment;
- donated supplies, space, or equipment; and,
- unclaimed indirect costs.

Progress/completion reports for Sea Grant projects are submitted electronically through our web site semi-annually. **Electronic reporting on all previous grants must be current before an investigator's new proposal or preproposal will be accepted.**

The initiation date for new projects in this two-year submission can be 1 February 2010 or 1 February 2011. While projects can be approved for more than one year, funding is approved annually and is dependent upon federal and state appropriations.

Contact the Ohio Sea Grant office if you have any questions regarding this process. In addition, it is often helpful to discuss potential projects with people in industry and government or with the Sea Grant Extension staff. An outreach component is required and their support can often significantly strengthen a proposal.

Ohio Sea Grant works with communities and industries through its 10 Extension specialists:

Colleen Wellington, Sandusky
419/609-4120, *wellington.28@osu.edu*

Heather Elmer, Huron
419/433-4601, *heather.elmer@dnr.state.oh.us*

John Hageman, Put-in-Bay
419/285-2341 or 614-247-6500, *hageman.2@osu.edu*

Melinda Huntley, Sandusky
419/609-0399, *huntley@coastalohio.com*

David O. Kelch, Lorain
440/326-5851, *kelch.3@osu.edu*

Frank R. Lichtkoppler, Painesville
440/350-2582, *lichtkoppler.1@osu.edu*

Joseph Lucente, Toledo
419/213-4254, *lucente.6@osu.edu*

Tory Gabriel, Bay Village
440/808-5627, *gabriel.78@osu.edu*

Fred L. Snyder, Port Clinton
419/635-1022, *snyder.8@osu.edu*

Matt Thomas, Put-in-Bay
419/285-2341 or 614-247-6500, thomas.347@osu.edu

Ohio Sea Grant's Small Grants Program

Ohio Sea Grant's small grants program accepts proposals requesting up to approximately $10,000 at any time. These proposals should include National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) summary and budget forms (90-2 and 90-4) and a short narrative proposal not to exceed five pages. Forms can be downloaded from the Ohio Sea Grant web site at *ohioseagrant.osu.edu/research/forms.*

Ohio Sea Grant Management Team:

Dr. Jeffrey M. Reutter, Director
614/292-8949, *reutter.1@osu.edu*

Eugene Braig IV, Assistant Director, Administration
614/292-8949, *braig.1@osu.edu*

Jill Jentes Banicki, Assistant Director, Communications
614/292-8949, *jentes.1@osu.edu*

Rick Shaffer, Business Manager
614/292-8949, *shaffer.25@osu.edu*

Frank R. Lichtkoppler, Extension Program Co-Leader
440/350-2582, *lichtkoppler.1@osu.edu*

Fred L. Snyder, Extension Program Co-Leader
419/635-1022, *snyder.8@osu.edu*

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The Ohio State University
1314 Kinnear Road
Columbus, OH 43212-1156
614/292-8949, Fax 614/292-4364
ohioseagrant.osu.edu