October 3, 2011

Below please find recently-announced grants and other announcements. Previously-posted grants are available on our funding pages. A few highlights: NSF’s new, interdisciplinary “Sustainable Energy Pathways,” and multiple Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) solicitations, for students (fellowships) and faculty. Also, the next deadline for ESPP’s quarterly Interdisciplinary Conference Funding is October 15—this is open to all MSU graduate students.

Below please find:

Reports and announcements: New environmental books at the MSU libraries, free registration to conference on environment and security, comments requested on US Global Change Research Program strategic plan

Opportunities for students and recent graduates:

1. Opportunities for current students: AFRI (agriculture) fellowships (lots!), EPA P3 sustainability design competition, Canada research award, hydrogen contest, aquatic studies Rolex scholarship
2. Postdocs: AFRI, Columbia Earth Institute, climate change, computational science, Asia
3. Faculty jobs: Diverse!

Opportunities for faculty:

1. Agriculture: Agriculture and Food Research Initiative sustainable bioenergy, climate variability, food security
2. Climate and energy: Sustainable Energy Pathways, climate system models
3. Education: EPA P3 sustainability design competition, NSF Discovery K-12 (STEM education)
4. International: NSF/USAID PEER, MacArthur Foundation sustainable development, USAID Ethiopia
5. Other ecosystems: Coupled Natural and Human Systems FAQ, wildfires, migratory birds (2), Defense coastal research
6. Various: MSU Office of Campus Sustainability, environmental influences on stem cells

REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

New books on environmental studies at the MSU libraries (September 26, 2011)
Thanks to librarian Jon Harrison for sending these along.

Conference on Environment and Security, National Council for Science and the Environment (NCSE) MSU is a member of NCSE’s Council of Environmental Deans and Directors and has five free registrations for the conference; if you’re interested, email espp@msu.edu. Conference is January 18-20; themes are climate disruption, food security, energy security, water security, and environment & public health security.

Comments requested, US Global Change Research Program Strategic Plan
The USGCRP coordinates federal research related to global change.
November 29, 2011

OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS AND RECENT GRADUATES

1. Opportunities for current students:

Agriculture and Food Research Initiative; NIFA Fellowships Grant Program, USDA
For doctoral candidates and postdocs. For work in the food, forestry and agricultural sciences. Two years of support. $12 million available in total.
Letter of intent (required) due November 8; application due January 19, 2012

**P3 Awards: A National Student Design Competition for Sustainability Focusing on People, Prosperity and the Planet**, EPA
Funds an interdisciplinary team of undergraduate and/or graduate students to develop sustainable projects. The first phase is a competition for one-year grants of up to $15,000 to develop scientific or engineering designs that will promote sustainable development. In the following spring, Phase I grantees present their designs in Washington, DC where they compete for Phase II grant awards of up to $90,000. 40 awards for Phase I; 5 awards for Phase II. Areas are: Energy, Built Environment, Materials and Chemicals, Water, Agriculture, Green Infrastructure, and Green Cookstoves.
*December 22 (annual)*

**Doctoral Student Research Award**, Government of Canada
Funds topics of policy relevance for Canada and Canada-U.S. relations, including environment. Supports travel and up to 6 months spent in Canada while doing research.
*December 1 (annual)*

**Hydrogen Student Design Contest**, The Hydrogen Education Foundation
2012 Theme: design a combined heat, hydrogen and power (CHHP) system for a university campus using local resources. Open to undergraduate and graduate students worldwide. Various prizes (conference attendance, internships).
/Register by November 1 (annual)*

**Rolex scholarship** (aquatic sciences)
One year of travel, working with leaders in underwater fields. Must have extensive diving experience and be under 26. Three winners - from North America, Europe, and Australasia.
*Varied deadlines*

2. **Postdocs**

**Agriculture and Food Research Initiative: NIFA Fellowships Grant Program**, USDA
For doctoral candidates and postdocs. For work in the food, forestry and agricultural sciences. Two years of support. $12 million available in total.
*Letter of intent (required) due November 8; application due January 19, 2012*

**Earth Institute Fellows Program**, Columbia University
To work on issues related to global sustainable development. All disciplinary backgrounds welcome. Two years of support. $48,000/year salary and $12,000 research allowance. Eight awarded annually.
*December 1 (annual)*

**Postdoctoral Opportunities**, Visiting Scientist Programs, University Corporation for Atmospheric Research
Multiple postdocs related to climate change.
*January 4, January 18 (annual)*

**Neukom Fellows**, Neukom Institute for Computational Science, Dartmouth
Must have research interests that cut across traditional disciplinary boundaries and have a computational component. Two-three year appointments. $60,000/year and some funding for research.
*December 1 (annual)*

**Postdoctoral Fellowship for Transregional Research: Inter-Asian Contexts and Connections**, Social Science Research Council
Pilot program to support transregional research through the re-conceptualization of Asia as an interlinked historical and geographic formation. Environmental interest areas include resource flows and urbanization. Must be one to seven years out of the Ph.D. Up to $45,000 will be given. 15 fellowships awarded. 
October 21, 2011 and January 20, 2012

3. Faculty jobs

Thanks to Tom Dietz for sending these along!

Assistant Professor/Faculty Fellow of Environmental Studies & Bioethics, New York University
December 1, 2011

Faculty Position in Global Environmental Change, University of Toledo
December 1, 2011

Urban Landscape Climate Change Coordinator, National Park Service
October 11, 2011

Research fellow in assessment of environmental attitude and behavior transformation, Oberlin College
November 1, 2011

Assistant Professor, Environment and Ecology, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
November 1, 2011

Assistant Professor in Political Ecology, Geography and Environmental Studies, University of Vermont
November 15, 2011

Assistant Professor, Environmental Studies Program, Skidmore College
October 25, 2011

Assistant professors in (1) remote sensing, and (2) ecosystem modeling, Department of Geography and Environment, Boston University
November 15, 2011

OPPORTUNITIES FOR FACULTY

1. Agriculture

Agriculture and Food Research Initiative: Sustainable Bioenergy, USDA
Funds (a) one Regional Bioenergy Coordinated Agricultural Project (CAP); and research on (b) policy options for and impacts on regional biofuels production systems, (c) impacts of regional bioenergy feedstock production systems on wildlife and pollinators, (d) socioeconomic impacts of biofuels on rural communities, and (e) environmental implications of direct and indirect land use change.
Letter of intent (required) due October 25; application due December 15, 2011

Agriculture and Food Research Initiative: Agriculture and Natural Resources Science for Climate Variability and Change, USDA
To adapt agroecosystems and natural resource systems to climate variability and change and implement mitigation strategies in those systems. Specific program are reducing the use of
energy, nitrogen, reducing GHG emissions from practices, and water in the production of food, feed, fiber, and fuel and increase carbon sequestration [sic]. $12 million available in total. Letter of intent (required) due as early as October 20; multiple application deadlines.

Agriculture and Food Research Initiative: Food Security, USDA
Intended to keep American agriculture competitive while ending world hunger. Diverse areas including integrated pest management and sustainable food systems. Varied deadlines

2. Climate and Energy

Sustainable Energy Pathways (SEP), NSF
Scalable approaches for sustainable energy conversion to useful forms, as well as its storage, transmission, distribution, and use. Intended to be interdisciplinary. Topic areas are: energy harvesting & conversion from renewable resources; sustainable energy storage solutions; critical elements & materials for sustainable energy; nature-inspired processes for sustainable energy solutions; reducing carbon intensity from energy conversion & use; sustainable energy transmission & distribution; energy efficiency & management. February 1, 2012

Scientific Discovery through Advanced Computing: Scientific Computation Application Partnerships in Earth System Science, Department of Energy
To improve climate system models or their components to make them more accurate and computationally efficient. December 5, 2011

3. Education

P3 Awards: A National Student Design Competition for Sustainability Focusing on People, Prosperity and the Planet, EPA
Funds an interdisciplinary team of undergraduate and/or graduate students to develop sustainable projects. The first phase is a competition for one-year grants of up to $15,000 to develop scientific or engineering designs that will promote sustainable development. In the following spring, Phase I grantees present their designs in Washington, DC where they compete for Phase II grant awards of up to $90,000. 40 awards for Phase I; 5 awards for Phase II. Areas are: Energy, Built Environment, Materials and Chemicals, Water, Agriculture, Green Infrastructure, and Green Cookstoves. December 22 (annual)

Discovery Research K-12, NSF
To enhance the learning and teaching of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) by preK-12 students, teachers, administrators and parents. Letter of Intent due November 17, 2011 and October 04, 2012; proposals due January 10, 2012 and December 06, 2012

4. International

Partnerships for Enhanced Engagement in Research, USAID and NSF
Scientists in developing countries can apply for funds to support research and capacity-building activities in partnership with their NSF-funded collaborators on topics of importance to USAID. Special funds for Indonesia, Philippines, and Lebanon, but funds for elsewhere as well. Only proposals building upon active NSF-funded awards will be considered. November 30, 2011

Conservation and Sustainable Development, MacArthur Foundation
New initiative, focused on diverse areas. Two-thirds of funding goes to the Great Lakes region of
East Central Africa; the Greater Mekong and its headwaters; the watersheds of the Andes; and coastal marine littorals. Details to be announced this fall. Thanks to Patty Gonzales for sending this.

Comments requested, Pastoralists Resiliency Improvement and Market Expansion, USAID Program is intended to improve adaptive capacity of Ethiopian pastoral communities to climate change through market expansion. 
Comments by October 18, 2011

5. Other ecosystems

Frequently Asked Questions for the Dynamics of Coupled Natural and Human Systems Competition (CNH) Program, NSF

Letter of intent due October 27; application due December 16, 2011

Migratory Bird Joint Ventures Midwest Region, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Supports conservation projects (monitoring, applied research, outreach, and/or habitat) for migratory birds. $150,000 total in funding.
November 11 (annual)

Migratory Bird Conservation in the Upper Midwest, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Small grants for the conservation of birds that are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act but not Federally listed as Endangered or Threatened.
November 16, 2011

Defense Coastal/Estuarine Research Program, Department of Defense
For ecological research on estuarine, coastal, and associated terrestrial ecosystems that are necessary to sustain military readiness. The desired outcome of the requested research is to: (1) understand the effects of military activities and infrastructure on these ecosystems and (2) support their sustainable and adaptive management. To be based at a military site on the Gulf, Mid-Atlantic, or South Atlantic.
January 5, 2012

6. Various

Sustainability Seed Grants, MSU Office of Campus Sustainability
To engage faculty, students, and staff in opportunities that advance sustainable research while contributing to campus sustainability goals. Successful proposals will use the campus as a learning laboratory. $50-$75,000 per grant; $300,000 available in total.
November 16 (annual)

Environmental Influences on Stem Cells in Development, Health, and Disease (R21), NIH
To study the potential of environmental exposures to alter function, proliferation, survival, and differentiation of stem cells.
Letter of intent due October 28, 2011; proposal due November 28, 2011