

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Research That Falls in a Gap between current SMD Solicitations

General Information:

Solicitation Number: NNH20ZDA003L

Release Date: Dec 2, 2019

Response Date: Jan 31, 2020

Summary

The NASA Science Mission Directorate (SMD) is soliciting information on research that is aligned with the agency mission and SMD's Science Plan but falls in a gap between current solicitations, possibly because it is interdisciplinary or interdivisional. Responses to this Request for Information (RFI) will be used by NASA to inform a decision as to whether the portfolio of current program elements in the Research Opportunities for Space and Earth Science (ROSES) needs to be modified and/or expanded to provide the proper avenue for such research.

Context

NASA seeks to advance discovery in emerging fields by identifying and exploiting interdisciplinary opportunities between traditional science disciplines. NASA Science has traditionally operated within the divisional structure identified in the SMD Science Plan and, within these, typically solicits along the lines of widely recognized scientific disciplines. NASA recognizes that there is tremendous potential to make revolutionary scientific advances not just within these disciplines, but also at the interfaces between and among disciplines. The SMD divisions already provide some opportunities for interdisciplinary research within the research of the individual divisions, but NASA Science also seeks to provide opportunities for integrated, interdisciplinary research that crosses the boundaries associated with the individual SMD divisions and encourages collaboration among their respective scientific communities.

Request for Information

We seek broad input from the community to help NASA better understand what research opportunities that span the interest of two or more SMD divisions are being missed. This could include both research that addresses the interconnectedness of the science across the divisions or addresses common techniques and/or processes that underpin the work of two or more divisions that is typically not explicitly addressed in the divisions' solicitations. Responses to this Request for Information (RFI) will be used by NASA to inform a decision as to whether the portfolio of current program elements in ROSES need to be modified and/or expanded to provide the proper avenue for such research. Issuance of this RFI does not imply a new NASA commitment of funding for

research in these areas. This is a summary notice for Request for Information (RFI) only and does not constitute a commitment, implied or otherwise, that NASA will take action in this matter.

A suggested structure for the response is as follows:

1. Short statement of an area of interdivisional research that is aligned with NASA and SMD strategic science goals but does not fit into any current or recent (e.g., over the past three years) ROSES element.
2. Short statement of the central idea for a specific research investigation within this area of interdivisional research and how it addresses NASA and SMD research priorities.
3. A short description as to why this research area and/or research investigation do not fit into any current or recent ROSES element or processes.
4. Suggestions for specific topics for new ROSES element(s), as well as changes to language in existing element(s) that would remove constraints that currently limit proposals for interdivisional work are encouraged.

Fulfilling this RFI might therefore require ~1-3 pages of information.

Instructions

All responses submitted in response to this RFI must be submitted in electronic form via NSPIRES, the NASA online announcement data management system, located at <http://nspires.nasaprs.com/>. For this RFI, a response submission will take the form of a Notice of Intent (NOI) within the NSPIRES online announcement data management system. The RFI response itself will be a PDF-formatted document that is attached (uploaded) to the NSPIRES system.

You must be registered with NSPIRES to submit an RFI response. See registration instructions at <http://nspires.nasaprs.com/> (select "Getting an account"). Neither institution registration nor an institution affiliation is required to respond to this RFI.

1. Log in to your account at <http://nspires.nasaprs.com/>.
2. Select "Proposals" from your account page.
3. Select "Create NOI" from your proposals page.
4. Click "Continue" on the next page.
5. Select "Request for Information: Research That Falls in a Gap between current SMD Solicitations" (NNH20ZDA003L)" from the bullet list of announcements. Click "Continue".
6. Enter RFI response title ("NOI title" field will be shown).
7. Select "do not link at this time" for submitting organization page.
8. Click "Save" on next page.
9. It is not necessary to complete any of the "NOI Details"; all requested information must be included in the attached PDF document. Information that is entered into

“NOI Details”, but not included in the attached PDF document, will not be considered.

10. Prepare your RFI response offline and save as a PDF document (note NSPIRES instructions on .pdf formats). The response document must include the respondent’s Name, institution, phone number, and E-mail address so the file is self-contained. File names format should be “PI Last Name - First Name - RFI”. The response should not exceed ten pages in length.
11. To attach (upload) your PDF document:
 - a. Click “add” under NOI attachments section;
 - b. Select “Proposal Document” from the drop-down list;
 - c. Browse to attach your PDF file;
 - d. Select “Upload”;
 - e. Click “OK”;
 - f. Your RFI document has been uploaded to NSPIRES.
12. Click Submit NOI button.

Please note: You may delete and replace form fields and uploaded documents any time before the submission deadline.

Contact Point

Questions concerning this Request for Information should be addressed to Dr. Kartik Sheth, Program Scientist, Science Mission Directorate; Telephone: (202) 358-4805; E-mail: kartik.sheth@nasa.gov.