



MITSUBISHI CHEMICAL CENTER FOR ADVANCED MATERIALS

Call for New Research Theme Proposals No Deadline

BACKGROUND:

The Mitsubishi Chemical Center for Advanced Materials (MC-CAM) was established to enable a research partnership between the Mitsubishi Chemical Corporation (MCC) and the materials science community located at the University of California, Santa Barbara. This partnership specifically targets the area of functional soft materials, and has put into place MCC-funded research projects in this area on the UCSB campus.

MC-CAM is looking to fund approximately 2-3 innovative “New Research Theme” (NRT) projects on an annual basis. These projects will be funded for a term of 1 year, typically in the range of \$75,000-\$100,000, including indirect costs. The scope of research should address priority research areas identified by MC-CAM’s Steering Committee.

ELIGIBILITY:

University of California, Santa Barbara faculty and researchers who are eligible to be Principal Investigators may seek funding under this program.

AWARD MECHANISM:

“New Research Theme” (NRT) projects are designed to explore the potential, by explicit realization or by gathering peripheral evidence, of a novel idea with relevance to MCC. NRT projects are funded for 1 year, typically in the range of \$75,000 - \$100,000 (including indirect costs). Funding can be extended for a second year if the research results are sufficiently promising at the end of year one. Very successful NRT projects can also be expanded into larger Integrated Research Programs (IRPs) in subsequent funding cycles. MC-CAM funds approximately 2-3 innovative NRT projects on an annual basis. Funding decisions will be made by the MC-CAM Steering Committee.

NRT proposals may be submitted at any time, but will be considered quarterly by the Steering Committee for funding. Cutoff dates for quarterly review are as follows:

- March 1
- June 1
- September 1
- December 1

Proposals received after these dates will be deferred to the following quarter for review.

GENERAL GUIDELINES:

1. The grants will be used to support new, innovative projects that are broadly consistent with the spirit and aims of MC-CAM.
2. The NRT projects should involve the design, synthesis, characterization, and/or fabrication of new functional materials or devices, especially those based on organic or hybrid organic-inorganic materials, which could have application in the electronics or photonics marketplace. Currently, the following topics are of particular interest: *organic LEDs, phosphors and materials for solid state lighting; battery materials with highly controlled microstructures; next generation optical storage media; products based on high-purity silica and silicates; special and functional polymers for coatings and automotive applications; novel conjugated polymers with high-conductivity organics; nanostructured materials with unique electronic, magnetic, and optical properties; chemically modified fullerene materials and devices; materials for advanced display technologies.*
3. Proposals will be judged on the basis of scientific novelty and their potential for technological significance.
4. Ideally, NRT projects should be interdisciplinary in nature and involve faculty from more than one department or program.
5. A UCSB “project leader” should be identified in each proposal. If possible, a project co-leader from MCC should also be identified and consulted in the preparation of the proposal.
6. There is no restriction on the number of proposals that can be submitted by a single PI, or on the number of awards that a single PI can receive under the program.
7. Personnel paid from MC-CAM projects must be fully supported by MC-CAM funds, or by unrestricted fellowship or gift funds that carry no intellectual property assignment restrictions. **Affirmation to this effect must be included in each proposal.**
8. The research personnel must disclose any background intellectual property or other conflicts that could potentially interfere with intellectual property assignment of inventions arising from the proposed research. The PIs should also affirm that the NRT project is “intellectually distinct” from other ongoing or planned research activities in their laboratories.
9. All research personnel will be required to sign a Notice of Restrictive Patent Provision prior to the release of any awarded funds. Personnel joining a funded project after award must sign the Notice prior to their start-date. If you have any questions about the governing patent provisions or the Notice of Restrictive Patent Provisions, please call Sherylle Mills Englander, Director, Sponsored Projects, at (805) 893-5180 or englander@research.ucsb.edu.
10. **Please note:** University policy requires that a finite percentage of all PI and co-PI academic time is budgeted and fully reimbursed by for-profit sponsors, including Mitsubishi Chemical Corporation.

Questions regarding proposal content, appropriateness of subject matter for the program, or potential MCC partners should be addressed to **Glenn Fredrickson, MC-CAM Director**, x8308, ghf@mc-cam.ucsb.edu.

SUBMITTING YOUR PROPOSAL:

Proposals responding to this call must follow the standard Sponsored Projects Office review and approval procedures. All proposals will be submitted through MC-CAM. Along with the proposal, each participating PI and co-PI will submit a 700-U Statement of Economic Interests form. The 700-U can be found on the Office or Research's Forms web page at http://www.research.ucsb.edu/s_p/documents/spo_matrix.pdf.

Please, contact Sara Bard (x7913, sara@mc-cam.ucsb.edu), NOT the PI's home department Proposal Liaison, to coordinate the submission of the proposal to the Sponsored Projects Office.

PROPOSAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Proposal Deadline: No deadline: quarterly cutoff dates, 3/1, 6/1, 9/1, and 12/1

Award Announcement Date: 30 days following submission cutoff date

Project Start Date: 3 months or 6 months after submission cutoff date

Proposal Format:

1. Cover page that includes:
 - a) Project Title
 - b) UCSB team, & project leader (names, titles, and departmental affiliations)
 - c) MCC partners & co-leader, if known
 2. Scientific and technological objectives and relevance
 3. Affirmation regarding distinct funding (see #7 and #8 above)
 4. Project description (up to 5 single-spaced pages, including figures)
 5. Detailed budget and justification (<\$100,000 total direct and indirect costs, unless prior approval has been granted by Glenn Fredrickson)
- Two complete hard copies to
Sara Bard
Assistant to the Director
MC-CAM
MRL Bldg, Room 3107
 - One copy electronically (PDF file preferably) to:
Sara Bard
sara@mc-cam.ucsb.edu

Questions in regards to proposal submission procedure may be addressed to Sara Bard, x7913, sara@mc-cam.ucsb.edu.