



National Science Foundation
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Magda Cringasu
Deputy Director
Ministry for Education, Research and Youth
Executive Agency for Higher Education and Research Funding
1 Schitu Magureanu Blvd., 3rd floor, 5th sector
050025 Bucharest
ROMANIA

Dear Ms. Cringasu,

This is an invitation for Romania to participate in the Materials World Network. The Materials World Network activity is a cooperative activity in support of international collaborations in materials research. It entails parallel submissions of proposals by US researchers to NSF and by investigators in other countries to their respective national funding organizations. The proposals are evaluated separately or jointly by the funding organizations involved; funding decisions are jointly made on the basis of the evaluations. If a project is funded, each participating funding organization supports the part of the project done in that country. NSF does not set aside a fixed annual amount for this activity - total annual NSF investment depends on the quality of proposals received and overall annual NSF budget. Our current success rates are around 15-20%.

I attach the last NSF call for proposals for the MWN activity. The NSF web site http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=12820&org=DMR includes a link to MWN projects previously funded by NSF. We at NSF plan to issue a similar call for proposals this summer, proposals will be due at NSF in mid-November. It is anticipated that the review process will be complete and joint funding decisions will be made about six months after the proposal submission date.

If the Romanian Ministry of Education, Research and Youth through the National University Research Council – Executive Agency for Higher Education and Research Funding wishes to participate, please provide me with a letter of intent in order to express its interest in taking part in this international cooperation. Also, please provide me the contact person (name, address, phone, email and fax) at the Romanian Ministry of Education, Research and Youth to include in the NSF call for proposals. The role of that person would be to provide guidance to Romanian researchers who are interested in collaborating with US investigators in the materials research area and wish to submit a proposal to the National University Research Council-Executive Agency for Higher Education and Research Funding for this international materials collaboration.

With best regards,

Carmen Huber

Program Director
Office of Special Programs
Division of Materials Research