

# DARTMOUTH

The Arthur L. Irving Institute for Energy & Society

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## The Arthur L. Irving Institute for Energy and Society

### Request for Proposals

#### Fall 2018

*The Arthur L. Irving Institute for Energy and Society aspires to be the world's premier institute for transforming humankind's understanding of energy issues, and driving the creation of ideas, technologies, and policies that improve the availability and efficient use of energy for all people.*

*The Institute is designed to be a hub of vibrant collaboration, engaging faculty, students, and staff from across all academic disciplines, as well as outside experts worldwide, and preparing the next generation of experts who will address the most pressing North American and global energy challenges.*

#### SUMMARY

The Irving Institute for Energy and Society (IIES) seeks proposals for research and education on the energy challenges faced by society. IIES will support projects that are innovative and that advance the IIES mission as stated above. Awards are internal to Dartmouth and are available for faculty, research staff, post-doc, and student projects. Proposals should indicate how IIES funds will seed larger projects and/or leverage extramural funding sources. The typical funding period will be one calendar year. Projects proposed by faculty/staff may request up to \$50,000; those proposed by post-doctoral fellows may request up to \$25,000 and student grants up to \$10,000. IIES anticipates awarding up to \$250,000 in this cycle. Funding recipients will become IIES Affiliates and join the growing energy community at Dartmouth.

***Pre-proposals are due October 5<sup>th</sup>.***

More information about IIES is available at <https://irving.dartmouth.edu/>.

#### BACKGROUND

IIES is pleased to announce its first request for proposals (RFP) to support collaborative, innovative research, education, and engagement projects that advance understanding of and action at the interfaces of energy and society. To IIES, "society" includes all dimensions of the human enterprise: business and economic; political, legal, and regulatory; cultural, artistic, and ethical; behavioral and technological; and beyond. We seek to discover and enable "engaged scholarship": learning and action that foster energy systems that are socially and environmentally just and sustainable. Proposals are welcome from all Dartmouth faculty, staff, post-docs, and students. Multidisciplinary teams are encouraged, as are teams that include community stakeholders.

The IIES Fall 2018 Internal Grant Program encourages projects that initiate or advance novel or difficult-to-fund lines of inquiry; that incorporate technological and social dimensions of energy systems into both classroom and experiential education; that serve as pilot projects for future

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federal, state or foundation funding; that deploy new community partnerships toward solutions; and more. We encourage creative ideas, new applications, and novel combinations of perspectives and methods. We encourage teams to bring fresh eyes to enduring questions and to rigorously test emerging hypotheses. We encourage advances in artistic expression, in policy formulation and implementation, in technological development, in business practice, and more.

## ELIGIBILITY

We welcome proposals from all Dartmouth faculty, of any rank; Dartmouth staff and post-docs; and Dartmouth undergraduate and graduate students. Principal investigators (PI) should indicate whether they are considering the inclusion of collaborators from outside Dartmouth in the pre-proposal. Student and post-doc proposals must include a letter of support from a faculty mentor. Preference will be given to multidisciplinary, multi-departmental team proposals.

## ANTICIPATED AWARDS

- Faculty and staff awards: up to \$50,000
- Post-doc awards: up to \$25,000
- Student awards (undergraduate and graduate): up to \$10,000

## APPLICATION PROCESS

### Important Dates

- September 20, 2018, 11:30 am: Information session to discuss RFP opportunity
- October 5, 2018: Pre-proposals due, 5:00 pm
- October 19, 2018: Selected pre-proposals invited to submit full proposal
- November 9, 2018: Full proposals due, 5:00 pm
- Week of December 10, 2018: Awards announced
- January 2, 2019: First date to start project funding

### Step 1: Pre-proposal with budget outline.

- Limited to 2 pages. Email PDF document to [Irving.Institute@Dartmouth.edu](mailto:Irving.Institute@Dartmouth.edu). Pre-proposal receipt will be acknowledged by return email.
- Pre-proposals should concisely:
  - describe the purpose of and rationale for the project. Why is it important? What contribution(s) will it make to addressing energy and society challenges? How will it

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- advance the IIES mission?
- explain the intended approach/methodology of the project.
- identify core project team members, their status (faculty/student/research staff/post-doc), and their affiliation/major.
- indicate total anticipated budget request and major budget categories.
  - Has funding been requested from other sources for this project? If so, please briefly describe.
  - Indirect costs should not be included, but fringe on salaries should be anticipated and included.
- Note that this is an internal to Dartmouth RFP. Review/approval by OSP is not required.

## **Step 2 (if invited): Full proposal with fully itemized budget.**

Full proposals should make a strong, succinct case for funding. Proposals should specifically address the following questions:

- How will the proposed project delve into current energy system challenges – recognizing that these systems intertwine physical, ecological, social, economic, cultural, and governance dimensions?
- How will the proposed project advance society's capacity to craft sustainable energy solutions at global, regional and/or local levels?
- How is the proposed project different from (or complementary to) other efforts/activities by the research team?
- How is the proposed work innovative and multidisciplinary?
- How will the proposed project impact Dartmouth and/or outside engaged communities (intellectual, physical, artistic, civic)?

Full proposal packages should consist of, in order:

1. **A project title and team page**, with names, faculty/student/community status, departmental affiliations, and email addresses for all core project participants.
2. **A text narrative of not more than 2000 words** that contains:
  - Abstract (150-200 words)
  - Statement of purpose and project rationale
  - Work plan
    - Description of project methodology
    - Major project activities on a rough timeline
    - Anticipated outcomes
    - Evaluation plan
  - Brief outline of anticipated impact on people and/or energy systems, including statement of plans to secure supplemental external funding

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- Include figures embedded in the narrative as needed.
3. **References**
  4. **A detailed budget and budget narrative** (templates will be provided)
  5. **Background on key personnel.** Include 2-page CVs for faculty, research staff, post-docs, and graduate students; 1-page resumes for undergraduate students.
    - Include a list of current and pending support for each faculty and research staff member.
    - Student and post-doc proposals must include a letter of support from a faculty advisor/mentor.

**Submit all documents in full proposal package as a single, collated PDF document via email to [Irving.Institute@Dartmouth.edu](mailto:Irving.Institute@Dartmouth.edu). Proposal receipt will be acknowledged by return email.**

## **Selection Criteria**

Expert review committees (Dartmouth faculty/staff and local/regional community partners) will review pre-proposals and full proposals. While proposals are not required to meet all criteria, selection criteria will include:

- Does the project address an important energy challenge?
- Does the project advance IIES research and/or education goals?
- Does the project have strong potential to make an important impact on how people see, understand, use, adapt energy systems, and/or on how energy systems themselves function and evolve?
- Is the project likely to “seed” a larger, future effort?
- Is the project novel, innovative?
- Is the project multidisciplinary?
- Does the proposal indicate how project impact will be documented/measured?
- Does the project include a mentoring dimension (i.e., senior/junior faculty, post-doc/undergraduate student)?

## **FUND ADMINISTRATION**

### **Funding period**

Projects are expected to conclude on scope, on time and on budget. No-cost extensions may be requested in writing prior to the projected end date.

### **Use of funds**

Examples of how funding may be used include: seed new research projects or add new components to existing projects; support travel and supplies; hire student research assistants; pay for student employees; develop new educational programs or classes; develop or purchase specific teaching aid(s) or material(s).

### **Funds management**

PI has sole responsibility for all expenditures. IIES will provide regular summary reports and

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transaction-level details to PIs. Overages will be the sole responsibility of the PI and not IIES; any unused funds will revert to IIES unless a no-cost extension has been granted.

## **Project completion and reporting**

All recipients of IIES funding will be expected to provide semi-annual progress updates and a final report. Awardees will become IIES Affiliates, be profiled on the IIES website and in social media, and are expected to meet with fellow IIES grantees to join the growing energy community, share findings, discuss new directions for collaborative inquiry and activity and present at an IIES event. Recipients are expected to share documentation of supplemental funding (grant proposals/award letters, fellowship awards, etc.).

Each project will be considered complete and its PI's will be eligible for possible future IIES funding when all of the following are submitted to IIES:

- A) Final project report and financial summary.
- B) Web/social-media ready material, including photos, to share findings and lessons learned via IIES grants SharePoint portal.
- C) Full documentation of any/all project deliverables, including published papers, public presentations/exhibits, class materials, etc.

## **FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES**

We anticipate releasing a second RFP in Spring 2019.