DEFENCE INNOVATIVE RESEARCH PROGRAMME (DIRP)

Opportunities for Interdisciplinary Research Development in Defence Science and Technology

OBJECTIVES

To seek and fund innovative research with the potential to create significant value to the defence and security of Singapore. Hence, the Research areas will cover science and technology of relevance to defence and security. Examples of the areas of interest can be found on www.dsta.gov.sg under the heading of technology collaboration.

ELIGIBILITY

The Defence Innovative Research Programme Award is open to all NUS/NTU staff or staff from the various research institutions/centres with no restrictions on the nationality of the applicant. However, researchers of Temasek Labs at NUS & NTU are not eligible to apply.

Collaborative research with foreign research institutions are encouraged and supported. However, there must be substantial research conducted by the Applicant in Singapore.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

All terms and conditions governing the award will be in accordance with the Master Agreement signed between NUS and DSTA dated 7 Feb 2001 or between NTU and DSTA dated 8 Nov 2001, whichever is applicable.

Award holders are expected to submit a report every 3 months upon commencement of the project. A mid-term review will be conducted to determine the continuation of support. Award holders will also be required to provide a final report at the end of the project, giving details of the research outcomes, comparisons of these against the initial objectives as well as details on how the approved funding was utilised.

CRITERIA

Award is based on the merits of the applicant’s research and its potential impact on the defence and security of Singapore with an emphasis on innovative ideas.

SUPPORT AVAILABLE

The maximum award and duration for each project is $600,000 and 4 years, respectively. Payment will be made in 2 stages. For the first stage, a maximum sum of $200,000 will be paid over the first 2 years. For the second stage - upon completion of a mid-term review and decision to support continuation of the project, the remaining project value ($400,000 maximum) will be awarded for a
further period of 2 years for the completion of the project. The Award may be used to fund research manpower, consumables, equipment, and travel expenses related to the project. Any funds that remained unspent at the end of the Award must be returned to DSTA.

Solicitations for proposals will be announced once every year.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Prospective candidates are encouraged to discuss their proposals with the relevant DSTA programme managers before submission of proposals. The list of DSTA Programme Managers and their relevant research areas of interest are available on www.dsta.gov.sg under the heading of technology collaboration.

Applicants are then required to submit a preliminary proposal to the relevant Programme Manager covering the five items indicated below. A soft copy of the preliminary proposal is to be copied to the Secretary of the MINDEF/DSTA –NUS/NTU Joint Collaborative Programmes and the relevant NUS or NTU contacts as specified below.

i. Research Focus including innovative claims
ii. Importance of research
iii. Schedule and Cost
iv. Background of Principal Investigator
v. Collaborators (if any)

If the Programme Manager see potential in the project based on the preliminary proposal, the Applicant will be advised to prepare the complete proposal, in the format provided. The completed full proposal is to be submitted through the Office of Research, NUS or NTU, as applicable, with a soft copy to the Secretary of the MINDEF/DSTA –NUS/NTU Joint Collaborative Programmes. The full proposal should expand upon the preliminary proposal providing more details and references where applicable.

Applications will be considered by a DSTA panel. The panel’s decision is final and no appeal will be entertained.

SCHEDULE

The schedule & deadlines for the FY 2006 awards are as follows:

1. Call for proposals: 23 May 06
   (in conjunction with Defence R&D Seminar 2006)
2. Submission of Preliminary Proposals: 23 Jun 06
3. Notification for Full proposals: 15 Aug 06
4. Submission of Full Proposals: 15 Sep 06
5. Applicants informed of outcome: 1 Dec 06

Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.
Please contact:
Mr Lawrence Low,
Secretary,
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