The International Center for Materials Research (ICMR) at UC Santa Barbara announces its Developing Region grant competition for the 2010/2011 academic year. This is an annual program which we expect to last for five years.

Student Project Travel Grants:

The intent of these grants is to offset the costs of students traveling to developing world regions to implement projects. Eligible students will be those attending US universities with a demonstrated intent to perform research in a materials related area. The project that the travel is related to must have a materials component and be specifically related to developing world problems.

Travel grants will be limited to approximately $3,000 per student trip. We anticipate funding up to 10 students per year. Conference travel is not supported under this grant program.

Applications are accepted at any time but for full consideration should be received by May 1st for travel from July through December, and by November 1st for travel from January through June.

Research and Development Seed Grants:

These grants will help fund materials related research projects and development with a developing world focus. They are seed grants which are intended to initiate smaller scale projects and collaborations for novel materials applications. Projects could include the development of specialized devices using novel materials, or field trials of existing materials technology adapted to the developing world. Grants must be made by a joint US-developing world team. Emphasis will be given to projects proposed by student teams.

We anticipate funding between 4 and 8 projects with costs ranging between $5,000 and $10,000. The duration of the project should be specified and may be up to one year. Renewal funding will be considered but will not have as high a priority as new projects.

Applications are accepted at any time but for full consideration should be received by May 15th.

How to Apply:

Application materials, consisting of a description of the project and/or travel, emphasizing the nature and motivation for the international component, a short CV and (for students or postdocs) a letter of support from the advisor, should be sent to the ICMR Program Coordinator, Jennifer Ybarra (ybarra@icmr.ucsb.edu). Applications are limited to three pages. We will consider applications for both travel and research related to the same project, in which case the applicant should clarify whether or not the travel and research components can be funded independently.

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