Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research: Aquaculture Funding Opportunity Webinar

Aquaculture Webinar | July 12, 2017
Logistics for Today’s Webinar

• All participants are on mute.

• Submit questions in the “chat” box at any time (see right side bar for light gray symbol).

• To submit a question, type in the text box and press “enter” on your keyboard.

• Webinar recording and slides will be posted following today’s presentation.
History of FFAR

- Established through bipartisan Congressional support in the 2014 Farm Bill
- $200M provided by Congress used to leverage investment in research
- Advised by expert Councils
- Governed by a Board of Directors
- Tasked with complementing USDA research
Who We Are

• Independent 501 (c) (3) organization led by Dr. Sally Rockey, Executive Director

• 20-Member Board of Directors
  ○ Chaired by Mississippi State University President Mark Keenum
Who We Are - Board
19 Voting Members

Dr. Kathryn J. Boor, Cornell University
Dr. Doug Buhler, Michigan State University
Dr. Doug Cameron, First Green Partners
Dr. Gail Christopher, W.K. Kellogg Foundation
Dr. Nancy Creamer, North Carolina State University
Dr. Deborah Delmer, University of California Davis
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Dr. Rob Horsch, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
Dr. Mehmood Khan, PepsiCo
Ms. Pam Johnson, National Corn Growers Association
Dr. Mark Keenum, Mississippi State University

Dr. Michael Ladisch, Purdue University
Dr. Chris Mallett, Cargill Inc.
Dr. Pam Marrone, Marrone BioInnovations Inc.
Dr. Terry F. McElwain, Washington State University
Dr. Stanley Prusiner, University of California - San Francisco
Dr. Yehia “Mo” Saif, Ohio State University
Mr. Bob Stallman, American Farm Bureau Federation
Dr. Alton Thompson, Association of Research Directors of 1890 Land Grant Universities
Who We Are – Board
5 *Ex officio* Members

- Dr. Sonny Perdue, Secretary of Agriculture
- Dr. France Córdova, Chair, National Science Foundation
- Dr. Ann Bartuska, Acting Undersecretary for REE and Acting Chief Scientist, USDA
- Dr. Sonny Ramaswamy, NIFA Director, USDA
- Dr. Chavonda Jacobs-Young, ARS Administrator, USDA
FFAR builds unique partnerships to support innovative science addressing today’s food and agriculture challenges.
ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Research in aquaculture is traditionally underfunded, yet it has significant potential as a sustainable protein source.

The Sustainable American Aquaculture program from the Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research (FFAR) is intended to advance innovative research in sustainable fish and shellfish production.

Research will play a critical role in understanding the biology and marketability of a variety of fish and shellfish species and in developing environmentally-friendly practices that sustain production.
OBJECTIVE

The objective of this RFA is to stimulate innovative research in farmed production of fish and shellfish, providing economic opportunities to U.S. farmers and increasing the supply of domestically-produced, nutritious foods to meet growing consumer demand.

There is a major need to understand the biological and technological barriers, and market potential for a diverse range of aquatic species.
Program Priorities:
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1. Genetics of less-commonly studied shellfish species (e.g. mussels, clams, scallops) for improved performance parameters.
   New species and those in production will be considered.
   
   **Research topics covered:**
   a. Genomics, quantitative genetics, phenomics
   b. Gene-editing and biotechnology
Program Priorities:

2. Hatchery research including broodstock development and best early life-cycle production practices

**Research topics covered:**

a. Broodstock nutrition and management for optimal egg production and viability
b. Male reproductive performance
c. Improved egg production and hatching rate of fertilized eggs, including spawning, fertilization and incubation procedures
d. Early life-cycle stages: feeding protocols, increasing the survival of larvae/fry to fingerling/juvenile stages
Program Priorities:

3. Market-based analyses for new species and/or production regions

Research topics covered:
  a. Business risk and economic feasibility
  b. Market potential
  c. Research on other factors that impact development and commercialization
Research topics **NOT** covered by this initiative:

- Molecular mechanisms of pathogen transmission, pathogenicity, disease resistance, breeding for disease resistance or evaluation of therapeutics (e.g. pre- and pro-biotics, feed additives or drugs).

- Food-safety related research, traceability and seafood fraud

- Oyster genetics and breeding
Anticipated Funding: FFAR anticipates awarding up to $5 million to projects within this program. Each project may be funded for $150,000 to $1 million. The budget must be reasonable and commensurate with the proposed work.

Matching Funding: Outside funding (i.e. matching funding) of non-federal funds equivalent to FFAR award amount is required for eligibility. Industry partnerships are highly encouraged.

Duration: Projects of up to 60 months in duration will be considered, although shorter projects of 24-36 months are preferred.

Number of Awards: To be determined. Total number of projects to be funded under this opportunity depends on the quality and budgets of successful applications. FFAR reserves the right to negotiate all or none of the applications received for funding consideration under this opportunity.
Indirect Costs on Awards: FFAR allows indirect costs up to 10 percent of the total award funds, including match. Please note this is not an indirect cost rate applied to total modified direct costs but instead an overall allotment from the award to be used for indirect costs by the institution. For example, for a grant totaling $100,000 (FFAR and institutional match) up to $10,000 can be used for indirect costs and the remaining $90,000 can be applied toward programmatic expenses. FFAR, an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit, is not a federal agency and therefore a negotiated federal indirect cost percentage will not apply.

Number of Applications per Institution
FFAR will not limit the number of pre-proposals submitted per institution. However, we encourage investigators at the same research campus to collaborate in submitting a joint pre-proposal, if possible. Proposals may address more than one of the research priorities outlined in the RFA.
Pre-Proposal Deadline: August 9, 2017 at 4:59:59 PM Eastern Time

Applications must be submitted online through proposalCENTRAL (https://proposalcentral.altum.com/).

If you are a new user, register for an account by clicking the orange “Create One Now” button. You will receive a confirmation email to sign-in to your account. Once you log in, search through the list of institutions to see if there is an institutional profile for your organization. If there is no institutional profile, ask your Grants & Contracts Department or Office of Sponsored Programs to register your organization.
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To access FFAR’s open funding opportunities, click the “Grant Opportunities” button on the top right corner of your screen, then on the top left corner of the screen, pull down the “Filter by Grant Maker” button and scroll down to select FFAR. Select the opportunity you would like to apply for by clicking the “Apply Now” button.
Pre-proposals (due August 9, 2017) will be reviewed internally at FFAR to ensure that the proposed project is relevant to the RFA. Only the most innovative and cutting-edge projects with significant potential for advancing aquaculture will be invited to submit a full proposal application.

Applicants will be notified of pre-proposal status August 30, 2017.

Full proposals will be due October 11, 2017. Full proposal will be evaluated by peer-reviewers external to FFAR with appropriate COI and non-disclosure protections.

FFAR advisory council members will provide secondary level review and portfolio balance.

FFAR will seek to notify potential grantees in December 2017 with funded projects anticipated to start in early 2018.
We are Recruiting Expert Peer-Reviewers!

Please recommend your colleagues register as an expert reviewer:

http://foundationfar.org/grants/reviewer-resources/

Or,

http://bit.ly/2sN7IGp