The Center for Advanced Manufacturing in Discovery Park
Request for Proposals
Seed Grants in Support of Future External Funding Opportunities

The Center for Advanced Manufacturing (CAM) is pleased to offer this Request for Proposal (RFP) to encourage and facilitate interdisciplinary faculty research in the broad range of manufacturing enterprise and industry-level topics. The ultimate goals of the RFP are to stimulate interdisciplinary faculty research in manufacturing sciences, increase the number and improve the viability of large, externally funded grant applications, and to raise industry awareness of Purdue’s manufacturing research capabilities.

Consistent with the missions of CAM and Discovery Park, preference will be given to proposals including interdisciplinary, and whenever practical, industry collaborations with an identified path for future external funding opportunities. Industry collaborations with Indiana-based companies are particularly encouraged. These future proposals, submitted through CAM, should have a targeted submission timeframe of 12 months from the conclusion of the seed grant research. Faculty may participate as a co-principal investigator in more than one proposal. The maximum allowable request is $50,000, which may cover typical research expenses excluding faculty summer support. CAM anticipates funding approximately 8 proposals depending on the requested amounts and other factors.

Review Criteria:
1. Relevant to the broad disciplines encompassing manufacturing sciences including, but not limited to, education, engineering, management, science, and technology
2. Potential to improve competitive position for future, large-scale, multi-year, peer-reviewed funding grants
3. Sustainable, interdisciplinary collaborations with an emphasis on industry involvement
4. Potential for economic development via technology transfer to new or existing manufacturing enterprises
5. Strength of Home Department support

Eligible Participants: Principal investigators (PI’s) must be Purdue research faculty, tenure track, or tenured faculty. Tenure track or tenured faculty from other institutions may be included as co-PI’s.

Required Proposal Format and Content:
1. 8 page maximum; 10-point or larger font size, 1-inch margins
2. Executive Summary Section (one page or less)
3. Project Deliverable Section, including interim milestones
4. Rationale Section, explaining the background, academic significance of research, relevance to the manufacturing sector, and other review criteria
5. Plan of Research Section
6. Budget Narrative Section (the detailed data including a COEUS budget may be included in an appendix – an SPS Transmittal Sheet will be required should your proposal be selected for funding)
7. Future Funding Section, detailing the planned/prospective submittals for significant future external support from industry, national laboratories, national agencies, SBIR/STTR grants, or other funding mechanisms

Additional Requirements:
1. A poster for presentation at the Advanced Manufacturing Summit scheduled for May 10, 2007. Specific format information for this poster will be published at a later date.
2. A final project presentation will be delivered to an audience of interested Purdue faculty, students, and CAM’s internal and external members at a date to be determined.

Deadline and Submittal Information: Please submit your proposal via email in Word format to cam@purdue.edu by Monday, November 27, 2006. The proposals will be reviewed by a team of internal and external advisors. Awards will be announced no later than Friday, December 15, 2006. Questions may be directed to Steve Shade (sashade@purdue.edu or x-41279) or John Sullivan (john.p.sullivan.1@purdue.edu or x-41279).