To: Distribution List
From: Faculty Research Development Office
Office of the Vice President for Research
Subject: Limited Competitions: NSF Innovation Corps – Nodes Program (I-Corps Nodes) NSF 16-539
Date: November 8, 2016

The National Science Foundation (NSF) seeks to further develop and nurture a national innovation ecosystem that builds upon fundamental research to guide the output of scientific discoveries closer to the development of technologies, products, processes and services that benefit society. The goal of the program is to dramatically reduce the period of time necessary to bring a promising idea from its inception to widespread implementation.

Through this solicitation, NSF plans to build upon the established National Innovation Network (consisting of I-Corps Nodes and Sites) to further support the needs for innovation research, education and training. NSF is seeking to expand and sustain the network of I-Corps Nodes that work cooperatively to support the development of innovations that will benefit society. The interconnected nodes of the network are expected to be diverse in research areas, resources, tools, programs, capabilities, and geographic locations - providing the network with the flexibility to grow or reconfigure as needs arise.

I-Corps Nodes will foster understanding on how to: 1) identify, develop and support promising ideas that can generate value, 2) create and implement tools, resources and training activities that enhance our nation's innovation capacity, 3) gather, analyze, evaluate and utilize the data and insight resulting from the experiences of those participating in regional programs and 4) share and leverage effective innovation practices on a national scale - to improve the quality of life for the U.S. citizenry. In addition, Nodes must identify and are expected to implement plans for sustainable scaling of their efforts beyond the duration of NSF support.

The anticipated funding amount is up to $500,000. More details can be found at https://nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?WT.z_pims_id=504806&ods_key=nsf16539. The required letter of intent is due to the NSF on March 9, 2017 with full proposals due May 9, 2017.

This is a limited competition; each institution is limited to one proposal. If you are interested in submitting a proposal, send a statement of interest with a tentative project title and brief description (200 words) by noon, Thursday, November 17, 2016 via e-mail to limited@unm.edu with the subject line: I Corp Nodes – your name. Based on the e-mail responses received, the Limited Competition Management Team may announce a call for preproposals. Please distribute this notice to departments and individuals whom you believe would be interested.

If you are affiliated with HSC, contact Corey Ford at 272-6950 for more information.