Student Funding Opportunity

CMI Graduate Student Research Awards

Deadline: 20 March 2018, 5 pm

The University of Alaska Coastal Marine Institute (CMI) is a partnership of the University of Alaska, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), and the State of Alaska. The CMI provides a pathway for BOEM to fund research supporting the management, exploration, and development of energy resources on Alaska's outer continental shelf.

CMI Student Awards

In 2018, CMI will award up to two Graduate Student Research Awards of $25,000 to qualified students for research work that is technically meritorious and relevant to the BOEM mission. Projects should address one or more of the CMI Framework Areas defined below. Eligible students must be enrolled and in good academic standing through academic year 2018-19. Students are limited to one CMI research award per degree.

Awards are intended to fund a specific, well-defined component or augmentation of a student's larger research effort or an established project. Student Research Awards can be spent May 1, 2018 through July 31, 2019, and are restricted to a maximum of $25,000, including indirect costs. All award funds must directly benefit the student and may be used for graduate student support, tuition, university fees, and research expenses such as travel, supplies, and laboratory fees. Non-federal cost-share (1:1) is required and can include student advisor and committee member time. Contact CMI with any questions.

CMI Framework Areas

The CMI Framework Areas provide guidance in the development of specific research projects that will provide scientific information to inform stakeholders in areas affected by CMI projects. The most relevant studies will supply information to support the analysis of the potential effects of offshore development, including oil spill risk analysis and mitigation of potential impacts on the biological and human environment. Student research should address one or more of the following:

- Scientific studies for better understanding of marine, coastal, or human environments affected or potentially affected by offshore oil and gas exploration and extraction or renewable energy development on the OCS;
- Modeling studies of environmental, social, economic, or cultural processes related to OCS oil and gas or renewable energy activities in order to improve scientific predictive capabilities;
- Experimental studies for better understanding of environmental processes or the causes and effects of OCS activities;
- Projects that improve collection of and sharing of data regarding marine or coastal resources or human activities to support prudent management of oil and gas resources; and
- Synthesis studies of scientific environmental or socioeconomic information relevant to the OCS oil and gas and renewable energy program.

Environmental Studies Program Study Areas

The preferred geographic area of study includes the State and Federal waters offshore of Alaska, particularly in the Outer Continental Shelf oil and gas lease areas in the Beaufort Sea, the Chukchi Sea, and Cook Inlet and Shelikof Strait. However, research efforts outside of the Alaska Region may be proposed if applicable to CMI priorities.

Proposal Content

Proposals exceeding the 6 page limit page limit (for A-J) or missing *any* of the required elements *will be rejected without further review.*

Required Elements *(6 page total limit for items A-J)*

A. Abstract (300 words or less): Briefly describe the proposed research 1) Identify applicable CMI Framework Area and Environmental Studies Program Study Area the study will take place, 2) Define targeted objectives and questions or hypotheses being tested, and 3) Briefly describe methods. The summary should be written so that it can be understood by individuals not familiar with the specific subject area.

B. Background/Relevance to CMI/BOEM: Give a brief introduction to the research problem. State how the proposal addresses CMI Framework Areas and why it is important to Alaska offshore oil and gas development issues. Objectives/Hypotheses: Clearly define the goals to be addressed during the award period and ties to other research efforts, if applicable.

C. Methods/Analyses: Provide a concise description of planned methodologies and analyses.

D. Data Management, Data Security and Data Archiving Plan: If applicable, you should explain your data management plan (i.e., providing copies of data files with metadata to BOEM in a format that meets Federal data standards, archiving copies with the National Oceanographic Data Center (NODC), the National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service (NESDIS), or other appropriate Federal Data Repository).

E. Field Safety Plan and Permits: Identify permits required to accomplish the objectives and how they will be attained. For studies involving field work, applicants should provide a Logistics and Safety Management plan.

F. Project Management: Indicate the role and anticipated level of effort for each participant in the project (student, advisor, etc.).

G. Performance Measures: List specific measures to monitor project progress, e.g., completion of fieldwork and deliverables or other project components..

H. Project Timeline (include schedule for reporting and deliverables under I and J)

I. **Required Project Deliverables**:
   1. *Quarterly reports*: October 15, January 15, April 15, July 15
   2. *Draft Final report*: July 31, 2019. Revised Final report: August 31, 2019 final report
   3. *Draft Technical Summary*: July 31, 2019. *Technical Summary*: August 31, 2019
   4. *Images and Data*: July 31, 2019
   5. *Outreach summary* (one page) *or small poster* (8½" x 11") describing the project results in language appropriate to a non-science, lay audience.
   6. List any other products (reports, analyses, maps, digital data, etc.) that will be delivered during the performance period.

J. Publication and Presentation: The following presentations are **required**: annual oral presentation at the CMI research review in Anchorage and one other presentation at a meeting to be identified in agreement with BOEM (e.g., the Alaska Marine Science Symposium).

K. Bibliography (no page limit): List all references cited in the text.

L. Curricula Vitae (maximum 2 pages).

M. Letters of Commitment: Provide a letter of support from the student's advisor *acknowledging the advisor will monitor project progress and approve a draft final report.* The letter should also confirm that the student is enrolled/accepted and in good standing, that the student is able to complete the research in the timeline given, and that the source of the 1:1 non-federal cost-share and other contributing sources are accurate.

N. UAF Budget Spreadsheet and Justification: Include a detailed description of how the money will be spent and the source of the 1:1 non-federal cost-share (include cost-share commitment letters as appropriate). Describe any additional funding that is supporting this project and/or the student.

Application Submission /Questions

Applications for CMI Student Research Awards must be submitted electronically **as a single PDF file** to CMI@alaska.edu. Deadline is 5 pm March 20, 2018. Direct questions to CMI Program Manager, Ruth Post (rmpost@alaska.edu) or CMI Director, Brenda Konar (bhkonar@alaska.edu).