



## Earth, Ecosystems and Society Fellows Program

**Introduction.** A particularly acute challenge in our current efforts to build and leverage research activities at WSU is to seize emerging opportunities for interdisciplinary work. The typical response to large interdisciplinary calls for proposals is that a few volunteer faculty take on the burden of team building and grant writing in addition to their other existing commitments, or worse, the call for proposals goes unanswered. If funded, the volunteers struggle to find the time to do the work, effectively taking them out of proposal writing at the moment their leveraging chances are greatest. To have and sustain success in this important granting arena, team building must be set in motion in advance of the call, and this developed capacity supported to address future calls. To address these issues, CEREO has formulated a new and unique Earth, Ecosystems and Society (EES) Fellows Program. The purpose of the EES Fellows program is to develop interdisciplinary teams working collaboratively across colleges on grand environmental challenges. The EES Fellows program will provide the time, space and additional resources required for the development of cohesive, effective interdisciplinary research teams focused on a particular environmental topic.

**Cohorts and Themes.** The EES Fellows program will be selected in cohorts of three to six members, drawn from a broad range of disciplines, brought together for 1-2 years to generate new concepts and to produce proposals addressing a theme strategically chosen for its timeliness, funding prospects, and connections to WSU's mission, capacities, and emphases. The Fellows will be WSU faculty drawn from across the university system, across rank and discipline, each with demonstrated potential to work on large-scale, interdisciplinary issues and funding streams to support those efforts. Faculty from all academic, research, and extension units are eligible to apply. Applications for the second cohort, from individuals and from teams, will be accepted immediately.

**Support.** Funds will be provided to support faculty member release time through financial arrangements with each Fellow and their respective home unit's equivalent to, but not necessarily in the form of, buyout of a typical teaching load. Shared working space in a designated Magnet Facility will be provided to facilitate creative interaction. For those faculty not located on the Pullman campus, arrangements will be made for remote access. Though the number of Fellows involved in any given cohort may vary, a range of three-to-six is large enough for adequate breadth and yet small enough for the team to develop cohesiveness and understanding of respective fields of inquiry. Each cohort of Fellows will receive support for up to two years, at which point the theme will be revisited and a new cohort will be selected.

EES focus for the Second Cohort:

We will enlist the broadest possible themes for this call. The purpose is to be inclusive of any idea and concept as long as it relates to the themes inherent in CEREO and examines environmental issues in an interdisciplinary manner. It is important that the EES fellows design projects that are multi- and interdisciplinary in nature, that they develop novel approaches to significant funding opportunities, or develop novel approaches to high impact outside of WSU and CEREO. Thus, we will consider funding proposals that will culminate in programmatic, multi PI, multi institutional, and multi-million dollar proposals. We will also consider proposals that significantly advance new scholarship or creative activities around environmental themes. These latter projects may lead to popular or scholarly books, series of articles, or an arts exhibition. We are soliciting creative and novel concepts without restriction.

#### Application Process

To apply please submit a single pdf document to Todd Norton, Associate Professor, College of Communication and Affiliate Faculty, School of the Environment, 509-335-3850, [tmnorton@wsu.edu](mailto:tmnorton@wsu.edu)

That contains the following information:

1. A statement (limited to 3-pages) that clearly identifies and expands on the critical research questions or creative activities you will address with your disciplinary skills and experience, and how integration/collaboration with other disciplines will insure focused and in depth answers to these critical questions or lead to advancing WSU in a creative manner.
2. A description of the team you will build with representatives from associated disciplines and how each team member will contribute towards addressing the questions identified in (1). Please include discipline subtopics that will be addressed by team members and/or names of potential collaborators and their disciplines.
3. The RFAs/RFPs for which your team will be prepared to submit proposals. Alternatively, how will your creative project culminate and what will the impact be?
4. A budget describing how you would use the funds provided to make the team/proposals successful.
5. Curriculum Vitae – 2-page version, highlighting relevant publications, funding and collaboration history.
6. Current and pending grant support list

Applications are due **December 1, 2012**. For more information please contact Todd Norton, Associate Professor, College of Communication and Affiliate Faculty, School of the Environment, 509-335-3850, [tmnorton@wsu.edu](mailto:tmnorton@wsu.edu)