

Decided: August 10, 1998.

By the Board, Chairman Morgan and Vice Chairman Owen.

Vernon A. Williams,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-22183 Filed 8-18-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4915-00-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Commission to Study Capital Budgeting

AGENCY: Commission to Study Capital Budgeting, Department of the Treasury.

ACTION: Notice of meetings.

SUMMARY: The agenda for the next meeting on Saturday, September 19, 1998, of the Commission to Study Capital Budgeting includes the review and discussion of the first draft of its final report. The final report on capital budgeting is due on December 13, 1998. Meetings are open to the public. Limited seating capacity is available.

DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF THE NEXT COMMISSION MEETING:

September 19, 1998, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; White House Conference Center, Truman Room, 726 Jackson Place, NW, Washington, DC 20503.

The Commission is seeking all views on capital budgeting. Interested parties may submit their views to: Dick Emery, Executive Director, President's Commission to Study Capital Budgeting, Old Executive Office Building (Room 258), Washington, DC 20503, Voice: (202) 395-4630, Fax: (202) 395-6170, E-Mail: capital_budget@omb.eop.gov, Website: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/EOP/OMB/PCSCB/>

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: E. William Dinkelacker, Ph.D., Designated Federal Official, Room 4456 Main Treasury, Washington, DC 20220, Voice: (202) 622-1285, Fax: (202) 622-1294, E-Mail:

william.dinkelacker@treas.sprint.com

Angel E. Ray,

Committee Management Officer.

[FR Doc. 98-22366 Filed 8-19-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4810-25-U

UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY

Administrative Services to the College and University Affiliations Program (CUAP)

ACTION: Request for Proposals.

SUMMARY: The Office of Academic Programs' Specialized Programs Branch of the United States Information Agency's Bureau of Educational and

Cultural Affairs announces an open competition to assist in the administration of the Fiscal Year 1999 College and University Affiliations Program (CUAP) competition. Public and private non-profit organizations meeting the provisions described in IRS regulation 26 CFR 1.501(c) may apply to assist in the administration of the technical and academic review of approximately 50 to 75 proposals for the Fiscal Year 1999 College and University Affiliations Program competition (E/ASU-99-02).

The CUAP supports partnerships between U.S. and foreign institutions of higher education in specified fields and themes within the humanities, law, business, and the social or environmental sciences.

Overall grant making authority for this program is contained in the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, Public Law 87-256, as amended, also known as the Fulbright-Hays Act. The purpose of the Act is "to enable the Government of the United States to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries * * *; to strengthen the ties which unite us with other nations by demonstrating the educational and cultural interests, developments, and achievements of the people of the United States and other nations * * * and thus to assist in the development of friendly, sympathetic and peaceful relations between the United States and the other countries of the world." The funding authority for the program cited above is provided through the Fulbright-Hays Act.

Projects must conform with Agency requirements and guidelines outlined in the Solicitation Package. USIA projects are subject to the availability of funds.

Announcement Title and Number: All communications with USIA concerning this RFP should refer to the announcement's title and reference number, E/ASU-99-03.

Deadline for Proposals: All copies must be received at the U.S. Information Agency by 5 P.M. Washington, D.C. time on Tuesday, October 13, 1998. Faxed application documents will not be accepted.

Documents postmarked by the due date but received at a later date will not be accepted. It is the responsibility of each applicant to ensure compliance with the deadline.

Approximate Program Dates: Grant should begin on or about December 1, 1998 and end approximately five months later.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:

The Specialized Programs Branch (E/ASU), Room 349, U.S. Information Agency, 301 4th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20547, phone: (202) 619-5289, fax: (202) 401-1433. Send a message via Internet to: affiliat@usia.gov to request a Solicitation Package containing more detailed award criteria. Please request required application forms, and standard guidelines for preparing proposals, including specific criteria for preparation of the proposal budget.

To Download a Solicitation Package Via Internet: The entire Solicitation Package may be downloaded from USIA's website at <http://www.usia.gov/education/rfps>. Please read all information before downloading.

To Receive a Solicitation Package Via Fax on Demand: The entire Solicitation Package may be received via the Bureau's "Grants Information Fax on Demand System", which is accessed by calling 202-401-7616. Please request a "Catalog" of available documents and order numbers when first entering the system.

Please specify USIA Specialized Programs Branch Chief Paul Hiemstra on all inquiries and correspondence. Interested applicants should read the complete **Federal Register** announcement before sending inquiries or submitting proposals. Once the RFP deadline has passed, Agency staff may not discuss this competition in any way with applicants until the Bureau proposal review process has been completed.

Submissions: Applicants must follow all instructions given in the Solicitation Package. The original and 7 copies of the application should be sent to: U.S. Information Agency, Ref.: E/ASU-99-03, Office of Grants Management, E/XE, Room 326, 301 4th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20547.

Diversity, Freedom and Democracy Guidelines: Pursuant to the Bureau's authorizing legislation, projects must maintain a non-political character and should be balanced and representative of the diversity of American political, social, and cultural life. "Diversity" should be interpreted in the broadest sense and encompass differences including, but not limited to ethnicity, race, gender, religion, geographic location, socio-economic status, and physical challenges. Applicants are strongly encouraged to adhere to the advancement of this principle both in program administration and in program content. Please refer to the review criteria under the "Support for Diversity" section for specific suggestions on incorporating diversity into the total proposal. Public Law 104-

319 provides that "in carrying out programs of educational and cultural exchange in countries whose people do not fully enjoy freedom and democracy," USIA "shall take appropriate steps to provide opportunities for participation in such programs to human rights and democracy leaders of such countries." Proposals should account for advancement of this goal, in their program contents, to the full extent deemed feasible.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Overview

Objectives

The recipient of this award will administer the technical and independent academic reviews for the Fiscal year 1999 College and University Affiliations Program. The CUAP is designed to support partnerships between U.S. and foreign institutions of higher education in the humanities, business, and the social or environmental sciences. In fiscal year 1999, awards will be made to strengthen civil society through projects on the rule of law, journalism and media studies, or civic education; and to assist with the development of a foundation for international trust through projects on business relations or environmental cooperation.

The CUAP supports curriculum development, faculty and staff development, educational reform, community outreach and collaborative research through three-year grants of up to \$120,000 each.

Guidelines

Project Description

The recipient of this award shall review proposals for compliance with the technical requirements published in the Request for Proposals (RFP) for the FY 1999 CUAP competition. (The FY 1999 CUAP RFP will be provided in the application packet mailed to applicants, and also is available upon request by the applicant, and on the Internet via USIA's website at <http://www.usia.gov/education/rfps>).

The recipient will also coordinate the academic review of technically eligible, comprehensive proposals and provide the Agency with a detailed academic appraisal report on each eligible proposal, extensively summarizing the panel discussion in terms of the academic review criteria published in the FY 1999 CUAP RFP. The recipient shall arrange for the review of applications geographically by multi-disciplinary panels of experts representing eligible fields and themes.

These experts must be highly familiar with the eligible countries and world areas.

Note: USIA may also request that the recipient conduct additional College and University Affiliations Program development activities as an enhancement of the initial award. Program development activities may include assisting E/ASU with preparing a database of CUAP project information involving the compilation of descriptions, statistics and contact information.

In preparing a submission, the applicant shall designate a coordinator, subject to Agency approval, to implement and chair all the technical and academic reviews, and to provide detailed summaries of the academic review discussions. The applicant should plan to prepare correspondence to be sent to CUAP applicants by the agency in response to inquiries regarding the technical and academic review of their proposals, and to notify applicants of the status of their proposals. All official documents should highlight the U.S. government's role as program sponsor and funding source.

Eligibility

Only non-profit organizations based in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area, with experience in international education and educational exchanges, are eligible to compete for this cooperative agreement award from the agency.

Proposed Budget

Please provide a detailed line-item budget as part of your grant proposal, which translates the activities described in the proposal narrative into specific cost requirements. Please use explanatory notes where necessary to describe the costs included in specific line items and how the amounts were derived. Applicants must submit a comprehensive budget for the entire program. There must be a summary budget as well as a break-down reflecting both the administrative budget and the program budget.

For further clarification, applicants may provide separate sub-budgets for each program component, phase, location, or activity in order to facilitate USIA decisions on funding.

Review Process

USIA will acknowledge receipt of all proposals and will review them for technical eligibility. Proposals will be deemed ineligible if they do not fully adhere to the guidelines stated herein and in the Solicitation Package. Eligible proposals will be forwarded to panels of USIA officers for advisory review. All

eligible proposals will be reviewed by the program office. Proposals may be reviewed by Office of the General Counsel or by other Agency elements. Funding decisions are at the discretion of the USIA Associate Director for Educational and Cultural Affairs. Final technical authority for assistance awards (grants or cooperative agreements) resides with the USIA grants officer. Technical Format Requirements for this competition are included in the check list in the PSI accompanying this RFP.

Panelists will review FY 1999 CUAP proposals received in response to this solicitation according to the following criteria:

1. *Quality of Program Plan/Ability to Achieve Program Objectives:* Proposal agendas and plans should adhere to the program overview and guidelines described above and in the Application Package. Objectives should be reasonable, feasible, and flexible. A proposal should clearly demonstrate how an organization will meet the program's objectives and plan.

2. *Institution's Record/Ability/Capacity:* Proposed personnel and institutional resources should be adequate and appropriate to achieve the project's goals. Proposals should demonstrate responsible fiscal management and full compliance with all reporting requirements for any past Agency grants the applicants have administered, as determined by USIA's Office of Contracts.

3. *Cost-Effectiveness/Cost-Sharing:* The overhead and administrative components of proposals, including salaries and honoraria, should be kept as low as possible. All other items should be necessary and appropriate. Proposals should attempt to maximize cost-sharing through private sector support as well as institutional direct funding contributions.

4. *Project Evaluation:* Proposals should include an effective evaluation plan which defines and articulates a list of anticipated outcomes clearly related to the project goals and activities, and provide procedures for ongoing project monitoring and mid-term corrective action.

5. *Support of Diversity:* Proposals should demonstrate the applicant's commitment to promoting the awareness and understanding of diversity.

Application Submission

The complete proposal for this competition (E/ASU 99-03) must meet the due date of October 13, 1998. There will be no exception to this deadline.

Notice

The terms and conditions published in this RFP are binding and may not be modified by any USIA representative. Explanatory information provided by the Agency that contradicts published language will not be binding.

Issuance of the RFP does not constitute an award commitment on the part of the Government. The Agency reserves the right to reduce, revise, or increase proposal budgets in accordance with the needs of the program and the availability of funds. Awards made will be subject to periodic reporting and evaluation requirements.

Notification

Final awards cannot be made until funds have been appropriated by Congress, allocated and committed through internal USIA procedures.

Dated: August 12, 1998.

James D. Whitten,

Acting Associate Director for Educational and Cultural Affairs.

[FR Doc. 98-22206 Filed 8-19-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8230-01-M

UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY**College and University Affiliations Program (CUAP)**

ACTION: Notice—Request for Proposals.

SUMMARY: The Office of Academic Programs of the United States Information Agency's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs announces an open competition for an assistance award program. Accredited, post-secondary educational institutions meeting the provisions described in IRS regulation 26 CFR 1.501(c) may apply to pursue objectives in specified fields and themes within the humanities, the social or environmental sciences, law, or business administration in partnership with overseas institutions of higher education. Awards will be made to support educational partnerships with the general goal of strengthening civil society through projects on the rule of law, journalism and media studies, or civic education; or with the general goal of assisting with the development of a foundation for international trust through projects on business relations or environmental cooperation.

Partner institutions may pursue these goals through exchanges of teachers or administrators for any appropriate combination of teaching, lecturing, college or university teacher and curriculum development, collaborative research, and outreach, for periods

ranging from one week (for planning visits) to an academic year. Also eligible as activities to support the pursuit of these objectives in the FY99 program are the establishment and maintenance of Internet and/or e-mail communication facilities as well as interactive distance-learning programs at foreign partner institutions in conjunction with eligible projects. Applicants may propose other project activities not listed in this paragraph that are consistent with the overall goals and activities of the College and University Affiliations Program.

One-way projects that provide technical assistance from one institution to another are strongly discouraged. Substantial project benefits must accrue to all partner institutions, although the benefits may differ significantly for each institution.

The program awards up to \$120,000 for a three-year period to defray the costs of travel and per diem, educational materials, and some aspects of project administration. Grants awarded to organizations with less than four years of experience in conducting international exchange programs will be limited to \$60,000.

Grants are subject to the availability of funds for Fiscal Year 1999.

Proposed projects must be eligible in terms of country(ies)/locations and themes as described in the section entitled "Eligibility" below.

Overall grant-making authority for this program is contained in the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, Pub. L. 87-256, as amended, also known as the Fulbright-Hays Act. The purpose of the Act is "to enable the Government of the United States to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries * * * to strengthen the ties which unite us with other nations by demonstrating the educational and cultural interests, developments, and achievements of the people of the United States and other nations * * * and thus to assist in the development of friendly, sympathetic and peaceful relations between the United States and the other countries of the world." The funding authority for the program cited above is provided through the Fulbright-Hays Act.

Projects must conform with Agency requirements and guidelines outlined in the Solicitation Package. The POGI, a document describing College and University Affiliation Project Objectives, Goals, and Implementation, is included in the Solicitation Package.

Announcement Title and Number: All communications with USIA concerning this announcement should refer to the

College and University Affiliations Program and reference number E/ASU-99-02.

Deadline for Proposals: All copies must be received at the U.S. Information Agency by 5 p.m. Washington, D.C. time on Friday, December 11, 1998. Faxed documents will not be accepted, nor will documents postmarked on December 11, 1998, but received on a later date. It is the responsibility of each applicant to ensure compliance with the deadline.

Approximate program dates: Grants should begin on or about August 1, 1999.

Duration: August 1, 1999—July 31, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Office of Academic Programs; Advising, Teaching, and Specialized Programs Division; College and University Affiliations Program (CUAP), (E/ASU), Room 349, U.S. Information Agency, 301 4th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20547, phone: (202) 619-5289, fax: (202) 401-1433. Send a message via Internet to: affiliat@usia.gov to request a Solicitation Package. The Solicitation Package includes more detailed award criteria; all application forms; and guidelines for preparing proposals, including specific criteria for preparation of the proposal budget.

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Please specify "College and University Affiliations Program Officer" on all inquiries and correspondence. Prospective applicants should read the complete **Federal Register** announcement before addressing inquiries to the College and University Affiliations Program staff or submitting their proposals. Once the RFP deadline has passed, Agency staff may not discuss this competition in any way with applicants until the Bureau proposal review process has been completed.

Submissions: Applicants must follow all instructions given in the Solicitation Package. The original and 10 copies of the complete application, including the documents specified under Tabs A