Dear Colleague:

The Division of Chemical, Bioengineering, Environmental and Transport Systems (CBET) announces a nationwide search for a Program Director for the Environmental Engineering and Environmental Technology Programs at the National Science Foundation (NSF). The position is a temporary, one year appointment.

Formal consideration will begin September 15, 2007 and will continue until a selection is made.

NSF Program Directors bear the primary responsibility for carrying out the Agency's overall mission: to support innovative and merit-reviewed activities in basic research and education that contribute to the nation’s technical strength, security, and welfare. Discharging this responsibility requires not only knowledge in the appropriate disciplines, but also a commitment to high standards, a considerable breadth of interest and receptivity to new ideas, a strong sense of fairness, good judgment, good interactive communication skills, and a high degree of personal integrity.

The Environmental Engineering and Environmental Technology Programs supports research and educational activities with the goal of applying engineering and scientific principles to understand and reduce adverse effects of pollutant discharges to land, natural waters, and air that result from human activity and that impair the ecological and economic value of those resources. Major areas of interest include developing innovative biological, chemical and physical treatment processes to remove and degrade pollutants from water and air; measuring, modeling and predicting pollutant movement and environmental fate; and developing and evaluating techniques to clean up polluted sites, restore the quality of polluted water, air and land resources, and rehabilitate degraded ecosystems. The successful candidate will support the Environmental programs and work on special projects including major research infrastructure planning.

Qualifications of a successful candidate include a Ph.D. or equivalent professional experience in environmental engineering, or related discipline, plus six or more years of successful research, research administration and/or substantial managerial experience in academe, industry, or government. In particular, it is desirable for the candidate to
have knowledge of the general scientific community, skill in written communication and preparation of technical reports, an ability to communicate orally, and several years of successful independent research of the kind normally expected of the academic rank of associate professor or higher. All appointees are expected to function effectively both within specific programs, as well as in a team mode, contributing to and coordinating with organizations in the Directorate, across the Foundation, and with other Federal and State government agencies and private-sector organizations. Periodic assignments to leadership of interdivisional, inter-directorate and interagency initiatives may be made. We are interested in attracting women and underrepresented minority candidates.

The position may be filled under one of the following appointment options:

Visiting Scientist Engineer and Educator Appointment: Appointment to this position will be made under the Excepted Authority of the NSF Act. Visiting Engineers are on non-paid leave status from their prospective home institution and appointed to NSF’s payroll as Federal employees. NSF withholds Social Security taxes and pays the home institution’s contributions to maintain retirement and fringe benefits (i.e., health benefits and life insurance), either directly to the home institution or to the carrier. Appointments are usually made for up to one year and may be extended for an additional year by mutual agreement.

Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA) Assignment: Individuals eligible for an IPA assignment with a Federal agency include employees of State and local government agencies or institutions of higher education, Indian tribal governments, and other eligible organizations in instances where such assignments would be of mutual benefit to the organizations involved. Initial assignments under IPA provisions may be made for a period up to two years, with a possible extension for up to an additional two-year period. The individual remains an employee of the home institution and NSF provides funding toward the assignee’s salary and benefits. Initial IPA assignments are made for a one-year period and may be extended by mutual agreement.

Temporary Excepted Service Appointment: Appointment to this position will be made under the Excepted Authority of the NSF Act. Candidates who do not have civil service status or reinstatement eligibility will not obtain civil service status if selected. Candidates currently in the competitive service will be required to waive competitive civil service rights if selected. Usual civil service benefits (retirement, health benefits, life insurance) are applicable for appointments of more than one year. Temporary appointments may not exceed three years.

For additional information on NSF’s rotational program, please visit “Programs for Scientists, Engineers and Educators” on the NSF website at http://www.nsf.gov/about/career_opps.

Applications and questions concerning Program Director positions should be directed to:

Dr. Robert Wellek, Chair CBET Search Committee Division of Chemical, Bioengineering, Environmental and Transport Systems, National Science Foundation 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22230 Phone: (703) 292-8370 FAX: (703) 292-9098 Email: rwellek@nsf.gov
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