



**National Science Foundation
4201 Wilson Boulevard
Arlington, Virginia 22230**

**Dear Colleague Letter: The Division of Chemical, Bioengineering,
Environmental, and Transport Systems (CBET) Employment
Opportunities for Program Director**

Date: February 25, 2010

Dear Colleague:

The Division of Chemical, Bioengineering, Environmental, and Transport Systems (CBET), within the Directorate for Engineering at the National Science Foundation (NSF), announces a nationwide search for an engineering professional to fill the following position:

Program Director: Thermal Transport Processes Program

Formal consideration of interested applicants will begin March 1, 2010, and will continue until a selection is made.

While disciplinary expertise will be expected for the program director, the focus of the search is to assemble a scholarly, open-minded, diverse and intellectually integrated group to join the present team in sharing The Engineering Directorate's responsibilities within NSF's overall mission: to promote the progress of science, to advance the national health, prosperity, and welfare, to secure the national defense.

BRIEF PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The **Thermal Transport Processes Program** supports fundamental and applied engineering research aimed at gaining advanced understanding of macroscopic and microscopic thermal transport phenomena (heat and mass transfer) in engineering applications including but not limited to: energy conversion and conservation, the synthesis and thermal processing of materials, cooling and heating of infrastructure and equipment, the propulsion of air- and land-based vehicles, and thermal phenomena in biological and environmental systems. Currently, fundamental research in conduction and convection heat and mass transfer with and without phase change, radiation heat transfer, heat transfer at the micro-, nano- and molecular scales, transport phenomena spanning multiple length- and time-scales, and the fundamental characterization of material properties pertinent to these processes are especially relevant to this program.

NSF Program Directors bear the primary responsibility for carrying out the Agency's overall mission. To discharge 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, and a high degree of personal integrity.

Qualification requirements include a Ph.D. or equivalent professional experience in the relevant discipline, plus six or more years of successful research, research administration and/or substantial managerial experience in academe, industry, or government. Appointees are

expected to have significant and relevant knowledge of research related to **Thermal Transport Processes**. Also desirable is 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 or full professor. All appointees are expected to function effectively both within specific programs and 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 as necessary. Such responsibilities can include serving on committees developing new administrative approaches and new focused research activities.

Periodic appointments to leadership of interdivisional, inter-directorate and interagency programs may be made. NSF is an equal opportunity employer committed to employing a highly qualified staff that reflects the diversity of our nation. Program Director positions recruited under this announcement may be filled under one of the following appointment options:

Intergovernmental Personnel Assignment (IPA) Act: 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 the negotiated 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.

Visiting Scientist Appointment: Appointment to this position will be made under the Excepted Authority of the NSF Act. Visiting Scientists are on non-paid leave status from their home institution and placed on the NSF payroll. 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 a one-year period and may be extended for an additional year 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 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, and 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 programs, please see "Programs for Scientists, Engineers, and Educators" on the NSF website at: http://www.nsf.gov/about/career_opps/ .

Should you or your colleagues be interested in this position, or wish to nominate suitable candidates, please contact the search committee coordinator, Dr. Robert M. Wellek rwellek@nsf.gov , and forward a curriculum vita to him. It is recommended that the resume be accompanied by a cover letter that points out how your background specifically relates to the program objectives. Applications will be reviewed as soon as possible by the search committee. The target date for the beginning of the appointment is approximately September 14, 2010. Inquiries, applications and nominations for this Program Director position should be directed to:

Dr. Robert Wellek, Search Committee Coordinator, Deputy Division Director
Division of Chemical, Bioengineering, Environmental, and Transport Systems (CBET)
National Science Foundation
4201 Wilson Boulevard, Room 565
Arlington, Virginia 22230
Phone: (703) 292-8320 | Fax: (703) 292-9054 | e-mail: rwellek@nsf.gov

Dr. John McGrath, Division Director
Division of Chemical, Bioengineering, Environmental, and Transport Systems (CBET)
National Science Foundation
4201 Wilson Boulevard, Room 565
Arlington, Virginia 22230
Phone: (703) 292-5382 | Fax: (703) 292-9098 | e-mail: jmcgrath@nsf.gov

**NSF IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER COMMITTED TO EMPLOYING
A HIGHLY QUALIFIED STAFF THAT REFLECTS THE DIVERSITY OF OUR NATION**