



# University of Pittsburgh

*Office of the Provost*

826 Cathedral of Learning  
Pittsburgh, PA 15260  
412-624-0784  
Fax: 412-624-4618

**TO:** Eric Beckman N. John Cooper  
William Harbert Gerald D. Holder

**FROM:** George E. Klinzing

**DATE:** September 26, 2011

**SBUEJCT:** New PA – NSF SRN .

To view the full program announcement from NSF - **Sustainability Research Networks Competition (SRN)** go to: <http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2011/nsf11574/nsf11574.htm> Additional information is available at: [http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\\_summ.jsp?pims\\_id=503645](http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=503645)

SRN's will engage and explore fundamental theoretical issues and empirical questions in sustainability **science, engineering, and education** that will increase our understanding of the ultimate sustainability challenge - maintaining and improving the quality of life for the nation within a healthy Earth system. The goal of the SRN competition is to support the development and coalescence of entities to advance collaborative research that addresses questions and challenges in sustainability science, engineering, and education. SRN's will link scientists, engineers, and educators, at existing institutions, centers, networks, and also develop new research efforts and collaborations.

A single organization may submit a maximum of **three preliminary proposals as the lead institution**. Full proposals are to be submitted only when **invited by NSF**. There is no limit to participation as a partner institution. It is not likely that the SRN program will provide support for more than **one SRN from any one lead institution** in this competition.

An individual may appear as lead principal investigator on only **one** SRN proposal submitted in response to this program solicitation. These restrictions apply to this SRN solicitation only and are not meant to inhibit submissions of proposals by investigators to other NSF activities or programs.

Because of the limit placed on the number of submissions and to also allow enough time for the internal review screening and selection process and then preparation of a full applications by the selected researchers, faculty interested in submitting a proposal should send to Elaine Riberich (Office of Research 123 University Place, University Club, phone 47413, e-mail: [emr@pitt.edu](mailto:emr@pitt.edu)) by **October 24, 2011 a description of their proposed research project**.

In case more than three proposals are received, a University review committee will be convened to determine which proposals will be endorsed for the **required December 1, 2011 preliminary deadline**. Invited full proposals will be due April 21, 2012

For a list of additional **Programs Limiting the Number of Allowed Institutional Submissions** connect to the Office of Research home page: <http://www.pitt.edu/~offres/> then select **Funding Resources**. Please refer, as appropriate, to **Important Notes on Agency eRA Systems** posted at <http://www.pitt.edu/~offres/eralinks.html>

cc: Mark Redfern