

Avenue, Fort McNair, Washington, DC 20319-5066.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

NDU Deputy Chief Operations Officer & Deputy Chief of Staff, Mr. Michael Mann, National Defense University, Fort Lesley J. McNair, Washington, DC 20319-5066. To reserve seating space, interested persons should contact the NDU, POC Mr. Mann, at (202) 685-3903.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The agenda will address current and future teaching, research, and outreach issues for the National Defense University and its components. The meeting is open to the public however, space is limited and therefore will be allocated to observers on a first come, first served basis.

POC for outside interests is Mr. Michael Mann, BOV Executive Secretary at mannm@ndu.edu and/or (202) 685-3903.

Dated: April 16, 2003.

Patricia L. Toppings,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 03-9963 Filed 4-22-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

Defense Science Board

AGENCY: Department of Defense.

ACTION: Notice of advisory committee meeting date change.

SUMMARY: On Friday, February 7, 2003 (68 FR 6421), the Department of Defense announced closed meetings of the Defense Science Board (DSB) Task Force on Future Strategic Strike Forces. The meeting originally scheduled for June 18-19, 2003, has been moved to June 12-13, 2003. The meeting will be held at Strategic Analysis, Inc., 3601 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 600, Arlington, VA.

Dated: April 16, 2003.

Patricia L. Toppings,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

Defense Science Board

AGENCY: Department of Defense.

ACTION: Notice of Advisory Committee Meeting Date Change.

SUMMARY: On Wednesday, March 26, 2003 (68 FR 14598), the Department of Defense announced closed meetings of the Defense Science Board (DSB) Task Force on Enduring Freedom Lessons Learned. One of the meetings has been rescheduled from April 21, 2003, to April 23, 2003. The meeting will take place at the U.S. Transportation Command at Scott Air Force Base, IL.

Dated: April 16, 2003.

Patricia L. Toppings,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests

AGENCY: Department of Education.

SUMMARY: The Leader, Regulatory Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, invites comments on the proposed information collection requests as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before June 23, 2003.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. OMB may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose of the information collection, violate State or Federal law, or substantially interfere with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The Leader, Regulatory Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, publishes that notice containing proposed information collection requests prior to submission of these requests to OMB. Each proposed information collection, grouped by office, contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, e.g., new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) Title; (3) Summary of the collection; (4) Description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) Respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) Reporting and/or Recordkeeping burden. OMB invites public comment.

The Department of Education is especially interested in public comment

addressing the following issues: (1) Is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the Department minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology.

Dated: April 18, 2003.

John D. Tressler,

Leader, Regulatory Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

Office of Educational Research and Improvement

Type of Review: New.

Title: Even Start Classroom Literacy Interventions and Outcomes (CLIO) Study.

Frequency: Semi-Annually.

Affected Public: Individuals or household; State, Local, or Tribal Gov't, SEAs or LEAs.

Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:

Responses: 25,670.

Burden Hours: 16,631.

Abstract: CLIO will test the effectiveness of various enhanced family literacy interventions in promoting: (a) Literacy and other school readiness skills in low-income children; (b) parent literacy; and (c) parent involvement as teachers of their own child, especially in the area of early literacy.

Requests for copies of the proposed information collection request may be accessed from <http://edicsweb.ed.gov>, by selecting the "Browse Pending Collections" link and by clicking on link number 2271. When you access the information collection, click on "Download Attachments" to view. Written requests for information should be addressed to Vivian Reese, Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Room 4050, Regional Office Building 3, Washington, DC 20202-4651 or to the e-mail address vivian_reese@ed.gov. Requests may also be electronically mailed to the internet address OCIO_RIMG@ed.gov or faxed to 202-708-9346. Please specify the complete title of the information collection when making your request.

Comments regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements should be directed to Kathy Axt at her e-mail address Kathy.Axt@ed.gov. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information

Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

[FR Doc. 03-10042 Filed 4-22-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of Science Financial Assistance Program Notice DE-FG01-03ER03-21; Department of Energy Experimental Program To Stimulate Competitive Research (DOE/EPSCoR) Implementation Awards

AGENCY: U.S. Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice inviting research applications.

SUMMARY: The Office of Basic Energy Sciences (BES) of the Office of Science (SC), U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), in keeping with its energy-related mission to assist in strengthening the Nation's scientific research enterprise through the support of science, engineering, and mathematics, announces its interest in receiving applications from eligible States for the support of the DOE/EPSCoR Program. The purpose of the DOE/EPSCoR Program is to enhance the capabilities of designated States to conduct nationally-competitive energy-related research and to develop science and engineering human resources in energy-related areas to meet current and future needs.

DATES: The deadline for receipt of formal applications is 4:30 p.m. E.S.T., September 23, 2003, in order to be accepted for merit review and to permit timely consideration for award in Fiscal Year 2004. No application will be accepted after this deadline.

ADDRESSES: Formal applications referencing Program Notice DE-FG01-03ER03-21 must be sent electronically by an authorized institutional business official through DOE's Industry Interactive Procurement System (IIPS) at: <http://e-center.doe.gov> (see also <http://www.sc.doe.gov/production/grants/grants.html>). IIPS provides for the posting of solicitations and receipt of applications in a paperless environment via the Internet. In order to submit applications through IIPS your business official will need to register at the IIPS Web site. The Office of Science will include attachments as part of this notice that provide the appropriate forms in PDF fillable format that are to be submitted through IIPS. IIPS offers the option of using multiple files—please limit submissions to one volume and one file if possible, with a maximum of no more than four files. Color images should be submitted in

IIPS as a separate file in PDF format and identified as such. These images should be kept to a minimum due to the limitations of reproducing them. They should be numbered and referred to in the body of the technical scientific application as Color image 1, Color image 2, etc. Questions regarding the operation of IIPS may be E-mailed to the IIPS Help Desk at: HelpDesk@pr.doe.gov, or you may call the help desk at: (800) 683-0751. Further information on the use of IIPS by the Office of Science is available at: <http://www.sc.doe.gov/production/grants/grants.html>.

If you are unable to submit the application through IIPS, please contact the Grants and Contracts Division, Office of Science at: (301) 903-5212, in order to gain assistance for submission through IIPS or to receive special approval and instruction on how to submit printed applications.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Matesh N. Varma, DOE/EPSCoR Program Manager, Division of Materials Sciences and Engineering, SC-132, Germantown Building, Office of Science, U.S. Department of Energy, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585-1290. Telephone: (301) 903-3209; Fax: (301) 903-9513; E-Mail: matesh.varma@science.doe.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: To continue to enhance the competitiveness of states and territories identified for participation in the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) by the National Science Foundation (NSF), DOE has decided to again restrict eligibility to the following states and territory: Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Vermont, West Virginia, Wyoming, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. An appropriate fiscal agent, acting on behalf of a state's EPSCoR Committee, may submit only two applications in response to this program notice. Each application is restricted to one research "cluster." A cluster is defined as a group of scientists working on a common scientific theme. It is the DOE/EPSCoR program policy to limit the Research Implementation Awards to one active award per state. Therefore, only those EPSCoR states that have: (1) Not received a previous DOE/EPSCoR Research Implementation Awards, (2) "graduated" their previously supported Research Implementation Awards research clusters or (3) received final

funding for their Research Implementation Awards in Fiscal Year 2003, are eligible to apply for Fiscal Year 2004 funding. Thus, only the following states are eligible to apply under this notice: Alaska, Arkansas, Hawaii, Idaho, Louisiana, Maine, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, and Wyoming. Awards issued under this Notice will provide funding for basic research, its coordination, and development of human resources in the state. The DOE/EPSCoR Research Implementation Awards should be used to improve the academic research infrastructure of key science and technology areas identified by the state's EPSCoR governing committee as critical to the development of state and institutional research and development capability. The state's strategy to develop and utilize the scientific and technological resources that reside in its research universities should be described in its DOE/EPSCoR Research Implementation Awards application. In preparation for submitting an application, the EPSCoR governing committee within each state is expected to have undertaken a comprehensive analysis of the strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities for development of its research institutions in support of overall state research and development objectives. Successful infrastructure improvement plans are likely to be those which are focused on one energy-related research area and which candidly represent the opportunities for enhanced academic R&D competitiveness, including the acquisition of sustained non-EPSCoR support. Most important, the state's infrastructure improvement strategy must have a high probability of realizing stated goals and objectives as judged by members of a DOE merit review panel. In all instances, performance milestones and a timetable for achieving such milestones are prerequisites for EPSCoR support. Priority will be given to applications that propose to develop new competitive research areas rather than those that propose to enhance or continue research areas that are already competitive. The DOE/EPSCoR Research Implementation Awards are not appropriate mechanisms to provide support for individual faculty science and technology research projects.

Program Funding

Subject to Congressional authorization and approval of funds in Fiscal Year 2004 DOE anticipates an estimated \$1.0 million will be available for awards to fund collaborative research and human resource development in energy-related science