over three years to study the effectiveness of the program. The evaluation will include both process and summative components. The process component will document how different models within the Program are being implemented, thus helping evaluators to link strategies to outcomes, identify crucial components of different models, and contribute to the construction of general theories to guide future initiatives to increase the diversity of the STEM workforce. The summative component of the evaluation will focus on the extent to which the Program has produced outcomes that meet stated goals for students, faculty and institutions. The process evaluation will rely mainly on qualitative data collected during case study site visits and interviews; the summative evaluation will rely primarily on data collected through a survey of graduates.

Respondents: Graduates of undergraduate programs in STEM at Historically Black Colleges and Universities awarded an HBCU–UP grant from NSF.

Estimated Number of Annual Respondents: 5,000 (total).

Burden on the Public: 1,250 hours.

Dated: February 27, 2006.

Suzanne H. Plimpton,

Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation.

[FR Doc. 06–1955 Filed 3–2–06; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555–01–M

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Reinstatement of Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: National Science Foundation.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The National Science Foundation is announcing plans to request reinstatement of an annual Web-based collection for the Informal Science Education (ISE) Program. In accordance with the requirement of section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, we are providing opportunity for public comment on this action. After obtaining and considering public comment, NSF will prepare the submission requesting OMB Clearance of this collection for no longer than 3 years.

Comments: Comments are invited on (a) Whether the proposed collection on information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

DATES: Written comments should be received by May 2, 2006, to be assured of consideration. Comments received after that date would be considered to the extent practicable.

ADDRESSES: Written comments regarding the information collection and requests for copies of the proposed information collection request should be addressed to Suzanne Plimpton, Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Rm. 295, Arlington, VA 22230, or by e-mail to *splimpto@nsf.gov.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Suzanne Plimpton on (703) 292–7556 or send e-mail to *splimpto@nsf.gov.* Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1–800–877–8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title of Collection: Informal Science Education (ISE) Management Information System.

OMB Control No.: 3145–0158.

Expiration Date of Approval: Not applicable.

1. Abstract

This document has been prepared to support the clearance of a Management Information System for the Informal Science Education (ISE) program. The goals for the program are to encourage and support projects that (1) engage the interest of children and adults in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) in daily life so that they develop capabilities; scientific and technological literacy, mathematical competence, problem-solving skills, and the desire to learn; (2) bring together individuals and organizations from the informal and formal education communities, as well as from the private and public sectors, to strengthen STEM education in all settings; and (3) develop and implement innovative strategies that support the development of a socially responsible and informed public, and demonstrate promise of increasing participation of all citizens in STEM.

The ISE Management Information System will be comprised of three Web-based surveys, an initial survey that obtains background information about the ISE project, an annual survey, and a final survey. The survey that obtains background information would be completed soon after project grants are awarded (i.e., within 45 days), the annual would be completed at the end of each program year, and the final would be completed soon after the ISE grant period has ended (i.e., within 45 days). Through the use of these three surveys, the system will collect data from each ISE-funded project about the project, its grant recipient and partner organizations, participants, activities, deliverables, and impacts. Information from the system will be used by ISE program officers to evaluate the collective impact of the ISE portfolio of funded projects, to monitor project-related activities and projects' progress over time, and to obtain information that can inform the design of future ISE projects.

2. Expected Respondents

The expected respondents are principal investigators of any ISE projects that have been funded since 2004.

3. Burden on the Public

During the first year of data collection, the current year's awardees will be asked to report background data. In addition, in only the first year, awardees from the prior two years will be asked to report baseline data and to submit one annual report. The average annual reporting burden for the baseline and final reports is approximately 40 hours, and the reporting burden for the annual report is approximately 24 hours. The total elements will be 4,560 burden hours for an average number of 150 respondents per year. The burden on the public is negligible because the collection is limited to project participants that have received funding from the ISE program.

Dated: February 28, 2006.

Suzanne H. Plimpton,

Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation.

[FR Doc. 06–2004 Filed 3–2–06; 8:45 am]

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