Graduate Student Funding Opportunity

Call for Research Proposals

Deadline: March 18, 2022

The University of Alaska Coastal Marine Institute (CMI) is a partnership of the University of Alaska, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), and the State of Alaska. The CMI provides a pathway for BOEM to fund research that informs the management, exploration, and development of energy resources on Alaska's outer continental shelf. In 2022, CMI will award up to two Graduate Student Awards to support student research addressing one or more of the CMI Framework Areas defined below.

Student research awards are intended to fund a specific, well-defined component of the student's broader research effort. Maximum awards are $25,000 (including indirect costs) and can be spent April 15, 2022, through June 30, 2023. All award funds must directly benefit the student and may be used for graduate student support, tuition, university fees, and research expenses such as travel, supplies, and laboratory fees. Non-federal cost-share (1:1) is required and can include many types of support, including University and third-party contributions, coordinated research initiatives, and in-kind donations.
Contact CMI with any questions.

Eligibility
Applicants must be enrolled or accepted into the University of Alaska with graduate-level standing. Applicants must have a University of Alaska advisor/mentor.

Research Areas of Interest
Geographical Areas: The primary regions of interest include State and Federal waters offshore of Alaska, particularly areas impacted by oil and gas exploration and development in the Beaufort Sea and Cook Inlet. Other areas of interest include the Chukchi and Bering Seas. However, research efforts outside the Alaska Region could be funded if applicable to CMI priorities.

CMI Framework Areas: The most relevant studies will supply information to support the assessment and mitigation of offshore development's potential impacts on the biological and human environments. Student research should address one or more of the following:

- Scientific studies for better understanding of marine, coastal, or human environments affected or potentially affected by offshore oil and gas exploration and extraction or renewable energy development on the OCS;
- Modeling studies of environmental, social, economic, or cultural processes related to OCS oil and gas or renewable energy activities to improve scientific predictive capabilities;
- Experimental studies for better understanding of environmental processes or the causes and effects of OCS activities;
- Projects that improve the collection of and sharing of data regarding marine or coastal resources or human activities to support prudent management of oil and gas resources; and
- Synthesis studies of scientific environmental or socio-economic information relevant to the OCS oil and gas and renewable energy program.

PROPOSAL CONTENT

Proposals must address all elements below; **Items 1-10 should be addressed in no more than 6 pages total**.

1. Abstract (maximum 300 words)
   - Identify applicable CMI Framework Area and region where the study will take place,
   - Define targeted objectives and questions or hypotheses being tested, and
   - Identify planned methodology.
2. Introduction/Background/Relevance to CMI/BOEM: Give a brief introduction to the research problem and supporting background information. State how the proposed work addresses the CMI Framework Areas and explain its relevance to the management of Alaska's offshore oil and gas resources.
3. Objectives/Hypotheses: Clearly define specific goals to be addressed through this funding and ties to other research efforts, if applicable.
4. Methods/Analyses: Briefly summarize methodologies and analyses to be used.
5. Safety Plans and Permits: Identify permits required to accomplish the objectives and how they will be attained. For studies involving fieldwork, provide a Logistics and Safety Management Plan.
6. Project Management: Indicate the role/effort for each participant in the project (student, advisor, etc.).
7. Performance Measures: List specific measures that will indicate project progress (e.g., completion of fieldwork, other project components, reporting).
8. **Required Project Deliverables**:
   a) Quarterly Reports: July 15, October 15, January 15, April 15
   b) CMI Annual Research Review Seminar Presentation: January 2023
   c) Draft Final Report: June 1, 2023
   d) Revised Final Report and Technical Summary: August 1, 2023
   e) 15-20 Project Images: August 1, 2023
9. List any additional products (maps, digital data, etc.) anticipated from the project.
10. Project Timeline: Include performance measures and project deliverables (Items 7–9).
11. Bibliography
12. Curricula Vitae (maximum 2 pages).
13. Letter of Support: Provide a signed letter from the student's Advisor/Mentor/Committee Member
    a) **stating that they will monitor project progress and review/approve the draft final report,**
    b) confirming the student is enrolled/accepted by UA and in good standing,
    c) confirming the student can complete the research in the timeline given,
    d) confirming that the source of non-federal cost-share and other contributing sources are accurate, and
    e) identifying any additional funding supporting the project or student.
14. UAF Budget Spreadsheet and Justification: Detailed description of anticipated expenditures and sources of 1:1 non-federal cost-share (*include commitment letters as appropriate*).

SUBMISSION/QUESTIONS

Please direct questions to CMI Program Manager Ruth Post (rmpost@alaska.edu) or CMI Director Jennifer Reynolds (jrreynolds@alaska.edu).

Submit applications as a **single PDF file** to *uaf-cmi@alaska.edu*

The submission deadline is **5 pm, Friday, March 18, 2022**.