

**Australian Technology Network/University of Waterloo  
Researcher Exchange Program (REP)**

**Background**

During 2007/8 the Australian Technology Network of universities (ATN) and the University of Waterloo (UW) discussed ways of fostering research collaboration. This led to a formal Agreement in September 2009 to establish a Researcher Exchange Program (REP).

**(1) Purpose of Program:** to provide ATN and UW researchers with incentives to build collaboration across the ATN and with UW in areas of mutual strategic interest.

**(2) Outcomes from Program:**

- researchers delivering enhanced high quality research outcomes to reflect national standards
- ATN/UW research teams better enabled to tackle research questions of substance and relevance to the Australian and Canadian research priorities as well as the strategic priorities of participating ATN and UW. The aggregation of complementary research skills, and access to high quality research infrastructure, will be key to these endeavours;
- collaborative research outcomes that will provide ATN/UW teams with enhanced capacity to attract external (to ATN/UW) research funding;
- establish professional ATN/UW researcher networks that contribute to the development of all researchers involved.
- facilitate additional international linkages with other research groups or consortia

**Application for Funds**

**This Application applies to a Project Funding period commencing July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010 through to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2010. The intent is to offer the program on a yearly basis pending a review by both parties.**

**There is no formal Application Form. Each Application must address 1) through 10) below:**

**Applicants are urged to keep all information relevant and as brief as reasonable.**

## Researcher Exchange Program (REP)

### Application Guidelines

#### **Application Components –all mandatory**

- 1) Project Title : not more than 25 words, in clear English and avoiding acronyms
- 2) Key Researchers: names, titles and positions of researchers involved in the proposed ATN/UW Project. The Project would normally involve researchers from at least 3 ATN universities to be eligible for REP funding.
- 3) Project Summary: REP funding is intended to catalyse ATN/UW research collaboration as identifiable through a proposed Project. The REP may apply to new Projects (commencing after July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010) or new components of projects already underway at either UW or the participating ATN universities.

This Project summary should be no more than 500 words and describe at least the overall research objectives, the way in which these are to be addressed, complementarities of research teams and the contributions anticipated from the ATN and UW researchers listed in 2) above (and their groups/graduate students). Where appropriate it would be useful to list the scale of any overall existing project and its research funding sources and quanta.

Note: Applicants are encouraged to include both faculty researchers and current masters or PhD students within their proposed ATN/UW collaborative framework.

#### 4) Alignment with REP Priority Areas

The priority areas identified for 2010 are: renewable energy, environment, climate change, water, health, sustainable engineering and nanotechnology. Other areas will be considered if there is a demonstrated rationale for collaboration.

Note : Applications including researchers in all disciplines are encouraged.

#### 5) Exchange Activities Proposed

- the REP will fund short term exchanges (normally up to 2 months per researcher) of UW and ATN researchers for the purposes of pursuing Project research;
- REP funding will be available for exchange activities from July 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2010;
- Applications should detail (who, when, purpose) the proposed exchanges to be funded via the REP.

#### 6) Exchange Outcomes Expected :

- a brief statement (not more than 100 words) of scientific advances;
- anticipated international journal publications;
- development of graduate student opportunities;
- proposed Research Funding Applications to other national and international funding programs;
- potential for on-going 3<sup>rd</sup> party linkages (e.g. industry) if appropriate.

## 7) REP Funds Requested

- provide estimates of travel, accommodation , living and other research costs associated with proposed exchanges of named researchers;
- the REP will not cover any 'time replacement costs' at a researcher home university during his/her absence;
- budget estimates should use 'costing rules' (e.g. re airfares, daily allowances etc) in line with those of UW or the relevant ATN university guidelines. Program funding will normally involve the home institution paying travel costs and the host institution covering in-country costs. UW budget provisions will normally involve a 50/50 cost sharing between the researchers/home unit and the Office of the Vice President, University Research.

Note : there is no stipulated minimum/maximum REP Grant per approved Project Application. It is anticipated however that approved REP Grants will not normally exceed more than 3 months of exchange between Canada and Australia and vice versa.

8) Curriculum Vitae: for each of the Key Researchers listed in 2) above. Each should be no more than 2 pages and list at least 6 scientific publications relevant to the Project.

9) Application Endorsement: all key researchers must comply with the requirements of the UW or their host ATN university when seeking approval to lodge an REP Application. This endorsement must be in writing and state that the authorised delegate has sighted and understood any undertakings given as part of the REP Application.

- UW applicants are required to submit an Office of Research Cover Sheet for Sponsored Research with the REP Application (<http://www.research.uwaterloo.ca/forms/>);
- ATN applicants must ensure that their application is endorsed by each DVC(R) (or their nominee) of participating ATN universities.

10) Submission\* : each Application to be

- signed by the lead UW and ATN researcher involved in the Project
- submitted electronically and one copy in print to the

- Research Office of the lead ATN researcher (Note : including endorsements as in 9) above)
- Australian Technology Network: Ms Vicki Thomson, Executive Director: [Vicki.thomson@atn.edu.au](mailto:Vicki.thomson@atn.edu.au)
- University of Waterloo: Mr. Drew Knight, International Programs: [dknight@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:dknight@uwaterloo.ca)

\* all ATN researchers involved in REP projects should ensure that processes prescribed in their university for 'external funding proposals are followed.

11) Evaluation: The ATN and UW will establish a joint committee to review applications using the stated Application Guidelines as selection criteria. All applications will be ranked. The number of applications funded will fit within the total funding made available by participating universities.

**Application Deadline: March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2010**

**Applicants will be informed of outcomes by May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2010**

***If you have any queries about the application process, or wish some assistance in identifying potential partners at participating universities, please contact Emeritus Professor Neil Furlong***  
***[neil.furlong@rmit.edu.au](mailto:neil.furlong@rmit.edu.au)***