Dear Colleague:

Are you interested in having a competitive edge in writing NSF proposals, particularly for educational research and development projects such as those supported by the recently announced Transforming Undergraduate Education in STEM (TUES) Program, formerly the Course, Curriculum and Laboratory Improvement (CCLI) Program? If you are early in your career, would you like to be able better address the Broader Impacts review criterion in your BRIGE and CAREER proposals? If the answer to either of these questions is yes, you will want to participate in the National Science Foundation’s interactive, web-based proposal writing workshop scheduled for October 20 and October 26. The College/School has agreed to host the Workshop as a service to its faculty and will be one of possibly 15-20 host sites for the Workshop on that date.

The workshop will include:

- Data from an analysis of the engineering proposals submitted in NSF’s CCLI Phase 1 competition in 2005 and 2006 that identify the most common strengths and weaknesses cited by the review panels in discussing these proposals.
- A systematic process for converting an idea into a competitive proposal.

Lead by the Engineering Program Directors of the NSF Division of Undergraduate Education, the Workshop will use a series of interactive exercises which will help you not only prepare more competitive proposals for NSF’s education programs but also develop a broader perspective for writing any successful proposal. Q&A periods will be interspersed throughout the Workshop. At the completion of the Workshop, you will be provided with an URL to download a copy of the workshop presentation. In addition, you will be asked to complete a brief, on-line assessment survey.

The Workshop will begin at 11:00am and be divided into two 75-minute segments with a 15-minute break between the segments. The Workshop will be conducted at 2051 MCE (if you need directions, please contact Vicki Alvey). You are asked to arrive 15 minutes early to provide time for introductions and orientation. Further, to realize the full benefits of the Workshop, it is important that you commit to being present for the entire Workshop. If you chose to participate in the Workshop, you are strongly encouraged to review the TUES Program Solicitation in advance of the Workshop. A link to the Solicitation as well as other related information and links is provided at the following URL:

[http://www.step.eng.lsu.edu/nsf/participants/](http://www.step.eng.lsu.edu/nsf/participants/)
In order for the College/School make appropriate arrangements; please confirm your commitment to attend the Workshop no later than October 18 and 24 respectively.

Thanks,

Cynthia Furse
Associate Vice President for Research
& Professor of Electrical Engineering