

Date: November 6, 2020

To: CERANR Deans

From: William Barker
Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Programs
College of Agricultural and Life Sciences
University of Wisconsin-Madison

RE: FY 2021-22 CERANR Call for New Proposals
(University of Wisconsin Consortium for Extension and Research in Agriculture and Natural Resources)

Please notify your colleagues about the availability of approximately **\$125,000** for faculty and staff-led cooperative research for new one or two-year projects for eligible faculty and staff located at UW-Madison, -Platteville, -River Falls, and -Stevens Point for fiscal year 2021-22. Applications must include at least one UW-Madison faculty member from the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences (CAL S) or School of Veterinary Medicine and a faculty member from at least one of the non-Madison CERANR-represented colleges or schools as collaborators. All proposals must have an extension component. Principal Investigators must have a primary appointment with PI status in the agriculture or natural resource units represented in the Consortium for Extension and Research in Agriculture and Natural Resources (CERANR). CERANR units include: UW-Madison, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences (CAL S); UW-Madison, School of Veterinary Medicine; UW-Platteville, College of Business Industry Life Science and Agriculture; UW-River Falls, College of Agriculture, Food, and Environmental Sciences; UW-Stevens Point, College of Natural Resources; and UW-Madison, Division of Extension. Faculty without a primary appointment in a CERANR unit may be included as a Co-PI when the proposal includes a CERANR-affiliated PI. Staff members with Principal Investigator (PI) status may apply for CERANR grant with the approval of their respective supervisor and Dean.

The CERANR program serves two purposes. First, the CERANR Deans wish to encourage cooperation and collaboration across institutions and disciplines to help develop synergistic and effective solutions to critical issues. Secondly, the funding is provided to help research cooperators to address critical, emerging and ongoing state research needs for issues that have an impact on our agricultural and natural resource systems.

Projects can be “pilot” in nature to help new or established researchers to collect data and/or demonstrate modest impacts that could lead to larger funded efforts with external funding. Or, they can be small-scale, well-defined projects where an impact is relatively certain but where a larger funded effort is not necessarily the ultimate goal. Preference will be given to those projects which clearly leverage resources in the form of funding, relationships, facilities, etc. now or in the future.

These criteria are further outlined in the Call for Proposals (attached).

For Deans, Department Chairs, and others, please provide your faculty and staff with the attached Outline for Consortium Research Project Proposals (including cover and signature pages) and the Consortium Research Priorities for 2021-22. The full announcement is available as a downloadable Word document at: <http://research.cals.wisc.edu/funding-opportunities/cals/uw-consortium-for-extension-and-research-in-agriculture-and-natural-resources-ceranr/>

Proposals should move from the PI(s) up through Department Chairs. Department Chairs should review the proposal(s) and indicate their decision to submit. Chair-approved proposal(s) should flow to your institutional Research & Sponsored Programs Office for review (if appropriate) and to the Deans or designees for signature.

Proposals with UW-Platteville, UW-River Falls or UW-Stevens Point as the participating institution should be submitted to Drs. Rami Reddy (Director, School of Agriculture), Dale Gallenberg (Dean, College of Agriculture, Food & Environmental Sciences) or Brian Sloss (Dean, College of Natural Resources) for Dean (or designee) signature, respectively. Participating institutions should submit Dean-signed proposals to the UW-Madison lead PI(s) for signature. Proposals that include lead PI(s) from the UW-Madison, School of Veterinary Medicine should be submitted to Dr. Dale Bjorling (Associate Dean for Research) for signature. Proposals including the UW-Madison, Division of Extension should be submitted to Patrick Robinson (Associate Dean for Agriculture and Natural Resources) for signature.

The official list of Deans' designees will be determined by each CERANR institution.

Proposals without all appropriate signatures will not be accepted for review with the exception of the signature of the UW-Madison CALS Dean's Office. The signature of Dr. William Barker, CALS Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Programs will be obtained on all proposals by the CALS Research Division after January 8th.

Please submit proposals as a PDF or Word document via email to the following email address: consortium@cals.wisc.edu at the UW-Madison, CALS Research Division by **FRIDAY, JANUARY 8, 2021**. **Be sure to include a PDF of the signature page.**

Please direct all inquiries to Michell Sass, UW-Madison, CALS Research Division, (608) 265-9534 or michell.sass@wisc.edu.

Please remind members of your faculty who have funded projects in progress or terminating that progress and final reports are required and we anticipate that final results to be published.

*University of Wisconsin Consortium for
Extension and Research in Agriculture-Natural Resources
(CERANR)*

FY2021-22 Call for Proposals - due Friday, January 8, 2021

**Pages 4-6 -- Outline for Consortium Research Project
Proposals**

Page 7 -- Consortium Research Priorities for 2021-22

Page 8 -- Cover Page

Page 9 -- Summary/Progress Page

Page 10 -- Signature Page

Proposal Guidelines for Consortium Research Projects

Eligibility: To be eligible, you must be a faculty or staff member located at UW-Madison, -Platteville, -River Falls, and -Stevens Point for fiscal year 2021-22. Applications must include at least one UW-Madison faculty member from the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences (CALs) or School of Veterinary Medicine and a faculty member from at least one of the non-Madison CERANR-represented colleges or schools as collaborators. All proposals must have an extension component. Principal Investigators must be budgeted with PI status in the agriculture or natural resource units represented in the Consortium for Extension and Research in Agriculture and Natural Resources (CERANR). CERANR units include: UW-Madison, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, UW-Madison, School of Veterinary Medicine; UW-Platteville, College of Business Industry Life Science and Agriculture; UW-River Falls, College of Agriculture, Food, and Environmental Sciences; UW-Stevens Point, College of Natural Resources; and UW-Madison, Division of Extension. Those faculty or staff who are not budgeted through a CERANR unit may be included as a Co-PI when the proposal includes a CERANR-affiliated PI. Staff members with Principal Investigator (PI) status may apply for CERANR grant with the approval of their respective Dean.

Cover Page: Complete the cover page including project title, principal investigators/university, project period, required clearances, and budget summary. *This document is available as a downloadable Word file at <http://research.cals.wisc.edu/funding-opportunities/cals/uw-consortium-for-extension-and-research-in-agriculture-and-natural-resources-ceranr/>*

200 Word Summary/Progress Page: In 200 words or less, provide a summary of your proposed research project and include the overall objectives, outputs and potential outcomes. This summary should provide a complete overview of your proposed research project.

Progress Section: If applicable, discuss any current or recently funded CERANR projects. Include: PI names, titles, institutions, dates of work, a brief summary of scientific results, and whether the project led to long-term collaborations and published research. The text should be written for the educated non-expert.

Signature Page: Complete the signature page, identifying the PIs at each institution, including email and mailing addresses. Certification statements are detailed on this page for PIs and Deans. Original or electronic signatures of all PIs and Deans are required. The signature of the UW-Madison Dean will be obtained by the CALS Research Division after the due date. *This document is available as a downloadable Word file at <http://research.cals.wisc.edu/funding-opportunities/cals/uw-consortium-for-extension-and-research-in-agriculture-and-natural-resources-ceranr/>*

Proposal: The proposal must include the following, with no smaller than size 12 font.

Background Information and Justification [No more than three pages]

Should present under the following subtitles:

- 1) Statement of Previous Work and Present Outlook - Provide a brief review of previous research on the problem, citing the important and recent publications; the status of current research; and gaps that the proposed research is expected to fill.
- 2) Justify the importance of the problem to food and fiber production systems; natural resource management; and/or rural communities in Wisconsin. Data should be included to help the review Committee understand the magnitude of the issue including the numbers of people, businesses, and communities affected; economic impact; environmental impacts; etc.

- 3) Discuss the importance of the proposed research work and the ways in which public welfare or scientific knowledge will be advanced, including a brief summary of anticipated impacts or expanded capacity to pursue additional future resources.

Project Objective(s) [No more than one page]: Provide clear, complete and logically arranged statements of the specific objectives of the project. If appropriate, include a statement of how this project is part of a larger project.

Approach [No more than five pages]: Provide a detailed explanation of plans and methods to be used to attain each stated objective. The work plan should correspond directly to the objectives, and provide the review Committee with a clear description of methods used, data collection procedures, and statistical analysis plans. This section should specifically indicate:

- 1) Where the research will be done (if at two or more locations indicate the specific research to be conducted by the researcher(s) at each location).
- 2) The role of each cooperator, including who will be responsible for detailed design, methods, and protocols, data collection, data analysis, etc.
- 3) Plans for publishing the results, including who will be responsible for taking the leadership and an anticipated timetable.
- 4) Describe plans for disseminating this information to the public and/or targeted audiences (through cooperation with UW-Extension, media contact, public/targeted outreach, etc.).

Project Duration [No more than one page]: Indicate the anticipated period of your project activities. This can be up to two years or the time requested by the PI, whichever is less. Because these funds are appropriated by the State, the budget period is the fiscal year July 1 to June 30. For fiscal year 2021-22, the budget period is 07/01/21-06/30/22. No expenditures may be made before the starting date or after the termination date unless prior approval has been received from the home institution of the PI.

Literature Citations [No page limit]: Literature citations should be included as appropriate in the proposal and must be formatted in a consistent way using a “standard” format such as APA, MLA, or other format used within the various fields of science.

Personnel [No more than one page]: Clearly identify the role of Principal Investigators, Co-Principal Investigators and all other team members at each institution who will be working on this project (whether receiving direct funding or not).

Letters of Collaboration [No page limit]: Projects that involve and engage external partners (e.g. businesses, farmers, non-profit organizations), require clearly written letters that outline the scope and nature of their commitment. These must be attached to the proposal.

Budget Justification [No more than two pages]: Provide a detailed breakdown of all requested funds by category for Faculty, Academic Staff, Research Assistant, and student salary/wages; supplies and other expenses; travel; and equipment. Provide a detailed and itemized budget justification for each category for each year of the request. Fringe benefits and indirect costs should not be included.

Matching/Leveraging: Although no match or in-kind support is required, are there other financial resources available to support this project? Additionally, discuss whether this project can be used to leverage funding for a larger-scale proposal now or in the future. Preference will be given to those projects which clearly leverage resources in the form of funding, relationships, facilities, etc.

Guidelines for Budget Preparation: **Annual budget requests will generally range from \$10,000 to \$30,000, with the maximum annual project budget being \$30,000. Smaller budgets are acceptable provided that the project clearly shows the potential to demonstrate impact.** Expenditure of Consortium funds must adhere to the rules and regulations established by the home institution and the State of Wisconsin. The goals of this program include promoting cooperative research among CERANR institutions while funding as many quality projects as possible. Depending on the amount of funds available annually as well as the number of quality proposals submitted, the review committee may reduce the budgets of funded projects. In addition, it is expected that the non-Madison CERANR represented colleges or schools will receive a portion of the funds.

Fiscal Year Cutoff Dates: Your campus expenditure cutoff dates for state appropriated funds apply to Consortium awards.

Budget Items

Salary Support: Up to a total of two months of faculty salary support, regardless of the number of faculty participants, may be requested to conduct the research for the project. A strong justification is required and must include the faculty's name and how they will be contributing to the overall project. Academic Staff (AS), Research Assistant (RA), Limited-Term Employee (LTE) and Student Hourly (SH) support are allowable expenses and should be calculated based on percent of support (AS, RA) or hours worked (LTE, SH). Salaries should not be inflated, but rather, calculated based on salaries at time of application unless a salary increase or title change is in process and has been approved. Because this is a research-based initiative, salary support for a Teaching Assistant will not be considered. Salary support for a Project Assistant (PA) may be considered but requires a strong justification as to why the graduate student is being paid as a PA rather than an RA.

Fringe Benefits: Fringe benefits at UW-Madison, UW-Platteville, UW-River Falls, and UW-Stevens Point are covered by each institution's general fund and should not be included in the budget request.

Supplies & Other Expenses: Includes expendable items such as general laboratory supplies and other expenses such as greenhouse or land rental, sequencing expenses, computing, publication costs, etc. Provide a description of type and use.

Tuition Remission: If tuition remission for an RA is being requested in the proposal, a strong justification must be included. If you are not requesting graduate student salary support, but are requesting tuition remission to off-set another funding source that does not allow tuition remission, you must include what sponsoring entity is supporting the student, at what level (percentage) of support and how the student contributes to both projects.

Publication Costs: Costs can be included in the budget; however, a maximum of \$1,000 should be requested. Funds for publication costs can be used after the project has ended. Charges for reprints will not be covered unless included in the publication cost.

Travel: Only travel DIRECTLY associated with the project's work plan and objectives will be considered.

Equipment: The purchase of capital equipment with these funds is discouraged. If special equipment IS needed, a written request must accompany the proposal including explicit justification, and endorsed with a signature of your campus dean BEFORE submission. Equipment funds will only be considered if funds are available and will only be provided under exceptional circumstances. The Consortium will, under no circumstance, provide capital equipment funds in excess of \$2,000. In addition to providing a strong

justification for the equipment purchase, include detailed information of the matching funds being committed. Proposals which contain the level of capital equipment request exceeding this threshold (or where a Dean has not approved a capital equipment request \leq \$2,000) will not be reviewed.

Consortium Research Priorities for 2021-22

The Agriculture-Natural Resource Consortium will continue to place emphasis upon specific research priorities as in past years. *However, the Consortium also encourages submission of other proposals that address agricultural and natural resource issues of concern to Wisconsin.*

This effort is designed for two purposes. First, the CERANR Deans wish to encourage cooperation and collaboration across institutions and disciplines to help develop synergistic and effective solutions to critical issues. Secondly, the funding is provided to help research cooperators to address critical, emerging and ongoing state research needs for issues that have an impact on our agricultural and natural resource systems.

Projects can be “pilot” in nature to help new or established researchers to collect data and/or demonstrate modest impacts that could lead to larger funded efforts with external funding. Or, they can be small-scale, well-defined projects where an impact is relatively certain but where a larger funded effort is not necessarily the ultimate goal.

The three (unranked) priority theme areas identified by the Consortium are:

I. Advancing Knowledge that Promotes Economic Development in Support of Local and State Efforts for a Growing and Healthy Bio-based Economy

General theme: Create and advance scientific knowledge that promotes economic development and workforce development in support of local and state efforts for growing a healthy bio-based economy.

II. Sustainable Agricultural, Forestry and Aquatic Systems (including Communities)

General theme: Investigate biological, physical, chemical, economic, social and/or regulatory parameters for assessing, managing, and enhancing Wisconsin's ecosystems and/or communities.

III. Plant, Animal, Human, and Ecosystem Health, Biosecurity, Food Safety and Quality

General theme: Create new scientific knowledge to improve quality of food and fiber products; enhance and secure plant, animal, and/or human health; improve food safety; and enhance environmental/ecosystem health.

COVER PAGE

University of Wisconsin Consortium for Extension and Research in Agriculture and Natural Resources (CERANR)

Project Title: *Project title should be a brief, clear, specific description of the research. The title is limited to 100 characters including letters, symbols, punctuation, and spaces.*

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Principal Investigators: *List all Principal Investigators and affiliations.*

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Project Period:	<input type="checkbox"/>	1 Year (07/01/21-06/30/22)	<input type="checkbox"/>	2 Years (07/01/22-06/30/23)
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Required Clearances:

1. Does the project involve toxic, infectious, or carcinogenic/mutagenic material of proven or potential hazard to humans, other animals, or to plants? YES NO
2. Does the project use recombinant DNA technology? YES NO
3. Does the project involve use of human subjects or human tissue? YES NO
4. Does the project involve the use of vertebrate animals? YES NO

Budget Summary:

Year 1						
	UW-	Madison	Extension	River Falls	Stevens Point	Platteville
Faculty/Academic Staff Salary						
Research Assistant Salary						
Hourly Student or LTE Labor						
Supplies & Other Expenses						
Tuition Remission						
Travel						
Equipment						
Campus Totals						
					Year 1 Total	

Year 2						
	UW-	Madison	Extension	River Falls	Stevens Point	Platteville
Faculty/Academic Staff Salary						
Research Assistant Salary						
Hourly Student or LTE Labor						
Supplies & Other Expenses						
Tuition Remission						
Travel						
Equipment						
Campus Totals						
					Year 2 Total	
Grand Total - All Years						

200 WORD SUMMARY/PROGRESS

**University of Wisconsin Consortium for Extension and Research in Agriculture and Natural Resources
(CERANR)**

Summary:

Progress: If applicable, discuss any current or recently funded CERANR projects. Include: PI names, titles, institutions, dates of work, a brief summary of scientific results, and whether the project led to long-term collaborations and published research.

SIGNATURE PAGE

**University of Wisconsin Consortium for Extension and Research in Agriculture and Natural Resources
(CERANR)**

Principal Investigator's Certification: The PIs involved in this research proposal have jointly planned the project and have set forth in the proposal the responsibilities for conducting the research.

Dean's Certification: The PIs at our institution have reviewed the proposal with their Department Chairperson (signature not required) and Dean's Office or designee. We have determined that the investigators will have the time available to conduct the workload identified in the proposal.

	Investigator	Dean
Name Email address Mailing address		
Signature Date		
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