Institute of Science and Society
FALL 2003 SMALL GRANT COMPETITION
on genetically modified or transgenic organisms, risk assessment or nanotechnology

Purpose
We invite proposals seeking “seed money” to begin research investigating the interaction between science and society related to genetically modified plants, transgenic organisms, and risk assessment. We would also have an interest in nanotechnology. Science and technology have far-reaching effects on society—e.g., culture, values, communication, mode of production, distribution of wealth and power, governance, and human condition. In turn, cultural values, religious concerns, ethics, public understanding of science, public attitudes, and public policy shape the path of science and technology. This seed grant program is part of our effort to foster the growth of interdisciplinary teams of faculty and students who are interested in research and scholarship in science and society.

We have freed up sufficient funds for a small grants program totaling about $30,000 for the 2003-04 academic year. We expect to fund 3-4 proposals.

Consistent with the goals and realities of the Institute, priority will be given to projects that promise to attract funding from external sources beyond the period covered by the "seed" funding, involve or have the potential to involve faculty from multiple departments, and that show the potential for continued research in the future

Eligibility
The project must have a full-time, tenured or tenure-track faculty member as PI or co-PI. PI or co-PI can be from any college. Collaborative projects, especially those involving more than one discipline, are encouraged. The roles of co-principal investigators must be clearly stated.

Use of Funds
Applications will be considered up to $10,000. Funds may be used for hourly labor, graduate and undergraduate research assistantships, postdoc positions, supplies, services, domestic travel essential to research, and subsistence costs associated with foreign travel. Not supported by this program are faculty and technical salaries, travel to attend professional meetings, or equipment and software.

Content of Application
1) An abstract in educated lay language not to exceed 250 words.
2) A brief description of the work to be done (not to exceed 2 pages single spaced, font no smaller than 12 pt) including the guiding hypothesis or idea, references to the most relevant literature in the field, the approach to examining the hypothesis or idea, what information will be gathered (measurements, observations, etc.), and how it will be analyzed and interpreted. A short project report should be completed by September 1, 2004, but all funds must be expended by June 30, 2004.
3) The relationship of the proposed work to the principal investigators' longer term research (scholarly) objectives (not to exceed 1/2 page).
4) A plan for seeking subsequent funding including the funding agency must be submitted (not to exceed 1/2 page). We would expect an external grant proposal to be submitted by December 31, 2004.

5) If the current proposal is not interdisciplinary, the proposal must lay out how the project will lead to future interdisciplinary research. (not to exceed 1/2 page)

6) Budgetary details must be attached and each item should be briefly justified in terms of the proposed work (not to exceed 1 page).

7) An abbreviated C.V. for all researchers (not to exceed 2 pages each) stressing recent work and/or work most relevant to the project.

8) It is permissible to submit the same or a similar proposal to the SPRIG program, but we reserve the right to adjust the allocated amount if you receive funding from other institutional sources.

**Research Compliance**

If your project involves human subjects, animal subjects, radioisotope or radiation producing devices, recombinant DNA, human or animal pathogens, or biological toxins use, your project must be reviewed and approved by the appropriate research compliance committee. For more information please contact the Office of Research Compliance or go to their web site. [http://grants-svr.admin.iastate.edu/vpr/research_compliance/](http://grants-svr.admin.iastate.edu/vpr/research_compliance/)

Approvals must be received before funds will be released.

**Submission Procedures and Timetable**

Completed applications due at the Institute for Science and Society, 513 Ross Hall (no gold sheet required) on September 15, 2003

Announcement of awards October 1, 2003