

February 8, 2008

MRC Call for Research Proposals
<http://mrc.uncg.edu>

The McDowell Research Center for Global Information Technology Management (MRC) at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro (UNCG) invites proposals for research grants relevant to its mission. A maximum of three awards from UNCG, each at US\$5,000.00, will be made. The deadline for an electronic submission is March 15, 2008.

Topic Areas:

Preference will be given to proposals in the two focus areas of MRC. MRC' focus is to study important organizational and societal issues in information technology management at a national or international level. The two areas are "IT in Healthcare" and "Global Information Technology". These two areas are not exclusive and there are several topics at their intersection.

Topics in "IT in Healthcare" may include but are not limited to the following:

- Electronic medical records
- Privacy and security of digital information
- Electronic commerce applications
- Role of IT in patient care
- Supply chains in healthcare
- Offshoring of healthcare
- Decision support for clinicians
- IT for wellness
- Macro issues

Topics in "Global Information Technology" may include but are not limited to the following:

- Optimization of the IT asset and strategies
- Offshore outsourcing strategies
- IT workforce issues of the future
- Digital divide
- Privacy and security issues
- Societal impacts of offshoring
- Role of culture in IT diffusion
- Information technology architecture
- Macro issues

Criteria:

1. **Usefulness and Relevance.** This is the most important criterion. It is critical that the proposed research be useful, and is actually used by people in organizations and society. Too often, IS academic research has been criticized as “ivory tower” with little practical relevance. MRC’s goal is to address real problems in business and society, nationally or internationally.
2. **Imagination and Risk.** MRC wishes to encourage exploration in new and challenging areas; thus investigators are encouraged to think out of the box and take risks. This is not to discourage research in established areas of research, but we are more interested in aspects of novelty and previously unexplored areas.
3. **Multiple Reality and Triangulation.** In order to discover the truth, one must recognize that there are multiple and sometimes conflicting views on any issue and they must be addressed. Researchers are encouraged to employ triangulation, different paradigms, and multiple methods in their inquiry.
4. **Research Design and Rigor.** The research design and methods are important determinants in the successful achievement of the stated goals. These need to be carefully considered and articulated in the proposal.
5. **Likelihood of Timely Completion.** The grant winners will be allowed six months to complete the project. MRC wishes to fund only those projects which will be completed in time and a full report is made available after completion.

Procedures and Deadlines:

Please send your proposal by email as a Word document to both:

Dr. Prashant Palvia, Director and Mr. Rodney Ouzts, Administrative Assistant
pcpalvia@uncg.edu, rmouzts@uncg.edu
McDowell Research Center for Global Information Technology Management

The submission deadline is March 15, 2008.

The proposal is limited to 6 pages: single-spaced, Times New Roman, 12 font, 8 ½ x 11 page size, 1” margins on all four sides. Suggested sections include:

1. Proposal summary
2. Research problem/question
3. Importance of research and prior research
4. Research model, objectives, hypotheses
5. Research design and methodology
6. Potential outcomes of research and their importance
7. Limitations

8. Schedule of activities
9. References (no more than 15)

Important Dates:

February 29, 2008: Intention to submit proposal (optional – send topic by email)
March 15, 2008: Proposal submission deadline (to be made electronically)
April 15, 2008: Awards announced
July 15, 2008: 2-page status report due. Single-spaced.
October 15, 2008: Final Report due. Suggested length: 30-35 double spaced pages

Payment Dates:

The award will be made in two installments. The first installment for \$3000 will be made soon after April 15, 2008 when the award announcement is made. The second installment for \$2000 will be made after the final report has been received, i.e., after October 15, 2008.

Other Requirements:

1. Any publication (working paper, conference paper, or journal article) based on the funded research must acknowledge the grant as below:

This research was supported by a research grant, received in April 2008, from the McDowell Research Center for Global Information Technology Management at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, USA.

2. The final report will be included in the Working Paper Series of the McDowell Research Center. However, the authors will retain full copyright.
3. The McDowell Research Center sponsors the annual conference of the Global Information Technology Management Association (GITMA). One paper from this research must be submitted to 2009 GITMA conference and if accepted, one author must register for the conference and present their work. The submission deadline is likely to be November 15, 2008. The web site is: <http://www.gitma.org>.
4. The authors are encouraged to submit one paper from this research by January 31, 2009 for publication consideration in the *Journal of Global Information Technology Management (JGITM)*, an official publication of the McDowell Research Center. The paper will be independently reviewed by the editors and reviewers of *JGITM* on an expedited basis.