**ONR BAA Announcement # ONR-BAA-09-012**

# BROAD AGENCY ANNOUNCEMENT (BAA)

**INTRODUCTION:**

This publication constitutes a Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) as contemplated in Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 6.102(d)(2), the Department of Defense Grants and Agreements Regulations (DoDGARS) 22.315(a) and 35.016 , and DoD's Other Transaction Guide for Prototypes Projects, USD(AT&L), OT Guide, Jan 2001. A formal Request for Proposals (RFP), solicitation, and/or additional information regarding this announcement will not be issued.

The Office of Naval Research (ONR) will not issue paper copies of this announcement. The ONR, on behalf of its partner agencies in the National Oceanographic Partnership Program (NOPP) and the President's Interagency Committee on Ocean Science and Resource Management Integration (ICOSRMI), reserves the right to select for award all, some, or none of the proposals in response to this announcement. ONR provides no funding for direct reimbursement of proposal development costs. Technical and cost proposals (or any other material) submitted in response to this BAA will not be returned. It is the policy of ONR to treat all proposals as sensitive competitive information and to disclose their contents only for the purposes of evaluation.

## I. GENERAL INFORMATION

SPECIAL NOTICE 1: All Grant Applications submitted under this BAA shall be submitted via the Grants.Gov "APPLY" function. No other form of paper or electronic submission will be accepted unless the prospective grantee organization applies for and receives a waiver in accordance with Section IV, Application and Submission Information, Paragraph 5 entitled 'Submission of Grant Proposals to Grants.gov' below.

SPECIAL NOTICE 2: All attachments to grant applications submitted through Grants.Gov must be in Adobe Portable Document Format. Proposals with attachments submitted in word processing, spreadsheet, or any format other than Adobe Portable

Document Format will not be considered for award. The grant Application Package Template to be used for submission of grant applications through Grants.Gov is based on the PureEdge Forms software. It is anticipated that this BAA will be amended in the near future to require the use of an Adobe Forms Package in place of the PureEdge Application Package Template. Once this amendment is issued prospective grantees must download the new Adobe Application Package in order to be able to submit Grant Applications through Grants.Gov.

**1. Agency Name –**

Office of Naval Research,

**2. Research Opportunity Title –**

National Oceanographic Partnership Program (NOPP) and Interagency Committee on Ocean Science and Resource Management Integration (ICOSRMI)

**3. Program Name -** Not Applicable (N/A)

**4. Research Opportunity Number –**

ONR-BAA-09-012

**5. Response Date –**

Full Proposals: 11 February 2009, 4:00PM (Washington D.C. Local Time)

**6. Research Opportunity Description –**

On behalf of the National Oceanographic Partnership Program (NOPP) and The President's Interagency Committee on Ocean Science and Resource Management Integration (ICOSRMI), the Office of Naval Research (ONR) solicits research proposals meeting the goal and purpose of the Partnership Program outlined in Title II, subtitle E, of Public Law 104-201. Any NOPP member agency may fund research in response to this solicitation.

Up to $21.5 Million over four years may be available for this solicitation, subject to appropriation and final approval by the Interagency Working Group on Ocean Partnerships (IWG-OP) of the ICOSRMI. Breakout of topic investments may not equal total amount listed here due to the uncertainty associated with receiving funding.

Team efforts <u>are required</u> among at least two of the following three sectors:

- academia,
- industry (including Non-Governmental Organizations - NGOs), and
- government (including State and Local)

**Topic 1. Improving Wind Wave Predictions: Global to regional Scales**

Several of the U.S. Federal Agencies operate wind wave prediction models either in the forecast, hindcast, simulation or analyses for a variety of mission specific purposes ranging from protection of human life and safety, to design of engineered structures, to assessment of environmental conditions, etc. In general these prediction models consist of a series of science-based routines which contains the basic principles of air-sea interaction and wave evolution, a propagation routine that moves the wave energy across the ocean, and supporting infrastructure unique to the agency missions and prediction scenario. Much of the basic science contained in the physics core is more than a decade old. A group of federal agencies including the National Weather Service, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Office of Naval Research believe that sufficient research has been accomplished in the last decade to allow a significant upgrade of the models. These new routines could be tested and shared amongst the Federal Agencies, who would then embed them within the mission-specific prediction systems.

The goal of this NOPP solicitation is to seek proposals from academia, private industry and government laboratories to work in partnership with the funding agency production centers to produce a new set of source and sink terms for the Federal models including many or all of the following: wind input, breaking, nonlinear wave-wave interaction, bottom friction, wave-mud interaction, and wave-current interaction.

Given the existence of operational codes, the additions to the partnership to be funded with the NOPP funds will join with personnel drawn from the operational groups (NOAA, Navy, Army) to build a new set of source terms representing advances in understanding of the source and sink terms. These will need to be constructed in a modular manner to be retrofitted into existing models, will need to reproduce classical wave growth studies, and will have to be tested within the operational systems.

The goals are 1) new physics packages that perform demonstrably better across a range of environments and conditions than existing packages and 2) include a seamless transition from deep to shallow water (outside the surf zone). The source terms will be provided to the community of wave modelers at the end of the study. Proposals can address the individual or combinations of source/sink terms. Proposals should clearly address:

- Scientific details of proposed contribution to the partnership and expected value added
- Statement of work required to make contribution
- Statement of testing program to assure that the source/sink term combination is consistent with known patterns of wave field evolution
- Description of the investigators' experience and accomplishments demonstrating expertise in subject area
- Description of overall experience of the investigators and their contributions in multidisciplinary studies or teams

- Cost estimates
- Description of current research efforts including funding and sponsor
- Curriculum vitae

The efforts to be conducted via this announcement are intended to be conducted in an open, participatory team environment interacting on a regular basis with scientists and engineers at the federal laboratories.

Total funding envisioned is $2 million per year for all aspects of the effort over 4 years. The size of proposal depends upon the whether an individual or group proposals are submitted but will likely range from $100K-500K per year.

**Topic 2. Sensors for Measurement of Biological, Bio-Optical, Optical, or Chemical Properties of the Ocean**

In January 2007, the National Science & Technology Council's Joint Subcommittee on Ocean Science & Technology (NSTC-JSOST) issued *Charting the Course for Ocean Science for the United States for the Next Decade: An Ocean Research Priorities Plan and Implementation Strategy* (http://ocean.ceq.gov/about/sup_jsost_prioritiesplan.html ). Twenty broad research priorities are identified in this document, plus four near-term priorities within which rapid progress can be expected and is desired. The development of *Sensors for Marine Ecosystems* is one of these four near-term priorities.

Rapid development of sensor capabilities is critical because of maturing plans for implementing ocean observatory systems such as the Integrated Ocean Observing System (e.g., http://www.ocean.us/) and the Ocean Observatories Initiative (OOI) (http://www.oceanleadership.org/ocean_observing), for better equipping global *in situ* observing systems like Argo (http://www-argo.ucsd.edu/), and to provide critical sea-truth data required for the interpretation of satellite-based biological, chemical, and biogeochemical observations of the ocean. Moreover, development of biological, chemical, and bio-optical sensors for use in the ocean is critical to better understanding of aquatic ecology and ecosystem health, as well as the impact of a variable and changing climate on Earth's ecology and the health of humans who depend on the sea for commerce, food, and recreation.

Accordingly, we seek to support the development of new technologies for measuring the biological, bio-optical, optical, and/or chemical properties of the ocean within the realm of either of two topics (1 and 2), with topic 2 divided into three sub-topics associated with field and laboratory instruments (2A, 2B, and 2C, respectively).

Coordinated or linked projects should be proposed separately. Individual efforts may be linked with other projects, and these linkages must clearly and explicitly be identified by all involved proposals and investigators.

Investigators should make clear any special requirements (e.g., ship time, aircraft, high end computing, etc.) within the proposal.

Investigators proposing to these subtopics will be strongly encouraged to attend domestic (U.S.) federal agency-specific reviews, team/coordination meetings (e.g., the NASA Ocean Color Research Team Meeting, ONR Regional Research Reviews), and/or workshops 1-2 times per year. Travel for these meetings should be budgeted as appropriate.

All data collected by selected proposals will be subject to the selecting agency's data policy.

**Sub-Topic 1. Integration of existing or emerging *in situ* optical or bio-optical sensors on nontraditional or novel sampling platforms.**

The focus of this subtopic is to support the integration of existing bio-optical sensors on nontraditional or novel sampling platforms. The principal objective is to expand the temporal and spatial coverage of key ocean properties (e.g., the apparent and inherent optical properties of seawater) which have been constrained by traditional deployment methods (e.g., ships). That is, we are seeking to move candidate sensors with an established or emerging capability--but with a documented importance--toward a more extensive sampling paradigm that is stable, autonomous and sustainable. In this context, "stable" refers to a measurement with *in situ* recalibration or minimal drift from calibration, "autonomous" refers to an operational capability that is independent of human intervention, and "sustainable" refers to fault-free (or fault-recoverable) operation over periods of weeks to many months. The envisioned platforms include, but are not limited to, Autonomous Underwater Vehicles (AUVs), ocean gliders, autonomous profilers, drifters, floats, Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs), balloons, kites, and offshore platforms.

Proposals should describe demonstrated capabilities of the candidate sensor(s), and discuss the projected path to full integration. Platform perturbations or degradations to the data from the proposed sensor(s) must be discussed. In addition, the anticipated remedies that will be used to mitigate or remove data corruption must be discussed quantitatively and within the context of the overall uncertain budget. In some cases, the traditional protocols for deploying a sensor will not be achievable on the new platform, so a complete discussion of what the new protocol will be and how this will influence the anticipated data products is required.

**Sub-Topic 2. Development of the next generation of biological, chemical, optical, and bio-optical measurements.**

Current satellite ocean color sensor data addressed by this announcement include the Sea-viewing Wide Field-of-view Sensor (SeaWiFS) and the Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) instruments, which were launched on the Aqua and Terra spacecraft. Two recent reports address future NASA ocean biological and biogeochemical observations from satellites, aircraft, and other suborbital platforms: the National Research Council's "Earth Science and Applications from Space: National

Imperatives for the Next Decade and Beyond" (http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=11820) and the NASA Ocean Biology and Biogeochemistry Program's advanced plan entitled "Earth's Living Ocean: The Unseen World"(http://oceancolor.gsfc.nasa.gov/DOCS/OBB_Report_5.12.2008.pdf). A summary of the many aspects of calibration and validation, which are an important part of all observational enterprises, are discussed in the plan establishing the Ocean Biology and Biogeochemistry Calibration and Validation Office at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center (http://oceancolor.gsfc.nasa.gov/DOCS/CalValPlan_SP_214152.pdf).

The long-term objective of this subtopic is to advance the understanding of marine ecology by promoting novel measurements of biological, biogeochemical, chemical, and bio-optical properties at scales ranging from individual cells to the global ocean. There are significant limitations in observational capabilities and associated methodologies with present above- and in-water sensor technologies, as well as the laboratory methods used for supporting biogeochemical measurements. Here we seek proposals to develop and test new capabilities that have great promise to lead toward novel measurements of biological, chemical or optical properties of marine ecosystems. Although proposals are not restricted to the following themes, the following three areas associated with field and laboratory equipment are of particular interest:

**Sub-topic 2A. Development of the next generation of optical and bio-optical field sensors to further exploit current "ocean color" satellite data, and/or new observations from ocean color satellite retrievals (e.g., open-ocean and optically-complex coastal waters).**

Proposals are welcomed that seek to advance the state of the art for *in situ* (above- and in-water) sensors for vicarious calibration and data product validation in support of current or future NASA spaceborne instruments measuring ocean biological and biogeochemical properties. Responses may include new instruments, enhancements to existing instrumentation, or novel applications of existing (metrologically traceable and documented) sensors to novel observational platforms. Proposals must include a plan for continued assessment of the accuracy thresholds (uncertainties) being used for both the remote sensing and sea-truth activities, in the context of what is both technically feasible and financially sensible. Testing of new or enhanced technological and methodological approaches at field sites wherein the new or enhanced concepts can be properly quantified against current practices is expected. Combining this achievement with funding the continuing improvement in the metrology and reliability of sensors from commercial vendors (who share in those costs) is encouraged; this, plus the cost savings afforded by offshore platforms, moorings, or observatories--which are built and maintained by a wider community--may suggest that a new paradigm for ocean color calibration and validation is technically feasible and financially attractive.

**Sub-topic 2B. Development of enhanced or new laboratory instrumentation (including methods or protocols) for ecological or biogeochemical measurements in support of ocean color remote sensing.**

Proposals are sought that advance the state of the art for laboratory analyses of ecological or biogeochemical ocean properties (including the methods or protocols involved), particularly those measurements useful for calibration and validation activities. Anticipated advancements include, but are not limited to: a less costly but sufficiently capable alternative to existing methods; traceability to a certified reference material or a National Metrology Institute; a faster per sample analysis time; a more compact instrument; an enhanced robustness and ruggedness (perhaps thereby permitting in-the-field use of a normally laboratory-exclusive technology); and improved performance metrics. Quantitative intercomparisons of the proposed new measurement capability with respect to established practices (if they exist) are expected.

**Sub-topic 2C. Novel approaches to characterizing the properties (e.g., size, shape, and composition) and dynamics of suspended particles and particle populations *in situ*.**

Proposals are sought to develop new methods of characterizing marine particles and particle assemblages *in situ*. "Particles" refer to both living and non-living components of sea water. Approaches should focus on new methods of sensing that are non-destructive, especially with respect to fragile particle aggregations, and non-invasive, preserving to the extent possible the relational and orientation aspects of individual particles within a population. Applications should be directed toward the optically-relevant particle size range from 0.1 - 50 μm, which are of greatest interest, but should also be capable of relating observations to the larger, acoustically-relevant size ranges. While an eye towards sensor commercialization is desirable, it is expected that successful projects will be focused on basic aspects of the problem with perhaps a 5-10-year development cycle.

Total Investment for Sub-Topics 1 and 2 – It is expected that up to $2.5M per year will be available for a three-year period to support efforts under the "Sensors" subtopics. Although funding levels of individual projects may vary, the government anticipates supporting approximately 5-7 three-year projects, each at a level up to approximately $500K per year. Proposals that wish to seek significantly larger amounts per annum are encouraged to contact the Science & Technical Point of Contact (See below).

**Topic 3: Improving Tropical Cyclone Intensity Forecasting**

This topic seeks to improve the accuracy and reliability of tropical cyclone forecasts; to extend lead time for tropical cyclone forecasts with increased certainty; and to increase confidence in tropical cyclone forecasts. During the past 15-20 years, tropical cyclone track forecasts have steadily improved. During this same timeframe tropical cyclone intensity forecasts have shown little to no improvement because interactions with the large scale environment and between the ocean and atmosphere are critical to improving intensity forecasts. Statistical-dynamical models indicate that approx. half of intensity change is dependent on the large-scale environment while the remainder is dependent on inner core dynamics and upper ocean interactions. Better forecasts of intensity and intensity change rely on the ability to predict these details, some of which are dominated

by more chaotic processes, such as convection, that may limit predictability. More importantly, recent cases of rapid intensity changes at or near coastlines have occurred, but were not well forecast. Tropical cyclone structure, size and intensity are also rapidly modified by interaction with ocean mesoscale features such as eddies, currents and thermal density gradients. Improved understanding of this interaction is critical to resolving relevant features and evolution.

We seek partnership proposals in three major focus areas:

- Improved prediction capability in the atmosphere-wave-ocean-land interfaces;
- Tropical cyclone rapid intensification; and
- Prediction of mesoscale phenomena in the tropical cyclone system.

Proposals can address the individual or combinations of above topics. Proposals should clearly address:

- Scientific details of proposed contribution to the partnership and expected value added;
- Statement of work required to make contribution;
- Description of the investigators' experience and accomplishments demonstrating expertise in subject area;
- Description of overall experience of the investigators and their contributions in multidisciplinary studies or teams;
- Cost estimates;
- Description of current research efforts including funding and sponsor
- Curriculum vitae

The efforts to be conducted via this announcement are intended to be conducted in an open, participatory team environment interacting on a regular basis with scientists and engineers at the federal laboratories.

Anticipated funding is $2M per year over three years, with the possibility of additional funding dependant on 2009-2011 fiscal year budgets. The size of awards depends upon the types of proposals submitted, but will likely range from $100K to $1,000K per year for three years. The upper bound of the funding range is intended to allow the possibility of partnerships between multiple institutions if a larger team effort is proposed. The government anticipates making up to ten awards depending on the target funding level.

Work funded under a BAA may include basic research, applied research and some advanced technology development (ATD). With regard to any restrictions on the conduct or outcome of work funded under this BAA, ONR will follow the guidance on and definition of "contracted fundamental research" as provided in the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics) Memorandum of 26 June 2008. As defined therein, the definition of "contracted fundamental research", in a DoD contractual context, includes [research performed under] grants and contracts that are (a) funded by Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation Budget Activity 1 (Basic Research), whether performed by universities or industry or (b) funded by Budget Activity 2 (Applied Research) and performed on-campus at a university or by industry. ATD is

funded through Budget Activity 3. In conformance with the USD(AT&L) guidance and National Security Decision Directive 189, ONR will place no restriction on the conduct or reporting of unclassified fundamental research, except as otherwise required by statute, regulation or Executive Order. Normally, fundamental research is awarded under grants with universities and under contracts with industry. ATD is normally awarded under contracts and may require restrictions during the conduct of the research and DoD pre-publication review of research results due to subject matter sensitivity. Potential offerors are advised that the proposed effort(s) under BAA 09-012 is expected to constitute basic research or applied research.

**7. Point(s) of Contact –**

Questions of a technical nature shall be directed to Technical Point of Contact specified below:

Science and Technology Point of Contact:

Dr. Manuel Fiadeiro
National Oceanographic Partnership Program
Office of Naval Research
One Liberty Center,
ONR 322, Room 1061
875 N. Randolph St.
Arlington, VA 22203-1995
Email: manny.fiadeiro@navy.mil

Questions of a business nature shall be directed to the Contract Specialist specified below:

Business Point of Contact:

Susan Marie Paolini
Contract Specialist
ONR 252
Office of Naval Research
One Liberty Center, Room W1272
875 N. Randolph St.
Arlington, VA 22203-1995
Email: susan.paolini@navy.mil

**8. Instrument Type(s) –**

It is anticipated that awards will be in the form of grants. However, the Government reserves the right to award cooperative agreements, contracts, or other transaction agreements to appropriate parties, should the situation warrant use of an instrument other than a grant. It is strongly preferred that one institution act as the lead institution for each project and that a

single award be issued to the lead institution which would then issue sub-awards to the other non-Federal participants. Should a project include a request for funding to a Federal entity, funds to that entity will be provided through a separate Economy Act Order.

**9. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Numbers -**

12.300

**10. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Titles –**

Department of Defense (DoD) Basic and Applied Scientific Research

**11. Other Information -**

This announcement is restricted to work relating to basic and applied research and that portion of advanced technology development not related to a specific system or hardware procurement. Contracts, grants and other awards made under this BAA are for scientific study and experimentation directed towards advancing the state of the art or increasing knowledge or understanding.

THIS ANNOUNCEMENT IS NOT FOR THE ACQUISITION OF TECHNICAL, ENGINEERING AND OTHER TYPES OF SUPPORT SERVICES.

## II. AWARD INFORMATION

1. Total Amount of Funding Available: Up to $21.5 M over four years, subject to appropriation and final approval by the Interagency Working Group on Ocean Partnerships (IWG-OP) of the ICOSRMI.

2. Anticipated Number of Awards: Up to 27

3. Anticipated Award Types: Grants are anticipated.

4. Anticipated Range of Individual Award Amounts: approximately $100-500K annually (Topic 1), approximately $500K annually (Topic 2), or approximately $100-$1,000K (Topic 3).

5. Anticipated Period of Performance for Awards: 4 years (Topic 1); 3 years (Topics 2 and 3)

## III. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

All responsible sources from academia and industry may submit proposals under this BAA. Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Minority Institutions (MIs) are encouraged to submit proposals and join others in submitting proposals. However, no portion of this BAA will be set aside for HBCU and MI participation.

Federally Funded Research & Development Centers (FFRDCs), including Department of Energy National Laboratories, are not eligible to bid on this BAA. However, teaming arrangements between FFRDCs and eligible principal bidders are allowed so long as they are permitted under the sponsoring agreement between the Government and the specific FFRDC.

Navy laboratories and warfare centers as well as other Department of Defense and civilian agency laboratories are also not eligible to receive awards under this BAA and should not directly submit proposals in response to this BAA. If any such organization is interested in one or more of the topics described herein, the organization should contact the ONR Science & Technology POC as identified in this BAA to discuss its area of interest. As with FFRDCs, these types of organizations may team with other responsible sources from academia and industry that are submitting proposals under this BAA.

Teams are encouraged to submit proposals in any and all areas. However, Offerors must be willing to cooperate and exchange software, data and other information in an integrated program with other contractors, as well as with system integrators, selected by ONR.

Topics under this BAA are not expected to cover export controlled technologies.

## IV. APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

**1. Application and Submission Process –** Proposals must be submitted electronically by 4:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on 11 February 2009.

**2. Content and Format of Full Proposals –**

Full Proposals submitted under the BAA will be unclassified.

Proposal submissions will be protected from unauthorized disclosure in accordance with FAR Subpart 15.207, applicable law, and DoD/DoN regulations. Offerors are expected to appropriately mark each page of their submission that contains proprietary information. The proposal shall include a severable, self-standing Statement of Work, which contains only unclassified information and does not include any proprietary restrictions.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Titles given to the Full Proposals should be descriptive of the work they cover and not be merely a copy of the title of this solicitation.

As noted in Paragraph 5 below, proposals seeking grants and cooperative agreements are to be formatted as required by Standard Form 424 (R&R), which is available via the internet at http://www.grants.gov/.

Alternatives to the format and content identified below may be appropriate depending on the scope and nature of the proposed effort. Coordinate any alternative proposal formats and contents relating to technical proposals (Volume 1 of the full proposal) with the Technical POC identified in paragraph I.7. of this BAA. Alternative formats and content may be directed by the Technical POC or may result from Offerors' suggestions approved by the Technical POC.

**a. FULL PROPOSALS**

**Full Proposal Format – Volume 1 - Technical and Volume 2 - Cost Proposal**

• Paper Size – 8.5 x 11 inch paper
• Margins – 1 inch
• Spacing – single or double-spaced
• Font – Times New Roman, 12 point
• Number of Pages – The Technical Proposal (Volume 1) is limited to no more than 15 pages. The cover page, table of contents, severable statements of work for proposed Federal entities (if applicable), data rights assertions, other agencies, list of references and resumes are excluded from the page limitations. Full Proposals exceeding the page limit specified for Volume 1 may not be evaluated. The Cost Proposal (Volume 2) has no page limitation.
• Copies – If a grant or cooperative agreement is sought, the full proposal shall be submitted electronically on a Standard Form 424 (R&R) at http://www.grants.gov/ as delineated below. Contracts may be submitted via hard copy directly to the Technical POC. In the case of contracts, one (1) original and one electronic copy on a CD-ROM (in Microsoft® Word or Excel 97 compatible or .PDF format) must be provided.

**Full Proposal Content**

**VOLUME 1: Technical Proposal**

• **Cover Page:** This should include the words "Technical Proposal" and the following:

1) BAA number; [09-012]
2) Title of Proposal;
3) Identity of prime Offeror and complete list of subcontractors, if applicable;
4) Technical contact (name, address, phone/fax, electronic mail address)
5) Administrative/business contact (name, address, phone/fax, electronic mail address) and;
6) Duration of effort (differentiate basic effort and any proposed options)

• **Table of Contents:** An alphabetical/numerical listing of the sections within the proposal, including corresponding page numbers. Each section should begin on a new page.

• **Statement of Work:** A Statement of Work (SOW) clearly detailing the scope and objectives of the effort and the technical approach. It is anticipated that the proposed SOW will be incorporated as an attachment to the resultant award instrument. To this end, the proposals must include a severable, self-standing SOW, without any proprietary restrictions, which can be attached to the contract or agreement award. Include a detailed listing of the technical tasks/subtasks organized by year. Should a particular project include a funding request for the participation of a Federal entity, the proposal should include a separate SOW describing only that work which is to be performed by the Federal entity. A separate SOW should be included for each Federal entity requesting funding. SOWs related to the participation of Federal entities, if any, should be included as an appendix to the Technical Proposal. These appendices will not count against the page limitations set forth above.

• **Project Schedule and Milestones:** A summary of the schedule of events and milestones.

• **Assertion of Data Rights and/or Rights in Computer Software (Contract Proposals Only):** For a contract award an Offeror may provide with its proposal assertions to restrict use, release or disclosure of data and/or computer software that will be provided in the course of contract performance. The rules governing these assertions are prescribed in Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) clauses 252.227-7013, -7014 and -7017. These clauses may be accessed at the following web address:

http://farsite.hill.af.mil/VFDFARA.HTM

The Government may challenge assertions that are provided in improper format or that do not properly acknowledge earlier federal funding of related research by the Offeror.

• **Deliverables:** A detailed description of the results and products to be delivered inclusive of the timeframe in which they will be delivered.

• **Management Approach:** A discussion of the overall approach to the management of this effort, including brief discussions of the total organization; use of personnel; project/function/subcontractor/subrecipient relationships; government research interfaces; and planning, scheduling and control practice. Identify which personnel and subcontractors/subrecipients (if any) will be involved. Include a description of the facilities that are required for the proposed effort with a description of any Government Furnished Equipment/Hardware/Software/Information required, by version and/or configuration.

• **Other Agencies:** Include the name(s) of any other agencies to which the proposal has also been submitted.

• **List of References**: Provide source of each reference cited in the proposal. No specific format required.

• **Curriculum Vitae**: Resumes or CV's of no more than two pages should be included for the Principal Investigator and each major co-investigator.

• **Ship Use**: Requirements for ship time must be specifically included in the proposal, which should clearly specify the size and type of vessels proposed for use. Ships of opportunity are encouraged. Offeror should include ship time requests on either the former NSF Form 831 (Ship time Request Form) or preferably the University National Oceanographic Laboratory System (UNOLS) on-line request form available at: http://www.gso.uri.edu/unols/ship/shiptime.html.

**VOLUME 2: Cost Proposal**

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR CONTRACTS AND OTHER TRANSACTION AGREEMENTS**

Although not required and provided for informational purposes only, adhering to the instructions delineated below may expedite contract or assistance award placement. Detailed instructions, entitled "Instructions for Preparing Cost Proposals for Contracts and Agreements", including a sample template for preparing costs proposals for contracts and agreements, may be found at ONR's website listed under the 'Acquisition Department – Contracts & Grants Submitting a Proposal' link at: http://www.onr.navy.mil/02/how_to.asp

The Cost Proposal shall consist of a cover page and two parts. Part 1 will provide a detailed cost breakdown of all costs by cost category by Government fiscal year, and Part 2 will provide a cost breakdown by task/sub-task corresponding to the task numbers in the proposed Statement of Work. Options must be separately priced.

Projects which include participation by a Federal entity should include a separate budget detailing the Federal entity's proposed costs in the full partnership proposal. Federal entities will be funded separately via an Economy Act Order.

• **Ship Use**: Costs for use of ships must be included in the proposal budget.

• **Table of Partners and Costs**: The cost proposal should lead with a table summarizing by fiscal year and for each academic institution, business, not-for- profit agency, and government agency requesting funds: the Principal Investigator(s), the name of the institution and its nature, and funds requested for each fiscal year of the proposed effort. Information is required in the following example format:

**TABLE OF PARTNERSHIPS**:

| **Principal Investigator(s)*** | **Institution*** | **FY09 funds Requested** | **FY10 funds Requested** | **FY11 funds Requested** | … *Additional years as* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | *required* |
| R. Johnson (lead PI) | Random University (Academic) | $125,314 | $127,216 | $131,614 | |
| J. Jones & S. Smith | Vandaley Industries (Business) | $110,615 | $37,212 | $64,312 | |
| L. Simmons | The Ocean Mammal Conservancy (Non-profit) | $25,000 | $25,000 | $0 | |
| T. Ritter | DEQ of Texas (State Gov) | $10,000 | $10,000 | $10,000 | |
| OTHER THAN FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SUBTOTAL: | _____ | $260,929 | $189,428 | $195,926 | |
| T. Wilson | NOAA Laboratory for Oceans (Government) | $57,612 | $61,214 | $50,000 | |
| FEDERAL GOVERNMENT PARTICIPANT TOTAL: | _____ | $57,612 | $61,214 | $50,000 | |
| PROJECT TOTAL: | _____ | $318,541 | $250,642 | $245,926 | |

*Participant names are fictitious and are used simply for illustrative purposes.

• **Cover Page**: The use of the SF 1411 is optional. The words "Cost Proposal" should appear on the cover page in addition to the following information:

- BAA number
- Title of Proposal
- Identity of prime Offeror and complete list of subcontractors, if applicable
- Technical contact (name, address, phone/fax, electronic mail address)
- Administrative/business contact (name, address, phone/fax, electronic mail address)
- Duration of effort (separately identify basic effort and any proposed options)

**Part 1:** Detailed breakdown of all costs by cost category by Gov't fiscal year:

- Direct Labor – Individual labor categories or persons, with associated labor hours and unburdened direct labor rates. Provide escalation rates for out years;

- Indirect Costs – Fringe Benefits, Overhead, G&A, COM, etc. and their applicable allocation bases. If composite rates are used, provide the calculations used in deriving the composite rates.
- Travel – Provide a breakout of travel costs including the purpose and number of trips, origin and destinations(s), duration, travelers per trip, and the airfare, hotel, per diem, car rental costs, etc. for each trip.
- Subcontracts – A cost proposal as detailed as the Offeror's cost proposal will be required to be submitted by the subcontractor. The subcontractor's cost proposal can be provided in a sealed envelope with the Offeror's cost proposal or may be sent directly to the Government. Subcontractor proposals must be received and reviewed prior to contract award. The prime contractor should perform and provide a cost/price analysis of each subcontractor's cost proposal.*

***Note**: DoD Federal Acquisition Regulation provision 252.215-7003 (48 CFR §252.215-7003) is incorporated into this solicitation by reference. The offeror is to exclude excessive pass-through charges from subcontractors. The offeror must identify in its proposal the percentage of effort it intends to perform and the percentage to be performed by each of its proposed subcontractors. If more than 70 percent of the total effort will be formed through subcontractors, the offeror must include the additional information required by the above-cited clause.

- Consultants – Provide a breakdown of the consultant's hours, the hourly rate proposed, any other proposed consultant costs, a copy of the signed Consulting Agreement or other documentation supporting the proposed consultant cost, and a copy of the consultant's proposed statement of work if it is not already separately identified in the prime contractor's proposal.

- Materials & Supplies – Provide an itemized list of all proposed materials and supplies including quantities, unit prices, proposed vendors (if known), and the basis for the estimate (e.g., quotes, prior purchases, catalog price lists).

- Contractor Acquired Equipment or Facilities – Equipment and/or facilities are normally furnished by the Contractor. If acquisition of equipment and/or facilities is proposed, a justification for the purchase of the items must be provided. Provide an itemized list of all equipment and/or facilities costs and the basis for the estimate (e.g., quotes, prior purchases, catalog price lists).

- Other Direct Costs – Provide an itemized list of all other proposed other direct costs and the basis for the estimate (e.g., quotes, prior purchases, catalog price lists).

- Options – The Base Period of Performance and Option Periods must be priced at the submission of the proposal. Unpriced options will not be included in any resulting contract or agreement.

- Fee/Profit - (Contract Proposals Only) – Profit or fee is not allowed on direct costs for facilities or in cost-sharing contracts.

Note: Indicate if you have an approved Purchasing/Estimating System and/or describe the process used to determine the basis of reasonableness (e.g., competition, market research, best value analysis) for subcontractors, consultants, materials, supplies, equipment/facilities, and other direct costs.

**Part 2 :** Cost breakdown by task/sub-task corresponding to the same task breakdown in the proposed Statement of Work. When options are contemplated, options must be separately identified and priced by task/subtask.

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR GRANTS AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS**

The offeror must use the Grants.Gov forms from the application package template associated with the BAA on the Grants.Gov web site located at http://www.grants.gov/ . Elements of the budget should include:

- Direct Labor – Individual labor categories or persons, with associated labor hours and unburdened direct labor rates or percentage of effort or total man-years. Provide escalation rates for out years. Justify in Field K of the Grant Template.

- Indirect Costs – Fringe Benefits, Overhead, F&A, G&A etc. and their applicable allocation bases. If composite rates are used, provide the calculations used in deriving the composite rates. Justify in Field K.

- Travel – Provide a breakout of travel costs including the purpose and number of trips, origin and destinations(s), duration, travelers per trip, and the airfare, hotel, per diem, car rental costs, etc. for each trip. Or a basis for estimate, i.e., based on previous efforts, based on past experience, etc. Justify in Field K.

- Subawards - Cost proposal as detailed as the recipient's cost proposal will be required to be submitted by the subrecipient. The subawardee's or subrecipient's cost proposal can be provided in a sealed envelope with the recipient's cost proposal or may be sent directly to the Government. Subawardee proposals must be received and reviewed prior to award.

- Consultants – Provide a breakdown of the consultant's hours, the hourly rate proposed, any other proposed consultant costs and a copy of the consultant's proposed statement of work if it is not already separately identified in the prime recipient's proposal. Strong justification must be provided, and consultants are to be used only under exceptional circumstances where no equivalent expertise can be found at a participating university. Justify in Field K.

- Materials & Supplies – Provide an itemized list of all proposed materials and supplies including quantities, unit prices, proposed vendors (if known), and the

basis for the estimate (e.g., quotes, prior purchases, catalog price lists). Justify in Field K.

- Recipient Acquired Equipment or Facilities – Equipment and/or facilities are normally furnished by the Recipient. If acquisition of equipment and/or facilities is proposed, a justification for the purchase of the items must be provided. Provide an itemized list of all equipment and/or facilities costs and the basis for the estimate (e.g., quotes, prior purchases, catalog price lists). For computer/laptop purchases include a statement indicating the computer/laptop will be integrated into the program or used as an integral part of the research effort. Justify in Field K.
- Other Direct Costs – Provide an itemized list of all other proposed other direct costs such as Graduate Assistant tuition, laboratory fees, report and publication costs, and the basis for the estimates (e.g., quotes, prior purchases, catalog price lists). Justify in Field K.

- Options – The Base Period of Performance and Option Periods must be priced at the submission of the proposal. Any proposal containing unpriced options will not be included in the award.

- Fee/Profit - Fee/profit is unallowable.

**3. Significant Dates and Times -**

| **Anticipated Schedule of Events** | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Event** | **Date (MM/DD/YEAR)** | **Time (Washington DC Local Time)** |
| Deadline for Receipt of Questions | 01/21/2009 | 4:00 p.m. |
| Full Proposals Due Date | 02/11/2009 | 4:00 p.m. |
| Notification of Selection for Award | 04/01/2009 * | |
| Award (start date) | 08/01/2009 * | |

* - These dates are estimates as of the date of this announcement.

NOTE: Due to changes in security procedures since September 11, 2001, the time required for hard-copy written materials to be received at the Office of Naval Research has increased. Thus it is recommended that any hard copy proposal be mailed several days before the deadline established above so that it will not be received late and thus be ineligible for award consideration.

**4. Submission of Late Proposals –**

Any proposal, modification, or revision, that is received at the designated Government office after the exact time specified for receipt of proposals is “late” and will not be considered. The rule for declining "late" proposals (even a proposal submitted one (1) minute late) must, by law, be strictly

enforced. Grant submissions made through grants.gov must be received into the grants.gov system not later than the date and time specified in the solicitation for receipt of proposals.

However, a late modification of an otherwise timely and successful proposal that makes its terms more favorable to the Government will be considered at any time it is received and may be accepted.

If an emergency or unanticipated event interrupts normal Government processes so that electronic versions of proposals cannot be received at the Government office designated for receipt of proposals by the exact time specified in the announcement, and urgent Government requirements preclude amendment of the announcement closing date, the time specified for receipt of proposals will be deemed to extend to the same time of day specified in the announcement on the first work day on which normal Government processes resume.

The contracting officer must promptly notify any offeror if its proposal, modifications, or revision was received late and must inform the offeror whether its proposal will be considered.

**5. Submission of Grant and Cooperative Agreement Proposals through Grants.gov**
(NOT APPLICABLE TO PROPOSALS FOR CONTRACTS AND OTHER TRANSACTION AGREEMENTS)

Detailed instructions entitled "Grants.Gov Electronic Application and Submission Information" on how to submit a grant or cooperative agreement proposal through Grants.gov may be found at the ONR website listed under the 'Acquisition Department – Contracts & Grants Submitting a Proposal' link at:
http://www.onr.navy.mil/02/how_to.asp

Grant and cooperative agreement proposals shall be submitted through Grants.gov using the Grants.gov forms from the application package template associated with the BAA on the Grants.gov website. To be considered for award, applicants must include the ONR Department Code "322" in Block 4 entitled 'Federal Identifier' of the Standard Form (SF) 424 R&R. Applicants who fail to provide a Department Code identifier may receive notification that their proposal submission has been rejected.

By completing Blocks 18 and 19 the Grant Applicant is providing the certification on lobbying required by 32 CFR Part 28. Refer to Section VI, 'Award Administration Information' entitled "Certifications" for further information.

For electronic submission of grant and cooperative agreement full proposals, several one-time actions must be completed in order to submit an application through Grants.gov. These include obtaining a Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number, registering with the Central Contract Registration (CCR), registering with the credential provider, and registering with Grants.gov. See www.grants.gov, specifically www.grants.gov/GetStarted.

Use the Grants.gov Organization Registration Checklist at http://www.grants.gov/applicants/register_your_organization.jsp which will provide guidance through the process. Designating an E-Business Point of Contact (EBiz POC) and obtaining a special password called 'MPIN' are important steps in the CCR registration process. Applicants who are not registered with CCR and Grants.gov should allow at least 21 days to complete these requirements. The process should be started as soon as possible. Additionally, in order to download the application package, applicants will need to install PureEdgeViewer. This small, free program will allow applicants to access, complete and submit applications electronically and securely. For a free version of the software, visit the following website: www.grants.gov/DownloadViewer. Any questions relating to the registration process, system requirements, how an application form works, or the submittal process must be directed to Grants.gov at 1-800-518-4726 or support@grants.gov.

**Special Notices Relative to Grant Applications to be submitted through Grants.Gov:**

See paragraph I ("GENERAL INFORMATION") on page 1 for SPECIAL NOTICES 1 and 2 related to Grant Applications.

Process to Obtain a Waiver from the Use of Grants.Gov for Submission of Full Grant Proposals: If a prospective grantee is unable to comply with the requirement to use Grants.Gov "APPLY" for submission of a grant application under this BAA or finds it would be an excessive burden to comply with this requirement, a waiver request may be submitted not less than 30 calendar days prior to the closing date for receipt of Full Proposals. Such request should be submitted by the Electronic Business Point of Contact listed in the CCR for the organization and should contain the Organization/Individual's name, address, telephone number, and email address. The request should state the reason for the request in sufficient detail so a decision can be made. The Waiver Request should be submitted to the ONR Acquisition Department point of contact or Grants Officer listed in the BAA. Such request can be sent by registered mail or email. The "postmark" stamp on the envelope or the time annotated on the email will be used to determine timeliness of the request. A decision and response will be issued within 14 calendar days of receipt of the request by ONR. Foreign Grantees who are not registered in CCR may request a waiver on that basis since CCR registration is integral to the Grants.Gov application process.

**6. Address for the Submission of Hard Copy Full Proposals for Contracts and Other Transaction Agreements.**

Hard copies of Full Proposals for Contracts and Other Transaction Agreements should be sent to the Office of Naval Research at the following address:

Office of Naval Research
Attn: Dr. Manuel Fiadeiro
ONR Department Code 322
875 North Randolph Street

Arlington, VA 22203-1995

## V. EVALUATION INFORMATION

### 1. Evaluation Criteria –

Award decisions will be based on a competitive selection of proposals resulting from a scientific and cost review. The proposals will be rated by a peer review panel and subsequently selected by the agencies funding the studies. Evaluations will be conducted using the following evaluation criteria:

1) Overall scientific and technical merits of the proposal;
2) Potential relevance to the topics addressed in the Statement of Work and contributions of the effort to the agency's specific mission;
3) The offeror's capabilities, related experience, facilities, techniques or unique combinations of these which are integral factors for achieving the proposal objectives;
4) The qualifications, capabilities and experience of the proposed Principal Investigator (PI), team leader and key personnel who are critical in achieving the proposal objects; and
5) The realism of the proposed costs and the availability of funds.

Overall, the technical factors (1 – 4 above) are more important than the cost factor, with the technical factors all being of equal value. The degree of importance of cost will increase with the degree of equality of the proposals in relation to the other factors on which selection is to be based, or when the cost is so significantly high as to diminish the value of the proposal's technical superiority to the Government.

For proposed awards to be made as contracts to other than small businesses, the socio-economic merits of each proposal will be evaluated based on the extent of the Offeror's commitment in providing meaningful subcontracting opportunities for small businesses, small disadvantaged businesses, woman-owned small businesses, HUBZone small businesses, veteran-owned small businesses, service disabled veteran-owned small businesses, historically black colleges and universities, and minority institutions.

The Government will evaluate options for award purposes by adding the total cost for all options to the total cost for the basic requirement. Evaluation of options will not obligate the Government to exercise the options during contract performance.

### 2. Evaluation Panel –

Technical and cost proposals submitted under this BAA will be protected from unauthorized disclosure in accordance with FAR 3.104-4 and 15.207. The cognizant Technical Points of Contact and other Government scientific experts will perform the evaluation of technical proposals. Cost proposals will be evaluated by Government business professionals. Restrictive notices notwithstanding, one or more support contractors may be utilized as subject-matter-expert technical consultants. Similarly, support contractors may be utilized to evaluate cost proposals.

However, proposal selection and award decisions are solely the responsibility of Government personnel. Each support contractor's employee having access to technical and cost proposals submitted in response to this BAA will be required to sign a non-disclosure statement prior to receipt of any proposal submissions.

## VI. AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

### 1. Administrative Requirements –

- The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code – The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code for this announcement is "541712" with a small business size standard of "500 employees".

- Central Contractor Registry (CCR) - Successful Offerors not already registered in the CCR will be required to register in CCR prior to award of any grant, contract, cooperative agreement, or other transaction agreement. Information on CCR registration is available at http://www.onr.navy.mil/02/ccr.htm .

- Subcontracting Plans - Successful contract proposals that exceed $550,000, submitted by all but small business concerns, will be required to submit prior to award a Small Business Subcontracting Plan in accordance with FAR 52.219-9.

- Certifications – Proposals for contracts and assistance agreements should be accompanied by a completed certification package.

Contracts and Other Transaction Agreement Proposals:

For contracts, in accordance with FAR 4.1201, prospective contractors shall complete and submit electronic annual representations and certifications at http://orca.bpn.gov. In addition to completing the Online Representations and Certifications Application (ORCA), proposals must be accompanied with a completed DFARS and contract specific representations and certifications. These "DFARS and Contract Specific Representations and Certifications", i.e., Section K, may be accessed under the Contracts and Grants Section of the ONR Home Page at http://www.onr.navy.mil/02/rep_cert.asp . This certification requirement is also applicable for other transaction proposals involving prototypes (Section 845 agreements).

Grants and Cooperative Agreements:

Grant and Cooperative Agreement awards greater than $100,000 require a certification of compliance with a national policy mandate concerning lobbying. Grant applicants shall provide this certification by electronic submission of SF424 (R&R) as a part of the electronic proposal submitted via Grants.gov (complete Blocks 18 and 19); The following certification applies to each applicant seeking federal assistance funds exceeding $100,000:

**CERTIFICATION REGARDING LOBBYING ACTIVITIES**

(1) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid by or on behalf of the applicant, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of an agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.

(2) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the applicant shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions.

(3) The applicant shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by Section 1352, title 31, U.S.C. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than $10,000 and not more than $100,000 for each such failure.

Grants and Cooperative Agreements not through Grants.gov:

Proposers seeking grants or cooperative agreements who have received Grants.gov waiver approval for awards greater than $100,000 shall complete and submit electronic representations and certifications at the Contracts and Grants Section of the ONR Home Page at http://www.onr.navy.mil/02/rep_cert.asp

**2. Reporting -**

The following are samples of data deliverables that are typically required under a research effort:

*Technical and Financial Progress Reports
*Presentation Materials

*Final Report

Additional data deliverables may be proposed and finalized during negotiations. Research performed under contracts may also include the delivery of software, prototypes, and other hardware items.

## VII. OTHER INFORMATION

### 1. Government Property/Government Furnished Equipment (GFE) and Facilities

Offerors should provide all necessary facilities required to complete the proposed project. However, should an offeror request that the government furnish property, the offeror must provide a very specific description of any equipment/hardware that it needs to acquire to perform the work. Also, this description should identify the component, nomenclature, and configuration of the equipment/hardware that it proposes to purchase for this effort. The purchase on a direct reimbursement basis of special test equipment or other equipment will be evaluated for allowability on a case-by-case basis. Maximum use of Government integration, test, and experiment facilities is encouraged in each of the Offeror's proposals.

These facilities and resources are of high value and some are in constant demand by multiple programs. It is unlikely that all facilities would be used for any one specific program. The use of these facilities and resources will be negotiated as the program unfolds. Offerors should explain as part of their proposals which of these facilities are critical for the project's success. For awards proposed as contracts, no fee or profit will be allowed on GFF/GFE.

### 2. Security Classification

In order to facilitate intra-program collaboration and technology transfer, the Government will attempt to enable technology developers to work at the unclassified level to the maximum extent possible. If access to classified material will be required at any point during performance, the Offeror must clearly identify such need prominently in its proposal.

### 3. Use of Animals and Human Subjects in Research

If animals are to be utilized in the research effort proposed, the Offeror must complete a DOD Animal Use Protocol with supporting documentation (copies of AALAC accreditation and/or NIH assurance, IACUC approval, research literature database searches, and the two most recent USDA inspection reports) prior to award. For assistance with submission of animal research related documentation, contact the ONR Animal/Human Use Administrator at (703) 696-4046.

Similarly, for any proposal for research involving human subjects the Offeror must submit prior to award: documentation of approval from an Institutional Review Board

(IRB); IRB-approved research protocol; IRB-approved informed consent form; proof of completed human research training (e.g., training certificate or institutional verification of training); an application for a DoD Navy Addendum to the Offeror's DHHS-issued Federalwide Assurance (FWA) or the Offeror's DoD Navy Addendum number. In the event that an exemption criterion under 32 CFR.219.101(b) is claimed, provide documentation of the determination by the Institutional Review Board (IRB) Chair, IRB Vice Chair, designated IRB administrator or official of the human research protection program. Information about assurance applications and forms can be obtained by contacting ONR_343_contact@navy.mil . If the research is determined by the IRB to be greater than minimal risk, the Offeror also must provide the name and contact information for the independent medical monitor. [Note: for research involving human subjects that is greater than minimal risk, administrative procedures to protect human subjects from medical expenses (not otherwise provided or reimbursed) that are the direct result of participation in a research project must be addressed. Additional supporting documentation may be requested. For additional information on this topic, email ONR_343_contact@navy.mil.] For assistance with submission of human subject research related documentation, contact the ONR Animal/Human Use Administrator at (703) 696-4046.

### 4. Department of Defense High Performance Computing Program

The DoD High Performance Computing Program (HPCMP) furnishes the DoD S & T and DT & E communities with use-access to very powerful high performance computing systems. Awardees of ONR contracts, grants, and assistance instruments may be eligible to use HPCMP assets in support of their funded activities if ONR Program Officer approval is obtained and if security/screening requirements are favorably completed. Additional information and an application may be found at http://www.hpcmo.hpc.mil/

### 5. Protection of Proprietary and Sensitive Information

The parties acknowledge that, during performance of the contract, grant, or other assistance agreement resulting from this BAA, the recipient may require access to certain proprietary and confidential information (whether in its original or derived form) submitted to or produced by the Government. Such information includes, but is not limited to, business practices, proposals, designs, mission or operation concepts, sketches, management policies, cost and operating expense, technical data and trade secrets, proposed Navy budgetary information, and acquisition planning or acquisition actions, obtained either directly or indirectly as a result of the effort performed on behalf of ONR. The recipient shall take appropriate steps not only to safeguard such information, but also to prevent disclosure of such information to any party other than the Government. The recipient agrees to indoctrinate company personnel who will have access to or custody of the information concerning the nature of the confidential terms under which the Government received such information and shall stress that the information shall not be disclosed to any other party or to recipient personnel who do not need to know the contents thereof for the performance of the contract/agreement. Recipient personnel shall

also be informed that they shall not engage in any other action, venture, or employment wherein this information will be used for any purpose by any other party.

## 6. Project Meetings and Reviews

Individual program reviews between the ONR sponsor and the performer may be held as necessary. Program status reviews may also be held to provide a forum for reviews of the latest results from experiments and any other incremental progress towards the major demonstrations. These meetings will be held at various sites throughout the country. For costing purposes, offerors should assume that 40% of these meetings will be at or near ONR, Arlington VA and 60% at other contractor or government facilities. Interim meetings are likely, but these will be accomplished via video telephone conferences, telephone conferences, or via web-based collaboration tools.

## 7. Submission of Questions

Any questions regarding this solicitation must be provided to the Science and Technology Point of Contact and/or Business Point of Contact listed in this solicitation. All questions shall be submitted in writing by electronic mail. Questions must be submitted by 4:00 P.M. Eastern Time on **21 January 2008.** Questions after this date and time may not be answered, and the due date for submission of the proposals will not be extended.