

notification list for the Pier S marine terminal project or other projects in the Port of Long Beach can register at: <http://www.spl.usace.army.mil/regulatory/register.html>. This list will be used in the future to notify the public about scheduled hearings and availability of future public notices.

The Corps of Engineers will also be consulting with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under the Endangered Species Act and Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, and with the National Marine Fisheries Service under the Magnuson-Stevens Act. Additionally, the EIS/EIR will assess the consistency of the proposed Action with the Coastal Zone Management Act and potential water quality impacts pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act.

The public scoping meeting for the Draft EIS/EIR will be held on September 25th, 2003, at 6 p.m., at the Port of Long Beach administration building. The Corps and the Port will separately transmit local notices of the meeting prior to the event. Written comments will now be received until October 17th, 2003. The Draft EIS/EIR is expected to be published and circulated sometime between Winter 2003 and Spring 2004, and a new public notice and public hearing will be held after its publication.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Questions about the proposed action and Draft EIS/EIR can be answered by Mr. Joshua Burnam, Corps Project Manager, at 213-452-3294. Comments regarding the scope of the Draft EIS/EIR shall be addressed to: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District, Regulatory Branch, ATTN: File Number 1999-16479-JLB, P.O. Box 532711, Los Angeles, California 90053-2325. Copies should also be sent to Stacey Crouch, Port of Long Beach, P.O. Box 570, Long Beach, CA 90801-0570.

**Richard G. Thompson,**

*Colonel, U.S. Army, District Engineer.*

[FR Doc. 03-25203 Filed 10-3-03; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA No. 84.170A]

### Office of Postsecondary Education; Notice Extending Application Transmittal Deadline Date for Jacob K. Javits Fellowship Program

**SUMMARY:** On August 1, 2003, a notice was published in the **Federal Register** (68 FR 45229) inviting applications for new awards for fiscal year (FY) 2004 for the Jacob K. Javits Fellowship Program.

The notice listed a deadline date of October 3, 2003, for the transmittal of applications.

The Secretary extends the deadline date for the transmittal of applications for this competition from applicants in certain nationally declared disaster areas. The Secretary takes this action to allow more time for the preparation and submission of applications by potential applicants in certain States that have been affected by Hurricane Isabel. The extension of this deadline date is intended to help the potential applicants compete fairly with other applicants under this competition.

**Eligibility:** The extended deadline date in this notice applies to you if you are a potential applicant from an area on the following chart. The President has declared each of these locations a disaster area as a result of recent severe weather conditions. These areas are as follows:

**State:** Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, North Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia.

**DATES:** The new deadline date for the transmittal of applications is October 14, 2003.

**ADDRESSES:** The address and telephone number for obtaining applications for, or information about this program are in the application notice for the program.

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain a copy of this notice in an alternative format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) on request to the contact person listed in the application notice.

#### Electronic Access to This Document

You may view this document, as well as all other Department of Education documents published in the **Federal Register**, in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) on the Internet at the following site: <http://www.ed.gov/news/fedregister>.

To use PDF you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at this site. If you have questions about using PDF, call the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO); toll free, at 1-888-293-6498; or in the Washington, DC area at (202) 512-1530.

**Note:** The official version of this document is the document published in the **Federal Register**. Free Internet access to the official edition of the **Federal Register** and the Code of Federal Regulations is available on GPO Access at: <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/nara/index.html>.

**Program Authority:** 20 U.S.C. 1134-1134d.

Dated: October 1, 2003.

**Wilbert Bryant,**

*Acting Assistant Secretary, Office of Postsecondary Education.*

[FR Doc. 03-25303 Filed 10-1-03; 3:55 pm]

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## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity, (National Advisory Committee); Meeting

**AGENCY:** National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity, Department of Education.

#### What Is the Purpose of This Notice?

The purpose of this notice is to announce the public meeting of the National Advisory Committee and invite third-party oral presentations before the Committee. This notice also presents the proposed agenda and informs the public of its opportunity to attend this meeting. The notice of this meeting is required under section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

#### When and Where Will the Meeting Take Place?

We will hold the public meeting on December 8, 2003 from 12:30 p.m. until approximately 5:30 p.m., and on December 9, 2003 from 8:30 a.m. until approximately 12:30 p.m. in the Ballroom at the Hilton Garden Inn, 815 14th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20005. You may call the hotel on (202) 783-7800 to inquire about rooms.

#### What Assistance Will Be Provided to Individuals With Disabilities?

The meeting site is accessible to individuals with disabilities. If you will need an auxiliary aid or service to participate in the meeting (e.g., interpreting service, assistive listening device, or materials in an alternate format), notify the contact person listed in this notice at least two weeks before the scheduled meeting date. Although we will attempt to meet a request received after that date, we may not be able to make available the requested auxiliary aid or service because of insufficient time to arrange it.

#### Who Is the Contact Person for the Meeting?

Please contact Ms. Bonnie LeBold, the Executive Director of the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity, if you have questions about the meeting. You may contact her at the U.S. Department of Education, room 7007, MS 7592, 1990 K St., NW., Washington, DC 20006,

telephone: (202) 219-7009, fax: (202) 219-7008, e-mail:

*Bonnie.LeBold@ed.gov*. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339.

### **What Is the Authority for the National Advisory Committee?**

The National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity is established under Section 114 of the Higher Education Act (HEA) as amended, 20 U.S.C. 1011c.

### **What Are the Functions of the National Advisory Committee?**

The Committee advises the Secretary of Education about:

- The establishment and enforcement of the criteria for recognition of accrediting agencies or associations under subpart 2 of part H of Title IV, HEA.
- The recognition of specific accrediting agencies or associations.
- The preparation and publication of the list of nationally recognized accrediting agencies and associations.
- The eligibility and certification process for institutions of higher education under Title IV, HEA.
- The development of standards and criteria for specific categories of vocational training institutions and institutions of higher education for which there are no recognized accrediting agencies, associations, or State agencies in order to establish the interim eligibility of those institutions to participate in Federally funded programs.
- The relationship between: (1) Accreditation of institutions of higher education and the certification and eligibility of such institutions, and (2) State licensing responsibilities with respect to such institutions.
- Any other advisory functions relating to accreditation and institutional eligibility that the Secretary may prescribe.

### **What Items Will Be on the Agenda for Discussion at the Meeting?**

Agenda topics will include the review of agencies that have submitted petitions for renewal of recognition, submitted progress reports, or submitted interim reports. In addition, the National Advisory Committee will discuss the current status of proposals pertaining to the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act, as amended.

Please note that the agency listed below, which was originally scheduled for review during the National Advisory Committee's December 2003 meeting,

will be postponed for review until the June 2004 meeting.

- Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools

Any third-party written comments regarding this agency that were received by September 18, 2003, in accordance with the **Federal Register** notice published on August 4, 2003, will become part of the official record. Those comments will be considered by the National Advisory Committee when it reviews the agency's petition for renewal of recognition at the June 2004 meeting. Another opportunity to provide written comments on the agency prior to that meeting will be announced in a **Federal Register** notice requesting written comments.

### **What Agencies Will the Advisory Committee Review at the Meeting?**

The Advisory Committee will review the following agencies during its December 8-9, 2003 meeting.

#### *Nationally Recognized Accrediting Agencies*

##### **Interim Reports**

(An interim report is a follow-up report on an accrediting agency's compliance with specific criteria for recognition that was requested by the Secretary when the Secretary granted renewed recognition to the agency.)

1. Accrediting Commission on Education for Health Services Administration.
2. American Board of Funeral Service Education.
3. Association of Advanced Rabbinical and Talmudic Schools.
4. National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education.

##### **Progress Reports**

1. Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Colleges (This is a report on the agency's implementation of its new standards).
2. Western Association of Schools and Colleges, Accrediting Commission for Schools (This is a report on the agency's action plan for coming into compliance with criteria for recognition).

#### *State Agencies Recognized for the Approval of Public Postsecondary Vocational Education*

##### **Petition for Renewal of Recognition**

1. Missouri State Board of Education (Current scope of recognition: The approval of public, postsecondary vocational education in the State of Missouri).

At its June 2003 meeting, the Advisory Committee had recommended that review of this agency's petition for

continued recognition be deferred until the Committee's December 2003 meeting, and the Secretary had concurred with that recommendation.

##### **Interim Report**

1. New York Board of Regents (Public Postsecondary Vocational Education Unit).

#### *State Agency Recognized for the Approval of Nurse Education*

##### **Interim Report**

1. North Dakota Board of Nursing.

### **Who Can Make Third-Party Oral Presentations at This Meeting?**

We invite you to make a third-party oral presentation before the National Advisory Committee concerning the recognition of any agency published in this notice.

### **How Do I Request To Make an Oral Presentation?**

You must submit a written request to make an oral presentation concerning an agency listed in this notice to the contact person *so that the request is received via mail, fax, or e-mail no later than November 18, 2003*. Your request (*no more than 6 pages maximum*) must include:

1. The names, addresses, phone numbers, and fax numbers of all persons seeking an appearance,
2. The organization they represent, and
3. A brief summary of the principal points to be made during the oral presentation.

If you wish, you may attach documents illustrating the main points of your oral testimony. Please keep in mind, however, that *any attachments are included in the 6-page limit*. Please do not send materials directly to Committee members. Only materials submitted by the deadline to the contact person listed in this notice and in accordance with these instructions become part of the official record and are considered by the Committee in its deliberations. Documents received after the November 18, 2003 deadline will not be distributed to the Advisory Committee for their consideration. Individuals making oral presentations may not distribute written materials at the meeting.

### **If I Cannot Attend the Meeting, Can I Submit Written Comments Regarding an Accrediting Agency in Lieu of Making an Oral Presentation?**

This notice requests third-party oral testimony, not written comment. A request for written comments on agencies that are being reviewed during

this meeting was published in the **Federal Register** on August 4, 2003. The Advisory Committee will receive and consider only written comments submitted by the deadline specified in that **Federal Register** notice.

#### **How Do I Request To Present Comments Regarding General Issues Rather Than Specific Accrediting Agencies?**

At the conclusion of the meeting, the Committee, at its discretion, may invite attendees to address the Committee briefly on issues pertaining to the functions of the Committee, which are listed earlier in this notice. If you are interested in making such comments, you should inform Ms. LeBold before or during the meeting.

#### **How May I Obtain Access to the Records of the Meeting?**

We will record the meeting and make a transcript available for public inspection at the U.S. Department of Education, 1990 K St., NW., Washington, DC 20006 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. It is preferred that an appointment be made in advance of such inspection.

#### **How May I Obtain Electronic Access to This Document?**

You may view this document, as well as all other Department of Education documents published in the **Federal Register**, in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) on the Internet at the following site: <http://www.ed.gov/legislation/FedRegister>. To use PDF you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at this site. If you have questions about using PDF, call the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO), toll free, at 1-888-293-6498; or in the Washington, DC, area at (202) 512-1530.

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**Authority:** 5 U.S.C. appendix 2.

Dated: October 1, 2003.

**Wilbert Bryant,**

*Acting Assistant Secretary, Office of Postsecondary Education.*

[FR Doc. 03-25289 Filed 10-3-03; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4000-01-P**

## **DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

### **Office of Science Financial Assistance Program Notice DE-FG01-04ER04-04; Plasma Physics Junior Faculty Development Program**

**AGENCY:** U.S. Department of Energy.

**ACTION:** Notice inviting grant applications.

**SUMMARY:** The Office of Fusion Energy Sciences (OFES) of the Office of Science (SC), U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), hereby announces its interest in receiving grant applications for support under its Plasma Physics Junior Faculty Development Program. Applications should be from tenure-track faculty investigators who are currently involved in experimental or theoretical plasma physics research and should be submitted through a U.S. academic institution. The purpose of this program is to support the development of the individual research programs of exceptionally talented scientists and engineers early in their careers.

**DATES:** To permit timely consideration for awards in Fiscal Year 2004, formal applications in response to this notice must be received on or before December 9, 2003.

**ADDRESSES:** We require formal applications in response to this solicitation to be submitted electronically through DOE's Industry Interactive Procurement System (IIPS) at: <http://e-center.doe.gov>. IIPS provides for the posting of solicitations and receipt of applications in a paperless environment via the Internet. In order to submit applications through IIPS, your business official will need to register at the IIPS Web site. It is suggested that this registration be completed several days prior to the date on which you plan to submit the formal application. The Office of Science will include attachments as part of this notice that provide the appropriate forms in PDF fillable format that are to be submitted through IIPS. *IIPS offers the option of submitting multiple files—please limit submissions to only one file within the volume if possible, with a maximum of no more than four files.* Color images should be submitted in IIPS as a separate file in PDF format and identified as such. These images should be kept to a minimum due to the limitations of reproducing them. They should be numbered and referred to in the body of the technical scientific application as Color image 1, Color image 2, etc. Questions regarding the operation of IIPS may be e-mailed to the IIPS Help Desk at: [helpdesk@pr.doe.gov](mailto:helpdesk@pr.doe.gov), or you may call the help desk at: (800)

683-0751. Further information on the use of IIPS by the Office of Science is available at: <http://www.sc.doe.gov/production/grants/grants.html>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Darlene Markevich, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Fusion Energy Sciences, Research Division, SC-55/ Germantown Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20585-1290. Telephone: (301) 903-4920. E-mail: [Darlene.markevich@science.doe.gov](mailto:Darlene.markevich@science.doe.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Plasma Physics Junior Faculty Development Program was started in Fiscal Year 1997. A principal goal of this program is to identify exceptionally talented plasma faculty members early in their careers and assist and facilitate the development of their research programs. Eligibility for awards under this notice is, therefore, restricted to tenure-track regular academic faculty investigators who are conducting experimental or theoretical plasma physics research. Those Junior Faculty members presently holding career development awards will not be considered under this announcement.

Applications from Junior Faculty involved in any areas of plasma physics research, not only magnetic fusion, are welcomed and encouraged. Emphasis is to be placed on basic plasma science research. For applications to be considered for funding, certification of the status of the applicant as a tenure-track regular academic faculty member by the head of the applicant's academic department or other university/college certifying official will be required before the grant is awarded. Awards made under this program will help to maintain the vitality of university plasma physics research and assure continued excellence in the teaching of plasma physics and related disciplines.

It is anticipated that annual funding levels up to \$150,000 per award may be made available for grants under this notice during Fiscal Year 2004, contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds. Funding for equipment above this level will be considered on a case-by-case basis. The number of awards during Fiscal Year 2004 will depend on the number of meritorious applications and the availability of appropriated funds. Multiple-year funding of grant awards is expected, with funding provided on an annual basis subject to availability of funds. The usual duration of these grants is three years and they will not be renewed under the Plasma Physics Junior Faculty Development Program after the project period is completed. It