ONR BAA Announcement # ONR-BAA-07-040

BROAD AGENCY ANNOUNCEMENT (BAA)

INTRODUCTION:
This publication constitutes a Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) as contemplated in DoD Grants and Agreement Regulations (DODGARs) Subpart 22.315(a) and Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 6.102(d)(2). 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

1. Agency Name –

Office of Naval Research,
One Liberty Center
875 N. Randolph Street
Arlington, VA 22203-1995

2. Research Opportunity Title –

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

3. Program Name - N/A

4. Research Opportunity Number –

ONR-BAA-07-040

5. Response Date –

Full Proposals: 11 December, 2007, 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 $24.75 Million over three 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 are required among at least two of the following three sectors:

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

Background:

In January 2007 the National Science & Technology Council's Joint Subcommittee on Ocean Science & Technology (NSTC-JSOST) issued a federal *Ocean Research Priorities Plan* (ORPP) for the next decade (http://ocean.ceq.gov/about/sup_jsost_prioritiesplan.html). Twenty broad research priorities are identified in this document, and from these four near-term priorities are identified within which rapid progress can be expected and is desired

This FY08 announcement seeks proposals for new projects under three of these four near-term priorities:

Priority 1. Forecasting the Response of Coastal Ecosystems to Persistent Forcing and Extreme Events

Priority 3. Sensors for Marine Ecosystems
Priority 4. Assessing Meridional Overturning Circulation Variability: Implications for Rapid Climate Change

Proposals are solicited that address only specific aspects of each Priority as described below.

Topic 1. Forecasting the Response of Coastal Ecosystems to Persistent Forcing and Extreme Events

It is critical to improve our ability to forecast and mitigate impacts on coastal ecosystems from persistent and extreme events because of the rapidly escalating economic and environmental costs associated with such events across spatial and temporal scales. Additionally, the opportunity exists now to leverage other emerging capabilities such as the maturing plans for implementing ocean observatory systems such as the IOOS (e.g., http://www.ocean.us/) and the Ocean Observatories Initiative (OOI(ORION) (http://www.orionprogram.org), community efforts to understand and predict the erosion, transport, and deposition of sediment and biogenic particulates in fluvial, deltaic, and coastal environments (e.g., CSDMS, http://instaar.colorado.edu/deltaforce/worshop/csdms.html; NCED, http://www.nced.umn.edu), and hydrologic models to predict the impacts on subsurface water quality and surface flooding. Further, there are growing regional interests and capabilities that arise out of Regional Ocean Governance activities. As such, this effort will support priorities identified by state, regional and interagency alliances and working groups (e.g., Gulf of Mexico Alliance, Northeast Regional Ocean Council, West Coast Governors Ocean Initiative, National Science and Technology Council's Group on Earth Observations, Joint Subcommittee on Ocean Science and Technology, Subcommittee on Integrated Management of Ocean Resources, and NSTC Subcommittee on Disaster Reduction). This effort will focus on evaluation of community developed models in an effort to spur translation of such capabilities to application. The initial focus herein is on coastal inundation (via ocean or fluvial sourcing) modeling as a critical tool contributing to ecosystem response forecasting and mitigation, and supporting emergency management planning and response.

Given that there are a variety of coastal inundation models within the public, private and academic sectors, the sponsoring agencies feel that **an essential next step would be the development and conduct of one or more invitational *community* workshops that focus on elucidating inter-comparisons of the various coastal inundation models, and that identify observational requirements for integration of observations within modeling frameworks for validation and application development. The workshops addressing these issues should be followed by a synthetic effort to produce an 'operational performance and potential manual' to be made available to the broader community. This manual should include comparative evaluations of model performance and limitations; technical requirements for translation to operational status; protocols for model validation/calibration including required and desirable observational inputs; and evaluation of requirements for integration of distinct**

model components within a comprehensive modeling framework. The manual should further identify existing and required tools for integration and visualization of model outputs with relevant geospatial and other data to support application. The manual should be provided as a digital user's product including access to relevant and publicly available test cases for future development and testing and those data used in comparative evaluations. Proposals are solicited that seek to accomplish these tasks. Proposals should provide detailed plans for organizing and carrying out the workshop, and conducting required follow-on synthetic efforts, including preparation and publication of the 'manual'.

Total Investment Under Topic 1 – It is expected that up to $750K total will be available to support efforts under this topic. The government anticipates supporting one award of 1 – 2 years duration.

Topic 3. Sensors for Measurement of Biological, Bio-Optical or Chemical Properties of the Ocean

Rapid development of sensor capabilities is critical because of maturing plans for implementing ocean observatory systems such as the IOOS (e.g., http://www.ocean.us/) and the Ocean Observatories Initiative (OOI(ORION) (http://www.orionprogram.org), 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 observations of the ocean. Moreover, development of biological, chemical, and bio-optical sensors for use in the ocean is critical to better understanding and improving marine ecosystem health and the health of humans who depend on the sea for food or recreation.

Accordingly we seek to support development of sensors for measurement of biological, bio-optical or chemical properties of the ocean within the realm of either of two sub-topics.

A. Transition of *in situ* biological or chemical sensors that have demonstrated a capability for sustained and accurate, stable, autonomous operation in the ocean toward a commercially viable status.

The focus of this sub-topic is to support the transition of chemical or biological sensors that have demonstrated a capability for sustained and accurate, stable, autonomous operation in the ocean toward a commercially viable status. That is, we are seeking to move candidate sensors away from the status of operability only by a small research team of experts confined to one (or a few) labs toward a status where the sensor can be proved capable of being produced and sold commercially to a larger population of technically capable scientists, engineers, resource monitors or managers. By "sustained" operation we refer to stable measurement (with *in situ* recalibration or minimal drift from calibration) over periods of weeks to many months. By "stable" and "autonomous" operation we refer to a capability for sustained measurement, independent of human

intervention, on fixed moorings, Autonomous Underwater Vehicles (AUV's), gliders, profiling moorings or floats.

Proposals should describe demonstrated capabilities of the candidate sensor, and discuss the projected path to commercial viability. Proposals should explicitly address the limits of taxonomic or chemical resolution inherent to the sensor proposed. That is, the specificity in detection of biological (e.g., pigment class, biological taxon or species) or chemical (e.g., chemical ion, compound or class of compound) parameter should be addressed, as should the value of that specificity (or breadth). Proposals should also address stability of the *in situ* measurement and sensor calibration.

Because the intent is to demonstrate potential for commercial viability of the sensor proposals including a commercial partner are especially encouraged.

B. Development of the next generation of biological, chemical, optical and bio-optical field sensors

The long-term objective of this sub-topic is to advance understanding of ocean ecology by promoting novel measurements of ocean biological (e.g., genomic), 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 in-water sensor technologies. Here we seek proposals to develop and test in the field new sensor capabilities that have great promise to lead toward novel, *in situ* measurements of biota (including genomic-based sensors) or biologically relevant chemical or optical properties of the ocean. Although proposals are not restricted to the following themes, these areas are of interest:

1. Development of the next generation of optical and bio-optical field sensors to allow further exploitation of current "ocean color" satellite (or other remote sensor) data, as well as future observations from ocean biology and biogeochemistry satellite (or other remote sensor) observing capabilities (e.g., blue water, optically complex or coastal waters)

Proposals are welcomed that seek to advance the state of the art in *in situ* (above and in-water) field sensors for vicarious calibration and data product validation in support of current or future NASA satellites sensors measuring ocean biological and biogeochemical properties. Proposals should 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 technological and methodological approaches at field sites wherein the new concepts can be properly quantified against current practices is encouraged. 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.

Current "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). Two recent reports have begun to address potential 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 (2007, http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=11820) and NASA's Ocean Biology and Biogeochemistry Research Program's community advance plan entitled "Earth's Living Ocean: the Unseen World", http://oceancolor.gsfc.nasa.gov/DOCS/ScienceTeam/OCRT_Apr2007/OBB_Report_03062007.doc .

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, etc) within the proposal.

Investigators proposing to this topic will be required to attend domestic (U.S.) federal agency-specific reviews, team/coordination meetings (e.g. the NASA Ocean Color Research Team Meeting), and/or workshops 1-2 times per year, and should budget accordingly. All data collected by selected proposals will be subject to the selecting agency's data policy.

2. Innovative research to develop and demonstrate new techniques and technologies for rapid, in situ detection and identification of human disease organisms, harmful algal bloom (HAB) species, and HAB toxins in ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes waters.

Proposals should describe methods and/or technologies to be used as the bases for development of new *in situ* biological sensing capabilities for microbes known or expected to be pathogenic to humans, known HAB species, and HAB toxins. Proposals should explicitly address the approaches to be tested, the anticipated limits and specificity of taxonomic or chemical resolution, and plans for laboratory and/or field testing.

Because the intent is to demonstrate potential for eventual development of commercially viable sensors that could be incorporated into observing systems and ongoing regulatory/management programs, proposals should clearly identify likely users of the proposed technology.

3. New sensors for characterizing the properties (e.g., size and composition) and dynamics of suspended particle populations in situ.

Proposals should concentrate on methods that are non-destructive, especially with respect to fragile particle aggregations, and non-invasive, preserving to the extent possible the relational aspects of individual particles within a population. Applications directed towards the optically relevant particle size range from 0.1 - 50 μm are encouraged.

Total Investment Under Topic 3 – It is expected that up to $5M-$7M per year will be available over a three year period to support efforts under this topic (i.e., under both sub-topics). Although funding levels of individual projects may vary, the government anticipates supporting approximately 10-14 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 4. Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation (AMOC)

The ocean plays a central role in many of the mechanisms that impact global climate. The meridional overturning circulation of the Atlantic Ocean, an element of the global scale ocean circulation responsible for long-term climate variations, has been identified as a key feature related to rapid or even abrupt climate change (i.e., changes over a few years to a few decades). Rapid changes in this key component of the ocean conveyer belt could have implications for regional changes of climate. Improved understanding of the physical mechanisms behind fluctuations in the MOC and further characterizing the potential impacts of MOC fluctuations on regional and global climate and ecosystems, will provide the foundation for a MOC observations and monitoring program. Finally, incorporating these ocean observations and understanding into an integrated Earth system analysis capability is needed to assess the current state of the MOC, with which the potential for prediction of MOC fluctuations can be explored. A national program of observation, modeling, and prediction of the AMOC is now being planned and further information will be posted as it becomes available over summer 2007 at the U.S. CLIVAR Program web site. (**http://www.usclivar.org**). NOPP seeks proposals that will support the initial planning and development of the larger national program in FY08 and beyond. These initial awards will fund research central to the planning of further work and support postdoctoral researchers who may participate in the development of a long-term capability for the nation.

We seek partnership proposals on three subject areas:

A. Analysis of Atlantic state estimates.

The Global Ocean Data Assimilation Experiment (GODAE) **(http://www.bom.gov.au/bmrc/ocean/GODAE/**) has produced a range of estimates of the changes of the physical state of the Atlantic Ocean circulation. Proposals are sought that will result in an analysis of the variability and structure of the AMOC from state estimates currently available. Such analyses may also explore the mechanisms contributing to AMOC variability or evaluate the representation of AMOC changes in the context of available observations.

B. Observing System Simulation Experiments

While the Atlantic Ocean is, arguably, the best-observed ocean of the global oceans, these observations have largely been gathered sporadically. In order to credibly assess

the future variability and predictability of the AMOC, we will require a sustained system of observations that captures large-scale AMOC changes and that can also be implemented in a cost effective and efficient manner. Proposals are requested for observing system simulation experiments that will guide future improvements to the observing system capable of detecting and/or predicting future changes in the AMOC.

C. Focused analysis of satellite data sets.

Only satellite data provide the basin-scale time-series of Atlantic surface circulation and sea surface properties. The relationship of these characteristics to the AMOC has not been fully explored. Analyses are sought that develop satellite data as a proxy for AMOC characteristics and variability. Use of the long time series of satellite sea surface temperature, ocean surface topography, ocean color, and ocean vector winds data sets are particularly sought.

For all three subject areas, proposals yielding early results that impact the planning of the AMOC observing design and monitoring systems are particularly encouraged. Domestic travel to two AMOC-planning meetings per year should be incorporated into each proposal.

Total Investment Under Topic 4 - It is expected that up to $1M per year will be available over a three-year period to support efforts under this topic. Although funding levels may vary, the government anticipates supporting a total of 4-6 three-year projects across the subject areas, each at a level of approximately $150K-250K per year.

7. Point(s) of Contact –

Questions of a technical nature shall be directed to the cognizant Technical Point of Contact, as specified below:

Science and Technology Point of Contact:

Dr. James E. Eckman
National Oceanographic Partnership Program
ONR 322
Office of Naval Research
One Liberty Center, Room 1073
875 N. Randolph St.
Arlington, VA 22203-1995
Tel: 703-696-4590
Fax: 703-696-3390, ATTN: NOPP BAA
Email: jim.eckman@navy.mil

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

Business Point of Contact:

Tracy Marcinowski (CACI)
Contract Specialist
ONR 252
Office of Naval Research
One Liberty Center, Room W1247C
875 N. Randolph St.
Arlington, VA 22203-1995
Tel: (703) 696-6804
Fax: (703) 696-0066, ATTN: NOPP BAA
Email: tracy.marcinowski@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 –

DoD Basic and Applied Scientific Research

11. Other Information -

N/A

II. AWARD INFORMATION

1. Total Amount of Funding Available: Up to $24.75 M over three 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 21

3. Anticipated Award Types: Grants are anticipated.

4. Anticipated Range of Individual Award Amounts: approximately $750K total (Topic 1), approximately $500K annually (Topic 3); or approximately $150K-250K annually (Topic 4)

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

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 bid on the 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.

IV. APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

1. Application and Submission Process – Proposals must be submitted electronically by 4:00 p.m. Washington Local Time on 11 December 2007, via one of two mechanisms (see Section IV.5, below). One institution should act as the lead institution for each project and submit the proposal covering all participants.

2. Content and Format of Full Proposals -- Regardless of the means used for delivering the proposal to ONR, the Grants.Gov Form SF 424 (R&R) must be downloaded and used as a cover page to accompany the proposal submitted. A specific application package template for NOPP has been set up in Grants.Gov to facilitate this process. The proposals submitted under this BAA should be unclassified. Proposal submissions will be protected from unauthorized disclosure in accordance with FAR 15.207, applicable law, and DoD/DoN regulations. Offerors are expected to appropriately mark each page of their submission that contains proprietary information.

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), 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 –one electronic copy in .PDF format, submitted by the primary offeror/lead institution (including all supporting documents from all partners and subcontrators), as described below.

Full Proposal Content

The Technical and Cost Proposals must be prepared as a single combined PDF file to allow submission as described in Section IV.5.

VOLUME 1: TECHNICAL PROPOSAL should include efforts proposed by all participants on the project.

• **Cover Page:** This should include the information requested by Form SF424 (R&R) found in grants.gov relating to this opportunity. Offerors should include a cover page signed by an authorized agent other than the Primary Investigator.

• **Table of Contents**
• **Project Summary/Abstract**
• **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. Proposals must include a separate 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:** 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 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 reports to be delivered inclusive of the timeframe in which it 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/subrecipient (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.

• **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 (including a summary budget for the entire project and individual budgets for all participants)

The Cost Proposal shall consist of a cover page, table listing partners and funds requested by partner and year, and certification pages. Cost information should provide a detailed cost breakdown of all costs by cost category by calendar or Gov't fiscal year.

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.

• **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)
- Signatures of Principal Investigator and required institutional officials

• **Ship Use**: Costs for use of non-UNOLS 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***	**FY08 funds Requested**	**FY09 funds Requested**	**FY10 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	_____	$57,612	$61,214	$50,000	

PARTICIPANT TOTAL:					
PROJECT TOTAL:	_____	$318,541	$250,642	$245,926	

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

• **Certification package** :

(A) For grant proposals submitted through grants.gov, the following certification applies to each applicant seeking federal 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.

(B) Contract proposals should be accompanied by a completed certification package which can be accessed on the ONR Home Page at Contracts & Grants (http://www.onr.navy.mil/02/how_to.asp). The certification package is entitled, "Representations and Certifications for Contracts."

Certification Packages from the primary offeror must be signed by an authorized institutional official and included in the single .PDF file containing the Technical and Cost Proposals.

For contracts, in accordance with FAR 4.1201, prospective contractors shall complete electronic annual representations and certifications at http://orca.bpn.gov. The Online Representations and Certifications Application (ORCA) will be supplemented by DFARS and contract specific representations and certifications found at the link above. This requirement is also applicable for other transaction proposals involving prototypes (Section 845 agreements).

• CCR - Successful Offerors not already registered in the Central Contractor Registry (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.ccr.gov/.

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

- Direct Labor – Individual labor category or person, with associated labor hours and unburdened direct labor rates
- Indirect Costs – Fringe Benefits, Overhead, G&A, COM, etc. (Must show base amount and rate)
- Travel – Number of trips, destination, duration, airfare costs, per diem, lodging, number of persons, etc.
- Subcontract – A cost proposal as detailed as the Offeror's cost proposal will be required to be submitted by the subcontractor/subrecipient. The subcontractor's or subrecipient's cost proposal can be provided with the Offeror's cost proposal or will be obtained from the subcontractor prior to award.
- Consultant – Provide consultant agreement or other document which verifies the proposed loaded daily/hourly rate
- Materials should be specifically itemized with costs or estimated costs. An explanation of any estimating factors, including their derivation and application, shall be provided. Include a brief description of the Offeror's procurement method to be used (Competition, engineering estimate, market survey, etc.)
- Other Directs Costs, particularly any proposed items of equipment or facilities. Equipment and facilities generally must be furnished by the contractor/recipient. (Justifications must be provided when Government funding for such items is sought). Include a brief description of the Offeror's procurement method to be used (Competition, engineering estimate, market survey, etc.).
- Proposed fee/profit. (contract proposals only).

3. Significant Dates and Times -

Anticipated Schedule of Events

Event	Date (MM/DD/YEAR)	Time (Washington DC Local Time)
Full Proposals Due Date	12/11/2007	4:00 p.m.
Notification of Selection for Award	04/01/2008 *	
Award (start date)	05/01/2008 *	

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

4. Submission of Late Proposals –

Electronic submission of proposals is required, as described below. 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 unless it is received before ward is made, the contracting officer determines that accepting the late proposal would not unduly delay the acquisition, and it was transmitted through an electronic commerce method authorized by the announcement, it was received at the initial point of entry to the Government infrastructure not later than 5:00 p.m. one working day prior to the date specified for receipt of proposals. Offerors should note the previous sentence carefully. 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. Mechanism for the Submission of Full Proposals –

Electronic submission of Full Proposals is required. One of two mechanisms may be used, at the discretion of the offeror: a) ONR's secure, web-based file transfer system (used in previous NOPP announcements) OR b) Grants.gov (federal government-wide proposal application system)

Regardless of the means used for delivering the proposal to ONR, the Grants.Gov Form SF 424 (R&R) must be downloaded and used as a cover page to accompany the proposal submitted. A specific application package template for NOPP has been set up in Grants.Gov to facilitate this process.

a) ONR's secure, web-based file transfer system (used in previous NOPP announcements)

For electronic submission via this mechanism a proposal (including Form SF 424 (R&R)) must be in PDF format. A single combined PDF file (Technical and Cost Proposal documents, containing all information described above) can be submitted as part of any single partnership proposal. Offerors are strongly encouraged to name the file in a manner that identifies it by lead PI, PI's institution, and Topic to which proposal is submitted. An example file name is:

Johnson.RandomUniversity.NOPP-Topic-3 proposal. PDF

Electronic proposal submissions must be directed to the National Oceanographic Partnership Program no later than 4:00 pm Washington D.C. Local Time on 11 December 2007 via secure web-based file transfer at:

http://onroutside.onr.navy.mil/aspprocessor/nopp322

Successful submission of a file will be followed by transmission by ONR of a text e-mail acknowledging receipt, sent to an e-mail address of the offeror's specification. Offerors are strongly urged to keep this text message as additional proof of date and time of receipt.

b) Grants.gov (federal government-wide proposal application system)

There are several one-time actions you must complete in order to submit an application through Grants.gov (e.g., obtain a Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number, register with the Central Contract Registry (CCR), register with the credential provider, and register with Grants.gov). See http:grants.gov/GetStarted. Use the Grants.gov Organization Registration Checklist at: http://www.grants.gov/applicants/register_your_organization.jsp to guide you through the process. Designating an E-Business Pont of Contract (EBiz POC) and obtaining a special password called an 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 in advance of the proposal application deadline.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO POTENTIAL APPLICANTS: When you have completed the process, you should call the Grants.gov Helpdesk at 1-800-518-4726 to verify that you have completed the final step.

Questions

Questions relating to the registration process, system requirements, how an application form works, or the submittal proves must be directed to Grants.gov at 1-800-518-4726 or support@grants.gov.

Questions of a technical nature should be forwarded to the cognizant ONR Program Manager identified within the BAA. Questions pertaining to cost or an administrative nature should be forwarded to the cognizant ONR Contract Specialist identified within the BAA.

Application Receipt Notices

The Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) submits the application to Grants.Gov. For application instructions, go to http://www.grants.gov/applicants/apply_for_grants.jsp. Remember that you must open and complete the Application for Federal Assistance (Research and Related) (SF 424 (R&R)) first, as this form will automatically populate data fields in other forms. The proposal document in the form of a .PDF file is attached to Form SF 424 (R&R) at Line 20 of this form. This line accepts only a single .PDF file.

If you encounter any problems, contact customer support at 1-800-518-4726 or at support@grants.gov. If you forget your user name or password, follow the instructions provided in the Credential Provider tutorial.

After an application is submitted, your AOR will receive a series of four e-mails. It is extremely important that the AOR watch for and save each of the emails. It may take up to two (2) business days from application submission to receipt of Email Number 2. You will know that your application has reached ONR when the AOR receives Email Number 4. You will need the Submission Receipt Number (Email Number 1) to track a submission. The titles of the four (4) E-Mails are as follows:

Email Number 1 – Grants.gov Submission Receipt Number
Email Number 2 – Grants.gov Submission Validation Receipt for Application Number
Email Number 3 – Grants.gov Grantor Agency Retrieval Receipt for Application Number
Email Number 4 – Grants.gov Agency Tracking Number Assignment for Application Number

Electronic proposal submissions must be received no later than 4:00 pm Washington D.C. Local Time on 11 December 2007.

VERY IMPORTANT – Download PureEdge Viewer

In order to download the application package, you will need to install PureEdge Viewer. This small, free program will allow you to access, complete, and submit applications electronically and securely. For a free version of the software, visit the following website: http://www.grants.gov/DownloadViewer .

Training Tutorials

NOTE: The training demonstration at http://www.grants.gov/CompleteApplication will assist AORs in the application process. Tutorials may be printed by right-clicking on the tutorial and selecting "Print". The User Guide is found at: http://www.grants.gov/applicants/applicant_help.jsp

V. EVALUATION INFORMATION

1. Evaluation Criteria –

Evaluations of the proposals will be performed using the following selection criteria listed in descending order of importance:

- Relevance of the proposed research to NOPP objectives;
- Overall scientific and technical merits of the proposal;
- Level of support of critical research objectives or operational goals such as data accessibility, education and communication;
- Quality of proposed partnerships including the degree of broad participation within the oceanographic community and demonstration of significant partnering among at least two of the following parties: (i) academia, (ii) industry (or not-for-profit organization), and (iii) government (federal, state, local) and extent resources are shared among partners;
- The offeror's capabilities, related experience, and facilities or unique combinations of these that are critical to the proposal objectives;
- The partnership members' long-term commitment to the proposed objectives;
- The qualifications and experience of the proposed principal investigator and key personnel;

2. Evaluation Panel -

All proposals will be subject to mail and/or panel review by peers, which may include non-governmental reviewers under non-disclosure agreements. All reviewers will adhere

to confidentiality and conflict of interest standards. A synopsis of the NOPP review process can be found at http://www.nopp.org/.

The final distribution of awards will depend on quality of proposals, programmatic balance, NOPP priorities and availability of funds.

VI. AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

1. Administrative Requirements –

• CCR - Successful Offerors not already registered in the Central Contractor Registry (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.ccr.gov/

• Certifications – Proposals should be accompanied by a completed certification package as described in Section IV.2

2. Annual Reporting -

All funded NOPP efforts must submit an Annual Report for use in the mandatory annual Spring NOPP Report to Congress. The NOPP Program Office will call for these each winter.

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. For awards proposed as contracts, no fee or profit will be allowed on GFF/GFE.

2. 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 AAALAC accreditation and /or NIH assurance, IACUC approval, research literature database searches, and the two most recent USDA inspection reports) prior to award. Similarly, for any proposal that involves the experimental use of human subjects, the Offeror must

obtain approval from the Offeror's committee for protection of human subjects (normally referred to as an Institutional Review Board, (IRB)). The Offeror must also provide NIH (OHRP/DHHS) documentation of a Federal Wide Assurance that covers the proposed human subjects study. If the Offeror does not have a Federal Wide Assurance, a DoD Single Project Assurance for that work must be completed prior to award. Please see http://www.onr.navy.mil/02/proposal_procedure.asp +for further information.

3. 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/