



The Florida Senate

Local Funding Initiative Request

Fiscal Year 2019-2020

LFIR#: 1546

1. **Title of Project:** Florida Atlantic University - Max Planck Scientific Fellowship Program

2. **Senate Sponsor:** Bobby Powell

3. **Date of Submission:** 02/07/2019

4. **Project/Program Description:**

Through strategic partnerships, and in accord with FAU, the Max Planck Florida Scientific Fellows Program presents training and professional development to postdoctoral, graduate research, postbaccalaurate and undergraduate fellows through: IMPRS - the International Max Planck Research School for Brain and Behavior; Integrative Biology and Neuroscience Graduate Program (IBNS); Sunposium, grown to be recognized as a preeminent scientific conference on neural circuits in the Southeastern USA; MPFI's Neuro Imaging Course, a unique series with hands-on training of cutting-edge imaging technologies; and other program pillars; collectively, all which expose MPFS fellows to Nobel Laureates and Distinguished Visiting Faculty. Each strategic pillar is carefully linked together so students gain unmatched knowledge and experience benefitting from a multitude of interactions, while participating in outstanding and successful career development programs for young neuroscientists.

5. **State Agency to receive requested funds :** Department of Education

State Agency Contacted? Yes

6. **Amount of the Nonrecurring Request for Fiscal Year 2019-2020**

Type of Funding	Amount
Operations	750,000
Fixed Capital Outlay	
Total State Funds Requested	750,000

7. **Total Project Cost for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 (including matching funds available for this project)**

Type of Funding	Amount	Percent
Total State Funds Requested (from question #6)	750,000	32.76%
Federal	0	0.00%
State (excluding the amount of this request)	889,101	38.84%
Local	0	0.00%
Other	650,000	28.40%
Total Project Costs for Fiscal Year 2019-2020	2,289,101	100.0%

8. **Has this project previously received state funding?** Yes

Fiscal Year (yyyy-yy)	Amount		Specific Appropriation #	Vetoed
	Recurring	NonRecurring		
2018-19	889,101	750,000	143	No

9. **Is future-year funding likely to be requested?** Yes



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a. If yes, indicate non-recurring amount per year. 750000

10. Details on how the requested state funds will be expended

Spending Category	Description	Amount
Administrative Costs:		
Executive Director/Project Head Salary and Benefits	Academic Programs Coordinator	15,750
Other Salary and Benefits		
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other		
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study	Administrative fee to FAU	15,000
Operational Costs:		
Salary and Benefits	Program elements: postdoctoral fellows, postgraduate fellows and PhDs, post-baccalaureate and undergraduate fellows	504,000
Expense/Equipment/Travel/Supplies/Other	Program elements: IMPRS- Int'l Max Planck Research School for Brain & Behavior, Integrative Biology and Neuroscience (IBNS) graduate program, professional development programs, distinguished visiting faculty program, Sunposium (SE neuroscience conference), Neuro-Imaging Course, SfN National Conference; fellows travel, digital library and virtual communications	215,250
Consultants/Contracted Services/Study		
Fixed Capital Construction/Major Renovation:		
Construction/Renovation/Land/Planning Engineering		
Total State Funds Requested (must equal total from question #6)		750,000

11. Program Performance:

a. What is the specific purpose or goal that will be achieved by the funds requested?

The Max Planck Florida Scientific Fellows program was launched in 2014. Through strategic partnerships and shared investments Max Planck Florida Institute for Neuroscience (MPFI), in accord with Florida Atlantic University, has designed and implemented a program with the chief objective to train the next generation of the best and brightest researchers from Florida's academic institutions and beyond. It not only contributes to strengthening the supply of a highly educated workforce, but is pivotal for the nationwide recognition of Florida and the region as a uniquely outstanding and internationally competitive scientific and working environment. Through developing a highly successful career development program for young neuroscientists, the students are now a part of breakthrough advancements in investigating the human brain, leading to groundbreaking discoveries, & small start-up companies, with the ultimate goal to help cure some of the most devastating brain disorders of our time.

b. What are the activities and services that will be provided to meet the intended purpose of these funds?



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MPFSFP is composed of several strategic pillars, which are carefully linked together to have students benefit from a multitude of interactions with their peers, and participate in career development opportunities, both at the local and international level. These pillars are: Postdoctoral Fellows Program; Graduate Research Fellows; Post-Baccalaureate Research Fellows (PRE); Undergraduate Scholars Fellows; IMPRS – Int’l Max Planck Research School, Brain & Behavior; IBNS – Integrative Biology & Neuroscience graduate program; Fellows Travel; MPFI Scientific Fellows Distinguished Visiting Faculty Program; MPFI Neuro-Imaging Techniques Course; MPFI Neuroscience Summit(s), Sunposium, SE neuroscience conference; MPFI Digital Library and Virtual Communication; MPFI Scientific Fellows Program Management.

c. What are the direct services to be provided to citizens by the appropriations project?

: Nearly 100% of the funding is directly or indirectly re-invested into the economy of Florida. Our programs positively impact the state by meeting the need for highly qualified science graduates for business development. Additionally, stimulus on the regional economy and service sectors grows as the program evolves. Specifically to MPFSFP, the international aspects of the program ensure that impact is reaching far beyond our institution and benefits the entire science community in the State of Florida. Already visible is the long-term effect on improving the scientific standing of the region and State, and the ranking of its universities. Florida Atlantic University has raised the standards for applications and successfully increased the overall number of high-quality applications. Also, MPFI reaches out and includes students from other Florida research universities to benefit from our professional development programs of conferences, courses and summits.

d. Who is the target population served by this project? How many individuals are expected to be served?

Postdoctoral researchers, graduate research PhD students, post-baccalaureate and undergraduate scholars, and research scientists. Through all program elements, including training, professional development, conferences, courses and summits, it is estimated well over 800 individuals will be served.

e. What is the expected benefit or outcome of this project? What is the methodology by which this outcome will be measured?

MPFSFP tracks every pillar of the program marking highlights and accomplishments of each. The benefit and impact of the program is also revealed in the success and achievements of the fellows, and will be measured through the future career trajectories of these young scientists. The first IMPRS PhD graduate successfully defended his doctoral thesis and accepted a postdoctoral research position at Harvard University. Undergraduate scholars continue to remain in Florida, joining the IMPRS PhD, IBNS, or other program. Other MPFS Fellows are publishing in high-impact journals, in some cases as first-author, all indicators of program success. Additionally, the number of applicants to the program continues to rise, indicating its outstanding reputation and a growing interest in pursuing science careers in Florida.

f. What are the suggested penalties that the contracting agency may consider in addition to its standard penalties for failing to meet deliverables or performance measures provided for in the contract?

Funds will be returned if the terms of the agreement are not met.

12. The owner(s) of the facility to receive, directly or indirectly, any fixed capital outlay funding. Include the relationship between the owner(s) of the facility and the entity.

Not applicable.



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13. Requestor Contact Information:

- a. **Name:** Barbara Noble
- b. **Organization:** Max Planck Florida Institute for Neuroscience
- c. **E-mail Address:** Barbara.Noble@mpfi.org
- d. **Phone Number:** (561)972-9023

14. Recipient Contact Information:

- a. **Organization:** Max Planck Florida Institute for Neuroscience
- b. **County:** Palm Beach
- c. **Organization Type:**
 - For Profit
 - Non Profit 501(c) (3)
 - Non Profit 501(c) (4)
 - Local Entity
 - University or College
 - Other (Please specify) A Florida incorporated Non-Profit biomedical research institute.
- d. **Contact Name:** Barbara Noble
- e. **E-mail Address:** Barbara.Noble@mpfi.org
- f. **Phone Number:** (561)972-9023

15. Lobbyist Contact Information

- a. **Name:** Mat Forrest
- b. **Firm Name:** Ballard Partners
- c. **E-mail Address:** Mat@BallardFL.com
- d. **Phone Number:** (561)253-3232