

**2009 NSF CAREER Proposal Writing Workshop**  
March 12 and 13, 2009, George Mason University, Arlington, VA

**Objectives**

This workshop is to provide assistant professors who intend to submit NSF CAREER proposals with exposure to the proposal review process, an opportunity to meet with and get advice from NSF past and current program directors, and a learning experience from recent CAREER awardees.

**Workshop Sponsors**

Sponsored by the following NSF programs in the Civil, Mechanical and Manufacturing Innovation (CMMI) Division:

- Civil Infrastructure Systems (Dennis Wenger)
- Control Systems (Suhada Jayasuriya)
- Dynamical Systems (Eduardo A. Misawa)
- Hazard Mitigation and Structural Engineering (M. P. Singh)
- Geomechanics & Geomaterials (Richard J. Fragaszy)
- Geotechnical Engineering (Richard J. Fragaszy)
- Manufacturing and Construction Machines and Equipment (George Hazelrigg)
- Materials Processing and Manufacturing (Joycelyn Harrison)
- Mechanics of Materials (Ken Chong)
- Nano/Bio Mechanics (Demitris A. Kouris)
- Nanomanufacturing (Shaochen Chen)
- Structural Materials and Mechanics (Lawrence C. Bank)

**Current NSF Program Directors from CMMI and other Divisions at the Workshop**

- Christina Bloebaum, Engineering Design and Innovation
- Ken Chong, Mechanics of Materials
- Clark Cooper, Materials and Surface Engineering
- Joycelyn Harrison, Materials Processing and Manufacturing
- George Hazelrigg, Manufacturing and Construction Machines and Equipment
- Suhada Jayasuriya, Control Systems
- Cerry Klein, Service Enterprise Systems, Manufacturing Enterprise Systems
- Demitris Kouris, Nano/Bio Mechanics
- Zongzhu Lin, Algebra, Number Theory and Combinatorics (Directorate for Geosciences)
- William Schultz, Fluid Dynamics (Division of Chemical, Bioengineering, Environmental, and Transport Systems)
- M.P. Singh, Hazard Mitigation and Structural Engineering
- Rose Wesson, Chemical and Biological Separations (Division of Chemical, Bioengineering, Environmental, and Transport Systems)

**Current NSF CMMI staff at the Workshop**

- Veronica T. Calvo, Program Specialist
- Matthew T. Carnavos, Science Assistant

**Former NSF CMMI Program Directors at the Workshop**

Jian Cao, Northwestern University  
Rajurkar Kamlakar, University of Nebraska at Lincoln  
Stephen Nash, George Mason University  
Mary Lynn Realff, Georgia Institute of Technology  
Judy Vance, Iowa State University

**Speakers**

Iлона Kretzschmar, City College of New York, 2007 CAREER awardee  
Brigid Mullany, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, 2008 CAREER awardee

**Workshop Organizers**

Stephen Nash, George Mason University  
Z.J. Pei, Kansas State University  
Ariela Sofer, George Mason University

**Workshop Host Institutions**

George Mason University  
Kansas State University

**Student helpers from GMU**

Ben W. Crain  
Sameer Kulkarni  
Amrutha Patrikar

## Workshop Agenda

Activities on both days will start in Room ARL 329 in the Original Building (<http://eagle.gmu.edu/map/arlington.php?building=original>) at George Mason University (Arlington Campus), Arlington, VA.

### **Day 1 (Thursday, March 12, 2009)**

- 7:30-8:30 Continental Breakfast
- 8:30-10:30 George Hazelrigg (NSF Program director) presents NSF CAREER proposal Guidelines; Questions and Answers
- 10:30-11:00 Break
- 11:00-12:00 George Hazelrigg continue presentation; Questions and Answers
- 12:00-13:00 Working lunch. Participants have interactions with NSF program directors, recent CAREER awardees, and other participants, asking more questions, sharing what they have learned, etc.
- 13:00-13:15 Hazelrigg describes procedures for a typical CAREER proposal panel meeting
- 13:15-13:30 Panel preparations, conflict briefing
- 13:30-15:00 Mock panels  
Review proposals and put each proposal in one of the three categories: PC (primary consideration), SC (secondary consideration), and DNC (do not consider)
- 15:00-15:15 Break
- 15:15-16:15 Mock panels continue  
15:15-15:35 rank the proposals in PC and SC categories  
15:35-16:15 write panel summary for each proposal
- 16:15-16:30 Break
- 16:30-16:45 Panels report their rankings on the proposals in PC and SC categories
- 16:45-18:00 Two recent CAREER awardees present their stories and share their experiences; and Questions and Answers
- 18:00-19:00 No-host dinner. Participants have more interactions among themselves
- 19:00-21:00 Homework assignment -- attendees rewrite their proposal summaries based on what they have learned during the day

### **Day 2 (Friday, March 13, 2009)**

- 7:30-8:30 Continental breakfast
- 8:30-10:30 Mock panels (to review modified project summaries from the participants)  
8:30-10:00 review project summaries and put project summary in one of the three categories: PC (primary consideration), SC (secondary consideration), and DNC (do not consider)  
10:00-10:20 rank the project summaries in PC and SC categories  
10:20-10:30 write panel summary for each project summary

10:30-11:00 Break  
11:00-11:30 Mock panels continue  
11:30-12:00 Wrap-up; Questions and Answers  
12:00-13:00 Working lunch. Participants have interactions with NSF program directors, recent CAREER awardees, and other participants, asking more questions, sharing what they have learned, etc.  
13:00-15:00 One-on-one meeting with NSF program directors  
13:00 Adjourn