



CALL FOR PROPOSALS SPE COMPOSITES DIVISION EDUCATION FUNDING



Due: April 13, 2018

Background: The use of advanced composites is rapidly growing in a number of sectors including automotive, sporting goods, infrastructure, defense and industrial applications. The next generation work force and employers seek talent with comprehensive experience in the design, modeling, manufacturing and characterization of advanced composite materials and products.

The SPE Composites Division is making significant efforts to expand the pool of trained work force with relevant training and experience in composite applications that aligns with the needs of the industry.

The SPE Composites Division invites applications to fund the purchase / procurement of equipment or software that will enhance undergraduate and graduate student involvement in any aspect of advanced composites science and technology. The proposal must demonstrate high level of student involvement and make the case for how the proposed acquisition/activity will benefit the program. Examples of such request may include, but not limited to-

- (a) Equipment for composites processing / manufacturing (for example- molds/ tooling, resin/fiber processing equipment, 3D printing etc.)
- (b) Design, modeling and product development (solid modeling, finite element analysis, process modeling software)
- (c) Unique educational activity (targeted workshops, develop training/education modules)

Who is Eligible: A four-year institution/university or a 2-year community college that offers courses and/or training in engineering and technology with course offerings in Introduction to Materials, Fibers, Polymers, Composites, Manufacturing. Demonstrated involvement from Freshmen to Senior to Graduate level students and K-12 outreach students in composites activities is encouraged.

Level of Funding: SPE Composites Division will provide up to \$5000 (for each approved proposal) with an institutional cost share requirement of 1:1. For e.g. if the value of the equipment/software/activity is \$10,000, SPE will contribute \$5000 towards the purchase. The institution will be responsible to provide \$5000. Indirect costs *are not* allowed.

Application Process: The application should be organized as follows:-

Cover Page: Name of the Project, Point of Contact, Institution Name and Contact Details, Date of Submission

Body of the Application (3-5 pages max):

- 1) Background of the Lab/Center/Department/Unit/Institution
- 2) Anticipated number of users and how the equipment/software/activity will impact-undergraduates, graduates, staff, post-docs, and other users

- 3) Description of the processing equipment/software/activity – need and plans for use
- 4) Budget breakdown including cost share details and justification
- 5) Letter of commitment for the cost share from the Dean, Department Head or other Institutional authority (authorized to sign on behalf of the institution)
- 6) Quote or evidence of cost based on correspondence with the vendor

Review and Selection Process: Each application will be reviewed by a team of industry and academic experts and funding will be released based on their recommendation and approval of the SPE Composites Board. Based on the quality of the proposals received the Board may award 1 to 3 awards in this funding cycle.

Expectations if awarded:

Recipients are expected to:

- (a) Participate in one of the SPE meetings (SPE ACCE, ANTEC etc) to report on educational impact of the funding. The information can be in a poster or presentation format.
- (b) Provide a brief summary/highlights at the end of the year that could be included in the SPE Composites Division newsletter.

Deadline / Submission of Application: April 13, 2018. The submission is limited to one application per institution per year.

Applications should be e-mailed to (with the Subject Line – SPE Education Fund

Application: Uday Vaidya, PhD; SPE Education Chair, uvaidya@utk.edu; Phone: 205-410-2898

Other Information: Notification of awards will be made in the July-early August 2018 time frame. The awards will be made at the annual SPE ACCE meeting to be held in Novi, Michigan in September 5-7, 2018. The awardee institution will receive the funding, a certificate and plaque. The award notifications will be made in SPE media, website and news releases.

Thank you for your time and interest. We look forward to hearing from you. Please contact us for additional details.

Uday Vaidya, PhD
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February 19, 2018