Call for Proposals: Multi-Year Project

THE CATALYST FOUNDATION

invites proposals for funding of

INTERDISCIPLINARY WORK INVOLVING ANALOG OR MIXED ANALOG-DIGITAL INTEGRATED CIRCUIT DESIGN AND ANALYSIS

The goal of this funding is to contribute to the fusion of scientific and engineering research. To provide a concrete paradigm, it fosters university cross-disciplinary research projects in which at least one discipline is related to analog or mixed analog-digital integrated circuit design and analysis. Preference is given to projects that help diffuse such work geographically. The research support provided by the Foundation is in the form of grants.

Only proposals for genuinely cross-disciplinary work will be considered for funding. The proposals must normally be submitted jointly by more than one university investigators, with two being optimum, each working in a different discipline. Under exceptional circumstances, a proposal submitted by only one investigator who wants to venture into a discipline different from his/her own may be considered. In either case, one of the disciplines involved must be related to analog or mixed analog-digital integrated circuit design and analysis, with this discipline enhancing, or being enhanced by, the other discipline(s) involved. The emphasis of the grants is on *doctoral student support*, with some limited funds also available for equipment and miscellaneous expenses, travel, and conference attendance.

Deadline for proposal submission: June 30, 2008.

Submission requirements:
> Electronic submission of proposal is required. File format should be PDF, Post-Script, or Microsoft Word. Submit proposals by email to **submit@catalyst-foundation.org**. Please also include electronic fund transfer information if possible.

For more information: http://www.catalyst-foundation.org/guides.php

¢ Catalyst Foundation

Funding Guidelines

What the Funds Can Be Used For

The emphasis of the grants is on doctoral student support, with some limited funds also available for equipment and miscellaneous expenses, and travel and conference attendance. The specific funding categories are:

1. Student Support

It is the research supervisors' responsibility (research supervisors are normally professors) to select a qualified student for the proposed project. However, the Foundation reserves the right not to award a grant to an otherwise successful proposal, if it considers the student's qualifications inadequate. Normally, only one student can be supported by a given grant. The support of two students will be considered only under very special circumstances. The student support provided includes the following sub-categories

a. Salary:
The salary level is normally determined by the university according to its salary guidelines for graduate research assistants. In the absence of university rules, the foundation will consider (but not necessarily follow) the recommendations of a department head and the research supervisors.

b. Tuition:
Whether tuition will be paid or not will depend on university regulations. In some universities, no tuition is charged for graduate research assistants.

c. Travel and Conference Attendance:
The Foundation funds traveling to other sites involved in the project for the purposes of cooperation, and attending conferences. This sub-category is limited to $2,500 per year.

2. Equipment and Miscellaneous Expenses:

A limited amount, not to exceed $20,000, is available per project for equipment, materials, supplies, computer services, IC fabrication services, publication costs, etc. Of this, no more than $15,000 can be associated with one research supervisor or site

3. Research Supervisor Travel and Conference Attendance:

Traveling by research supervisors to the other site(s) involved in the project, as well as conference attendance expenses, will be covered to a combined maximum of $3,000 per year.

No funding category other than those listed above will be considered. The Foundation generally cannot provide overhead or other indirect costs.

Grant Duration

As a general matter, the duration of a grant is up to four years. An additional year of support may be considered upon request. The request can only be made in the course of the normal period of the grant, and will be considered only in exceptional circumstances.

Patents

The Foundation seeks no rights to patents resulting from the work it funds.

Administration of Funds

Once payment has been made to the investigators' institution, the administration of the funds is solely the responsibility of that institution.

Progress Reports

A yearly progress report must be submitted by the research supervisors no later than 1 month before the award for the following year can be made. The reports can be brief (e.g., 2 pages). The Foundation reserves the right to contact or to visit the investigators and/or student for further details. An official record of the student's grades or, in the absence of grades, other official indication of the student's progress, should accompany the report. At the end of the final year of the grant, a final report (in lieu of the last annual report) should be submitted, summarizing the work done during the entire duration of the grant.

Dissemination of Results

The Foundation strongly encourages the timely publication of papers reporting on results of the funded project, in highly reputable journals and conferences. The Foundation requests that its support be acknowledged in each publication resulting from the work it funds.

Publications

A copy of each paper resulting from the work funded by the Foundation, and which has been published in highly reputable journals or conference proceedings, should be sent to the Foundation. Papers that have been submitted to journals or conferences, but have not yet appeared in print, should not be sent to the Foundation in view of its policy concerning sensitive information (see Sensitive Information and Confidentiality). It is likely that many publications will appear in print after the expiration of the grant. The Foundation requests copies of such publications, nevertheless. The Foundation also asks the authors that it is acknowledged in the papers resulting from the funded project by the Foundation.

Termination of Grants

Grants may be terminated if the conditions posed above are not satisfied, or if the grantee requests it, or if, for reasons currently unforeseeable, the Foundation can no longer continue funding.

Investigation of Jeopardized Grants

In the event that the Foundation receives information indicating that all or any part of a particular grant, the proceeds of which have been paid to the recipient, is not being used for its intended purpose, the Foundation will investigate. During the investigation, the Foundation will withhold further payments of the proceeds of such grant to the extent reasonably practicable. If the Foundation determines that the proceeds of the grant are improperly used, the Foundation reserves the right to recover the proceeds previously paid to the recipient and to terminate the payments.

Contract

It is contemplated that a formal contract (embodying the principles hereof) will reflect the relationship between the Foundation and the research supervisors and students.

Variations

While the Foundation intends to adhere to the policies and procedures set forth herein, it reserves the right to waive or vary any aspect thereof in compelling cases in its sole discretion where the goal of the Foundation is advanced. It is expected that such instances will be infrequent.

Nondiscriminations

Grants are awarded by Catalyst Foundation on a nondiscriminatory basis, withoutregard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, and handicapped or veteran status.

Return to Top

Home   About the Foundation   Common Questions   Funding Guidelines   How To Apply   Call for Proposal   Grant Recipients   Officers & Board   Contact Us

© 2007 Catalyst Foundation

http://www.catalyst-foundation.org/guides.php

Page 3 of 3

¢ Catalyst Foundation

How To Apply

Format

The proposal must not exceed a total of 15 double-spaced typewritten pages with fonts not smaller than 11 points plus resumes, student grade transcript, and other supporting material (see below), and must include the following parts (length limits indicated are in double-spaced pages):

1 Cover Page
This page contains the proposed project title, the research supervisors' name and affiliation, detailed address, phone and fax numbers, electronic mail address (where available), total amount requested, project duration, and the proposed starting date. In the normal case of more than one research supervisor, the investigator with whom the Foundation should correspond should be indicated.

2 Previous Research
The previous research of each research supervisor should be summarized, with an attempt to demonstrate his or her research potential. This summary should provide some support for Part 5.4 below. Relevant publications should be listed (up to 5 per investigator). This part should not exceed 2 pages per investigator.

3 Proposed Research
This part should be concise. The goals of the proposed project should be outlined, along with an indication as to why those goals are important. However, no details need be provided on how those goals will be reached. The Foundation believes that, if a detailed plan to reach those goals is known, the solution to the problem is already in sight, and thus the work proposed is not true research. In addition, the Foundation specifically asks that the proposers do not disclose sensitive information (see Sensitive Information and Confidentiality below). If funding for equipment is requested, please explain briefly how it will be used. This entire part should not exceed 3 pages.

4 Cross-disciplinary Statement
This part should explain how the proposed research and the research supervisor's abilities and experience will contribute towards the Foundation's goal, as stated in Sec. 1. Please explain why the proposed research would not be possible within only 1 discipline. Generalities and big words should be avoided; instead, concrete arguments should be used, supported by facts where warranted. This part should not exceed 2 pages.

5 Proposed Budget
A proposed budget for up to 4 years should be provided here. Use a separate page for each year, plus an additional page for a cumulative budget. Include the following categories:

a. Student support:
Salary (indicate amount per month, number of months, and total)
Tuition (indicate amount per month, number of months, and total)
Travel and conference attendance (see What the Funds Can Be Used For)
b. Equipment and miscellaneous expenses.
(list individual categories and costs, and provide a total amount; see also What the Funds Can Be Used For)
c. Research supervisor travel and conference attendance.
(see What the Funds Can Be Used For)
d. Total amount requested.

6 Current and Pending Support
Give grant titles, agencies, and amounts of funding. This part should not exceed 1 page.

7 Research Supervisor's Biographical Resumes
A resume for each research supervisor should be attached.

8 Student Resume and Supporting Material
This is a necessary part, which must be considered by the Foundation before money can be awarded. It is recognized, however, that it may be desirable to submit a proposal before a student has been selected. In that case, the proposal can be submitted without this part, judged, and awarded in principle, pending submission of this last part and approval of the student on the part of the Foundation. The supporting material should include an official record of the student's grades, two letters of recommendation (one of which can be provided by the research supervisors) and, if available, any other material which can help evaluate the student, such as a GRE record. Please include the student's address and phone number and, if available, fax number and electronic mail address.

Sensitive Information and Confidentiality

Applicants should be aware that Foundation officers and external reviewers may be working in the same research area as the applicant. The possibility exists that an applicant¿½s idea may have occurred to a member of the proposal review committee and may already be an existing research project. To avoid exposure of confidential information, the Foundation requests applicants refrain from disclosing confidential and sensitive information in their proposals. Proposals should contain only information which the applicant is willing to expose to the general public. Upon submission, a proposal is considered in the public domain. Once approved for funding, the Foundation will request an abbreviated abstract summarizing the accepted proposal for use in reports and on the Foundation website. The Foundation will seek approval from the research team of all written grant materials selected for publication.

Important Dates

The deadline of proposal submission is announced in each call for proposals. Notification of acceptance or rejection will be given within six weeks after the deadline, and will be sent to both research supervisors and the student. The project can start at any time specified by the research supervisors, provided all materials have been received and approved by the Foundation, and as long as such time is within a year from the day of approval. Unless otherwise provided, award payments are made to the investigators' institutions once a year.

Please check the Call for Proposals Page for information on current

dates.

Submission and Evaluation Procedure

The Foundation seeks to fund research in a diverse range of topics. Therefore potential proposers are encouraged to review on-going projects in this home page. A proposal, which exceeds the page limits, will generally be returned without consideration by the Foundation. Once a proposal is accepted by the Foundation for review, the proposal becomes its property and will not be returned. After the proposal has reached the Foundation, its receipt is acknowledged and, unless it is outside the Foundation's scope, it is sent for peer review. The proposal is judged for scientific and technical merit, objectives, innovation content of its goals, qualification of investigators, adequacy of research facilities, current and pending support, and the degree to which it furthers the Foundation's goal (Sec. 1).

An electronic submission of proposal is required. File format should be pdf, Post-Script or Microsoft Word format. Materials that are not easily submitted electrically (e.g. student transcripts) can be mailed to the Foundation separately.

Applications Should Be Sent By Emal To...

submit@catalyst-foundation.org

Acceptable file formats for the submission are *PDF, Post-Script and MicroSoft Word only.*

Return to Top