



Sustainable Energy Research Initiative Request for 2024 Pre-Proposals

Walter & Lalita Janke Foundation Innovations in Sustainability Science Research Fund
and
FAU Center for Environmental Studies

The [Walter & Lalita Janke Foundation](#) Innovations in Sustainability Science Research Fund, through the FAU Center for Environmental Studies, is pleased to announce its seventh annual request for research proposals that will enhance existing energy technologies and support the early development of promising new energy concepts and applications. Proposed projects should improve the efficiency, viability, and reliability of renewable and non-renewable energy sources, through enhanced implementation, production, storage and/or distribution, and associated public perceptions, policies, and marketing. Submissions are welcome from any discipline or combination of disciplines, including the sciences, engineering, the social sciences, business, and arts/humanities.

The purpose of the fund is to provide support and training for graduate students, researchers, and faculty. The funding is intended to enable proposing individual or multidisciplinary collaborations to engage in proof-of-concept designs, preliminary studies, infrastructure building, and/or other research activities that will set the foundation for follow-on competitive grant applications, and to generate high-quality, publishable scientific papers.

Eligibility

All FAU Faculty members (tenure track and non-tenure) are welcome to apply. Graduate students are invited to participate.

Allowable Expenses

Proposals shall have a \$50,000 maximum budget. All expenditures should directly benefit the research project. Salaries, equipment and supplies, travel to present research findings, and publication charges would be expected expenses in this fund. All expenditures need to follow FAU expenditure policies. **No indirect required.**

Review Process

The review process will be coordinated through FAU-CES, with the assistance of outside experts, leaders and FAU faculty members, as determined by the technical content of the submissions received.

Deadline

Pre-proposal deadline midnight on **Thursday, February 29, 2024**

Website/Contact Information: www.ces.fau.edu/research/janke/index.php

Colin Polsky, Ph.D.

Founding Director, [School of Environmental, Coastal & Ocean Sustainability \(ECOS\)](#)

Director, [Center for Environmental Studies](#)

Professor of Geosciences

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Application Instructions

Pre-Proposals must be submitted to Colin Polsky, CES Director (cpolsky@fau.edu; **please copy ces@fau.edu**) by midnight on **Thursday February 29, 2024**; the email's subject line should read "Janke Energy Pre-Proposal." Applications not meeting the deadline or format guidelines will be returned without review. *Notifications for full proposals are expected in March 2024, and will be due late April, by invitation only.*

Pre-Proposal Format

Pre-proposals must be single-spaced, with a font size no smaller than 11 point; minimum 1-inch margins; tables and figure legends can be in 10 point. Do not submit appendices or other supplementary documents. The entire proposal must be submitted as one PDF document with the following name format: PI Name-Energy-Pre-2024.pdf.

Cover Page: Applicant Information (one page)

- Project Title:
- Total Budget (not to exceed \$50,000; **no indirect required**):
- PI Name and Position/Rank:
- Email:
- Phone Number:
- Department/Program and College/Institute:
- Potential Targeted Funding Agencies:

The following sections should be addressed in the pre-proposal, with sections I-V totaling a maximum of five pages.

Section I: Background and Experience of the Team in this Research Area

This section should address prior research performed by others as well as the work of members of the team that is directly applicable to the proposed effort. If the background experience of team members is not directly applicable, the proposal should address how they would be qualified to perform the proposed research. The percentage of involvement of key personnel should also be included. Generic Bio-Sketches that do not address the research area of the proposal are discouraged.

Section II: Project Description

The proposal should clearly define the specific goals of the project, the significance of the proposed research, and how this effort is different from the current efforts of others working in the field.

Section III: Follow-On Efforts

This section should justify how the seed funding provided by this grant will support a larger follow-on competitive proposal. If a specific future funding source can be identified, it should be included here as well. The section should identify how this funding promotes the goal of the Walter and Lalita Energy Grant to "*Encourage Innovation in the World of Energy.*" In making award decisions, proposed efforts that show a clear path to follow-on funding and strong benefits toward energy innovation will be given preference.

Section IV: Budget and Resources

Provide a simple budget and describe the resources currently available to conduct this research. This section should also list any current funding or prior funding that is related to or overlaps the funding being requested.

Section V: References and Figures