Dear Colleagues:

We are soliciting proposals to the small grants program of the Initiative for Mathematical Sciences and Engineering (IMSE). This solicitation is open to teams of University of Illinois faculty researchers which include at least one member of an engineering department and one member of the Department of Mathematics.

Priority for funding will be given to projects with high expectation of leading to significant external funding, and to newly formed collaborations. We expect the budget to be limited to $5,000 per proposal.

Proposals should conform to a three page limit, plus a budget for the proposed activity, including both IMSE funds and other sources of current or proposed funding. Proposals should clearly delineate the joint activities that will be supported, such as but not limited to

- joint supervision of graduate students or postdocs
- joint research projects
- joint grant submissions

These small grants can be used for timely funding of add-on activities, such as conference travel, visitor hosting, and equipment purchase. The small grants are intended to complement rather than substitute for standard funding sources, so that no IMSE grant would constitute a sizable fraction of the total budget of the activity that it supports.

Awards will be listed on IMSE’s website https://www.imse.illinois.edu/.

The due date for the next round of proposals is September 15, 2012. There will be two more proposal solicitations during the 2012-2013 academic year, with due dates of January 30, 2013, and April 15, 2013.

Proposals should be sent to: imsegrants@illinois.edu. Proposals will be reviewed by a panel formed by the IMSE Steering Committee, and awards will be announced within four weeks of the due date.

IMSE’s mission is to accelerate advances and innovations in mathematics and engineering through cross-fertilization, with the dual objectives of fostering cutting-edge mathematics as indispensable in addressing significant engineering applications and of advancing the next generation of mathematics through the infusion of new classes of problems. IMSE will serve as a catalyst for mathematicians and engineers to work together on such problems, by engaging the former in emergent engineering applications and equipping the latter with state-of-the-art mathematical tools.

Sincerely,

Sheldon Katz, Director
Jong-Shi Pang, Co-Director