



2542

Special Release

04 November, 2010

MACARTHUR FOUNDATION HIGHER EDUCATION INITIATIVE IN AFRICA: FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES IN 2011

CALL FOR LETTERS OF INQUIRY

BACKGROUND

The *Higher Education Initiative in Africa* of the MacArthur Foundation is geographically focused in Nigeria and Madagascar, where the Foundation works with leading universities to strengthen them as institutions and advance their contributions to development in Africa. The University of Ibadan is one of the Foundation's partner universities in Nigeria.

The Foundation has recently issued its 2011 *Request for Proposals* (RFP) from its partner institutions **to build up particular university departments or centers, in part through collaborations with top departments at other universities, research institutes, and private sector entities in Africa and beyond.** Project grants of **three years** will be awarded. The grants will support disciplines that are strategic to the universities' institutional development and that have direct relevance to development in Nigeria, Madagascar, and the sub-Saharan African region. Academic staff and units are advised to request for **electronic copies** of the RFP from the MacArthur Grant Liaison Officer.

APPLICATION PROCESS

The application process involves **three successive review stages**: *Letters of Inquiry*, *Concept Papers*, and *Proposals*. In each round, successful projects will be invited to advance to the next phase of the review process. Grant approval decisions will be made in September and December 2011.

CALL FOR LETTERS OF INQUIRY

The MacArthur Grant Implementation Committee (MFGIC) hereby invites interested academic staff and units to submit *Letters of Inquiry*. Each *Letter of Inquiry* should be a **maximum of two pages** in length and briefly indicate:

- the disciplinary focus, principal investigator(s), the academic and/or private institutions that might participate,
- the graduate training and/or research focus of the collaboration, and
- how specifically the proposed project would strategically help to address a particular developmental challenge.

CRITERIA FOR SUPPORT

Two general criteria which the Foundation will apply in reviewing submissions are:

- relevance to national and regional development, and
- gender equity in graduate training and research opportunities.

CORRESPONDENCE

All *Letters of Inquiry* should please be sent **electronically**, not later than **Tuesday, November 30, 2010**, to:

The MacArthur Grant Liaison Officer,
Suite 6-7 ICT/Digital Library Building,
Benue Road, University of Ibadan, Ibadan,
E-mail: mglo.ibadan@gmail.com, unityejoh@yahoo.com.
Telephone: 0805 194 9226, 0805 661 2745.

Omotayo O. Ikotun (Mrs.)

Registrar