

University of
Minnesota

Interdisciplinary Informatics



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Driven to DiscoverSM

UMII Fast Track Training

2009 Call for Applications

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I. Program snapshot

Title	University of Minnesota Interdisciplinary Informatics (UMII) Fast Track Training Program
Purpose	To support researchers continuing education across the fields of informatics and other disciplines and foster exploration of promising new emerging opportunities. The goal of this training award is to provide researchers with opportunities to learn quickly about key informatics or computational concepts, methods, tools and practices and their roles for potential application in their research. Equipped with this new knowledge and skills, researchers will become better prepared to expand their current research domains and investigate new ones either as a single investigator or as part of an interdisciplinary research collaborative.
Target dates	August 1st, 2009; October 15 th , 2009 and quarterly starting Jan 01 st , 2010
Eligibility	Open to faculty and staff holding a current appointment at the University of Minnesota and eligible for University PI status.
Amounts	Award will cover registration fees, travel and lodging in an amount up to \$5,000 total. A total amount of \$25,000 will be made available for this program.
Questions	For questions and application: Anne-Francoise Lamblin, PhD UMII Coordinator Email: lamb1001@umn.edu ; Tel: 612-625-7414

II. Program Description

The University of Minnesota Interdisciplinary Informatics has established its UMII Fast Track Training Program to provide investigators with the opportunity to learn quickly and efficiently about leading edge research tools and practices in fields that intersect and are complementary with their current research. It is envisioned that this quick and intense immersion will provide investigators with a better understanding of “where to start”, necessary skills as well as developing the awareness of the best informatics practices, approaches and tools applied in interdisciplinary research.

Typical classes or workshops last between a few days to a few weeks. The selection of the course or workshop is at the discretion of the applicant. However competitive requests for support will clearly identify how attending the proposed workshop or course will address an unmet need and will enable the investigator to tackle new approaches in his or her research.

Letter of Intent target dates: August 1st, 2009; October 15th, 2009 and quarterly starting Jan 01st, 2010

Pre-award notification: Within 10 days post-target dates

Award funds allocation: Upon proof of completion

III. Eligibility criteria

◆ Applicant affiliation

Program is open to all faculty and staff members that hold a current University of Minnesota appointment and eligible for University PI status.

IV. Application procedures and documentation

Application will be in the form of a letter of intent (LOI) no longer than two pages and accompanied by a cover page.

◆ Cover page

A downloadable standard format cover page will be available on OVPR [UMII web site](#).

Cover page should provide the following information

- Course or workshop
 - Name
 - URL
 - Dates
 - Registration deadline
 - Costs
 - Registration fees
 - Lodging cost (if not included in registration)
 - Travel cost
- Attendee's name and affiliation

◆ LOI - Project description

Applicant should provide a description of their current research project or area and the envisioned opportunities for interdisciplinary approaches and integration of informatics approaches.

◆ LOI – Justification

The justification should be written in non-technical terms for a general audience and state clearly how the knowledge or skills gained by attending the proposed workshop or course will enable the adoption of interdisciplinary and informatics approaches not currently pursued. The justification should highlight the anticipated impact of attending this course or workshop.

◆ Letter of support

Non faculty applicants are to provide letter of support from supervisors indicative of their authorizations for the applicant to attend the proposed workshop.

V. Application target dates

LOI to attend a selected course or workshop should be submitted by email to umii@umn.edu with the subject line: “**2009 UMII FTT application – Applicant’s last name**”

VI. Evaluation criteria and procedures

LOI will be reviewed by the OVPR and evaluated based on the merit of the justifications provided by the applicant. Such justification shall clearly indicate how the applicant's research and teaching will benefit from the anticipated new knowledge and enable the integration of informatics and interdisciplinary research. Pre-award notification will be made by the OVPR. Award will be made by the OVPR upon completion of the course or workshop (see below).

VII. Award procedures and conditions

◆ Pre-award and award notification

Successful applicants will be notified that their requests have been selected by the OVPR (pre-award). However selection of that application does not equate to a monetary award. The monetary award will only be made after full attendance and completion of the proposed course or workshop by the applicants and fulfillment of the reporting conditions. Partial attendance to the workshop or course will not be reimbursed.

◆ Reporting

Within two weeks of completion, awardees will need to submit a description and evaluation of the course or workshop using the provided template (URL). This report is intended to be informative to other investigators, and will be made available through the UMII web site.

VIII. Remarks

Faculty and staff interested in developing such courses or workshops are invited to contact the UMII.