Guidelines for MRSEC IRG Proposals due February 22, 2019

The IRG submission should include Parts 1-5 below and total a maximum of 5 pages: the cover page, 3 technical pages (including graphics), and 1 page summary on a) education and human resource development, and b) planned collaborations with industry, national labs, other institutions of education. Bio sketches of the PIs are required and should follow NSF guidelines (see below). Review criteria will be from NSF MRSEC solicitation https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2019/nsf19517/nsf19517.htm

IRG, Part 1: Introduction and Background. Provide a description of the key needs for investigation of this topic and its expected impact. IRGs are sought that solve fundamental, timely and complex materials problems that are intellectually challenging and important to society (i.e. make sure that the blue-sky concept(s) is/are clear). Please note the NSF “Big 10” referenced in the solicitation at https://www.nsf.gov/news/special_reports/big_ideas/

IRG, Part 2: Project Description. Provide a description of the proposed area of multi-investigator, interdisciplinary group research. List names of faculty-level participants on the IRG research team. Provide a concise description of the long-term research goals and intellectual focus, and outline the planned research activities. The need for an interdisciplinary approach and the means of achieving this should be clearly established. Note any shared facilities. Briefly describe existing shared experimental and computational facilities and those that need to be established, and plans for the development of instrumentation (if applicable to this IRG). Distinguish clearly between existing facilities and those that are still to be developed. Briefly describe proposed contribution to a network of materials research facilities in the United States.

Part 3: Prior Support. Describe relevant achievements of recent NSF support for this IRG. Collaborative research and education activities funded by NSF should be an emphasis in this section. Detail the intellectual merit of the award most closely related to the MRSEC proposed IRG being submitted.

Part 4: One page summary of critical proposal categories, to include:
   1. education and human resource development,
   2. planned collaborations with industry, national labs, and other institutions

Briefly describe collaborations with industry, national laboratories, and other sectors. Describe plans for significant intellectual and resource exchange, cooperation, and partnership with other organizations that may involve academic organizations, industry, international institutions and organizations, national laboratories, non-profit organization, federal, state, and local governments and others.

Part 5: NSF 2-page CV’s. Please provide standard format NSF style CVs for all TAMU PIs on the project. See instructions in the NSF PAPPG: https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/policydocs/pappg19_1/pappg_2.jsp#IIIC2f