

Mon 11/21/2011 10:28 PM

RFI-National Bioeconomy Blueprint: San Francisco State U. Professional Science Master's

Dear Office of Science and Technology Policy,

San Francisco State University, located in the epicenter (San Francisco Bay Area) of bio-innovation, has recently successfully instituted an internship-based Professional Science Master's (PSM) program (www.sfsu.edu/~psm; <http://www.calstate.edu/psm/>) with funding from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, National Science Foundation, and the California Institute of Regenerative Medicine. Students in the first PSM cohort admitted in 2010 have completed required bioscience coursework, concluded industry internship training and are applying for or have already entered employment in industry and government sectors. Based on the rapid growth of the STEM workforce and accumulating evidence of training success in similar academic-industry education partnership programs, we urge policy leaders to support interdisciplinary graduate training designed to cultivate an innovative, perseverant and well-trained American workforce to further US competitiveness.

Sincerely,

Lily Chen, Ph.D. Professor

San Francisco State University

Lily Chen, Ph.D. Professor of Biology
Director, Professional Science Master's
in Biotechnology & Stem Cell Science
Principal Investigator- Science Masters Program, National Science Foundation
Department of Biology
San Francisco State University