Request for Applications for the GDF-Suez Chuck Edwards Memorial Fellowship

Since 2002, Trigen-Cinergy Solutions (Suez) established through the University of Maryland College Park Foundation, a fund to support energy conversion education at the A. James Clark School of Engineering. In 2014 the fellowship was renamed in honor of the memory of Mr. Chuck Edwards, the late general manager at GDF Suez Energy North America.

The fellowship is implemented by the Center for Environmental Energy Engineering (CEEE). This announcement serves as a request for proposals for engineering graduate student(s) and their faculty advisor(s) to seek funding to pursue new research in one of the following research areas:

- Waste heat utilization in oil and gas industry (gas liquefaction)
- Carbon dioxide sequestration using waste heat
- Absorption technology for solar cooling and waste heat utilization applications
- Modeling for Small Autonomous Energy System design and optimization
- Small capacity CHP system laboratory performance

Engineering graduate students are encouraged to submit proposals for a $25,000 one-year full-time graduate fellowship applied to the student’s annual stipend. Two fellowships will be awarded. The award will be granted starting the Fall 2016 Semester and go through the end of the 2017 Spring Semester.

The proposed research must not fall exclusively under the objectives of a currently funded research project, although supplemental research efforts to existing projects will be considered. A prerequisite to receiving this fellowship is that the graduate student will receive the rest of their regular support during the academic year and summer from their advisor/department. The assistantship can have no additional work requirement during the summer months to allow the Suez Fellow time to focus full-time on her/his proposed research effort during that time period.
It is expected that each fellow will present his/her research results at a technical conference, and/or submit a scholarly publication. Fellows will be required to submit an end of the year progress report to the Suez director. The intent of the fellowship is to initiate new research directions, so there will be a new competition each year, subject to availability of funds.

Proposal Format: The proposal narrative must be no more than a three-page description of the student’s research and must identify how it addresses some aspect of a forward looking solution in their area of research. The proposal must include the following, all within the three-page limit:

• A one-paragraph abstract summarizing the research plan,
• A brief description of the problem and relevant background,
• A proposed plan of research,
• A paragraph describing plans to present the results and efforts to further fund the research.

Bios of the student and the advising faculty member, each not to exceed two pages in length, should be appended to the proposal narrative. The student’s bio must include their GPA.

New requirement: Any single advisor is allowed to recommend only one student for the award each year.

Proposals should be emailed as a single PDF document to Mary Baugher, (mbaugher@umd.edu) no later than 4 p.m. on July 1, 2016. The advising faculty member is expected to email to Mrs. Baugher a separate signed reference letter, which provides an assessment of the student and his/her applicability for the fellowship.