NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
4201 WILSON BOULEVARD
ARLINGTON, VA 22230

Title: Division of Civil and Mechanical Systems (CMS)
Employment Opportunity--Dear Colleague Letter

Date: May 13, 2004

Dear Colleague:

The Division of Civil and Mechanical Systems (CMS) announces a nationwide search for a **Program Director for the Dynamic System Modeling, Sensing and Control (DSMSC) Program** at the National Science Foundation (NSF).

The program description is found at http://www.eng.nsf.gov/cms/aboutcms/dsc/dsc.htm. This position is opened until filled. The DSMSC program supports research on the fundamental engineering concepts and mathematical theories for modeling, analysis, simulation and control of complex, nonlinear dynamic systems, including study of new control methods, acoustics, vibrations and kinematics relationships. This program also invests in research on information technologies as related to smart and autoadaptive civil and mechanical systems, including study of new technologies for sensing and acquiring information; multiple and intelligent system functionality; and modeling, synthesis, simulation, and prototyping of intelligent systems and their components. This research will advance the knowledge base for integration of sensors, actuators, controllers, and power sources for adaptive and mechatronic applications. While disciplinary expertise will be expected, the focus of the search is to identify a scholarly, mentoring and open-minded person to join the present diverse and intellectually integrated team in sharing ENG's responsibilities within NSF's overall mission.

NSF Program Directors bear the primary responsibility for carrying out the Agency's overall mission: to support innovative and merit-reviewed activities in basic research and education that contribute to the nation's technical strength, security, and welfare. To discharge this responsibility requires not only knowledge in the appropriate disciplines, but also a commitment to high standards, a considerable breadth of interest and receptivity to new ideas, a strong sense of fairness, good judgment, and a high degree of personal integrity.

Qualification requirements include a Ph.D. or equivalent professional experience in control engineering or related disciplines, plus six or more years of successful research, research administration and/or substantial managerial experience in academe, industry, or government. Also desirable is knowledge of the general scientific community, skill in written communication and preparation of technical reports, an ability to communicate orally, and several years of successful independent research of the kind normally expected of the academic rank of associate professor or higher. All appointees are expected to function effectively both within specific programs, as well as in a team mode, contributing to and coordinating with organizations in the Directorate, across the Foundation, and with other Federal and State government agencies and private-sector organizations. Periodic assignments to leadership of interdivisional, inter-directorate and interagency programs may be made. We are particularly interested in attracting women and underrepresented minority candidates to these positions.

Program Director positions recruited under this announcement may be filled under one of the following appointment options:

- **Visiting Scientist Appointment.** Appointment to this position will be made under the Excepted Authority of the NSF Act. Visiting Scientists are on non-paid leave status from their home institution and appointed to NSF's payroll as Federal employees. NSF withholds Social Security taxes and pays the home institution's contributions to maintain retirement and fringe benefits (i.e., health benefits and life insurance), either directly to the home institution or to the carrier. Appointments are usually made for up to one year and may be extended for an additional year by mutual agreement.

- **Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA) Assignment.** Individuals eligible for an IPA assignment with a Federal agency include employees of State and local government agencies or institutions of higher education, Indian tribal governments, and other eligible organizations in instances where such assignments would be of mutual benefit to the organizations involved. Initial assignments under IPA provisions may be made for a period up to two years, with a possible extension for up to an additional two-year period. The individual remains an employee of the home institution and NSF provides funding toward the assignee's salary and benefits. Initial IPA assignments are made for a one-year period and may be extended by mutual agreement.

- **Temporary Excepted Service Appointment.** Appointment to this position will be made under the Excepted Authority of the NSF Act. Candidates who do not have civil service status or reinstatement eligibility will not obtain civil service status if selected. Candidates currently in the competitive service will be required to waive competitive civil service rights if selected. Usual civil service benefits (retirement, health benefits, life insurance) are applicable for appointments of more than one year. Temporary appointments may not exceed three years.

For additional information on NSF's rotational programs, please see "Programs for Scientists, Engineers and Educators" on the NSF website at http://www.nsf.gov/jobs
Applications and questions concerning this Program Director position should be directed to:

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