

INVITATION FOR NOMINATIONS
The National Occupational Research Agenda (NORA)
Innovative Research Award for Worker Health and Safety
TO BE PRESENTED AT
NORA 2006: RESEARCH MAKES A DIFFERENCE
APRIL 18 -20, 2006

The National Occupational Research Agenda (NORA™) Liaison Committee in cooperation with the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH/CDC) invites nominations for ***The National Occupational Research Agenda (NORA) Innovative Research Award for Worker Health and Safety*** to be presented at the fifth biannual NORA Symposium to be held in Washington, DC on April 18-20, 2006. This award honors innovative and creative occupational health and safety research in a NORA priority area. The purposes of the award are to recognize the development of or encourage continued work with a new approach to prevent and/or reduce occupational illness and injuries. Candidates may be affiliated with a university, industry, government agency, labor union, or a private organization.

Background

In April 1996, NIOSH and its partners unveiled NORA, a framework to guide occupational safety and health research – not only for NIOSH, but for the entire occupational safety and health community. Approximately 500 organizations and individuals outside NIOSH provided input into the development of NORA. The NORA process, which captured broad input and consensus, produced the following 21 priority areas of research.

NORA Priority Research Areas

Disease and Injury	Allergic and Irritant Dermatitis Asthma and Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease Fertility and Pregnancy Abnormalities Hearing Loss Infectious Diseases Low Back Disorders Musculoskeletal Disorders of the Upper Extremities Traumatic Injuries
Work Environment and Workforce	Emerging Technologies Indoor Environment Mixed Exposures Organization of Work Special Populations at Risk
Research Tools and Approaches	Cancer Research Methods Control Technology and Personal Protective Equipment Exposure Assessment Methods Health Services Research Intervention Effectiveness Research Risk Assessment Methods Social and Economic Consequences of Workplace Illness and Injury Surveillance Research Methods

Nomination Guidelines

Nominations are invited for innovative research in one of the 21 NORA priority areas. Nominations can be submitted by anyone including self-nominations by the candidate. NORA team leaders, NIOSH study section members, and others may nominate a Principal Investigator or the research team for the award. Individuals with knowledge of innovative research that should be considered for this award, but who are unable to complete the application, are invited to provide email and other contact information about the potential nominee to the Chair of the Innovative Research Award Subcommittee (Carol Boraiko, <cboraiko@mtsu.edu>), so that a self-nomination can be solicited. NIOSH participation in or funding of the research is not a requirement for eligibility.

Nominations are to be submitted via a nomination letter, of no more than two pages, that addresses the following elements:

1. The name of the project
2. The name of the NORA priority area
3. A description of the research project, including the nature and significance of the problem being addressed, research procedures, and findings
3. A detailed description of the study design
4. A description of how the research was conducted (methods)
5. A description of the results and impact of the research on worker health and safety
6. A description of how the research findings were (will be) translated into new approaches to prevent and/or reduce occupational illnesses and injuries
7. An explanation of why the research is considered innovative or creative as compared to what currently exists

Documentation of the innovative research project other than the nomination letter **will not** be considered and should not be included with the nomination letter. The nomination letter **must** include email and other contact information for the nominator and all the nominees. In addition to the nomination letter, the following items must be included: 1) two supporting letters from individuals not involved in the research who can attest to the value of the research (If the nomination is not a self-nomination, the nomination letter can serve as one of the supporting letters); and 2) current curriculum vitae(s) of the nominee(s) with a relevant list(s) of publications/documents.

The Award

The NORA Liaison Committee will select the award recipient(s). This committee, chaired by Dr. Bonnie Rogers, represents industry, labor, academia, professional organizations, and government. The Liaison Committee's role is to provide outreach and commentary on the development, progress, and direction of NORA implementation.

Each nominee winning the award will receive an engraved plaque honoring their selection for *The National Occupational Research Agenda (NORA) Innovative Research Award for Worker Health and Safety*. This award presentation will be one of the highlights of the fifth biannual NORA Symposium to be held in Washington, DC on April 18-20, 2006. Additionally, a letter will be mailed to nominee(s) receiving the award notifying them of the award and the location of the presentation. NIOSH will attempt to have notification of the award provided to the appropriate local and professional news media.

Submission Instructions

The nomination letter, supporting letters, curriculum vitae(s), and publication list(s) must be submitted electronically to the NORA Coordinator <NORACoordinator@cdc.gov>.

Criteria and Scoring

Criteria and scoring of the submitted proposals will be based on the following:

1. Extent of the innovative or creative nature of the research as compared to what currently exists (50%)
2. Nature and importance of the outcome, significance of the problem addressed (30%)
3. Quality of the research performed (20%)

Deadline

The deadline for receipt of nominations is Wednesday, February 1, 2006. Submissions received after the close of business on February 1 will not be considered.

Additional Information

For additional information, please:

- Contact Carol Boraiko, Chair, Innovative Research Award Subcommittee at <cboraiko@mtsu.edu> or 615 898-2106
- Contact Sid Soderholm, Executive Secretary, NORA Liaison Committee at <NORACoordinator@cdc.gov> or 202-205-9235
- Or, visit the NIOSH Website at <<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/homepage.html>>