

A. Executive Summary:

Descriptive Title of Proposed Project: Establishing a Nuclear Science and Engineering Minor at Fort Valley State University

Principal Investigator: Dr. Masoud Naghedolfeizi, Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, Fort Valley State University, Fort Valley, GA 31030, feizim@fvsu.edu, Tel: 478-825-6612

Co-Principal Investigator: Dr. Sanjeev Arora, Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, Fort Valley State University, Fort Valley, GA 31030, aroras@fvsu.edu, Tel: 478-825-6981

Funding Request: \$329,443 over 3 years

The primary objective of this project is to design and offer a minor in the field of Nuclear Science and Engineering in order to expose students to cutting edge technologies in this field. Students will require taking four courses, namely a two-course sequence in Nuclear Science and Engineering with laboratory components, a course in nuclear radiation and an introductory course in health physics. Some of the other key objectives of this program include:

- Developing the technological infrastructure for the minor program in basic nuclear science
- Incorporating a research component in our undergraduate applied science programs
- Increasing the recruitment and retention of underrepresented students in the science, math, engineering, and Engineering programs

As a result of this project, FVSU will become the first HBCU in Georgia to offer a structured curriculum in this field and enable students to pursue career choices in nuclear energy related fields.

The design and implementation of the above curricula will improve the technological infrastructure at Fort Valley State University and will help students gain a solid foundation in computer science, physics, mathematics, engineering and experimental sciences. It is anticipated that this project will pave the way for offering an Associate Degree in this field and also increase the recruitment and retention rates of African American students in the fields of science and Engineering.