**CRUSER FY20 Call for Proposals**

**Due Date: 16 Aug 2018**

**Submission Procedures: See details below**

**On-Line submission ONLY: TBD**

**Selection Date:  20 Sep 2019**

**Funding Start Date: 1 Dec 2019**

**Funding Expiration Date: 31 Dec 2020**

**Funding Levels: up to $150,000**

**Proposal Type: Single-Year Proposals**

**Research Goal**: The Consortium for Robotics and Unmanned Systems Education and Research (CRUSER) at the Naval Postgraduate School provides a collaborative environment for the advancement of educational and research endeavors involving robotics and unmanned systems across the Navy and Marine Corps. CRUSER seeks to align efforts, both internal and external to NPS, by facilitating active means of collaboration, providing a portal for information exchange among researchers and educators with collaborative interests, and supporting innovation with operationally relevant research and experimentation.

**Anticipated Funding Amount**:  Funding has not yet been received for FY20; however the purpose of this call for proposals is to prepare researchers on campus to begin work as soon as possible in the new fiscal year.  We anticipate being able to fund ~20 projects averaging ~$100k -$150k each.

1. CRUSER funding, outside of the individual proposal, is available for INCONUS travel support for full-time enrolled MS & PhD students only.  Travel for Professors and Faculty Associate – Researchers will only be supported by the funded project.   Students requiring travel funds will follow the standard CRUSER Student Travel request procedure to be approved for this travel support.  Students who do not have prior approval to travel on CRUSER funding will be charged to the project.

**Research Focus Areas:**  **“Distributed Maritime Operations: Combined, Joint, and Coalition Warfare at Sea"** originated from the Warfare Innovation Continuum Workshop (WICW) held in Sep 2018. CRUSER encourages proposals in all areas of research that involve unmanned systems, but is particularly interested in research related to the following topic areas:

1. Autonomy in Support of Operations & Logistics: this topic area includes autonomy concepts that provide direct operational & logistical support to warfighters in a battlespace.
2. Man-Machine Teaming: this topic area includes robotics and autonomy concepts to support warfighters throughout their careers.
3. Organizational Change & Adoption: rather than purely autonomy related concepts, this topic area includes recommendations for change at the organizational level to better leverage the capabilities that autonomy may offer in the future
4. Other robotics and unmanned systems concepts.

**Classification Level:**

1. Unclassified (Preferred) but Classified work will be considered.

**Required Documents:**

1. 5-7 page proposal in MS Word (.docx)  (Use CRUSER [template](https://my.nps.edu/documents/105302057/111800655/FY19_CRUSER_ProposalTemplate.docx/e5346767-78dc-43de-a276-d960b1aec078) & submit on-line.  **Do not** submit via the Research Office).
2. Current Year Research Office Budget [form](https://my.nps.edu/web/research/proposal-development).  {List CRUSER as the Sponsor.  If selected, the CRUSER director will sign and route via RSPO.  No sub-JONs will be created}.
3. Quad Chart  (use the CRUSER provided [template](https://my.nps.edu/documents/105302057/111800655/CRUSER_CFP_Quad_Template-FY19.pptx/2fe53207-0a33-4939-b1d5-45e2ac5cec27)) and submit as a .pptx file.

**Submission Procedures:**

1. All FY20 proposal packages will be submitted online at: [TBD](https://survey.nps.edu/818149/lang-en)

**Review and Selection Board:**

1. Proposals will be evaluated by a panel of reviewers co-chaired by the Dean of Research and the CRUSER Director.

**Proposal Evaluation Criteria:**

1. Student involvement
2. Interdisciplinary, interagency, and partnerships with other Naval labs
3. Partnerships with another sponsors’ funding
4. Research related to various unmanned systems’ categories:
   1. Technical
   2. Organization and Employment
   3. Social, Cultural, Political, Ethical and Legal
   4. Experimentation
5. New research area (seed money to attract other contributors)
6. Research topics related to ANY robotic and unmanned systems area may be proposed, though proposals related to any CRUSER innovation thread are preferred.  (See website and above focus areas)
7. Alignment with the [ASN (RD&A) Navy Unmanned Systems Goals](https://my.nps.edu/documents/105302057/105304195/ASN_RDA_SIGNED+DON+UxS+GOALS_2018.pdf/5452a9cb-f29f-4a4a-b493-fc3a75ca54e8)
8. Researchers are members of the CRUSER Community of Interest
9. Proposals should aim to make an immediate impact on the community.

**Faculty members who receive CRUSER funds are expected to be members of CRUSER AND fully active in supporting CRUSER’s goals to include (but not limited to):**

1. Monthly meeting attendance
2. A presentation at a monthly meeting and at the annual CRUSER TechCon
3. A CRUSER News article
4. Participation in CRUSER sponsored events
5. Contributions to the CRUSER Annual Report
6. Providing updated labor plans and budget projections as requested