differ from those in the Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) (34 CFR 75.102). Under the Administrative Procedures Act (5 U.S.C.553) the Department generally offers interested parties the opportunity to comment on proposed regulations. However, these amendments make procedural changes only and do not establish new substantive policy. Therefore, under 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(A), the Secretary has determined that proposed rulemaking is not required.

Pilot Project for Electronic Submission of Applications

We are continuing our pilot project under which applicants for planning grants under the Title III Part A programs can submit their applications electronically. The CFDA numbers for these programs are: 84.031A, N, T, and W. This year, we are extending our pilot project to include development grant applications from the American Indian Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities, and the Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions Programs. Therefore, planning grant applicants under any of the Title III Part A programs and development grant applicants under the American Indian Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities, and the Alaska Native and the Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions Programs may submit their applications to us in either electronic or paper format.

Institutions submitting a development grant application under the Strengthening Institutions program, however, must submit a paper application.

The pilot project involves the use of the Electronic Grant Application System (e-APPLICATION formerly e-GAPS) portion of the Grant Administration and Payment System (GAPS). We request your participation in this pilot project. We shall continue to evaluate its success and solicit suggestions for improvement.

If you participate in this e-APPLICATION pilot, please note the following:

- Your participation is strictly voluntary.
- You will not receive any additional point value or penalty because you submit a grant application in electronic or paper format.
- You can submit all grant documents electronically including the Application for Federal Assistance (ED 424), Budget Information—Non-Construction Programs (ED 524), and all necessary assurances and certifications.
- Fax a signed copy of the Application for Federal Assistance (ED 424) after following these steps:

1. Print ED 424 from the e-APPLICATION system.

2. Make sure that the institution's Authorizing Representative signs this form.

3. Before faxing this form, submit your electronic application via the e-APPLICATION system. You will receive an automatic acknowledgement, which will include a PR/Award number (an identifying number unique to your application).

4. Place the PR/Award number in the upper right hand corner of ED 424.

5. Fax ED 424 to the Application Control Center within three working days of submitting your electronic application. We will indicate a fax number in e-APPLICATION at the time of your submission.

- We may request at a later date that you give us original signatures on all other forms.

You may access the electronic grant application for the Title III Part A programs at: *http://e-grants.ed.gov*

We have included additional information about the e-APPLICATION pilot project (see Parity Guidelines between Paper and Electronic Applications) in the application package.

Electronic Access to this Document: You may view this document, as well as all other Department of Education documents published in the **Federal Register**, in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) on the Internet at either of the following sites:

http://ocf.ed.gov/fedreg.htm

http://www.ed.gov/news.html

To use PDF, you must have the Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at either of the previous sites. If you have questions about using PDF, call the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO), toll free, at 1–888–293–6498; or in the Washington, DC, area at (202) 512–1530.

Note: The official version of this document is the document published in the **Federal Register**. Free Internet access to the official edition of the **Federal Register** and the Code of Federal Regulations is available on GPO Access at: http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/index.html.

Program Authority 20 U.S.C. 1057.

Dated: January 17, 2001.

A. Lee Fritschler,

Assistant Secretary, Office of Postsecondary Education.

[FR Doc. 01–1874 Filed 1–22–01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA No.: 84.133D]

Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services; National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research; Notice Inviting Applications and Pre-Application for a New Disability and Rehabilitation Research Projects for Fiscal Year 2001–2002

AGENCY: Department of Education.

ACTION: Correction Notice.

SUMMARY: On January 8, 2001 a notice inviting applications for new awards for a National Center on Accessible Education-Based Information Technology and the Disability and Business Technical Assistance Centers for Fiscal Years (FY) 2001–2002 was published in the **Federal Register** (66 FR 1480). This notice corrects the CFDA number listed under ''Funding Priority'' for the National Center on Accessible Education-Based Information Technology and the Disability (84.133D) and Business Technical Assistance Centers (84.133–D8). The CFDA number is corrected to read the National Center on Accessible Education-Based Information Technology and the Disability (84.133–D3) and Business Technical Assistance Centers (84.133–D2).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Donna Nangle. Telephone: (202) 205–5880. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the TDD number at (202) 205–9136. Internet: Donna_Nangle@ed.gov

Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document in an alternative format (*e.g.,* Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) on request to the contact person listed in the preceding paragraph.

Electronic Access to This Document

You may view this document, as well as all other Department of Education documents published in the **Federal Register,** in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) on the Internet at either of the following sites:

http://ocfo.ed.gov/fedreg.htm
http://www.ed.gov/news.html

To use PDF you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at either of the preceding sites. If you have questions about using PDF, call the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO), toll free at 1–888–293–6498; or in the Washington, DC, area at (202) 512–1530.

Note: The official version of this document is the document published in the **Federal**

Register. Free Internet access to the official edition of the **Federal Register** and the Code of Federal Regulations is available on GPO Access at: *http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/index.html*

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Numbers: 84.133D, Disability and Rehabilitation Research Projects)

Program Authority: 29 U.S.C. 762(g) and 764(b)(4).

Dated: January 17, 2001.

Judith E. Heumann,

Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

[FR Doc. 01–1875 Filed 1–22–01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4000–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Office of Science; Office of Science Financial Assistance Program Notice 01–20; Microbial Cell Project

AGENCY: U.S. Department of Energy (DOE).

ACTION: Notice inviting grant applications.

SUMMARY: The Offices of Biological and Environmental Research (OBER), Basic Energy Sciences (BES), and Advanced Scientific Computing Research (ASCR) of the Office of Science (SC), U.S. Department of Energy, hereby announce their interest in receiving applications for research grants in support of the Microbial Cell Project (MCP), an effort to build on information from completely sequenced microbial genomes to achieve a more comprehensive understanding of the functioning of a prokaryotic microbial cell. This notice encourages applications from interdisciplinary scientific partnerships or teams that include such disciplines as microbiology, molecular biology, applied mathematics, biochemistry, structural and computational biology, as well as physics, chemistry, engineering and computer science. The MCP is focused on fundamental research to understand those reactions, pathways, and regulatory networks that are involved in environmental processes of relevance to the DOE, specifically the bioremediation of metals and radionuclides, cellulose degradation, carbon sequestration, and the production, conversion, or conservation of energy (e.g. fuels, chemicals, and chemical feedstocks). Research areas of particular interest that should be integrated into an interdisciplinary approach can include studies of: (1) Functional analysis of the microbial proteome; (2) biochemical and physiological characterization; (3) intracellular localization; and (4) cell modeling. This announcement represents a planned first step in an ambitious effort to understand the functions of all the macromolecular components in a microbial cell, to understand all their interactions as they form pathways and processes that are related to DOE-relevant activities, and to eventually build predictive models for microbial activities that address DOE mission needs.

DATES: Preapplications referencing Program Notice 01–20 should be received by February 21, 2001. Earlier submissions will be gladly accepted. A response to timely preapplications will be communicated to the applicant by March 9, 2001.

Formal applications in response to this notice should be received by 4:30 p.m., E.D.T., April 24, 2001, to be accepted for merit review and funding in FY 2001.

ADDRESSES: Preapplications referencing Program Notice 01–20 should be sent to Dr. Daniel W. Drell, Office of Biological and Environmental Research, SC–72, Office of Science, U.S. Department of Energy, 19901 Germantown Road, Germantown, MD 20874–1290; e-mail is encouraged (but not required) for submitting preapplications using the following address: joanne.corcoran@science.doe.gov.

Formal applications referencing Program Notice 01–20, should be forwarded to: U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Science, Grants and Contracts Division, SC–64, 19901 Germantown Road, Germantown, MD 20874–1290, ATTN: Program Notice 01–20. This address must be used when submitting applications by U.S. Postal Service Express Mail or any commercial mail delivery service, or when hand-carried by the applicant.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Dr. Daniel W. Drell, SC–72, Office of Biological and Environmental Research, Office of Science, U.S. Department of Energy, 19901 Germantown Road, Germantown, MD 20874–1290, telephone: (301) 903–4742; e-mail: *daniel.drell@science.doe.gov*

Dr. Gregory L. Dilworth, SC–143, Energy Biosciences Program, Office of Basic Energy Sciences, Office of Science, U.S. Department of Energy, 19901 Germantown Road, Germantown, MD 20874–1290, telephone: (301) 903–2873; e-mail: *greg.dilworth@science.doe.gov*

The full text of Program Notice 01–20 is available via the World Wide Web using the following web site address: *http://www.sc.doe.gov/production/grants/grants.html.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Microbial Cell Project (MCP) supports key DOE missions by building on the successful DOE Microbial Genome Program that has furnished microbial DNA sequence information on microbes relevant to environmental remediation, global carbon sequestration (e.g. CO2 fixation), complex polymer degradation (e.g. cellulose and lignins), and energy production (fuels, chemicals, and chemical feedstocks). These microbial genome sequences provide a finite set of ''working parts'' for a cell; the challenge now is to understand how these parts are assembled into functional pathways and networks to accomplish activities of interest to the DOE (specifically those identified in the preceding sentence.) The traditional reductionist experimental approach has defined specific steps or stages within many physiological processes; however, the availability of whole genomes affords the opportunity to integrate these individual pathways into a larger physiological or whole organism framework. The MCP seeks to integrate available information about individual processes and regulatory complexes to understand the intracellular environment in which these pathways and networks exist and function. The DOE Microbial Cell Project is part of a coordinated Federal effort called the Microbe Project involving elements from several other Federal agencies.

This notice strongly encourages interdisciplinary teams that assemble a range of expertise into an integrated approach to characterizing the structure and function of a prokaryotic cell. The purpose of encouraging interdisciplinary teams is to combine diverse scientific talents into a coordinated program and thus it is very important that a coordination plan describing how the whole exceeds the sum of the parts be included in the application. In addition, the MCP seeks to promote research on the internal organization and complex control systems that allow microbial cells to respond to their environment, to make unique products, and to carry out specialized functions relevant to DOE missions in the bioremediation of metals and radionuclides, cellulose degradation, carbon sequestration, and the production, conversion, or conservation of energy. This effort will exploit a range of approaches, among them: (1) Functional analyses of proteins and protein interactions; (2) metabolic and flux measurements; (3) intracellular imaging technologies for