

specialist in the Minnesota Water Science Center of the U.S. Geological Survey, and a faculty member at the University of Minnesota. Her primary research interests are the geochemistry, fate, and transport of organic chemicals and metals in groundwater. She has been involved in research related to better understanding naturally occurring elevated arsenic in

upper Midwest groundwater since 1998.

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and community. These grants are available to regular faculty at the University of Minnesota and are awarded annually on a competitive basis. Additional funding was provided by the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences at the University of Minnesota, which provided research start-up funds to Brandy Toner.

2012–2013 Faculty Interactive Research Program Competition

The Center for Urban and Regional Affairs invites proposals for our Faculty Interactive Research Program. The purpose of the program is to encourage University faculty members to carry out research projects that involve a significant urban-related public policy issue for the state or its communities, and that include active engagement with groups, agencies, or organizations in Minnesota involved with the issue. Each award will provide support for one month of the faculty member's time in the summer of 2012 and a half-time graduate research assistant for the 2012–2013 academic year. Where appropriate, we can provide limited support for miscellaneous research expenses. Supplemental funding for a half-time graduate research assistant in the summer of 2013 is available to successful proposals that contribute to the planning and development of the University's vision to create a new, sustainable community on the 5,000-acre UMore Park property in Dakota County. For those interested in learning more about eligible research opportunities with UMore Park, an

informational forum and networking opportunity will be held on January 26, 2012 from 1 to 3 PM. Contact Brianna Chatters at chatt033@umn.edu for details.

Faculty members who are selected will be expected as part of their project to: interact or engage with appropriate community organizations or agencies, prepare a report for the organization or agency where appropriate, and prepare a 3,500-word manuscript for publication in the *CURA Reporter*.

Research projects should focus on issues and concerns important to Minnesota, such as communities of color, the criminal-justice system, demography, state or local economic development, education, employment, energy, the environment, health, housing, state and local government, welfare and poverty, human and social services, transportation, or land use and development. A list of recently funded projects can be found on the CURA website at www.cura.umn.edu/FIRP/projects.

Applications are invited from all University faculty members who, in

conformity with the tenure regulations, are classified as "regular" (tenure code = P,N,C) members of the faculty. The program is designed particularly for faculty who hold 9-month appointments (appointment term not equal to "A"), although we have frequently supported projects of regular faculty on 12-month appointments. In special cases, we can support joint projects.

During the period of support for the faculty member, the recipient of the project award is expected to be devoted to the project full-time; accordingly, those receiving awards may not accept other employment. This provision does not preclude acceptance of additional supplementary support for the same project, except for that portion allocated to the faculty member's salary.

More information, including application instructions and forms, can be found at www.cura.umn.edu/FIRP/announcement. Applications must be received in the CURA office by 4:30 PM, Friday, March 30, 2012. Grant recipients will be notified in April. Please contact Ed Goetz at 612-624-8737 or egoetz@umn.edu if you have questions.