PUBLIC NOTICE

PURCHASING AGENCY: Southwest Minnesota State University

TITLE: Science Department Microscopes

REFERENCE #: 0075NCIMicroscopes2022

RESPONSE TO THIS SOLICITATION IS DUE NO LATER THAN: 2:00 p.m. CST on Friday, August 5, 2022

SHIP TO INFORMATION BY EMAIL ONLY TO: Christy Johnson at Christy.Johnson@smsu.edu

TO RECEIVE A PRINTED COPY OF THE SOLICITATION, contact: Christy Johnson at christy.johnson@smsu.edu
Subject Line/Attn: Science Microscopes.

NOTES: This is a single source posting notification; there are no solicitation documents. Southwest Minnesota State University intends to enter into purchase of Leica microscopes with NCI Inc. Leica has put a substantial amount of research and development into educational microscopy than other vendors, making them the market leader in the arena. Leica microscopes exhibit superior function, quality, and durability. These microscopes exclusively utilize brass internal gearing, whereas most other vendors use a mixture of plastic and metal which wears down faster. Leica also offers superior optics – the Plan objectives have better construction and higher resolution as compared to many other vendors. The Leica microscopes also have sturdy front and rear handles that offer easy and ergonomic handling – this prevents students from sliding the microscopes, thereby enhancing longevity. Additionally, the ICC50W camera module that pairs with the DM500 educational compound microscopes allows labs to purchase additional cameras at any time down the road without needing to upgrade the trinocular head of the microscope or purchase additional accessories to allow the camera to connect to the microscope. The cameras that integrate with the microscopes allows instructors AND students to easily capture images via: 1. USB transfer to computer (where images can be captured and annotated), 2. HDMI connection to classroom projectors or monitors for live streaming, 3. WIFI connection so multiple iPads/smartphones can connect to the free Leica app Airlab, and 4. Connection via the free AirTeach software, where the instructor has complete control over which live images are displayed on a classroom projector. These features provided by Leica allow for enhanced learning and collaboration for all students, including those that might have difficulty utilizing a more conventional microscope due to disabilities or inexperience.

NCI Inc. was selected as the specific dealer as they have been identified as the exclusive authorized regional dealer for Leica microscopes. Additional quotes have rendered substantially higher totals All installation, warranty, and service for Leica microscopes is exclusively provided by NCI Inc. NCI, which has been in business for well over 50 years, provides exceptional support and service from initial delivery, installation, and training to excellent post-sale service. Many vendors, instead simply ship microscopes without providing installation, training, and support. For this reason, this purchase has been deemed a single source due to the
inability to receive comparable pricing, service and support from 3rd party vendors. If anyone has any concerns regarding this single source opportunity you must contact Christy Johnson via email at christy.johnson@smsu.edu before 2:00 p.m. CST on Friday, August 5, 2022.

Note: All correspondence must include reference number.

Date This Solicitation Was Posted: Friday July 22, 2022.