**4b. Theme, Vision, and Goals**: Describe overarching **theme, vision, and goals** with a focus on **implementing new approaches** to training of STEM graduate students in the targeted high priority interdisciplinary research area, through a comprehensive traineeship. **Identify potential of NRT project to provide appreciable and meaningful added value** to current degree programs and methods of graduate training at the institution(s). **Emphasize the graduate training needs in project’s thematic research field**, both at the host institution(s) and nationally. In addition, describe **the need for professionals with master’s and/or doctoral degree**s in the project’s thematic research area. Articulate how proposed NRT project **will foster valuable interdisciplinary synergisms** emerging from ongoing research activities and/or via NRT-funded initiatives. **Describe how proposed NRT complements and builds on other ongoing or prior institutional efforts** to improve STEM graduate education. Proposers should describe how the NRT project would **convey benefits to STEM graduate students beyond NRT trainees** and how training innovations from the program **will be communicated broadly beyond the institution**. Address implications of proposed NRT project for broadening participation.

3 pages