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11-5-2008

Office of Research, News & Opportunities, November 05, 2008

University of Tenessee Office of Research

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Recommended Citation
Office of Research, University of Tenessee, "Office of Research, News & Opportunities, November 05, 2008" (2008). *News and Opportunities.*
http://trace.tennessee.edu/utk_researchnews/14

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Quest

Research, Scholarship, Creative Activity

NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES

http://research.utk.edu November 5, 2008

Internal competition set—NSF limit applies to any UT MRI subcontractors

The UT Office of Research has received five statements of interest in the National Science Foundation's Major Research Instrumentation solicitation for 2009 and will be holding an internal competition to determine which three proposals will be submitted on behalf of the university.

UT researchers who are contemplating being a funded subcontractor on another institution's MRI proposal must contact the Office of Research immediately. The NSF counts such subcontracts against the three proposals UT is allowed to send forward.

More information: Greg Reed, **gdreed@utk.edu**, or Jim Mazzoucolo, **jmazzouc@utk.edu**, 974-3466.

UPCOMING EVENTS

(Info at http://research.utk.edu)

November 5—Nuclear engineering colloquium, 1:30 p.m. in 308 Pasqua Engineering Building. Alan C. Lowe, executive director of the Howard H. Baker Jr. Center for Public Policy. Topic: "The Baker Center—Continuing a Legacy of Public Service."

November 6—The Fern and Manfred Steinfeld Program in Judaic Studies lecture, 7:30 p.m., Room 132 College of Law Building. Rivka Ribak, 2008–09 Schusterman Visiting Israel Professor and Senior Lecturer, Department of Communication, University of Haifa. Topic: "People of the Book: Resistances to the Media in Israel."

November 11— Department of History's Charles Jackson Memorial Lecture, 5:00 p.m., Hodges Library Auditorium. W. Fitzhugh Brundage, William B. Umstead Professor of History at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Topic: "The Southern Past—A Clash of Race and Memory."

THE UNIVERSITY of TENNESSEE UT KNOXVILLE

UTOR to hire director of sponsored programs

Assume overall responsibility for the institution's proposal, negotiation, and execution of grant and contract functions. Direct a staff who are responsible for advising and assisting faculty and other researchers in the fiscal aspects of their proposals, and analyzing the budgets of all proposals to external agencies, negotiating and administering contracts and grants with external agencies (excluding post-award accounting), and negotiating and administering subcontracts and subgrants with lower-tier agencies. Interact daily with persons from all levels of the university as well as interact and liaise with persons outside the university, including agencies providing funding to the university and agencies to which the university is providing funding. Final reviewer and signatory on proposals being submitted to external agencies and post-award actions, e.g. invention statements, expanded authority for no-cost time extensions, rebudgeting, etc. Review, negotiate, and administer all agreements with foreign entities and special agreements, e.g. material transfer agreements, confidentiality agreements, etc. Identify and advise university executives on policy and external agency and government issues such as pending or new regulations and agency funding stances and award conditions that may impact the ability of researchers and the institution to compete for funding.

Bachelor's degree required. Ten years experience of extensive and intensive sponsored project administration in an academic, research institute, foundation, or national laboratory environment. Excellent problem-solving skills, keen ability to extrapolate information across a broad base of programs; excellent communications skills, both written and verbal, with emphasis on customer service; analytical and detail-orientation. Master's degree preferred in a related field and significant demonstrated experience in research administration. An understanding of the goals of research, process for obtaining and managing a research program, and have successfully leveraged formal and informal decision making networks to successfully manage a service organization. Comprehensive understanding of federal and state regulations, cost policies, specialized accounting principles, and in-depth knowledge of university policies and procedures relating to contract and grant accounting requirements.

Interested persons should send cover letter, resume, and references to Jane Taylor, Director Search Coordinator, Office of Research, 1534 White Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37996-1529 or e-mail **tayloje@utk.edu**.

Proposals must follow deadline policy

In recent weeks, a number of proposals have come to the UT Office of Research that did not comply with the deadline policies of the Sponsored Programs unit. In the interest of guaranteeing both accuracy and efficiency in processing proposals and fairness to researchers who abide by the deadlines, the official deadline policy is restated below:

Proposal Review Deadline Policy

Electronic proposals must be received by the Office of Research five (5) business days before the proposal deadline date. This includes

- the proposal itself;
- the fully signed Document Review/Approval Sheet;
- any cost sharing request if applicable;
- supporting documentation from proposed subcontractors; and
- a copy of the solicitation.
  NOTE: If submitting an unsolicited proposal to the National Institutes of Health, please furnish only the URL for the solicitation.

All parts of the proposal except the proposal narrative must be in final form at that time. The narrative must be in complete draft form, although a PI can continue to refine the draft proposal narrative, but it must be received in final form by the Office of Research two (2) full business days before the proposal deadline date. If the proposal is to be submitted via Grants.gov, please e-mail your application package to utkegrants@utk.edu. The reason we must receive the proposal within these time frames is threefold:

1. Certain federal sponsors that use Grants.gov for electronic proposal submission have instituted a maximum 48 hours window for us to correct and resubmit any proposal that has errors.
2. If we are a subcontractor to another entity, e.g. another university, we must upload and transmit our application both to Grants.gov and to the other entity, so the other entity will have time to meet its 48 hours window.
3. As more and more federal agencies move to electronic submission through Grants.gov, it has become evident that more time is required to adequately review and ensure timely submission. Each application can have not only different required forms, but each agency may require different layout and presentation of materials that can cause rejection after submission.

Proposals submitted to agencies by paper rather than electronically must be received by the Office of Research three (3) business days before the proposal deadline.

Proposers who fail to follow the policy may be subject to sanctions on late proposals.

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Deadline nears to seek Powe nomination

The deadline for junior faculty to express an interest in being a UT nominee to the Ralph E. Powe Junior Faculty Enhancement Award program is Friday, November 7, 2008, at 12: 00 noon. Oak Ridge Associated Universities sponsors the program for its member universities.

UT Knoxville is allowed to nominate two faculty members to the program, which provides an award of $5,000 for projects in engineering and applied science, life sciences, mathematics/computer sciences, physical sciences, or policy, management, and education. The UT Office of Research provides a match of $5,000 for the ORAU program.

The nominations are made by Vice Chancellor Brad Fenwick, who is UT's councilor to ORAU.

UTRF Maturation Funding deadline approaches

The deadline for the UT Research Foundation's Maturation Funding Program is November 21, 2008.

The fund, in its second year, provides support for UT researchers who are developing technologies that have the potential for commercial success. Up to $15,000 in direct costs will be awarded to the highest ranking proposals.

For complete details, see **http://research.utk.edu**.

Research on the Design of Policies for Pollution Control Using Market Mechanisms

The Environmental Protection Agency's National Center for Environmental Economics is seeking research into the pollution control aspects of environmental economics, including improved data collection and methods of determining the economic value of improved pollution control.

Deadline: December 5, 2008

More information: **http://yosemite.epa.gov/ee/epa/eed.nsf/webpages/GrantSolicitations.html**

Proposals solicited for tech-fee fund

The UT Office of Information Technology is soliciting proposals and recommendations for uses for the Student Technology Fee in fiscal 2010.

Departments can submit proposals by visiting the Technology Fee website, **http://web.utk.edu/~techfee**, and filling out the online form. Instructions and guidelines are included.

The deadline for submission of departmental proposals is December 5, 2008. The deans of individual colleges will be asked to prioritize the departmental proposals and e-mail them to **techfee@utk.edu** by December 12, 2008.

Chosen proposals will be announced the second week of February 2009, and the relevant hardware and software will be ordered starting July 1, 2009.

More information: Robin McNeil, 974-1597 or **rmcneil@utk.edu**.

Research website adds access to Defense BAAs

The website of the UT Office of Research now contains a new page providing links to various agencies within the U.S. Department of Defense that provide opportunities for basic and applied research. The agencies include

- the Air Force Office of Scientific Research (AFOSR)
- the Army Research Laboratory (ARL)
- the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA)
- the Office of Naval Research (ONR)

All of the above issue Broad Agency Announcements that seek proposals for general research not directly related to the development of specific systems or hardware. Check out current BAA opportunities at **http://research.utk.edu/funding/baa.shtml**.

More information: Paul W. Montgomery, UT director of external relations, 974-9440 or **paul.montgomery@utk.edu**.

Multidisciplinary University Research Initiative (MURI)

The Defense Department supports basic science and engineering research through its MURI program, which focuses on multidisciplinary research that is of critical importance to national defense. Topics of current interest to the Department of the Army include disruptive fibers for flexible armor, tailored stress-wave mitigation, transformational optics, and the mechanics of bacterial spore germination.

Deadline: January 9, 2009

More information: **http://www07.grants.gov/search/search.do;jsessionid=L3Rf131q9DLYGXJj94L0LNS4y54Kv9JySGLnxL7hHdfG4BGxcpdn!144397416?oppId=42800&flag2006=false&mode=VIEW**

Sundance Documentary Fund

The Sundance Documentary Fund makes grants in support of U.S. and international documentary films focused on current issues and movements in contemporary human rights, freedom of expression, social justice, and civil liberties. In supporting significant, compelling stories, the documentary fund aims to raise public consciousness about human rights abuses and restrictions of civil liberties, inspire lively, ongoing debate, and promote the diverse exchange of ideas crucial to developing an open society.

Deadline: February 5, 2009

More information: **http://www.sundance.org/press_subgen.html?articleID=4&colorCode=green**

Initiative for Maximizing Student Diversity

The National Institute of General Medical Sciences supports the IMSD in an effort to increase the numbers of underrepresented minority faculty, investigators, and students in biomedical and behavioral research, and to broaden their opportunities. The program provides institutional grants for students from underrepresented groups to increase their preparation and skills that will help them complete the Ph.D. in biomedical and behavioral disciplines.

Deadline: February 23, 2009

More information: **http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-06-553.html**

Note: The University of Tennessee, as accredited, is allowed to submit only one proposal for the IMSD.

Medical Biological Defense Research Program

The DOD's Department of the Army continuously accepts proposals for research in medical countermeasures for biological warfare agents, including specialized medical material or procedures designed to enhance protection.

Deadline: Open for continuous submission

More information: **http://www.usamraa.army.mil/pages/baa_paa/BAA_08-1_Areas_Interest.pdf** (See page 4 of BAA 08-1.)

Military Infectious Disease Research Program

The DOD's Department of the Army is seeking research into naturally occurring infectious diseases with a view toward prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of diseases like malaria, infectious bacterial diarrhea, and dengue.

Deadline: Open for continuous submission

More information: **http://www.usamraa.army.mil/pages/baa_paa/BAA_08-1_Areas_Interest.pdf** (See page 1 of BAA 08-1.)

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QUEST News & Opportunities is published on alternate weeks for the faculty of UT Knoxville by the Office of Research with assistance from Creative Communications. Job #8959

Contact: Bill Dockery, dockeryb@utk.edu, (865) 974-2187. Archived at http://research.utk.edu/news