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News and Opportunities

Office of Research & Engagement

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5-12-2010

## Office of Research, News & Opportunities, May 12, 2010

University of Tennessee Office of Research

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### Office of Research changes opportunities lists on web page

The Office of Research is revising the lists of funding opportunities it provides on its funding web page. After studying patterns of faculty use and web access, the office is taking the following actions:

- The list of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act opportunities is being taken down because the period of federal stimulus funding is over and the site is getting few hits.
- The list of multimillion-dollar opportunities and the National Institutes of Health list of recurring opportunities will be replaced with a list derived from the Community of Science database that will identify opportunities worth more than \$2 million. This will unify the two previous lists into one more comprehensive list that will be easier to keep current. The new list will also contain past opportunities which COS expects to be announced again in the future.
- The Office of Research list of limited submissions (opportunities that restrict the number of proposals the university can submit) will be replaced with a limited-submission list drawn from the COS database.
- Because the Community of Science database is proprietary and the university purchases access to COS services, access to the lists will require that faculty and staff log in using their net ID and password.
- The list of targeted-funding announcements will remain open without a UT login.

Current UTOR funding page: <http://research.utk.edu/funding/>

### Community of Science reminder

The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, makes access to the Community of Science database available to all UTK faculty, staff, and graduate students. The COS service makes it possible for UT researchers to

- Develop customized searches for funding on keyword-driven topics
- Receive weekly e-mail alerts on keyword-opportunities
- Post a personal research/academic profile that is available to colleagues internationally
- Search for potential research collaborators both on campus and internationally

Training in COS access and use—and in other online sources of funding information—is available through workshops on finding funding offered by Bob Porter ([reporter@utk.edu](mailto:reporter@utk.edu)), UT director of research development, and Lesli Rowan ([ortraining@utk.edu](mailto:ortraining@utk.edu)), training coordinator.

Details: <http://research.utk.edu/training>

### Training schedule set for TERA

The Office of Information Technology will offer early-adopter basic training courses for the Tennessee Electronic Research Administration (TERA) software in June.

TERA is a web-based information system that supports proposal development, award tracking, and administrative tasks in research and sponsored programs. TERA is expected to go online this summer.

Overview training will take place on

- June 9, 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm
- June 11, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
- June 14, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
- June 15, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm
- June 16, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Tom Swain from the Office of Information Technology will facilitate the sessions, which will take place in Room 403 of Blount Hall at 1534 White Avenue.

Details: <http://research.utk.edu/training> or Leslie Rowan (865-974-9310)

### Rabbit- and Cavy-Related Studies

The American Rabbit Breeders Association, Inc., is accepting proposals for research projects that will benefit rabbits or cavies. ARBA is dedicated to the promotion, development, and improvement of the domestic rabbit and cavy.

Key date: None given

Details: Contact Denise Ancharski-Stutler at [arbaresdev@yahoo.com](mailto:arbaresdev@yahoo.com)

### Fulbright information session for faculty

The Center for International Education will hold an information session on opportunities available to faculty through the Fulbright Commission. The session will be held in the upstairs conference room of the International House, 1623 Melrose Ave. Pia Wood, associate provost at the Center for International Education, and Alan Rutenberg, director of proposal development for the UT Office of Research, will lead the meeting.

Key date: Monday, May 24, 2010 at 2:00 pm

RSVP: Bea Misch ([bmisch@utk.edu](mailto:bmisch@utk.edu), 865-974-3177)

### Faculty should inform undergrads about CUR registry

UT faculty should inform undergraduates involved in research that the Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR) hosts the Registry of Undergraduate Researchers, a service designed to connect undergraduates who desire to pursue an advanced degree with graduate schools seeking students well-qualified in research. The registry is open to students and graduate schools in the fields of anthropology/archaeology, arts/humanities, biology/biochemistry/chemistry, economics, engineering, geosciences, health professions, mathematics/computer science, physics/astronomy, political science, psychology, and sociology.

Membership in CUR is available to all UTK faculty, staff, and students through the university's enhanced membership. There is no cost to students who enter information in the Registry of Undergraduate Researchers.

Details: <http://www.cur.org/ugreg/>

### Inventory of lasers in progress

The Office of Research Radiation Safety Department is conducting an inventory of all hazardous lasers that are in possession of UT Knoxville.

The Radiation Safety Department is seeking information on all Class 3b, Class 4, and unclassified lasers. Information sought includes class of laser, type of laser, output energy, location, principal investigator, and department. The inventory will require departments to inspect their laser equipment to ensure it carries appropriate warning and classification labels. Newer lasers should bear labels with appropriate information, but older equipment and custom-built laser devices may not have warning and classification labels.

The inventory is required for compliance with UT system policy SA0500. It does not include commercially manufactured lasers used in laser printers and pointers.

Key date: Completion by June 15, 2010

Contact: Christopher Millsaps ([cmillsa1@utk.edu](mailto:cmillsa1@utk.edu), 865-974-5580), director and radiation safety officer

### 12-step program for research proposal writers

Longtime National Science Foundation program director George A. Hazelrigg has distilled his experiences as proposal administrator and reviewer into 12 steps that he says will dramatically increase the likelihood of preparing a winning proposal. In brief they are:

1. Know yourself.
2. Know the program from which you seek support.
3. Read the program announcement.
4. Formulate an appropriate research objective.
5. Develop a viable research plan.
6. State your research objective clearly in your proposal.
7. Frame your project around the work of others.
8. Grammar and spelling count.
9. Format and brevity are important.
10. Know the review process.
11. Proofread your proposal before it is sent.
12. Submit your proposal on time.

"I have come to see that often there are real differences between winning proposals and losing proposals," Hazelrigg writes. "The differences are clear. Largely, they are not subjective differences or differences of quality; to a large extent, losing proposals are just plain missing elements that are found in winning proposals."

Hazelrigg expands upon the 12 steps in a direct and entertaining way in an essay that is available at <http://www.cvc.sunysb.edu/300/lectures/proposal.pdf>

Biography: [http://www.nsf.gov/staff/staff\\_bio.jsp?lan=ghazelri&org=NSF](http://www.nsf.gov/staff/staff_bio.jsp?lan=ghazelri&org=NSF)



## Women and Minorities in STEM Fields (WAMS)

The United States Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture is seeking proposals in support of research and extension projects that have robust collaborations to increase the participation of women and underrepresented minorities from rural areas in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics for the purposes of

- promoting a safe, sufficient, and nutritious food supply
- advancing sustainable agricultural policies that foster economic viability for small and mid-sized farms and rural businesses, protect natural resources, and promote value-added agriculture
- building national leadership in climate change mitigation and adaptation
- building a modern workplace and workforce
- supporting 21st-century rural communities

Eligible institutions include not only state agricultural experiment stations but also colleges and universities, university research foundations, national laboratories, and similar institutions.

**Key date:** June 7, 2010, submission of proposal

**Details:** <http://www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/rfas/wams.html>

## Department of State American Youth Leadership Program

The Office of Citizen Exchanges, Youth Programs Division, of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs announces an open competition for the American Youth Leadership Program. Public and private nonprofit organizations may submit proposals to implement a short-term exchange program for American high school students and educators that will enable the participants to gain firsthand knowledge of foreign cultures and to collaborate on solving global issues. Applicant organizations will recruit and select youth and adult participants from the United States and provide them with a three- to four-week exchange program abroad focused on dialogue and debate, leadership development, and community service. Upon returning home, the students will apply what they have learned to serve their schools and communities.

The FY 2010 American Youth Leadership Program will focus on specific countries according to these guidelines:

### Single-Country Projects

Bahrain, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Japan, Kenya, Mongolia, Namibia, Norway

### Multi-Country Projects

Bulgaria and Romania, Costa Rica and Panama, Fiji and Samoa (including Tonga is optional), Kazakhstan and Tajikistan.

**LIMITED SUBMISSION:** The University of Tennessee can submit only one proposal under this solicitation. Contact [reporter@utk.edu](mailto:reporter@utk.edu) with a notification of interest.

**Key date:** May 28, 2010

**Details:** <http://exchanges.state.gov/media/pdfs/rfgps/rfgp052810.pdf>

## Department of State Community Solutions Program

The U.S. Department of State's Community Solutions Program serves as a mechanism to support and encourage initiatives organized by young civic and community leaders, ages 25 to 38, currently working to address the economic, environmental, political, and social challenges confronting their respective local communities. Through professional fellowships with a specific leadership component, Community Solutions will provide opportunities for eligible individuals to more effectively address issues of concern in their own towns, cities and regions.

The Community Solutions Program seeks to

- facilitate and strengthen the participants' ability to address complex local economic, environmental, political, and social challenges through a United States-based fellowship
- provide concrete tools for enhanced community leadership and engagement and expand opportunities for public discourse, collaboration, effective communication, and project implementation
- cultivate professional ties with United States citizens and American economic, environmental, political, and social institutions through collaborative and follow-on projects
- create a global network of diverse, multidisciplinary professionals and civic leaders committed to problem-solving and community engagement
- expand and strengthen the relationship between the people of the United States and other countries to work in partnership to identify solutions to common issues facing their local communities and the larger global community

**LIMITED SUBMISSION:** The University of Tennessee can submit only one proposal under this solicitation. Contact [reporter@utk.edu](mailto:reporter@utk.edu) with a notification of interest.

**Key date:** June 3, 2010

**Details:** [http://exchanges.state.gov/media/pdfs/rfgps/community\\_solutions\\_rfgp\\_04-09-10.pdf](http://exchanges.state.gov/media/pdfs/rfgps/community_solutions_rfgp_04-09-10.pdf)

## Collegiate Inventors Competition

The Collegiate Inventors Competition recognizes and rewards innovations, discoveries, and research by college and university students and their faculty advisors. The competition, sponsored by the Abbott Fund and the United States Patent and Trademark Office, encourages students who actively pursue invention. Entrants frequently come from science, engineering, mathematics, and technology studies but creative invention can emerge from any course of study. The competition also recognizes the working relationship between a student and his or her advisor. The program was introduced in May, 1990 and is operated by Invent Now. Prizes range from \$5,000 to \$15,000 in the graduate division and \$2,500 to \$10,000 in the undergraduate division.

The application consists of general student information, an essay including a brief description or abstract of the invention, information on the faculty advisor, a letter of recommendation from the faculty advisor, a literature/patent search and summary, and any relevant supporting or supplemental materials.

**Key date:** June 25, 2010, hard-copy entry must be shipped to Invent Now

**Details:** <http://www.invent.org/collegiate/>

**NOTE:** There are entry restrictions based on the degree to which an invention has been publicized. Faculty should consult the UT Research Foundation's Joy Fisher ([jafishe26@tennessee.edu](mailto:jafishe26@tennessee.edu)) for disclosure issues.

## Protecting the Natural Environment Grants

The Merck Family Fund seeks proposals for protecting vital ecosystems in the eastern United States and supporting a shift toward environmentally sustainable economic systems, incentives, and behaviors. Ecosystem grants are limited to the southern Appalachian spruce-fir and hardwood forests of Tennessee, North Carolina, Kentucky, South Carolina, Georgia, and Virginia; the northern forests of Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine; and the southeastern coastal forests and wetlands of South Carolina. The foundation seeks proposals that promote sustainable practice as it relates to buildings and design, and the production and use of paper; create policies at the state and federal level that promote green tax programs and challenge taxpayer subsidies that harm the environment; and encourage the acceptance and use of corporate extended producer responsibility.

**NOTE:** Proposals must be preceded by a two-page letter of inquiry describing project details. Full proposals are by invitation only.

**Key date:** Letters of inquiry are accepted at any time

**Details:** <http://www.merckff.org/grantguidelines.html>

## William T. Grant Scholars

The William T. Grant Scholars Program supports promising early-career researchers from diverse disciplines who have demonstrated success in conducting high-quality research and are seeking to develop and broaden their expertise. Candidates are nominated by a supporting institution and must submit a five-year research plan that demonstrates creativity, intellectual rigor, and a commitment to continued professional development. Proposals must address issues relevant to theory, policy, or practices affecting the setting of youth between 8 and 25 years old in the United States, or a vulnerable subpopulation of those youth. Disciplines include adolescent psychology, adolescent health, child welfare, child psychiatry, child or maternal health, youth development or leadership, adolescent sexual behavior, child development, etc. Support is \$350,000 over five years.

**LIMITED SUBMISSION:** Only one applicant may be nominated by a major division of the university (college, etc.). Notification of interest should be submitted to [limitsub@utk.edu](mailto:limitsub@utk.edu) and [reporter@utk.edu](mailto:reporter@utk.edu).

**Key date:** July 7, 2010, submission of application

**Details:** [http://www.wtgrantfoundation.org/funding\\_opportunities/fellowships/william\\_t\\_grant\\_scholars/william\\_t\\_grant\\_scholars](http://www.wtgrantfoundation.org/funding_opportunities/fellowships/william_t_grant_scholars/william_t_grant_scholars)