



University of Tennessee, Knoxville
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News and Opportunities

Office of Research & Engagement

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University of Tennessee Office of Research

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Posters at the Capitol



Six UT undergraduates traveled to Nashville on Feb. 8, where they presented their research projects in the annual Posters at the Capitol event. In addition to a briefing session in the Legislative Plaza and lunch in the Capitol, each student had the opportunity to meet individually with his or her state representative and state senator to share the passion for research. From left to right, the participants were Associate Vice Chancellor Greg Reed, Melissa Bigler, Administrative Coordinator Jane Taylor, Jeremy Brooksbank, Madelyn Crawford, Luke Waring, Sarah Russell, and Megan Johnstone.

Convenient interface lets faculty find undergrad researchers

The UT Knoxville undergraduate research website has recently been modified with a simplified tool that will help faculty recruit undergraduate researchers. Faculty members can send their opportunity to Sharon Pound (spound@utk.edu, 974-1475), who will post the research experience within 24 hours on the Office of Research website and direct attention to it via Facebook posts.

Pertinent information to post includes project title, faculty mentor name and email, deadline for application, brief description of responsibilities, semester, compensation (pay, course credit), and web link. Faculty members can begin using this tool immediately.

Details: <http://research.utk.edu/undergrad/search/>

Gates Foundation seeks way to assess immunity in children

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation is now accepting letters of inquiry for the development of an easy-to-use tool that rapidly assesses the immune status of children against select vaccine-preventable diseases. Inquiries should focus on prototype development and detail plans for future commercialization possibilities. Applicants can be at any experience level, in any discipline, and from any organization, including colleges and universities, government laboratories, research institutions, nonprofit organizations and for-profit companies.

Key date: March 27, 2012, at 10 a.m. (Pacific Time) submission of letter of inquiry

Details: www.gatesfoundation.org/vaccines/Pages/rfp-immunity-assessment-tool.aspx

Another Research Week Event

School of Music Celebration of Excellence Competition
March 16, 2012, 4 p.m.
James R. Cox Auditorium

The competition is open to all undergraduate music majors. Winners will be recognized at the awards ceremony for the UT Exhibition of Undergraduate Research and Creative Achievement on March 29 at 6 p.m.

February issue of funding newsletter is available

The February 2012 issue of Research Development & Grant-Writing Newsletter (Vol. 2, No. 6) is available on the Office of Research website, showcasing the following features and columns:

- ❖ Writing a Compelling Project Narrative
- ❖ Writing the DOE HUB for Energy Storage
- ❖ Observations for Researchers New to NSF
- ❖ Starter Templates to Guide Multiple Authors
- ❖ NSF Notes in Brief
- ❖ A Quick Primer for Researchers New to NIH
- ❖ Funding for Grad Students and Postdocs
- ❖ Research Grant Writing Web Resources
- ❖ Educational Grant Writing Web Resources
- ❖ Agency Research News
- ❖ Agency Reports, Workshops & Roadmaps
- ❖ New Funding Opportunities
- ❖ About Academic Research Funding Strategies
- ❖ DOE Batteries and Energy Storage Hub
- ❖ NSF Science and Engineering Indicators 2012
- ❖ FY13 Budget Info Posted for DOE, NOAA, NSF

NOTE: The newsletter is proprietary to Academic Research Funding Strategies LLC. The Office of Research subscription requires faculty and staff to use their net ID and login. The login process does not support all browsers.

Details: <http://research.utk.edu/news/rdgw.shtml>

Baker Center asks for proposals on energy, security

The Howard H. Baker Jr. Center for Public Policy is soliciting proposals that focus on energy, environmental, or global security policy, or Baker studies, including governance, leadership, and archival inquiries. Winning proposals are expected to contribute to the academic research agenda of the Baker Center and faculty/academic units across the UT campus.

Strong preference will be given to proposals that include interdisciplinary, interdepartmental, or interinstitutional focuses; support research that can lead to future external funding; produce white papers, academic papers, books, or conference events; engage students at all university levels; focus on issues of national or international significance; and leverage other programmatic or institutional support.

Proposals should include a research synopsis of no more than 10 pages and a budget synopsis of no more than three pages. Funding is expected to be below \$20,000 and must be incurred before September 30, 2012.

Key date: March 15, 2012 – electronic submission of proposal to Matt Murray (mmurray1@utk.edu), Baker Center director.

Details: Matt Murray (mmurray1@utk.edu, 865-974-6084)

Sponsorships available to outreach conference

The Office of Research and UT Knoxville's Academic Outreach and Engagement Council will sponsor attendance of up to three faculty at the 2012 National Outreach Scholarship Conference on September 30-October 3 at the University of Alabama. The sponsorships will cover the costs of conference registration, travel costs, and accommodation costs. NOSC 2012 will explore engaged scholarship and practice that advance the theme "Partner. Inspire. Change." Faculty at all levels are encouraged to submit proposals.

Key date: March 9, 2012, by 5 p.m. – submission of electronic proposal to Elizabeth Burman (eburman@utk.edu), campus coordinator of Outreach and Engagement

Details: <http://research.utk.edu/pd/nosc.shtml>

Abstracts for Mathematical Biology conference sought

The Society for Mathematical Biology is asking for abstracts for oral and poster presentations at its 2012 annual meeting July 25-28 in Knoxville. The theme of the conference is "Mathematics and Biology: Interdisciplinary Connections and Living Systems." The National Institute for Mathematical and Biological Synthesis and the University of Tennessee are hosting the meeting at the Knoxville Convention Center and at the offices of NIMBioS.

Key date: March 30, 2012 – submission of abstract (See http://nimbios.org/SMB2012/abstract_call)

Details: <http://nimbios.org/SMB2012/>



NICHD solicits proposals for academic-community partnership conferences

The Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development is seeking applications to conduct meetings, workshops, and symposia related to health disparities under its program of Academic-Community Partnership Conference Series.

The NICHD seeks to bring together academic institutions and community organizations to find opportunities to address health disparities through the use of community-based participatory research. Objectives include establishing or enhancing academic-community partnerships, identifying community-driven research priorities, and developing long-term collaborative agendas for community-based participatory research. Possible topics include infant mortality, fibroid tumors, obesity, health literacy, pediatric and maternal HIV/AIDS prevention, and violence prevention, among others.

Limited Submission: The University of Tennessee is allowed to submit only one application. Please e-mail limitsub@utk.edu immediately with a statement of interest.

Key dates: April 10, 2012 – submission of application to agency

Details: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-12-102.html>

eRA Commons has changed password procedure

UT faculty who have not already changed their passwords for access to the National Institutes of Health eRA Commons need to know that a new NIH/agency log-in process has been implemented that may result in an inability to log into the eRA Commons portal.

Faculty members who established their eRA Commons account BEFORE October 8, 2011, need to have changed their password by February 22, 2012.

Faculty who opened an eRA account AFTER October 8, 2011, (or who have changed their password since that date) need take no action.

For assistance, contact <http://itservicesdesk.nih.gov/eRA/> or helpdesk@od.nih.gov

Some 300 undergrads to present at EURēCA

Almost 300 undergraduates are expected to present research projects in the Exhibition of Undergraduate Research and Creative Achievement scheduled for March 28-29 in the University Center Ballroom. Some 215 presentations have been registered for the event. EURēCA, in its 16th year, is the capstone event for Research Week at UT, which highlights the involvement of undergraduates in research, scholarly, and creative activities.

Key dates remaining:

Noon, February 24, 2012 – electronic submission of completed abstract form to Jane Taylor (tayloje@utk.edu)

March 16, 2012 – last day posterboards for presentation are available in the Office of Research (Blount Hall, 1534 White Avenue)

March 28, 2012, from noon till 4 p.m. – undergraduates set up presentations. Judging at 5:30 p.m.

March 29, 2012, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. – exhibition open to the public. Awards ceremony at 6 p.m.

NSF releases “Science and Engineering Indicators”

On January 18, the National Science Foundation issued its biennial publication, “Science and Engineering Indicators.” The report reveals that while the United States continues to be the global leader in supporting research and development, it is “only by a slim margin that could soon be overtaken by rapidly increasing Asian investments in knowledge-intensive economies.” Indicators are used to give a “broad base of quantitative information about the state of science, technology and engineering teaching and research in the United States” in order to advise policymakers. The report found that between 2002 and 2012, state financing of the top 101 public research universities decreased by 10 percent, and while funding fluctuated by state and institution, 72 of these top 101 universities experienced an overall reduction in state funding. Additional points of interest in the report include the finding that women earned close to 57 percent of all bachelor’s degrees and half of all science and engineering degrees awarded since the late 1990s. For more information, visit: <http://www.nsf.gov/statistics/seind/>.

Role names in proposals require careful attention

An issue that has been confusing researchers and departmental staff since the introduction of TERA-PAMS is the question of how to classify certain members of the research team on a proposal submission. Some of the classifications are unambiguous (ex: “post-doctoral scholar”) but others are more nuanced. PAMS terminology for “lead principal investigator,” “principal investigator, and “co-investigator” is specific to working inside UT’s PAMS program, but in the body of their proposals faculty should use terminology that is appropriate to the solicitation of the sponsoring agency.

Lead Principal Investigator – a PAMS term for the person who is ultimately responsible for the direction of the project and its technical, regulatory, and financial aspects. (National Science Foundation equivalent = principal investigator, National Institutes of Health equivalent = project director/principal investigator)

Principal Investigator – a PAMS term for a primary contributor to the successful conduct of a research project. (NSF equivalent = co-PI, NIH equivalent = co-PD/PI or co-investigator)

Co-Investigator – PAMS uses this to describe a project member who is essential to the success of a project but not a primary contributor. (NSF equivalent = senior personnel, NIH equivalent = other senior/key personnel)

Contact: 865-974-3466

Science Forum schedule through end of semester

March 2 – “Forensic Anthropology Goes Global: The Identification of Disappeared Persons”

Dawnie Wolfe Steadman, professor of anthropology and director of the Forensic Anthropology Center

March 9 – “Can Mother Nature Take a Punch? – The Gulf Oil Spill”
Terry Hazen, UT/ORNL Governor’s Chair professor of civil and environmental engineering

March 16 – April 6

No meetings

April 13 – “Addressing Challenges in Cyber Security Through Intelligent Computing”

Justin Beaver, Computational Data Analytics Group at Oak Ridge National Laboratory

April 20 – “Concussions in College Sports – Are There Genetic Factors that Influence Risk?”

Tom Terrell, M.D., associate professor of family medicine at the University of Tennessee Graduate School of Medicine

April 27 – “The Discovery of Quanta – The Birth of Modern Physics”

Norman Mannella, assistant professor of physics and astronomy

New NIH center replaces dissolved NCRR

The National Institutes of Health has established a new center designed to reduce or remove time-consuming bottlenecks in that impede the delivery of new drugs, diagnostics, and medical devices to patients. The National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS) replaces the National Center for Research Resources, which was dissolved in December 2011.

NCATS will focus on using science to create powerful new tools and technologies that can be adopted widely by translational researchers in all sectors of health care research and provision. Researchers with NCRR awards can get further information about their projects by contacting ncrrtransition@mail.nih.gov.

Details: <http://ncats.nih.gov/> <http://www.ncrr.nih.gov/>

