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Office of Research & Engagement

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Center for Sport, Peace, and Society approved

A new center has been created at the University of Tennessee to promote social justice and cultural understanding involving the use of sport for personal and community development.

The Center for Sport, Peace, and Society is an endeavor of the Department of Kinesiology, Recreation, and Sport Studies within the College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences. Eighteen faculty members make up the initial group associated with the center. Sarah Hillyer will direct the center and Ashleigh Huffman will be assistant director. Both are clinical assistant professors in the department.

Involvement is expected from other UT departments, including Religious Studies, College Scholars, Sociology, Child and Family Studies, Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communication, Educational Psychology and Counseling.

The center will focus on undergraduate and graduate education, scholarship on the use of sport in community development, and service-learning opportunities.

The Center for Sport, Peace, and Society is the newest of 53 centers, institutes, and bureaus that have won the approval of the UTK Faculty Senate Research Council. The Office of the Chancellor provides direct oversight on the Baker Center for Public Policy and the Bredesen Center for Interdisciplinary Research and Graduate Education. The vice chancellor for research administers the remaining centers and institutes.

Listing: <http://research.utk.edu/centers/>

SPOTLIGHT ON SARIF

The UTK Office of Research administers some \$900,000 to support research and creative activities through its Scholarly Activity and Research Incentive Funds (SARIF). Seven programs are available to faculty and principal investigators whose departments fall under the jurisdiction of the chancellor of UT's Knoxville campus. The programs can provide internal support for costs of scholarship that are often overlooked by external funders.

NEWS & OPPORTUNITIES is focusing on individual SARIF programs in order to make faculty more aware of the internal support that is available to them.

Supplemental Funding for In-Residence Fellowship Awards

The Office of Research provides supplemental funding for UTK tenured and tenure-track faculty members who receive competitive fellowship awards that require residence at an academic research center, library, or university.

This supplemental funding covers housing costs in the city of the residential research institution and limited travel costs to and from Knoxville. The amount of the supplemental award varies according to individual circumstances.

The associate vice chancellor of research will review applications as they are received. Applications must include documentation of the fellowship award, detailed documentation of projected housing and travel costs, and the total amount requested. There is no set limit for this amount. Applications should be submitted electronically to Jane Taylor (tayloje@utk.edu).

Details: <http://research.utk.edu/funding/fellows.shtml>

The Peer Reviewed Cancer Research Program for FY 2012

The previously announced DOD Peer Reviewed Cancer Research Program has been officially posted as a solicitation with descriptions and deadlines.

Details: <http://cdmrp.army.mil/funding/prcrp.shtml>

Pre-Collegiate Scholars featured in poster presentation

On May 2, Students from 13 local high schools participated in the inaugural, countywide poster session of the Pre-Collegiate Research Scholars Program, a program jointly administered by the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, and Knox County Schools.

Student presenters were joined by their UT and high school mentors. A poster session was held in the City-County Building in conjunction with a Knox County School Board meeting.

Shown here are Knox County Schools Superintendent Jim McIntyre and Adam Thomas, a senior at Austin-East High School.

Adam worked with civil engineering professor Lee Han and Austin-East teacher Paige Jones.



More Opportunities from the Defense Appropriations Act

The FY 2012 Defense Appropriations Act provides funding for a number of programs doing research on health-related problems. The U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command administers the research programs through the Office of Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs. Programs with pending deadlines are listed below.

Pre-announcements

The Army MRM Command issues advanced notice of pending announcements so that researchers can make plans and marshal resources. Pre-applications (letter of intent) may be required.

The Peer Reviewed Orthopaedic Research Program seeks innovative, high-impact, clinically relevant research to advance optimal treatment and rehabilitation of musculoskeletal injuries sustained during combat-related activities. Focus areas include

- ❖ Improvement of moisture management and residual limb skin care at the prosthetic socket interface
- ❖ Improvement of the rate of nerve regeneration
- ❖ Strategies to inhibit neuromas
- ❖ Treatment of segmental bone injury in weight-bearing locations (development of novel bone void filler products is not of interest)
- ❖ Comparative effectiveness of local strategies to minimize surgical site infection
- ❖ Treatment and management of heterotopic ossification (new animal models not of interest)
- ❖ Mitigation of the negative effects of immobility (excluding spinal cord injury)
- ❖ Short- and long-term outcomes of limb salvage populations
- ❖ Prevention or treatment of post-traumatic joint stiffness in ankle, knee, and/or elbow.

Types of award to be announced:

Clinical trial award, in which trials with a significant impact on military combat-related injuries are implemented rapidly.

Translational Research Partnership, in which independent investigators at all academic levels may work as clinical and laboratory research partners to accelerate promising research into clinical applications.

Nested career development option, in which additional funds may be requested to support mentored career development of an active-duty military researcher/scientist/physician at an early career stage with these projects.

Key date: Mid-May 2012 announcement in Grants.gov

Details: <http://cdmrp.army.mil/>

Spinal Cord Injury Research Program seeks to advance the treatment of spinal cord injury and its consequences, using the following types of awards:

Clinical Trial, which is open to independent investigators at all academic levels.

Investigator-Initiated Research, in which investigators at all academic levels pursue research that will make an original, important contribution in research or patient care.

Translational Research, in which investigators at all academic levels pursue studies accelerating the movement of promising research into clinical applications.

Key date: Late May/early June 2012 announcement in Grants.gov

Details: <http://cdmrp.army.mil/>



Gates Foundation seeks to reinvent the toilet

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has announced Round 2 of its effort to reinvent the toilet as a stand-alone, self-contained, eminently practical sanitation modules without incoming or outgoing piping or electric or gas utility services. The aim of the challenge is to reduce the burden of excreta-related diseases on poor populations worldwide.

The challenge is accepting letters of inquiry from persons at any experience level, discipline or type of organization.

The foundation expects proposals will take chemical and/or mechanical engineering approaches to the challenge

Key date: May 10, 2012 at 10 a.m. Pacific Standard Time – submission of online letter of inquiry.

Details: <http://www.gatesfoundation.org/watersanitationhygiene/Pages/rfloi-reinvent-the-toilet-challenge.aspx>

Nominations sought for vaccine innovation award

The Gates Foundation is accepting nominations for the 2012 Gates Vaccine Innovation Award. The award recognizes individuals or groups who have achieved significant improvements in the prevention, control, or elimination of vaccine-preventable diseases through immunization.

Individuals who work on vaccine delivery from any discipline or any type of institution can be nominated.

Key date: August 31, 2012 – online nomination.

Details: <http://www.gatesfoundation.org/vaccines/Pages/vaccine-innovation-award.aspx>

UT Emergency Management rolls out new plans

The Office of Emergency Management is recruiting faculty and staff volunteers who are willing to be trained as emergency preparedness coordinators for colleges and departments.

The office is installing posters across the campus to identify shelters, evacuation assembly points, and information about building specific emergency preparedness coordinators. The office web site (safety.utk.edu) has been redesigned to emphasize procedures to take during a campus emergency, from fires and severe weather to pandemics and an active shooter.

The Office of Information Technology is installing emergency power-failure phones in selected common areas that will receive emergency messages when the UT Alert system is activated.

Details: <http://safety.utk.edu/>

Contact: Brian Gard (bgard1@utk.edu, 865-974-3061), director of emergency management

Undergraduate Projects Featured Online

Five undergraduates and their research projects have been added to the undergraduate research website (<http://research.utk.edu/undergrad/highlights/features.shtml>). These include Ray Henson, Michael Stanford, Alicia Purcell, Aaron Mauner and John Greer. "Our goal is to showcase these students and their works, while helping other undergraduates realize the diverse opportunities that exist in scholarship at UTK," says Greg Reed, associate vice chancellor of research. For the past two semesters, the Office of Research has worked with practicum students from the College of Communication and Information to capture these stories.

Easy Opps Tool Available to Faculty

For faculty who are searching for undergraduates researchers in the fall semester, an easy tool has been developed by the Office of Research. Faculty members can simply send information to Sharon Pound in the Office of Research (spound@utk.edu), who will post the opportunity to the undergraduate research website and Facebook page. Pertinent information includes:

- ❖ Project title
- ❖ Faculty mentor name
- ❖ Faculty mentor email address
- ❖ Deadline for application
- ❖ Brief description of responsibilities
- ❖ Semester(s)
- ❖ Compensation (pay, course credit)
- ❖ Web link

New TERA-PAMS budget page implemented

A new, easy-to-navigate budget page has been implemented for the TERA-PAMS proposal-tracking system used by the UT Office of Research. A user's guide for the new page is available through the Sponsored Programs unit at 974-3466.

Faculty Highlighted on Undergraduate Research Website

Faculty members Elizabeth Fozo, Rosalind Hackett, Marilyn Kallett, Bob Muenchen and Tricia Stuth have joined 15 other faculty who have shared their own undergraduate research experiences on the UTK undergraduate research website (<http://research.utk.edu/undergrad/highlights/exp.shtml>). In addition to explaining the work they did, these faculty offer sound advice for students who want to pursue similar experiences. Many of these faculty have also shared photos of themselves during their college days, which has made these pages some of the most popular on the undergraduate research website.

Additional faculty members are encouraged to contact Sharon Pound at spound@utk.edu to share their own stories about undergraduate research.

Sevier County, UT start cooperative program

Sevier County High School and the University of Tennessee are launching a partnership that will encourage a co-mentoring program similar to the Pre-Collegiate Research Scholars Program currently in place with Knox County Schools.

Three Sevier teachers will work with three of their top students in cooperation with Qiang He, Veerle Keppens, and Ferdous Zannatul from the College of Engineering.

The students have named the program YES – Young Exceptional Sevierians – and hope to see students from other Sevier high schools included.

ARRA had almost \$20 billion impact on federal R&D

The federal stimulus act – the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 – increased federal spending on research-and-development and R&D facilities and equipment by \$10.1 billion in FY2009 and an estimated \$9.1 billion in FY 2010, according to a report by the National Science Foundation. FY09 ARRA funding amounted to 7.4% of \$137 billion obligated by federal agencies. The percentage in FY10 was estimated at 6.5%. **Details:** <http://www.nsf.gov/statistics/infbrief/nsf12314/>

Opportunity links U.S., Israeli, Palestinian scientists

The United States-Israel Binational Science Foundation is seeking proposals from U.S. and Israeli co-principle investigators to conduct a workshop that will bring together Israeli, American, and Palestinian scientists in order to facilitate the development of partnership research projects.

The workshops can focus on environment, ecology, water alternative sustainable energy, or genetic or infectious diseases. The proposed workshops must exhibit the likelihood of generating future joint research proposals and publications.

Key date: September 6, 2012 at 10 a.m. EST online submission

Details: <http://www.bsf.org.il/data/FormsToDownload/BSF-Workshops-call.pdf?PageId=241&innerTextID=241>

