

Limited ORAU travel grants available to UT faculty

Oak Ridge Associated Universities offers support for faculty travel in situations where the travel advances certain goals of the association.

Up to \$800 can be requested to facilitate travel by a faculty member from an ORAU sponsoring or associate institution or branch campus to collaborate with researchers at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, the Y-12 weapons facility, ORAU laboratories or work sites, or another ORAU institution.

Criteria for selection will include (a) the potential engagement of others, especially students, (b) the probability of establishing a long-term collaboration, (c) the establishment of a new collaboration between partners who do not have strong current ties, (d) well-defined outcomes, such as a proposal, a white paper, or a publication.

The grants may be used to cover transportation or accommodation expenses but not food or other travel-related costs. Up to \$800 can be requested. The award must be secured before the travel takes place. A one-page summary of the outcomes of the trip must be submitted within 30 days of completion of the travel.

ORAU funding is competitive and on a first-come, first-served basis.

Limited submission: The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, can submit no more than two applications for this travel support in FY 2011. Criteria for internal submissions will be established by the UT Office of Research.

Key date: As a need arises

Details: Greg Reed (gdreed@utk.edu)

Gold newsletter on hiatus for data base adjustments

Awards & Recognition, the biweekly sister publication to this newsletter, is on a temporary hiatus while the award-reporting functions of the new Tennessee Electronic Research Administration data base are fine-tuned. The Office of Research will resume publishing it in early 2011, when TERA reports are fully operational.

In the meantime, please continue to forward notable faculty recognition to Bill Dockery (dockeryb@utk.edu, 974-2187).

Rutenberg to coordinate 'Scholar of the Week'

With the retirement of Dennis McCarthy, the "Quest Scholar of the Week" feature will be coordinated by Alan Rutenberg, the proposal development director for the Office of Research.

The Scholar of the Week highlights the work of a faculty member at UT Knoxville who is doing outstanding work, as evidenced by a significant publication, presentation, gallery show, research development, award, or other notable accomplishment.

A different scholar is recognized each week. Recipients of the recognition can be nominated by anyone at UT. Nominations should be tied to a recently announced accomplishment and should include the faculty member's name, title, organization, recent citations, and a short statement about the significance of the work.

Contact: Alan Rutenberg (arutenberg@utk.edu)

Details: <http://quest.utk.edu/scholar-of-the-week/>

U.S. House of Representatives declares April 11-15 'Undergraduate Research Week'

On November 16, the House passed H.Res. 1654 declaring the second week in April 2011 "Undergraduate Research Week." Washington Partners and CUR extensively supported the efforts of Congressman Rush Holt (D-NJ) to introduce the measure, which was brought to the House floor and agreed to unanimously by a voice vote. This designated week in April 2011 will coincide with CUR's annual Capitol Hill event, Posters on the Hill. Its passage came in the nick of time given that the soon-to-be Republican Majority recently announced that in the 112th Congress the designation of days or weeks in honor or memoriam of particular issues or people will no longer be considered on the House Floor.

Summer Graduate Research Assistantships

The UT Office of Research is soliciting applications for graduate research assistantships for summer 2011. Faculty members must apply on behalf of a named graduate student, but the application must detail how the proposed research project will advance the faculty member's research agenda. The assistantships will provide a stipend of \$3,600 for May, June, and July.

Departments (or equivalent organizational units) can submit one application for each 20 full-time faculty members (or fraction thereof). Individual faculty can apply for only one GRA.

A subcommittee of the Research Council will review the proposals and make the awards.

Key date: February 18, 2011, at noon – electronic application submitted to Jane Taylor (tayloje@utk.edu)

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

REMINDER: Deadline for Chancellor's Awards nominations

January 28, 2011 at 12:00 noon – All materials for nominating faculty for the Chancellor's Awards in Professional Promise and the Chancellor's Awards in Research and Creative Achievement must be delivered to Jane Taylor (tayloje@utk.edu, 974-0437).

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

REMINDER: Deadline for EURēCA applications

February 11, 2011 – Signed application forms for student entries into the Undergraduate Exhibition of Research and Creative Activity must be delivered to Jane Taylor (tayloje@utk.edu, 974-0437) at the UT Office of Research, Blount Hall, 1534 White Avenue.

Grant-writing workshop schedule announced

The UT Office of Research has posted the schedule for proposal-writing workshops in spring semester 2011 on the research web site.

Nine courses, taught by Robert Porter, director of research development for the office, will be offered in a number of sessions between January and March. The courses are:

- ❖ Writing Successful Grants, I
- ❖ Writing Successful Grants, II (Grants I is prerequisite)
- ❖ Finding Funding
- ❖ Finding Funding with Online Databases
- ❖ Building the NSF Grant Proposal
- ❖ Building the NIH Grant Proposal
- ❖ Career Development Grants for Pre- and Postdocs
- ❖ Strategies for Success in Sponsored Research
- ❖ NSF CAREER and BRIGE Awards

Course details: <http://research.utk.edu/training/cal-gw.shtml>

Registration: http://research.utk.edu/training/reg_form.shtml

Guidelines for FY12 ORU budgeting posted

The Office of Research has released a set of guidelines to help faculty prepare applications requesting support as a UT Organized Research Unit.

The Fiscal Year 2012 competitive budget development process is under way for both currently supported and newly proposed ORUs in order to help ORUs pursue external funding and eventual self-sufficiency.

Key dates: February 7, 2011, close of business – brief written progress reviews from existing ORUs or proposals from newly proposed ORUs due in to the UT Office of Research. March 7-8, 2011 – invited presentations by selected existing and newly proposed ORUs at public hearings.

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

Guidelines: <http://research.utk.edu/orus/guidelines.shtml>

Workshop for 1st-time ORU applicants

Faculty who plan to apply to make a first-time application for funding as a UT Organized Research Unit are invited to attend a workshop on ORU guidelines and best practices.

The workshop is scheduled for Monday, January 10, 2011, from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. in 113 Blount Hall.

Enrollment is limited to 20 faculty who have not previously made an ORU proposal.

Registration: <http://research.utk.edu/orus/>

Contact: ortraining@utk.edu

Recent research disclosures and inventions

The UT Research Foundation has recorded the following intellectual property disclosures and inventions in fall 2010.

September

Disclosures

Qizin Zhong (UT Institute of Agriculture), Method to synthesize nano-tubes for further fabrication of novel materials

C. Neal Stewart, Muthukumar Balasubramaniam, and Blake Joyce (UTIA), A novel method of producing stably transgenic ferns and a novel enabling fern promoter

Xiaopeng Zhao (UT Knoxville), Data reconstruction/prediction based on verage feedback iteration

October

Disclosures

William Hofmeister (UT Space Institute), Wide field of view, multispec-tral scene generation

Patent

Fathy, Yang (UT Knoxville), Substrate integrated waveguide antenna array

November

Disclosure

M. Berry, T. Do (UT Knoxville), New software module for computing external singular triplets of large, sparse matrices

Patent

Birdwell, Wang, Stansberry. Pendleton (UT Knoxville), Method of organizing and presenting data in a table

Opportunities

CUR offers support for undergrad travel, summer research

The Council on Undergraduate Research makes available limited funds for undergraduates traveling to present research results or to conduct research in certain disciplines.

The Biology Division of CUR offers travel grants of up to \$250 each for undergraduate students presenting original research results at regional or national, discipline-specific meetings in Fiscal Year 2010-2011. Award recipi-ents must acknowledge CUR support in their presentation and evaluate their meeting experience.

Key date: February 15, 2011, by 5 p.m. EST – Abstracts submitted by e-mail or fax for meetings between March and June 2011.

Details: <http://www.cur.org/biostudenttravel.html>

The **Social Science Division of CUR** offers travel grants of up to \$200 for undergraduate students presenting the results of research at regional or national, discipline-specific meetings during FY 2001-2011. Requires institutional match.

Key date: First-come, first-served after November 1, 2010, for winter and spring meetings

Details: <http://www.cur.org/socscistudenttravel.html>

The **Psychology Division** in cooperation with Psi Chi International Hon-ors Society in Psychology is offering two summer research grants that will provide opportunities for Psi Chi student members to conduct with faculty who belong to CUR. Two \$5,000 grants will be awarded annually, with \$3,500 for the student applicant and \$1,500 for the faculty mentor.

Key date: March 1, 2011 at midnight – electronic submission of application

Details: <http://www.psichi.org/pdf/curggrant.pdf>

Volkswagen Distinguished Scholars Program

Graduate and undergraduate students from the University of Tennes-see, Knoxville, are eligible to apply for a new research internship at Oak Ridge National Laboratory sponsored by Volkswagen Group of America and administered by Oak Ridge Associated Universities.

The Volkswagen Distinguished Scholars Program, now in its second year, will offer students the opportunity to participate in a 10-week internship at ORNL on research projects of interest to the auto manufacturer.

Applicants must:

- ❖ be a junior or senior, or a graduate student who has not yet completed course work
- ❖ be a U.S. citizen
- ❖ hold a grade-point average of 3.5 or better
- ❖ be in a degree field of interest to VW, specifically science, technology, engineering, or math
- ❖ have an interest in the automotive industry.

Research projects for VW interns may involve low-cost carbon fiber; battery storage; biofuels, engines, and emissions; intelligent transportation systems; or sustainable manufacturing.

Key date: February 12, 2011, submission of application

Details: <http://www.orau.org/volkswagen/>

Center for International Education revises H-1B Procedure

The Center for International Education is implementing a recent small change in the procedure for initiating an H-1B petition for an international employee of UT. For any H-1B petition filed with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security after December 22, the university must certify that UT has “reviewed the Export Administration Regulations (EAR) and the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR)” and that we have deter-mined whether an export license is required for the H-1B employee to be employed in the position described in the petition.

A new form is being created, as well as a new step in the H-1B request process. In addition to submitting application packages to the Center for International Education and to the Human Resources office, an Export Con-trol Form must now be completed and sent to the appropriate UT Export Control Office, along with a photocopy of the H-1B Request form. The uni-versity’s export control officer will then review the appropriate regulations, sign the Export Control Form, and send it to the Center for International Education (with a copy to the hiring department) .

Until the H-1B instructions and form are posted online, departments needing an H-1B petition should contact Wendy Syer (syer@utk.edu, 974-3177) for assistance.

NSF issues revised submission guide for Grants.gov

A new, revised version of the National Science Foundation Grants.gov Application Guide will go into effect on January 18, 2011, for all proposals submitted on or after that date.

Significant changes include

- ❖ ways of entering cost-sharing on the proposal cover sheet
- ❖ a clarification of NSF’s longstanding data policy requiring a data management plan or justification for the lack thereof
- ❖ modifications in permissible methods for submitting revised budgets
- ❖ clarification of various warning-message language and mentoring-plan documentation.

Key date: January 18, 2011

Details: http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/policydocs/grantsgovguide0111.pdf?WT.mc_id=USNSF_179

Contact: David Smelser (dsmelser@utk.edu)

UT Libraries’ Trace will house NSF data plans

New National Science Foundation guidelines require that projects the agency funds have a data management plan that includes permanent stor-age and accessibility provisions. UT Libraries has created an archival process for NSF data management plans in Trace (Tennessee Research and Creative Exchange), the campus archive and digital showcase. Starting in January 2011, UT Knoxville proposal developers can upload data management plans to Trace using the following process:

1. Access <http://trace.tennessee.edu>.
2. Select “Submit Items to Trace” from left navigation column.
3. Under “Data,” select “NSF Data Management Plans.”
4. Read the instructions and the submission agreement, and check the box at the bottom of the screen.
5. Complete the metadata template and upload the two-page plan.
6. See more information in the “About Trace” section of the navigation bar.