

Research boot-campers visit funding agencies in D.C.



Micheline van Riemsdijk (F), geography (front); Meghan Conley (G), sociology (next left)

First row, from left: Graciela Cabana (F), anthropology; Jennifer Scroggins (G), sociology; Allison Whitesell (G), psychology; Paula Fite (F), psychology; Kathleen Morrison (G), psychology; Kristen Holbrook (G), biochemistry, cellular & molecular biology

Second row, from left: Yulong Xing (F), mathematics; Ben Feldmeyer (F), sociology; Jaewook Joo (F), physics & astronomy; Jamie Rathert (G), psychology; Margaret Riggs (G), psychology; Rose Goodchild (F), biochemistry, cellular & molecular biology

Top row, from left: Matthew Bailey (G), physics & astronomy; Zachary Taylor (G), geography; Matthew Cooper (F), psychology; Frankie Pack (G), anthropology; Robert Porter, UT Office of Research

Harriet Bowden (F), Spanish, and Charlie Senn, project administrator for the Office of Research proposal development unit, also attended.

Some 20 junior faculty and graduate students from the College of Arts & Sciences traveled to Washington in early June for a "Day in D.C." as part of the Office of Research Summer Grant-Writing Institute.

Robert Porter, director of research development for the office, escorted the group on a trip that included a morning workshop on "Interacting with Federal Funding Agencies" and presentations by program officers at the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, and the Department of Defense. The UT researchers had individual meetings

with program officers from NSF and NIH in the afternoon.

The boot-camp experience has already included eight half-day workshops in Knoxville and will culminate when the participants submit a completed draft proposal for critique and review by the office's proposal development team and senior faculty mentors. Final proposals will be submitted to funding agencies in fall and early spring terms.

Attending the "Day in D.C." overnight field trip as part of the Summer Grant-Writing Institute were 20 faculty (F) and graduate students (G).

Grantseeker's Tool Kit provides help with proposals

The UT Office of Research has developed a collection of online resources we are calling the Grantseeker's Tool Kit.

The list, compiled by Director of Research Development Bob Porter (reporter@utk.edu), includes links to general guides for proposal writing, checklists, and guidelines specific from federal funding agencies, and writing tips and techniques to improve proposal documents and improve chances for success. The tool kit also contains a generous selection of links to sample proposals that present examples of documents prepared for a variety of federal funding agencies. Access to some items may require logging in with a UT NetID and password. Internet Explorer users must precede their NetID with UTK\

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

Quest faculty recognition is approaching two-year mark

In September, the Quest Scholar of the Week recognition will start its third year as a way of recognizing outstanding faculty accomplishments. The recognition can be for publication of a book or an important article in a prestigious journal, a conference presentation, a show in an art gallery, a research breakthrough, an award, an appointment in recognition for a body of work, or anything else that qualifies as significant research, scholarship, or creative activity. Scholar of the Week designation depends on faculty members, administrators, and staff to identify accomplishments and pass the word along to the Office of Research.

To nominate a faculty member, send a short description of the honor to Dennis McCarthy (dmmccart@utk.edu) with a copy to Craig Cook (ccook10@utk.edu). Include the scholar's title and organization, a photo or a link to a photo, and a sentence or two about why the person is a worthy nominee. Descriptions should be in simple, nontechnical language. Examples or a statement about the work's significance may be useful, as well as any pertinent citations or web links.

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Office of Research begins move to all-electronic proposal process

The Sponsored Programs unit of the Office of Research will begin phasing in a new online proposal-building program for originating and tracking research proposals and awards with the start of Fiscal Year 2011 on July 1, 2010.

TERA (Tennessee Electronic Research Administration) will allow UT faculty, staff, and administrators to create, electronically route, and process research proposals and track the resulting awards electronically. TERA will replace Coeus, which was put into use in 2001.

Selected departments and colleges have been part of the pilot program to transition from Coeus to TERA. Beginning July 2010, the office will begin transitioning departments and colleges to use the new system to process and electronically route proposals for signatures. A TERA phase in schedule is being prepared and will be shared soon. The goal is to have all proposal and award activities moved to TERA by the end of calendar year 2010.

The first module — PAMS, or the Proposal and Awards Management System — will allow all proposal preparation and approval to be done online. The proposal routing form known as the "yellow sheet" will be replaced with an electronic version, and all proposal documents will be uploaded into PAMS.

Modules to be brought online later will allow management of compliance documents and processes, training, and other activities related to the Office of Research.

Training in TERA use will be available as needed to department staff and faculty.

Details: <https://tera.usg.utk.edu>

Global Wi-Fi network access available through UT

UT Knoxville has become the first university in the United States to join Eduroam, a global Wi-Fi roaming network designed to allow educators to connect to the Internet without going through the academic institutions they are visiting.

More than 2,000 universities worldwide have Eduroam-enabled networks.

Faculty who plan to travel to Europe or Canada should bring any Wi-Fi devices they intend to take with them to the UT campus and link to the Eduroam wireless network.

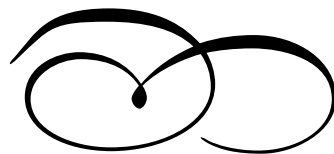
Eduroam will also allow UT Knoxville to host visitors from other universities that participate in the network.

Signup details: <http://oit.utk.edu/helpdesk/kb/entry/1595/>

Assistance: 865-974-9900

Information: <http://www.eduroamus.org>





CUR seeks highlights of undergrad research

The Council on Undergraduate Research is seeking submissions for its "Undergraduate Research Highlights" section in the fall 2010 issue of the CUR Quarterly. Submissions should be brief descriptions of printed articles published in research or scholarly publications since January 2010 and having one or more undergraduate coauthors. Highlights should be formatted according to the CUR website and sent electronically.

CUR Quarterly editor Kelly McConnaughay (kdm@bradley.edu) can answer specific questions about the highlights.

Details: http://cur.networkats.com/members_online/submissions/substart.asp?action=welcome&cid=70

... and also on undergrad research with at-risk students

Faculty who have used research involvement in working with at-risk undergraduates are invited to submit articles on their work.

Key date: July 15, 2010, two-paragraph (maximum) description of proposed paper to Kelly McConnaughay (kdm@bradley.edu).

Online measure of individual research prominence now available

Access to a new online program that identifies established and emerging areas of research prominence is now available to UT Knoxville faculty, administrators, and staff who support academics.

SciVal Spotlight, developed by Elsevier, analyzes some 16,000 scholarly publications and identifies emerging research topics and the faculty that are making significant scholarly contributions to the topics.

SciVal Spotlight identifies distinctive competencies -- topic areas in which a university's faculty lead the world -- and emerging competencies -- topic areas in which faculty are identified as among the world's leading authorities -- by analyzing publication and citation numbers.

The most recent data from 2008 showed that UT Knoxville has distinctive competencies in 14 topic areas and emerging competencies in an additional 73 areas. Updated data and topic lists for 2009 are expected during the year. The Office of Research is making access to the database available. Contact Beth Neilson (eneilson@utk.edu) or Renee Thomas (rthomas4@utk.edu) to receive a user name and password.

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

Required RCR training is available online

Training in the responsible conduct of research is available to UT faculty through the Office of Research. The University of Tennessee is committed to implementing and supporting best practices in research as part of its quest for excellence and its promotion of the public trust in science and engineering.

The responsible conduct of research is mandated in Section 7009 of the America COMPETES Act (America Creating Opportunities to Meaningfully Promote Excellence in Technology, Education, and Science). Researchers and students who receive funding from or work on projects of the National Science Foundation or the National Institutes of Health must meet requirements for training in RCR.

The Office of Research has available a 12-module online course in RCR, and, through the office, access is also available to ethics training from the Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative.

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

UTK faculty can recruit undergrad assistants from national pool

Faculty can recruit graduate students through the registry database at the Council on Undergraduate Research. There are two ways faculty can tap this resource: (1) post your announcement and (2) access student records to target and recruit students directly. To begin, visit www.cur.org and look under "Programs" for a separate login for the registry. You don't have to register yourself as a member to access this Enhanced Membership benefit that UTK enjoys. There are approximately 1,600 biology students listed, and CUR staff can help you narrow your targeted list with a keyword search.

Details: Robin Howard (robin@cur.org)

Distinguished Program in Teacher Education

The Association of Teacher Educators will recognize one teacher education program and two finalist programs as programs that exemplify collaboration between local education agencies and institutions of higher education in program development and administration. The award is designed to stimulate development and innovation that bring into harmony all agencies that have direct involvement in teacher preparation. The award for 2011 will be presented at the association's annual meeting in Orlando in February 2011. All applicants must be consortia of higher education institutions, school systems, and other agencies.

Limited submission: Each consortium may submit only ONE entry.

Key date: July 31, 2010, submission to association.

Details: http://www.ate1.org/pubs/Distinguished_Prog.cfm

Opportunities

Fellowships from the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars

The Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars will award 20 to 25 residential fellowships to postdoctoral-level applicants who propose research topics on governance and democracy, the U.S. role in world leadership, and future long-term challenges confronting the nation. The fellowships involve a residency of nine months during the academic year, with assistance from professional librarians with access to the Library of Congress and other area resources.

Key date: October 1, 2010, receipt of application.

Details: <http://www.wilsoncenter.org>

World Community Grid Proposals

The World Community Grid is soliciting research proposals from public and not-for-profit organizations that require the use of powerful computational grid capacities. Topics may include social welfare, genomics, community development or revitalization, social services, high-performance computing, outreach programs in communities, infectious diseases or agents, environmental sciences, or community services. The World Community Grid is designed as a resource for research done with a philanthropic or humanitarian purpose and will only be available to projects conducted for public and not-for-profit purposes. IBM Corp. has provided the resources and support for the grid. All results will be in the public domain and made public to the global research community.

Key dates: Proposals are accepted continuously. Upcoming review cycles start Sept. 30 and Dec. 31, 2010.

Details: <http://www.worldcommunitygrid.org/research/viewSubmitAProposal.do>

Sloan Research Fellowships

The Alfred P. Sloan Foundation will award 118 two-year fellowships to early-career scientists in the physical sciences, mathematics, economics, and computer science. Candidates must hold the Ph.D. in chemistry, physics, mathematics, computer science, economics, neuroscience, or computational and evolutionary molecular biology or related fields; hold a faculty or tenure-track post; and be within six years of completion of their degree. Candidates must be nominated by department heads or senior researchers. Limited Submission: No more than three persons can be nominated from a department.

Key date: September 15, 2010, all nomination letters and materials must be mailed to the foundation and postmarked by this date.

Details: <http://www.sloan.org/pages/30/nomination-deadline>

NRC seeks curriculum proposals for nuclear safety

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission is soliciting proposals that support the development of courses, studies, training, curricula, and disciplines pertaining to nuclear safety, security, and environmental protection.

Disciplines include nuclear engineering, radiochemistry and radiobiology, health physics, materials and mechanical engineering, reliability and risk analysis, electrical engineering, safeguards and security, human factors and human reliability, and fire protection engineering.

Key date: July 9, 2010, (optional but recommended) letter of intent; October 1, 2010, completed application.

Details: At grants.gov, download Opportunity Number HR-FN-0610-EDU5: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Funding Opportunity Announcement, Nuclear Education Curricula Development Grant, Fiscal Year 2011