News and Opportunities

Office of Research & Engagement

9-15-2011

Office of Research, News & Opportunities, September 15, 2011

University of Tenessee Office of Research

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Scholar nominations sought

The UT Office of Research is seeking nominations for Scholar of the Week, the program that recognizes UT Knoxville faculty for recent accomplishments in research, scholarship, and creative achievement.

Faculty members may be nominated only by deans, department heads, or other faculty members.

Nominations should include a short paragraph describing the scholar's discipline and specific field of work, identifying the most recent noteworthy accomplishment, and naming the department and rank of the nominee. Descriptions should be in nontechnical language for a general audience and can be accompanied by a photo or photo link, relevant citations, and previous awards and memberships.
Contact: Alan Rutenberg (arutenberg@utk.edu)

Proposals sought for equipment purchase, repair, renovation

The Office of Research is seeking proposals from faculty for major equipment purchases, upgrades or renovations as part of its yearly Equipment and Infrastructure Awards.

The office typically funds two or three awards yearly in support for current research faculty and also infrastructure needs in support of recently hired faculty and researchers. Matching funds are required, and the program is limited to faculty whose primary appointment is associated with the Knoxville campus (excluding the Colleges of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, and Veterinary Medicine).

The funds, amounting to about $300,000, are taken from the Scholarly and Research Incentive Funds (SARIF).
Key date: Friday, October 14, 2011, at noon – submission of five-page proposal to Jane Taylor (tayloje@utk.edu)
Details: http://research.utk.edu/funding/equip.shtml

Science Alliance seeks joint UT/ORNL proposals

UT faculty who are interested in doing joint research projects with scientists at Oak Ridge National Laboratory can apply for support from the Science Alliance's Joint Directed Research and Development program. The JDRD is a sibling program to the Laboratory Directed Research and Development program, which promotes projects that have the potential to show scientific and technical leadership in future national initiatives.

UT faculty should compare their research interests and pending projects to a list of some 50-plus projects now operating with LDRD support to see if partnerships are possible. The Science Alliance has set aside some $400,000 for eight to 10 collaborative projects for Fiscal Year 2012.

Criteria for the JDRD funding include technical merit, opportunities for new collaborations at ORNL, prospects for external funding, inclusion of graduate and undergraduate students in research, and the timeliness and strategic appropriateness for UT Knoxville's research agenda. UTK faculty with a 100-percent appointment are eligible to submit proposals.
Contact for project list and other details: Lynne Parker (leparker@utk.edu, 974-6765)
Key date: October 24, 2011 by 5 p.m. – electronic submission to leparker@utk.edu

Summer awards lists published to web

Technical problems with the research-administrative databases resulted in no publication of the Office of Research Awards & Recognition newsletter during July and early August, 2011. The awards data are now available and have been posted to these web addresses:
- ❖ http://research.utk.edu/news/08_01-15_11.shtml
- ❖ http://research.utk.edu/news/07_16-31_11.shtml
- ❖ http://research.utk.edu/news/07_01-15_11.shtml

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Applications being taken for Chancellor's Grants

The Office of Research is seeking proposals for the Chancellor's Grants for Faculty Research, a program that provides faculty recipients in the arts, humanities, social sciences, and applied social sciences with a one-course release to allow them to prepare external research proposals or fellowships.

All full-time tenured and tenure-track faculty at the rank of assistant professor or above are eligible to apply for a course release in the spring semester of academic year 2011-12 or in the fall semester of academic year 2012-13. Up to twelve grants of as much as $6,000 will be made to the successful applicants' department or academic unit.

Chancellor's Grant recipients must submit a fellowship application or proposal to an outside funding agency as a result of the internal award. The Office of Research will provide editorial and administrative support to recipients of the Chancellor's Grants.

Applications should include (1) a cover sheet stating the applicant's name, faculty rank, and department; (2) a narrative of no more than 1,500 words describing the project; (3) a vita of no more than five pages (single-spaced); (4) a record of leave and release time for the previous three years; and (5) endorsement letters from a dean and department head.
Contact: Jane Taylor (tayloje@utk.edu)
Key date: September 30, 2011, at 5 p.m. – delivery of five hard copies of the proposal to Alan Rutenberg, Room 111, Office of Research, Blount Hall, 1534 White Avenue.

IRB asks faculty participation in survey

UT's Institutional Review Board is surveying UT Knoxville faculty who use the IRB for compliance issues. The short survey is designed to elicit responses from faculty on their experiences with the IRB process. It is voluntary and completely anonymous. Results will be reported in aggregate and are available to anyone who requests them.
Contact: Brenda Lawson (blawson@utk.edu, 974-7697)
Link: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/irbfall2011

Training offered in funding skills, processes

The Office of Research training curriculum for fall is under way. Workshops are available in
- Writing Successful Grants, I & II
- Building NSF and NIH Grant Proposals
- Finding Funding
- Using the TERA/PAMS System
- CAREER Grants
- Mentoring.

Available on Blackboard are
- Responsible Conduct of Research
- IRB/Human Subjects Research.

All workshops and online courses are free of charge to UTK students, staff, and faculty. The Office of Research is offering a new certificate in grant-writing and proposal development. For more information on workshops and certification, contact the Office of Research (ortraining@utk.edu).

BCMB initiates "From the Top" seminar

The Department of Biochemistry, Cellular, and Molecular Biology is sponsoring its inaugural "From the Top – Trends in Biosciences" Seminar on September 20-21, 2011.

The opening event will be an invitation-only reception and poster presentation at the Foundry from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. on September 20, featuring a presentation of student research, followed by dinner with Suzanne Pfeffer, professor of biochemistry at Stanford University and president of the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology.

On September 21, Pfeffer will speak at 3:30 p.m. in Walters Life Sciences Building, Room 307, on "How the Golgi Works: Rab GTPase Regulation of Protein Secretion." The seminar is open to all.

Faculty can post undergrad opportunities

The Office of Research has provided a new tool to post undergraduate research opportunities in faculty labs, clinics, and offices. Go to the undergraduate research website, click "Search Opportunities", and select "UT Knoxville. On the "Posting Information for Faculty" page, log in using your UT net and post your opportunity.
Contact: utkur@utk.edu, 974-1475

OIT offers microarray database access to UT faculty

The Office of Information Technology provides UT researchers in genome science access to the UT Microarray Database, a local installation of the Stanford Microarray Database. The database allows researchers to archive, view, and export subsets of their gene expression data for analysis.
Details: http://genome.ws.utk.edu/

ORNL hosts workshop on cyber security for energy infrastructure

The 7th annual Cyber Security and Information Intelligence Research Workshop will be held at Oak Ridge National Laboratory on October 12-14, 2011.

The theme of the 7th CSIIR is energy infrastructure cyber protection. Its aim is to introduce and discuss novel theoretical and empirical research focused on the many aspects of cyber security and information intelligence. Featured keynote speakers represent the Department of Energy, Department of Homeland Security, United States Cyber Command, National Nuclear Security Administration, National Institute of Standards and Technology, National Security Agency, and the National Science Foundation.

This year's event is being co-organized with Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, Sandia National Laboratories, and the Nevada National Security Site.
Key dates: September 30, 2011 – early registration. October 7, 2011 - registration closes.
Details: http://www.csiir.ornl.gov/csiirw/11/index.html.

Undergrad research inventory under way

If you mentored an undergraduate student who was engaged in undergraduate research or creative achievement over the past year, the Office of Research wants to know. For the second year, we are asking faculty to report undergraduate research activities with the intent of posting findings on our undergraduate research webpage (research.utk.edu/undergrad). Current and prospective students search this database to explore potential research experiences. If you mentored a student during the Fall 2010, Spring 2011 and/or Summer 2011 semesters, please send the following information: Student's name, faculty mentor's name, project title, and timeframe.
Contact: Sharon Pound(utkur@utk.edu, 974-1475)

Faculty, student groups will advise on undergrad research

Two groups have been formed to advise the Office of Research on directing the university's initiative to increase undergraduate involvement in research, scholarship, and creative activities. One advisory committee is made up of students, and the other involves faculty.

The faculty group includes Tricia Stuth, Rosalind Hackett, Ben Feldmeyer, Michael Gant, Jon Levin, Cary Stapels, Lisa Fall, David Cihak, Kathleen Thompson, Matthew Theriot, and Nate Sanders.

Faculty with questions or comments can address individual advisory members or email utkur@utk.edu.

Gates Foundation announces Round 8 of Grand Challenges

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation is now accepting grant proposals for Round 8 of Grand Challenges Explorations, an initiative to encourage innovative and unconventional global health and development solutions. 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.

Grant proposals are being accepted online on the following topics:
❖(NEW) Protect Crop Plants from Biotic Stresses From Field to Market
❖(NEW) Design new approaches to optimize immunization systems
❖(NEW) Explore New Solutions in Global Health Priority Areas
❖Explore Nutrition for Healthy Growth of Infants and Children
❖Apply Synthetic Biology to Global Health Challenges
Initial grants will be US $100,000 each, and projects showing promise will have the opportunity to receive additional funding of up to US $1 million.
Key date: November 17, 2011 – online submission deadline
Details: http://www.grandchallenges.org/r8_gce

LIMITED SUBMISSION
ORAU seeks proposals in high-performance computing

Oak Ridge Associated Universities is soliciting proposals for the FY 2012 ORAU/ORNL High Performance Computing Program.

The program provides ORAU member institutions with a potential of $75,000 in funding over three years for research using Oak Ridge National Laboratory computing resources.

Only four awards will be made, and only faculty from ORAU member institutions are eligible to apply. Proposals must involve collaboration with an ORNL research staff member, and UT faculty must sign a nondisclosure agreement.

Only one proposal from each member institution is permitted, and the selected proposal must be endorsed and submitted by Vice Chancellor Wes Hines, who is UTK's ORAU councilor.

Limited submission: Since the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, can submit only one proposal, interested faculty should send a notification of interest to limitsubb@utk.edu by close of business on Tuesday, September 27. Should the Office of Research receive more than one such notice, an internal competition will be held to select the UTK proposal that will go forward.
Key dates: Tuesday, September 27, 2011 at close of business – deadline for expressing interest to UT Office of Research. Monday, October 31, 2011 at noon – deadline for submission through UT vice chancellor for research
Details: http://www.orau.org/university-partnerships/members-only.aspx (requires login)

Vice chancellor calls for community engagement proposals

UT's interim vice chancellor for research and engagement announces this year's call for funding proposals that specifically enhance the community engagement mission of the university.

As part of UT's commitment to community collaboration and the scholarship of engagement, the call is for proposals that may include projects, partnerships or programs that promote community engagement in research, scholarship, or creative activity; in teaching; or in outreach. Funding for Outreach and Engagement projects are currently allocated via a competitive award process, once per year.
Details: http://service.utk.edu/funding/

UTK Students, Faculty and Staff Invited to Join CUR at No Cost

UT Knoxville is an enhanced institutional member of the Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR), an affiliation of nearly 600 colleges and universities that share a focus on providing undergraduate research opportunities. The enhanced CUR membership allows interested UTK faculty, staff, or students to register for a free password-based login that will provide access to the group's members-only web site. Other benefits include an electronic subscription to CUR Quarterly, a journal on undergraduate research issues, and a monthly e-newsletter. To become a member, select Become a Member on the frong page, click on the Individual Online Application link, fill out the online form, and select UT as the institutional affiliation.
Details: http://www.cur.org/