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## Office of Research, News & Opportunities, April 18, 2012

University of Tennessee Office of Research

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## IRB compliance: The OTHER important deadline on April 15

On April 15, 2012, the University of Tennessee Institutional Review Board began requiring each principal investigator, co-PI, and advisor listed on a human subjects application to provide certification of training in human-subjects research.

As previously announced, all researchers using human subjects are now required to document that they have taken human subjects training provided by the university. Researchers who have not already taken the training may face delays in getting approval of research protocols.

Researchers involved in a sponsored program (funded by an outside agency) should register for the Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative course at <http://research.utk.edu/training/>, being careful to affiliate with UT Knoxville.

Faculty and students doing nonsponsored research can take online IRB/Human Subjects Research training through UTK Blackboard.

**Contact:** [otraining@utk.edu](mailto:otraining@utk.edu) for registration and access information.

## New matrix gives overview of proposal/award process

The Sponsored Programs unit of the Office of Research has unveiled a new tool to give an overview of the people and processes involved in submitting proposals, executing and administering awards, and conducting research (or other sponsored activities) at UT Knoxville. The Proposal and Awards Roles and Responsibilities Matrix diagrams what is expected of principal investigators, departments, deans, sponsored-program personnel, the proposal development team, and sponsored projects accounting staff in some 16 major processes involving proposals and awards.

**Details:** <http://research.utk.edu/sp/matrix.shtml>

Proposal and Award Roles and Responsibilities	Principal Investigator	Department	Dean	Sponsored Programs	Proposal Development Team	Sponsored Projects Accounting
<b>Identification of Funding Opportunities:</b>						
Search for opportunities	x				x	
Provide guidance on funding opportunities		x	x		x	
<b>Proposal Preparation:</b>						
<b>Regulatory Requirements:</b>						
Complete compliance forms: Institutional Review Board, Animal Care and Use, Institutional Bio Safety Department	x	x				
Complete conflict of interest disclosure form	x					
Review conflict of interest disclosure form and facilitate institutional oversight		x	x			
<b>Proposal Review and Approval:</b>						
<b>Proposal Submission:</b>						
Send proposal to sponsors after institutional approval				x		
<b>Pre-award:</b>						
Request advance account	x					
Consider appropriateness of advance account request and approves request		x	x			

## Summer GRAs announced

The Office of Research has announced the 24 UT graduate students who have been selected for 2012 Summer Graduate Research Assistantships. The UT SARIF program funds a \$3,600 stipend for a three-month summer research calendar.

**Recipients:** [http://research.utk.edu/funding/gra\\_2012.shtml](http://research.utk.edu/funding/gra_2012.shtml)

## UTK Exploring Participation in Next Generation Photovoltaics Cooperative Research Center

UT Knoxville Materials Science & Engineering faculty member Gerd Duscher recently submitted a planning grant proposal for the National Science Foundation Industry/University Cooperative Research Centers program. Duscher is pursuing thin-film silicon photovoltaics research in TN-SCORE Thrust 1. The Tennessee Solar Institute (TSI) and TN-SCORE have been working to identify industry partners for solar conversion research, including consideration of different models for collaboration.

**John Sanseverino**, director of TSI; Chad Duty, Solar Technologies program manager at ORNL and director of technology at TSI; and Thrust 1 leader and UT Knoxville microbiologist Barry Bruce met with NSF, industry, and university partners to discuss the benefits of the I/U CRC model and the potential for UTK establishing such a center.

"These exploratory discussions are open to any UT faculty who have an interest in thin-film silicon research, organic-based photovoltaics, and similar energy conversion systems," said John Hopkins, director of TN-SCORE. Hopkins ([jhop@tennessee.edu](mailto:jhop@tennessee.edu), 865-974-2816) is the point of contact for inquiries and expressions of interest.

## Gates Foundation deadline nears for Grand Challenges

The deadline is nearing for five major initiatives that are part of the Grand Challenges Explorations program sponsored by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The five are

- ❖ New approaches for the interrogation of anti-malarial compounds
- ❖ Aid is working; tell the world.
- ❖ Design new approaches to optimize immunization systems
- ❖ Explore new solutions in global health priority areas
- ❖ Protect crop plants from biotic stresses from field to market

Initial grants of up to \$100,000 will be made to innovative and unconventional proposals from applicants at any experience level or from any type of organization. Promising projects may receive additional funding of up to \$1 million.

**Key date:** May 15, 2012 - submission of proposal  
**Details:** [www.grandchallenges.org/explorations](http://www.grandchallenges.org/explorations)  
**Contact:** [GCEhelp@gatesfoundation.org](mailto:GCEhelp@gatesfoundation.org)

## Gates seeks proposals on HIV biomarkers

The HIV Diagnostics team in the Gates Foundation is accepting letters of inquiry about projects that would identify novel biomarkers that can be used effectively to measure HIV incidence at the population level. The letters should describe biomarkers at initial stages of development that could be used alone or in combination. Applicants at any experience level or from any type of organization are solicited. Awards of up to \$1 million are possible.

**Key date:** May 18, 2012, at 10 a.m. (PST) - submission of letter of intent  
**Details:** <http://www.gatesfoundation.org/hivaid/ Pages/loi-biomarkers-hiv-incidence-measurement.aspx>  
**Contact:** [HIVDiagnostics@gatesfoundation.org](mailto:HIVDiagnostics@gatesfoundation.org)

## INSIDE THE OFFICE

**Robert Porter**, director of research development in the UT Office of Research, is participating in a major development project in Cambodia. Funded by a \$11.5 million U.S. State Department grant, the project aims to enhance Cambodia's higher-education infrastructure. Among the initiatives in the Higher Education Capacity and Improvement Project (HEQCIP) is a focus on expanding the role of sponsored research in the Asian nation's universities.

Porter will design and conduct grant writing workshops for faculty in leading universities, preparing them to obtain external funding for their institutions. Porter will spend three weeks in Cambodia, preparing materials for a three-day workshop to be presented in Phnom Penh and Siem Reap.

"I'm honored to be selected for this exciting project," says Porter, "as it supports UTK's 'Ready for the World' initiative, and it speaks well for our Office of Research that we can be part of such a high profile project in that part of the world."

**Lauren Hill**, an administrator in the Sponsored Programs unit of the Office of Research, was recognized at the Chancellor's Honor's Banquet with the LGBT Advocate Award.



## 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. In upcoming issues, NEWS & OPPORTUNITIES will focus on individual SARIF programs in order to make faculty more aware of the internal support that is available to them.

### Foreign Travel Fund

The Foreign Travel Fund pays one third of the cost of foreign travel for faculty who are presenting the results of their scholarly activity at meetings or conferences.

SARIF funds for foreign travel are limited, and colleges and/or departments are expected to pay up to two-thirds of the travel expenses. Criteria for selection include the significance and quality of the conference, as indicated by sponsorship and history, and the career stage of the faculty member (with preference for early-career applicants).

Awards are also available to faculty who are not tenured nor on a tenure track. The fund will support no more than two representatives from a single academic unit for the same academic event. The fund does not support conferences in Hawaii or Puerto Rico.

Applications may be submitted at any time during the year. **Details:** <http://research.utk.edu/funding/foreign.shtml>

## Deadline near for faculty, staff with professional licenses

UT faculty and staff who hold professional licenses that are subject to Tennessee's professional-privilege tax may qualify to have that \$400 tax paid by the university if they are full-time employees and their license is directly related to their work for the university.

UT can pay taxes on the following professional licenses: accountant; architect; broker under Title 62; engineer, landscape architect, audiologist, chiropractor, dentist, optometrist, osteopathic physician, pharmacist, physician, podiatrist, psychologist, speech pathologist, veterinarian, attorney, and sport agent.

**Key date:** Friday, May 4, 2012 – submission of online request for payment

**Details:** <https://webapps.dii.utk.edu/budget/ppton.aspx>

## April issue of funding newsletter posted on web

The April 2012 issue of Research Development & Grant-Writing Newsletter (Vol. 2, No. 8) is available on the Office of Research website, showcasing the following features and columns:

- ❖ Writing the Vision, Goals, Objectives, Rationale, and Outcome Statements
- ❖ Why Halloween Is Bad for Proposals
- ❖ The Materials Genome Initiative and Related New Funding
- ❖ Submitting Proposals to Basic Energy Sciences
- ❖ Air Force Research Office Funding Update
- ❖ Funding for Grad Students and Postdocs
- ❖ Research Grant Writing Web Resources
- ❖ Educational Grant Writing Web Resources
- ❖ Agency Research News
- ❖ Agency Reports, Workshops, and Roadmaps
- ❖ New Funding Opportunities
- ❖ About Academic Research Funding Strategies

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>

## 75 undergrads will intern in summer 2012

Seventy-five undergraduates have been chosen for Undergraduate Summer Research Internships in 2012. The Chancellor's Office and the UT Office of Research sponsor the two-month, \$2,000 research experiences to increase the participation of undergraduates in the research enterprise.

**Recipients:** [http://research.utk.edu/undergrad/internships/utk\\_winners\\_12.shtml](http://research.utk.edu/undergrad/internships/utk_winners_12.shtml)

## 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 Cancer Research Program* will offer two types of award:

Visionary Postdoctoral Fellowship, in which an M.D./Ph.D. graduate with a total of less than four years of postdoctoral research experience is mentored in one or more of the program research areas by an independent investigator at the level of assistant professor. The research areas include blood, colorectal, genetic, kidney, skin (including melanoma), mesothelioma, pancreatic and pediatric brain-tumor cancers, as well as listeria vaccine for cancer.

Career Development, in which an investigator at the level of assistant professor, pursues early-career research in the cancer topics listed above.

**Key date:** Early May announcement on Grants.gov

**Details:** <http://cdmrp.army.mil/pubs/press/2012/12prcrppreann.shtml>

*The Autism Research Program* will offer two types of awards:

Idea Development, in which investigators at all academic levels work on the development of innovative, high-impact ideas that advance the understanding of autism spectrum disorder and lead to improved outcomes. Up to three investigators may collaborate on a single application and receive separate awards. Areas of research interest include improved subgrouping of individuals to inform the mechanisms, natural history, and response to treatment, biomarkers, risk factors, and sex ratios of individuals on the autism spectrum; identification of therapeutic targets, other than gene discovery; psychosocial research across the lifespan; and co-morbid conditions across the lifespan.

Pilot, in which investigators at all academic levels submit preproposals in support of conceptually innovative, high-risk/high-reward research that could lead to critical discoveries or major advances.

**Key date:** Early May announcement on Grants.gov

**Details:** <http://cdmrp.army.mil/pubs/press/2012/12prcrppreann.shtml>

