12-16-2009

Office of Research, News & Opportunities, December 16, 2009

University of Tennessee Office of Research

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Boot camp will introduce A&S faculty to proposal writing

Twelve faculty members from the College of Arts and Sciences have been selected for the college’s first-ever boot camp in proposal writing. A total of 19 assistant and associate professors applied, including six from the Psychology Department, three from Sociology, and two from Geography. Applicants came from 11 departments. Preference was given to junior faculty or recently tenured faculty who are relatively new to sponsored research.

The Grant-Writing Institute for 2010 are Stephanie Bohon (Sociology), Harriet Bowden (Modern Foreign Languages & Literatures), Graciela Cabana (Anthropology), Matthew Cooper (Psychology), Ben Feldmeyer (Sociology), David Finkelstein (Earth & Planetary Science), Paula Fite (Psychology), Rose Goodchild (Biochemistry & Molecular Biology), Jaewook Joo (Physics/Astronomy), Gina Owens (Psychology), Micheline van Riemdijk (Geography), and Yulong Xing (Math).

Between 18 May and 17 June 2010, the institute will hold eight grant-writing workshops. Institute participants are expected to devote full time to boot camp activities during this period and may not teach during the summer mini-session or the first summer session. Participants will receive a summer stipend equal to teaching three-credit courses.

At the completion of the institute, participants will prepare and submit a well-constructed, internally reviewed proposal with any needed assistance from Office of Research proposal development staff.

Other features of the program include pairing with a senior faculty mentor, a visit to Washington, D.C., for meetings with representatives of funding agencies, and nomination of a UT graduate student to participate as a fellow with the boot camp faculty member.

Bob Porter, UTOR director of research development, will lead the institute, which is cosponsored by the Office of the President and the White House Open Government Initiative.

Details: http://research.utk.edu/training/gwi.shtml

Boot camp mentors sought

The UT Knoxville Grant Writing Institute is recruiting mentors for its summer boot camp. Applicants for mentorships should be senior faculty with experience in proposal writing and an agency review panels. Boot camp attendees can approach potential mentors, or mentors can offer their services to attendees.

Key date: 22 January 2010, application form to UT Office of Research.

Details: http://research.utk.edu/training/gwi.shtml

Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities

Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities is a national program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, whose primary goal is to implement healthy eating and active living initiatives that will increase healthier communities for children and families across the United States. The program places special emphasis on reaching children who are at highest risk for obesity on the basis of race/ethnicity, income, and geographic location. This initiative will advance the foundation’s efforts to reverse the childhood obesity epidemic by 2015.

Through this call for proposals, the foundation will award approximately 60 grants to help local community partnerships across the United States increase opportunities for physical activity and improve access to affordable healthy foods for children and families. Special consideration will be given to communities in 15 states where the incidence of or risk for childhood obesity is the greatest (including Tennessee). Approximately half of the grants under this CFP will be awarded to communities in these states. Special note: This program requires that the lead organization be defined as a nonprofit or government entity with “partners that are able to provide adequate fox, and implement changes to policies, environments, and systems.”

LIMITED SUBMISSION: Only one proposal will be accepted per community.

Key date: 3 February 2010, anticipated deadline for submission to foundation.

Details: http://www.healthykidshealthycommunities.org/call-proposals

White House seeks input on opening research results to public

The Obama Administration is seeking public input on policies concerning access to publicly funded research results, such as those that appear in academic and scholarly journal articles. Currently, the National Institutes of Health require that research funded by its grants be made available to the public online at no charge within 12 months of publication. The administration is seeking views as to whether this policy should be extended to other science agencies and, if so, how it should be implemented.

The Office of Science and Technology Policy in the Executive Office of the President and the White House Open Government Initiative is launching a “Public Access Policy Forum” to invite public participation in thinking through what the federal government’s policy should be with regard to public access to published federally funded research results.

To that end, OSTP will conduct an interactive, online discussion beginning 3 February, 2010. The discussion will focus on three major areas of interest:

- Implementation (10 to 20 December): Which federal agencies are good candidates to adopt public access policies? How are these anticipated to change?
- Management (1 to 7 January): What are the best mechanisms to ensure compliance? What would be the best metrics of success? What are the best examples of usability in the private sector (both domestic and international)? Which federal agencies should reevaluate their internal policies to allow for public access?
- Features and Technology (21 to 31 December): In what format should the final products be published? How can the public be informed and retracted information, and to make it easy for others to link to it? Are there existing digital standards for archiving and interoperability to maximize public access?

Each of these topics will form the basis of a blog posting that will appear at www.whitehouse.gov/open and will be open for comment on the OSTP blog at blog.osstp.gov.

Gift card is prize for UTRF survey participation

The UT Research Foundation is seeking input in an effort to improve its services. UTRF is asking UT faculty and staff to take a short online survey about their interactions with the foundation. Persons taking the survey will be entered into a drawing for a $50 Visa gift card.

Key dates: 20 December 2009, complete survey; 23 December 2009, notification of winner.


NEH Challenge Grants in United States History and Culture

NEH invites applications for Challenge Grants in United States History and Culture. This grant opportunity is designed to help institutions and organizations strengthen their ability to explore significant themes and events in American history, so as to advance our understanding of how—since the nation’s founding—these events have shaped and been shaped by American identity and culture.

NEH seeks to support a range of approaches to the American experience. For example, approaches might explore significant events in America’s history, its democratic institutions, the political principles on which the nation is founded, or the complicated mix of peoples and cultures that have formed America. Also, welcome are proposals that seek support for the study of the history and culture of the United States in international contexts rather than in isolation—proposals that explore relationships with other nations and cultures that have profoundly affected the course of United States history. NEH also welcomes proposals for programming at America’s historic places (e.g., historic sites, neighborhoods, communities, or larger geographical regions).

Challenge Grant funds (both federal and non-federal) must provide long-term benefits to the humanities. Challenge Grant funds should not replace funds already being expended on the humanities, but instead should reflect careful strategic planning to strengthen the institution’s activities in and commitment to the advancement of knowledge and understanding of the humanities.

LIMITED SUBMISSION: The University of Tennessee may apply for only one Challenge Grant at a time and may have only one application pending in an NEH competition at a time.

Key date: 3 February 2010, submission deadline to NEH.

Details: http://www.neh.gov/grants/guidelines/CG_UKhistory.html
Opportunities

DHHS Nursing Workforce Diversity

The Department of Health and Human Services Heath Resources and Services Administration is soliciting proposals for the Nursing Workforce Diversity (NWD) Program. Grants are awarded to eligible applicants to increase nursing education opportunities for individuals who are from disadvantaged groups, including racial and culturally underrepresented among registered nurses, through projects that incorporate retention, pre-entry preparation, and student scholarships or stipends. Applicants are required to address all three program components (i.e., retention, pre-entry preparation, student stipends/scholarships) during each year of the project. The project must include a cohort of nursing students who, within the three-year award period, will graduate and be eligible to take the NCLEX-RN or obtain a baccalaureate degree in nursing, if already licensed as registered nurses.

Key date: 20 January 2010, submission to agency.
Details: http://www07.hrsa.gov/search.do;jsessionid=b66Lk4T2wQzqpc79r7VsdvSNB6K47DkKzphvqTv6t9QdZ7tLX1-82303134?oppId=50340&mode=VIEW

Tinker Grants on Spain, Portugal, Ibero-America, and Antarctica

Tinker Foundation institutional grants are awarded to organizations and institutions that promote the interchange and exchange of information within the community of those concerned with the affairs of Spain, Portugal, Ibero-America, and Antarctica. For the foundation’s purposes, Ibero-America is defined as the Spanish- and Portuguese-speaking countries of the Western Hemisphere.] Programatically, the foundation funds projects addressing governmental, economic, or governance issues. Projects should have a strong public policy component, offer innovative solutions to problems facing these regions, and incorporate new methodologies for addressing these programmatic areas. Activities may include, but are not limited to, research projects and conferences related to the foundation’s areas of interest. The foundation encourages collaboration between organizations in the United States and Iberia or Latin America and among institutions in those regions. To be considered, proposals must be submitted by an institutional entity.

Key date: 1 March 2010, submission of proposal.
Details: http://foundationcenter.org/grantmaker/tinker/institu.html

Irmand Coninx Research Grant and Essay Competition

The Irmand Coninx Foundation, headquartered in Berlin, is based on the idea that some of the profits made by a media company should be used to promote public debates. The Berlin Roundtables are intended to contribute to an international discourse about the phenomenon of transnationalism. Grants will be given to two or three of the 40 to 50 finalists of the essay competition. The theme for the present round of the essay competition is “Cultural Pluralism Revisited: Religious and Linguistic Freedoms.” The essays pertain to cultural or social anthropology, cultural diversity, and civil or human rights.

Key date: 15 January 2010, submission to the foundation.
Details: http://www.irmand-coninx-stiftung.de/index.php?id=1 or http://fundingopps.cos.com/cgi-bin/getRec?id=121996

The Rutgers Center for Cultural Analysis Fellowships

For its 2010-11 program, the Center for Cultural Analysis invites research proposals on topics related to the everyday and the ordinary. A longstanding interest of many disciplines, including history, art history, anthropology, sociology and philosophy, as well as literary and cultural studies, the everyday and the ordinary have enjoyed a conceptual resurgence in recent years. The Center for Cultural Analysis (CCA) awards fellowships to research during the fellowship year. Scholars will work with faculty, community professionals, and center staff to develop a project related to these topics. All new applicants must be enrolled on campus for at least a full academic year (Fall 2010-Spring 2011) to be considered for this program.

Key date: 1 February 2010, submission of applications to Baker Center.
Details: For information and application forms, contact Amy K. Gibson (agibson1@utk.edu, 865-974-3816).

Whitehall Foundation grants in life sciences

The Whitehall Foundation, through its program of grants and grants-in-aid, assists scholarly research in the life sciences. It is the foundation’s policy to assist those dynamic areas of basic biological research that are not heavily supported by federal agencies or other foundations with specialized missions.

The foundation is currently interested in basic research in neurobiology, defined as follows: invertebrate and vertebrate (excluding clinical) neurobiology, specifically investigations of neural mechanisms involved in sensory, motor, and other complex functions of the whole organism as these relate to behavior. The overall goal should be to better understand behavioral output or brain mechanisms of behavior.

The foundation does not support research focused primarily on disease unless it will also provide insights into normal functioning. The grant program emphasizes support for early career scientists or senior scientists interested in moving into new fields.

Key dates: 15 January, 15 April, and 1 October 2010, submission of proposals to the foundation. Details: http://www.whitehall.org/grants/

Gloeckner Foundation Grants for floriculture research

The Fred C. Gloeckner Foundation awards grants for research and education that promote the interchange and exchange of information within the community of those concerned with the affairs of Greece and French and the Greek and French. The award may be used for the study of Greek language, literature, history, or archaeology, or the study of French language or literature.

Key date: 1 April 2010, proposals postmarked by this date, submitted to the foundation.
Details: http://www.gloecknerfoundation.org/funding.htm

Mary Isabel Sibley Fellowship

The Phi Beta Kappa Society annual Mary Isabel Sibley Fellowship is awarded alternately in the fields of Greece and French. The award may be used for the study of Greek language, literature, history, or archaeology, or the study of French language or literature.

Support for undergraduates . . .

The Baker Scholar Project

The Baker Scholar Project is designed for high-achieving, rising juniors and seniors interested in public policy, politics, government, and public service. The program is intended to enrich students’ college experience by engaging them in research and public policy related to energy and environmental policy, energy, health care, governance, global security, civic engagement and education, and studies of the impact of former senator Howard Baker on political history. Scholars will work with faculty, community professionals, and Baker Center staff to develop a project related to these topics. All new applicants must be enrolled on campus for at least a full academic year (Fall 2010-Spring 2011) to be considered for this program.

Key date: 1 February 2010, submission of applications to Baker Center.
Details: For information and application forms, contact Amy K. Gibson (agibson1@utk.edu, 865-974-3816).