



OFFICE OF GRANT RESOURCES

# All About Grants

*Together we can achieve the extraordinary*

Volume I, Issue II

September 2007

Inside this issue:  
Introducing  
SPINPlus

## Awarded University Research Grants 2007

We would like to give our sincere congratulations to the faculty members awarded the first annual University Research Grants. A total of \$226,486 was awarded, of which \$78,920 will fund research-related travel, equipment and supplies. In addition, 59 course-releases were granted. We would also like to extend our best wishes to those faculty who will be embarking on their journey to completing their external sponsored research grant proposal. We in the Office of Grant Resources are eager to assist you in any and every way possible.

**Together we can achieve the extraordinary!**

Dr. Ronald Anderson	Dr. Mario García-Ríos	Dr. Jaclyn Jeffrey	Dr. Qinqwen Ni
Dr. David Beck	Dr. Cecilia Garza	Dr. Tongdan Jin	Dr. Kyung-Shin Park
Dr. Fethi Belkouche	Dr. R. Goonatilake	Dr. F. Khosraviyani	Dr. Trace Pirtle
Dr. Susan Berdahl	Dr. Richard Hartley	Dr. Sukho Lee	Dr. Claudio Salinas
Dr. Randel Brown	Dr. Robert Haynes	Dr. Runchang Lin	Dr. Claudia San Miquel
Dr. Jorge Brusa	Dr. Roberto Heredia	Dr. Jacqueline Mayfield	Dr. Jerry Thompson
Dr. José Cardona-López	Dr. Barbara Hong	Dr. Milton Mayfield	Dr. Haibo Wang
Dr. Dean Champion	Dr. Pedro Hurtado	Dr. Thomas Mitchell	Dr. Judith Warner
Dr. Faridoun Farrokh	Dr. Fred Ivy	Dr. Ananda Mukherji	Dr. Fuming Wu
Dr. Chris Ferguson	Dr. Eugenio Jaramillo	Dr. Jyotsna Mukherji	Dr. Michael Yoder

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## Fall 2007 Workshops: Five Days of Funding Facts Sept. 17-21

<p><b>Monday, Sept. 17</b> <i>Pre-Award Process:</i> <i>University Procedures</i> 9-10 am, WHTC-116</p> <p><i>Proposal Development</i> 10-11 am, WHTC-116</p> <p><i>Pre-Award Process:</i> <i>University Procedures</i> 2-3 pm, WHTC-116</p> <p><i>Proposal Development</i> 3-4 pm, WHTC-116</p>	<p><b>Tuesday, Sept. 18</b> <i>Guest Speaker:</i> <b>Dr. Luis Angel Cubano</b> <i>Extramural Associates</i> <i>Research Development</i> <i>Award – (EARDA)</i> 9-10 am, WHTC-116</p> <p><i>Proposal Development</i> 2-3 pm, WHTC-116</p> <p><b>Wednesday, Sept. 19</b> <i>Proposal Development</i> 9-10 am, PH-116</p> <p><i>Identifying Funding Sources</i> 10-11 am, Cowart Hall-113</p>	<p><b>Wednesday, Sept. 19</b> <i>Identifying Funding</i> <i>Sources</i> 2-3 pm, Cowart Hall-113</p> <p><b>Thursday, Sept. 20</b> <i>IRB Procedures</i> 10-11am, PH-116 3-4 pm, PH-203</p> <p><b>Friday, Sept. 21</b> <i>Pre-Award Process:</i> <i>University Procedures</i> 9-10 am, PH-116 <i>IRB Procedures</i> 10-11 am, PH-116</p>
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## When to See the IRB by David L. Beck, Ph.D.

According to Texas A&M University System Policy: "All research on human participants, whether funded or unfunded, must be approved by the component's Institutional Review Board (IRB) before the initiation of the research project." In compliance with this policy, all research at TAMIU which involves human subjects must be reviewed and approved by TAMIU's IRB before the commencement of research activities. This requirement extends to research protocols which have been approved by an external IRB committee at another institution, as well as research which investigators feel might be considered exempt from IRB review. At the IRB website listed at the end of this article is other information that may be useful to you, including online training, IRB members, frequently asked questions, etc.

If the research is exempt, a simple phone call/e-mail will often suffice; if in doubt, please ask. If the research is not clearly exempt, you will be asked to fill out the forms and include necessary documentation. In general, most proposals are reviewed within seven business days of receipt. Once the proposal has been approved, if not exempt, then you are required to keep research documentation for a **minimum** of three years AFTER completion of the study. For more information, please go to the website below or direct your questions to the IRB committee or chair. We are here to assist you.

For questions, please contact **Dr. David Beck, IRB Chair at ext. 2587, [dbeck@tamiu.edu](mailto:dbeck@tamiu.edu)**.

Website: <http://www.tamiu.edu/irb/> where forms may be downloaded and filled out.



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## Steps to Consider in Budget Preparation

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To develop the budget component of a proposal you should follow these steps:

- 1. Establish the budget period.** Determine the period of time the proposal covers and develop a budget corresponding to that length of time.
- 2. Estimate expenses.** Obtain cost estimates as necessary. Direct expenses may include : program staff salaries and benefits; supplies; equipment; program-related travel; program-related rent; printing, etc.
- 3. Decide whether and how to include overhead costs.** Indirect costs, often called overhead, are costs that are shared by all the programs of an organization, such as the cost of utilities expenses, copier lease, liability insurance, audit, etc. The grant application guidelines will tell you what percentage to use when computing the indirect cost. TAMIU's current facilities and administration (F&A) negotiated rate is 20% for off-campus activities and 50% for on-campus activities. The percentage is based on direct salaries, wages and fringe benefits.
- 4. Estimate donated goods and services (*In-kind contributions*)** that will be used. Not all costs of the project will have to be paid for in cash. For example, office space and phones can be used as in-kind contributions. Donated goods and volunteer time are important to many non-profit ventures.
- 5. Estimate anticipated revenues for the project.** Sometimes the proposed project may be funded by more than one source. Included here could be individual contributions, a special event, or grants from other foundations and corporations. Each possible source of revenue for the project should be estimated and included in the budget.
- 6. Check to be sure that the budget as a whole makes sense** and conveys the right message to the funding agency. The Office of Grant Resources and the Office of Budget, Payroll, Grants and Contracts are available to assist you with the budget preparation of your proposal.

## Forecast of Funding Opportunities

### National Institutes of Health (NIH) Academic Research Enhancement Award (AREA) Grants - (R15)

<http://grants2.nih.gov/grants/funding/area.htm>

**Multiple due dates:** Cycle I (Feb. 25), Cycle II (June 25) and Cycle III (Oct. 25)

AREA grants support small research projects in the biomedical and behavioral sciences conducted by students and faculty in health professional schools, and other academic components that have not been major recipients of NIH research grant funds (note that eligibility is determined at the time of application).

### Mathematical Sciences Research Institute - MSRI Programs for Research Professors

[http://www.msri.org/calendar/index\\_activities](http://www.msri.org/calendar/index_activities)

**Research Professors Deadline: Oct. 1, 2007**

The Mathematical Sciences Research Institute (MSRI) exists to further mathematical research through broadly based programs in the mathematical sciences and closely related activities. The MSRI has a number of programs for graduate students and those with a Ph.D.

### Education Research Request for Applications (FY 2008) - 84.305A and B

<http://ies.ed.gov/funding/>

**Submission deadline: Nov. 1, 2007**

The Institute's research programs focus on improvement of the following education outcomes: (a) readiness for schooling (pre-reading, pre-writing, early mathematics and science knowledge and skills, and social development); (b) academic outcomes in reading, writing, mathematics, and science; (c) student behavior and social interactions within schools that affect the learning of academic content; (d) skills that support independent living for students with significant disabilities; and (e) educational attainment (high school graduation, enrollment in and completion of post-secondary education).

### National Science Foundation (NSF) Research in Undergraduate Institutions (RUI)

[http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\\_summ.jsp?pims\\_id=5518](http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5518)

**Full Proposal Accepted Anytime**

The Research in Undergraduate Institutions (RUI) activity supports research by faculty members of predominantly undergraduate institutions through the funding of (1) individual and collaborative research projects, (2) the purchase of shared-use research instrumentation, and (3) Research Opportunity Awards for work with NSF-supported investigators at other institutions. All NSF directorates participate in the RUI activity.

### NSF Undergraduate Research and Mentoring in the Biological Sciences (URM)

[http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\\_summ.jsp?pims\\_id=500036](http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=500036)

**Preliminary Proposal Deadline Date: Sept. 18, 2007**

**Full Proposal Deadline Date: March 4, 2008**

The goal of the URM program is to increase the number and diversity of individuals pursuing graduate studies in all areas of biological research supported by the NSF Directorate for Biological Sciences. Support will be provided to academic institutions to establish innovative programs to engage undergraduates in a year-round research and mentoring activity. Particular emphasis will be placed on broadening participation of members of groups historically under-represented in science and engineering.



## Office of Grant Resources

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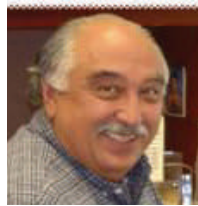
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[http://www.tamiu.edu/  
gradschool/grant/](http://www.tamiu.edu/gradschool/grant/)



**Dr. Julio F. Madrigal, Director, Office of Special Programs (OSP)** helps his staff run many different programs at TAMIU that promote education for grades P-16 and beyond. As he says, "we have developed educational programs for everyone from toddlers to teens to truck drivers and teachers."

## Office of Special Programs' Accomplishments



Dr. Julio F. Madrigal  
Director, OSP

Over the last seven years, the Office of Special Programs (OSP) has been providing services for the youth of Laredo and the surrounding communities with the main focus of "Bringing kids to the University." For the past five years, the Office of Special Programs has secured over \$13 million dollars in federal, state and local funds. Some of the programs include: Tex-PREP, Pre-Bridge, Bridge, GEAR UP, CAMP, HEP, and College Readiness. Currently, we are awaiting the results of the Upward Bound Math and Science grant application for \$1,250,000. All the programs serve low-income, first-generation college students, in particular under-represented groups. Over 1,800 students have benefited from the programs offered by the Office of Special Programs in collaboration with TAMIU. Some of the success stories, include Andres Olivares, Bridge 1998 alumni, who is now working for Boeing at NASA Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX at Mission Control. He is a mechanical engineer, graduate of Texas A&M University, College Station and resident of Roma, Texas. Another success story is that of Juan Carlos Juarez, a TexPREP 1995 alumnus, who is now teaching at John Hopkins University. He obtained a doctorate in electrical engineering specializing in laser and fiber-optic technology.

"Our mission is to motivate students to go beyond high school and as far as they want to go."  
— Dr. Julio Madrigal

## A New Avenue for Finding Funding Opportunities!

The Office of Grant Resources has purchased a subscription for InfoEd's SPINPlus. SPIN (The Sponsored Programs Information Network) provides up-to-date information on current national and international government and private funding sources, including fellowships, research grants, publication support, sabbatical support, curriculum development, and more. All of the data on SPIN is obtained directly from the sponsoring agencies to ensure the integrity of the information. TAMIU's new SPIN-Plus package will not only include the funding information network described above, but will also give TAMIU faculty and staff access to GENIUS, a flexible CV / Bio-Sketch database, and SMARTS, an automated alerts system that matches investigators with grant and contract announcements based on their user profiles.

Call our office today at 3025 to schedule a brief training for this new tool.