ALL ABOUT GRANTS

"Giving You the Competitive Edge!"

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American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

With the recent signing into law of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009, many federal agencies have begun to establish their own Recovery Act program highlighted within their websites. The office of Sponsored Research and Programs (OSRP) has developed a Recovery Act webpage (http://www.srp.missouristate.edu/Recoverygov.htm) that will contain reports pertaining to information on funding, and major actions taken so far, as well as those actions planned for the near-term.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act) was signed into law by President Obama on February 17th, 2009. It is an unprecedented effort to jumpstart our economy, create or save millions of jobs, and put a down payment on addressing long-neglected challenges so our country can thrive in the 21st century.

The Act is an extraordinary response to a crisis unlike any since the Great Depression, and includes measures to modernize our nation's infrastructure, enhance energy independence, expand educational opportunities, preserve and improve affordable health care, provide tax relief, and protect those in greatest need. An overview of the Recovery Act can be found at http://www.recovery.gov/ (opens in a new window).

Since the Act has come online, many agencies have already established their own Recovery Act web pages and submitted initial weekly reports. These reports contain information on funding, major actions taken so far, and those actions planned for the near-term. Use the links below and to the right to learn more about how the different agencies and departments are spending the funds allocated to them by the ARRA.

On the OSRP website, there are links to federal agencies recovery sites, that provide overviews, agency plans and reports plus funding opportunities that provides descriptions of funding programs and their details. Also provided is a link to the Missouri Recovery funding site that gives state specific information on the Missouri Initiative.

As a member of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, Missouri State University receives funding opportunities from all federal agencies through the Grants Resource Center,

All information posted on this page (http://www.srp.missouristate.edu/Recoverygov.htm) will be constantly updated, so check back often for updates. We also encourage researchers to get registered in SMARTS to receive funding announcements.

NIH to Fund Fifty AREA Awards Under New ARRA Competition:

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has issued a special ARRA-funded solicitation for the Academic Research Enhancement Award (AREA). Applications are due by September 24, 2009.

Tailored to the profiles of many GRC institutions, the AREA (R15) mechanism is designed to stimulate research at institutions that graduate a significant number of the na-

tion's research scientists, but that have not been major recipients of NIH support. In a significant change from past competitions, applicants may request up to $300,000 per award, double the previous limit. And a change to eligibility requirements increases the amount of funding an applicant organization can have received from NIH, to $6 million direct and indirect per year in four or more of the last seven years.

A new parent program announcement (PA) will be released in the coming months for use beginning with the October 25, 2009 receipt date. This new PA is expected to continue the increased funding levels and eligibility threshold. Contact Denise Russo at 301/451-7972 or R151@mail.nih.gov for additional information.

GAO issues Recommendations to Grants.gov Submissions:

In a recently published Office of Management and Budget (OMB) recommendation , the Government Accountability Office (GAO), instructed all federal agencies to "identify alternate methods for accepting grant applications during the peak period of the Recovery Act, with a focus on minimizing any disruption to the grants application processes". This comes as a result of the increasingly large spikes in grant-related submissions that have affected the grants application process which could potentially hamper the Recovery Act implementation. While this peak period is expected to last until August 2009, alternative methods being

suggested include agency-specific electronic systems (i.e., non-Grants.gov electronic systems run by a grantor agency), e-mail, fax, and mail.

The GAO suggests that Recovery.gov and federal agencies begin posting prominent notices (similar to the one posted recently by Grants.gov) about application options and guidance for what to do if they try to submit through Grants.gov but aren't able to. The recommendations are aimed at ensuring that every grant application submitted under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) receives equal consideration.

As such the following agencies have opted

to use alternative submission processes. These are: Corporation for National and Community Service, National Air and Space Administration, National Science Foundation, U.S. Department of Defense, U.S. Department of Education, U.S. Department of Energy, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, U.S. Department of Justice, U.S. Department of Transportation, and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

These temporary methods will see the select agencies opting to use alternative submission processes. See the OSRP Blog for further details.

View full details of the GAO recommendations.

New and Upcoming Changes to Research Compliance Programs

The Institutional Review Board (IRB) has seen an increase in applications this year. From 2007-2008, the IRB reviewed

IRB Committee Meeting

438 applications. Presently, there have been 444 reviews accomplished, putting the IRB on track to review approximately 500 protocols.   A new application form for the IRB has been developed, as well as a new review process procedure. Previously, all exempt (analysis of secondary data, anonymous surveys, etc.) reviews were approved by the IRB College Representative, as well as the IRB Chair. Now, only the College Representative will review exempt applications, to facilitate a faster approval time. In addition, there is now a form for researchers who have had their studies already approved by an IRB outside the University.

IACUC: William H Darr Facility

The Institutional Animal Care & Use Committee (IACUC) has been very active this Spring. A new Attending Veterinarian, Dr. Michael Stafford, has been hired for oversight associated with the Veterinary Care Program and is also a new member of the IACUC. He is available to researchers on Wednesday afternoons or by appointment for consulting. There is a new submission deadline for researchers submitting protocols. All protocols must be submitted at least 2 weeks prior to the upcoming IACUC meeting. Also, in compliance with federal regulations, post approval monitoring has been implemented by the IACUC. Researchers will now be sent a form annually that briefly asks for a review of their research that falls under the approved, active protocol. A big "Thank You" to the IACUC community member, Art Elbert, who is "retiring" from the IACUC in May. He has served dili-

gently on the IACUC for over 5 years.

The Institutional Biosafety Committee has two new biosafety officers. David Vaughan, Director of Environmental Management, and Erin Parrish, Director of

Research Compliance completed biosafety training this spring. Look for upcoming new forms and revised policies!

Biohazards and Radiation

The Radiation Safety Committee has updated the Missouri State University Radiation Safety Manual. Erin Parrish (ErinParrish@missouristate.edu) is now the new campus Radiation Safety Officer (RSO). There are now radiation area badges that monitor the radiation levels in laboratories using radioactive material. Missouri State is committed to keeping radiation levels "ALARA," as low as reasonably achievable, and the addition of the badges is not required by regulations, but is a best practice.

All updates and changes can be found at the Office of Sponsored Research & Programs website, http://srp.missouristate.edu/Compliance.htm.

Tips for Effective NEH Proposals

Barbara Ashbrook, Assistant Director at the Division of Education Programs for the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), shared tips on writing successful proposals with GRC members at the 2009 Proposal Development Workshop. A summary of her advice follows:

- Ask for samples of successful proposals.

- Read the program guidelines carefully.

- Speak to a program officer early in the process.

- Submit a draft proposal for review and take into account the program officer's suggestions.

- Don't forget to explain the significance of the project and its scholarly content.

- Include a work plan or schedule of activities.

- Avoid political advocacy.

Ms. Ashbrook also stated that the last thing one should do if not funded is to give up on the process. Make sure to request the panelists' written comments and contact the program officer who chaired the panel to gauge how the proposal can be revised and improved upon before resubmission. Those who reapply have automatically increased their chances of being funded, she said.

There is also nothing like serving on a NEH review panel personally to learn best practices for applying to NEH grants. One of the best ways to do so is by actively participating in a NEH funded Summer Seminar or Institute.

For first-time NEH grantseekers, the Summer Seminar and Institute programs present excellent opportunities to become familiar with the NEH process and to become acquainted with agency program officers.

TIPS:

Small Business & Technology Development Center (SBTDC)

The mission of the SBTDC is to provide training opportunities, product information, and details to companies. All services are focused on providing assistance to businesses and entrepreneurs that will result in positive economic impact.

See http://www.sbtdc.missouristate.edu/default.htm

Grant News (GRC Web Conference)

During the period of March - April 2009, two web conferences where held by the Grants Resource Center to provide updates on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) for FY 2009 and FY 2010 spending information. The presentation looked at the investments the ARRA will make in education, scientific and energy research, and infrastructure. A presentation material was provided the included the following appropriations:

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) will receive $17.8 billion, a $363 million increase over FY 08, including $150 million to fund earth science and climate change research.

The Nation Science Foundation (NSF) will receive $6.49 billion, a seven percent increase over FY 08.

The Department of Energy (DOE) will receive $26.9 billion, $2.5 billion more than FY 08. Approximately $6.5 billion will go to environmental cleanup projectsw.

The Department of Transportation (DOT) will receive $67 billion, including $67 million for the University Research Centers Program and other research.

The Department of Commerce (DOC)'s $9.3 billion budget will include $240 million to help local communities address economic challenges and create jobs. The DOC allocation also includes an unexpected $175 million for the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Technology Innovation Program (TIP) and Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP).

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will receive $7.6 billion, including $97 million for Brownfield site cleanup.

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) will receive $30.3 billion, a three percent increase over FY 08.

A trio of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) agencies, the Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services (SAMHSA), and Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) will receive a combined total of $35.8 billion.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will receive $20 billion, a $1.5 billion increase over FY 09, including $6.9 billion for women and children nutrition programs and $691 million for research and education activities.

The presentation material (PDF) is being made available on OSRP's Recovery website, found at http://www.srp.missouristate.edu/Recoverygov.htm

Contact:
brucerichards@missouristate.edu

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FY 2009 External Funding, Results as of March 31, 2009

University faculty, staff and students are involved in research, education and service projects through the support of governmental, business and philanthropic entities. This table summarizes three key aspects of this activity and highlights awards received in FY 2009 through the month of March 2009.

Month	Proposals Submitted	Total Awards	Dollars Awarded
July	42	29	$4,136,528
August	26	21	$2,158,135
September	34	28	$2,418,030
October	22	14	$1,938,927
November	15	7	$1,841,044
December	32	12	$608,448
January	23	10	$1,086,127
February	24	10	$561,005
March	28	14	$742,678
Total	**246**	**145**	**$15,490,922**

Project Highlights, as of March 2009

The University has submitted 246 proposals for FY 2009 for support of University-based projects ending March 2009. In all, 145 awards were received – some of which are from proposals submitted during the previous fiscal year. The commitment of funds in these grants and contracts amounted to $15,490,922 million. It should be noted that some of these awards were for projects that extended over more than one year, but the formal commitment for funds was only for the current project year of FY 2009. Below are some of the successful proposals.

Research:

Dr. Xin Miao

Xin Miao, Assistant Professor for **Geography, Geology, and Planning**, received $111,597.00 from the Clark County, Nevada Department of Air Quality and Environmental Management, Desert Conservation Program through the University of Nevada – Reno. The results of this project will provide a complete geomorphology GIS (Geographic Information Systems) dataset for Clark County and update and refine the current vegetation based ecosystem GIS dataset currently being used for all MSHCP (Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan) analysis.

Education:

Julie Bloodworth, Director of the **Missouri Fine Arts Academy**, received $346,858.00 from the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. This grant will support a program for around 200 of Missouri's artistically gifted students in their junior and senior years of high school. The project will encourage local schools to establish or improve programs for artistically gifted youth. Curriculum development and teacher training will employ interdisciplinary arts instruction to help the students achieve their full potential.

Community Service:

Anita Davis, Assistant Director, and **Diane May**, Director of the **Center for Resource Planning and Management**, received

Center for Resource Planning and Management

$51,000 from the US Economic Development Administration to allow the Southwest Missouri Council of Governments (SMCOG) to provide planning and technical assistance in Barry, Christian, Dade, Dallas, Greene, Lawrence, Polk, Stone, Taney and Webster counties and their respective communities to enhance quality of life and economic prosperity.

"All people who have turned out worth anything have had the chief hand in their education."

Sir Walter Scott

http://www.srp.missouristate.edu

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Dr. James P. Baker, is the authorized institutional representative to sign for proposals, grants and contracts.

About OSRP

Our Mission: *To increase the number and quality of grants awarded to faculty and staff by providing effective assistance.*

OSRP provides assistance to all faculty and staff in developing and submitting competitive grant proposals, initiating new awards, and non-financial administration of grants and contracts.

*O*SRP assistance includes:

- Expanding your thinking about research and program development.
- Conducting grant writing workshops and online training.
- Registering you for SPIN and SMARTS - access to electronic funding sources.
- Coordinating proposal development teams.
- Assisting in developing project budgets.
- Reviewing and editing proposal drafts.
- Submitting proposals via hardcopy and electronic routes.
- Coordinating Post-Award Project Management

The Compliance Corner Report

Responsible Conduct of Research:

National Science Foundation
WHERE DISCOVERIES BEGIN

In it's ongoing support of funding at research universities, the National Science Foundation (NSF) placed on the National Register a request for public comment on a requirement for students and postdoctoral researchers involved in NSF proposals to be educated in the responsible and ethical conduct of research (RCR). The proposal is to be part of the **COMPETES Act** (Section 7009 of the America Creating Opportunities to Meaningfully Promote Excellence in Technology, Education, and Science; 42 U.S.C. 1862o–1).

The proposed implementation would be effective for October 1, 2009, NSF would require that at the time of proposal submission to NSF, a proposing institution's Authorized Organizational Representative must certify that the institution has a plan to provide appropriate training and oversight in the responsible and ethical conduct

of research to undergraduates, graduate students, and postdoctoral researchers who will be supported by NSF to conduct research.

Responsible Conduct of Research training includes the following topics:

Data Acquisition, Management, Sharing and Ownership – the implications that privacy and the integrity of research have for the storage and retrieval of data.

Conflict of Interest and Commitment – potential conflicts between the interests of science and a scientist's own interests, especially when research has immediate commercial applications.

Human Subjects – the widely-recognized moral dimension of research with human subjects, both in avoiding unnecessary harm and in securing consent from subjects.

Animal Welfare – when the use of animal subjects can be justified and of how they can be used humanely.

Research Misconduct – concern about

fraud and other misconduct is the most obvious motivation for thinking about RCR.

Publication Practices and Responsible Authorship – a central mechanism of scientific communication, but it is also a mechanism for attaining prestige and career advancement.

Mentor / Trainee Responsibilities – the mentoring relation raises issues for both the trainee and the mentor.

Peer Review – key to the integrity of scientific publication, so the demands of peer review naturally raise issues of responsible conduct.

Collaborative Science – issues of trust, negotiation, and conflict-resolution involved in cooperation between scientists.

Whistleblowing – the issues involved in exposing misconduct.

See http://206.151.87.67/docs/NSFRCRFRNotice.pdf from the Federal Register.