Engineering Research Digest
A weekly newsletter for Engineering PIs interested in funding opportunities and news

July 1, 2015
http://teesresearch.tamu.edu/ researchnews@tees.tamus.edu

Tips/Lessons Learned in Submitting Proposals

Funding Opportunities (from the past 7 days)
For previous funding opportunities, see
http://teesresearch.tamu.edu/funding-opportunities/

LIMITED SUBMISSIONS
If you would like to receive all notices of limited submission opportunities, please email shelly.martin@tamu.edu. Note that if you are on this list, you will receive any and all announcements, whether or not they apply to you. All limited submission opportunities are also posted on the VPR’s site.

Limited Submission Searle Scholars Program – Email of Intent Due July 15, 2015; Internal Proposal Due July 22, 2015
Limited Submission NSF Scholarships in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (S-STEM) – Email of Intent Due July 15, 2015; Internal Proposal Due July 22, 2015
Limited Submission NSF Research Experiences for Teachers in Engineering and Computer Science – Email of Intent Due August 5, 2015; Internal Proposal Due August 12, 2015

Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI)
Science Education Initiative – Categories: Building Capacity within the Institution or Helping Others Build Capacity (link)

Internal Water Seed Grant – TEES and Agrilife Research and Extension
Research, Engineering and Extension: Creation and Deployment of Water-Use Efficient Technology Platforms for FY ’16 - FY ’17 – Request for Pre-Proposals (link)
John D. & Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation
International Peace & Security (link)

Navy – Office of Naval Research (ONR)
Expeditionary Intelligence, Surveillance, Reconnaissance Science and Technology (link)

NIH
Opportunities for Collaborative Research at the NIH Clinical Center (U01) (link)
Bioengineering Research Partnership (BRP): Non- or Minimally-Invasive Methods to Measure Biochemical Substances during Neonatal and Perinatal Patient Care and Research (R01) (link)

NSF
Limited Submission NSF Scholarships in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (S-STEM) (link)
Limited Submission NSF Research Experiences for Teachers (RET) in Engineering and Computer Science (link)
Science of Science and Innovation Policy Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grants (SciSIP-DDRIG) (link)
CyberCorps(R) Scholarship for Service (SFS) (link)
Improving Undergraduate STEM Education: Education and Human Resources (IUSE: EHR) (link)

Searle Scholars Program
Limited Submission Searle Scholars Program (link)

W.M. Keck Foundation
Limited Submission Keck Research Program (link)

Request for Information

Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy (EERE)
Request for Information (RFI): Photovoltaics Research and Development (PV R&D) (link)

Upcoming Events
See also http://teesresearch.tamu.edu/events/ for a complete listing and links to handouts/presentations

Register Now!
DARPA – Wait, What? A Future Technology Forum
September 9-11, 2015
St. Louis, MO
Information and registration
Description: Held at The America’s Center Convention Complex in St. Louis, Missouri, this forum on future technologies will be a fast-paced gathering at which world-renowned thinkers and innovators from inside and outside DARPA will offer perspectives on where today’s advances are heading. Through a variety of channels, everyone will be encouraged to help extend those ideas further into the future. In addition to plenary sessions focused on topics of broad import and interest, Wait, What? will offer multiple themed breakout sessions, allowing participants to dive more deeply into particular topics. An exhibit area will feature displays describing a selection of DARPA programs that reflect the breadth of the agency’s work and range of its performers.

3-Part Workshop Series Coming This Fall
Increasing Your Research Funding through Increasing Your Visibility – To the Public, To Your Peers and To Funders

Increasing Your Visibility to the Public – 2-part session
October 7 & 14, 2015
12:40-1:30 p.m.
ETB 2005
Important: Bring your own laptop. Participants will need to attend BOTH sessions.
Description: Many funders are influenced by their perception of your research, especially if the public is aware of the work you have done as a result of the funder’s grant. The first session will be about how to make yourself look good and get more people looking at you. The second session will be on how to actively push your message to the popular press – Presented by Dr. Bruce Gooch, Associate Professor of Computer Science and Engineering.

Increasing Your Visibility to Your Peers – 1 session
October 19, 2015 – 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
OR
October 23, 2015 – 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
ETB 3002
Important: Bring your laptop. Participants can attend EITHER session.
Description: Participants will know how to maximize their online scholarly identity (a researcher has no reputation if they have a poor online identity because no one can assess their profile), be able to characterize their scholarly impact, and be introduced to publishing strategies that maximize scholarly impact – Presented by Dr. Bruce Herbert, Director of Scholarly Communication, Texas A&M University Libraries.

Increasing Your Visibility to Funders – 1 session
October 30, 2015
1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
ETB 3002
Important: Bring your laptop.
Description: This workshop will help researchers explain the value proposition of their research to potential funders in 2 minutes or less. The potential types of funders will be discussed along with an overview of what types of descriptions would best engage which funder. – Presented by
Register Now!

**2nd NIH Regional Seminar on Program Funding & Grants Administration**

October 14-16, 2015
San Diego, CA

**Information**

**Registration required**

**Description:** The NIH Regional Seminar offers a comprehensive program for the NIH extramural community about the NIH grants process and related policies, including such topics as Fundamentals of the NIH, compliance, peer review, grant writing for success, pre-award and post-award issues for administrators and investigators, animal and human subject research, and how to interact electronically with NIH. In addition to a strong, track for of sessions for administrators, a redesigned track for new investigators will provide step-by-step guidance on mapping your career, an understanding of the funding process and what can be expected up to the time of award. To add to the array of topic choices, special interest sessions are provided on topics like research integrity, data sharing, foreign collaborations, and more.

**Cancer Prevention and Research Institute (CPRIT) Innovations in Cancer Prevention and Research Conference**

November 9-10, 2015
Renaissance Arboretum Hotel
Austin, Texas

**Information**

**Call for abstracts instructions:** Deadline is July 31, 2015.

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**Research News**

**Internal Water Seed Grant – TEES and Agrilife Research and Extension**

**Overview**

Over the next few decades, water will be one of Texas’ biggest challenges for agriculture, industry, and municipalities. Texas is the second most populous state in the country and one of the fastest growing states. As a result, there will be a growing demand for usable water—both potable and non-potable. The Texas Water Development Board estimates that by the year 2060 our water needs will increase by 27 percent compared to the water demand in 2000. To meet growing water demand by 2060, Texas will need to develop 3.85 million acre-feet of additional water supplies from groundwater, surface water, conservation, desalination, and reuse. Texas A&M AgriLife and Texas A&M Engineering have been charged by the Texas Legislature to address the critical water use issues facing Texas.
In response, Texas A&M AgriLife Research (Research), Texas A&M AgriLife Extension (Extension) and the Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station (TEES) are providing a Request For Proposals (RFP) to research, develop, deploy, and demonstrate innovative and new water-use efficient technology platforms across rural, municipal, and industrial applications. Priorities of this water initiative will focus on resolution-based research and engineering to address the growing demands, increased regulatory oversight, and the need for new technology platforms for the water needs of Texas. Research, Extension, and TEES will provide funding for competitive grants for 1 to 2 years across FY’16 and FY’17. The RFP encourages and seeks applicants to consider the importance of developing collaborative efforts across AgriLife and TEES faculty and the Colleges of Engineering and Agriculture & Life Sciences. Selected proposals will likely have multidisciplinary teams collaborating across AgriLife and TEES. The RFP’s primary focus is on efforts to advance and automate the efficient use of water resources, specifically the development, deployment, and demonstration of water-use efficient platforms and technologies for Texas with emphasis on sustainable practices and ecosystem needs that apply to:

- Agricultural applications such as traditional row crops, specialty crops, and forages.
- Urban/suburban water needs and efficient use ranging from single dwellings to industrial consumers, city parks, athletic fields, etc.
- Advance and deploy technology with linkages to urban and/or rural initiatives in water conservation and re-use, landscaping, and irrigation management.
- Non-traditional sources of potable and non-potable water for agricultural, municipal, and industrial applications such as desalination, reuse, and brackish applications.

In all areas above, the creation and use of new technologies, such as sensor networks, precision irrigation, unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), and other computational methods and tools are strongly encouraged.

**Criteria for Pre-Proposals and Subsequent Request for Proposals**

The RFP Entitled “Research, Engineering and Extension: Creation and Deployment of Water-Use Efficient Technology Platforms” will accept pre-proposals from multi-disciplinary teams across AgriLife and TEES and/or the Colleges of Engineering and Agriculture & Life Sciences. Each pre-proposal should have one or two clearly identified principal investigators (PI) from Research, Extension, and TEES, but both PIs cannot be from the same agency. Principal investigators of funded projects will be expected to submit progress reports. Preference will be given to pre-proposals based upon the following criteria:

- Research, develop, and/or deploy and demonstrate new strategies, and/or existing methodologies, and technologies in the priority areas listed above;
- Involve cross-disciplinary teams in Research, Extension, and TEES that facilitate development and adoption of existing and new sustainable, water-use efficient systems;
- Potential to leverage and compete for external funds from federal and /or state government agencies/programs, foundations, and/or corporate entities;
- Potential to develop and protect intellectual property in the form of know-how, TM, patent applications and the like;
• Qualifications of Principal Investigators and team members.

Who is Eligible to Submit a Pre-Proposal?

Principal Investigators: Only investigators who hold appointments with Research, Extension or TEES may serve as a PI on a pre-proposal. Each pre-proposal should have at least one if not two clearly identified principal investigators, preferably one each from at least two of the following: Colleges of Engineering and Agriculture & Life Sciences, AgriLife Research or Extension, or TEES.

Co-PIs: Investigators holding an appointment with Research, Extension or TEES are also eligible to serve as Co-PIs on pre-proposals. Potential investigators outside of the two AgriLife agencies, TEES, and the Colleges of Engineering and Agriculture & Life Sciences but within the TAMUS or other institutes (national or international) are encouraged to participate as co-PIs in areas of needed critical expertise. These potential collaborators must be approved by the AgriLife and TEES review committee.

Deadline for Submission: Pre-proposals are due no later than COB on July 24, 2015. Please submit an electronic copy of each pre-proposal to the following email address: WaterSeedGrant@ag.tamu.edu

Review Process: Pre-proposals will be reviewed by an ad hoc advisory review panel equally represented by Texas A&M AgriLife Research, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, and Texas A&M Engineering. Official invitations will be issued to those selected to submit a full proposal. (Review criteria are attached.)

Requests for Proposals: Finalists for full proposals will be notified by August 7, 2015 and full proposals will be due no later than COB on September 4, 2015. It is anticipated that a high percentage of full proposals will be funded.

Funding: Both 1-year and 2-year proposals may be funded depending on the scope. Funding is contingent upon budget availability. 2-year funding is contingent on the project’s 1-year progress and its ability to leverage additional funding. Budgets should not exceed $150,000 per year. After review of the pre-proposals, PIs may be requested to combine proposals and collaborate.

For more information, please visit the website.

Elabd Awarded DOD Grant for Polymer Research

Dr. Yossef Elabd, professor in the Artie McFerrin Department of Chemical Engineering at Texas A&M University, has received a 2015 Defense University Research Instrumentation Program (DURIP) grant, funded by the Department of Defense.

The title of the study is “Small-Angle X-ray Scattering for Nanostructured Polymers Research and Education.”
Elabd is one of 225 university researchers across 111 academic institutions to receive the award. Of the $67.8 million in total program funding, Elabd’s portion is close to $400,000.

Collaborators Corner

If you are looking for collaborators for a project/proposal or a piece of equipment, email your request to researchnews@tees.tamus.edu for inclusion in the next newsletter. If you can help, please email the requestor directly.

To view the complete story, please visit the website.

Prepared by TEES Research Development under the auspices of the Associate Agency Director for Strategic Initiatives and Centers. For questions, email researchnews@tees.tamus.edu.