Tips/Lessons Learned in Submitting Proposals

Know Your Field, Know Your Competition

Gather background information. It is critical you know where your field is in relation to your proposed research. Analyze what already exists. Show thorough knowledge of your field and don’t overlook relevant publications potential reviewers have authored. Seek constructive criticism from knowledgeable peers. If you state your idea is novel or innovative, it had better not already have happened elsewhere in your field! Know your competition.

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 Major Research Instrumentation Program: (MRI) – Email of Intent Due October 7, 2015; Internal Proposal Due October 14, 2015

DOD
Fiscal Year 2016 Office of Naval Research Young Investigator Program (YIP) Grant (link)
Fuels and Combustion Technologies for Aerospace Propulsion II (link)
Tailorable Feedstock and Forming (TFF) (link)
Wafer Scale Infrared Detectors (WIRED) (link)

DOE
Medium and Heavy Duty Vehicle Powertrain Electrification and Dual Fuel Fleet Demonstration (link)
NIH
NCI Outstanding Investigator Award (R35) (link)

NSF
Limited Submission Major Research Instrumentation Program: (MRI) (link)
Small Business Technology Transfer Program Phase I (STTR) (link)
Small Business Innovation Research Program Phase I (SBIR) (link)
IUSE / Professional Formation of Engineers: REvolutionizing engineering and computer science Departments (RED) (link)
Dear Colleague Letter: Supporting Research Advances in Smart and Connected Communities (link)

USAID
Broad Agency Announcement for Science, Technology, Innovation and Partnership (STIP) BAA (link)

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

Writing Successful Proposals Workshop Part 1
September 22, 2015
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Henderson Hall, Room 103
Registration required
Description: The workshop will cover the best practices for successful proposals to federal and other funding agencies. Questions will be taken at the end of the session until all have been asked.

Maestro Training for Research Portal Users
Dates: September 23, October 21
1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
To register for one of the dates listed above, email maestro@tamus.edu. Regional campuses can receive training via WebEx on request.

CONACYT Writer’s Workshop
September 23, 2015
10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
ILSB 1143
Registration required
Description: The workshop will cover important dates, eligibility requirements, and best practices for formatting and writing CONACYT grants.
Write Winning NIH Grant Proposals
September 24, 2015
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Rudder Tower, Room 601
Registration required
Description: Faculty will learn how to present their case to review committees using proven tips and strategies; write with a linear progression of logic that leads the reviewers through the application; and write for two review audiences—assigned reviewers reading a proposal in its entirety and non-assigned reviewers reading critical sections only.

Budget Bits
September 25, 2015
1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Wisenbaker 236C
Register in TrainTraq for Course #2112550 (Section 2267)
Description: This workshop will focus on planning and tips for strategic budget development to make your proposal more competitive. All sizes of projects—from single PI to multi-institutional—will be discussed. Major compliance issues will be covered. The intended audience is both new and moderately experienced proposers.

NSF Proposal Writer's Group Inaugural Meeting
September 29, 2015
2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Henderson Hall, Room 103
Registration required
Description: The workshop will cover strategies and considerations relevant to the successful creation or resubmission of proposals to the National Science Foundation. Questions will be taken at the end of the session until all have been asked and answered.

Demystifying the NSF!
October 1, 2015
1:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Henderson Hall, Room 103
Registration required
Description: The goal of this workshop will be to familiarize participants with the mission and structure of the National Science Foundation, the NSF merit review process, how to navigate the NSF website, and how to find relevant funding and other NSF related information.

Strategic Initiatives Informational Breakfast
October 6, 2015
8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
ETB 3002
Registration required
3-Part Workshop Series in October
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 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.
ETB 2005
**Important:** Bring your own laptop. Participants will need to attend BOTH sessions.
**Registration:** No registration required.
**Description:** Many funders are influenced by their perception of you 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.
**Registration:** No registration required.
**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
1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
ETB 3002
**Important:** Bring your laptop.
**Registration:** No registration required.
**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 **Dr. Richard Malak**, Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering, and **Rodney Boehm**, Industry Mentor, Engineering Academic and Student Affairs (EASA)

NSF Broader Impacts Workshop
October 7, 2015
2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Henderson Hall, Room 103
**Registration required**
Description: The workshop will cover the strategies and considerations relevant to the Broader Impacts requirement of grant proposals submitted to the National Science Foundation. Questions will be taken at the end of the session until all have been asked and answered.

New Date
Lunch and Learn – RIG: Cybersecurity & Security of Cyberphysical Systems
October 9, 2015
12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Wisenbaker 236C
Registration required – Lunch will be provided
Description: The goal of this research interest group (RIG) is to familiarize participants with the vision and goals of the newly formed Cybersecurity Initiative, to review upcoming activities and events, and to engage in focused dialogue. The intended audience is faculty and others interested in collaborating on cybersecurity initiatives in an effort to substantially increase our level of research activity in this vitally important area.

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.

Finding and Responding to Funding Opportunities
October 23, 2015
1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Wisenbaker 236C
Register in TrainTraq for Course #2112551 (Section 2268)
Description: The intended audience is both new and moderately experienced proposers. Potential federal and state funders will be discussed including agency culture, finding funding opportunities, assessing competitiveness, contacting program officers, and reading RFPs. This workshop requires computer access for hands-in interactions. Participants are responsible for providing their own access via laptop or tablet.

Cancer Prevention and Research Institute (CPRIT) Innovations in Cancer Prevention and Research Conference
November 9-10, 2015
Review Process
November 13, 2015
1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Wisenbaker 236C
Register in TrainTraq for Course #2112552 (Section 2269)
**Description:** Interactive workshop includes mock review panels, discussion of the review process and provides tips to successfully maneuver through the proposal review process.

Strategic Initiatives Informational Breakfast
November 20, 2015
8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
ETB 3002
Registration required – coming soon

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Research News

**Cybersecurity Research Seed Grant Program RFP to Be Released**

A primary goal of the TEES cybersecurity initiative is to substantially increase the level of cybersecurity research activity throughout the A&M System. In line with this goal, a formal Request for Proposals (RFP) associated with the Cybersecurity Research Seed Grant Program is expected to be released in late September with an anticipated due date for proposals in early November. The awards will be announced in early December.

This RFP will seek proposals for interdisciplinary cybersecurity research from teams made up of no less than two A&M faculty members. These proposals can address a wide array of cybersecurity topics, including the increasingly important human dimensions of cybersecurity. Areas of particular interest are proposals that address cybersecurity challenges in the following critical infrastructure sectors: Energy, Transportation Systems, Emergency Services, and Public Health.

For more information pertaining to these grants, please contact Dr. Dan “Rags” Ragsdale at rags@tamu.edu.

**Murphy and Robots Featured on TED Talk**

Dr. Robin Murphy, Raytheon professor in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering at Texas A&M University, delivered a TED talk to the 2015 TEDWomen conference.
Murphy’s talk focused around her research in robotics and disaster informatics. As the director of the Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station’s Center for Robot Assisted Search and Rescue (CRASAR), Murphy uses air, water and ground robots to help responders in disaster situations. Her goal is to provide responders with the information they need to reduce response and recovery time.

Murphy uses robots to collect information for responders. Her robots fly, dive and climb in places that a human could not. As they do this, they collect images and data about their surroundings to assist responders. Much of Murphy’s research focuses on disaster informatics, the processing of this data and ensuring it gets to the appropriate decision maker.

To view the complete story and get the link to the TED talk, please visit the website.

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.

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.