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**SACRAMENTO STATE**  
Research & Sponsored Projects

# News

## Upcoming Web Conferences

The Office of Research and Sponsored Projects (ORSP) is hosting the following web conferences this spring. If you are interested in attending, please contact ORSP at 8-7381 to reserve a seat.

### **Department of Education's Business and International Education Program**

*Thursday, March 30, 2006, 11 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.*  
*Modoc Hall, Room 2008*

The U.S. Department of Education's Business and International Education Program (BIE) offers opportunities for students in various business disciplines to receive intense foreign language instruction and to work in internship capacities in foreign businesses. BIE Program Officer, Tanyelle Richardson, will discuss the program in detail and will highlight strategies to make grant proposals more competitive. Participants will have ample time to ask questions during the interactive question-and-answer periods throughout the program.

The next deadline for applications to the BIE program is expected to be November 15, 2006.

For more information on the U.S. Department of Education's Business and International Education program, go to

<http://www.ed.gov/programs/iegpsbie/index.html>.

### **NSF Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Program**

*Thursday, April 6, 2006, 11 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.*  
*Modoc Hall, Willow Suite 1*

The National Science Foundation's (NSF) Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Program annually funds approximately 300 to 400 junior (untenured) faculty members to develop rigorous research programs which effectively integrate research and education of students. Awards are made for a minimum of \$400,000 over five years except for in the biological sciences where awards are made for a minimum of \$500,000 over five years. Participants will have ample time to ask questions during the interactive question-and-answer periods throughout the program.

CAREER Awards are made in all areas of interest to NSF including the biological sciences; computer science and engineering; science, math, and technology education; engineering; geosciences; mathematical and physical sciences; and social, behavioral and economic sciences. The deadline for receipt of applications is expected to be around July 19, 2006.

For more information on the NSF CAREER program, go to

[http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\\_summ.jsp?pims\\_id=5262&from=fund](http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5262&from=fund).

## Notices

### Change in Local Mileage Reimbursement Rate

The reimbursement rate for privately owned vehicle use on official project business, when the project is funded by sources other than the State of California, changed on January 1, 2006 to 44.5 cents per mile (\$.445/mile) unless the project sponsor stipulates otherwise. The new rate applies to travel occurring on or after January 1, 2006.

### Conflict of Interest Policy

Both CSU system policy and federal regulations require the filing of a Statement of Economic Interest or conflict of interest statement by faculty members when applying for a grant or contract from certain sponsors.

CSU system policy (Faculty and Staff Relations – Office of the Chancellor 86-05) requires "... financial disclosure by principal investigators whenever the faculty member applies for a nongovernmental contract or grant. No nongovernmental contract or grant may proceed without the principal investigator filing a financial statement (FPPC 700-U)."

In addition to proposals to nongovernmental organizations, both the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the National Science Foundation (NSF) also currently require that principal investigators file a conflict of interest form when submitting a proposal for funding.

Currently the state of California 700-U form is used for both nongovernmental proposals and proposals submitted to NIH or NSF. The completed original of the 700-U form must be filed with the Office of Research and Sponsored Projects (ORSP) at the time a proposal is sent off campus. The form is available at <http://www.csus.edu/rsp/Economic.pdf>. For additional information, contact ORSP at 8-7381.

## Sponsor Alerts

### ED Forecast of Upcoming Grant Opportunities

The U.S. Department of Education (ED) has posted its listing of grant opportunities for fiscal year 2006 as a guide to help applicants plan their grant seeking activities. The guide lists virtually all programs and competitions under which the Department has invited or expects to invite applications for new awards and provides actual or estimated deadline dates for the transmittal of applications under these programs. The webpage is updated periodically and is located at <http://www.ed.gov/fund/grant/find/edlite-forecast.html>.

### NIH Announces Plans to Eliminate the Mailing of Paper Notifications

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) continues towards its goal of a paperless grants notification process by eliminating paper mailings of Summary Statements and Peer Review Outcome Letters. Instead, investigators are instructed to use the eRA Commons, a web interface where NIH and the applicant organizations are able to conduct extramural research administration business electronically. For additional information on NIH's plans, go to <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-05-075.html>. To get signed up with the NIH eRA Commons, contact ORSP at 8-7381.

## Upcoming Human Subjects Deadlines

Protocol submissions are due by noon on the Monday TWO WEEKS prior to each meeting. Protocols received after the submission deadline will be reviewed at the next meeting.

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### APRIL MEETING

#### Submission Deadline:

Monday, April 3

#### CPHS Meeting Date:

Monday, April 17

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### MAY MEETING

#### Submission Deadline:

Monday, May 1

#### CPHS Meeting Date:

Monday, May 15

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To access the Human Subjects Manual, protocol submission forms, and a complete list of deadlines go to:

<http://www.csus.edu/rsp/HumanSubjects.htm>.

## Sponsor Alert

### NIH Review Pilot Aims to Shorten Proposal Review Time

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has announced a pilot effort to significantly shorten its peer review process for research grant applications. The pilot, which could eventually speed up the grant process for all NIH-funded researchers, initially will target new investigators applying for their first major NIH grant. According to NIH officials, new investigators are especially disadvantaged by time lags.

Toni Scarpa, director of NIH's Center for Scientific Review, has said that the goal is to reduce the grant review process by half.

The current dual review process can easily take nine months before researchers know whether they have been funded. Applicants who do not succeed at first and choose to try again face the lengthy process of revising the application, resubmission and re-review.

The initial scientific review process currently takes six months. Then reviewers' evaluations are sent to NIH's institutes and centers, whose advisory councils provide a second level review for broader policy and portfolio relevance.

Advisory councils make their recommendations, and individual institute and center directors make final funding decisions based on councils' decisions, taking into account other factors, including funding pressures. This second review stage usually takes three additional months.

The new pilot is designed to shorten the time to re-review for new investigators who do not succeed the first time around and are ready and able to address concerns and issues raised by reviewers in their critique, or "summary statement."

A limited number of new investigators will be able to resubmit amended applications for the next scientific review meeting, rather than waiting a cycle, thereby lopping four months off the process.

The summary statements prepared for applications submitted to the participating review panels will include an explicit note that identifies the application as eligible for resubmission on a quick turnaround basis. Those selected applicants may choose to resubmit by a special receipt date to have their amended proposals reviewed at the study section's next meeting.

For more details on the new pilot process, go to <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-06-013.html>.

### Grants.gov Update

**Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)** – HRSA is no longer accepting applications in paper form for grant opportunities posted after January 1, 2006. This applies to all applicants submitting new, competing continuations and a selected number of non-competing continuation applications. Applicants are now required to submit electronically through Grants.gov.

**National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)** – NEH announced that, beginning January 2006, it will only accept institutional grant applications via Grants.gov, the government-wide grants portal. All NEH application guidelines for programs with deadlines in 2006 or beyond will contain complete, step-by-step instructions on how to apply via Grants.gov for that particular program.

**National Institutes of Health (NIH)** – NIH has pushed back the date of the mandatory electronic application submission of the traditional research grant (R01) mechanism by four months. The new date for mandatory submission of R01s via Grants.gov is February 1, 2007. NIH considered input from the applicant community and analyzed the results of the first required Grants.gov submission rounds and decided to adjust the timeline. Updates on the status of the transition to electronic submission will be posted on the NIH eRA Electronic Submission of Grant Applications Website at <http://era.nih.gov/ElectronicReceipt/index.htm>.

**National Science Foundation (NSF)** – NSF recently posted its Grants.gov implementation strategy and published a list of specific programs that will require the use of Grants.gov to prepare and submit proposals. A NSF **Grants.gov Application Guide** is posted on its website at <http://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/docs/grantsgovguide.pdf> and a listing of programs affected by Grants.gov is posted at <http://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/docs/grantsgovlisting06.pdf>.

Important items to remember with NSF submissions include the following: PI's must still be registered in FastLane even if their proposal is to be submitted via Grants.gov; all uploaded attachments must be in PDF; all Grants.gov submissions must adhere to the current format requirements in FastLane; and neither collaborative proposals or proposals with subawards may be submitted using Grants.gov. These proposals must still be submitted through the NSF FastLane system at this time.

## Sponsor Alert

### U.S. Department of Education Approves New Peer Review Process

The U.S. Department of Education's Institute for Education Sciences (IES) has taken a step towards its goal of transforming education into an evidence-based field. IES is the research arm of the Department of Education and aims to provide decision makers with the best available research and data before they adopt programs or practices that will affect a significant numbers of students.

In January, IES' advisory panel approved a new peer review process for research grants that mimics the National Institutes of Health model. IES hopes this more rigorous approval process will entice a broader range of scientists and fewer proposals from those advocating for or against a particular intervention.

With this major change, IES would set two peer review cycles per year, rather than continue with the current practice of creating a different grant timeline for each competition. IES has tentatively set the two rounds of grant submissions for FY 2007 as follows:

#### March 2006

FY 2007 competitions are announced

#### July 2006

First round of submissions are due

#### October-November 2006

First round peer review panels meet  
Second round of submissions are due

#### February-March 2007

Second round peer review panels meet

Applicants whose proposals are approved in the first round will receive their grants in time to begin research in the fall of 2006 academic year. The new timeline was also designed to make the process more predictable for researchers when planning their budgets.

Under the new process, there will be five standing peer review panels that will evaluate applications according to topic and methodology in each of the following areas: reading and writing education; mathematics and science education; systems and broad education reform; basic processes; and statistics and modeling.

Each panel will include scientists and practitioners of equal caliber to the most experienced applicant. At least half of each panel will include principal reviewers who will serve one- to three- year terms.

In addition, IES will hold five single-session panels to judge narrow subjects, such as severe behavior disorders or learning processes.

For more information about the Institute for Education Sciences and its upcoming grant programs, go to <http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ies/index.html?src=oc>. The new round of grant competitions is expected to be announced this month.

## Funding Opportunities by Email

**SMARTS** is an electronic matching and funding opportunity notification system which provides information on federal and non-federal grants, contracts and fellowships as they are announced by the various agencies. This information is disseminated via e-mail based on an individual's profile. All faculty and staff at Sacramento State who are interested in finding and applying for grants are encouraged to use this system.

To sign up for SMARTS, go to <http://www.infoed.org> and click on **Access Info Office** (top right hand corner). From here click on the **Genius Smarts** icon and then select **Create a New Profile**.

If you have questions regarding SMARTS or need assistance signing up, please contact ORSP at 8-7381.

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Anything else you would like to see in the *Research & Sponsored Projects News*?

E-mail Shannon Fredrickson at [fredrick@csus.edu](mailto:fredrick@csus.edu).

## Proposed FY 2007 Federal Budget

On February 6, President Bush released his proposed budget for fiscal year (FY) 2007. A trio of initiatives, the **American Competitiveness Initiative**, the **National Security Language Initiative**, and the **American Energy Initiative**, are aimed at sharpening economic competitiveness and domestic security. The initiatives would also potentially bring increases for some federal grant makers, especially in the physical sciences and engineering.

The National Science Foundation (NSF), the Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Science, and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) laboratories in Commerce would all receive substantial budget increases after years of flat or declining funding.

Under the proposed plan, NSF would be up for an 8 percent increase and the Department of Energy's Office of Science would see a 14 percent boost. This also would include a promise to double NSF's budget over the next 10 years.

The Department of Education (ED) would also benefit from the initiatives with additional funding slated to strengthen math and science teaching and learning (see article on page 6).

However, grant programs overall would be flat funded and biomedical research would take a back seat to the physical sciences and engineering.

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) budget would be flat for the second year in a row and as a result would fund less than 1 out of every 5 grant applications. In FY 2007, NIH hopes to be able to slightly increase the number of new and competing grants it would fund by

keeping the average grant cost at the current level. NIH estimates that it would fund 9,337 new and competing research project grants, about 275 more than it plans to fund this year.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), despite being a major sponsor of physical sciences research, would see its research funding fall to offset a big increase in funds targeted for the development of new space vehicles.

The President's proposed budget also includes continued support for several interagency research and development initiatives. The multi-agency **Networking and Information Technology Research and Development** program would receive a two percent increase over FY 2006. This program plans and coordinates research efforts at various agencies in the areas of high-end computing systems, large-scale networking, software development, high-confidence systems, information management and cyber security. The **Nanotechnology Research and Development** initiative is slated to receive a two percent reduction, but still remains a high priority area. In FY 2007, agencies participating in the initiative would continue to focus on fundamental and applied research with attention to the human and environmental health impacts of nanotechnology, as well as ethical, legal and other societal issues.

For more information on the President's FY 2007 proposed budget, go to the Association of American University's website at [http://www.aau.edu/budget/07Summary\\_by\\_Agency.cfm](http://www.aau.edu/budget/07Summary_by_Agency.cfm) or the American Association for the Advancement of Science's website at <http://www.aaas.org/spp/rd/prel07p.htm>.

Also see page 6 for more information on the National Security Language and Competitiveness Initiatives.

### EPA Environmental Research Listservs

The Environmental Protection Agency's National Center for Environmental Research (NCER) supports research that will improve the scientific basis for decisions on national environmental issues including exposure, effects, risk assessment and risk management. NCER periodically sends out emails announcing new grant/funding opportunities or highlight new documents in specific subject areas. To subscribe, go to [http://cfpub.epa.gov/ncer\\_list/elists/](http://cfpub.epa.gov/ncer_list/elists/).

From here you will be able to subscribe to the following email lists:

The **Grant and Funding Announcements Mailing List** distributes notifications of new Requests for Applications (RFAs) as they are posted on the NCER home page.

The **Topical Email List** distributes bi-weekly email messages which include a brief summary and a link for one or more documents that have been added to the NCER home page over the preceding two week period. Only documents that contain terms related to the specific topic of concern are summarized.

## Proposed Initiatives In-depth

### National Security Language Initiative

In January, the proposed National Security Language Initiative (NSLI) was unveiled at a meeting of university presidents, higher education advocates and federal officials.

The initiative is designed to meet national security and economic needs by cultivating skills in critical foreign languages. NSLI aims to dramatically increase the number of Americans learning languages, such as Arabic, Chinese, Farsi, Hindi and Russian through new and expanded programs from kindergarten through postsecondary education. Over a \$110 million was included in President Bush's proposed fiscal year 2007 budget to fund this effort.

NSLI has three broad goals: expand the number of Americans mastering critical need languages and start at a younger age; increase the number of advanced-level speakers of foreign languages, with an emphasis on critical needs languages; and increase the number of foreign language teachers and the resources for them.

The initiative calls for ramping up and tweaking ongoing programs at the Departments of Education (ED), Defense (DOD) and State.

Twenty-four million dollars would be provided to create incentives to teach and study critical need languages in K-12 by refocusing the Department of Education's Foreign Language Assistance Program grants (also see box on right for more details).

Despite this renewed effort, there will still be relatively small amounts of federal funding for foreign language and international studies programs in 2007. ED's higher education programs have not been a priority in recent years, and under the new proposed budget funding for international education and foreign language studies programs will decline slightly.

NSLI would build on DOD's National Security Education Program, which piloted a grant competition last year that funded universities to work closely with nearby elementary, middle or high schools to implement a progressive Chinese Language program.

For more information regarding the *Summit on International Education* held back in January, go to <http://www.state.gov/r/summit/>.

### "Competitiveness" Initiative Would Yield Grant Opportunities at ED

The President's proposed initiatives to spur economic competitiveness and foster training in critical foreign languages would provide the following competitive grants at the U.S. Department of Education (ED).

**Math Now for Elementary School Students** (\$125 million) and **Math Now for Middle School Students** (\$125 million) - These programs would provide competitive grants to partnerships to improve mathematics instruction for elementary and middle school students whose achievement is significantly below grade level. Partnerships would support scientifically based research interventions that involve intensive and systematic instruction and provide professional development for teachers/staff that targets important mathematics content knowledge and effective practices.

**Evaluation of Mathematics and Science Programs** (\$5 million) - Funds would be used to assess the quality of program evaluations, design and carry out evaluations of Federal programs that have not been evaluated, and develop guidelines for future program evaluators.

**Advanced Placement** (\$122 million) - This program would fund new awards to expand AP and IB offerings in mathematics, science and foreign languages. Funded projects would include incentives for teachers to become qualified to teach AP/IB courses in these subjects and rewards for teachers whose students pass AP/IB tests.

**International Education and Foreign Language Studies** (\$106.8 million) - This program would fund approximately 460 grants to institutions of higher education and directly support over 1,150 individuals through fellowships, and support.

**Foreign Language Partnerships** (\$24 million) - This program would provide grants to establish fully articulated language programs of study in languages critical to U.S. national security through grants to institutions of higher education for partnerships with school districts for language learning from K-12 and into advanced language learning at the postsecondary level. The 2007 request would support 24 new awards focusing on languages, such as Arabic, Urdu, Farsi, Russian, Chinese, Japanese and Korean.

## Recent Awards

### Academic Affairs

#### Spencer Freund, Computing, Communications, and Media Services

*Amazing Facts, \$27,656*

Technical Services Agreement

#### Nancy Shulock, Institute for Higher Education Leadership and Policy

*William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, \$275,000*

Improving Education Outcomes through Better Policy Choices: The Case of Community College Finance

### College of Arts & Letters

#### Charles Postel, History

*San Juan Unified School District, \$22,156*

Subcontract for Teaching American History Project

#### Lee Simpson, History

*Bureau of Reclamation, \$15,000*

North Central Information Center Record Searches

### College of Continuing Education

#### Alice Tom

*California Department of Parks and Recreation, \$16,000*

DPR Stakeholders Meetings

#### Alice Tom

*California Department of Parks and Recreation, \$90,000*

DPR Commissioners Meetings

### College of Engineering & Computer Science

#### Ramzi Mahmood, Civil Engineering

*California Stormwater Quality Association, \$14,640*

Basin Sizer Program Development

#### Ramzi Mahmood, Civil Engineering

*El Dorado County, \$28,000*

Christmas Valley Phase 2 ECP: BMP Pilot Study Reporting and Technical Support

### College of Health & Human Services

#### Sylvester Bowie, Social Work

*University of California, Berkeley, \$1,557,257*

Title IV-E 2005-2006

#### Robin Carter, Social Work

*University of California, \$522,188*

California Mental Health Initiative

### Social Sciences & Interdisciplinary Studies

#### Mark Basgall, Archaeological Research Center

*California Department of Transportation, \$393,506*

Data Recovery Fieldwork for the Duhig Road Project

#### Mical Kay Shilts, Family and Consumer Sciences

*University of California, Davis, \$7,350*

Coordinator for the Eat Fit Multi-County Evaluation Study at UC Davis

## Office Research & Sponsored Projects

The Office of Research and Sponsored Projects assists faculty and staff in the development of sponsored research and educational projects. This includes locating funding sources, preparing budgets, editing and critiquing proposals, completing application forms, contacting potential sponsors, obtaining university approvals, providing information about human and animal subjects and negotiating awards.

### Contact Information:

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## Grants & Contracts Administration

GCA administers externally funded research and educational awards on behalf of the University. GCA monitors contract agreements, recruits and facilitates hiring staff, provides monthly expense reports, reviews payroll transactions, and secures bids for specialized equipment and services.

### Contact Information:

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