

Research



TCOM Notes

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Texas Innovation Information Network System

TIINS is a non-profit organization that provides information about Texas technology resources to universities, research organizations, professional groups, industries, and state agencies.

The TIINS information network promotes technology transfer, new business starts, and economic growth and diversification by providing 1) access to scientific and technical experts at academic institutions; 2) detailed data on technology manufacturing and service firms; 3) mailing lists of high-tech companies in Texas; 4) access to Texas Research and Development facilities; 5) connections to technology transfer organizations.

TIINS is the state's premier automated information network of current research and development, technology capability and professional and business services in Texas. TIINS' mission is to provide low-cost, easily accessible, current information to industry, university and government audiences in order to enhance business and economic development in Texas.

TIINS "FacProf" Database contains a database of faculty expertise available throughout Texas. This information system contains detailed profiles of over 4,000 faculty members at public and private Texas universities. Multi-screen profiles describe areas of research expertise, important publications, current research projects, patents and licenses, and their professional and technical training capabilities. Once online with TIINS, information on the expertise and

research interests of Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine faculty members will be available to colleagues at other universities as well as to industry, laboratories, and other research-oriented organizations. Fac Prof Questionnaires were recently distributed to TCOM faculty for revision and updating and for use by new faculty to be added to the system. If additional forms are needed please call the Research Office at Ext. 2561.

TIINS publications available in the TCOM Research Office are: **HIGH-TECH TEXAS, A Directory of Technology Businesses in Texas**, 1990-1991, First Edition, with emphasis on North Central Texas. A registry of the high-tech business sector that provides extensive data on the products and services of Texas firms in agriculture, biomedicine, communications, computer hardware and software, electronics and other technology-related fields. The profiles are coded using the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) System, operational sales and employee data, descriptions of principal products, and names of key company executives, and addresses and telephone numbers for inquiries.

Another publication available in the Research Office is the **Directory of Texas Research Centers** that has in-depth descriptions of Research Centers at public and private Texas universities. Each center profile includes details of ongoing research, special equipment and facilities, staffing, and expenditures.

Hackerman to Speak at TCOM

Will discuss Welch Foundation and Advanced Research and Advanced Technology Program

Norman Hackerman, Ph.D., Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Board of The Robert A. Welch Foundation and Chair of the Advisory Committee on Research Programs for the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Advanced Research Program/Advanced Technology Program, will give a presentation entitled "Proposals, Grants and Contracts" on June 27, 1991 in the Mini-auditorium Med Ed III, Room 110, at 1:00 p.m.

Attendance at this presentation is open to the college community. There will be a question and answer session covering research supported by the Welch Foundation and the ARP/ATP.

This will be an opportunity to hear a distinguished scientist/chemist who is a member of the National Academy of Sciences and has served as the President of Rice University and The University of Texas at Austin. His many years of outstanding service as an educator, administrator, and researcher have been marshalled to support research at universities throughout the state of Texas.

NIH May Request Return of "Unobligated Balance" in Non-Competing Applications

Since the NIH, ADAMHA, and other branches within the Public Health Service implemented the "Expanded Authority" for research projects, the institution has been able to "carry over" the unexpended balance from one year of a grant into the next year. In addition, the institution could approve a one time extension to the grant for up to 12 months.

In the past, the unexpended balance on a research grant was returned to the granting agency and used to support approximately 200 additional research projects. NIH is under pressure from many sources to expand the number of research grants it funds each year. With this in mind, NIH is concerned that the "Expanded Authority" will be used by principal investigators to "carry over" enough funds so that an additional year of funding will be assured. When the financial statement at the end of each

grant year is submitted to the granting agency, the amount of "carry over" funds is identified.

When a "carry over" is greater than \$40,000 and the investigator has not discussed the reason and given a potential plan for use of the funds, the granting agency will ask the institution to provide an explanation.

While no funds have been recaptured to date from TCOM, similar situations at other universities have resulted in the granting agency "requesting" that some of the "carry over" funds be returned to the granting agency so that additional research projects could be supported.

Investigators who anticipate having a substantial amount of "carry over" funds at the end of any grant period should address the following three issues in the non-competing application: 1) the reason for the "carry over" funds; 2) its effect upon the progress of the research project; 3) and an plan for future use of the funds.

In addition, if the funds can be spent prudently, the investigator may want to encumber some of the funds before the non-competing application is submitted.

Alzheimer's Association, Inc. Pilot Research Grants

The objectives of this program are to bring new and established investigators in areas including research on Alzheimer's disease and related disorders and to generate pilot data for applications for larger grants related to Alzheimer's disease and related disorders. One-year pilot grants of up to \$25,000 each will be awarded. Funding will begin in December, 1991.

DEADLINE: AUGUST 15, 1991.

NASA to Fund Innovative Research Projects

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration is seeking proposals of a highly innovative nature in the disciplines of space life sciences.

NASA plans to fund 15 to 25 projects at \$60,000 to \$230,000 each.

DEADLINE: AUGUST 15, 1991.

New Competition for ARP/ATP

Notice of Intent to Submit:

Postmark Deadline of June 14, 1991

Final Proposals:

Postmark Deadline of July 15, 1991.

The Notice of Intent to Submit is required and must be forwarded to the THECB through the TCOM Research Office. Copies of the guidelines to prepare proposals are available in the Research Office.

In 1987 the 70th Texas Legislature established two competitive grant programs for Texas universities, the ARP and the ATP. The objective of the ARP is to encourage and provide support for basic research conducted by faculty members and the objective of the ATP is to exploit the potential of technology to advance the growth and development of industry and long-term economic goals in Texas.

Approximately \$60 million is provided to fund research programs, the ARP receiving \$20 million and ATP \$40 million. The ARP is open to all Texas public institutions of higher education while the ATP is open to both private and public institutions in the state. Last year 3,280 proposals were submitted and 442 projects were funded with the average grant size being \$139,072.

NSF Young Scholars Program

NSF invites applications for Science and Mathematics Summer Enrichment Project to encourage promising students in grades eight through 12 to consider advanced study and careers in science, math, and engineering.

DEADLINE: AUGUST 5, 1991



ADHAMA Advisory Committees

This publication is available in the Research Office and has information that describes the Authority, Structure, Function, and Members of the merit review process.

NIH to Test Electronic Grant Application System

NIH is scheduled to begin preliminary trials of an electronic grant application system early in the fall of 1991. This is part of a long-term evaluation process which has been under development since mid-1988.

The EGA System is composed of four parts: application generation; application transmission; the capture and storage of application data; and the dissemination of application data.

Investigators submitting applications to the Division of Research will presently, be able to use one of several computer networks now under consideration. After the application is submitted, NIH's system will place it into temporary storage and advise the transmitter that it has been received and accepted for review. Then the computer will both archive the application and place it on-line, where it can be quickly retrieved.

A joint NIH and National Science Foundation committee has been established to study ways to develop a common electronic application procedure. The committee is charged with determining what common data both agencies utilize, consider security issues, graphics, sign-off procedures and file specifications needed for acceptance by a large, mainframe computer. Advisory Board members expressed enthusiasm for the project overall, but cited certain concerns. In particular, they questioned the proposed system of locking in data after university officials sign off on the application.

Grant Getting Tips



Sam C. Smith, Executive Director of the Murdock Charitable Trust, was asked to comment on the art of grantseeking as a service to future applicants. What follows is a brief excerpt that has relevance to government agencies as well as foundations.

"One of the things done least well in grant applications is to convey the importance of the project...Such statements as 'It should (or will) be of public benefit because ...' are helpful to the potential grantor. So are statements describing related work done elsewhere, what the current state of the art is and what the proposed project will

do that has not been done or is not being done.

In the application, explain why the project is of such compelling importance that you are willing to invest your own time and resources in it.

That may well be the same reason the foundation should invest its effort.

The importance must be external. The project is always significant to the proposer, in that it furthers a personally meaningful program he or she believes in. But the only reason for a foundation's existence is for the public good. The proposal should make clear just how the project will benefit the public: How many people will be affected? And — the tough one — how will that effect be measured?"

— *from Reflections on Grantseeking, MCT Annual Report 1987*

New NIH/ADAMHA Peer Review Consultant File

The National Institutes of Health and the Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and Mental Health Administration have established a new consultant file of peer reviewers. Reviewers will be selected from a national pool of scientists who are actively engaged in basic or applied research. Data from qualified respondents will be entered into a new computerized data base. This unique data base will be used as one source from which candidates for membership

on NIH/ADAMHA committees and for other peer review activities are drawn. All qualified scientists are encouraged to apply.

If you are interested in being considered as a reviewer, please request the "Candidate Information Form" and other informational documents from the Research Office.

This file is independent of other consultant files. If you have any questions, please call Dr. Jeanne N. Ketley, NIH/ADHAMA Consultant File Project, telephone (301) 496-9403. The merit review process is a good way to learn how to write winning grants when given the opportunity to read and review a variety of proposals.

New On-Line Services Open to Computer Users

Certain governmental agencies now offer on-line information services which contain all new program announcements and most publications for public access. The first such service, DOEINFO, was once restricted to information on the Department of

Energy research priorities and programs, but that database now has been expanded to include information from the Office of Naval Research (ONR) and NASA.

Known collectively as FEDIX, this tri-agency information service allows users to do keyword searches, retrieve individual program titles and download files. The system is available 24 hours a day by dialing through a toll-free number: 1 800 232-4879. A voice helpline is available each weekday at (301) 975-0103. Each user is allowed two hours per log-on. The system is user friendly and is menu-driven.

The National Science Foundation is also promoting its new Science and Technology Information Service (STIS) which opened to the public in March of this year. Users with modems can dial up STIS or use the Internet to access a wealth of program information that can be searched, downloaded or requested in hard copy. The dial in number is (202) 357-0359/0360; the Internet command is telnet.stis.nsf.gov.

High School Student Research Apprentice Program

This program will begin June 10, 1991, at 9:00 a.m., in Room 1-810 Med Ed 1 with a program orientation for student participants and TCOM faculty mentors. Refreshments will be served.

RECENT TCOM AWARDS

RAFAEL ALVAREZ-GONZALEZ, Ph.D., (Department of Microbiology and Immunology)"ACS PROJECT SEED - Summer Educational Experience for the Disadvantaged" American Chemical Society, 06/01/91 - 08/31/91, \$4,000.

FRED DOWNEY, Ph.D., (Department of Physiology), "Regional, Non-Ischemic Myocardial Hypoxia", National Heart Lung and Blood Institute, 07/01/91 - 06/30/92, \$135,880.

BEN G. HARRIS, Ph.D., (Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology), "Minority High School Student Research Apprentice Program", The Gil & Dody Weaver Foundation, 06/01/91 - 08/31/91, \$2,000.

BEN G. HARRIS, Ph.D., (Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology), "Minority High School Student Research Apprentice Program", National Center for Research Resources, 03/31/91 - 02/29/92, \$17,000.

BERNARD R. RUBIN, D.O., (Department of Medicine), "A Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled, Comparative Study of the Efficacy and Safety of Three Dosage Regimens of Misoprostol in the Prevention of NSAID Induced Gastric Ulcers", G.D. Searle & Co., 02/01/91 - 12/31/91, \$20,880.

Total Funding Awarded: \$178,880

EXTERNAL GRANT PROPOSALS SUBMITTED

RAFAEL ALVAREZ-GONZALEZ, Ph.D., (Department of Microbiology and Immunology), "Chemical and Kinetic Mechanisms of Enzyme Catalyzed Polymerization Reactions", American Chemical Society - Petroleum Research Fund, 01/01/92 - 12/30/93, \$18,000.

PATRICK CAMMARATA, Ph.D.,

(Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology), "Mechanism of Sugar Cataract Formation in Lens Cells", NIH - NEI, 07/01/91 - 06/30/92, \$144,959.

MICHAEL EMMETT-OGLESBY, Ph.D., (Department of Pharmacology), "Tolerance to the Stimulus Properties of Cocaine", NIH - NIDA, 05/31/91 - 05/30/92, \$158,494.

MICHAEL EMMETT-OGLESBY, Ph.D., (Department of Pharmacology), "Characterization of Benzodiazepine Dependence", NIH - NIDA, 07/01/91 - 06/30/92, \$146,056.

PATRICIA GWIRTZ, Ph.D., (Department of Physiology), "Adrenergic Limitation of Coronary Flow During Exercise", NIH - NHLBI, 07/01/91 - 06/30/92, \$173,904.

FRANK PAPA, D.O., (Department of Medical Education), "Medical Decision Support Systems Designed to Produce Cost Efficient Medical Care", American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine, 06/01/91 - 08/31/92, \$29,954.

BERNARD R. RUBIN, D.O., (Department of Medicine), "Multicenter Double-Blind Study of Two Dose Ranges of Tenidap Sodium Versus Piroxicam in Patients with Osteoarthritis of the Knee or Hip", Pfizer, Inc., 06/01/91 - 01/30/93, \$89,740.

BERNARD R. RUBIN, D.O., (Department of Medicine), "A Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled, Comparative Study of the Efficacy and Safety of Three Dosage Regimens of Misoprostol in the Prevention of NSAID Induced Gastric Ulcers", G. D. Searle & Co., 02/01/91 - 12/31/91, \$20,880.

BERNARD R. RUBIN, D.O., (Department of Medicine), "The Effects of Misoprostol in the Management of Pain in Fibromyalgia Syndrome" G. D. Searle & Co., 09/01/91 - 08/31/92, \$387,310.

PAULA SUNDSTROM, Ph.D., (Department of Microbiology and Immunology), "Proteins of *Candida albicans*, an AIDS-related Pathogen", NIH - NIAID, 12/01/91 - 11/31/94, \$460,954.

Total Funding Requested: \$1,630,251