

Office of Sponsored Programs Bulletin November 2009

The SJSU Research Foundation (SJSURF), Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP) Bulletin is a monthly publication informing the SJSU academic community about sponsored program information, trends and opportunities. To view the OSP Bulletin online, visit the SJSU Research Foundation website at <http://www.sjsufoundation.org/>.

1. **Proposal Submittals in December**
2. **Delivering Targeted Funding Opportunities to Faculty**
3. **Revised NSF Policy Guide (NSF 10-1)**
4. **Post Doc vs. Ph.D. - The Difference in Proposal Budgeting**
5. **Major Research Instrumentation (MRI) Program**
6. **NSF Seeks "Omics" Research**
7. **Fellowships**

1. **Proposal Submittals in December**

The SJSU Research Foundation is amending its 2009 holiday schedule. SJSURF Central Offices, located at 210 N. Fourth Street, will be *closed* December 21, 22, 23, and 24, 2009, in addition to the December 25 Christmas holiday. These offices will remain closed until January 4, 2010.

If you are planning to submit a proposal in December, please inform your Sponsored Programs Manager immediately if you have not already done so. As we approach the holidays, end of the semester, and December closure of the campus, the schedules of faculty and campus signers become more varied. To ensure you have enough time to have your proposal properly prepared, reviewed, and routed on campus we will need to have your proposal complete and in hand for routing earlier than usual. Please contact your Sponsored Programs Manager to discuss your proposal, the number of SJSU collaborators involved, and the timing for routing.

2. **Delivering Targeted Funding Opportunities to Faculty**

The SJSU Research Foundation is piloting a funding alert project to help SJSU faculty receive additional targeted funding opportunities. The Grants Resource Center (GRC) Faculty Alert System generates monthly program alerts for participants. SJSURF Information Services staff will work with Faculty to designate subject and function areas of interest that will result in the faculty receiving a monthly list of the matching opportunities that have deadlines coming up within 60-90 days. These alerts are drawn from a field of about 2,000 programs pre-screened for higher education relevance and eligibility. If you are interested in participating in this pilot to receive a monthly funding opportunities deadlines report, please contact Kristin Nwakobi at knwakobi@foundation.sjsu.edu.

3. **Revised NSF Policy Guide (NSF 10-1)**

The National Science Foundation on Oct. 1 posted a revised version of its Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide (NSF10-1) effective for proposals submitted on or after Jan. 4, 2010. The Guide is divided into two main parts: the "Grant Proposal Guide: and the Award & Administration Guide:" http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/policydocs/pappguide/nsf10_1/index.jsp

At the beginning of each part, NSF summarizes the significant changes included in the revision. One important change, which affects both parts, is the inclusion of the responsible conduct of research

(RCR) requirement, as detailed in the Aug. 20 *Federal Register* (*Federal Grants News*, 9/09, p.1). This requirement is effective for any proposal submitted on or after Jan. 4, 2010, but continuations of awards after this date would not be covered by the requirement, according to Jean Feldman, head of NSF's policy office.

To comply with the requirement, an institution's Authorized Organizational Representative must certify on each proposal (submitted to NSF) that it "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."

Feldman said that NSF took its time (the COMPETES Act was passed in 2007) to implement the RCR requirement in a reasoned, careful manner in order to take an approach that makes the most sense for grantee institutions. As such, NSF gives institutions great latitude and "flexibility" in how to conduct and what to include in its RCR training, according to Feldman.

An institution does not have to include a copy of the RCR training plan in the proposal, but it must be available for review.

Reprinted from Federal Grants News, 11/09, p. 1-2

4. Post Doc vs. Ph.D. - The Difference in Proposal Budgeting

A Post Doc in the grant world is a person with a new Ph.D. who is seeking additional mentored supervised training in their field. In contrast, someone with a Ph.D. may *not* be a recent Ph.D.; or they may be a *new* Ph.D., but are not seeking additional mentored supervised training.

Recent federal guidelines are requiring that, if a PI includes a Post Doc position in their budget, they must include a Postdoctoral Research Mentoring Plan with that proposal. The PI becomes committed to spending funds and resources to train and mentor that person in planned education/training over and above what the budget may ask for. PIs may still hire someone with a Ph.D., but if a planned mentoring and training program is not feasible, then the job title of the Ph.D. needs to be put in the budget instead of the term "Post Doc"- e.g.: "John Smith, Ph.D. - Research Associate."

Following is an excerpt from NSF's current Grant Proposal Guide about post docs:

- Postdoctoral Researcher Mentoring Plan. Each proposal²⁸ that requests funding to support **postdoctoral researchers** must include, as a supplementary document, a description of the mentoring activities that will be provided for such individuals. In no more than one page, the mentoring plan must describe the mentoring that will be provided to all postdoctoral researchers supported by the project, irrespective of whether they reside at the submitting organization, any subawardee organization, or at any organization participating in a simultaneously submitted collaborative project. Proposers are advised that the mentoring plan may not be used to circumvent the 15-page project description limitation. See [GPG Chapter II.D.4](#) for additional information on collaborative proposals

Examples of mentoring activities include, but are not limited to: career counseling; training in preparation of grant proposals, publications and presentations; guidance on ways to improve teaching and mentoring skills; guidance on how to effectively collaborate with researchers from diverse backgrounds and disciplinary areas; and training in responsible professional practices. The proposed mentoring activities will be evaluated as part of the merit review process under the Foundation's broader impacts merit review criterion. Proposals that include funding to support postdoctoral researchers, and, do not include the requisite mentoring plan will be returned without review (see [GPG Chapter IV.B.](#))

SJSU does not have a single formal standardized Post Doc training program as some colleges or universities do.

Please consult with your chair and dean regarding questions about post docs at SJSU and post doc training programs; if you are unclear about whether you can include a Post Doc or Ph.D. in your proposal, consult with your Sponsored Programs Manager.

5. Major Research Instrumentation (MRI) Program

The National Science Foundation (NSF) has released a tentative deadline of **January 28, 2010**, for the [Major Research Instrumentation](#) (MRI) program. The House recommended that FY 10 funding for MRI be cut given the second FY 09 competition (MRI-R2) the Recovery Act supported. The Senate version of the Commerce-Justice-Science appropriations bill did not propose the same cut and instead stated that the appropriations committee "expects the NSF to fully fund world-class U.S. scientific research facilities and instruments to adequately support scientists and students engaged in ground-breaking research as a consequence of these increased investments in research." Because SJSU is limited to no more than three (3) MRI proposals, interested applicants will need to submit an internal Letter of Intent to the Research Foundation. Please watch for this at www.sjsufoundation.org, through our Funding Alert System, and via email to deans and chairs.

Excerpts reprinted from GrantWeek, 11/8/09, with permission from Grants Resource Center.

6. NSF Seeks "Omics" Research

The National Science Foundation's Division of Mathematical Sciences (DMS) has identified a new area of emphasis for the [Mathematical Biology](#) program in FY 10: Mathematical and Statistical Research for Understanding the "Omics" (such as genomics, proteomics, and transcriptomics) of Biological Threats. A [dear colleague letter](#) says that DMS, along with the solicitation's co-sponsor, the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, seeks "ambitious, transformative, and creative research proposals from individual researchers and collaborative groups. While experimental collaborations may serve an appropriate supporting role for a project, proposals submitted should primarily emphasize mathematical, statistical, and algorithmic development rather than experimental design." All proposals responding to this emphasis area should be submitted during the December 18, 2009 to January 13, 2010 submission window. Because of the looming and short submission window please contact your Sponsored Programs Manager at the SJSU Research Foundation immediately if you are interested in submitting a proposal to this program.

Excerpts reprinted from GrantWeek, 11/8/09, with permission from Grants Resource Center.

6. Fellowships

SJSURF receives notification of fellowship opportunities for faculty and students. This month's highlights include:

Program: USA Fellowships For Women in Science

Agency: L'Oreal USA

Next Deadline: Dec 15, 2009

<http://www.aaas.org/programs/education/loreal.shtml>

Program: Fellowship Programs

Agency: Grant (William T.) Foundation

Next Deadline: Jan 06, 2010

<http://tinyurl.com/ya86nd3>

Program: Selected Professions Fellowships
Agency: American Association of University Women Educational Foundation
Next Deadline: Jan 10, 2010
http://www.aauw.org/education/fga/fellowships_grants/selected.cfm

Program: Visiting Scientists Fellowship Program
Agency: Joint Institute for Laboratory Astrophysics (JILA)
Next Deadline: Jan 31, 2010
<http://jilawww.colorado.edu/employ/vf.html> for

Program: Coastal Management Fellowship Program
Agency: U.S. Department of Commerce
Next Deadline: Jan 29, 2010
<http://www.csc.noaa.gov/cms/fellows.html> for more

Program: White House Fellowships
Agency: President's Commission on White House Fellowships
Next Deadline: Feb 01, 2010
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/fellows/index.html> for

Program: Visiting Scholarships, Graduate Fellowships, & Undergraduate Internships
Agency: Field Museum of Natural History
Next Deadline: Feb 01, 2010
http://www.fmn.org/research_collections/scholarships/default.htm

Program: Summer Fellowships for Intensive Advanced Turkish Language Study
Agency: American Research Institute in Turkey
Next Deadline: Feb 05, 2010
<http://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/ARIT/ARITSummerLanguageProgram.html>

Program: Research Fellowships
Agency: Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center
Next Deadline: Feb 01, 2010
<http://www.hrc.utexas.edu/research/fellowships/>

Program: Research Fellowships
Agency: National Gallery of Art
Next Deadline: Feb 15, 2010
<http://www.nga.gov/resources/casvafllws.shtm>

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