

Office of Sponsored Programs Bulletin October 2007

The SJSU Research Foundation, Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP) Bulletin is a monthly publication informing the SJSU academic community about sponsored program information, trends and opportunities. It is published every month (except July) with articles contributed by members of OSP and the SJSU Research Foundation Central Office. Extra time-sensitive messages may occasionally be issued at other times of the month. To view the OSP Bulletin online, visit the SJSU Research Foundation website at <http://www.sjsufoundation.org/sjsuf-faculty-resources/locating.htm>.

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1. **Bioengineering Education Materials Bank (BioEMB)**

In a recent issue of the American Chemical Society's *Chemical & Engineering News* (October 15, 2007, Volume 85, Number 42, p. 42) Celia Henry Arnaud highlights the creation of the BIOENGINEERING EDUCATION MATERIALS BANK (BioEMB) by collaborators Dr. Claire Komives, SJSU and Dr. Erik J. Fernandez, University of Virginia. Both are Chemical Engineering professors who realized that BioTech is often left out of Chemical Engineering education. The database is a storehouse of Biotech examples professors can use in their introductory courses. The initial problems included focus on material and energy balances, with more sample problems to be added. Arnaud writes that Komives and Fernandez created (BioEMB) after a panel discussion during an American Chemical Society national meeting sparked an idea. The two later received a grant from the National Science Foundation. The two professors have successfully sought contributions of problems to add to the database, and are always on the lookout for more. Information on how to submit problems or use the problems is available at the BioEMB web site (www.bioEMB.net). See the full ACS article at: <http://pubs.acs.org/cen/education/85/8542education.html>

2. **Transformative Research**

On September 24, 2007, the National Science Foundation (NSF) issued Important Notice No. 130 concerning changes to the intellectual merit review criteria for proposals to incorporate the support of transformative research by NSF. A copy of the Notice is available on the NSF website at <http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2007/in130/in130.jsp>

NSF has revised the review criterion to ensure that applicants consider "To what extent does the proposed activity suggest and explore creative, original, **or potentially transformative** concepts?"

Please also see the new guide, effective October 1, 2007, that includes this and other changes.

3. New NSF Grant Proposal Guide

Effective October 1, 2007, the *Grant Proposal Guide*, as well as new funding opportunities issued after that date, will incorporate the revised new Intellectual Merit criterion. Necessary changes also will be made to NSF reviewer systems to incorporate the revised language. All proposals received after January 5, 2008, will be reviewed against the newly revised criterion.

The term "transformative research" is being used to describe a range of endeavors which promise extraordinary outcomes, such as: revolutionizing entire disciplines; creating entirely new fields; or disrupting accepted theories and perspectives -- in other words, those endeavors which have the potential to change the way we address challenges in science, engineering, and innovation. Supporting more transformative research is of critical importance in the fast-paced, science and technology-intensive world of the 21st Century.

Further information may be found at: <http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2007/in130/in130.jsp>

4. How to Find a Federally Funded Proposal Success Story

Are you in the process of formulating your proposal and curious if a project similar to your own research idea has been funded already? Before you begin drafting your narrative, you may want to take a look at these federal databases that house abstracts and project information of previously funded grant proposals. This may prompt ideas that will aid you as you shape your proposal.

EPA http://yosemite.epa.gov/oarm/igms_egf.nsf/HomePage?ReadForm

IMLS: <http://www.ims.gov/search.asp>

NEA <http://www.nea.gov/grants/recent/index.html>

NEH: <http://www.neh.gov/news/recentawards.html>

NIH: <http://crisp.cit.nih.gov/>

NSF: <http://www.nsf.gov/awardsearch/>

USDE -FIPSE Comprehensive Program: <http://www.ed.gov/programs/fipsecomp/awards.html>

5. Fellowships

In addition to grant opportunities that SJSURF receives, a number of fellowship opportunities for faculty (and students) come through our office. This month's highlights include the following::

American Musicological Society

<http://www.ams-net.org/ams50.html>

Metropolitan Museum of Art

http://www.metmuseum.org/education/er_fellow.asp

American Psychological Association

http://www.apa.org/ppo/fellows/general_fellowship_08-09.pdf

American Association of University Women Education Foundation

http://www.aauw.org/education/fga/fellowships_grants/selected.cfm

National Research Council

http://www7.nationalacademies.org/fellowships/Jefferson_Science_Fellows.html

Smithsonian Institution

http://www.stri.org/english/education_fellowships/fellowships/stri_programs.php

6. Online Tools Workshop

SJSU Research Foundation recently held a workshop about online search tools, to help faculty and staff locate possible sponsors and funding for their projects. Instruction was given on how to use two searchable funding databases, Community of Science (<http://www.cos.com/>) and Sponsored Programs Information Network (http://spin2000.infoed.org/new_spin/spinmain.asp). The Workshop Team also discussed the SJSU University Experts Database (<http://experts.sjsu.edu>). Current Faculty and MPP's with an academic background can enroll themselves as "experts" in their field to collaborate, be a media source, or provide speaker services. Anyone can browse the database to search for such resources (<http://www.sjsu.edu/webpublishing/tutorials/experts/>). The next SJSURF workshop will be on November 9 and will cover general information about the National Institutes of Health.

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