

\*\*\*\*\*  
**CPI Newsletter - December 2010**  
\*\*\*\*\*

Included in this issue are updates/information on:

- Preview of January 19, 2011 CPI Meeting
- Budget Reallocation Working Group
- Biosafety Advisory Committee
- Committee on Data Management Plans
- Facilities Services Advisory Committee (FSAC)
- Robert A. Welch Foundation Research Grants Program
- Institute for Advanced Studies Authorized by Regents
- Texas A&M Marketing and Public Relations Efforts
- PI-DISCUSS listserv established to facilitate PI communication

**Preview of January 19, 2011 CPI Meeting**  
-----

Dr. Jeffrey R. Seemann, Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies, will present at the January 19, 2011 CPI meeting. The meeting will take place the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of the month to accommodate those returning from the holiday break. The meeting will be from 11:30-1:15 p.m. in Rudder, Room 601.

Contact:

Dr. Terry Thomas, [tthomas@tamu.edu](mailto:tthomas@tamu.edu)

**Budget Reallocation Working Group**  
-----

The Budget Reallocation Working Group provided its recommendations to the President on November 19, 2010. The report can be found at: <http://provost.tamu.edu/strategic-planning-2010/Final%20Report%20and%20Recommendations.pdf>. As noted in the December 3, 2010 Distribution A announcement (<https://listserv.tamu.edu/cgi-bin/wa?A2=ind1012a&L=dist-a&T=0&P=703>), the President accepted the report in its entirety.

Contact:

Dr. Mary Bryk, [bryk@tamu.edu](mailto:bryk@tamu.edu)

Dr. Mary Jo Richardson, [mrichardson@ocean.tamu.edu](mailto:mrichardson@ocean.tamu.edu)

Dr. Terry Thomas, [tthomas@tamu.edu](mailto:tthomas@tamu.edu)

**Biosafety Advisory Committee**  
-----

The Biosafety Advisory Committee met on Thursday, October 28, 2010 and discussed a draft report summarizing current concerns and PI needs with respect to biosafety and compliance. The committee also discussed recommendations that will potentially improve services. The discussions will continue during the next meeting when the report will be finalized for presentation to Dr. Seemann. The committee welcomes continued PI input.

Contact:

Dr. Bhanu Chowdhary, [bchowdhary@cvm.tamu.edu](mailto:bchowdhary@cvm.tamu.edu)

Dr. Greg Reinhart, [gdr@tamu.edu](mailto:gdr@tamu.edu)

Dr. Terry Thomas, [tthomas@tamu.edu](mailto:tthomas@tamu.edu)

**Committee on Data Management Plans**  
-----

NSF is planning to require that all proposals submitted or due on or after January 18, 2011, include a data management plan in the form of a two-page summary document. These data management plans will be peer reviewed and the standards and expectations may vary between disciplines. Ms. Carol Cantrell, Senior Associate Vice President for Research Administration, Division of Research and Graduate Studies, is chairing a committee that will review the requirements and suggest services and guidance that

CPI Newsletter  
December 2010

can be provided to PIs when developing their plans. Other issues to be discussed may include competitive plans, storage and responsibilities, recovery of cost for storage from the grant, etc.

Contact:  
Dr. Nancy Amato, [amato@tamu.edu](mailto:amato@tamu.edu)

### **Facilities Services Advisory Committee (FSAC)**

-----

The Facilities Services Advisory Committee last met on November 1, 2010. An update was provided on the AggieWorks work order management system that will be released in the spring. This online, web-based system will allow customers to track progress of orders and will be integrated with the accounting systems. Details are still being worked out as to which individuals will be able to view what types of data.

Contact:  
Dr. Nancy Amato, [amato@tamu.edu](mailto:amato@tamu.edu)

### **Robert A. Welch Foundation Research Grants Program**

-----

Grant applications for the Robert A. Welch Foundation Research Grants Program are due to The Welch Foundation by February 1, 2011. The Welch Foundation supports fundamental chemical research at universities, colleges, or other educational institutions within the state of Texas. Program guidelines and required forms are available at

<http://www.welch1.org/GrantsPrograms/ResearchGrants/index.asp>.

### **Institute for Advanced Studies Authorized by Regents**

-----

The Board of Regents approved the establishment of the Texas A&M University Institute for Advanced Studies (TIAS) <http://tamunews.tamu.edu/2010/12/02/institute-for-advanced-study-authorized-by-regents/>

The Board of Regents approved the concept paper for the TIAS at its January 21, 2010 meeting. Texas A&M has experienced significant development and growth over the past 20 years, especially in the first decade of the 21st century. Following the goals set forth in *Vision 2020*, the university hired over 1,000 new faculty, including appointments for over 450 newly created positions across the university. The TIAS will build on these developments to continue the momentum toward *Vision 2020*'s first imperative of "elevating the faculty and their teaching, research, and scholarship." This institute, strongly endorsed by the Research Roadmap Committee for the Academic Master Plan, would bring to Texas A&M on a temporary (e.g., one year) or more permanent basis, top scholars who have distinguished themselves through professional accomplishments and who have received important recognition for these contributions (e.g., appointed to the national academies, selected to receive a Nobel Prize, or received other highly competitive and valued prizes and awards). These scholars, or TIAS Fellows, freed from their normal obligations at their home institutions, will be invited and given the flexibility to engage in creative endeavors (e.g., conduct empirical research, write a book, engage in theoretical work) and to collaborate with Texas A&M faculty, students and other TIAS Fellows in ways that will advance scholarship in one or more disciplines, contribute new research ideas, engage in collaborative research, provide mentoring for younger faculty (thereby accelerating their development) and contribute to the development of excellent graduate students. The current start-up funds proposed for the institute from Texas A&M for its initial five years are \$500,000 per year, plus \$400,000 per year for graduate fellowships from the Office of the President drawn from Heep Foundation funds, as well as up to \$1 million per year for five years from the Office of the Chancellor. <http://www.tamus.edu/assets/files/bor/pdf/AgendaArchive/2010-12/ELECTRONIC%20AGENDA%20BOOK%2012-2-2010.pdf>

### **Important Immigration News Impacting Future Hires and Extensions of H-1Bs**

-----

The United States Citizenship and Immigration Service (**USCIS**) now requires all employers to attest to "deemed export control compliance" when sponsoring a foreign national for employment in an H-1B

nonimmigrant status. This attestation is part of the newly revised Form I-129 (petition for nonimmigrant worker).

Although this attestation is a new requirement, deemed export control laws are not new. For years these laws have required employers to obtain export licenses if they plan to transfer certain sensitive technologies, know-how or information to H-1B, H-1B1, L-1 and O-1A nonimmigrants within the United States. If required, the export licenses are obtained from the Department of Commerce and/or the Department of State.

To assist in accurately completing the deemed export portion of the newly revised Form I-129), International Faculty and Scholar Services (IFSS) has developed an internal **Deemed Export Control Attestation** which must be completed by the department head, principal investigator or direct supervisor of the foreign national employee or proposed employee. A draft of the attestation and its instructions is available at [http://cpi.tamu.edu/Deemed\\_Export\\_Control\\_Attestation\\_DRAFT.pdf](http://cpi.tamu.edu/Deemed_Export_Control_Attestation_DRAFT.pdf). **The attestation will become mandatory on December 22, 2010. Thereafter, no H-1B petition will be filed unless the completed attestation is included with the H-1B documentation submitted to IFSS.** The attestation and instructions are available on the IFSS website, <http://ifss.tamu.edu>.

Online training in export control is available through TrainTraq (<https://sso.tamus.edu/Logon.aspx>). The module is entitled "Export Control & Embargo Training (2111212)". Additionally, as part of completing the attestation, you will be required to review the Export Administration Regulations at [http://www.access.gpo.gov/bis/ear/ear\\_data.html#cc](http://www.access.gpo.gov/bis/ear/ear_data.html#cc) and the International Traffic in Arms Regulations at [http://www.pmdtc.state.gov/regulations\\_laws/itar.html](http://www.pmdtc.state.gov/regulations_laws/itar.html).

Contact:  
IFSS Office, [ifss@tamu.edu](mailto:ifss@tamu.edu)  
979-862-1719

#### **Texas A&M Marketing and Public Relations Efforts**

-----

At the November 3, 2010 CPI Executive Committee (EC) meeting, the EC met with Jason Cook, Michael O'Quinn and representatives from the communication units of Texas A&M, HSC, TEES, TTI and AgriLife Research to discuss current efforts of marketing and public relations. Mr. Cook shared the presentation, *Texas A&M as a Research Giant – Telling the Greater Story*, and discussed the unified public relations and marketing efforts of The Texas A&M University System Members in telling of the benefits of research to the local community, state and nation. As a reminder, Principal Investigators are invited to share research success stories by sending a brief summary to [jason.cook@tamu.edu](mailto:jason.cook@tamu.edu).

Contact:  
Mr. Jason Cook, [jason.cook@tamu.edu](mailto:jason.cook@tamu.edu)

#### **PI-DISCUSS Listserv for PI Communication**

-----

The CPI has set up a listserv [PI-DISCUSS@listserv.tamu.edu](mailto:PI-DISCUSS@listserv.tamu.edu) to facilitate communication among PIs and others in the research community. The list is not moderated, i.e., messages to the list are not approved by a moderator or editor. However, only people subscribed to the list can send to the list.

Anyone can join or sign-off from the listserv by following this link: <https://listserv.tamu.edu/cgi-bin/wa?SUBED1=pi-discuss&A=1>

Contact:  
Dr. Nancy Amato, [amato@tamu.edu](mailto:amato@tamu.edu)