

Principal Investigators,

The agenda and CPI Newsletter for the February 9, 2011 CPI meeting (Rudder 401; 11:30-1:15 pm) are available on the CPI website at [http://cpi.tamu.edu/CPI\\_2.9.11.pdf](http://cpi.tamu.edu/CPI_2.9.11.pdf). The meeting will feature a demonstration of the EPIK-MAESTRO Researcher Portal by Ms. Leonarda Horvat, Chief Information Officer & Director, Information Systems, TEES. If you plan to attend in person as an observer, please email [cpi@tamu.edu](mailto:cpi@tamu.edu).

Routinely, CPI meetings are held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month from 11:30-1:15 pm. The meetings are open to the public and are webcast live at <http://ttvn.tamu.edu/webcasts> on Channel 20. Previous CPI meetings can be viewed at <http://cpi.tamu.edu/videos>.

Our monthly electronic newsletter is included below and includes items of interest to the research community. Please send comments regarding the newsletter to [cpi@tamu.edu](mailto:cpi@tamu.edu).

To learn more about CPI membership, activities and initiatives, visit <http://cpi.tamu.edu>.

Sincerely,

Terry Thomas, Ph.D.  
Chair, Council of Principal Investigators

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**CPI Newsletter – February 2011**  
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**Included in this issue are updates/information on:**

- Preview of March 9, 2011 CPI Meeting
- Biosafety Advisory Committee
- Leadership Management System (LMS)
- Laboratory Safety Advisory Committee
- Graduate Student Support Changes
- Overview of AUP and IBC permit process including Biosafety/Occupational Health Program
- System Regulation and University Rule/SAP Update
- Limited Submission Funding Opportunity for Texas A&M University
- Student Research Week (SRW) – Request for Judges
- AggieWorks
- Fulbright Scholar Workshop
- Texas A&M University and The National Council on Science and Technology (CONACYT) Proposals
- PI-DISCUSS listserv established to facilitate PI communication

**Preview of March 9, 2011 CPI Meeting**

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The next CPI meeting is Wednesday, March 9, 2011 from 11:30 am. - 1:15 pm. in Rudder 601. Dr. Sherry J. Yennello, Regents Professor of Chemistry and Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs in the College of Science, will discuss Texas A&M's ADVANCE Center for Woman Faculty.

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

**Biosafety Advisory Committee**

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The Biosafety Advisory Committee submitted its recommendations in early January to Dr. Jeffrey Seemann, Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies, Texas A&M University and Chief

Research Officer, The Texas A&M University System. The committee is awaiting an executive response in February. We will share the recommendations and the executive response with the CPI members when they become available.

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)

### **Leadership Management System (LMS)**

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The committee charged with selecting the next learning management system (LMS) for the university is hosting two university-wide forums to solicit open feedback from the university community about LMS features for the next system. **Forum 1** - Thursday, February 3, 2011, 3:00 – 4:00 p.m., Koldus 111; **Forum 2** – Monday, February 28, 2011, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m., Koldus 111.

Please consider attending one of the forums if you are interested. While you are welcome to attend both meetings, the short presentation by the committee will be identical at both forums.

The committee is planning vendor demos for later in the spring semester. The following site has links to set up “test” classes if you want to try Bb Learn, Moodle, and Sakai:

<https://wikis.tamu.edu/display/lmsreview/>

Contact:

Dr. Kim Dooley, [k-dooley@tamu.edu](mailto:k-dooley@tamu.edu)

### **Laboratory Safety Advisory Committee**

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TAMU faculty who have graduate and undergraduate students working and/or doing research in their labs for credit should inform these students that they are required to acknowledge on Howdy that they have received lab safety training. Students can access the Lab Safety Acknowledgement information through their MyRecord page on Howdy.

Contact:

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

### **Graduate Student Support Changes**

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In response to the reduction in FY12 funding for the Division of Research and Graduate Studies, there will be changes to the distribution of the graduate support funds that are facilitated by the Division.

The current university policy mandates that resident state tuition be paid for all graduate assistants. The new general guidelines for tuition payments for FY12 mandate that resident tuition be paid for up to 5 years (for students admitted without a master’s degree) and 4 years (for students admitted with a master’s degree) for doctoral GATs and GARs employed by academic departments and GANTs supporting teaching.

Resident tuition for doctoral graduate assistants funded by external grants and contracts will be paid from those grants and contracts, where the granting agency permits. Resident tuition for doctoral graduate assistants working in support of teaching [GATs and GANTs (if supporting teaching)] will be paid from a pool of base funds allocated to each college. Colleges will also be allocated a set of flexible tuition funds that can be used strategically by colleges to support competitive tuition and fees efforts for graduate assistants, such as: tuition for doctoral GARs and GANTs (not supporting teaching) and for tuition for select master’s graduate assistants.

Further each college will receive an additional allocation of strategic support funds that may be used in a variety of ways to enhance graduate programs. Lastly the competitive fellowship programs, Merit, Diversity, and Pathways to the Doctorate, were revised and targeted in ways that are consistent with university priorities.

Contact:

Dr. Karen Butler-Purry, [klbutler@tamu.edu](mailto:klbutler@tamu.edu)

### **Overview of AUP and IBC permit process including Biosafety/Occupational Health Program**

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An overview of the AUP and IBC permit process including Biosafety/ Occupational Health Program will take place on February 18, 2011, 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the General Services Building, 101A

The training will cover how to work effectively with the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee and the Institutional Biosafety Committee to gain approvals. This training session is open to all Texas A&M faculty, staff, and graduate students who would like to learn about the application processes for Animal Use Protocols (AUP) and/or Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) Permits.

Compliance staff from both committees as well as Biosafety Occupational Health Program will be present to discuss their application processes and field questions. All faculty, staff, and graduate students who plan to support research with animals and/or biohazards are encouraged to attend.

No RSVP necessary; for additional information call (979)458-1467 or visit <http://biosafety.tamu.edu/>, <http://researchcompliance.tamu.edu/>

### **System Regulation and University Rule/SAP Update**

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NEW University rule 11.03.99.M1, Shortened Courses, NEW University rule 33.99.08.M2, On-campus Employment of international students, revised rule 15.01.01.M2, Administration of Sponsored Agreements, SAP 15.03.99.M0.01, Use of Animals in Research, Teaching and Testing, SAP 34.06.01.M0.01, Purposes and Services of the Department of Security & University Police, and SAP 61.99.99.M0.02, Electronic Distribution A were recently approved and posted to the University rules website.

Several System regulations were also revised in January of 2011. The complete list of System regulation revisions and University rule/sap updates can be found at <https://listserv.tamu.edu/cgi-bin/wa?A2=ind11&L=RULECONTACTS&P=R3516&I=-3>.

### **Limited Submission Funding Opportunity for Texas A&M University – Science and Technology Centers: Integrative Partnerships**

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This solicitation is limited to TAMU and proposals need to be submitted by the Texas A&M University Research Services (TAMU-RS). Texas A&M University (TAMU) faculty, including Agriculture, Engineering and TTI personnel are eligible to submit. Preliminary proposals and invited full proposals may be submitted by U.S. academic institutions that have research and degree-granting education programs in any area of research supported by NSF. February 11, 2011, 5:00 pm, is the deadline for an email of intent. Include the names of the PI and co-PIs, title of internal proposal and a 1-3 sentence description of the project to [limitedsubmissions@tamu.edu](mailto:limitedsubmissions@tamu.edu).

Complete information on the deadlines and instructions for submission can be found at [http://cpi.tamu.edu/LSP\\_2.2011.pdf](http://cpi.tamu.edu/LSP_2.2011.pdf).

Contact:

[limitedsubmissions@tamu.edu](mailto:limitedsubmissions@tamu.edu)

### **Student Research Week – Request for Judges**

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Student Research Week is an annual student-run research conference and competition designed to promote student research at Texas A&M University. *Sigma Xi* will sponsor awards for a research project related to “time” (topic of Sigma Xi Spring symposium speaker) and also an interdisciplinary research project. The *Sigma Xi* spring symposium will be on the first day of Student Research Week, March 21, 2011 located in the Hawking auditorium. We are seeking your support to help make SRW a successful Aggie tradition:

Please consider participating as a judge (topic and/or layman judge) <http://srw.tamu.edu/judges>; encourage your students to participate as a competitor in oral or poster competitions, as a volunteer, or as an attendee. Graduate students are also invited to participate as judges; please consider listing SRW on your spring semester syllabi and/or offering an incentive (such as extra points) for students who attend or compete.

Registration Process for Judges: Register online at <http://srw.tamu.edu/judges>; An email will be forwarded in early March regarding the sessions schedule. Registration deadline: Feb. 11, 2011

Contact:

Ms. Michelle Sullens, [m-sullens@tamu.edu](mailto:m-sullens@tamu.edu)

### **AggieWorks**

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Facilities Services and Utilities & Energy Management has introduced a web-based work order management system called “AggieWorks”. This new on-line system provides a central location for placing work requests, tracking requests, and accessing Facilities Services invoices and reports. AggieWorks is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Requests may be entered from any computer with internet access via <http://aggieworks.tamu.edu>. Login requires a NetID and password.

Once a request is entered via the website, the AggieWorks Center, the customer service center for both Facilities Services and Utilities & Energy Management, will assign the request to the appropriate work crew. Using the on-line system ensures that all requests are properly logged, assigned the appropriate crew, and handled in the most expedient manner possible. Customers will have the ability to track the progress of their request through AggieWorks from start to finish. Additionally, utilizing the on-line system gives Facilities Services a greater ability to provide important financial information in a timely manner.

Contact:

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

### **Fulbright Scholar Workshop**

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A Fulbright Scholar Workshop will be held on Thursday, Feb. 17, in Rudder 504 from 1 to 3 p.m. for faculty who wish to investigate the process. Presented by Fulbright Ambassador Charles A. Johnson, senior associate vice president for research and graduate studies, and Campus Fulbright Representative Linda Edwards, director of the office of international outreach, this workshop will provide valuable information and guidance on applying for a 2012/2013 Fulbright Traditional Grant. Dean of Faculties and Associate Provost Antonio Cepeda-Benito will provide information regarding support for Fulbright Scholars and a panel of former Fulbright Scholars will be present to answer questions. You will find more information on the attached flier and agenda. There is no charge to attend. Advanced registration is not required. But to assure that sufficient information packets are available, please register via email to Regina Gomez at [rgomez@ipomail.tamu.edu](mailto:rgomez@ipomail.tamu.edu).

### **Texas A&M University and The National Council on Science and Technology (CONACYT) Proposals**

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Texas A&M University and The National Council on Science and Technology (CONACYT) have announced the request for proposals for the Texas A&M University-CONACYT: Collaborative Research

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Grant Program for 2011. This program annually awards one-year grants of up to \$24,000 to faculty members to advance inter-institutional cooperation in science, technology, and scholarly activities through the complementary efforts of scientists and scholars from Texas A&M and Mexican institutions. A letter of intent is required and must be received by 12 p.m. on Thursday, March 10, in order to be eligible to submit a full proposal. Full proposals must be submitted, routed electronically for appropriate signatures, and received by 12 p.m. on Thursday, April 28.

Additional information may be obtained by contacting Monica Holder at [m-holder@tamu.edu](mailto:m-holder@tamu.edu) <<mailto:m-holder@tamu.edu>>. Texas A&M University and CONACYT have had an agreement of cooperation in higher education and research since 2001. This partnership provides unique opportunities for researchers from Mexico and Texas A&M University to work together in addressing issues of common concern on both sides of the border.

For more information on the program and submission instructions see:  
<http://conacyt.tamu.edu>.

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

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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)