



Council of Principal Investigators

Principal Investigators,

The meeting materials for the May 9, 2012 CPI meeting (Rudder 601; 11:30-1:15 p.m.) are available at http://cpi.tamu.edu/meetings/CPI_5.9.12.pdf. Dr. Charles A. Johnson, Senior Associate Vice President for Research at Texas A&M will present on the Division of Research Planning Grants of Extramural Funding program and provide and update and discussion on Interdisciplinary Research Programs.

If you plan to attend in person as an observer, please email cpi@tamu.edu. Meetings are open to the public and are webcast live at <http://ttvn.tamu.edu/webcasts> on Channel 20. Previous CPI meetings and materials can be found at <http://cpi.tamu.edu/archives/meetingmaterials>. The 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. To learn more about CPI membership, activities and initiatives, visit <http://cpi.tamu.edu>.

Sincerely,

Lawrence Rauchwerger
Chair, Council of Principal Investigators

CPI Newsletter – May 2012

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Texas A&M University - Texas A&M Health Science Center - Texas Engineering Experiment Station -
Texas AgriLife Research - Texas Transportation Institute

2012-13 CPI Election Results

Congratulations to CPI Member Dr. Niall Slowey (Department of Oceanography, College of Geosciences) on his election as the 2012-13 CPI Vice Chair, effective September 1, 2012. Congratulations to all of the 2012-13 newly elected or re-elected CPI Members (see <http://cpi.tamu.edu/archives/elections/2012results>). The full 2012-13 CPI Membership roster (effective September 1, 2012) can be found at <http://cpi.tamu.edu/membership/2012members>.

Preview of upcoming CPI meetings

The remaining 2011-12 CPI meeting schedule is available at <http://cpi.tamu.edu/meetings/2011-12schedule>. The remaining meetings are from 11:30 – 1:15 p.m. in Rudder Tower, room 601. The next CPI meeting is May 9, 2012, with a presentation by Dr. Charles A. Johnson on the Division of Research Planning Grants of Extramural Funding program, with an update and discussion on Interdisciplinary Research Programs. The June 13 meeting is canceled.

At the July 11, 2012 meeting Dr. Peter Schuerman, Director of The Texas A&M University System Office of Technology Commercialization, will provide an update on TAMUS Policy 17.01, Intellectual Property Management and Commercialization, and discuss other IP issues relating to faculty consulting and external employment. At the August 8, 2012 meeting the 2011-12 Chair will recognize outgoing and incoming CPI members and the 2011-12 Executive Committee members, and present the 2011-12 CPI annual report for ratification by the Council membership. For additional inquiries regarding CPI meetings, contact the CPI Coordinator at cpi@tamu.edu or 979-458-1861.

Summary of April 13, 2012 CPI EC meeting with Congressman Bill Flores

The CPI EC met with Congressman Bill Flores on April 13, 2012 at his office at 2800 South Texas Ave. in Bryan, TX. Attendees discussed the history and role of the CPI; the critical role researchers play in bringing external funding to Texas A&M; the importance of increased funding for both basic and applied research; and other issues affecting Texas A&M University. The Congressman offered to meet each semester, as needed, with the CPI EC. A draft of the meeting summary can be found at http://cpi.tamu.edu/resources/4.13.12_cpi_ec.pdf.

Summary of April 23, 2012 CPI EC meeting with Chancellor Sharp

The CPI EC met with The Texas A&M University System Chancellor, John Sharp, on April 23, 2012. Attendees discussed the need for support of large/prestigious grants; the development and implementation of the Concur/e-Travel system; appreciation of the Chancellor's efforts in coordinating opportunities for representatives from various faculty constituent groups to meet with the Board of Regents prior to each of their meetings; discussion of outsourcing initiatives; and issues regarding the System intellectual property policy (<http://policies.tamus.edu/17-01.pdf>) and a proposed consulting addendum from the Office of Technology Commercialization (see http://cpi.tamu.edu/resources/otc_consulting_addendum/).

As a follow up to the meeting, System General Counsel Ray Bonilla offered to schedule a meeting with the CPI EC and Mr. Guy Diedrich, Vice Chancellor for Federal and State Relations and OTC Director, to discuss issues regarding the System IP policy and the proposed consulting addendum.

Summary of May 2, 2012 CPI EC meeting with meeting research administration representatives from Texas A&M, AgriLife Research, HSC, TEES and TTI

The CPI Executive Committee (EC) held its monthly coordination meeting on May 2, 2012 from 11:30-1:15 p.m. Research administration representatives from Texas A&M, AgriLife Research, HSC, TEES and TTI are invited to these coordination meetings. Attendees discussed issues regarding Concur/e-Travel; the revised draft of the Texas A&M rule on conflict of interest; discussion of some proposal solicitation announcements that only

degree-granting institutions can submit limited submission proposals; follow up items from the April 13 CPI EC meeting with Congressman Flores and the April 23 meeting with Chancellor Sharp; and review and discussion of the remaining 2011-12 CPI meeting schedule.

OSRS PI/Faculty Advisory Committee (PIFAC) Update

The OSRS PI/Faculty Advisory Committee (PIFAC) met on April 13, 2012. Committee Chair, Dr. Terry Thomas, moderated the meeting. Agenda items included an update and demonstration of Maestro by Ms. Leonarda Horvat; preview of the new OSRS webpage; integration of Maestro and OSRS webpage; status of alternate appointments; arising OSRS issues, which included issues regarding subcontracts between System members; and a first reading of the bylaws. A list of PIFAC members with contact information is available at <http://www.tamus.edu/offices/cro/osrs/pifac/>. The next PIFAC meeting is scheduled for May 18, 2012 from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. at the OSRS headquarters.

Contact:

Dr. Terry L. Thomas, tthomas@tamu.edu

Updates regarding Concur/eTravel – Division of Finance

Concur is experiencing some problems bringing the cheapest fares back to travelers at Texas A&M. This isn't happening on all trips, only some. PIs can continue to use Concur for travel arrangements, but the Division of Finance recommends checking the rates with other websites to ensure travelers are getting the best fare. Everyone's patience is greatly appreciated as the Division of Finance works with their partners to resolve this issue promptly.

For the next two months Concur will offer 24/7 traveler support at 1-866-793-4040. The Concur website is at <https://www.tamus.edu/offices/travel/>. For all travel booked through Concur, Short's Travel Agency offers 24/7 support at 877-225-0239 or texas@shortstravel.com. Please note that after hours calls are charged a fee. FMO's travel staff at Texas A&M can be reached during business hours at 979-458-5731 or travel@tamu.edu.

The Vice President for Research announced that the Division of Research will centrally pay the \$7.58 Concur expense report fee effective 9/1/12. The university is centrally paying that fee until 9/1/12.

It should be noted that most grants do not follow state guidelines. For questions regarding the requirements of a specific grant, please contact the Office of Sponsored Research Services at 979-862-6777 or go to <http://www.tamus.edu/offices/cro/osrs/> to locate the appropriate contact.

A Concur/eTravel Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) document is also available at http://cpi.tamu.edu/resources/concur_fags.pdf.

Contact:

Mr. John Crawford, Crawford@tamu.edu

Update on EPIK-Maestro Working Group

The EPIK-Maestro working group met on May 3, 2012. Leonarda Horvat, Chief Information Officer and Director of TEES Information Systems, presented a status report on the pre- and post-award implementation. The proposal module was implemented by OSRS and comments from this group, including PI focus group, are being used to refine the program. The post-award module is in preliminary analysis stage. Individual interviews will be conducted to develop the process of the module. Individual interviews are preferred instead of group discussion in hope of allowing the designers to understand the purpose more thoroughly and to encourage input from more people. Expected date of completion is July 2013. Current systems enhancements are on-going, but are on hold until machines are moved and the estimated move date is July 1, 2012. The routing manager was implemented and there is a problem with documents sitting in inboxes so routing managers were assigned to

ensure the routing approvals are made. There will not be a June meeting because of the move and the July meeting is still scheduled for the 5th at 9:30 a.m.

Contact:

Dr. Rafael Lara-Alecio, a-lara@tamu.edu

Dr. Beverly Kuhn, b-kuhn@tamu.edu

Dr. Jamie Foster, jlfoster@ag.tamu.edu

TIAS Progress Report – May 7, 2012

On April 4, 2012, the TIAS Advisory Board authorized the deans of seven colleges to initiate recruitment of the first ten TIAS Faculty Fellows. This stellar group of nominees includes Nobel and Wolf prize winners; all ten nominees are of “national academy” level of distinction and accomplishment. A nominal deadline was specified as June 4, 2012. Five additional well-qualified TIAS Faculty Fellow nominees are in an on-deck status and when/if any of the initial ten individuals decline, it is anticipated that the on-deck nominees will be brought to an active recruitment stage. The TIAS Advisory Board is optimistic that between six and ten of the fifteen qualified nominees will be successfully recruited to constitute the inaugural class of TIAS Faculty Fellows. These Fellows will begin their appointments during the coming academic year. In summary, TIAS is off to a great beginning.

Contact:

Dr. John Junkins, junkins@tamu.edu

CPI Chair participates in Chancellor-hosted reception with Board of Regents

As reported in the April 2012 CPI newsletter, the CPI Chair participated in a Chancellor-hosted reception with various faculty members and the Board of Regents the evening of Wednesday, May 2, 2012. The Chair also attended a breakfast with the Chancellor and various faculty members on May 3, 2012.

Update on Conflict of Interest University Rule

The Conflict of Interest Working Group has updated the draft University Rule, 15.01.013.M1, *Financial Conflict of Interest in Sponsored Research*. The updates are to make the rule compliant with new federal regulations on conflict of interest. Ms. Katherine Rojo del Busto, Executive Associate Vice President for Administration and Legal Affairs/Chief of Staff with the Division of Research, discussed the current draft rule with the CPI EC at their May 2, 2012 meeting. The latest draft of the rule is available at http://cpi.tamu.edu/resources/draft_15.01.013.m1.pdf. For questions regarding the draft rule, contact Ms. Katherine Rojo del Busto at 979-845-8585 or krdb@tamu.edu.

Assistant Vice President for Research Development

Dr. Ann McGuigan, currently Director of Research Development at George Mason University, has accepted the position of Assistant Vice President for Research Development and will join the Division of Research in June 2012. Dr. McGuigan has experience in strategic research development and coordination of multidisciplinary projects, as well as interactions with federal and international agencies. Additionally, she is the President-elect of the National Organization of Research Development Professionals (NORDP), the professional organization for research development professionals.

Texas A&M debuts accountability website

As announced in the Friday May 4, 2012 edition of the TAMUtimes (<http://tamutimes.tamu.edu/2012/05/03/looking-for-total-transparency-texas-am-improves-publics-ability-to-see/>), Texas A&M University has created an accountability website. According to the article, to be as

transparent to the public as possible, Texas A&M has gathered data on hot topic issues like graduation and retention rates, demographics and more on one website (<https://accountability.tamu.edu/>).

Information about next NCURA TV Workshop – May 24, 2012

The Texas A&M University Division of Research will host a training workshop by the National Council of University Research Administrators (NCURA), *Technology Transfer Issues for the Research Administrator*, on Thursday, May 24, 2012, from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., in 101A General Services Complex. Moderators will include Dr. Peter Schuerman, Director, Licensing & IP Management, Office of Technology Commercialization, Texas A&M University System; and Mr. Blake D. Petty, Assistant Vice President for Innovation and Business Development, Office of Vice President for Research, Texas A&M University. Registration information can be found at: <http://vpr.tamu.edu/resources/researchadmin/resources/training/ncuraregistration>.

New eduroam provides no-charge Wi-Fi for traveling researchers and students

Texas A&M is the first university in the state to offer education roaming, or eduroam, a secure, wireless network service that allows users to connect to wireless Internet at hundreds of universities around the world for free. More information and instructions are at <http://tx.ag/3obfgs>.

FACULTY-DISCUSS Listserv

A listserv (FACULTY-DISCUSS@listserv.tamu.edu) has been set up to facilitate communication among faculty and others. 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.

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

CPI calendar

CPI meetings can now be added electronically to your calendar. Go to http://calendar.tamu.edu/?calendar_id=1230&upcoming=upcoming&limit=100 to see the meeting schedule from May – August 2012.

TTVN contact information

If experiencing any issues with any TTVN videoconference or webcast, the TTVN video operations technical staff is always available to assist at 979-862-2241.