
CPI Newsletter – June 2020

Included in this issue:

- Update from the CPI Chair
- Vision and Strategic Plan for Texas A&M University
- Engaging in Activities with Individuals in Embargoed Countries
- LANL: TAMUS Collaboration Research Program
- Translational Investment Fund
- Patent Analytics Course using Patent Vector
- Virtual IP Attorney Office Hours for Summer 2020
- Free Proposal Assistance for Large Multidisciplinary Funding Opportunities
- Multidisciplinary Funding Opportunities Newsletter and COVID-19 Bulletin
- National Science Board – Vision 2030 Report
- NSF Webinar on Approved Format Biograph & Support Letters Format
- Personnel Training Updates for Animal Use Protocols
- NIH Virtual Specific Aims Workshop
- Graduate Task Force Information
- Funding Opportunities and Resources for COVID-19 Research
- New formats required for NSF proposal Biosketches and Current & Pending
- Sponsored Research Services Still Providing All Services
- Limited Submission Proposal Opportunities
- Bulletin for Principal Investigators

2019-20 CPI roster: Chair — Darren DePoy, *Science* • Vice Chair — Stephen Maren, *Liberal Arts* • Past Chair — David Threadgill, *Medicine* • *AgriLife Extension* — Craig Carpenter, Jamie Rae Walker • *AgriLife Research* — Michael Brewer, Ambika Chandra, Lee Tarpley • *Architecture* — Ergun Akleman • *Bush School* — Kent Portney • *COALS* — Russell Cross, Kerri Gehring, Wes Osburn, Jean-Phillipe 'JP' Pellois, Elizabeth 'Betsy' Pierson, David Stelly, Aaron Tarone • *Education* — Timothy Elliott, Rafael Lara-Alecio • *Engineering* — Jorge Alvarado, Debjyoti Banerjee, Ulisses Braga-Neto, Akhilesh Gaharwar, Melissa Grunlan, Sheng-Jen 'Tony' Hsieh, James Kaihatu, Scott Socolofsky, Ramesh Talreja • *Geosciences* — Jessica Fitzsimmons, Ethan Grossman, Brendan Roark • *Law* — Gabriel Eckstein • *Liberal Arts* — Sandra Braman, Harland Prechel • *Mays* — Korok Ray • *Medicine* — Helene Andrews-Polymenis, Kayla Bayless, Carl Gregory • *Nursing* — Nancy Downing • *Pharmacy* — Jayshree Mishra • *Science* — Michael Hall, Christian Hilty, Alexei Safonov, Frank Sottile • *SPH* — Gang Han • *TAMU at Galveston* — R.J. David Wells • *TAMCD* — Hongjiao Ouyang • *TAMU at Qatar* — Othmane Bouhali • *TEES* — Dean Schneider • *TTI* — David Bierling, James Kovar, Dennis Perkinson • *University Libraries* — Bruce Herbert • *Veterinary Medicine* — Candice Brinkmeyer-Langford, Dana Gaddy, Jayanth Ramadoss
The CPI is sponsored annually through funding from Texas A&M University, Texas A&M AgriLife, Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station, and the Texas A&M Transportation Institute

Update from Dr. Darren Depoy, CPI Chair

June CPI News –The Council of Principal Investigators Executive Committee (CPI-EC) met with administrators on Wednesday, June 3, 2020. Discussions during the CPI-EC meeting were from Dr. Jack Baldauf providing an update on the Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR); Dr. Mark Barteau provided the reminder of the FAQs and guidelines for working in labs. Discussions were also on the email letter that Chinese graduate students received and CPI-EC were looking into making the notification letter available to PIs that have graduate students, so they are aware of what their graduate students were provided.

The June 10, 2020 CPI General Meeting was canceled to allow CPI representatives and PIs the opportunity to honor the request described at <https://www.particlesforjustice.org/> and the American Association For The Advancement Of Science (AAAS) [#ShutDownSTEM](#). Many PIs did not engage in research, service, or teaching activities this past Wednesday, June 10. Instead, we spent the day considering actions that can influence and improve the participation of all under-represented people in our activities and institutions.

The CPI-EC continues to meet virtually with President Young, Provost Fierke and Dr. Mark Barteau, Vice President for Research each month in order to keep PIs informed. The CPI-EC will begin meeting with Chancellor Sharp for the fall 2020 semester. If there are items of concern that impact the research environment, we would like to hear from you. All PIs are encouraged to communicate with their elected representatives within the Council of Principal Investigators to bring forward items of concern or interest for the research community. Please continue to bring research-related issues (and solutions) to my attention at CPI@tamu.edu.

Reminder: The July CPI General Meeting will be Wednesday, July 8, 2020. Since the June 10th meeting was canceled the July 8th CPI General Meeting will have Mr. Michael O'Quinn and Dr. Leslee Gilbert provide us with a federal government update. Dr. Jack Baldauf will provide CPI with an update on Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR). We have also asked Dr. Mark Barteau, Vice President for Research, to provide us with a Division of Research update and Drs. Diane Hurtado and Marvin Adams will provide reminders of the LANL funding opportunities that are coming due September 15th. As TAMU procedures and accommodations continue to be monitored, CPI will continue communications with PIs and make plans to hold its CPI General Meetings electronically via TTVN Livestream and Zoom. As we continue to move forward, please provide CPI Representatives or me with any items or topics that you feel relevant for CPI to address.

The newly elected CPI Representatives that will represent each of your colleges and units for 2020-2021 will be announced in the July CPI Newsletter as well as the newly elected CPI Vice President.

Contact me at cpi@tamu.edu or Rebecca Luckey, rluckey@tamu.edu, for more information or to suggest agenda items for our monthly meetings.

CPI Contacts–The complete 2019-2020 roster of CPI Representatives and the new CPI Executive Committee can be found on the CPI website at https://cpi.tamu.edu/membership/2019-2020_Council_Membership. Previous membership lists can be found in the council [archive](#).

Vision and Strategic Plan for Texas A&M University

Despite a short break dealing with COVID-19, we are pleased to announce completion of the Texas A&M Strategic Planning process and have “penultimate drafts” ready for review and comments. You can find and download both the 10-year vision statement (Decade of Excellence) and the 5-year 2020-25 Strategic Plan from the Provost Strategic Planning page link below:

<https://provost.tamu.edu/Strategic-Planning>

We would like to thank the hundreds of faculty, staff and administrators who participated on various focus groups and committees, contributed to writing and editing, and attended public forums and town halls over the past few years. These are the product of all of your work and input to this stage.

Your comments and edits are very welcome at this time as we hope to complete and finalize these documents over the next few weeks.

-Michael Benedik and Michael Stephenson, Vice Provosts, Texas A&M University

Engaging in Activities with Individuals in Embargoed Countries

We are living in unprecedented times and many of the activities that normally take place in the university setting are now taking place remotely. As such, we need to be mindful of what information we share online, with whom we share it and how we share it. We also need to remember that even when activities are taking place remotely we still must comply with applicable regulations, including export control regulations.

As many of you may know, the U.S. government has in place comprehensive embargoes that affect several countries. The current countries with a comprehensive embargo in place are: Iran, Syria, North Korea, Cuba and the Crimea Region. The current regulations for each individual country govern the activities that are permitted as well as those activities that are prohibited. Although there are some general licenses available for different type of activities in each country, generally most of the activities involving an embargoed country will require a license from the U.S. government prior to engaging in the activity. Offering courses remotely to international students in another country may also raise export control concerns. In order to provide courses in certain countries, the university may need to request a license from the government.

It is important for faculty and researchers to contact the Export Control Office if there is a need to engage in any teaching or research activities with an individual residing in an embargoed country. Likewise they should contact the Export Control Office if approached by anyone residing in an embargoed country prior to engaging in any activity.

Please feel free to contact the Export Control Office at exportcontrols@tamu.edu.

LANL – TAMUS Collaboration Research Program

The Texas A&M University System (TAMUS) National Laboratories Office (NLO) has developed a multi-element program to help TAMUS researchers collaborate, obtain funding, and formalize long-term relationships with researchers at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL). These programs include:

- **Applying for Exploration Mini-Grants**
- **Applying for Development Fellowships**
- **The Collaborative Research Projects Program**

The detailed information regarding each of these opportunities, along with the contact information can be found at the end of this newsletter.

Translational Investment Fund

Letters of Interest due June 22, 2020 at 5:00pm CST

Visit <http://tx.ag/zGbAaiW> for more information, or to submit.

TAMU Innovation Partners has opened the inaugural round of funding from its Translational Investment Fund, which provides investments into the development of disclosed technologies toward commercially relevant ends. Faculty and staff inventors may apply for investments of \$50,000 - \$75,000 to facilitate year-long projects. The number of awards will depend on funding and submission levels. The goal of this program is to provide an opportunity for Texas A&M University researchers to bridge the common gaps that arise in development of early-stage technologies that have the potential to address a commercial or industrial need and ultimately impact the community, nation, and the world. Submissions will be accepted from current TAMU inventors with a previously filed invention disclosure that has been assigned an invention number and is managed by TAMU Innovation Partners. The subject of the project must be a disclosed invention that has at least completed a proof-of-concept stage and is backed by the inventor(s) commitment to taking steps toward commercialization. Project proposals should demonstrate a market need for the technology, a reasonable development approach, commercial benefit(s), awareness of existing competition, and feasibility of project scope. For complete eligibility and selection criteria, please visit the website link above or contact Megan Brown at tamuip@tamu.edu with any questions.

Patent Analytics Course using Patent Vector

Free self-paced course (flyer attached)

Visit <https://innovation.catalog.instructure.com/courses/patent-vector-analytics> for more information and to enroll.

The School of Innovation is excited to announce a free self-paced course in patent analytics using Patent Vector. Texas A&M University is the only university to have FREE access to Patent Vector! This course will guide you in using a web-based program called Patent Vector to analyze patents, technology, and innovation trends. Patent Vector not only provides users with access to viewing thousands of patents from across the globe, but also provides tools to analyze the importance and impact of the patent, the assignees and the inventors. Available to all faculty, staff and students

Virtual IP Attorney Office Hours for Summer 2020

Standing monthly appointments (flyer attached)

Visit <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0f45a8a62ea6f85-summer> for dates and times available.

The School of Innovation and TAMU Innovation Partners are sponsoring IP Attorney Office Hours at no cost to TAMUS faculty, staff, and students. 30-minute appointments are available on a first-come, first-served basis with IP Attorneys from firms across Texas. Got an intellectual property question? Book an appointment! Not sure you are ready to meet with an Intellectual Property attorney? Check out our [YouTube videos](#) to find out how an IP attorney can help you! For questions and additional information, email [Grace Tiller](mailto:Grace.Tiller).

Free Proposal Assistance for Large Multidisciplinary Funding Opportunities

The Division of Research, Research Development Services, offers free assistance to teams pursuing large multidisciplinary funding opportunities. To learn more about the types of assistance offered or to request assistance, see the one-pager included in this edition of the CPI newsletter, click [here](#), or contact Dr. Candice Jongsma (cjongsma@tamu.edu).

Multidisciplinary Funding Opportunities Newsletter and COVID-19 Bulletin

The Division of Research, Research Development Services (RDS), publishes a bi-weekly newsletter featuring large multidisciplinary funding opportunities (excluding limited submissions). RDS also publishes a weekly bulletin featuring COVID-19 funding opportunities. [Click here to subscribe](#) to the Multidisciplinary Funding Opportunities Newsletter and COVID-19 Bulletin.

Featured active opportunities include:

- NSF Centers for Chemical Innovation (CCI) (details [here](#))
- NSF Gen-4 Engineering Research Centers (ERC) (details [here](#))
- DOD Multidisciplinary Research Program of the University Research Initiative (MURI) (details [here](#))
- NIH Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) (details [here](#))

National Science Board Vision 2030 Report

The National Science Board just distributed their vision 2030. The full report can be found at the following link <https://www.nsf.gov/nsb/publications/2020/nsb202015.pdf>.

NSF Webinar on Approved Format Biograph & Support Letters Format

NSF recently recorded [a webinar about the requirement to use an NSF-approved format](#) for both the biographical sketch and current & pending support documents as part of proposals submitted to NSF. The policy, outlined in the NSF [Proposal and Award Policies and Procedures Guide](#) (PAPPG) (NSF 20-1), goes into effect for proposals submitted or due, on or after June 1, 2020. The two NSF-approved formats are [SciENcv: Science Experts Network Curriculum Vitae](#), and an NSF Fillable PDF.

Webinar topics include:

- the policy guidance for preparation of the biographical sketch and current and pending support sections of the proposal;
- a walk-through of the user experience in accessing these formats in NSF systems;
- detailed guidance from NIH on using SciENcv for preparing both documents; and
- answers to a number of frequently asked questions.

For additional information, see the NSF pages for the [biographical sketch](#) and [current and pending support](#). We would like your feedback on these formats prior to the June 1st requirement. Please provide your comments and questions to policy@nsf.gov.

Personnel Training Updates for Animal Use Protocols

The IACUC has updated personnel training requirements for animal use protocols (AUPs). Effective July 1, 2020, individuals listed on approved AUPs will have three years to complete new activity dependent training. In addition, beginning January 2021, new training requirements will take effect for personnel on new AUPs. For details see TAMU-G-029 *Guidelines for Animal Protocol Participation and Handling* available here [TAMU NetID authentication required]: <https://rcb.tamu.edu/animals/guidance>. The updated training requirements apply to all campuses. Please contact the Animal Welfare Office staff at 979.845.1828 or animalcompliance@tamu.edu for assistance in determining training requirements and required timeline for completion.

NIH Virtual Specific Aims Workshop

When: July 8 and July 22, 2020; Noon – 1:30 p.m.

Where: Attend virtually via Zoom

About: At this series of two virtual meetings, participants will provide and receive peer feedback on NIH Specific Aims page drafts, in preparation for an NIH proposal submission. Participants should plan to attend both meetings. Each participant will also receive one written critique of their Specific Aims page from an experienced NIH study section member.

Register: By 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 25, including your draft Specific Aims page.

Register at <https://u.tamu.edu/July2020AimsNIH>. To complete registration, please email your draft Specific Aims page to Christina Howard (c-howard@tamu.edu).

Contact: [Christina Howard](#), Ph.D., Research Development Officer, RDS
[Shannon Eyre](#), Sr. Administrative Coordinator, RDS

Graduate Task Force Information

The TAMU Graduate School Task Force would like your input on the establishment of a Graduate School. Please visit the Task Force [webpage](#) to review the proposal and presentation and share your thoughts in the “feedback” section of the [webpage](#).

Funding Opportunities and Resources for COVID-19 Research

The Texas A&M Emergency Management Advisory Group (<https://temag.tamu.edu/>) has posted opportunities to join collaborative efforts on COVID-19 research (<https://temag.tamu.edu/opportunities-to-collaborate/>). Additionally, the Division of Research has an updated list of COVID-19 federal research funding opportunities (<https://vpr.tamu.edu/covid-19#research-funding-announcements>) as well as research guidance during COVID-19 (<https://vpr.tamu.edu/covid-19>).

New formats required for NSF proposal Biosketches and Current & Pending

The [Biographical Sketch](#) and [Current and Pending Support](#) sections of National Science Foundation proposals will be required to be submitted using NSF-approved formats starting June 1, 2020, when the latest [Proposal & Award policies & Procedures Guide \(PAPPG\) \(NSF 20-1\)](#) becomes effective. PIs are being encouraged to start using these new formats now, as the conversion to using them will not be trivial. Approved formats include using [SciENCv: Science Experts Network Curriculum Vitae](#) or the recently made available NSF fillable pdfs ([Biosketch fillable](#), [C&P fillable](#)).

Sponsored Research Services Still Providing All Services

During this time, we would like to remind you that Sponsored Research Services is still providing all services according to our standard operating procedures.

As a reminder, you should continue working with your proposal administrator for all proposal submissions in response to an RFA or in collaboration with a faculty member at another institution. The proposal administrators are also working together to communicate information regarding deadlines that are being adjusted to accommodate disruptions due to Covid19.

SRS project administrators are available for all post award needs and to facilitate questions/concerns you may have with a sponsor regarding your grant or contract activity.

Thank you for your continued support during this unprecedented time.

Limited Submission Proposal Opportunities

The Division of Research has implemented a brand new proposal submission and review portal. The system will be used for limited submissions and most internal grant programs. You will find available opportunities at: <https://tamu.infoready4.com/#limitedsubmissions>. The limited submission office will be phasing in the portal as new limited submission opportunities arise. If you have any questions, please contact limitedsubmissions@tamu.edu or Shelly Martin at 979-862-2233.

Bulletin for Principal Investigators

The Division of Research at Texas A&M University publishes a weekly bulletin about research. The Research Bulletin accepts news items about researchers and their teams from the colleges, schools, campuses and agencies within the Texas A&M research enterprise, including honors, funding, presentations, and appearances in news media. [Click here](#) to subscribe or unsubscribe to the bulletin



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

School of Innovation

NEW! Free self-paced course in patent analytics using **Patent Vector**!

Texas A&M University is the only university to have FREE access to Patent Vector!

Why would you want to access this resource?

For multiple reasons! As it turns out, there are multiple benefits for various stakeholders.

For example,

- **For students** considering graduate work, searching through patents may help you find a faculty advisor at a university who works in the same field you are interested in pursuing.
- **For students** looking for a paper topic, exploring intellectual property space through Patent Vector can help you identify issues or find evidence with which to test hypotheses.
- **For faculty and researchers**, you can find scholars at other universities who do similar research and may be interested in writing a grant proposal or co-authoring a paper with you.
- **For lab and institute directors**, you can find companies who may be interested in entering into a sponsored research agreement with you based on shared interests.
- **As a university administrator or official**, patent searches can help you identify leading researchers who you may want to add to the top of a search list for new faculty. It can also help give you data on the impact your university or units within your university are having on the world based on how important the patents coming out of your technology transfer offices are compared to other universities.

This course will guide you in using a web-based program called **Patent Vector** to analyze patents, technology, and innovation trends. **Patent Vector** not only provides users with access to viewing thousands of patents from across the globe, but also provides tools to analyze the importance and impact of the patent, the assignees and the inventors.

To enroll, [click here!](#)



[VIRTUAL]

Summer 2020

**Standing Monthly Appointments
with Intellectual Property Attorneys
New attorneys recently added!**

Got an intellectual property question? Book an appointment!
Open to all TAMUS faculty, staff, and students.

30-minute appointments are available on a
FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED BASIS with IP Attorneys from firms across Texas.

Attorneys/Background:

Jack Abid, *Allen, Dyer, Doppelt, & Gilchrist, PA—Electrical Engineering and Physics*

Lekha Gopalkrishnan, *Winstead PC—Chemistry, Biology*

Miguel Hernandez, *Carstens & Cahoon, LLP—Chemical Engineering*

Joe Lally, *Jackson Walker—Electrical, Computer*

Brian Mangum, *Mangum IP, LLC—Computer Engineering*

Stephen Mason '99, *Dickinson Wright, PLLC—Mechanical Engineering*

Karthika Perumal, *Womble, Bond and Dickson—Pharmacology and Bio-Technology*

Andrew Reed, *Carstens & Cahoon, LLP—Electrical or general engineering*

Chris Rourk, *Jackson Walker—Digital and analog semiconductor devices, computer architecture, software, nuclear power, electric power, artificial intelligence, network/data security, data communications*

Sabine Ward, *Schwegman, Lundberg, Woessner—Physics, Science/Engineering*

Cline White, *Jackson Walker— biological and life sciences, biomedical engineering, and has handled IP matters in a wide variety of disciplines*

WHEN: M-F during the months May, June, July and August

For dates and times available and to sign up, [CLICK HERE](#)

Location: ONLINE

After signing up, you will receive an email from [Grace Tiller](#) with further instructions on how to connect with the attorney.

Not sure you are ready to meet with an Intellectual Property attorney?
Check out our [YouTube](#) videos to find out how an IP attorney can help you!

Questions and additional information, email [Grace Tiller](#)



LARGE AND MULTIDISCIPLINARY PROPOSAL SUPPORT

RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Research Development Services (RDS) provides faculty **at no cost** with proposal development support for high priority large, multidisciplinary funding opportunities. RDS can assist with idea development and proposal planning and/or project management throughout the proposal development process. In addition to external consultant support, areas of assistance include a combination of the following

COORDINATION & PLANNING

WHY DO IT ALL YOURSELF?

- Provide solicitation analysis
- Proposal development planning
- Organize brain storming sessions
- Facilitate proposal team meetings

DOCUMENT ASSISTANCE

TOO MANY DOCUMENTS / NOT ENOUGH TIME?

- Provide agency specific templates and guidance
- Document collection, coordination, and compliance
- Assistance with the visual appeal of the proposal

WRITING & EDITING

NEED A FRESH PAIR OF EYES?

- Provide suggestions to increase the power and clarity of key messages/themes
- Edit and format for consistency
- Finalize/polish final documents

DOCUMENT REVIEW

READY FOR THE FINAL PUSH?

- Provide comments on the focus, organization, and development of preliminary drafts
- Organize and facilitate proposal reviews that include both internal and external reviewers

[CLICK HERE FOR A COMPLETE LISTING OF SERVICES](#)

LARGE AND MULTIDISCIPLINARY PROPOSAL SUPPORT TEAM

Contact
Candice for
Proposal
Support
Requests

Candice Jongsma, Ph.D.

Director, Multidisciplinary Project Development
E: cgjongsma@tamu.edu
T: 979.458.4280

Monica Holder, M.S.

Research Development Officer
E: m-holder@tamu.edu
T: 979.847.9391

Gabriel Rivera, MBA

Senior Research Development Officer
E: rivera@tamu.edu
T: 979.862.1860



THE TEXAS A&M
UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

Collaborative Research with Los Alamos National Laboratory

The Texas A&M University System National Laboratories Office

The Texas A&M University System (TAMUS) National Laboratories Office (NLO) has developed a multi-element program to help TAMUS researchers:

- develop collaborative ties with researchers at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL);
- obtain funding for TAMUS-LANL collaborative research projects; and
- formalize long-term relationships where appropriate, for example via joint appointments.

The goal is to increase the number and depth of research¹ collaborations that benefit TAMUS, LANL, and the individuals involved. A key strategy toward that goal is to encourage and enable TAMUS researchers to spend time with LANL researchers and learn about LANL missions that are supported by research in their areas of interest. Spending time establishing relationships with LANL staff, and learning about its missions and key unsolved problems, greatly increase the likelihood of long-term funded collaborations that benefit all parties. Elements of the program are summarized below. Details and applications for each program element are provided below.

¹ In this document the term “research” includes a broad range of research and development activities.



Exploration Mini-Grants

The Exploration Mini-grant program helps TAMUS researchers initiate collaborations with LANL technical staff members in topical areas of mutual interest to the laboratory and TAMUS. Faculty who spend time at LANL learning its missions and problem sets are more likely to develop long-term partnerships with the laboratory's technical staff members. The exploration mini-grants help researchers make progress toward such partnerships. A typical exploration mini-grant would pay travel costs (no salary included) for a TAMUS researcher to visit one or more LANL researchers to explore whether there is mutual interest in pursuing a long-term collaboration. The visits to the laboratory are short, typically one week.

The TAMUS researchers who have the skills, knowledge and interest to develop long-term collaborative ties with LANL researchers, but do not already have such ties, are encouraged to apply. TAMUS researchers who already have such ties are encouraged to consider applying for Development Fellowships or Research Projects, which are other elements of the TAMUS/LANL Research Collaboration Program. While principal-investigator-eligible research faculty and staff in every TAMUS component are eligible to apply, priority may be given to early-career tenure-line faculty at TAMUS universities. Holders of postdoctoral appointments are not eligible to apply

The application **must identify at least one LANL potential collaborator** who has agreed to spend time with the TAMUS researcher to explore whether there is mutual interest in pursuing a long-term collaboration. Aspiring applicants who do not know appropriate hosts can ask the NLO to work with LANL managers to try to identify potential LANL host technical staff members. Within 30 days of travel completion, grant recipients must submit a **brief report summarizing the outcome** of the exploratory engagement and meet with a NLO member to review potential future opportunities.

The grant will pay up to \$1,500 per person (in accordance with TAMUS guidelines) for successful applicants to travel to LANL to engage with potential collaborators. If it is more useful for the LANL technical staff member to visit the TAMUS researcher, the NLO can help the identified technical staff member to secure travel funding from within LANL. Expenses incurred prior to application approval will not be reimbursed.

The NLO will select applications for funding in accordance with priorities established collaboratively with LANL, subject to availability of funds.



Applying for Exploration Mini-grants

Applications (or questions) can be submitted via email at any time to lanl-engage@nlo.tamus.edu. **There is no application deadline.** PDF documents are preferred for the application and the applicant's curriculum vitae.

The application should be organized as follows:

1. **Applicant information** – Provide information about yourself, including at least:
 - Name
 - Title (e.g., Assistant professor)
 - TAMUS entity and department (e.g., PVAMU Math)
 - Citizenship (e.g., U.S. permanent resident)
 - Email address and phone number
 - Curriculum vitae
2. **Collaborator information** – Provide information about the identified LANL collaborator(s), including at least:
 - Name
 - Title (e.g., Scientist 3)
 - Division and group (e.g., CCS-2)
 - Evidence that at least one identified LANL collaborator has agreed to spend time with the applicant to explore collaboration possibilities and meet with the applicant if travel to LANL is proposed (e.g., an email from the collaborator)
3. **Research area** – Describe the research area that you and your collaborator(s) are interested in exploring. A single paragraph can suffice. If you know how the area is connected to LANL missions or its “capability pillars,” please include this information.
4. **Cost and timeline** – Describe how and when you will spend the mini-grant funds if your application is selected for funding and *specify the date* on which your summary report will be delivered to the NLO. Mini-grants are internally funded and therefore have no associated overhead costs.



Development Fellowships

The Development Fellowship program helps TAMUS researchers develop and deepen collaborative research partnerships with LANL technical staff members in areas of interest to the laboratory. Faculty who spend time at LANL learning the laboratory's missions and problem sets are more likely to develop long-term partnerships with the laboratory's technical staff members. Development fellowships aim to help researchers achieve such partnerships. A typical development fellowship would involve a one-year (or shorter) research project. Funding would cover up to 1.5 months of salary for the TAMUS researcher and reimburse travel costs up to \$5,000 for the TAMUS researcher to visit one or more LANL technical staff members for several weeks. The visit would enable the research partners to take tangible steps toward long-term funded collaborative research. A typical deliverable would be a joint publication or joint proposal.

Applicants should propose alternate uses of approximately the described amount of funding, and/or alternate deliverables, if appropriate to better support the goal of establishing a partnership that can secure future funding for longer-term projects. Expenses incurred prior to application approval will not be reimbursed.

TAMUS researchers with the skills, knowledge and interest to develop long-term collaborative ties with LANL technical staff members — and who have one or more laboratory technical staff members identified who are willing and able to partner on collaborative research — are encouraged to apply. TAMUS researchers who already have mature collaborative partnerships with LANL technical staff members are encouraged to consider applying to the Research Projects element of the Research Collaboration Program.

Principal-investigator-eligible (PI-eligible) research faculty and staff in every TAMUS component, including branch campus locations, are eligible to apply, with the exception that holders of postdoctoral appointments are not eligible to apply. Priority may be given to early-career tenure-line faculty.

The application **must identify at least one LANL collaborator** who has agreed to collaborate with the TAMUS applicant to execute the proposed effort. **Applicants must specify what will be delivered** (publication, proposal, etc.) upon completion of the proposed effort.

Reviewers chosen by the NLO and LANL will select applications for funding in accordance with joint TAMUS-LANL priorities, subject to availability of funds.



Applying for Development Fellowships

Applications must be submitted via email by to lanl-engage@nlo.tamug.edu by September 15th, 2020. Notification of awards will be made by Winter Break 2020. PDF documents are preferred for the application and the TAMUS applicant's curriculum vitae. The application should be organized as follows:

1. **Applicant information** – Provide information about the TAMUS researcher requesting funds, including at least:
 - Name
 - Title (e.g., Assistant professor)
 - TAMUS System Entity and Department (e.g., PVAMU Math)
 - Citizenship (e.g., US Permanent Resident)
 - Email address and phone number
 - Curriculum vitae (PDF format)
2. **Collaborator information** – Provide information about the identified LANL collaborator(s), including at least:
 - Name
 - Title (e.g., Scientist 3)
 - Division and group (e.g., CCS-2)
 - Evidence that the named LANL collaborator(s) have agreed to partner with the TAMUS applicant to execute the proposed effort (e.g., email from collaborator(s))
 - LANL collaborator(s) curriculum vitae or resume (PDF format)
3. **Proposed effort** – Describe the proposed effort and tangible outcome (“deliverable”). Describe the research area that you and your collaborator(s) are interested in exploring over the long-term. It is best if you can show a connection to [long-term LANL missions](#), [capability pillars](#) or initiatives. Also describe the impact that completion of the effort will have (i.e, what difference will it make?). The narrative should be less than three pages.
4. **Cost and timeline** – Provide a cost breakdown and approximate timeline, *including the date* by which the deliverable will be given to the NLO. This information can be presented as a paragraph or two, and/or bulleted lists. Total budget should be included for each category of expenses (salaries, fringe, travel), not just a description of costs. Fellowships are internally funded and therefore include no overhead costs.

Review Procedure

The NLO's Fellowship Review Panel (FRP) will review all fellowship applications once the application window has closed. The FRP comprises researchers and executives from TAMUS members and departments who have a working knowledge of LANL missions and TAMUS goals. Once the proposal has passed the initial screening (element completion, allowable citizenship, etc.) it will be moved to the second step. In the second step, the FRP will review each viable proposal and assess it against the following criteria:



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- Technical merit (originality, creativity, and potential for impact)
- Applicant's career history and potential for long-term collaboration with LANL
- Alignment with LANL missions and/or its capability needs
- Strength of collaboration plan

The FRP will discuss the proposals that receive the highest assessments with counterparts at LANL, and the FRP and LANL will jointly make the final selections. The FRP is committed to making unbiased diverse decisions based on technical merit and mission alignment across all TAMUS organizations and areas of research.

Conflict of Interest Disclaimer: Should any member of the FRP have a biased interest in an application, submit an application themselves, or be unable to complete their duties, an alternative board member will be assigned in their place.



Research Projects

The Collaborative Research Projects program funds multi-year research and development projects collaboratively executed by TAMUS and LANL researchers.

Funding for a typical research project would support one graduate student (GAR stipend, tuition, and fees) and one month of time for a TAMUS researcher (typically the student's advisor) per year for up to four years. Funded students are expected to spend one or more summers (or similar time periods) at LANL under the supervision of a LANL co-advisor, who is typically a co-author of the proposal and co-executer of the research. Continued funding throughout the proposed project period is contingent upon satisfactory progress and availability of funds. Applicants are free to propose different allocations of approximately the same level of funding described above. Funding is provided jointly by the NLO and LANL. Expenses incurred prior to application approval will not be reimbursed.

Applications will be accepted from any full-time PI-eligible researcher (except those with postdoctoral appointments) from any TAMUS Member entity. Applications with the following characteristics have the best chance of receiving funding:

- Proposed TAMUS-LANL researchers have a history of partnership;
- LANL leadership sees value in a long-term relationship with proposed TAMUS researcher(s);
- Proposed research and development improves a key LANL capability and/or addresses one of its mission needs and relates to a research area for which the laboratory has stable, long-term funding;
- Proposed research and development has potential for high impact;
- Project engages one or more graduate students with potential for LANL employment;
- Proposed TAMUS researcher, or researcher's group, appears likely to produce a steady stream of graduates with potential for LANL employment, for many years to come.

The application **must name at least one LANL technical staff member** who has agreed to partner with TAMUS researcher(s) on the proposed effort, supervise funded student(s) during their stays at LANL, and serve on the students' research advisory committees. Funded partners must submit **annual progress reports**, except for the final year in which a **final project report** is required.

Reviewers chosen by NLO and LANL will select applications for funding in accordance with joint TAMUS-LANL priorities, subject to availability of funds. The review process is described below.



Applying for Research Projects

Applications must be submitted via email to lanl-engage@nlo.tamus.edu by September 15th, 2020. The Review Committee will notify awardees by Winter Break 2020. Application materials should be submitted as PDF documents. Sponsored Research Services does not need to be involved at this initial stage.

The application should contain the following documents:

- Personnel description
- Proposal narrative
- Budget and timeline
- Curriculum vitae/resumes

Document contents are as follows:

1. **Section 1 of Personnel Document: TAMUS applicant information** – Provide information about the TAMUS principal investigator (and co-principal investigators, if any), including at least:
 - a. Name
 - b. Title (e.g., assistant professor)
 - c. TAMUS entity and department (e.g., PVAMU Math)
 - d. Citizenship (e.g., U.S. permanent resident)
 - e. Email address and phone number
 - f. Student information: Explain how project leaders will ensure that students chosen for funding have the potential for LANL employment
 - g. Pipeline information: Briefly discuss long-term prospects for TAMUS researcher's program to produce future graduates with potential for LANL employment
2. **Section 2 of Personnel Document: LANL collaborator information** – Provide information about the identified LANL collaborator(s), including at least:
 - a. Name
 - b. Title (e.g., Engineer 4)
 - c. Division and group (e.g., CCS-2)
 - d. Evidence that the named LANL collaborator(s) have agreed to partner with the TAMUS applicant to execute the proposed effort, supervise the funded student(s) when at LANL, and serve on the students' research committees (e.g., an email from collaborator(s))
 - e. Description of previous collaborative efforts between proposed TAMUS and LANL collaborators (e.g., joint publications, joint proposals, co-supervised students)
3. **Proposal Narrative Document:** Describe the proposed research project and explain how it supports [long-term LANL missions](#), [capability pillars](#), or initiatives. Also explain the expected impact of the proposed project. Include the following sections, but do not exceed 10 pages total (including summary and references):
 - a. Summary (one page or less, explaining—in a way that a technical person from a different discipline can understand—what is proposed, what motivates the research, and what the impact will be)



- b. Motivation (current state of the topic area with references to previous work and why improvements are needed)
 - c. Proposed activities (what will be done, what new knowledge or technology will be gained, etc.)
 - d. Expected impact (for example, on the technical field, on key LANL capabilities, on LANL mission delivery, etc.)
 - e. Roles (who will do what)
 - f. LANL visits: list time periods planned for TAMUS personnel to be at LANL (with understanding that plans may evolve)
 - g. References
4. **Budget and Timeline Document:** Provide a budget breakdown per year and an approximate timeline. A formal budget generated by research services will be required if the proposal is selected for funding. At application time, only an itemization of expenses is required. For example:
- a. Dr. X salary support: one month plus benefits per year
 - b. GAR support: \$2,200/month + tuition + fees; Texas A&M College of Science
 - c. Travel: student travel once/year to Los Alamos, student lodging near LANL two months/year, Dr. X travel to LANL once/year, Dr. X and student travel to conference once/year
 - d. Equipment: (list and estimate costs)
 - e. Materials and supplies: (list and estimate costs)
 - f. Other: (list and estimate costs)
- Do not included overhead costs at this stage. If selected these will be appropriately allocated at a later time.
5. **TAMUS researcher curriculum vitae** (PDF document)
 6. **LANL researcher curriculum vitae or resume** (PDF document)

Review Procedure

The NLO's Strategic Review Panel (SRP) will oversee and complete the final selection of all research project applications once the application window has closed. The SRP comprises researchers and executives from TAMUS members and departments, along with technical and administrative representatives from LANL.

Once the proposal has passed the initial screening (element completion, allowable citizenship, etc.), the proposal will move to the second step. In the second step, each proposal will be assigned multiple technical reviewers, some from LANL and some from TAMUS, who have expertise in the proposed area. Technical assessments and comments will be returned to the SRB based on the criteria below.



TAMUS-LANL Collaborative Research Proposal Review Criteria			
Ranking	Innovation and Creativity (33.3%)	Potential for Transformative Impact (33.3%)	Research Methodology (33.4%)
Outstanding-5	The proposal articulates a highly innovative intellectual advance and/or a creative new approach to expanding scientific knowledge or understanding; and/or new methods, processes, tools or devices that make possible the reduction of emerging scientific and technical advances to practice. Conceptually surprising and very intriguing.	Potential for major impact on a technical field and/or a method/approach. Significantly expands upon the limits of what is currently possible, and/or challenges prevailing paradigms. Likely to lead to development of disruptive technologies or to solve a problem that has historically evaded solution. Strong likelihood of high-profile publications in leading journals and/or of significant intellectual property.	Flawlessly clear and well-designed research approach. The scientific methodology of the project is clearly articulated and planned out, and the proposed work is hypothesis-driven when possible. The planned approach is informed by both the theoretical and experimental contexts of the field; if both theoretical and experimental
Excellent-4	Innovation is striking, and the proposed work is clearly differentiated from past work in the field.	Addresses important problems for the technical field that should have high impact. May advance the frontiers of science or engineering. Likely to lead to development of new technologies. Likelihood of publishing in leading journals in the field and/or intellectual property.	The research methodology is solid, although the formulation of scientific and/or technical questions may show minor gaps. There may be minor weaknesses in awareness of the theoretical and experimental contexts of the field, or in the coordination of
Good-3	Proposal shows some identifiable signs of innovation, but creative aspects do not stand out. Differentiation from past work in the field may be somewhat unconvincing.	Identifiable but perhaps limited impact on technical field. The expected outcomes may be incremental. Only modest potential for publication and/or intellectual property.	The formulation of the research hypotheses may be imperfect. Connection of underlying principles to the proposed work exists but may be incomplete. Connections between theory and experiment, either external to or within the project, may have
Fair-2	Innovation is minimal. Likely advances are only incremental.	Very limited impact on technical field, with largely incremental outcomes. Minimal potential for publication or intellectual property.	Research approach is inadequate or contains major flaws. There is little evidence of a research hypothesis or of connection of
Poor-1	Proposal is not innovative.	No evidence of impact on technical field. Very little or no potential for publication or intellectual property.	Proposal is implausible or fundamentally flawed.

The SRP will focus its attention on the proposals with the highest technical assessments. For this group of proposals, the SRP will consider strategic factors such as alignment with mission, needs for strengthened capabilities, and availability of long-term funding. Based on combined technical and strategic considerations, the SRP will form recommendations and present them to LANL leadership for approval.

Conflict of Interest Disclaimer: Should any member of the SRP have a biased interest in an application, submit an application themselves, or be unable to complete their duties, an alternative board member will be assigned in their place. Identifiable information about applicants and reviewers will not be released to anyone other than SRP members.