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**CPI Newsletter – November 2017**

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**2017-18 CPI roster:** *Chair* — Penny Riggs, COALS • *Vice Chair* — David Threadgill, *Veterinary Medicine* • *AgriLife Extension* — Craig Carpenter, Gaylon Morgan • *AgriLife Research* — Michael Brewer, Ambika Chandra, Fugen Dou, Lee Tarpley • *Architecture* — Ergun Akleman • *Bush School* — Kent Portney • COALS — Fuller Bazer, Russell Cross, Martin Dickman, Micky Eubanks, Elizabeth Pierson, David Stelly • *Education* — Oi-Man Kwok, Jeffrey Liew • *Engineering* — Jorge Alvarado, Ulisses Braga-Neto, Zachary Grasley, Melissa Grunlan, Tony Hsieh Sheng-Jen, Daniel Jiménez, Jodie Lutkenhaus, Ramesh Talreja • *Geosciences* — Alejandro Orsi, Pamela Plotkin, Brendan Roark • *IBT/PHARM/RCHI* — Julian Hurdle • *Law* — Susan Fortney • *Liberal Arts* — Steve Maren, Harland Prechel • *Medicine* — Vytas Bankaitis, Kayla Bayless • *Science* — Darren DePoy, Michael Hall, Christian Hilty, Alexei Safonov, Frank Sottile • *SPH* — Jane Bolin • *TAMU at Galveston* — R.J. David Wells • *TAMCD* — Jay Gropp • *TAMU at Qatar* — Othmane Bouhali • *TTI* — David Bierling, Mike Lukuc, Dennis Perkinson • *University Libraries* — Bruce Herbert • *Veterinary Medicine* — Loren Skow

*The CPI is sponsored annually through equal funding from Texas A&M University, Texas A&M AgriLife, Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station, and the Texas A&M Transportation Institute*

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## Update from Dr. Penny Riggs, CPI Chair

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For today's general meeting, we welcome Dr. Jeffrey Spies to discuss Open Science, and thank hosts, Dean of University Libraries, Dr. David Carlson, CPI member Dr. Bruce Herbert.

**November CPI News** – The CPI executive committee met November 1, 2017, in preparation for today's meeting. Lallah Howard and Brad Blair provided a WorkDay update, scheduled to “go live” on December 17, 2017. We'll have an update at our December General Meeting.

Kristi Billinger, Executive Director, Sponsored Research Services, reminds researchers that:

***As we approach the December implementation of Workday, SRS has been made aware there will be a system wide EPA blackout period of November 22 - December 18th. Some member specific blackout dates are earlier than the system wide date that will affect SRS processes. In order to provide the best service possible to the research community, SRS is working hard to be proactive to reduce risks to our members.***

During the blackout period

- There will be no payroll actions processed on sponsored research projects (SRS flagged accounts) during the payroll blackout. This includes the creation of new EPAs, changing source allocations, processing corrections or terminating employees
- Your SRS project administrator should have notified you of any projects that may be affected during the blackout.
- SRS is making all efforts to work with departmental staff and/or researchers to ensure payroll is charged to the appropriate accounts.
- Final financial reports/billing due to the sponsor during the blackout period will include only the charges in the financial system (FAMIS). Due to the high volume of closeouts, SRS cannot guarantee that manual payroll adjustments for billing purposes can be processed during this timeframe. Therefore, it is imperative that payroll is allocated timely and properly.
- **If you foresee any issue with allocating your payroll to the appropriate SRS project, prior to the blackout, please contact your SRS project administrator immediately to discuss.**

### **Administrator Searches**

- **Vice President for Research** - <http://vprsearch.tamu.edu/>
- **Vice Chancellor and Dean** - <https://agrillife.org/vc-candidate-schedules/>

Recorded video presentations, candidate info and requests for feedback are available at the links above. Your participation in these interviews and feedback is valued, so please share your thoughts with the search advisory committees.

President Young's State of the University Address, including his announcement of the President's Excellence Fund, can be found at <http://president.tamu.edu/> . Provost Fierke provided information about the launch of the T3: Texas A&M Triads for Transformation as part of this fund. More info is available at <http://t3.tamu.edu/> .

**CPI Contacts** – The complete list of all CPI Representatives and the executive council for 2017-2018 can be found on the CPI website at <http://cpi.tamu.edu/membership>. All PIs are encouraged to communicate with their representatives 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](mailto:CPI@tamu.edu), or contact me directly at [riggs@tamu.edu](mailto:riggs@tamu.edu) or 979.862.7015.

**The next general meeting will be held Wednesday, December 6, in a different location – MSC 2400.** Contact Rebecca Luckey, [rluckey@tamu.edu](mailto:rluckey@tamu.edu) or 979.862.9166 for more information or to suggest agenda items for our monthly meetings.

Happy Thanksgiving!

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## NSF Broader Impacts Seminar and Expo

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November 8, 1:00-4:30 p.m.  
ILSB Auditorium and Lobby

Part of the new [Junior Faculty Proposal Writing Academy](#), the seminar will inform attendees on strategies and considerations relevant to the Broader Impacts requirement of National Science Foundation (NSF) grant proposals, and be followed by a resource expo with campus programs interested in partnering with PIs on their activities and efforts.

**1:00-2:30 – Seminar.** A 90-minute seminar on how PIs can improve the competitiveness of their NSF proposals through the creation of a strong Broader Impacts component.

**2:30-4:30 – Expo.** A two-hour expo for PIs to visit with representatives of university organizations and programs for collaboration on the design and implementation of future broader impacts and outreach strategies and activities.

The Expo is an opportunity to meet and form relationships with representatives who can assist faculty in creating and developing the broader impacts or outreach activities of their proposals.

While **junior faculty and researchers** are especially encouraged to participate in this event, **senior faculty** and **post-docs** are welcome to attend. Principal investigators may also invite graduate students, who are supporting critical components of their grant proposals, to the seminar and expo.

Register at <https://u.tamu.edu/JFPWA-NSFBI> by **November 7, 2017**.

## Arts & Humanities Fellows Program Proposal Writer's Workshop

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November 30, 2017  
1:00-4:00 p.m.  
3147 Interdisciplinary Life Sciences Building (ILSB)

This workshop will provide:

- An overview of the Arts & Humanities Fellows Program RFP and related programmatic requirements
- Suggestions for effective proposal writing strategies for the A&H Fellows Program submissions
- Questions and answers regarding the Arts & Humanities Fellows Program at Texas A&M University

Registration is at <https://u.tamu.edu/AHWWNov30> until **10:00 a.m. on November 30**.

Note: Proposals may be submitted starting January 8, 2018, and must be submitted no later than March 7, 2018.

## NIH Proposal Development Groups

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RDS is currently running two NIH proposal development programs in which participants develop a more competitive proposal by giving and receiving feedback on drafts, learning what works well with readers and what mistakes to avoid. One program focuses on developing a compelling Specific Aims page, and the other focuses on the Research Plan for proposals with an application due date in early 2018. Application for the spring semester workshop are due in early 2018, and will be available on the web beginning December 1, 2017 at <http://vpr.tamu.edu/researchdevelopment/PRDP>

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## NSF Biology Directorate Implementing a “No-Deadline,” Full-proposal Submission Process for Most Programs

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It was announced on Oct. 5, 2017 that the Directorate for Biological Sciences (BIO) at NSF “will implement a ‘no-deadline,’ full-proposal mechanism for receiving and reviewing proposals submitted to core programs in the Division of Environmental Biology (DEB), the Division of Integrative Organismal Systems (IOS), the Division of Molecular and Cellular Biosciences (MCB), and to the programs in the Research Resources Cluster of the Division of Biological Infrastructure (DBI).”

Full proposals deadlines to MCB of November 20, 2017 ([NSF 17-589](#)) and to DBI of December 8, 2017 ([NSF 16-506](#)) will still apply. IOS and DEB will have no call for preliminary proposals in January 2018.

All four divisions will release new solicitations to replace several archived solicitations in the middle of calendar year 2018, inviting proposals to be funded with FY 2019 funds. **There will be no deadlines for submissions to any of the new solicitations.**

For full detail, see [Dear Colleague Letter, NSF 18-011](#).

## NSF Request for Information – Mid-Scale Research Infrastructure

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The National Science Foundation (NSF) recently issued a [Request for Information \(RFI\) on Mid-Scale Research Infrastructure](#) in response to the requirements found in the American Innovation and Competitiveness Act (AICA). The RFI states, “NSF is seeking information on existing and future needs for mid-scale research infrastructure projects from the U.S.-based NSF scientific and engineering community.” Input from the community will be used to assess the needs of the nation’s research infrastructure and to begin the development of a strategy in accordance with the AICA. All comments are due by **Friday, December 8, 2017** and may be submitted [here](#).

For your additional information, NSF also issued a [Dear Colleague Letter on the RFI on Mid-Scale Infrastructure](#).

## National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine

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In honor of the centennial of World War I, an open competition for scholars under the age of 30 to research and write a scholarly paper on a major aspect of how scientists and engineers in the United States were engaged in the World War I effort has begun. The focus is on institutional changes and the research enterprise in America. In effect, scholars should look at how the war experience shaped long-term relationships among scientists and engineers and U.S. policymakers regarding national security and public welfare. Research grants in the amount of \$5,000.00 will be available to five scholars who submit the most compelling proposals by December 1, 2017. Proposals will be judged by a NAS review committee, and the authors of the best proposals will be invited to submit fully developed research papers. A winning paper will be selected by the review committee, and the paper’s author will be awarded a \$10,000.00 prize.

Learn more: <https://buff.ly/2jw0f92>

## Durham University – 2017/18 International Fellowships

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Durham University is opening up the next round of its Durham International Fellowship Scheme. They are seeking the most talented researchers in the world across a wide variety of disciplines. They have positions for up to 21 postdoctoral Junior Research Fellowships, 16 Senior Research Fellowships, and 8 Policy &

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Enterprise Fellowships. More information about these opportunities can be found in the flyer attached to the end of the newsletter and through this link: <http://www.durham.ac.uk/ias/diferens/>

## **Texas A&M University Controlled Substances Guidance Now Online**

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The controlled substances guidelines have been posted online at (and attached) (<http://rcb.tamu.edu/controlledsubstances>). Anyone who uses, or plans to use, controlled substances in their research or teaching activities must have their own DEA license. The guidelines cover information for DEA license holders on responsibilities, acquisition, storage, reporting requirements, record-keeping requirements, and appropriate disposal of controlled substances. A training module is located on the website, within the training section of the guidelines (<http://rcb.tamu.edu/more/controlled-substances-training>).

The Animal Welfare Office (845-1828) is the contact for questions about the controlled substances guidelines and the controlled substances program. For questions or assistance with obtaining a DEA license, please contact the Animal Welfare Office.

## **Texas A&M University Export Control Shipping Guidelines**

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Physical items that are being shipped, mailed, or carried out of the United States need to go through Customs in the destination country. Texas A&M does not have a central international shipping office, but the Export Controls Office can assist with shipment information that will facilitate your research. The director of Export Controls, Mr. Rayland VanNorman can be reached at 979-862-6419 or [raylandc@tamu.edu](mailto:raylandc@tamu.edu) for more information. More details on this guidance are attached to the newsletter.

## **System Regulation for Unmanned Aircraft Systems Posted**

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In accordance with the new [System Regulation on Unmanned Aircraft Systems \(UAS\)](#), Texas A&M University has established a Supervising Authority to review and approve unmanned aerial system (UAS)/drone flights that occur on campus. These rules apply to faculty, staff, students, visitors, and contractors on campus property and to university employees operating UAS off-campus as part of their job responsibilities.

There are three ways to fly UAS at Texas A&M University:

1. In accordance with an FAA-issued Public COA.
2. In accordance with FAA Part 107 rules.
3. For educational purposes

For other types of UAS flights (not captured through one of the three categories identified, contact EHS at [ehsd@tamu.edu](mailto:ehsd@tamu.edu).

To fly UAS in accordance with an FAA-issued Public COA or in accordance with FAA Part 107 rules:

1. Submit your application to the Texas A&M University UAS Supervising Authority through the following link: <https://www.tamus.edu/business/risk-management/uas/uas-application/>. Applications should be submitted a minimum of 15 business days before desired flight.
2. Attach all requested documentation to ensure delays are avoided.
3. Completed on-line applications will be reviewed by the Supervising Authority; any questions will be directed to the individual who completed the application.
4. All University-owned or acquired UAS must be properly registered in accordance with FAA requirements. Use the FAA's Web site to register UAS: <https://registermyuas.faa.gov/>. Additionally, all UAS must be placed on inventory and have an asset number assigned.

Please see the corresponding announcement attached and posted in the September 19, 2017, edition of Texas A&M TODAY.

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## Sponsored Research Services (SRS)

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As we approach the December implementation of Workday, SRS has been made aware there will be a system wide EPA blackout period of [November 22 - December 18<sup>th</sup>](#). Furthermore, we have also been informed of some member specific blackout dates that are earlier than the system wide date that will effect our processes. In order to provide the best service possible to the research community that serve we are working hard to be proactive to reduce risks to our members.

### **What does this mean for departments and researchers?**

1. There will be no payroll actions processed on sponsored research projects (SRS flagged accounts) during the payroll blackout. This includes the creation of new EPAs, changing source allocations, processing corrections or terminating employees
2. Your SRS project administrator should have notified you of any projects that may be affected during the blackout.
3. SRS is making all efforts to work with departmental staff and/or researchers to ensure payroll is charged to the appropriate accounts.
4. Final financial reports/billing due to the sponsor during the blackout period will include only the charges in the financial system (FAMIS). Due to the high volume of closeouts, SRS cannot guarantee that manual payroll adjustments for billing purposes can be processed during this timeframe. Therefore, it is imperative that payroll is allocated timely and properly.

In conclusion, **communication is key** during this period. If you foresee any issue with allocating your payroll to the appropriate SRS project, prior to the blackout, please contact your SRS project administrator immediately to discuss.

## Sign Up for Notifications about Limited Submission Proposal Opportunities

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The list of current Limited Submission Proposal (LSP) opportunities, maintained by the Division of Research, is available at <https://u.tamu.edu/LSP>. To receive notifications about new LSP opportunities as soon as they are announced, email Ms. Shelly Martin at [shelly.martin@tamu.edu](mailto:shelly.martin@tamu.edu).

## Bulletin for Principal Investigators

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The Division of Research at Texas A&M University issues a brief weekly bulletin for Principal Investigators. The 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, publications, presentations, and appearances in news media. [Click here](#) to subscribe or unsubscribe to the bulletin.

Vice-Chancellor and Warden

Professor Stuart Corbridge  
Executive Assistant: Denise Baker  
DIFeREns Administrator: Simon Litchfield

01<sup>st</sup> November 2017

Dear Sir/Madam

**Durham University - 2017/18 International Fellowships for Research & Enterprise**

Durham University is delighted to announce the next round of the Durham International Fellowship Scheme, designed to attract the most talented researchers in Europe and beyond and across the full spectrum of science, social science, arts and humanities, to build international networks of scholars with a common passion for today's most important research challenges.

Up to 21 postdoctoral **Junior Research Fellowships** are available commencing between 1 July 2018 and 1 October 2018. The closing date for applications is **01 December 2017**. The normal period of the Fellowship will be 1 year with starting salaries in the range £32,548 - £36,613 p.a.

In addition, up to 16 **Senior Research Fellowships** and eight **Policy & Enterprise Fellowships** are available. The closing date for applications is **05 January 2018**. Fellowships are available for periods of 6 weeks to 6 months between October 2018 and September 2019 (with a typical stay of 3 months). Applications are considered from researchers with an established or emerging international reputation for scholarship or research leadership.

Details on the scheme and how to apply can be found at: [www.durham.ac.uk/ias/diferens/](http://www.durham.ac.uk/ias/diferens/).

To meet the eligibility requirements of the EU Marie Curie programme, applicants may not have resided in the UK for more than 12 months in the 36 months prior to the reference date for this call (1 July 2018).

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**Professor Stuart Corbridge**  
**Vice-Chancellor and Warden**  
Durham University The Palatine Centre Stockton Road Durham DH1 3LE

Telephone +44 (0)191 334 6214 Fax +44 (0)191 334 6213  
E-mail [vice.chancellor@durham.ac.uk](mailto:vice.chancellor@durham.ac.uk)  
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[www.durham.ac.uk](http://www.durham.ac.uk)

The DIFeREns2 project has received funding from the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme for research, technological development and demonstration under grant agreement no 609412.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stuart Corbridge', written in a cursive style.

**Professor Stuart Corbridge**

**Vice-Chancellor and Warden**



## TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY EXPORT CONTROL SHIPPING GUIDELINES FOR PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS

October 18, 2017

### *Fundamental Research Exclusion*

Much of your research may be excluded from United States (U.S.) export controls, if it meets the definition of “Fundamental Research” under the Fundamental Research Exclusion<sup>1</sup>. However, this exclusion *does not* extend to physical items (including but not limited to chemicals and biologicals) that are shipped, mailed or carried out of the U.S. Everything that crosses the U.S. border is an export: even if the item will be temporarily out of the U.S.; even if the item was not sold; even if the item will be used for Fundamental Research.

### *What You Should Know Before You Export a Physical Item*

Texas A&M University (TAMU) does not have a centrally controlled international shipping department. However, the Export Controls Office (ECO) is here to support you if you need to export an item or items, to facilitate your research. If you have questions or concerns, please contact the ECO.<sup>2</sup>

All U.S. origin items will be controlled for export to a U.S. Embargoed or Sanctioned Country<sup>3</sup>. Depending on the circumstances, an Export License Exception may apply. Please contact the ECO if you are planning business travel to one of the countries listed.

Every U.S. export is an import to another country. All shipments will need to go through Customs in the destination country. Some items may be prohibited or require prior authorization. Some items may incur duty or VAT (Value Added Tax) costs.

### *Things to Consider Doing:*

- Use an experienced freight forwarding company to assist you with all the U.S customs, export and shipping requirements, as well as proper packaging to ensure safe delivery of your item. For example, Texas A&M University has a successful history with Lognet Worldwide Inc. (<http://lognetworldwide.com>) as an International Logistics partner. The Texas A&M University contact at Lognet is Mr. Van Clark [Van\\_Clark@lognetworldwide.com](mailto:Van_Clark@lognetworldwide.com) (please note there is a “\_” between Van and Clark) or office telephone +1-281-449-5067.

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<sup>1</sup> 15 C.F.R. § 734.8c, 22 C.F.R. § 120.11

<sup>2</sup> The ECO to contact will depend on which System member owns the item you wish to ship (i.e., TAMU, TEES, AgriLife, TTI, etc.). See page 3 for a list of ECO contacts.

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.bis.doc.gov/index.php/policy-guidance/country-guidance/sanctioned-destinations>  
[https://www.pmdtc.state.gov/embargoed\\_countries/](https://www.pmdtc.state.gov/embargoed_countries/); <https://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/sanctions/Programs/Pages/Programs.aspx>

- A freight forwarder/broker can help with documentation. Remember the shipper of record (“Principal Party of Interest” or PPI) is responsible for what the documentation says. The forwarder may not have the familiarity with the item to determine the correct Export Control Classification Number (ECCN) or tariff code, and value. Errors can lead to delays, expense and/or legal issues.
- Shipments of export controlled items must be entered into the U.S. Census Bureau’s Automated Export System (AES). If you are using a freight forwarder/broker, you must ask for a copy of the AES/EEI filing and maintain a copy of your records for five years. Please contact the ECO for assistance before shipping anything that is export controlled.
- Alternately, work with the vendor or manufacturer of the item to be exported and request that they ship the item(s) internationally, on your behalf. They should be very familiar with the U.S. export control requirements, as these requirements relate to their product(s).

If business needs dictate that you cannot use either of the above options, please contact the ECO for support. To avoid unnecessary delays in your research or other activity, please contact the ECO as soon as you reasonably believe that you may have an export concern. Depending on the complexity of the item(s) and if perhaps an Export License is needed, the process could take six weeks or longer to complete.

### ***Why the U.S Government Regulates Exports and What is Subject to These Regulations***

The U.S. government controls certain items from export for various reasons, such as national security, nuclear non-proliferation, regional stability, etc. For some examples of the types of items that may be export controlled, please see Attachment A. This list *is not* an exhaustive list. Items not listed may still be export controlled. Please contact the ECO if you think you might have an export controlled item.

### **Resources and Useful Links**

#### ***Texas A&M University Export Control Compliance Program Manual***

<https://vpr.tamu.edu/resources/export-controls/export-control-manual/view>

#### ***TAMU Hazardous Material Shipping***

<https://ehsd.tamu.edu/Pages/HazMatShipping.aspx>

**Export Control Offices:**

**Texas A&M University:**

<http://vpr.tamu.edu/resources/export-controls>

Email: [exportcontrols@tamu.edu](mailto:exportcontrols@tamu.edu)

Phone – 979-862-6419

**Texas A&M AgriLife:**

<https://agrilifeas.tamu.edu/risk-compliance/export-controls/>

Email: [risk-compliance@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:risk-compliance@ag.tamu.edu)

Phone – 979-845-7879.

**Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station:**

<http://tees.tamu.edu/researchcompliance/export-controls/>

Email: [researchcompliance@tees.tamus.edu](mailto:researchcompliance@tees.tamus.edu)

Phone 979-458-7474 or 979-458-2586

**Texas A&M Transportation Institute:**

<https://my.tti.tamu.edu/compliance/export-controls/>

Email: [B-Carranza@tti.tamu.edu](mailto:B-Carranza@tti.tamu.edu)

Phone – 979-845-3206

## ATTACHMENT A

The following list illustrates, by example, the types of dual use (and potentially higher risk/controlled) equipment commonly found in research laboratories and for which Principal Investigators should identify/request classification:<sup>4</sup>

- Measuring and sensing devices
- Gas movement and filtering devices
- Precision tooling, positioning and balancing instruments
- Optical and photonic components (including sensors, infrared and focal plane array detectors)
- Oscilloscopes; spectrometers; fermenters
- Nuclear/radioactive transport or shielding equipment
- Class 3 and 4 lasers, and related precision beam equipment
- Semiconductor substrate and etching development equipment and processes
- Fiber optic cable development equipment
- Marine submersible equipment (including hydrophones, signal receiving/emitting devices, pingers, acoustical releases, submersible video and television apparatus, etc.)
- Unmanned aerial vehicles (drones)
- Inertial navigation systems and related instruments
- Remotely operated vehicles (ROVs)

While vendors often self-identify ITAR items, Principal Investigators should nonetheless remain aware that, in the event that the vendor does not self-identify, the following types of items are often ITAR controlled. In general, these types of items would be used by the following research disciplines: marine, geological, geographic, and atmospheric research.

- Night vision goggles, infrared cameras
- Gravimeters
- Equipment on loan from federal sponsors
- Sonobuoys and deep oceanic position signaling devices
- Military-band communications systems or GPS
- DOD funded military electronics
- Submersible vessels and related remotely operated accessories
- Inertial navigation units, modem chips, and components
- Radar applications
- Wind tunnel apparatus

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<sup>4</sup> This list is not intended to be comprehensive of all possible dual use instruments.