
CPI Newsletter – December 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

BILL FLORES
MEMBER OF CONGRESS
17TH DISTRICT, TEXAS

ASSISTANT WHIP

2440 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
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COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND COMMERCE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
COMMUNICATION AND TECHNOLOGY
SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY
SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4317

December 8, 2017

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
317 Russell Senate Office Building
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Paul D. Ryan
H-232 The Capitol
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Orrin Hatch
104 Hart Senate Office Building
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kevin Brady
1011 Longworth House Office Building
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Leader McConnell, Speaker Ryan, Chairman Hatch, and Chairman Brady:

I write to respectfully request the removal of the repeal of the income exclusion for graduate tuition waivers that was included in the House-passed H.R. 1, *the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act* (TCJA). While the proposals established in both versions of the TCJA Act are overwhelmingly positive, there remains one important provision that should be addressed – preserving the way that waived and discounted tuition for graduate students is treated for income tax purposes.

At issue is the tax treatment of reduced tuition for graduate students pursuant to Internal Revenue Code 26 USC Section 117(d). Under current law, the deemed income from reduced tuition for this population is excluded from income for tax purposes. In the House version of TCJA, section 1204 eliminates the current “income exclusion” treatment of waived or reduced tuition, causing the “deemed income” from waived or reduced tuition to be taxable.

This proposed income treatment is profoundly negative on a population whose income typically falls into the “working class income” levels while they are pursuing their graduate education. According to the Bureau of Labor Statics, the U.S. has 135,130 graduate teaching assistants making an average annual wage of \$35,810, which certainly places them in this Lower/Middle Class category. This change to their incentive will not only impact their immediate future, but could be detrimental to recruitment and retainment for research universities as they compete globally for the best and brightest and as they pursue important research initiatives for the 21st century.

I think we can all agree that the positive impact of graduate education is important to overall American economic activity and job creation. In fact, the majority of graduate students receiving tuition waivers are studying science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Many of these bright researchers will provide the solutions and technologies that will profoundly impact the fields of health care, information technologies, space exploration, energy security, and defending the homeland. Most, if not all, of the students that are beneficiaries of this exclusion will go on to shape and power the American economy that makes our nation so strong.

WACO
400 AUSTIN AVENUE, SUITE 302
WACO, TX 76701
PHONE: (254) 732-0748
FAX: (254) 732-1755

BRYAN/COLLEGE STATION
3000 BRIARCREST DRIVE, SUITE 406
BRYAN, TX 77802
PHONE: (979) 703-4037
FAX: (979) 703-8845

AUSTIN/PFLUGERVILLE
14205 BURNET ROAD, SUITE 230
AUSTIN, TX 78728
PHONE: (512) 373-3378
FAX: (512) 373-3511

At this time, the Senate's version of TCJA continues to allow preferable provisions for the treatment of graduate student tuition. Robust graduate education programs are economic engines for America, and as tax reform continues to move through Congress, I hope to help protect tax relief for graduate students in the final House-Senate conference tax bill.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Jordan Ballard in my office at Jordan.Ballard@mail.house.gov or 202.225.6105.

With great respect,



Bill Flores
Member of Congress

c: Senator John Cornyn
Senator Mike Enzi
Senator John Thune
Senator Lisa Murkowski
Senator Rob Portman
Senator Tim Scott
Senator Pat Toomey
Representative Devin Nunes
Representative Peter Roskam
Representative Diane Black
Representative Kristi Noem
Representative Rob Bishop
Representative Don Young
Representative Fred Upton
Representative John Shimkus
Representative Nancy Pelosi
Representative Richard Neal
Representative Sander Levin
Representative Lloyd Doggett
Representative Raúl Grijalva
Representative Kathy Castor

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

December 7, 2017

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
317 Russell Senate Office Building
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510-0001

The Honorable Paul Ryan
H-232 The Capitol
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0001

The Honorable Orrin Hatch
104 Hart Senate Office Building
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510-0001

The Honorable Kevin Brady
1011 Longworth House Office Building
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0001

Dear Leader McConnell, Speaker Ryan, Chairman Hatch, and Chairman Brady:

We the undersigned strongly oppose the repeal of the income exclusion for graduate tuition waivers in the *Tax Cuts and Jobs Act* as passed by the House of Representatives on November 16, 2017. A tax on graduate tuition waivers would be unfair, would undermine our competitive position, and would inhibit the economic growth that tax reform promises.

Repeal of the income exclusion for graduate tuition waivers would subject thousands of graduate students to a major tax increase at a time in their lives when they likely lack the ability to pay. Graduate students never see the money from a graduate tuition waiver. Their university charges them for tuition then immediately waives it. Under current law, this waiver is not taxable. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, a graduate teaching assistant earns a median wage of \$34,240, yet repeal of this income exclusion would increase the taxable income of these graduate students by \$12,000–\$50,000. The income exclusion under current law protects students from paying a substantial tax at a time when they simply cannot afford it, and it should not be repealed.

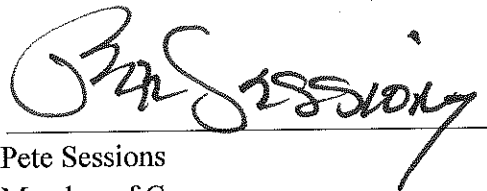
Taxing graduate tuition waivers would not only harm students but also adversely impact the United States' technological position. In 2011–12, 57% percent of waiver recipients were graduate students in science, technology, engineering, and math. A policy that increases students' costs would discourage our nation's brightest minds from developing greater expertise in their area of study and engaging in leading-edge research. These potential graduate students are our country's future medical researchers who discover life-saving cures; engineers that develop cost-saving methods production; and software programmers that code the next market-transforming mobile app. Tax policy should make our country more competitive, and creating barriers to technological progress is contrary to that goal.

The primary motivations for tax reform have been to fuel economic growth, create jobs, and raise wages, and a well-educated workforce is critical to those ends. Businesses simply demand it. For

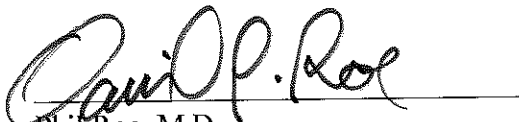
example, Amazon's request for proposal for its second headquarters location listed "a highly educated labor pool" as a decision driver and "a strong university system" as a requirement. For businesses to grow and hire, they need access to a labor pool that meets their needs. As the economy transforms, businesses increasingly demand specialized graduate education. If businesses cannot find the requisite talent domestically, we risk that they will invest in growth and jobs elsewhere.

A repeal of the income exclusion for graduate tuition waivers would harm our nation's students, undermine our competitive position, and hold back economic growth. We strongly urge you to ensure that this harmful provision is not in the final version of the *Tax Cuts and Jobs Act*.

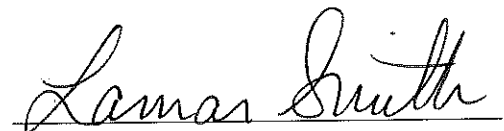
Sincerely,



Pete Sessions
Member of Congress




Phil Roe, M.D.
Member of Congress



Lamar Smith
Member of Congress



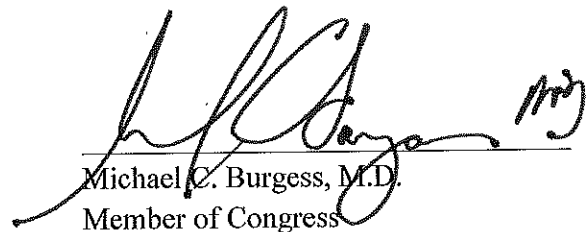
Ed Royce
Member of Congress



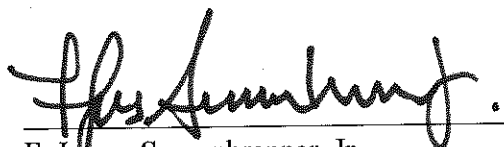
Tom Cole
Member of Congress



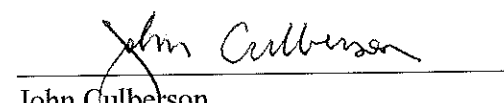
Steve Stivers
Member of Congress



Michael C. Burgess, M.D.
Member of Congress



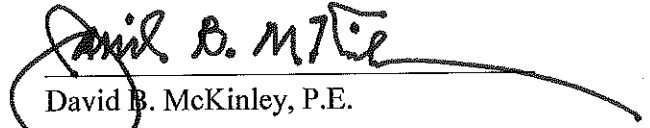
F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr.
Member of Congress



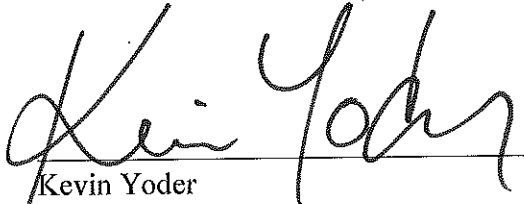
John Culberson
Member of Congress



Randy Hultgren
Member of Congress



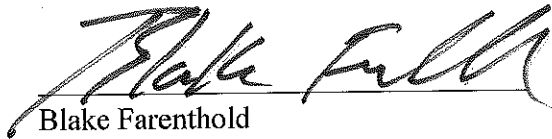
David B. McKinley, P.E.
Member of Congress



Kevin Yoder
Member of Congress




Doug Lamborn
Member of Congress



Blake Farenthold
Member of Congress



Rodney Davis
Member of Congress



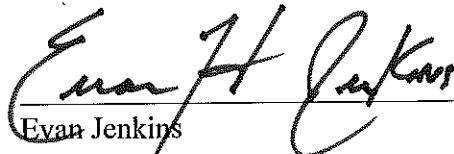
Jodey Arrington
Member of Congress



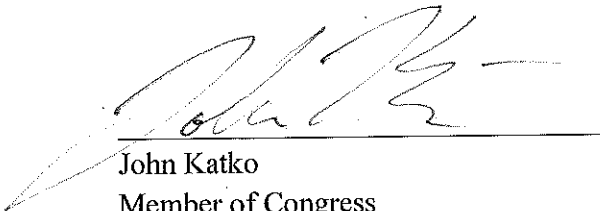
Chris Collins
Member of Congress



Luke Messer
Member of Congress



Evan Jenkins
Member of Congress



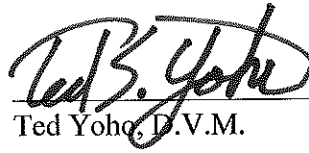
John Katko
Member of Congress



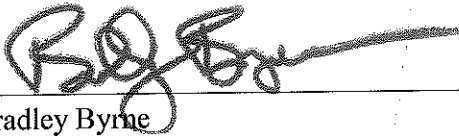
Bill Johnson
Member of Congress



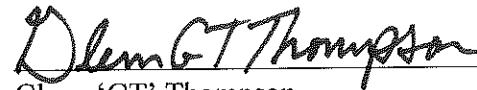
Brian Fitzpatrick
Member of Congress



Ted Yoho, D.V.M.
Member of Congress



Bradley Byrne
Member of Congress



Glenn 'GT' Thompson
Member of Congress



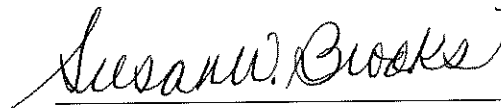
Roger Marshall, M.D.
Member of Congress



Chris Stewart
Member of Congress



Earl L. "Buddy" Carter
Member of Congress



Susan W. Brooks
Member of Congress



Keith Rothfus
Member of Congress



Bill Flores
Member of Congress

UNIVERSITY RULE (ver 11-13-17)

15.02.99.M1 Export Controls

Approved May 20, 2011

Revised: _____, 2017

Next scheduled review: _____, 2022

Rule Statement

It is the policy of Texas A&M University to comply with United States export control laws and regulations including, without limitation, those implemented by the Department of Commerce through its Export Administration Regulations (EAR) and the Department of State through its International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR), as well as those imposed by the Treasury Department through its Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC).

Reason for Rule

Texas A&M University has an obligation to implement an export control compliance program to reduce the risk of export control violations. All employees and students must be aware of and are responsible for the export control implications of their work and must ensure that their activities conform to export control laws and regulations. There are severe institutional and individual sanctions for violations of export control laws and regulations, including the loss of research funding, loss of export privileges as well as criminal and civil penalties.

Definitions

Each of the following terms used in this Rule is defined in [TAMUS Policy 15.02 – Export Control \(Definitions\)](#):

- [Controlled Information](#)
- [Controlled Physical Items](#)
- [Foreign Person](#)

Other terms used in this Rule have the meanings set forth below:

- [Deemed Export](#) – has the meaning set forth in 15 C.F.R 734.13 of the EAR, and 22 C.F.R 120.17 of the ITAR. Under the EAR, any release in the United States of technology to a Foreign Person is “deemed” to be an export to the Foreign Person’s most recent country of citizenship or permanent

residency, and under the ITAR any release in the United States of technical data to a Foreign Person is “deemed” to be an export to all countries in which the Foreign Person: has held or holds citizenship or holds permanent residency.

- Export – has the meaning set forth in 22 C.F.R. 120.17 and 15 C.F.R. 734.13.
- Empowered Official – The Empowered Official is defined in 22 C.F.R. § 120.25. The Empowered Official has independent authority to: (i) inquire into any aspect of a proposed export or temporary import by the University; (ii) verify the legality of the transaction and the accuracy of the information to be submitted; and (iii) refuse to sign any license application or other request for approval without prejudice or other adverse recourse.
- Release – has the meaning set forth in 15 C.F.R 734.15 of the EAR and 22 C.F.R. 120.50 of the ITAR. Under the EAR, technology is “released” through visual or other inspection by a Foreign Person that reveals technology subject to the EAR to a Foreign Person of technology in the United States or abroad. Technical data is “released” through visual or other inspection by Foreign Persons of a defense article that reveals technical data to a Foreign Person; or via oral or written exchanges with the Foreign Person of technical data in the United States or abroad.

Official Rule / Responsibilities / Process

1.0 GENERAL

Encouraging research and intellectual inquiry is a vital goal of Texas A&M University. Texas A&M University supports open research and the free interchange of information among scholars. The University also recognizes that the United States has enacted laws and regulations restricting the transmission of Controlled Information and Controlled Physical Items for the purpose of protecting national, economic, security, and foreign policy interests. These federal export control laws and regulations establish the conditions under which Controlled Information and Controlled Physical Items can be transmitted to anyone outside the United States and to Foreign Persons in the United States. In addition, the export control laws and regulations restrict or prohibit the transaction of business with certain countries, persons and entities that have been sanctioned by federal agencies as a threat to important U.S. interests.

- 1.1 This Rule applies to all University employees, students, and visitors whose research, scholarship, and/or job responsibilities involve use of University resources. To the extent there are overlapping export control compliance obligations with other System members, such as when University faculty, research, facilities or equipment are concerned, System members should coordinate with the University’s Export Control Office.
- 1.2 It is important to keep in mind that export control laws are broad and have implications for a host of University operations. Export control restrictions are based upon: specific commodities, technologies, and services; end-users; and governments. Thus, export controls may apply to a wide range of University activities including: research and innovation; international programs, agreements, exchanges, and travel; procurement; information technology and services; human resources; and shipping.

- 1.3 Additionally, export control restrictions apply to the Release of Controlled Information and data, technologies, and commodities to Foreign Persons located within the United States.

2.0 GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- 2.1 All University employees and students, visiting scientists, postdoctoral fellows, and other persons retained by or working at or for the University must conduct their affairs in accordance with United States export control laws and regulations and bear primary responsibility for complying with export controls in the conduct of research and other activities in which they participate. Any required export license and/or approval must be obtained before exporting anything deemed export controlled.
- 2.2 University employees must be familiar with the United States export control laws and regulations, including important exclusions and exemptions, as they relate to their responsibilities. Depending upon the nature of their activities and/or job functions, University employees may be required to participate in formal training as determined by the University's Empowered Official(s), the Export Control Office, and/or the employees' supervisors.
- 2.3 University employees with managerial or supervisory authority over Foreign Persons or projects involving Controlled Information or Controlled Physical Items are required to complete export control training at least once every two years.

3.0 MANAGERS AND SUPERVISORS

- 3.1 All University employees with managerial or supervisory authority over Foreign Persons or projects involving Controlled Information or Controlled Physical Items should view export control compliance as an important part of their day-to-day responsibilities.
- 3.2 Academic deans, directors, department and unit heads have responsibility for overseeing export control compliance in their respective colleges, departments, units, centers, or institutes and supporting the Export Control Office in implementing procedures as deemed necessary by the Export Control Office for export control compliance.
- 3.3 In addition, vice presidents, directors and heads of other offices or units have responsibility for overseeing export control compliance in their units and supporting the Export Control Office in implementing procedures, as deemed necessary for export control compliance. These other offices include, but are not limited to, Sponsored Research Services, Technology Commercialization Office, Contract Administration, Purchasing, Financial Management Operations, Immigration Services for Faculty & Scholars, and Study Abroad Office.

4.0 PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS

Principal Investigators have expert knowledge of the type of information and technology involved in their research or other University activity such as presenting at conferences and discussing research findings with collaborators. In addition to the responsibilities outlined above, Principal

Investigators are responsible for ensuring that their activities conform to export control laws and regulations and that they do not Release Controlled Items or Information or provide export controlled services to a Foreign Person without prior authorization as required; working with the Export Control Office to determine if their research is controlled; and documenting adherence to U. S. export controls.

5.0 EMPOWERED OFFICIAL

- 5.1 The Vice President for Research (in addition to other designees who may be appointed by the Vice President for Research) is the University's "Empowered Official" for all purposes relating to applicable federal export control laws and regulations. The Empowered Official(s) is responsible for license applications and other approvals required for compliance with export control laws and regulations, and serves as the University's representative and point of contact with such agencies. The Empowered Official(s) is the University official authorized to sign license applications and other authorizations required by export control laws and regulations on behalf of the University and to bind the University in any proceedings before government agencies with export control responsibilities.
- 5.2 The Vice President for Research is the authorized University official responsible for oversight of the University's Export Control Compliance Program. Export license applications, Voluntary Self-Disclosures, and any request to a federal agency regarding export controls must be authorized by the Vice President for Research or his/her designee.

6.0 EXPORT CONTROL COMPLIANCE PROGRAM

- 6.1 [The Export Control Compliance Program Manual](https://vpr.tamu.edu/resources/export-controls/export-control-manual/view) ("Manual") serves as the University's guiding framework to assure University compliance with federal export control laws and regulations, including the International Traffic in Arms Regulations ("ITAR"), Export Administration Regulations ("EAR"), and Office of Foreign Assets Control ("OFAC"). This Manual lays out the responsibilities, procedures, and controls for properly managing export control compliance for the University and its employees. The current version of the Manual can be accessed at <https://vpr.tamu.edu/resources/export-controls/export-control-manual/view>.
- 6.2 The Export Control Office reports to the Vice President for Research, or designee, and has the authority and the responsibility for working with other university offices to implement the procedures set forth in the Export Control Compliance Program Manual.

7.0 POSSIBLE VIOLATIONS

- 7.1 Each University employee has the responsibility to report possible violations of United States export control laws or regulations. Suspected violations should be reported to the Export Control Office, together with the details of the suspected violation at exportcontrols@tamu.edu or (979) 862-6419; or via the [EthicsPoint website](#). Possible violations of United States export control laws or regulations will be investigated by the Export Control Office or designee, to the extent deemed necessary. In accordance with System policies and regulations, and University rules and procedures, the Vice President for Research is authorized to suspend or terminate a research, teaching, testing, or other activity if the Vice President for Research, or designee, determines that the activity is not in compliance or will lead to noncompliance with export control laws and regulations. The Vice President for Research may determine whether notification to an appropriate government agency is required.

8.0 DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

There are severe institutional and individual sanctions for violations of export controls laws, including the loss of research funding, loss of export privileges, as well as civil and criminal penalties including imprisonment. Additionally, employees and students may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination or expulsion per University rules and procedures and System policies and regulations.

Related Statutes, Policies, or Requirements

- International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR) 22 C.F.R. §§ 120-130
 - Export Administration Regulations (EAR) 15 C.F.R. §§ 700-799
 - Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) 31 C.F.R. §§ 500-599
 - Atomic Energy Act of 1954 42 U.S.C. Section 2011, et seq. and Nuclear Regulatory Commission Regulations, 10 C.F.R. Part 110
 - [TAMUS Policy 15.02 Export Controls](#)
-

Contact Office

Division of Research
Export Control Office
(979) 862-6419

Update from Dr. Penny Riggs, CPI Chair

December CPI News – The CPI executive committee met December 6, 2017, in preparation for today's meeting. CPI-EC had the opportunity to meet Mr. Jack Manhire, Assistant Dean and Chief of Staff from the new School of Innovation and Assistant Vice President for Economic Development for an overview and brief discussion of "The I-School." At the January 17th General CPI meeting, Mr. Andy Morriss, Dean of the School of Innovation and Vice President for Entrepreneurship and Economic Development for Texas A&M University, will provide an update and overview. Dr. Teresa Wilcox, Professor of Psychology and Faculty Research Fellow in the Division of Research, Texas A&M University was recognized for her work to develop and oversee the postdoctoral program for the past two years. We wish Teresa all the best as she begins a new appointment in January.

Dr. Marty Scholtz provided an update on the T3 program and announced that the website for this program is active <http://t3.tamu.edu/>. A faculty advisory committee is assisting with development of the "large project" process.

See the Government Relations update in this newsletter, as well as attached letters regarding graduate student taxes. Thank you to Rep. Bill Flores for his efforts on behalf of higher education and graduate research.

Please join us for the CPI Holiday Social at the University Club on Monday, December 18, 5-7pm, to celebrate the end of the semester with refreshments and live music. **RSVP to rluckey@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, or contact me directly at riggs@tamu.edu or 979.862.7015.

Reminder: The next general meeting will be held Wednesday, January 17, 2018 in MSC 2400. Contact Rebecca Luckey, rluckey@tamu.edu or 979.862.9166 for more information or to suggest agenda items for our monthly meetings.

I wish all of you a peaceful and happy holiday season and look forward to seeing you in January.

-Penny

Transformational Teaching and Learning Conference

The inaugural Transformational Teaching and Learning Conference will take place on April 17th and 18th of 2018, in the Memorial Student Center. The purpose of this event is to showcase and promote the culture of teaching excellence on our campus, and the goal of this conference is that the event will serve to encourage dialogue, stimulate interest, and cultivate information. This year's theme is "Student-Centered Innovation".

Visit the conference website at tlc.tamu.edu/cfp to submit a presentation proposal. Proposals are due Friday, January 5th. We will make notifications of acceptance by Friday, February 2nd.

Contact the conference planning committee at tlc@tamu.edu or (979) 845-4274 (Dean of Faculties) for more information.

Government Relations Update

Tax Legislation Update

On December 7, the House and Senate both passed [H.J. Res 123](#), a Continuing Resolution to fund the federal government through Friday, December 22nd. The Texas delegation, by and large, voted along party lines in the House and split in the Senate.

With few legislative days remaining this calendar year, much unfinished business (aside from funding) remains as a conference committee continues work on the tax bill, and the House Education and Workforce Committee prepares to mark-up its Higher Education Reauthorization bill on Tuesday. We are actively working with our delegation regarding how Texas A&M is affected by all legislation.

We expect details will emerge in the coming days, with a final vote expected the week of December 18th. Our clear and **primary concern** relates to the educational provisions regarding **student waivers and scholarships** (commonly known as Section 117(d) and Section 127). While the House version contained the elimination of this tax benefit, the Senate version did not. We are cautiously optimistic that a change to the existing law will not be in the final package.

Several House Members, including local Congressman Bill Flores (R-TX), have gone [on record](#) (and reinforced in other informal discussions) that this provision needs to be removed from the final package.

A **second concern** is the [Unrelated Business Income Tax \(UBIT\)](#), as it relates to licensing and royalty revenue generated by universities. Regarding name and logo royalties, the Senate did remove a new tax they had earlier proposed (the House did not have it in its version). However, the Senate still proposed that UBIT activity of tax exempt organizations be required to separately calculate taxable income--this would negatively affect universities. **This affects Texas A&M because this revenue helps fund scholarships.**

Please know this continues to be a dynamic and fluid situation and Texas A&M, along with other educational association communities of the [AAU](#) and [APLU](#), will continue engaging Members until a final package emerges. Please let us know if you have any questions: Contact Government Relations at gr@tamu.edu 979-458-0282

Proposed Updates to University's Export Control Rule

Attached is a copy of proposed updates to the university's export control rule. The proposed revisions seek to simplify the rule so there is less duplication between the rule and the University's Export Control Compliance Program Manual (see <http://vpr.tamu.edu/resources/export-controls/export-control-manual>). The revised rule focuses on general responsibilities and refers to the Manual for processes and procedures. Some of the specific changes include the following:

- Definitions updated to reflect changes in the federal regulations and the introduction of a new term, "Release".
- The rule has been reorganized so its focus is on responsibilities of individuals, managers and supervisors, principal investigators, the VPR/Empowered Official and the Export Control Office.
- The rule now points readers of the rule to the Export Control Compliance Program Manual. The Manual sets forth the guiding framework for the university's export control compliance program and designates the Export Control Office as the office responsible for working with other university offices to implement the procedures specified in the Manual.
- The rule also states that to the extent there are overlapping export control responsibilities with other system members, such as when university faculty, research, facilities or equipment are concerned, system members should cooperate with the university's Export Control Office.

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- At the time university rule was established, there was no dedicated export control office. Export control compliance had been part of the Office of Research Compliance. Since the university now has an Export Control Office, the revised rule reflects this.

Please provide feedback by January 2, 2018 to Rebecca Luckey at cpi@tamu.edu.

Grant Application Advice from NIH Peer Reviewers

When: February 6, 2018; 2:00-3:30 p.m.

Where: 601 Rudder

About: What happens when the grant proposal you've worked on for months arrives at the NIH? How do study section reviewers discuss and score proposals? What makes some proposals more powerful than others? These and other questions will be addressed during this 90-minute seminar and Q&A with Texas A&M faculty who have served as NIH study section reviewers.

Register: By 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, February 6, 2018 at <https://u.tamu.edu/NIHPRW>.

Contacts: John Ivy, Sr. Research Development Officer, john-ivy@tamu.edu
Christina Papke, Research Development Officer, cpapke@tamu.edu

Informational Meeting: An Introduction to the Texas A&M-FAPESP Research Program

When: February 8, 2018; 1:30-2:30 p.m.

Where: 3147 ILSB

About: In Summer 2017, the Division of Research at Texas A&M University and the São Paulo Research Foundation ([FAPESP](#)) announced the Texas A&M-FAPESP Research Program to implement scientific and technological cooperation through the funding of joint research projects between Texas A&M researchers and researchers from the State of São Paulo, Brazil. Funding for the Texas A&M principal investigator will be US\$10,000 per proposal per year. FAPESP will provide an equivalent amount of funding for their PIs. This meeting will introduce you to the program and provide information on methods of collaboration, eligibility, proposal submission, timeline, and review of the online application system ([eProposal](#)).

Register: By 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 8, 2018 [here](#).

Contacts: [Monica Bruno Holder](#), M.S., International Programs Coordinator

Junior Faculty Proposal Writing Academy: 2018 NSF CAREER and Other Young Investigator Programs

When: February 22, 2018; 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Where: 301 Rudder
About: This workshop, part of the Junior Faculty Proposal Writing Academy, will focus on proposal writing strategies, broader impact collaboration opportunities, and other strategies for writing successful NSF CAREER and Young Investigator Program (YIP) grant proposals. All junior faculty and department heads are encouraged to attend.
Register: By 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, February 22, 2018 at https://tamu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_393SOLdr8rGQqJT.
Contacts: [Jim Izat](#), Ph.D., Sr. Research Development Officer, RDS
[Laurie Garton](#), Ph.D., Sr. Research Development Officer, TEES

NIH Specific Aims Writing Clinic

When: February 27, March 6, March 27; time TBA.
Where: TBA
About: This three meeting series will help participants craft a competitive Specific Aims section, the foundation of any successful NIH grant application. At the initial meeting, a panel of experienced NIH study section members will conduct a mock peer review of the Specific Aims of three participants selected at random. In meetings two and three, participants will “pair-and-share” their draft and revised Specific Aims sections, respectively, to give and receive peer feedback. RDS staff will coordinate and provide critiques on proposal documents.
Register: By 11:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 22, including your draft Specific Aims. Watch for registration details in early January 2018.
Contact: [Christina Papke](#), Ph.D., Research Development Officer, RDS
[John Ivy](#), Ph.D., Sr. Research Development Officer, RDS

Writing Successful Proposals – All Faculty

When: March 1, 2018; 1:00-4:00 p.m.
Where: 3147 ILSB
About: This workshop covers the best practices for developing competitive proposals to federal and other funding agencies. Questions will be taken at the end of the session.
Register: By 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 1, 2018, at <https://u.tamu.edu/WSP>.
Contact: [Jim Izat](#), Ph.D., Sr. Research Development Officer, RDS

Junior Faculty Proposal Writing Academy: NSF Career Writing Groups Inaugural Meeting

When: March 7, 2018; 2:00-3:30 p.m.
Where: 3147 ILSB
About: Participants will learn strategies to increase their chances of writing and submitting a successful NSF CAREER proposal, NSF proposal writing best practices, and key techniques for interacting with the NSF. The group is structured to assist faculty in developing and writing an NSF CAREER proposal to be submitted to any NSF Division. Participants from prior years are welcome to attend, or may contact Dr. Jim Izat directly to work one-one-one to develop their CAREER proposal.
Register: By 10:00 a.m. on March 7, 2018, at <https://u.tamu.edu/JRPWA-WGM>.
Contact: [Jim Izat](#), Ph.D., Sr. Research Development Officer, RDS

Junior Faculty Proposal Writing Academy: Filling Your Toolbox: NIH Proposal Writing Resources

When: March 22, 2018; 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Where: 3147 ILSB

About: Faculty will gain fundamental knowledge and key strategies for navigating the NIH grant process and leveraging NIH funding opportunities to drive their research forward. The overall structure and mission of the NIH will be addressed, along with the process for grant solicitation, review, and award. Approaches for identifying high-priority funding areas and maximizing proposal competitiveness will also be discussed.

Register: By 10:00 a.m. on March 22, 2018, at <https://u.tamu.edu/NIHPWR>.

Contact: [Christina Papke](#), Ph.D., Research Development Officer

Demystifying The NSF: NSF Funding Opportunities, Proposal Preparation, And Review Process

When: March 28, 2018; 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Where: 3147 ILSB

About: This workshop will familiarize participants on the mission and structure of the National Science Foundation (NSF), the NSF merit review process, ways to navigate the NSF website, and how to find relevant funding and other NSF-related information.

Register: By 10:00 a.m. on March 28, 2018, at <https://u.tamu.edu/DemystNSFMar28>.

Contact: [Jim Izat](#), Ph.D., Senior Research Development Officer

TAMU IACUC Accreditation Site Visit in 2018

The triennial AAALAC Site Visit will be in the Summer of 2018. AAALAC representatives will be on campus to review our Animal Care and Use Program. To make this a successful site visit and maintain our accreditation, we need your assistance and cooperation. Please take the next few months to remove all unnecessary items from your animal housing and procedural spaces and remove all expired items. Please make sure that all items are labeled appropriately. Finally, please ensure that all personnel are familiar with all aspects of the research protocols for which they are a participant. We will send out periodic reminders throughout the spring and will notify you once the date of the site visit has been set. If you have questions or need assistance with preparing for the site visit, please contact the Attending Veterinarian, Dr. Jim Elliott (845-7433) or the Animal Welfare Office (845-1828).

AUP Form Update

The IACUC is working on updating the Animal Use Protocol to incorporate new features made available through the most recent updated version of iRIS. The streamlined form is scheduled to be rolled out in early spring 2018. Please contact the Animal Welfare Office (845-1828) if you have questions.

Association for the Accreditation of Human Research Protection Programs Visit

AAHRPP will be on campus for the re-accreditation site visit on February 5-6, 2018.

Investigators selected by AAHRPP for interviews will be notified as soon as the agenda is released in mid to late December. Site visit preparation materials will be posted on the HRPP website in the near future.

Status of Revised Common Rule

On October 7, 2017, HHS proposed a one year delay of the general implementation date of the revised Common Rule. The current effective date is January 19, 2018. The proposed delay is currently under review by the Office of Management Budget. Guidance from the Office for Human Research Protections (OHRP) on how to implement the changes has not been released.

Minor Changes to IRB Continuing Review Form

The Continuing Review form has been updated in iRIS in preparation for the upcoming site visit by AAHRPP. Please contact the IRB staff with any questions at irb@tamu.edu or 979-458-4067.

Sponsored Research Services (SRS)

Texas A&M Sponsored Research Services will be closed for Winter Break beginning Monday, December 25 and continuing through Monday, January 1, 2018. The office will re-open on Tuesday, January 2, 2018. Any proposals that may be due during this break will need to be routed, completed and submitted by 12:00 p.m. (NOON) Friday, December 22.

Sign Up for Notifications about Limited Submission Proposal Opportunities

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.

Bulletin for Principal Investigators

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.