
CPI Newsletter – April 2018

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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 Groppe • *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

Update from Dr. Penny Riggs, CPI Chair

April CPI News – For this April 11 General CPI meeting, we welcome Dr. Mark Barteau, Texas A&M University Vice President for Research, along with the Division of Research Compliance, Biosafety and Export Controls directors. Today's discussion includes their programs and an overview of services in place to assist PIs with their research activities. We're glad to have the program committee chairs in attendance to participate in the discussion as well.

The CPI executive committee participated in several meetings during March and April, including visits with Chancellor Sharp, President Young, and Provost Fierke. Several items of interest to PIs are included in this month's newsletter as a result of those meetings. And, looking ahead to the May, President Young and Vice President and Chief Information Officer, Dee Childs, will be CPI's guest speakers at the May 9th CPI General Meeting. In June, CPI will host Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, Dr. Jerry Strawser.

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, May 09, 2018 back in CPI's normal meeting room, Rudder 601. Contact Rebecca Luckey, rluckey@tamu.edu or 979.862.9166, for more information or to suggest agenda items for our monthly meetings

2018 Junior Faculty Proposal Writing Academy

When: May 24, 2018 – May 25, 2018
About: The Junior Faculty Academy is a collaboration between the Division of Research and the Texas Engineering Experiment Station (TEES). Seminars are offered this spring semester for tenure-track faculty submitting proposals to the NSF CAREER and other federal agency new or Young Investigator Programs (YIPs).
Apply: Registration is open at <http://jfa.tamu.edu>.
Contacts: Dr. Jim Izat, jizat@tamu.edu; Dr. Laurie Garton, lsgarton@tamu.edu

Southwest I-Corps Regional Program

When: June 13, 2018 – July 11, 2018
Where: Houston
About: Southwest I-Corps will be offering a regional training session this summer that is designed to prepare PIs for application to the renowned national I-Corps training. The Texas A&M System has sent 33 teams (consisting of PIs, students, and business/industry mentors). Total grants to these teams following I-Corps training have amounted to over \$13 million and we expect to exceed \$20 million by 2020. For more information, please reference the attached flyer (*I-Corps Regional Program*) at the back of the newsletter.
Apply: Applications will be accepted on a rolling, space-available basis. Interested teams are welcome to apply at www.swicorps.org/events
Contacts: Chuck Hinton, chinton@mays.tamu.edu

Research Compliance, Biosafety and Export Controls Updates

New NIH Clinical Trials Policy delayed by Congress

The US Congress has directed the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to “delay enforcement” of a new policy that would reclassify basic research involving humans as “clinical trials”. Lawmakers concluded that the research community was not adequately consulted about this change and that the policy could have “long-term unintended consequences,” including unnecessary regulations and the inappropriate inclusion of non-clinical trials in NIH’s clinicaltrials.gov database. More information will be shared as it is available.

Lunch and Learn: Tips for Technology Control – How to Stay Out of Trouble

The University’s Export Control Office is hosting a lunch and learn event on Tuesday, April 24, 2018, from 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at the General Services Complex, Room 101A. A representative from the Department of Commerce’s Bureau of Industry and Security will provide export control training titled “Tips for Technology Control – How to Stay out of Trouble”. Please see <http://rcb.tamu.edu/more/april-24-lunch-and-learn>

Outreach Events Prior to AAALAC Site Visit

AAALAC, International will be conducting their triennial site visit of the TAMU campus this summer. The site visitors will visit every location that animals are housed or used for procedures. In advance of the AAALAC team arrival, members of the IACUC leadership will visit with each research group who may interact with the site visitors. Please contact the AWO office (979-845-1828 or animalcompliance@tamu.edu) if you have any questions or need assistance with preparing for the AAALAC site visit.

Research Compliance, Biosafety, and Export Controls Customer Service Survey

This week, researchers who utilize services in the area of research compliance, biosafety, and export controls will receive a notification for a survey of customer service. Each year, feedback is used for enhancing ongoing efforts to provide the best possible service to the research community. If you have any questions regarding the surveys, please contact Research Compliance and Biosafety at outreachrcb@tamu.edu or call 979-458-1467.

USDA Records Disposal Freeze

In February 2018, the USDA notified recipients of funds from certain USDA components (Agricultural Research Service (ARS), Economic Research Service (ERS) and National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS)) of a records disposal freeze. The freeze applies to all records generated from and/or pertaining to agency agreements. Awards from other USDA components do not appear to be subject to this freeze. For additional information see <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDANIFA/bulletins/1e3e7a0>

Laboratory Animal Welfare: Coordination and Harmonization of Regulations and Policies

NIH published a request for comments in the Federal Register on March 14th regarding Laboratory Animal Welfare: Coordination and Harmonization of Regulations and Policies. Per the notice the agency is “seeking information to improve the coordination of regulations and policies with respect to research with laboratory animals as required by the 21st Century Cures Act” in coordination with USDA and FDA to reduce administrative burden. The notice indicates that NIH, USDA and FDA are currently reviewing the recent FASEB-AAMC-COGR-NABR report *Reforming Animal Research Regulations: Workshop Recommendations to Reduce Regulatory Burden*, the National Academies report *Optimizing the Nation’s Investment in Academic Research: A New Regulatory Framework for the 21st Century*; and the National Science Board report *Reducing Investigators’ Administrative Workload for Federally Funded Research* among others. The notice seeks input on proposed actions and resources, including approaches not specifically mentioned in the notice. For a complete description, see, <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2018-03-14/pdf/2018-05173.pdf>.

European Union General Data Protection Regulation – Effective May 2018

The European Union’s Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) will become effective in May 2018. It is intended to strengthen and unify data protection for all individuals in the European Union (EU). It also addresses the export of personal data outside the EU. It may apply extraterritorially to U.S. universities through study

abroad/distance education, conferences, research, recruiting/enrollment, and EU-based donors. Under the GDPR, “Personal Data” including what is “identifiable” and “sensitive” is much broader than under U.S. regulations. For additional information see <https://www.eugdpr.org/>.

Southern Biological Association – Save the Date

The Southern Biological Association, which is an affiliate of the American Biological Safety Association, will host its annual spring symposium at Texas A&M University April 11-13. More details including presentation description will be shared in the coming weeks.

Texas A&M-FAPESP Research Program Funding Opportunity

Proposals are due on **April 30, 2018** to the program, which promotes collaborations in scientific research and technological development between researchers at Texas A&M and those funded by the Sao Paulo Research Foundation (FAPESP). Information is available at:

<https://vpr.tamu.edu/researchdevelopment/funding/fapesp/texas-a-m-university-and-the-sao-paulo-research-foundation-fapesp>. Please contact Monica Holder at m-holder@tamu.edu for further inquiries.

NIH Administrative Supplements

NIH uses administrative supplements to award additional funds during a current project period to provide for an increase in costs due to unforeseen circumstances. Applications for administrative supplements typically do not receive peer review, but are reviewed administratively. See each Admin Supp FOA for details regarding award information, eligibility, application and submission information, and application review. How to apply for an administrative supplement is described at:

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/administrative-supplements.htm>.

In a recent Funding News, NIAID provides information on new Administrative Supplement opportunities:

- Women’s health of understudied, underrepresented, and underreported populations (applications due April 16, 2018), and
- Sexual and gender minority populations (applications due May 17, 2018).

Multiple NIH Institutes and Centers participate in these three FOAs. Currently, there are three parent Administrative Supplement Announcements and a total of 20 Admin Supp FOAs.

Retirement for Dr. John Ivy, Sr. Research Development Officer – Save the Date

Dr. John Ivy has been with the Division of Research for 12 years and with Texas A&M University for 25+ years. We will definitely miss him and want to wish him well on his future endeavors. Please join us on May 31st, from 2 – 3 PM at JKW 318A to celebrate his career with us and his journey moving forward.

Multidisciplinary University Research Initiatives (MURI) Program

Multidisciplinary University Initiative (MURI) efforts involve teams of researchers investigating high priority topics and opportunities that intersect more than one traditional technical discipline. For many military problems this multidisciplinary approach serves to stimulate innovations, accelerate research progress and expedite transition of results into naval applications. The submission date for FY 2019 Department of Defense Multidisciplinary University Research Initiative is open. White Papers must be received no later than June 29, 2018 (Friday) at 11:59 PM (EST), and Full Proposals must be received no later than October 16, 2018 (Tuesday) at 11:59 PM (EST). For additional information, please contact Paula Barden at Paula.barden.ctr@navy.mil or refer to the attached, *Funding Opportunity: DOD*, at the back of the newsletter.

X-Grants

X-Grants, loosely named for “accelerate,” are larger grants that range from \$100,000 to \$1.5 million per team and involve a larger group of team members. Unlike T3 Grants available only to tenured and tenure-track faculty, X-Grants are open to all faculty, researchers, and staff at Texas A&M University, Texas A&M University-Galveston, and Texas A&M University-Qatar. Leads and co-leads must be Texas A&M PI eligible researchers. The X-Grant process launched on February 13, 2018. Please see a description on the [X-Grants web page](https://president.tamu.edu/xgrants/?utm_source=president&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=xgrants). (https://president.tamu.edu/xgrants/?utm_source=president&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=xgrants)

Harness the Power of the NIH RePORTER Matchmaker

Knowing what Program Officer (PO) to speak with, what NIH Institute or Center (IC) to request funding from and what they are funding, and to what Study Section(s) to ask assignment of your proposal are critical during preparation of your research grant application. The NIH RePORTER database of funded grants (<https://projectreporter.nih.gov/>) is there to help with its incredibly flexible search interface for funded grants. From the RePORTER Query tab, enter your search variables; the search results will link to the project records providing the abstract and public health relevance of each project, the PI, project and budget dates, project award amount, funding IC, FOA responded to, and the relevant PO and the review Study Section. In addition to the RePORTER Query tab are three others: Browse NIH, Matchmaker, and Search Publications. Matchmaker, because it can be used to find similar projects and program officials based on text, such as your abstract, can be even more useful to home in on that useful information. The Matchmaker web interface provides a query box into which one can paste an abstract or a specific aims section (up to 15,000 characters). Its original search capability, SIMILAR PROJECTS, does just what the name says. The results provide bar graphs identifying the ICs, the grant activity codes, and the study sections that funded and reviewed projects similar to the search text. In addition, the results include a Match Score-ranked list of the funded grants similar to the query text. From that list, you can click-through to get full details. The recently introduced SIMILAR PROGRAM OFFICIALS search lets you find POs who administer similar funded projects. If you are preparing a grant application, one of those POs who administers a funded project quite similar to yours could be the one to contact with your questions during proposal preparation. Finally, regardless of which Matchmaker search you perform, the results have both Projects and Program Official tabs which will reveal the corresponding result.

Scholars@TAMU – Beta Release

The Texas A&M University Libraries recently launched the beta version of Scholars@TAMU (<https://scholars.library.tamu.edu/>), a faculty profile system that showcases our research, supports the creation of interdisciplinary research teams, and allows anyone to search through the range of Texas A&M expertise. At this stage, the libraries have developed faculty profiles for most of the College Station campus and the Health Science Center, though we have yet to complete profiles for some colleges and faculty members.

We invite faculty without profiles to submit their information or CV by clicking ‘Update Profile’ on the website (https://scholars.library.tamu.edu/vivo_editor/).

Common Rule Delayed Six Months

On January 17, 2018 – HHS and 15 Other Federal Departments and Agencies Announce an Interim Final Rule That Delays Both the Effective Date and General Compliance Date of the Revisions to the Federal Policy for the Protection of Human Subjects to July 19, 2018. Click on the following link to read the notice: <https://s3.amazonaws.com/public-inspection.federalregister.gov/2018-00997.pdf>

Controlled Substances Program

TAMU requires that all researchers who use controlled substances must have their own DEA license. The license fee is waived for researchers associated with a public institution. If you need assistance with obtaining a DEA license or have questions about the program, please contact the AWO office (979-845-1828) or visit the controlled substance program website.

Link: <http://rcb.tamu.edu/more/guidelines-for-the-purchase-storage-use-and-disposal-of-controlled-substances-in-research-and-teaching-at-texas-a-m-university>

CDMRP Biomedical Research Funding Opportunities

The Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program supports targeted topics in biomedical research and is managed by the Department of the Army. Multiple pre-announcements and announcements have recently been published. A list of programs and funding level include:

- *Alcohol and Substance Abuse* Research Program - \$4.0 million
- *Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis* Research Program - \$10 million
- *Autism* Research Program - \$7.5 million
- *Bone Marrow Failure* Research Program - \$3.0 million
- *Breast Cancer* Research Program - \$130.0 million
- *Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy* Research Program - \$3.2 million
- *Epilepsy* Research Program - \$7.5 million
- *Gulf War Illness* Research Program - \$21.0 million
- *Hearing Restoration* Research Program - \$10.0 million
- *Kidney Cancer* Research Program - \$15.0 million
- *Joint Warfighter Medical* Research Program - \$50.0 million
- *Lung Cancer* Research Program - \$14.0 million
- *Lupus* Research Program - \$5.0 million
- *Military Burn* Research Program - \$8.0 million
- *Multiple Sclerosis* Research Program - \$6.0 million
- *Neurofibromatosis* Research Program - \$15.0 million
- *Orthotics and Prosthetics Outcomes* Research Program - \$10.0 million
- *Ovarian Cancer* Research Program - \$20.0 million
- *Parkinson's* Research Program - \$16.0 million
- *Peer Reviewed Alzheimer's* Research Program - \$15.0 million
- *Peer Reviewed Cancer* Research Program (17 Topics) - \$80.0 million
- *Peer Reviewed Medical* Research Program (52 Topics) - \$330.0 million
- *Peer Reviewed Orthopaedic* Research Program - \$30.0 million
- *Prostate Cancer* Research Program - \$100.0 million
- *Reconstructive Transplant* Research Program - \$12.0 million
- *Spinal Cord Injury* Research Program - \$30.0 million
- *Tick-Borne Disease* Research Program - \$12.0 million
- *Trauma Clinical* Research Program - \$10 million
- *Tuberous Sclerosis Complex* Research Program - \$6.0 million
- *Vision* Research Program - \$15.0 million

Reaxys Unacceptable Terms and Conditions

The Libraries received information recently via the Stanford and MIT libraries raising concerns about certain terms and conditions from Elsevier for the Reaxys database. (<https://www.elsevier.com/solutions/reaxys>.) See an explanation from Stanford colleagues at the CPI website link here: (<http://cpi.tamu.edu/meetings/2017-2018-general-meeting-schedule>) .

The A&M Libraries subscribes to the Reaxys database. (If you wish to take a look at it, the easiest way to get to it is by simply entering the search term “Reaxys” in our search interface at <http://library.tamu.edu/>.) I’m pleased to report that our contract does not have the terms of concern to Stanford and MIT. These new terms seem to be limited to the API for the database and we have not licensed the API; we have received no expressions of interest in it. Our current Reaxys license agreement has terms similar to those found in most of our other resource license agreements. It specifies how authorized users may use the Reaxys content – search, view, download, etc. It also spells out restrictions on use, such as users cannot create derivative work, remove copyright notices, or use automated downloading programs to search and scrape the content. It does not, however, include any requirement that users must report how they’re using the content or share their research with Elsevier. Though we haven’t seen the new agreement, the Reaxys API license appears to add these requirements – users must share their research if requested by Elsevier and they must get approval before publishing research generated from use of the API. Additionally, the API license adds terms regarding personnel that bring up privacy concerns.

Stanford and MIT have let it be known that they have refused to sign the contract for the Reaxys API due to these issues. The A&M Libraries agrees. ***As a result of such refusal, we predict that Elsevier will market this service to individual principal investigators and their labs. No P.I. should sign any contract offered by Elsevier, particularly this one.***

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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.



CORPS
NSF Innovation Corps



REGIONAL PROGRAM

06.13 – 07.11.2018

Southwest I-Corps is offering a regional NSF I-Corps program to facilitate the commercial evaluation of academic research and innovation, and develop eligible teams for the national NSF I-Corps program and a \$50,000 I-Corps team grant. During the program, teams will be introduced to the fundamental I-Corps principles, helping teams explore the potential value of their research or innovation, and quickly and effectively validate their commercialization strategy.

ABOUT I-CORPS

NSF Innovation Corps (I-Corps) enables teams of scientists, researchers and engineers to explore the commercial potential of their research or innovation. By learning how to assess commercialization opportunities, teams gain a better understanding of their market, customers, competitors and industry.

BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATION

- » Develop entrepreneurial skills
- » Improve odds for commercial success
- » Validate your business model
- » Establish product-market fit
- » Achieve eligibility to apply for \$50,000 I-Corps team grant

WHAT YOU'LL LEARN

Teams will be introduced to the I-Corps approach, and learn about business model development and the customer development process. Teams will also spend time outside the building, talking to customers, partners and competitors, and testing hypotheses. At the conclusion of the program, teams will present their findings from the customer development process and receive real-time feedback from the I-Corps teaching team.

WHEN & WHERE

- Wed, 06.06 · Pre-Launch (virtual; 1 hour)
- Wed, 06.13 · Networking Reception (optional, evening)
- Thu, 06.14 · Opening Workshop @ Houston (full day)*
- Fri, 06.15 · Opening Workshop @ Houston (half day)*
- Fri, 06.29 · Midterm Review (virtual; 4 hours)
- Wed, 07.11 · Closing Workshop @ Houston (full day)*

**Hotel accommodations covered for traveling teams. All team members must be present and engaged for the duration of the program.*

TEAM COMPOSITION

Students, faculty and staff interested in translating their innovation and research into commercial ventures are encouraged to apply.

Interested teams must meet the following criteria:

- » At least two founding members per team
- » Technical proficiency of research or innovation
- » Right to practice intellectual property

LEARN MORE & APPLY

Interested teams must complete the online application at www.swicorps.org/events. Applications accepted on a rolling, space-available basis.

For more information, contact:

- UT Austin · Aprille Busch · abusch@ic2.utexas.edu
- Rice · Kerri Smith · kerri@rice.edu
- Texas A&M · Chuck Hinton · chinton@mays.tamu.edu





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WHEN & WHERE

- Tue, 09.12 · Launch (virtual; 1 hour)
 - Tue, 09.19 · Opening Workshop @ Houston (full day)*
 - Wed, 09.20 · Opening Workshop @ Houston (half day)*
 - Thu, 09.28 · Midterm Review (virtual; 4 hours)
 - Fri, 10.06 · Closing Workshop @ Austin (full day)*
- *Hotel accommodations covered for traveling teams.*
All team members must be present and engaged for the duration of the program.

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- » Right to practice intellectual property

LEARN MORE & APPLY

Interested teams must complete the online application at www.swicorps.org/events. Applications accepted on a rolling basis through August 25, 2017.

For more information, contact:

- UT Austin · Aprille Busch · abusch@ic2.utexas.edu
- Rice · Kerri Smith · kerri@rice.edu
- Texas A&M · Chuck Hinton · chinton@mays.tamu.edu





Happening Now | April 03, 2018

Funding Opportunity: DOD Releases FY 2019 MURI BAA

Lewis-Burke Associates LLC – March 28, 2018

On March 28, the Department of Defense (DOD) released the broad agency announcement (BAA) for the fiscal year (FY) 2019 Multidisciplinary University Research Initiative (MURI), as part of the larger University Research Initiative (URI) aimed at institutions of higher education. The MURI program remains one of the signature DOD research programs for the university community and stands as the benchmark for building a defense-oriented research capability on campus.

This year's 24 topics are provided from the Navy, Army, and Air Force basic research offices. Topics include:

Office of Naval Research

- 1) Fundamental Limits on Information Latency
- 2) Molecularly Programmable Graphene Architecture
- 3) Identifying invariances for improved modeling and prediction of oceanographic phenomena
- 4) Self-Assembly for High Performance Organic Electronics
- 5) Bio-inspired high-dimension control through models of cephalopod distributed information processing
- 6) Active Perception and Knowledge Exploitation in Navigation and Spatial Awareness
- 7) Advanced Analytical and Computational Modeling of Arctic Sea Ice
- 8) Topology & Advanced Dynamics of Coupled Human/Machine Systems

Army Research Office (ARO)

- 9) Clearing Your Head: The Glymphatic System and Restorative Effects of Sleep
- 10) Foundations of Emergent Computation and Self-Organized Adaptation
- 11) Multi-layer Network Modeling of Plant and Pollen Distribution across Space and Time
- 12) Near Field Radiative Heat Energy Transfer between Nanostructured Materials
- 13) Networked Interactions Governing Community Dynamics
- 14) Prediction and Control in Particulate Systems
- 15) Reactive and non-Reactive Scattering from Targeted Molecular Quantum States
- 16) Unified Decision Theory: From Bounded to Unbounded Rationality

Air Force Office of Scientific Research

- 17) THz Electronics Based on Antiferromagnets
- 18) Quantum Information Concepts from Tensor Networks and the Holographic Principle
- 19) 2D Heterostructures for Flexible, Lightweight Electronics and Optoelectronics
- 20) Feedback Control and Sparse Neural Signals
- 21) Dissipation Engineering in Open Quantum Systems
- 22) Group-IV Alloy Synthesis and Materials Properties
- 23) Neuromorphic Networks for Multifunctional Intelligent Systems
- 24) Microstructurally-aware Continuum Models for Energetic Materials

As with previous years, topics centered around materials, quantum sciences, and biology/bio-inspired basic research are presented. For FY 2019, the Navy has listed two topics pertaining to the ocean; the Air Force seeks underpinning fundamentals for novel energetic materials; and the Army wants to pursue the understanding of societal impacts on plants as well as population dynamics. Interestingly, many topics across all three Services seek mathematical models and computational approaches to provide theory and understanding to complex physical and biological processes.

DOD encourages faculty to engage with the Research Topic Chiefs assigned to each topic area (see section II.I) through the white paper process to assess the feasibility of proposed topics. Topics listed above describe the focus areas important to each Service and are not meant to restrict the possible directions awarded research could take.

Letters of Intent: Not required. Prospective awardees are encouraged to submit white papers to minimize the labor and cost associated with the production of detailed full proposals.

Time Line for Submission:

- Questions regarding white papers are due by **June 15, 2018**
- White papers are due on **June 29, 2018 at 11:59 PM ET**
- DOD will send notification of initial evaluations of white papers on **July 20, 2018**
- Questions regarding full proposals are due by **October 2, 2018**
- Full proposals are due on **October 16, 2018 at 11:59 PM ET**
- Notification of selection for award will be made on **March 1, 2019**
- Grants will start on **June 1, 2019**

Total Funding and Award Size: DOD expects \$170 million to be made available, pending out-year appropriations. Individual awards are expected to be \$1.25 to \$1.5 million per year for a base period of three years, with the option to extend the grant for an additional two years.

Eligibility and Limitations: The competition is open to U.S. institutions of higher education, including DOD institutions of higher education, with degree-granting programs in science, mathematics, or engineering. While industry, DOD laboratories, and foreign universities may not

receive funding, DOD encourages universities to collaborate with entities focused on applied and transitional research for potential commercial applications of MURI-funded research.

Sources and Additional Background:

- The full solicitation is available at <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=302218> or by searching “W911NF18S0003” on grants.gov.
- Additional information on MURI and DOD’s basic research efforts is available at <http://basicresearch.defense.gov/programs-workshops/>.



Stanford | LIBRARIES

3 April 2018

WARNING : ELSEVIER **Reaxys** API LICENSE VIOLATES ACADEMIC FREEDOM

Elsevier's November 2017 contract proposal for its **Reaxys** chemical reactions API service contained requirements that the Stanford Libraries find to be antithetical to standards of academic freedom, and not in keeping with the university's policies. Given these requirements (detailed below) and Elsevier's unwillingness to negotiate these points, the Libraries have rejected this contract.

We are issuing this warning because Elsevier has now indicated their intention to make **Reaxys** API's services available only to individual labs or units at Stanford. The Libraries are particularly concerned that Elsevier representatives will attempt to cover its losses from the library contract by circulating among likely principal investigators to try to accumulate a number of contracts that would meet or exceed the amount (more than \$87,000) that the libraries had paid in prior years. While the Libraries do not know what the specific terms of such direct agreements would be, we believe it is likely that Elsevier would include the same or similar objectionable terms. Specific areas of concern are:

- Requirements that users make their research available to Elsevier
 - “Upon request by Elsevier, the Subscriber will provide Elsevier access to any content or material related to the use of In-house projects ...”
- The granting of approval rights to Elsevier for publication of research
 - “The Subscriber will provide Elsevier with drafts for approval of any report, paper, or presentation or other written communication generated on the Research Project prior to submission for publication or public distribution ...”
- The provision of access to university systems and data
 - Provision to Elsevier of “Reviews [sic] of the Subscriber personnel with access to Elsevier data, systems or facilities ...”
 - “Reviews [sic], including appropriate background screening, of all Access Personnel to ensure none present a security to Elsevier or Elsevier personnel, data, systems or facilities.”
 - “ ... Elsevier may periodically ... review ... Subscriber's Information Security Program including its facilities, policies and procedures, backup, disaster and business continuity plans, and all relevant documentation, logs, practices, and operations. Elsevier rights herein will survive for three years following the termination of the services.”
- Requirements for third-party review of university systems

- “The Subscriber will obtain, on at least an annual basis, a report by an independent third-party auditor demonstrating the Subscriber’s compliance with applicable information security standards.”

Given the conflict between these terms and Stanford policies, any agreement an individual Stanford person, department, unit, or lab considers for **Reaxys** API should be reviewed by Stanford’s University Counsel, Office of Technology Licensing, Procurement, and any other appropriate Stanford offices to assure compliance with Stanford’s regulations in support of academic freedom. If one or more labs, units, or departments enter into an agreement containing the unacceptable provisions, and perhaps other ones, Elsevier would expect all Stanford licensees to Reaxys to follow suit. NB: No principal investigator at Stanford has the authority to accept these terms, even for that P.I.’s lab or research project.

We are providing this **WARNING** to various interested parties at Stanford including the Provost, the Dean of Research, the General Counsel, the cognizant Dean for the Sciences in H&S, the Dean of Medicine, the University Procurement Office, and the Dean of Engineering. We are encouraging each recipient to forward this warning to likely targets of Elsevier’s marketing effort. In addition, we are forwarding this warning to our colleagues in the Ivy+ libraries.

Questions and concerns may be directed to me (makeller@stanford.edu), Deputy University Librarian Mimi Calter (mcalter@stanford.edu), Associate University Librarian for Science and Engineering Bob Schwarzwaldner (rns@stanford.edu), or SUL negotiator Paul Zarins (pzarins@stanford.edu)

Thank you for your attention to this warning.



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