
CPI Newsletter – April 2022

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2021-22 CPI roster: Chair — David Stelly, COALS • Vice Chair — Debjyoti Banerjee, Engineering • Past Chair — Steve Maren, Liberal Arts • AgriLife Extension — Craig Carpenter, Jamie Rae Walker • AgriLife Research — Anil Somenahally, Lee Tarpley, Qingwu Xue • Architecture — Wei Yan • Bush School — Laura Dague • COALS — Russell Cross, Kerri Gehring, Jean-Phillipe 'JP' Pellois, Elizabeth 'Betsy' Pierson, Paul Straight, Aaron Tarone • Dentistry — Hongjiao Ouyang • Education — Timothy Elliott, Rafael Lara-Alecio • Engineering — Raymundo Arroyave, Theodora Chaspari, Tracy Hammond, Daniel Jiménez, James Kaihatu, Samuel Ma, Ramesh Talreja • Geosciences — Jessica Fitzsimmons, Ethan Grossman, Daniel Thornton • Law — Felix Mormann • Liberal Arts — Jessica Bernard, Harland Prechel • Mays — Korok Ray • Medicine — Helene Andrews-Polymenis, Shannon Glaser, Carl Gregory • Nursing — Robin Page • Pharmacy — Jayshree Mishra • Science — Heath Blackmon, Jennifer 'Jen' Dulin, Rainer Fries, Jean-Luc Guermont, Wenshe Liu • Public Health — Gang Han • TAMU at Galveston — R.J. David Wells • TAMU at Qatar — Konstantinos Kakosimos • TEES — Dean Schneider, Nathan Tichenor • TTI — David Bierling, James Kovar, Dennis Perkinson • University Libraries — Sarah Potvin • Veterinary Medicine — Joe Arosh, Candice Brinkmeyer-Langford, Dana Gaddy

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

Update from Dr. David Stelly, CPI Chair

April CPI News – The Council of Principal Investigators Executive Committee (CPI-EC) met with the administrators on Wednesday, April 6, 2022. CPI-EC heard informative updates on The University Libraries and how it provides valuable resources to the research enterprise as well as an update on the University Libraries Working Group in progress.

I invite you to contact me, Dr. Deb Banerjee, 2021-2022 CPI Vice Chair at cpi@tamu.edu or Rebecca Luckey, rluckey@tamu.edu, for more information or to suggest agenda items for CPI's monthly meetings. The CPI Executive Committee continues to meet with the president, interim provost, interim vice president for research and chancellor on a regular basis.

CPI Contacts—The complete 2021-2022 roster of CPI Representatives and the CPI Executive Committee can be found on the CPI website at [2021-2022 Council Membership — Council of Principal Investigators \(tamu.edu\)](https://www.tamu.edu/cpi/2021-2022-Council-Membership---Council-of-Principal-Investigators). Previous membership lists can be found in the council [archive](#).

Export Controls Update

Due to the ongoing conflict between Russia and Ukraine, many entities in Russia, Belarus, and regions of Ukraine have recently been blocked by the United States Government. Additionally, new export controls have been implemented for certain items and technologies to these countries. The Export Controls Office (ECO) has issued guidance: <https://vpr.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Russia-Ukraine-Guidance-Final.pdf>. If you have any interactions with or activities in Russia, Ukraine, or Belarus, contact the ECO prior to proceeding. Email: exportcontrols@tamu.edu

Research Compliance Updates

Texas A&M's Office of the Vice President for Research has shared with CPI various updates for Research Compliance for the month of April. A list of these include:

- Topics from advancements in refinements to experimental strategies to improve welfare and sound science to successful 3Rs collaborations
- Updates to TAMU Rules
- Laboratory Decommissioning
- AAALAC Site Visit Tip for Success – Validation of Sanitation Effectiveness
- Student Organization Activities with Animals
- Resource for Principal Investigators Performing NIH Funded Research with Animals

Please see the attached flyer at the back of this newsletter for more information.

Maestro Steering Committee

The Maestro Steering Committee governs Maestro (Modular Application for the Electronic Submission and Tracking of Research Operations), which is an enterprise-wide system that supports researchers and research administration across The Texas A&M University System. The Steering Committee is co-chaired by the TAMUS CIO (Mark Stone) and the TAMU interim VP for Research (Jack Baldauf). The Maestro Steering Committee met on Wednesday, March 9, 2022. Items of discussion included:

- I. **Budget Forecasting Update – A. Budget Entry (presented by Tamara Lopez).** The Budget Entry module has been released to production. Budget Administrators can enter awarded budgets on established accounts. Highlights: (i) allows entry to individual accounts by budget categories based on awarded proposal budget; (ii) allows entry on the individual funding periods or combined; (iii) option to perform a prorated function; (iv) includes personnel detail for salary and

fringe; and (v) allows administrators to route budget entry document for approval and automatically post budget to financial system (e.g. FAMIS) from Maestro. Other functionality for Sponsored Budget vs. Financial budget (piece going to FAMIS) was discussed. A Budget Entry Demo was provided. **B. Budget Forecasting (presented by Mohammad Al-Banna).** Briefly discussed were: main dashboard, portfolio management, detailed personnel forecast, summary forecast for other budget categories and IDC projection, forecast versioning, and security and forecast sharing with designated users based on roles. A timeline for tasks within the large Budget Forecasting project was presented.

- II. Cost Sharing Module (presented by Crystal Foy).** *Phase 1* of the Cost Share module includes: (i) Cost Share Requirements Entry screen on Billing Project level; (ii) Cost Share Transaction Entry screen; (iii) automated import of cost share financial transactions; (iv) automated calculation of unrecovered IDC on research and cost share projects; (v) automated Sponsor Cost Share reports generation; and (vi) Cost Share search screen. *Phase 2* includes (i) automated notification as reminder to create a required cost share report and enabled report certification process; (ii) Administrative Dashboard statistics; and (iii) specialized departmental reports that would include cost share encumbrances. *Phase 1* is in the process of being implemented, with production release on April 8; the implementation steps were detailed. A Cost Sharing Demo was provided
- III. Maestro Migration to Oracle Cloud Infrastructure - OCI (presented by Donovan Sherriffs).** Highlights: (i) current contract for Oracle Cloud at Customer hardware expiring, both College Station and Austin; (ii) OCI has lower cost and faster hardware, allows work from anywhere and cost is based on usage; (iii) all available Oracle cloud services are included in contract; (iv) large project due to upgrade of Operating System, and connectivity; (v) each hardware migration must be completed in 4 months or we will pay for two sets of hardware. This is a TAMUS contract, but Maestro will be a major user.
- IV. Status Monitoring Report (presented by Leonarda Horvat).** Maestro is being used by all System members. Major projects that are ongoing or recently completed include Budget Module, Cost Sharing Module, Maestro Evolution Module (discussed in report on November 2021 Steering Committee meeting), and Infrastructure Move to Oracle Cloud.

Reviewed by Leonarda Horvat. Director, Research Information Systems, TAMU. Reported by CPI representatives to the Steering Committee: Lee Tarpley (ltarpley@tamu.edu) and Kerri Gehring (kbgehring@tamu.edu)

SRS Outreach to Departments and Colleges

TAMU Sponsored Research Services (SRS) can come to your department or college or hold office hours via zoom. SRS has coordinated with several departments and colleges to have regular office hours to meet with faculty and staff. These may be in person or via Zoom. If you would like this service for your department, please request this through your SRS contact.

NIH Data Management Updates

I. New NIH Website on Scientific Data Sharing

NIH has announced the availability of a [new website on Scientific Data Sharing](#). Whether you are involved in an NIH-funded project and want to understand [which sharing policies apply to your](#)

[research](#) and how to comply, or you are a researcher looking to [access scientific data](#) from NIH-affiliated repositories, this site provides helpful information on the process:

To learn more about this new website you can go to the NEXUS announcement.

<https://nexus.od.nih.gov/all/2022/04/05/introducing-nih-new-scientific-data-sharing-website/>

II. Reminder of New NIH Data Management and Sharing Plan Policy

Be prepared for the new NIH policy on Data Management and sharing that is effective for applications submitted on January 25, 2023 and after. Beginning on this date NIH will require researchers to submit a data management plan as part of their application. The plan will be part of the budget justification section of the proposal and will be limited to two pages or less.

Under NIH's current 2003 Data Sharing policy, investigators are expected to:

- **Include a data sharing plan** in research proposals seeking \$500,000 or more per year in direct costs describing how final research data will be shared. Alternatively, the investigator is expected to explain why data sharing is not possible.
- **Release and share the data**, as described in the approved application, no later than the acceptance for publication of the main findings from the final dataset.
- **Report any progress** made on data sharing progress in the annual submission of their Research Progress Performance Report (RPPR)

III. Help is available from the TAMU Libraries:

Do you have questions about creating your data management plan? Reach out to the TAMU Library Data Management section. They have resources available. Go to [Data Management Plans \(tamu.edu\)](#)

- Use the DMPTool to create a data management plan
- Get feedback on your data management plan
- Share your data in the [Texas Data Repository](#)

Attend a data management plan [workshop](#)

Unfunded Research Agreements

Texas A&M Research Administration (TAMRA) is responsible for managing all unfunded research agreements for Texas A&M University, the Texas A&M Health Science Center, Texas A&M at Galveston and Texas A&M at Qatar. These types of agreements include nondisclosure, material transfer and data use and data transfer agreements. Information about TAMRA and the agreements managed by this office may be found at <https://vpr.tamu.edu/research-administration/unfunded-research-agreements/>. Questions may be addressed to negotiations@tamu.edu.

AnSRS4u Presentation Audits of Sponsored Projects

Texas A&M University Sponsored Research Services (SRS) of the Division of Research will host an AnSRS4u presentation on Audits of Sponsored Projects, Thursday April 21, 2022 10:00am - 11:30am. Have you ever wondered how often sponsored projects are audited? Or what auditors look for in these audits? How your department can prepare for audits? Join us as we have a look into audits of sponsored projects. Evan Bryant, SRS Director of Quality Assurance will be our presenter. Evan has many years of experience working with audits so he has a wealth of information to share on this topic.

Questions in advance are encouraged. If you have questions that you would like to have addressed, please email them in advance to ansrs4u@tamu.edu.

SRS will record the presentation and it will be available at a later time for anyone to access. Recordings and slides of the previous AnSRS4u presentations are available via the SRS website at <https://srs.tamu.edu> under the Resources link and then select AnSRS4u.

Participation will be via Zoom. The Zoom meeting information is below. You will need to register in advance for this presentation.

SRS looks forward to your participation. Feel free to forward this on to your colleagues. If they are not receiving this notice via the SRS listserv they can email ansrs4u@tamu.edu and request to be added to the listserv.

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You are invited to a Zoom meeting: Audits of Sponsored Projects
When: Apr 21, 2022 10:00 AM Central Time (US and Canada)

Register in advance for this meeting:
https://tamu.zoom.us/join/9tYpceqrrDkjE9fx-BK_7_yupTH5d7N2wZYy

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

AnSRS4u Presentation- Intellectual Property Considerations in Sponsored Research

The latest AnSRS4u presentation Intellectual Property Considerations in Sponsored Research is now available via the SRS website at under the Resources tab at [AnSRS4U – Sponsored Research Services \(tamu.edu\)](https://srs.tamu.edu/ansrs4u-sponsored-research-services)

The recording of the presentation as well as the presentation slides can be accessed. This presentation covers the types of intellectual property commonly generated when conducting sponsored research and some of the pitfalls to be aware of. Federal requirements for the disclosing and reporting of intellectual property are discussed.

Sponsored Research Services Webpage for Updates

Trying to recall the latest format for NIH biographical sketch or trying to find that SRS email about a sponsor update? SRS has made it easier to locate these items. On the SRS website under the resources tab [SRS Updates – Sponsored Research Services \(tamu.edu\)](https://srs.tamu.edu/srs-updates-sponsored-research-services) is the SRS Updates page. Timely and pertinent information from various sponsors will be posted. Any changes to SRS internal processes and related TAMU requirements that affect researcher will be found here. Bookmark this page and view it often to avail yourself of the latest information.

Responsible Conduct of Research

As a reminder, postdoctoral and student researchers are required to take Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) training per TAMU [SAP 15.99.99.M0.04](#). For those who need face-to-face credits, we have recently added summer training dates and have scheduled the first fall workshop. Visit the RCR Workshop website

for more information and registration links: <https://vpr.tamu.edu/conflict-of-interest-responsible-conduct-of-research/responsible-conduct-of-research/workshop-information/>. Email: RCR@tamu.edu

Cayuse Proposal (S2S) Software Learning Session is available on demand

On February 3, 2022 SRS held an informational session for researchers on Cayuse Proposals. This session was recorded and is now available via the SRS website at [Cayuse Proposals \(S2S\) – Sponsored Research Services \(tamu.edu\)](#). The “review the prerecorded session [here](#) link” will take you to the recording.

Cayuse Proposals is a tool that is designed for administrators and/or researchers to use for the preparation of proposals.

SRS will be providing quarterly information sessions for researchers via Zoom to offer guidance on the use of Cayuse Proposals. Sessions will be held the following days/times in 2022.

If you are interested in signing up for one of the sessions below, please select the desired date/time below and complete the registration.

- [Thursday, May 5, 2022 10:00-11:30am](#)
- [Thursday, August 4, 2022 10:00-11:30am](#)
- [Thursday, November 3, 2022 10:00-11:30am](#)

If the established dates or times do not work for an individual, we can accommodate personalized sessions. **Below is the link for participants/attendees to submit questions before the session.**

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=44HzaNpGuUe6V28yK48NodgsgBcEC_hAqkij23uJXahUMVJHUVhJWjMxQUhFV0pJU1FVVDVRQVFLVC4u

Announcing the GREAT Program

The Graduate and Professional School is excited to announce the Graduate Recruitment, Enhancement and Travel (GREAT) Program. The GREAT Program provides funding to supplement external national fellowships (multi-year and dissertation), federal training grants, and federal research grant supplements promoting diversity, as well as to cover travel expenses for prospective fellows to visit our campus. The attached two-pager provides a brief summary of the program components.

Through the GREAT Program, we will better position ourselves to attract elite graduate students to Texas A&M graduate and professional programs by offering funding for national fellows and trainees that is competitive with the nation's top graduate schools. We have developed a flyer (attached) to use in advertising this program to prospective graduate students. For future use, the flyer is located on our website at grad.tamu.edu/GREAT-Flyer.

For more details or a list of fellowships, training grant programs, and federal research grant supplements that are eligible for GREAT Program funding, visit grad.tamu.edu/GREAT. For questions about the program, email GREAT@tamu.edu. Please see the attached flyers at the end of the newsletter.

AnSRS4u Express – New video on the TAMU Limited Proposal Submission Process

A short 5-minute video on the TAMU limited proposal submission process is the latest SRS AnSRS4u Express video available from the SRS website at [AnSRS4U Express – Sponsored Research Services](#)

tamu.edu). This video walks you through the TAMU limited submission process that is managed by the Office of the Vice President for Research.

Many funding agencies issue funding opportunity announcements that limit the number of applications they will accept from an institution. Texas A&M University, working in partnership with The Texas A&M University System research agencies has established a process to identify limited submission funding opportunities and internally select applicants to submit full proposals in response to a particular program. More information on the process can be found at [InfoReady Review \(infoready4.com\)](http://InfoReady Review (infoready4.com))

SRS will be adding new videos so visit this site often. If you have an idea for a research administration topic that would lend itself to a short video, please feel free to send your idea to ansrs4u@tamu.edu

AnSRS4u Presentation – FCOI and Foreign Influence - available on demand

Texas A&M University Sponsored Research Services (SRS) of the Division of Research hosted an AnSRS4u presentation on Financial Conflict of Interest (FCOI) and Foreign Influence. The presenter was Lesa Feldhousen, Executive Director, Conflict of Interest and Responsible Conduct of Research. This session covered what is FCOI, conflict of commitment and foreign influence. The presentation explained the reporting requirements for these areas and the disclosure process.

This presentation is now available to view on demand via the SRS website under the Resources tab at [AnSRS4U – Sponsored Research Services \(tamu.edu\)](http://AnSRS4U – Sponsored Research Services (tamu.edu)) Faculty are encouraged to view this presentation to learn more about FCOI, conflict of commitment and federal agency disclosure requirements for foreign influence.

Innovation Partners Pro Bono IP Office Hours

In person and virtual appointments are available at no cost to Texas A&M faculty, staff, and students to meet with an attorney and answer intellectual property questions. Learn more about this program or register for one of the spring dates at the link below.

Available Dates:

- April 22nd (Virtual)

For more information OR to register, [please visit our website.](#)

Guidance on Salary Limitation for NIH Awards

NIH announcement NOT-OD-22-076 released on February 10, 2022 provides guidance on the salary cap on NIH awards which is limited to the current Executive Level II of the Federal Executive Pay Scale. At this time, NIH has not received an FY 2022 appropriation and is operating under a Continuing Resolution that applies the terms and conditions of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021.

The Office of Personnel Management released new salary levels for the Executive Pay Scale and effective January 2, 2022, the salary limitation for Executive Level II is \$203,700.

Grant applicants and contract offerors can use the new salary limitation for Executive Level II of \$203,700 when preparing grant applications and contract proposals. Recipients may rebudget funds to accommodate the current Executive Level II salary level if adequate funds are available in active awards and the salary cap increase is consistent with the institutional base salary.

The full text of the announcement is available at

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-22-076.html>

Limited Submission Proposal Opportunities

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

Proposal Assistance for Large Multidisciplinary Funding Opportunities

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

Bulletin for Principal Investigators

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

RESEARCH COMPLIANCE UPDATES, APRIL 2022

From NIH OLAW: Topics from advancements in refinements to experimental strategies to improve welfare and sound science to successful 3Rs collaborations – June 22-24, 2022 | Hybrid

NIH OLAW, Johns Hopkins University Center for Alternatives to Animal Testing, USDA AWIC, and Johns Hopkins University Department of Molecular and Comparative Pathobiology are presenting the 9th Annual 3Rs Symposium: Collaboration to Improve Animal Welfare and Rigorous Results highlighting the interplay of 3Rs implementation, scientific rigor, and animal welfare to achieve better wellbeing and robust research results. The 3-day symposium includes presentations and panel discussions from biomedical researchers, animal welfare scientists, veterinarians, and animal care experts. The final day features a demonstration of refinement techniques. The conference also incorporates breakout sessions where participants can converse with and pose questions to the speakers.

This workshop has applied for RACE credits and offers reduced registration for federal workers, postdocs, and students. Learn how innovations in animal models, experimental design, refinements, and many other areas are changing the way we use animals in research. Register for the event [here](#).

Updates to TAMU Rules have been posted:

- Rule 15.99.06.M1 [Use of Biohazardous Materials and Dual Use Research of Concern](#) – March 17, 2022
- Rule 15.99.03.M1 [Ethics in Research, Scholarship, and Creative Work](#) – March 25, 2022

Laboratory Decommissioning

Laboratories must be decommissioned in accordance with the University SAP for [Laboratory Decommissioning \(24.01.01.M4.04\)](#). Decommissioning is required for any laboratory space when the principal investigator (PI) is 1) leaving Texas A&M University, 2) moving to another building on campus, 3) relocating to another laboratory within the same building, or 4) removing specific hazards (e.g., radiological, lasers, biological). Decommissioning is also required for laboratory spaces undergoing renovation or if another researcher is assuming responsibility for the space.

To streamline the process and ensure the appropriate safety offices are notified, the Office of Biosafety (OBS) has implemented a simple form that can be utilized by PIs (or designee) to notify OBS and Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) simultaneously. Upon submission, both EHS and OBS will receive an e-mail notification and will each communicate further instructions. PIs are still responsible for amending or terminating their IBC permits, but no longer need to contact EHS and OBS individually in order to fulfill the responsibilities outlined in the SAP.

The [Decommissioning Form](#) can be accessed directly from the hyperlink or from the “Closing or Moving Labs” tab on the biosafety website ([Closing or Moving Labs – Division of Research \(tamu.edu\)](#)).

AAALAC Site Visit Tip for Success – Validation of Sanitation Effectiveness

In preparation for the 2023 AAALAC International site visit, the Animal Welfare Program offers the following tip for PIs who hand wash items with repeated direct animal contact:

To assist the PI in meeting the sanitation and validation standards for this type of item as described in the *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals*, the IACUC has established Guidance TAMU-G-026 *IACUC Guidelines for the Evaluation of Sanitation Practices*. In an effort to decrease PI burden in meeting these guidelines, the Comparative Medicine Program (CMP) has developed standard operating procedures (SOPs) for various sanitation methodologies which may be adopted; eliminating the need for the PI to independently develop their own SOPs or validate the effectiveness of sanitation performed in the lab. A copy of the CMP sanitation SOPs may be requested from CMP by emailing comparative-medicine@tamu.edu or by contacting the Animal Welfare Office.

The Animal Welfare Office may be reached at animalcompliance@tamu.edu or 979.845.1828 if you have questions or need assistance.

Student Organization Activities with Animals

Activities with live vertebrate animals performed by TAMU students during sanctioned Student Organization events may need be reviewed and approved by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC). Faculty advisors for Student Organizations are encouraged to consult with the Animal Welfare Office when such activities are planned to ensure appropriate IACUC oversight. Please contact the Animal Welfare Office at animalcompliance@tamu.edu or 979.845.1828 for assistance.

Resource for Principal Investigators Performing NIH Funded Research with Animals

The Animal Welfare Office offers the following valuable resource for PIs performing NIH funded research with vertebrate animals, or who are planning to apply for NIH funding: <https://www.niaid.nih.gov/grants-contracts/research-vertebrate-animals>. This webpage provides clear and concise guidance to PIs on adherence to federal requirements related to the use of vertebrate animals, how to prepare the grant application including the Vertebrate Animal Section, and management of the grant post-award as it relates to the use of animals. It should be noted that while the link is from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, the page contains information for PIs receiving funding from any of the NIH agencies, and is endorsed as a resource for PIs by the NIH Office for Laboratory Animal Welfare. Please contact the Animal Welfare Office at animalcompliance@tamu.edu or 979.845.1828 if you have questions or need assistance.

Graduate Recruitment, Enhancement, And Travel (GREAT) Program

The GREAT Program provides supplemental funding for Texas A&M doctoral students with multi-year national fellowships to create financial packages competitive with the nation's top universities.



Supplements combined with fellowship funding would provide, for up to five years, total packages consisting of:

- | \$3,000 monthly stipend
- | Full tuition and required university and college fees
- | Student health insurance
- | Annual \$1,500 scholarship for professional development
- | Participation in research leadership and mentoring development programs

#6 in the nation

for the number of doctoral degrees earned

#5 in Life Sciences

#11 in Education

#4 in Engineering

#12 in Physical & Earth Sciences

-NSF Survey of Earned Doctorates, 2020

Find a list of eligible fellowships and more details about the GREAT program at grad.tamu.edu/GREAT



Graduate Recruitment, Enhancement, And Travel (GREAT) Program

The **Graduate Recruitment, Enhancement, and Travel (GREAT) Program** provides supplemental funding to eligible: (i) nationally competitive external fellowships awarded to students, (ii) federal training grant fellowships awarded to faculty or departments, and (iii) federal research grant supplements awarded to faculty to promote diversity. Also, the **GREAT program provides travel awards** for faculty to bring high-achieving prospective doctoral students to campus who may have received or would be competitive for nationally competitive external fellowships. The goal of this program is to elevate Texas A&M's national competitiveness in attracting high achieving students.

GRADUATE SUPPLEMENTS

Doctoral students, faculty, and graduate programs are strongly encouraged to seek funding from sources external to Texas A&M University. Annual graduate "top-off" supplements will be provided to encourage this activity and amplify its impact. The goal of the supplements is to provide a full funding package for eligible nationally competitive dissertation and multi-year external fellowships, federal training grants, and federal research grant supplements promoting diversity. A full funding package annually includes a monthly stipend of at least \$3,000 per month or up to the monthly amount of the fellowship/training grant stipend if greater than \$3,000 per month, funding for full tuition and required university and college fees, 12 months of student health insurance, and a \$1,500 scholarship for professional development opportunities, conference travel, research travel, books, etc.

Doctoral Student Expectations:

Doctoral students receiving the supplements must participate in research leadership (e.g., Aggie Research Program) and mentoring (e.g., TAMU Graduate Mentoring Academy) development programs.

Faculty/ Research Advisor Expectations:

Faculty / Research advisors will be strongly encouraged to participate in the TAMU Graduate Mentoring Academy or the TAMU Faculty Mentoring Academy program.

Category I: Supplements for external fellowships awarded directly to individual students

When Texas A&M doctoral students compete successfully for highly competitive external fellowships like the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship (GRFP), National Institutes of Health F31 Predoctoral Fellowship, and Ford Foundation Dissertation Fellowship, the graduate supplements will provide full funding packages for up to five years.

Supplements will fund **external fellowships** as described below:

- Is a nationally competitive, prestigious fellowship which is open to students in multiple fields or a single field of study.
- Dissertation fellowships – one to two years, significant funding (at least \$2,000/month)
- Other fellowships – typically multi-year, significant funding (at least \$2,000/month)

View the list of eligible fellowships on the [GREAT Program](#) webpage. Please note that the listing of external fellowships is not comprehensive. Contact the Texas A&M University Graduate and Professional School to discuss possible eligibility of an external fellowship that is not included on the list.

Funding conditions:

- For external fellowships with five years of stipend funding, the supplements will top off fellowship funding to ensure the fellowship recipient receives a full funding package for up to five years.
- For multi-year external fellowships with less than five years of stipend funding, the supplements will top off fellowship funding in years of active fellowship funding, and faculty, department, or college assistantship or fellowship funding in other years to ensure the fellowship recipient receives a full funding package for up to five years.

- For one- to two-year dissertation fellowships, the supplements will top off fellowship funding to ensure the fellowship recipient receives a full funding package for the duration of the fellowship tenure.

Category II: Supplements for federal training grants awarded to faculty or graduate programs

When faculty or graduate programs compete successfully for federal training grants like National Institutes of Health (NIH) T32 predoctoral training grant, Department of Education (DoE) Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need (GAANN) grant, USDA National Needs Graduate Fellowship (NNF), or National Science Foundation Research Traineeship (NRT), the graduate supplements will ensure the doctoral trainees receive full funding packages for up to five years.

Supplements will top off training grant funding in year(s) of active training grant stipend funding, and faculty, department, or college assistantship or fellowship funding in other years to ensure the training grant recipient receives a full funding package for up to five years.

Category III: Supplements for federal research grants awarded to faculty to promote diversity

When faculty secure research supplements for federal research grants to promote diversity like the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Research Supplements to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research (Admin Supp), National Science Foundation MPS Alliances for Graduate Education and the Professoriate: Graduate Research Supplements (AGEP-GRS), or National Science Foundation MPS Graduate Research Supplement for Veterans (MPS-GRSV), the graduate supplements will top off the federal research grant supplement funding to ensure the doctoral recipient receives a full funding package during the years that the student receives the federal research grant supplement funding.

RECRUITMENT TRAVEL AWARDS

To actively recruit prospective doctoral students who have received external fellowships or prospective doctoral students who would be great candidates for nationally competitive external fellowships, the **GREAT program provides** \$1,000 travel awards for faculty to bring such students for campus visits. The prospective doctoral students should be in their last year of undergraduate studies or master's studies.

GREAT PROGRAM WEBSITE

Visit the [GREAT program](#) web page for additional information.