

---

CPI Newsletter – January 2019

---

**Included in this issue:**

- Update from the CPI Chair
- Human Research: Important Changes to Address the Revised Common Rule
- Summary of Recent NIH Policy Changes
- Animal Program Updates
- NSF Broader Impacts Expo
- Step 2 – X-Grants Round 2 Program
- Inside NIH Peer Review: Grant Application Advice from NIH Peer Reviewers
- NIH Specific Aims Writing Clinic
- Research Development Fund
- Junior Faculty Proposal Writing Academy: NIH Proposal Writing Resources
- Updated IBC Application
- Unannounced USDA APHIS Visits Anticipated
- Learning Management System Selection
- New Training Available for International Travelers
- Open for Submission: Art & Humanities Fellow Program
- Limited Submission Proposal Opportunities
- Bulletin for Principal Investigators

**2018-19 CPI roster:** Chair — David Threadgill, *Veterinary Medicine* • Vice Chair — Darren DePoy, *Science* • Past Chair — Penny Riggs, *COALS* • *AgriLife Extension* — Craig Carpenter, Gaylon Morgan • *AgriLife Research* — Michael Brewer, Ambika Chandra, Lee Tarpley • *Architecture* — Ergun Akleman • *Bush School* — Kent Portney • *COALS* — Russell Cross, Kerri Gehring, Wes Osburn, Elizabeth ‘Betsy’ Pierson, David Stelly, Aaron Tarone • *Education* — Oi-Man Kwok, Rafael Lara-Alecio • *Engineering* — Jorge Alvarado, Ulisses Braga-Neto, Akhilesh Gaharwar, Zach Grasley, Melissa Grunlan, Sheng-Jen ‘Tony’ Hsieh, Jodie Lutkenhaus, Scott Socolofsky, Ramesh Talreja • *Geosciences* — Alejandro Orsi, Pamela Plotkin, Brendan Roark • *Law* — Susan Fortney • *Liberal Arts* — Sandra Braman, Steve Maren, Harland Prechel • *Mays* — Korok Ray • *Medicine* — Vyta Bankaitis, Kayla Bayless, Carl Gregory • *Nursing* — Nancy Downing • *Pharmacy* — Jayshree Mishra • *Science* — 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 • *TEES* — Dean Schneider • *TTI* — David Bierling, Dennis Perkinson • *University Libraries* — Bruce Herbert • *Veterinary Medicine* — Candice Brinkmeyer-Langford, Jay Ramadoss

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

---

## Update from Dr. David Threadgill, CPI Chair

---

**January CPI News** – The Council of Principal Investigators Executive Committee (CPI-EC) met with administrators on January 9, 2019. Discussions during the meeting were Dr. M. Katherine Banks and Dr. Marvin Adams provided a short overview of the National Lab Office with full overview being presented at the January 16 General CPI Meeting.

**CPI Contacts** – The complete 2018-19 roster of CPI Representatives and the executive committee can be found on the CPI website at [http://cpi.tamu.edu/membership/18-19\\_membership](http://cpi.tamu.edu/membership/18-19_membership). Previous membership lists can be found in the council [archive](#). Thank you to all the CPI representatives who have served as representatives for PIs during the past year.

The CPI-EC continues to meet with President Young and Provost Fierke each month that there are agenda items. Both meetings were canceled in January due to no agenda items and other meeting conflicts. If there are items of concern that impact the research environment, we would like to hear from you. All PIs are encouraged to communicate with their representatives to bring forward items of concern or interest for the research community. Please continue to bring research-related issues (and solutions) to my attention at [CPI@tamu.edu](mailto:CPI@tamu.edu).

**Reminder:** The February General CPI meeting will be Wednesday, February 13, 2019, Rudder 601.

Contact Rebecca Luckey, [rluckey@tamu.edu](mailto:rluckey@tamu.edu) or 979.862.9166, for more information or to suggest agenda items for our monthly meetings.

## Human Research: Important Changes to Address the Revised Common Rule

---

January 21, 2019 is the implementation dated for the revised Common Rule. Because the revised rule does not provide for a transitional period, a temporary freeze on new initial IRB applications went into effect on January 1, 2019 and will continue until January 21, 2019. The freeze does NOT impact existing research that has already received IRB approval. There are also a number of exceptions to the freeze (see below). New research projects with funding or other significant deadlines prior to January 21, 2019 will be accepted for processing.

The IRB is making an effort to process currently submitted initial applications prior to January 21st. All new initial applications submitted on or after January 21, 2019 must follow the revised Common Rule and/or the TAMU HRPP updated requirements which allow maximum flexibility.

Exceptions to the freeze: Investigators should continue to submit all personnel changes, amendments, continuing reviews and reportable safety events for any previously approved study. New research projects with funding or other significant deadlines prior to January 21, 2019 will be accepted for processing.

Contact the HRPP to schedule an educational session about these important changes to human subjects research. For a summary of changes to the Common Rule and TAMU implementation plans, see <https://rcb.tamu.edu/humansubjects/revised-common-rule>. Please contact the Human Research Protection Program with any questions at 979-458-4067 or by email at [irb@tamu.edu](mailto:irb@tamu.edu).

## Summary of Recent NIH Policy Changes

---

NIH and HHS agencies have announced changes to policy and review criteria, which will impact grant application submission for due dates on or after January 25, 2019. These changes are summarized in a recent NIH blog post, and include replacement of the term “*scientific premise*” with “*the rigor of the prior research*” and adding instructions and review language so that “*the rigor of the prior research*” is addressed under both Significance and Approach (<https://nexus.od.nih.gov/all/2019/01/08/reminder-of-policy-changes/>).

---

Significant changes and revisions are also noted in the Application Guide (<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide/forms-e/general/g.120-significant-changes.htm>).

## Animal Program Updates

-----

### **New Attending Veterinarian and Executive Director of the Comparative Medicine Program New Director Animal Welfare Office**

Effective January 28, 2019, Robert E. Rose, DVM, will join Texas A&M University as attending veterinarian and executive director of the Comparative Medicine Program in the Division of Research. He is a diplomate of the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine and has sixteen years of clinical veterinary medicine experience and seventeen years in laboratory animal medicine and in vivo research at large teaching institutions (Texas A&M, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center), contract research organizations (Bioanalytical Systems, Shin Nippon Biological Laboratories), and the pharmaceutical industry (Alcon/Novartis, Allergan). Rose was previously director of non-clinical sciences and technology, preclinical development, at Alcon Research Ltd. in Fort Worth, where he directed and managed in vivo and in vitro scientists planning and performing preclinical studies in support of the Alcon research-and-development portfolio. He received his doctor of veterinary medicine from Texas A&M in 1985. Rose also completed his post DVM residency in Comparative Medicine and his master's in Laboratory Animal Medicine in 2006 at Texas A&M.

Andrea ("Andi") Mitchell will be joining the Animal Welfare Office as its new director on January 14, 2019. Ms. Mitchell has worked in a university environment for more than 25 years including 10 years in the IACUC office at the University of Arizona. She is currently the IACUC program director. Prior to that, she held various roles in the animal care department at University of Arizona for close to 18 years. Ms. Mitchell holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture from the University of Arizona.

## NSF Broader Impacts Expo

-----

**When:** February 6, 2019, 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

**Where:** ILSB Auditorium and Lobby

**About:** Presenters will inform attendees about the strategies and considerations relevant to the Broader Impacts and Education Plan requirements of grant proposals submitted to the National Science Foundation (NSF) and will include an expo for attendees to connect with campus representatives who can provide broader impact resources.

Who Should Attend

Broader Impacts Seminar (**All Faculty** Invited to Attend): Includes seminar and Q&A

Expo (**All Faculty** Invited to Attend): Network with the campus representatives about your Broader Impacts needs

NSF CAREER Education Plan Seminar (**Junior Faculty** Invited to Attend): Includes NSF CAREER awardees panel, seminar, and Q&A

**Agenda:** Introductions and Seminars will take place in the ILSB Auditorium. The Expo and Breaks will be held in the ILSB Lobby.

1:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m. – Introduction and Welcome

1:15 p.m. - 2:15 p.m. – Broader Impacts Seminar for All Faculty (Dr. Jim Izat)

2:15 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. – Break

2:30 p.m. - 3:15 p.m. – Introduction of Campus Representatives Participating in the Expo (1 minute, 1 slide presentations)

3:15 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. – EXPO and Break

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. – NSF CAREER Education Plan Seminar for Junior Faculty (Dr. Laurie Garton)

**Contacts:** Dr. Laurie Garton, [lsgarton@tamu.edu](mailto:lsgarton@tamu.edu); Dr. Jim Izat, [jizat@tamu.edu](mailto:jizat@tamu.edu)

For more information, please visit: <https://tees.tamu.edu/researchsupport/resources/>

---

## Step 2 – X-Grants Round 2 Program

---

**When:** Monday, February 11, 2019

Step 2 of the X-Grants Round 2 program is now open. Researchers should be creating or editing their profile, establishing their team, and developing and submitting their one-pager ([president.tamu.edu/xgrants/one-pagers.html](http://president.tamu.edu/xgrants/one-pagers.html)). Submission of all information should be done through [xgrants.tamu.edu](http://xgrants.tamu.edu). The **Word template** on the X-Grants website must be used to develop the one-pager. All one-pagers must be submitted by Monday, Feb. 11, in order to be eligible for review.

## Inside NIH Peer Review: Grant Application Advice from NIH Peer Reviewers

---

**When:** February 14, 2019; 10:00-11:30 a.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. Remote viewing will be available for participants outside the Bryan/College Station area.

**Register:** By 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 13, 2019 at <https://u.tamu.edu/NIHPRW19>.

**Contacts:** Christina Howard, Ph.D., Research Development Officer, [c-howard@tamu.edu](mailto:c-howard@tamu.edu)  
Shannon Eyre, Sr. Administrative Coordinator, [seyre@tamu.edu](mailto:seyre@tamu.edu)

## NIH Specific Aims Writing Clinic

---

**When:** February 21, February 28, March 21; 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.

**Where:** HPEB LL43B

**About:** Participants in this three-meeting series will edit and refine their NIH Specific Aims section, which is the foundation of any successful NIH grant application. Participants should plan to attend all three meetings. 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 the meetings and will provide critiques on proposal documents.

**Register:** By 11:00 p.m. on Friday, February 15, 2019 at <https://u.tamu.edu/SAC-Spring19>

**Contact:** Christina Howard, Ph.D., Research Development Officer, [c-howard@tamu.edu](mailto:c-howard@tamu.edu)  
Shannon Eyre, Sr. Administrative Coordinator, [seyre@tamu.edu](mailto:seyre@tamu.edu)

## Research Development Fund

---

Full applications are due February 23, 2019. More information is available at [rdf.tamu.edu](http://rdf.tamu.edu) or email questions to [rdf@tamu.edu](mailto:rdf@tamu.edu).

---

## Junior Faculty Proposal Writing Academy: NIH Proposal Writing Resources

---

**When:** February 26, 2019; 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.

**Where:** 401 Rudder

**About:** Faculty will gain fundamental knowledge and 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 tips for taking full advantage of key NIH tools and resources.

**Register:** By 10:00 a.m. on February 26, 2019, at <https://u.tamu.edu/NIHResources19>.

**Contact:** Christina Howard, Ph.D., Research Development Officer, [c-howard@tamu.edu](mailto:c-howard@tamu.edu)

## Updated IBC Application

---

The IBC and the Office of Biosafety recently revised the IBC application used by researchers. An opportunity for review and feedback on the new form was provided to the research community. The new form was rolled out on December 21, 2018. Please contact the Office of Biosafety at 979-862-4549 or email [ibc@tamu.edu](mailto:ibc@tamu.edu) with any questions or concerns.

## Unannounced USDA APHIS Visits Anticipated

---

Texas A&M AgriLife received notification in early September, 2018, of an impending USDA APHIS audit emphasizing compliance with permitting requirements for import, transit and release of regulated animals, animal products, veterinary biologics, plants, plant products, pests, organisms, soil and genetically engineered organisms. Selected faculty in the Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology were audited by USDA APHIS enforcement officials in early November, and more unannounced visits are anticipated. Researchers are asked to notify their Department Head and the Office of Biosafety in the event they are audited by USDA APHIS.

## Learning Management System Selection

---

Texas A&M University's contract with eCampus, otherwise known as Blackboard Learn, expires on August 31st, 2021. Thus, the university has decided to direct the IT Governance program to develop a faculty-centric Learning Management System (LMS). The LMS Selection Committee is targeting to submit a replacement LMS by the summer of 2019. To achieve this, the committee will require participation from faculty and staff in different events showcasing the three selected learning management systems. For more information visit the following link: <https://cio.tamu.edu/it-governance/committees/ttlc/lms-sc/index.php>. To view the timeline of the showcase events, view the attached flyer or link: <https://cio.tamu.edu/it-governance/committees/ttlc/lms-sc/ITG-LMS-Review-Timeline.pdf>.

## New Training Available for International Travelers

---

### U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act

System Risk Management has created a new course in TrainTraq, course 2113639: U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act for employees who are travelling internationally. It is recommended that this course be taken in conjunction with course 211728: International Travel Safety: Safe Passage Presentation. This new course provides an overview of the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices act of 1977, which made it unlawful for certain people and entities (ex. State employees) to make payments to foreign officials in exchange for business. More information can be found at <https://www.justice.gov/criminal-fraud/foreign-corrupt-practices-act>. Although only certain countries are considered high risk due to an entrenched culture of public corruption, System Risk Management encourages all employees who are travelling internationally to take this training for awareness purposes. For questions, contact System Risk Management 979-458-6234.

---

## Open for Submission: Art & Humanities Fellow Program

---

Induction as an Arts & Humanities Fellow recognizes extraordinary scholarship and creativity and provides faculty a supportive environment through which to advance their scholarship and creative work, and reward scholarly and artistic merit in their chosen discipline. It is also hoped that recognition as a fellow will build, strengthen, and sustain long-term relationships with fellows outside their chosen discipline.

Please visit: <https://vpr.tamu.edu/initiate-research/arts-and-humanities-fellows> for more information on the application process.

## 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](mailto:shelly.martin@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.

# Texas A&M Learning Management System Review Timeline

SPRING 2019

JANUARY	14	15	16	17	18
	21	22	23	24	25
	28	29	30	31	1
	4	5	6	7	8
	11	12	13	14	15
FEBRUARY	18	19	20	21	22
	25	26	27	28	29
	4	5	6	7	8
	11	12	13	14	15
MARCH	SPRING BREAK				
	18	19	20	21	22
	25	26	27	28	29
	1	2	3	4	5
	8	9	10	11	12
APRIL	15	16	17	18	19
	22	23	24	25	26
	29	30	1	2	3
	LAST WEEK OF CLASS				
MAY	6	7	8	9	10
	13	14	15	16	17
	8	9	10	11	12
JULY					

## Canvas Product Demonstration



**JANUARY 28**

Vendor demonstrations



**JANUARY 29**

Open lab time with Canvas

**JANUARY 30 - FEBRUARY 8**

- Webinars and FAQ sessions with Canvas
- Demo Canvas course available to faculty

## Blackboard Ultra Product Demonstration



**FEBRUARY 18**

Vendor demonstrations



**FEBRUARY 19**

Open lab time with Blackboard

**FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 1**

- Webinars and FAQ sessions with Blackboard
- Demo Blackboard Ultra course available to faculty

## Brightspace Product Demonstration



**MARCH 18**

Vendor demonstrations



**MARCH 19**

Open lab time with Brightspace

**MARCH 20 - MARCH 29**

- Webinars and FAQ sessions with Brightspace
- Demo Brightspace course available to faculty

## University Feedback & IT Governance Proposals



**APRIL 3 & 4**

University community feedback forums



**APRIL 8**

University-wide feedback survey



**MAY 15**

Presentation of Report and Recommendation to the Teaching and Transformational Learning Technologies Committee (TTLTC)



**MAY 17**

Presentation of Report and Recommendation to the Strategic IT Committee (SITC)

**JUNE - JULY**

Final revisions made to report based on findings from the TTLTC and SITC presentations and input from each ITG Committee



**JULY 11**

Presentation to the Executive IT Council (EITC)  
(President, Provost, Chief Financial Officer, Chief Information Officer, Vice President for Enrollment & Academic Services, Vice President for Research)