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**CPI Newsletter – November 2021**

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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, Melissa Grunlan, 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 Guermond, 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*

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## Update from Dr. David Stelly, CPI Chair

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*November CPI News* – The Council of Principal Investigators Executive Committee (CPI-EC) met in a closed executive committee planning session. Discussions and planning will be brought forward during the closed planning CPI General Meeting before all elected 2021-2022 CPI Representatives for action items to be distributed later in November.

I invite you to contact me, Dr. Deb Banerjee, 2021-2022 CPI Vice Chair at [cpi@tamu.edu](mailto:cpi@tamu.edu) or Rebecca Luckey, [rluckey@tamu.edu](mailto: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 \(tamu.edu\)](#). Previous membership lists can be found in the council [archive](#).

## Reminder to use NIH Form G for due dates on or after January 25, 2022

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This Notice reminds the applicant and recipient community that applicants must use FORMS-G application packages for due dates on or after January 25, 2022 and must use FORMS-F application packages for due dates on or before January 24, 2022.

For a transition period, both FORMS-F and FORMS-G application packages will be active simultaneously. Applicants must choose the appropriate application package for their due date when presented with both FORMS-F and FORMS-G application packages on the same FOA (see table below).

If your intended due date is...	You must use...
On or before January 24, 2022, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Applications submitted for due dates on or before January 24, 2022</li><li>• Applications submitted under <a href="#">NIH Late Policy</a> 2-week window of consideration for intended due dates on or before January 24, 2022</li><li>• Applications submitted by February 1, 2022 under NIH <a href="#">Continuous Submission Policy</a> for the January 7, 2022 AIDS intended due date</li></ul>	FORMS-F application package
On or after January 25, 2022, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Applications submitted for due dates on or after January 25, 2022</li><li>• All application types (New, Resubmission, Renewal, Revision)</li><li>• Applications submitted early for intended due dates on or after January 25, 2022</li></ul>	FORMS-G application package

Applications submitted using the incorrect application package for their due date may be withdrawn and removed from funding consideration.

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## **AnSRS4u Presentation – Sponsored Projects Closeout**

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Texas A&M University Sponsored Research Services (SRS) of the Division of Research will host an AnSRS4u presentation on Sponsored Projects Closeout, Thursday November 18, 2021 10:00am - 11:00am. Project closeout is the last major phase of a project's life cycle and this session will present information on the overall closeout process. A section of the presentation will cover the specific closeout steps and address the importance to complete the closeout process within the specified timeframe and according to the sponsor's requirements.

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](mailto: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](mailto:ansrs4u@tamu.edu) and request to be added to the listserv.

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You are invited to a Zoom meeting.  
When: Nov 18, 2021 10:00 AM Central Time (US and Canada)

Register in advance for this meeting:  
<https://tamu.zoom.us/j/0sce6vrz8uH9Aq3IEtZNSL9ydpTfufXyUh>

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

## **AnSRS4u Express – Short Videos on Research Administration**

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During your day do questions on research administration come up? We at TAMU Sponsored Research Services (SRS) understand everyone is busy and sometimes just needs a quick answer or refresher on a research administration topic. That is why SRS has developed AnSRS4u Express. This is a series of short videos (5 minutes or less) on various research administration topics available via the SRS website at AnSRS4U Express – Sponsored Research Services ([tamu.edu](http://tamu.edu)). As researchers, some topics that may be of interest include: "NSF Current and Pending Support," "NIH Biographical Sketch," "Getting Started on a Proposal," "Data Use Agreements," and many more!

We 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](mailto:ansrs4u@tamu.edu)

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## NSF Virtual Grants Conference Recordings

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The National Science Foundation (NSF) Fall 2021 NSF Virtual Grants Conference was held on October 4 through 8. In case you were not able to watch live, all conference sessions were recorded and are now available on NSF's Policy Office Outreach website: <https://nspolicyoutreach.com/>

Additionally, you may view the recordings on the NSF [YouTube](#) page.

## NIH Regional Seminar Recordings

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Each year, the Office of Extramural Research (OER) sponsors the **NIH Regional Seminars** on Program Funding and Grants Administration. These **seminars** are intended to help demystify the application and review process, clarify Federal regulations and policies, and highlight current areas of special interest or concern. The most recent conference was held November 1 through November 4, 2021. In case you were not able to watch live, all conference sessions were recorded and are now available on NIH website at this link: [2021 NIH Virtual Seminar Presentation Materials | grants.nih.gov](https://grants.nih.gov/2021-virtual-seminar-presentation-materials/)

## NSF Proposal Supplementary Documents Seminar

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*November 16, 2021, Virtual*

This seminar is designed to familiarize faculty with the many NSF documents required for inclusion when submitting any NSF research proposals. It also provides information on the resources available to assist faculty with developing these documents. All experience levels welcome. **REGISTER** [here](#).

## Maestro Steering Committee Meeting Report

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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, September 8, 2021.

Items of discussion included:

- (1) **Cost Sharing Module (presented by Leonarda Horvat).** (a) The cost-sharing project is kicking off on September 22, 2021! (b) The project was initiated by SRS to improve existing cost share operations (The bulk of the TAMUS billing projects involving cost share are through SRS). (c) Voted second highest priority after budget forecasting module. (d) Improvements requested include: (i) eliminate duplications of data entry between Maestro and FAMIS (and other tracking systems used by System members); (ii) enable access from anywhere and on any device; (iii) improve readability of met vs. pending cost-sharing data; (iv) automate reporting capabilities (internal monitoring, external reporting to sponsors); (v) display future encumbrances by account to ensure commitment is on track to be met; (vi) create a new Maestro Role for Cost Share Specialists.
- (2) **Budget Forecasting Module (presented by Tamara Lopez).** (a) In prior meeting, decision was made to upload awarded budget when projects are established. (b) Design team has added to project scope a new component "Budget Entry". (c) Proposal budgets will be corrected if needed and entered in Maestro for entire project life. (d) Two subgroups were assembled in SRS to participate in the following: (i) define requirements for the "Budget Entry" component, and (ii) create FAMIS Automatic Budget Reallocation (ABR) rules to match sponsor requested budget categories, i.e. ways to define how the transactions will fall into budget categories, which allows reporting to fit

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into sponsor side (vs. our side), so improving reporting efforts. (e) Budget Entry component requirements were provided; (f) mock-up Budget Entry screens were presented. (g) Noted in discussion that the Budget Forecasting module will allow centralization of budgets into Maestro.

- (3) **Status Monitoring Report (presented by Leonarda Horvat).** Maestro is being used by all System members. Functional Improvements in the current reporting period included: (a) several improvements to Proposal Quality Control Process, (b) enhanced existing 'NSF Current and Pending Support' report to populate new NSF template that includes required metadata, (c) several improvements to "Projects", and several improvements to "Sponsored Billing". (d) General functional improvements included improved Proposal and Project Abstract and Keywords functionality, which will help VPR and library to identify expertise. (e) In addition to continued work on the Budget Forecasting and Cost Sharing modules, work on the VPR Research Metrics Dashboard will be kept open at the request of the interim VPR in case more categories are desired to be added.

Reviewed by Leonarda Horvat, Director, Research Information Systems, TAMU.

Reported by CPI representatives to the Steering Committee (and to the Budget Forecasting Leadership Committee): Lee Tarpley ([ltarpley@tamu.edu](mailto:ltarpley@tamu.edu)) and Kerri Gehring ([kbgehring@tamu.edu](mailto:kbgehring@tamu.edu))

## NSF Proposal & Award Policies and Procedures Guide (PAPPG)

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Effective October 4, 2021, the National Science Foundation (NSF) made a number of system updates for proposals submitted in Research.gov, FastLane, and Grants.gov in accordance with the implementation of the *Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide* (PAPPG) (NSF [22-1](#)). Please see the list of PAPPG (NSF [22-1](#)) [significant changes and clarifications](#) for all of the updates. New proposal and submission types were also enabled in the Research.gov Proposal Submission System.

### New Proposal Types in the PAPPG

The PAPPG (NSF [22-1](#)) incorporates two new "Other Types of Proposals":

#### *Planning Proposals*

- Planning proposals must be prepared and submitted in Research.gov.
- Refer to PAPPG [Chapter II.E.1](#) for Planning proposal requirements.

#### *Career-Life Balance (CLB) Supplemental Funding Requests*

- CLB supplemental funding requests must be prepared and submitted in FastLane.
- Refer to PAPPG [Chapter II.E.8](#) for CLB supplemental funding request requirements.

### Updates to NSF-approved Biographical Sketch and Current and Pending Support Formats

- The NSF-approved biographical sketch and current and pending support formats were updated to incorporate revisions in the PAPPG (NSF [22-1](#)) and must be used for proposals submitted or due on or after October 4, 2021.
- The current formats are posted on the NSF [biographical sketch](#) and [current and pending support](#) websites. Updated system-related Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) are also available: [FAQs on using SciENcv](#) and [FAQs on using NSF fillable PDF](#). SciENcv documents created using the previous version (i.e., NSF 20-1) prior to October 4th are automatically converted in SciENcv to the current version after October 4th.
- Biographical sketch format updates include increasing the page limit from two to three pages

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- Current and pending support format updates include the addition of new sections for information on objectives and overlap with other projects to help NSF and reviewers assess overlap/duplication.
  - Biographical sketches and current and pending support information also must be uploaded with Change of Principal Investigator (PI) and Add/Change co-PI requests in FastLane.
  - When notifying NSF that active other support has changed since the award was made, or since the most recent annual report, current and pending support information must be uploaded in annual and final project reports in the Research.gov Project Reporting System.
  - Research.gov, FastLane, and Grants.gov will generate a compliance error message if a proposer or grantee attempts to upload a prior version of the biographical sketch or current and pending support formats on or after October 4th.

### **Removal of Blank Pages from the Current and Pending Support Fillable PDF**

- Research.gov, FastLane, and Grants.gov will remove any pages which do not contain data entered by users (i.e., blank pages) from the NSF-approved current and pending support fillable PDF.
- The trimming service is triggered in Research.gov and FastLane during document upload and during proposal submission in Grants.gov.
- The trimming service only applies to the NSF-approved current and pending support fillable PDF and not to any other uploaded PDFs. Current and pending support PDFs generated in SciENcv do not include blank pages.
- The current and pending support fillable PDF document is paginated, and the PDF page numbers will not be updated during the trimming process. This means that it is possible for the trimmed PDF to have skipped page numbers corresponding to the blank pages removed from the fillable PDF.

### **Research.gov Proposal Submission System Enhancements**

- The Grant Opportunities for Academic Liaison with Industry (GOALI) and Planning proposal types and the Letter of Intent submission type are now available for submission in Research.gov.
- New automated compliance checks and associated error and warning messages for the enabled proposal and submission types were also implemented. Error messages will prohibit proposal submission to NSF, whereas warning messages still permit proposal submission.
- All supported proposal and submission types as well as associated compliance checks are also enabled in the Research.gov Proposal Preparation Demo Site.
- New FAQs were added to the Research.gov [About Proposal Preparation and Submission](#) page, and the [Proposal Submission Capabilities](#) page has been updated to reflect the latest development updates.
- Research.gov proposal features continue to expand to support the transition of all proposal preparation and submission functionality from FastLane to Research.gov by a target date of December 31, 2022. Many NSF funding opportunities are supported in Research.gov and clearly specify whether submission via Research.gov is available or required.

**Questions?** If you have IT system-related questions, please contact the NSF Help Desk at 1-800-381-1532 (7:00 AM - 9:00 PM ET; Monday - Friday except federal holidays) or to [rgov@nsf.gov](mailto:rgov@nsf.gov). Policy-related questions should be directed to [policy@nsf.gov](mailto:policy@nsf.gov).

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## Grant Alerts: Higher Education Research

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Hanover Research brings you the latest updates on research funding opportunities that were recently announced, nationwide. While these alerts are intended to provide you with a broad-reaching overview of the opportunities available, we certainly want to hear if there are specific opportunities that you would like to pursue.

Our [Grant Alerts dashboard](#) profiles relevant previously announced national-level funding opportunities, which can be sorted by type, agency/funder, and date.

## Data Management Workshops

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The University Libraries Data Management Workshop schedule is published for fall 2021. We offer workshops on a variety of topics including data management plan development and data publication and sharing. Here is the link: [tamu.libguides.com/research-data-management/workshops](https://tamu.libguides.com/research-data-management/workshops)

We welcome all members of the TAMU community to attend these workshops, so please share this with your colleagues and don't hesitate to contact [John Watts](#) (director) with any questions.

## The Federal Demonstration Partnership Meeting Update

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The Federal Demonstration Partnership is a cooperative initiative among 10 federal agencies and 217 institutional recipients of federal funds for Phase VII. Its purpose is to reduce the administrative burdens associated with research grants and contracts. The interaction between FDP's 450 or so university and federal representatives takes place in FDP's 3 annual meetings and, more extensively, in the many collaborative working groups and task forces that meet often by conference calls in order to develop specific work products. The most recent meeting was September 2021 and the recordings and slides of the presentations are available at [September 2021 Meeting - The Federal Demonstration Partnership \(thefdp.org\)](https://thefdp.org)

## Current EPA Research Opportunities

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Applications are accepted from current students, recent graduates, and U.S. College/University faculty year round. Browse the opportunities in the [catalog](#) by using the filter or search features to find an opportunity that is right for you. By clicking the title of the opportunity it takes you to that posting in Zintellelect to read more details and apply.

In order to apply to any posting, you will need to make a profile account in Zintellelect at <https://www.zintellelect.com/>. Once your profile is made you will be able to apply to postings.

If you have questions, send an email to [ORISE.EPA@orau.org](mailto:ORISE.EPA@orau.org). Please include the reference code for this opportunity in your email.



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## Animal Welfare Office Research Compliance and Integrity Toolkit

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The Animal Welfare Office (AWO) would like to remind faculty of resources available to assist with the performance of research, teaching or testing with vertebrate animals. The following resources are available online as part of the [Research Compliance and Integrity Toolkit](#):

- The Animal Research Roadmap provides guidance on the requirements for ancillary compliance review outside of the IACUC, and includes helpful tips on timing.
- IACUC Guidance documents provide procedural standards on the topics identified, sample documents, which may be modified by the end user, and iRIS help manuals. These resources are available with TAMU NetID authentication.

The AWO also offers iRIS and IACUC orientations for new faculty and provides researchers with individual assistance for complex iRIS submissions, and for those interested in combining animal use protocols to reduce the administrative burden associated with managing multiple animal use protocols.

Outreach to departments and individual faculty on topics related to the IACUC and animal program is also available on demand. For assistance or to schedule an orientation or outreach session, contact the AWO at [animalcompliance@tamu.edu](mailto:animalcompliance@tamu.edu) or 979.845.1828.

## COVID-19 Guidance, Testing and Reporting

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Reminder, check the Texas A&M COVID-19 webpage [COVID-19 Guidance - Texas A&M University, College Station, TX \(tamu.edu\)](#) for the latest updates, guidance, testing and reporting forms.

## Limited Submission Proposal Opportunities

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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](mailto:shelly.martin@tamu.edu) or 979-862-2233.

## Proposal Assistance for Large Multidisciplinary Funding Opportunities

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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](mailto:cjongsma@tamu.edu)).

## Bulletin for Principal Investigators

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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.