
CPI Newsletter – September 2018

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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* — Vytas 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 Groppe • *TAMU at Qatar* — Othmane Bouhali • *TEES* — Dean Schneider • *TTI* — David Bierling, Mike Lukuc, 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

September CPI News – The new 2018-19 Council of Principal Investigators Executive Committee (CPI-EC) met with administrators the first of September to begin having discussions with each of the agencies visions for this new academic year and how CPI can be involved. At the CPI-EC meeting on September 5th, one of the agenda items discussed was the continuation of the Research Development Fund (RDF). CPI-EC will continue to work collaboratively with the Research Development Fund Advisory Committee, (which are appointed peers and PIs) to put the call out for applications and then put forth recommendations to the RDF Management Committee who evaluates the application recommendations put forward and determines the funding. The RDF call for applications will be announced as soon as the draft guidelines are finalized. For additional information regarding the RDF process, application deadlines and guidelines go to rdf.tamu.edu.

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. 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, so 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.

Reminder: The next general CPI meeting will be Wednesday, October 10, 2018, Rudder 601. Contact Rebecca Luckey, rluckey@tamu.edu or 979.862.9166, for more information or to suggest agenda items for our monthly meetings.

GWSW Write Winning NIH and NSF Grant Proposals Seminar

A professional development seminar for Texas A&M PI-eligible researchers, research staff, and administrators. Faculty planning to submit an NSF CAREER proposal should contact Dr. Jim Izat at jizat@tamu.edu before registering for this workshop. TAMU has a specialized program for junior faculty submitting CAREER proposals. Please refer to the attached flyer for further details.

NIH/NSF Workshops – September 26 & 27, 2018

Register at (researchdevelopment/calendars/writer2019s-winning-nih-nsf-grant-proposals-seminar-s) to attend. Solicitation for 2019 not released but anticipated this fall.

When: September 26 & 27, 2018

Where: MSC 2400 & Rudder 701

A professional development seminar for Texas A&M PI-eligible researchers, research staff, and administrators. Faculty planning to submit an NSF CAREER proposal should contact Dr. Jim Izat at jizat@tamu.edu before registering for this workshop. TAMU has a specialized program for jr. faculty submitting CAREER proposals.

Every attendee will receive a free copy of *The Grant Application Writer's Workbook*, NIH or NSF Version.

Limited seating may be available for post-doctoral researchers. See:

<https://u.tamu.edu/GWSW2017Sem> for details. Not open to undergraduate or graduate students.

Undergraduate Research Expo

Colleges, departments, and other units are welcome to reserve a table at the Research Opportunity & Resource Fair during the **2018 Undergraduate Research Expo on October 3, 2018** to recruit students into undergraduate research programs and educate students about the many available opportunities.

Research Opportunity & Resource Fair

1:00-3:00 PM
MSC 2300 C

Resource tables should highlight currently open or upcoming research opportunities for undergraduates. Groups are encouraged to bring current undergraduate researchers, graduate students, and faculty research advisors to connect with undergraduates looking to get involved. Research posters and handouts are also welcome.

Reserve a table at the 2018 Undergraduate Research Expo at <http://tx.ag/UGRExpo18TableRequest> by 14 September at noon.

The Expo will encompass a full day of events from panels to workshops, and poster presentations to resource fairs dedicated to promoting undergraduate research opportunities and highlighting the growing research community at Texas A&M. See the tentative schedule of events at <http://tx.ag/UGRExpo18>. Questions can be directed to ugr@tamu.edu.

2018 Inaugural Mass Spec Symposium – October 5, 2018

Following a Chancellor's Research Initiative award in 2016, Texas A&M University established a campus-wide Mass Spectrometry collaborative core facility. To mark the establishment of this core facility, we are pleased to announce "Ions at Work: A Symposium Introducing TAMU's Mass Spectrometry Core" which will take place on Friday, October 5, 2018 in the Mitchell Physics Building, Hawking Auditorium. This event will consist of research talks and poster presentations highlighting mass spectrometry at Texas A&M University. For additional information, see attached flyer to the back of this newsletter or visit the website at http://mass-spec.tamu.edu/inaugural_symposium_for_further_details.

Microscopy and Imaging Center Workshop

The Microscopy and Imaging Center, in collaboration with Leica Microsystems, is hosting a workshop in sample preparation for Electron Microscopy. <http://microscopy.tamu.edu/whats-new>

- **MIC Open House, Friday, October 5, 2018**
Presentation and practical demonstration of sample preparation and imaging instruments, including Leica SP8 confocal/STED superresolution/FLIM imaging system and a BL-2 imaging laboratory
Seminars: cryo-Electron Microscopy (Dr. Aninido Sen), Optical Microscopy (Dr. Stanislav Vitha).
- **Confocal Microscopy workshop, Friday, October 12, 2018**
Theory and hands-on practical demonstration of confocal microscopes, including the new Leica SP8 system.

DOE Launches New Lab Partnering Service

WASHINGTON, D.C. –Today, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) officially launched the Lab Partnering Service (LPS), an online, single access point platform for investors, innovators, and institutions to identify, locate, and obtain information from DOE's 17 national laboratories. This tool will provide industry with a more efficient way to harness technical expertise and intellectual property housed at DOE's labs.

The DOE Office of Technology Transitions' (OTT) Lab Partnering Service gives energy investors and innovators direct access to the vast array of expertise, research, and capabilities across all 17 National Labs. LPS will allow users to submit inquiries to the Technology Transfer Office at each lab. This office can answer and/or direct questions from the users and provide an invaluable navigational assistance through the DOE R&D ecosystem.

"The launch of the Lab Partnering Service represents a big step in reducing barriers that often limit energy investors from partnering with our National Labs," said Secretary of Energy Rick Perry. "The LPS consolidates information and capabilities at the National Labs to increase public access, allowing industry and academia to fully utilize these vital scientific resources."

The LPS has three parts:

1. Connect with Experts: Unprecedented access to top national lab researchers will allow investors and innovators to connect with relevant subject matter experts, and receive unbiased and non-competitive technical assessments.
2. Technical/Marketing Summaries: Direct access to pre-validated, ready to license, and commercialize technologies.
3. Visual Patent Search: Dynamic online search and visualization database tool for patents associated with DOE laboratories.

DOE is one of the largest supporters of technology transfer in the federal government. The 17 national labs have supported the critical research and development that lead to many technologies in the marketplace today, including the batteries powering electric vehicles and the foundation of Internet servers.

Information about the Lab Partnering Service, including how to use the suite of online tools, can be found [HERE](#). More information on OTT can be found [HERE](#).

Human Clinical Research Facility @ Texas A&M University

If you are conducting human clinical-related research here at Texas A&M University, please consider utilizing the Human Clinical Research Facility (HCRF) that is located on John Kimbrough Blvd. For more information, please find the attached flyer at the back of the newsletter or contact Dr. Richard Kreider directly at rbkreider@tamu.edu.

Expired IRB Studies

The IRB will be sending notices to all investigators that have Expired studies to request that investigators submit a continuing review to bring the study back into compliance for the study to continue. Any Expired study that does not have a continuing review submission within 30 days will be closed automatically. A study completion report (closure) may be submitted instead of a continuing review, if appropriate. Please remember that the IRB must conduct a continuing review of all non-exempt human subjects research at intervals appropriate to the degree of risk, but not less than once per year, in accordance with 45 CR 46.109(e). For more information, contact the IRB staff at 979-458-4067 or irb@tamu.edu.

Office of Government Relations Update

Federal update: Lawmakers are working to advance all 12 FY19 funding bills by the Sept. 30 deadline. Time is not on their side, yet hope remains they will be able to finish some appropriation decisions by Sept. 30 and avoid a stopgap measure. At this time, nothing is final and everyone off the Hill must take a wait and see approach as the House returns in the early part of September. We will continue to monitor and report out any relevant updates.

State update: By the September 12th CPI meeting, we will be less than 120 days from the start of the 86th Legislative Session. Even during the interim session, many legislative activities take place, namely appropriations. This summer, offices across campus and the A&M System coordinated to compile and submit Texas A&M's Legislative Appropriation Request (LAR). Budget and other higher education-related interim committee hearings will continue through the fall. President Young will present the budget request to the Governor's Budget Office and Legislative Budget Board staff on September 17th. Many have heard about the increase in the revenue estimate (\$2.8B) by the Texas Comptroller, however as we head into the 86th session, it looks like it is still shaping up to be a fiscally tight session. The demand for state resources continues to grow, especially in Health and Human Services, Transportation, and Public Education. It is always difficult to predict what will happen during the session, but this will be an especially interesting one considering the uncertainty surrounding the seat for the Texas House Speaker.

If you have any questions, or would like to discuss federal or state higher education matters in more detail, please let us know. Past GR updates are available on our website at: <https://governmentrelations.tamu.edu/updates/>.

Changes in the Office of Government Relations

With the selection of Triad National Security, LLC, to manage and operate the Los Alamos National Laboratory, Dr. Diane Hurtado, who served as Associate Vice President for Federal Relations, has accepted a position with TEES as Associate Vice Chancellor for National Laboratories Management. Diane was an integral part of the Los Alamos bid process and will be the liaison to that Los Alamos management group.

In assessing the government relation needs of the university and our division, Michael J. Hardy joined our office as the Assistant Vice President for Government Relations on August 13th. Michael is a Bush School graduate, and has previously served as Deputy Chief of Staff to a state lieutenant governor, and Legislative Director to a state house official. Michael was the first Director of Strategic Engagement at The Association of Former Students, and helped launch the Texas A&M Advocacy Network. Michael will assist the university in state and federal relations, working to better publicly elevate Texas A&M and higher education issues with elected officials. Having worked with Michael in the government relations arena, I know he will be a capable advocate for Texas A&M in Austin and Washington, and also add value to our campus community.

NIAID Policy Will Limit Numbers of Trainees on T32 and T35 Training Grants

Beginning in FY2019, NIAID will limit the total number of predoctoral and/or postdoctoral trainee slots to 10 trainees per T32 or T35 training grant. More information can be found in NOT-AI-18-044. <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-AI-18-044.html>

NIH Next Generation Researchers Policy Update

NIH will no longer use an Early Established Investigator (EEI) flag in application and review systems as described in NOT-OD-10-101. NIH remains committed, however, to prioritizing funding for Early Stage Investigators (ESI). The Advisory Council to the NIH Director (ACD) Next Generation Working Group will be developing an interim strategy to consider investigators who receive meritorious scores but would be left without any significant source of research funding if their grant is not awarded. NIH will continue to provide updates as additional information becomes available. <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-18-214.html>

Export Controls Designated Liaison Network Update

The University's Export Control Designated Liaison Network consists of TAMU offices with responsibility for administering components of TAMU's export control compliance program. The department/unit representatives coordinate with the Export Controls Office on export control compliance. Representatives from the AgriLife and TEES Export Control offices also participate. The group meets on a periodic basis to

discuss export control issues of concern, ensure coordination of compliance efforts, assist each other on developing enhancements to existing processes and procedures, and to share training resources and best practices. Mr. Ray VanNorman (Raylandc@tamu.edu), the Director of the TAMU Export Controls Office (exportcontrols@tamu.edu), is the Facilitator of the Network.

In addition to representatives of TAMU offices with responsibility for administering components of the export control compliance program, faculty representation through the CPI was requested for the group. The faculty representatives do not serve as department/unit designated liaisons but do provide input to the group from a faculty perspective.

Some points from the August 23 meeting: (a) Eshipglobal (<https://study.eshipglobal.com/>) is a tool for starting the process to assist in compliance when shipping internationally; (b) a small working group has been formed to discuss and coordinate export control procedures among the TAMU, AgriLife, TEES, TEEX and TTI offices; (c) the revised and recently re-published University Rule 15.99.02.M1 (Export Controls) (<http://rules-saps.tamu.edu/PDFs/15.02.99.M1.pdf>) was briefly presented; and (d) a presentation was provided concerning “Export Controls Related to Biologicals” – one note of emphasis was the common occurrence of misconceptions about which particular biologicals might be controlled; it is important for faculty to work with the Export Controls office rather than make assumptions.

Lee Tarpley (ltarpley@tamu.edu), AgriLife Research, Beaumont; off-campus representative

Core Facilities Update

Core facilities are critically important enablers of TAMU researchers in pursuing cutting edge research. In recognition of this fact, the Division of Research in collaboration the TEES and AgriLife Research have created the Research Development Fund (RDF), which over the last 3 years provided funding to proposals by faculty teams to create new core facilities to fill critical needs. Discussions are currently ongoing to extend the RDF agreement with some possible modifications to address staff salaries and possible baseline support of a small number of existing, large core facilities.

In parallel to the creation and financial core facility support issues being addressed, we have initiated a process to more efficiently manage and access core facilities using the Agilent iLabs software. Several core facilities are currently under iLabs and on average one more is added each month. The link to the TAMU iLabs URL is at <https://tamu.corefacilities.org/landing/276#/cores>. Another initiative we are undertaking to better organize core facilities and facility collaborations among them is the creation of a core facilities directors council (CFDC), similar to the already established Center and Institute Directors Council (CIDC). Towards the establishment of CFDC, we are working to understand the various core facilities across Texas A&M and assessing in what general cluster areas their capabilities are in.

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.

Research Bulletin

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
UNIVERSITY

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MASS SPECTROMETRY
SYMPOSIUM



YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

Friday, October 5, 2018
9:15 am - 5:00 pm

Mitchell Institute, Hawking Auditorium

576 University Drive
Texas A&M University
College Station, Texas

A symposium celebrating the establishment of a campus-wide mass spectrometry collaborative core facility composed of three sections: applied, chemistry and biochemistry, and isotope analysis, along with 10 individual laboratories.

FEATURING

John M. Eiler

*Robert P. Sharp Professor of Geology and Geochemistry
California Institute of Technology*

Christopher M. Reddy

*Stanley W. Watson Chair in Oceanography
Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution*

Dame Carol V. Robinson

*Dr. Lee's Professor of Chemistry
University of Oxford*

[Register online](#)



[view agenda](#) | [live streaming](#)



mass-spec.tamu.edu/

HUMAN CLINICAL RESEARCH FACILITY

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY



Dear Colleagues:

As the new semester begins, I would like to encourage you to consider conducting your human clinical-related research in the Human Clinical Research Facility (HCRF). We have a 12-bed facility with exercise training/rehabilitation, human physiology / clinical testing capabilities for biomedical and behavioral research, and comprehensive wet lab facilities. We offer a wide-array of [services and testing capabilities](#) for healthy and clinical population studies. We can help you obtain IRB approval in order to have HCRF staff collect data for you on your independent research projects on a fee for service basis or you can collaborate with PI's housed in the HCRF on grant applications to conduct funded research projects.

If you would like to tour the HCRF and/or discuss how we can support your research, please don't hesitate to contact me. Gig'em!

Rick Kreider



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