
CPI Newsletter – September 2019

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2019-20 CPI roster: Chair — Darren DePoy, *Science* • Vice Chair — Stephen Maren, *Liberal Arts* • Past Chair — David Threadgill, *Medicine* • *AgriLife Extension* — Craig Carpenter, Jamie Rae Walker • *AgriLife Research* — Michael Brewer, Ambika Chandra, Lee Tarpley • *Architecture* — Ergun Akleman • *Bush School* — Kent Portney • *COALS* — Russell Cross, Kerri Gehring, Wes Osburn, Jean-Phillipe 'JP' Pellois, Elizabeth 'Betsy' Pierson, David Stelly, Aaron Tarone • *Education* — Timothy Elliott, Rafael Lara-Alecio • *Engineering* — Jorge Alvarado, Debjyoti Banerjee, Ulisses Braga-Neto, Akhilesh Gaharwar, Melissa Grunlan, Sheng-Jen 'Tony' Hsieh, James Kaihatu, Scott Socolofsky, Ramesh Talreja • *Geosciences* — Jessica Fitzsimmons, Ethan Grossman, Brendan Roark • *Law* — Gabriel Eckstein • *Liberal Arts* — Sandra Braman, Harland Prechel • *Mays* — Korok Ray • *Medicine* — Helene Andrews-Polymenis, Kayla Bayless, Carl Gregory • *Nursing* — Nancy Downing • *Pharmacy* — Jayshree Mishra • *Science* — Michael Hall, Christian Hilty, Alexei Safonov, Frank Sottile • *SPH* — Gang Han • *TAMU at Galveston* — R.J. David Wells • *TAMCD* — Hongjiao Ouyang • *TAMU at Qatar* — Othmane Bouhali • *TEES* — Dean Schneider • *TTI* — David Bierling, James Kovar, Dennis Perkinson • *University Libraries* — Bruce Herbert • *Veterinary Medicine* — Candice Brinkmeyer-Langford, Dana Gaddy, Jayanth 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. Darren Depoy, CPI Chair

September CPI News – The Council of Principal Investigators Executive Committee (CPI-EC) met with administrators September 5, 2019. U.S. Congressman Bill Flores dropped in and visited during the CPI-EC meeting providing a legislative update. Discussions during the CPI-EC September meeting included having Dr. Mark Barteau provide CPI an update within the Division of Research. Discussions continued on CPI-EC working collaboratively with the Student Financial and Employment Office and Division of Research in creating a student research assistant position so research labs can continue to provide opportunities for Enhancing On-Campus Student Employment for undergraduates interested in working in research labs.

CPI Contacts – The new complete 2019-2020 roster of CPI Representatives and the new CPI Executive Committee can be found on the CPI website at https://cpi.tamu.edu/membership/2019-2020_Council_Membership. Previous membership lists can be found in the council [archive](#).

The CPI-EC will continue to meet with President Young and Provost Fierke each month in order to keep PIs informed. The CPI-EC also meets with Chancellor Sharp every other month. 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 October CPI General meeting will be Wednesday, October 9, 2019, Rudder 601, 11:30-1:15pm.

The October 9, 2019 CPI General Meeting will have the Texas A&M Sponsored Research Services (SRS) come provide PIs with information about how they can utilize Cayuse and provide CPI with a SRS update.

Contact Rebecca Luckey, rluckey@tamu.edu or 979.862.9166, for more information or to suggest agenda items for our monthly meetings.

Explorations: The Texas A&M Undergraduate Journal

Undergraduates

- Undergraduate board member applications are accepted in September each year. Selections are made in October. Typically looking for underclassmen from any discipline with plans to conduct research.
 - **Application Deadline:** September 18, 2019 at noon
 - **Application Link:** <http://launch.tamu.edu/Applications/Explorations/Explorations-Board-Member-Application>
- Undergraduates can also submit to the journal. It starts with a synopsis due **in late-January, early-February**. Team submissions are accepted. If the synopsis is selected to move forward, the student(s) will be invited to submit a full manuscript by mid-March. Selected undergraduate(s) attend an Author Orientation and are assigned an editing team to work with throughout the remainder of the semester. Before publication, a faculty mentor overseeing the project must sign off on the work. Additional information and approvals, including copyright and media releases, are collected from undergraduate authors between April and May.
- **Synopses**
 - **Synopsis Deadline:** February 3, 2020 at noon
 - **Synopsis Application Link:** <http://launch.tamu.edu/Applications/Explorations/Explorations-Synopsis-Submission>

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- **Full Manuscripts**
 - **Full Manuscript Deadline:** March 18, 2020 at noon
 - **Full Manuscript Application Link:** [TBA](#)

Faculty

- Faculty can mentor undergraduate researchers and encourage them to apply to the board and/or to submit to the journal. If a student's full manuscript is selected to move forward for publication, the work must be approved by the faculty mentor overseeing the project.
- Faculty can also review for the journal. Reviewer registration is collected on a rolling basis. Submissions are assigned by discipline and expertise. Faculty will be asked to review up to 3 submissions at a time.
- **Volume 10 Review Timeline**
 - **February 7, 2020:** Synopses distributed for review no later than this date
 - **February 19, 2020:** Deadline to return synopsis reviews
 - **March 20, 2020:** Full manuscripts distributed to reviewers no later than this date
 - **April 1, 2020:** Deadline to submit full manuscript reviews
- **Registration Deadline for Volume 12 Synopses:** January 20, 2020
- **Registration Link:** <http://launch.tamu.edu/Applications/Explorations/Faculty-Reviewer-Registration> **Undergraduate Research Scholars (URS)**

Undergraduates and Faculty Mentors

- The Undergraduate Research Scholars (URS) thesis program seeks to provide eligible undergraduates with a graduate student experience by allowing them to participate in research and communicate their findings as principal authors to the University's scholarly community.
- Undergraduates who participate in the Undergraduate Research Scholars program will:
 - Produce a written undergraduate thesis to be published in the Undergraduate Research Scholars Capstone Collection in the Texas A&M OAKTrust Repository at <http://oaktrust.library.tamu.edu/handle/1969.1/3367>
 - Make a public presentation
 - Earn a university-level honors transcript distinction along with a URS medallion as official graduation regalia
 - Acquire knowledge that didn't come from a classroom
 - Gain a better understanding of graduate school
 - Improve their chances for acceptance into graduate or professional schools, fellowships, and grants
 - Develop a professional network of students and faculty
- Faculty members are required to approve a student's application (proposal and timeline) due in September and the final thesis due in April.
- **Application Link:** [http://launch.tamu.edu/Undergraduate-Research/Undergraduate-Research-Scholars-\(thesis\)/Thesis-Application](http://launch.tamu.edu/Undergraduate-Research/Undergraduate-Research-Scholars-(thesis)/Thesis-Application)
- **Application Deadline:** September 18, 2019 at noon
- More information about the URS thesis program can be found at <http://launch.tamu.edu/ugr/urs> and [http://launch.tamu.edu/Undergraduate-Research/Undergraduate-Research-Scholars-\(thesis\)/FAQs](http://launch.tamu.edu/Undergraduate-Research/Undergraduate-Research-Scholars-(thesis)/FAQs).

Faculty Participation at the URS Symposium

- LAUNCH: UGR is seeking faculty to be active listeners.
- New Undergraduate Research Scholars (URS) Symposium on February 26, 2020 in the MSC. LAUNCH: UGR is offering this new venue for our LAUNCH Undergraduate Research Scholars to present their research projects and get feedback before their final theses are due in April. Presentations at this event will fulfill the program's requirement.

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- To help our URS presenters, we ask faculty and staff to focus on the following three areas with students and provide feedback as they interact with the students during their presentations:
 - Body language and delivery
 - Effective communication of the research question and why it is important
 - Effective visual aids (if used)
 - Looking for 1 hour commitments on February 26, 2020.
 - **Active Listener Registration Link:**
https://tamu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bC15Z8chz5j6Tm5
 - **Active Listener Registration Deadline:** February 17, 2020
 - More information about the URS Symposium can be found at <http://tx.ag/urssymposium>.

Undergraduate Research Expo

- The Undergraduate Research Expo highlights and celebrates undergraduate research experiences at Texas A&M University.
- This year's UGR Expo will be on October 2, 2019, all day in the MSC.
- Encourage students to attend the Expo.
- Morning Round Tables for Faculty
 - **Undergraduate Research at Texas A&M: Where Are We Now & Where Are We Going?**
 - 9:00-10:00 AM | MSC 2300 B
 - Discussion topics include:
 - Research credit enrollment
 - Diversity, access, and inclusion initiatives
 - Trends in research funding
 - Upcoming High Impact Practices in the States Conference
 - Assessment of lifelong learning, undergraduate research, and employability skills
 - **Experiences in Mentoring Undergraduate Researchers**
 - 10:15-11:15 AM | MSC 2300 D
 - Discussion topics include:
 - Fostering independence in undergraduate researchers
 - Responsibilities of graduate student mentors
 - Strategies for dealing with problems or issues
 - Establishing positive working relationships
 - **Building Your REU/SURE Program in Qualtrics**
 - 10:15-11:15 AM | MSC 2300 B
 - Perks of using this Qualtrics application template for your REU/SURE programs:
 - Allows for targeted recruiting of underrepresented minority and first generation students
 - Allows for direct customization and management of applications and communication
 - Allows for surveys and assessment
- Research Networking Social
 - 4:15-5:15 PM | MSC 2300 Lobby
 - Faculty members and students are encouraged to stay after the Networking Panel to connect and network with students, other faculty, and staff over light refreshments.

REU/SURE Coordination Meeting

- January 30, 2020 from 8:30-10:00 AM in MSC 2406.
- Please RSVP at https://tamu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6D521RfHGo10zIz by January 27, 2020.
- Coffee and pastries will be provided.
- At this meeting, we will discuss updated university policies for summer programs (fee waiver, enrollment, general deposit, student health services, and international students), as well as on-campus housing and summer activities. See attached file Package for CPI for the agenda and most recent handouts.

Research Development Services

- Attached to the back of the newsletter are two pages entitled 2019-2020 Seminars & Workshops – Research Development Services.
- Write Winning NIH Grant Proposals – Thursday, September 26, 2019. See the flyer attached.

Research Development Fund Fall Applications Due October 14, 2019

Full applications are due Monday, October 14, 2019. The guidelines and application for submission can be found at rdf.tamu.edu or email questions to rdf@tamu.edu.

Limited Submission Proposal Opportunities

The list of current Limited Submission Proposal (LSP) opportunities, maintained by the Division of Research, is available at <https://u.tamu.edu/LSP>. To receive notifications about new LSP opportunities as soon as they are announced, email Ms. Shelly Martin at shelly.martin@tamu.edu.

Bulletin for Principal Investigators

The Division of Research at Texas A&M University 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.

2019 – 2020 Seminars & Workshops

Research Development Services (RDS)

<https://vpr.tamu.edu/initiate-research/research-development-services/calendar>

Texas A&M-FAPESP (Brazil) Writer's Workshop

September 3, 2019, 10:30-11:30 am, 310 JKW

This workshop has information on the Texas A&M-FAPESP (The São Paulo Research Foundation) Collaborative Research Program. This internal, international seed funding program seeks to build research cooperation between A&M faculty and the State of São Paulo, Brazil. The workshop also provides information on collaboration, eligibility, proposal submission, and best practice. Open to all disciplines. *Monica Holder*

Texas A&M-CONACYT (Mexico) Writer's Workshop

September 18, 2019, 10:30-11:30 am, 310 JKW

The workshop will familiarize faculty with the Texas A&M-CONACYT (Consejo Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnología) Collaborative Research Program. This internal, international seed funding program seeks to build research cooperation between Texas A&M faculty and higher education institutions in Mexico or CONACYT research centers. Information to include collaboration methods, eligibility, proposal submission, and best practices. Open to all disciplines. - *Monica Holder*

Write Winning NIH Grant Proposals

September 26, 2019, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm, Rudder 601

Register by [September 20, 2019](#) at

[researchdevelopment-registrations](#)

John Robertson, Consultant from [GWSW](#).

A Strategic Approach: Writing Proposals and Publishing Your Work*

October 10, 2019, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m., TBD

This seminar is to offer new faculty a strategic approach to meetings their goals for successfully acquiring needed research support funding and publishing the results of their research. A submission plan will be drafted that links with other campus resources. – *Jorja Kimball*

PIVOT Workshop

October 15th or October 16th, 1:30pm – 2:30pm, virtual meetings via Zoom

Pivot allows research administrators, research development professionals, and individual faculty members the ability to search and track the right research funding opportunities — quickly and easily. This is for faculty, staff researchers, and graduate students. – *Bruce Hurbert*

Grants: They have a Language All Their Own

October 21, 2019, 1:00-2:00 p.m., ILSB Auditorium

This seminar is designed for **graduate students and postdocs** as an overview of strategic proposal design and best practices that lead to more competitive research proposals. The information is applicable to all proposals irrespective of funding agency. - *Jim Izat, DoR & OGAPs*

Writing Successful Proposals

October 23, 2019, 1:30 – 3:00pm, TBD

A seminar designed to offer faculty an overview of strategic proposal design and best practices to create competitive research proposal. Information applicable to all proposal types. - *DoR*

NIH Specific Aims Virtual Workshop

October 23 & November 6, 2019, Noon – 1:30pm, virtual meetings via Zoom

Participants in this interactive two-part workshop will have opportunity to provide and receive feedback on NIH Specific Aims pages, as well as receive feedback from experienced NIH peer reviewers. - *Christina Howard*

Hanover Webinar: Multidisciplinary, Multi-PI, and Multi-Institutional Proposals

October 24, 2019, 1:30-2:30, via Skype or Zoom

Discussion with Q&A on planning and developing a multi-PI plan. Includes best practices for collaborative proposal development.

Register by [October 23, 2019](#) at:

https://tamu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bvy15HNT1QQRpHL

-*Shannon Eyre*

*Demystifying the NIH

October 29, 2019, 1:30-3:00 p.m. MSC 1401

The purpose of this seminar is to provide a broad overview of NIH organization, how to identify NIH funding opportunities, the proposal submission and review process, and strategies for building a competitive NIH proposal. - *Christina Howard*

NSF CAREER & Young Investigator Programs

TBD, 1:00-5:00 p.m., ILSB Auditorium

This seminar will familiarize faculty with the NSF CAREER and other federal agency young investigator programs to apply to. - *Laurie Garton*

*denotes a Junior Faculty Proposal Academy Session. - <https://jfa.tamu.edu/>

**While Junior Faculty Academy Sessions focus on the needs of junior faculty, all faculty are encouraged and welcome to attend.

2019 – 2020 Seminars & Workshops

Research Development Services (RDS)

<https://vpr.tamu.edu/initiate-research/research-development-services/calendar>

Hanover Webinar: Foundation Outreach, Cultivation, & Proposal Development

November 5, 2019, 2:00-3:30, via Skype or Zoom

Introducing development officers and research deans to the nuts and bolts of fostering and sustaining relationships with foundations who sponsor research. This workshop is perfect for all levels of experience. – Shannon Eyre

KB Science Webinar: DOE Early Career

November 19, 2019, 11:00-12:00 p.m., via Zoom

Register by [November 18, 2019](#) at: [Registration - DOE](#)

For those looking to apply to this proposal opportunity for junior faculty. Short presentation followed by Q&A. – Shannon Eyre

NSF Proposal Supplementary Documents

November 20, 2019, 1:00-3:00 p.m., TBD

Designed to familiarize faculty with the many types of NSF documents required to be included with NSF research proposals. - Jim Izat & DoR

NIH Resubmission Discussion Panel

January 22, 2020, 10:00-11:30 a.m., HPEB LL38

A panel discussion then Q&A with experienced NIH peer reviewers. Information on strategies for NIH proposal resubmission strategies to increase proposal competitiveness. - Christina Howard

Texas A&M-FAPESP (Brazil) Writer's Workshop

February 4, 2020, 10:30-11:30 a.m., 310 JKW

Explains the internal, international seed funding program, Texas A&M-FAPESP (The São Paulo Research Foundation) Collaborative Research Program, that seeks to build research cooperation between A&M faculty and researchers in the State of São Paulo, Brazil. Information provided on eligibility, proposal submission, and best practices. Open to all disciplines. - Monica Holder

NSF Broader Impacts

February 2020, 1:00 – 4:30, TBD

1:00-2:30 p.m. - Seminar – A 90-minute seminar on improving the competitiveness of NSF proposals by creating a stronger Broader Impacts component.
2:30-4:30 p.m. - Expo – 2 hours for PIs to talk with representatives of organizations and programs, from the university and wider community, with whom they can collaborate and partner on broader impacts and outreach strategies and activities. - Held jointly by DoR and TEES

NIH Specific Aims Virtual Workshop

February 12 & 26, 2020, Noon – 1:30pm (Zoom)

Participants in this interactive two-part workshop will have opportunity to provide and receive feedback on NIH Specific Aims pages, as well as receive feedback from experienced NIH peer reviewers. - Christina Howard

NSF: The Agency, Proposal Preparation & Review

February 2020 1:00-3:00 p.m., TBD

For graduate students and postdocs, on applying to funding opportunities to the NSF. It will have an overview of the NSF, aid in identifying appropriate programs and proposal types, and insight into the review process. - Jim Izat, DoR & OGAPs

NSFCAREER Writing Groups - Initial Meeting

March 5, 2020, 1:30-3:00, TBD

The purpose of this meeting is to familiarize faculty with the goals and organization of the 6th Annual TAMU NSF CAREER proposal peer writers' group. Participants will receive resource materials, participate in Q&A session, and schedule writing meetings March – May. - Jim Izat & DoR

*Filling Your NIH Toolbox: Using RePORT to Your Advantage

March 18, 2020, 1:30-3:00pm, TBD

Participants will learn how to leverage NIH RePORT to help target NIH applications, identify key contacts at NIH and potential collaborators, and more. Participants are asked to bring their laptops for this workshop. - Christina Howard

Demystifying the NSF: NSF Funding Opportunities, Proposal Preparation and Review Process

March 25, 2020, 1:30 – 3:00pm, TBD

This seminar is designed to offer faculty an overview of the NSF organization, aid in identifying appropriate NSF programs, and an overview of NSF proposal types and proposal review at NSF. - DoR

NSF CAREER Mock Review Session and Workshop

After Spring break 2020, TBD

Laurie Garton (TEES)



Write Winning NIH Grant Proposals

Thursday, September 26, 2019

8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

601 Rudder Tower

Texas A&M University

Also offered via Zoom

A professional development seminar for Texas A&M PI-eligible researchers and the TAMU research community.

Limited seating is available for post-doctoral researchers. Not open to undergraduate or graduate students. Please register to be notified.

Every attendee will receive a copy of *The Grant Application Writer's Workbook*, NIH Version, and the presentation slides

All principal investigators interested in submitting research proposals to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) are invited to learn how to:

- present their case to review committees using proven tips and strategies,
- write with a linear progression of logic that leads reviewers through the application proposal.
- write for two review audiences – those reading a proposal in its entirety and those reading critical sections only.

Registration:

researchdevelopment-registrations

**\$100.00 fee to attend.
Registration is required.**

Registration Deadline

Friday, September 20, 2019

Seminar Leader:

Dr. John D. Robertson

Grant Writers' Seminars and Workshops, LLC

<http://www.grantcentral.com/>

Contact

Research Development Services

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