CPI Newsletter – June 2025

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Update from Dr. Robin Page, 2024-2025 CPI Chair

June CPI News – The Council of Principal Investigators Executive Committee (CPI-EC) met on Wednesday, June 4, 2025. Discussions during the CPI-EC meeting with the administrative leadership began with Dr. Diane Hurtado providing an update regarding the Nuclear Security Office here with Texas A&M University System. An update to the full CPI will be presented at the June 11, 2025 CPI General Meeting by Ms. Evelyn Mullen, Associate Vice Chancellor for Nuclear Security Initiatives.

CPI-EC held discussions with Mr. Adam Mikeal, Chief Information Security Office, Technology Services, Security and Risk at Texas A&M University regarding Cybersecurity Operations and Policy Updates for emails at TAMU and learned there are steps that can be taken to ensure PIs are sending and receiving emails. Mr. Mikeal will be sharing with the full CPI at the June 11, 2025, General Meeting.

CPI-EC welcomed and heard from Dr. Blanca Lupiani in her new role as Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs. She noted that she is committed to working with PIs and faculty in her new role and welcomes interaction and open communications with faculty and researchers.

Mr. Hardy will be providing a federal update at the June 11th CPI General Meeting. All PIs can continue to stay up-to-date on what is happening at the federal level by going to the Government Relations website Home | Office of Government Relations as well as seeing any recent Federal Policy Changes Federal Policy Changes | Office of Government Relations.

All PIs are highly encouraged to communicate with their CPI representatives, https://cpi.tamu.edu/council-membership/council-membership/2024-2025-council-membership/, to bring forward items of concern or interest for the research community. The CPI Executive Committee continues to meet monthly with President Welsh, Provost Sams, interim Vice President for Research Georghiades, and other Texas A&M and System administrative leadership. I welcome thoughts, concerns, issues and agenda topics that impedes research efforts to all principal investigators within the research infrastructure within the Texas A&M University System. You are welcome to bring research-related issues (and solutions) to my attention at CPI@tamu.edu, or to any of the CPI Representatives.

The monthly CPI General meetings are also recorded, details can be found at:

https://cpi.tamu.edu/meetings/general-meetings/2024-2025-general-meeting-schedule/.

There **_will not_** be a July CPI General Meeting. The next scheduled CPI General Meeting will be **Wednesday, August 20, 2025**. Note this is the third Wednesday in August, once the fall semester begins.

AI Steering Committee Update from Dr. Gang Han, CPI Representative
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The overarching goal is for this committee to develop a strategic plan and vision regarding AI tools and resources available for research and teaching at the university by the end of this summer. An official communication, including multiple reports, will be distributed to all faculty members to solicit feedback. Dedicated working groups will prepare individual reports covering areas such as AI for interdisciplinary collaboration, AI literacy, ethics, governance, and AI tools in teaching and learning. Dr. Michael Johnson, Interim Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs, will review and finalize these reports. The announcement will also highlight the potential contributions of the NVIDIA SuperPod to the university's academic and research initiatives. Additionally, Mr. Ed Pierson, Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer, has indicated that his office is planning to conduct training sessions focused on the application of AI in specific research disciplines, including health sciences, chemistry, and engineering.

New Annual Malign Foreign Talent Recruitment Program Certification for PIs/co-PIs – June 7

NSF's new annual certification requirement for Principal Investigators (PIs) and co-Principal Investigators (co-PIs) regarding Malign Foreign Talent Recruitment Programs (MFTRP) starts on June 7, 2025. All PIs or co-PIs named on an NSF award made on or after May 20, 2024, must certify annually in Research.gov that they are not party to a MFTRP. Individuals who are currently a party to a MFTRP are not eligible to serve as senior/key personnel on an NSF proposal or on any NSF award made on or after May 20, 2024. NSF is providing notification of this new requirement to impacted PIs and co-PIs.

What you need to know about completing the required MFTRP certification in Research.gov:

- Impacted PIs and co-PIs will be prompted to complete the MFTRP certification after signing into Research.gov using the Sign In link at the top of www.Research.gov.
- PIs and co-PIs with more than one active award made on or after May 20, 2024, are only required to certify once, annually.
- Once completed, PIs and co-PIs can view their MFTRP certification response under the Academic/Professional Information section of their profile.

Responsible Conduct of Research

As outlined in University SAP 15.99.99.M0.04, RCR training is required for students and postdocs participating in research. ALL students and postdocs participating in research are required to complete online CITI RCR Training.

Additionally, externally funded graduate students and all postdoctoral fellows must complete four (4) hours of face-to-face (F2F) training. This training requirement can be met through the following F2F training opportunities:

- June 24, 2025 (10:00am-11:00am) – RCR – Human Subjects
- June 26, 2025 – RESCHEDULED FROM May 15, 2025 (10:00-11:00am) – AnSRS4u presentation – Export Controls & Prohibited Technologies Updates (more info below)
- July 1, 2025 (11:00am-12:00pm) – RCR – Export Controls
- July 16, 2025 (10:00-11:00am) – RCR - Biosafety
- August 21, 2025 (10:00am-2:30pm) – 4 Hour – In person Workshop: Research Misconduct/Authorship/Peer Review, Research Data Management, Safe Research Environments, and Research Security **(MUST ATTEND ALL 4 HOURS)**

Please visit our website for more detailed RCR training requirements for students and postdocs. Information on 1-hour workshops offered through other departments for RCR credit can be found there as well. Contact RCR@tamu.edu for more information.

AnSRS4U presentation: Export Controls & Prohibited Technologies - June 26

TAMU Sponsored Research Services (SRS) will host an AnSRS4U Presentation, Export Controls & Prohibited Technologies, - Thursday June 26, from 10:00am to 11:00am via Zoom. Presented by Lauren Douglas, Office of Research Security and Export Controls, Paul Wiggins, Information Technologies, and Jose Mancha, Research Technology Services.

This presentation will be recorded and available here a few days after the presentation.
Register in advance for this meeting at
https://tamu.zoom.us/meeting/register/WLAEz1iWRCGwdoPAlCwA1w
After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Texas A&M Health Launches Dementia & Alzheimer's Research Initiative – RFA due July 7

Texas A&M Health launched the Dementia & Alzheimer's Research Initiative (DARI) with an inaugural symposium on May 7, 2025. Request for applications (RFA) are now being sponsored and accepted by Texas A&M Health and the Office of the Vice President for Research. A total of up to $1,250,000 is allocated for one-year research projects. Applications may request budgets in the range of $75,000 to $100,000. The ultimate goal is to position Texas A&M for competitive funding through the Dementia Prevention Research Institute of Texas (DPRIT).

Key Dates:　　Pre-Proposal Deadline: July 7, 2025
　　　　　　　Pre-Proposal Decision Notification: July 21, 2025
　　　　　　　Full Proposal Deadline (invited only): September 1, 2025
　　　　　　　Award Announcements: October 1, 2025

Download PDF with full RFA details here. Additional information about the RFA can be found on the attached flyer and the executive summary can be found at: Dementia & Alzheimer's Research Initiative (DARI). Email any questions to dari@tamu.edu

Research Security Office Announces Huron Research Suite Recently Upgraded
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The Huron Research Suite was recently upgraded! We hope that you find the new format to be more user friendly. When you access Huron to submit your Disclosure Profile or any Pre-Approval Requests, please be sure to review each of the forms in their entirety. There are a few changes and improvements.

Additionally, we will be increasing the population of Huron users over the summer. ALL TAMU employees will be required to complete an annual Disclosure Profile and submit Pre-Approval Requests when necessary. We appreciate your support of this endeavor. While researchers have been doing this for several years, non-researchers can expect to receive notification from Huron indicating the required action.

Our office is planning to do outreach and provide assistance with this process. Please reach out to us with any questions or to schedule training for your office/unit/department to: coi@tamu.edu

Updated NIH Processes for No-Cost Extensions

NOT-OD-25-110 May 7, 2025 This notice alerts the extramural community that NIH has temporarily disabled the No-Cost Extension functionality in eRA Commons. The Director of NIH has directed NIH staff to review all existing grants and cooperative agreements to ensure that NIH awards do not fund off-mission activities or projects. Therefore, temporarily disabling the NCE functionality in eRA Commons will allow NIH staff to review and assess all NCE requests to confirm that the activities proposed during the extension align with the NIH mission and agency priorities.

At this time, all requests for NCEs must be submitted as a prior approval request in eRA Commons, for NIH review and approval. Requests for activities that do not align with the NIH mission and agency priorities will not be approved.

Human Research Protection Program Updates - Clinicaltrials.gov Account Requests
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Clinicaltrials.gov account requests are on the rise, but there is still some uncertainty about posting requirements. Federal regulations (42 CFR Part 11: https://web.archive.org/web/20220615145059/https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-42/chapter-I/subchapter-A/part-11) require studies to be posted on the website when they:

(1) Meet the definition of an Applicable Clinical Trial
(2) Are a clinical trial funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH)
(3) Will be published in a journal that follows the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors' (ICMJE) policy

Please send an email to irb@tamu.edu to set up your individual Clinicaltrials.gov account. Include your institutional contact information and department name. A Texas A&M account administrator will send your login name and temporary password within 48 hours. Please note that your Clinicaltrials.gov organization name is TexasAMU. Contact Dr. Josh Avila, HRPP Post Approval Monitor, at joshavila@tamu.edu, if you have any questions about your account.

General guidance can be found at PRS Help Resources | ClinicalTrials.gov https://clinicaltrials.gov/submit-studies/prs-help

Animal Welfare Updates – Animal Use Protocol Closeout

The Animal Welfare Office (AWO) reminds all Principal Investigators (PIs) to formally close any approved animal use protocol (AUP) before leaving the institution. To initiate closure, PIs may either email the AWO directly or submit a Final Report of Expiring AUP through iRIS. Before requesting closure, PIs must ensure that no animals remain under the protocol. This process should also be followed when a project concludes and the AUP is no longer required. Please contact the AWO at animalcompliance@tamu.edu or 979.845.1828 if you have questions or need assistance.

Focus on IACUC Guidelines - Adoption of Research Animals

Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) guidance on procedural standards for animal activities is available on a wide variety of topics. Investigators are invited to view updated IACUC Guidance on the standards for placing research animals for adoption (TAMU-G-020). IACUC Guidance documents may be found on the Animal Program web page: https://vpr.tamu.edu/research-compliance/animals-in-research-and-teaching/iacuc-guidance/.

Please contact the Animal Welfare Office at animalcompliance@tamu.edu or 979.845.1828 if you have questions or need assistance with implementing IACUC procedural standards.

Animal Welfare Office - Zoom Office Hours

The Animal Welfare Office (AWO) invites investigators that need help with their Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) submission or who have other IACUC-related questions to join the AWO Zoom Office Hours on Tuesdays from 2:00-3:00 P.M and Fridays from 10:00-11:00 A.M.: https://tamu.zoom.us/j/98926889923?pwd=MUxwazlKNnJXOGs2dVM1VkVCTTVQdz09.

Please contact the AWO at animalcompliance@tamu.edu for additional information or to schedule a one-on-one session with a staff member.

AnSRS4u Presentation Available on Demand: Research Security Updates and Impacts on Researchers
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This session covers new federal and state updates related to research security and what researchers should know to remain compliant. Presented by Lesa Feldhousen, Office of Research Security and Export Controls. You have the opportunity to watch it on demand via the SRS website at AnSRS4U – Sponsored Research Services (tamu.edu)

AnSRS4u Presentation Available on Demand: Maestro Updates and Overview of Keywords Searches, Budget Functionality and the Budget Forecasting Project
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Maestro – Overview of Keywords Searches, Budget Functionality and the Budget Forecasting Project. Researchers will learn about Maestro researcher portal enhancements. Participants will learn how they can assign keywords to their projects. PIs will learn how they can volunteer for a focus group to provide inputs for the budget forecasting portal. You have the opportunity to watch it on demand via the SRS website at AnSRS4U – Sponsored Research Services (tamu.edu)

Procurement Services Announces Amazon Business Punchout in AggieBuy
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This new integration combines the convenience of Amazon with the compliance and efficiency of AggieBuy offering a streamlined, familiar shopping experience while eliminating the need for procurement cards and manual reconciliation. The transition to Amazon Business in AggieBuy will:

- Eliminate the need for procurement card reconciliation for Amazon orders
- Enable better compliance with state and university procurement policies
- Preserve the benefits of Amazon Business, which include:
- Sales tax exemption – no need for reimbursements or corrections
- Free two-day shipping on Prime-eligible items
- Competitive Amazon Business pricing
- Access to dedicated Amazon Business support

Next Steps: ·Mark your calendar for the September 1, 2025, go-live date
                   ·Join one or more of the upcoming informational sessions
                   · Inform your department colleagues about this upcoming change
                   · Check your current Amazon access, if applicable
                   · Merge your account (if applicable; instructions will be sent starting in July)

For more information, session links, and FAQs, please contact purchasing@tamu.edu or visit the Procurement Services website.

Living Wage Support Program Extended Through FY25

Since June 2024, the Divisions of Research, Finance, and Health have provided supplemental funding to support employees brought up to the new living wage, including those funded by sponsored research or other university accounts. This support program is now extended through August 2025 for individuals on the original list who remain in active payroll status.

Looking ahead to FY26, colleges must coordinate any continued funding requests. Colleges are strongly encouraged to review and identify internal funding sources to support eligible individuals wherever possible. If no funding can be secured at the department, college, or PI level, a formal request may be submitted to Annette Shenkir at ashenkir@tamu.edu. Requests must include the individual's name, UIN,

department, the amount or percentage requested (not to exceed the original percentage), and a brief justification explaining why internal funding is not available.

Dependent Care Grant for Research Program

The Division of Research remains committed to supporting Texas A&M University faculty and their participation in professional research meetings. Faculty with active sponsored research projects are eligible to apply for the Dependent Care Grant for Research Program. This program offers small grants—up to $1,000 per fiscal year—to help offset additional dependent care expenses incurred due to professional travel. Requests are accepted on a rolling basis. For eligibility details and the request form, please visit: https://vpr.tamu.edu/funding/dependent-care-grant-for-research-program/

Advancing Research, Creativity, and Innovations through Private Sector Partnerships
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Join us for a workshop on **Friday, September 12, 2025**. This workshop will provide researchers with practical resources for initiating, structuring, and sustaining partnerships with the private sector including industry, philanthropic foundations, and nonprofit organizations. Participants will gain insights into what motivates the private sector to fund research, strategies to pitch research ideas for funding, and resources available to facilitate sponsored projects and resulting intellectual property. Attendees will also become eligible to participate in the new Private Sector Engagement Leadership Program. Registration details are listed below.

Event Details:
Date: Friday, September 12, 2025
Time: 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Location: Memorial Student Center (MSC), Room 2300 A&B
Texas A&M University – College Station, TX

Register by August 28
REGISTER HERE

Central Location to Learn of NIH New Initiatives and Policies
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NIH: Implementation of New Initiatives and Policies: This page serves as a central location where you can learn more about the status of changes impacting NIH grants process and plans for implementing new initiatives and policies. https://grants.nih.gov/policy-and-compliance/implementation-of-new-initiatives-and-policies

Division Of Research Website for Federal Transition Updates

For the latest updates regarding Federal Transition please be sure to visit the Federal Transition webpage on the DOR website at: https://research.tamu.edu/federal-administration-transition/.

Limited Submission Proposal Opportunities

The Division of Research, Research Development Services, manages and facilitates the limited submission process (LSP) for federal and foundation opportunities for TAMU, AgriLife, TEES, HSC, and Galveston. For more information and a list of limited submission opportunities, visit the Limited Submission Webpage. Don't forget to sign up to receive weekly LS notifications.

If you have any questions, please contact limitedsubmissions@tamu.edu.

Proposal Assistance for Large Multidisciplinary Funding Opportunities
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The Division of Research, Research Development Services, offers free assistance to teams pursuing multidisciplinary funding opportunities. To learn more about the types of assistance offered or to request assistance, click here.

Research 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. To subscribe or unsubscribe to the Research Bulletin, email: research-communications@tamu.edu.

Innovation and Commercialization at Texas A&M University

Follow us on social media @TAMInnovation and subscribe to our mailing list to stay up to date on news and timely information related to innovation and commercialization at The Texas A&M University System.

Texas A&M High Performance Research Computing (HPRC)

HPRC offers an ongoing series of short training courses for beginning, intermediate, and advanced researchers. These short courses are free of charge and available to any employee or student at Texas A&M.

Registration is required here. (Prerequisites: current ACES account or HPRC account)

University Libraries

The University Libraries presents a series of online workshops in research-related subjects (such as managing citations, managing research data, searching databases, and publishing and copyright) for the Texas A&M community. Register here.

HEALTH

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
Division of Research

Pre-Proposals for Building Capacity at Texas A&M for Dementia & Alzheimer's Research

Texas A&M Health launched the Dementia & Alzheimer's Research Initiative (DARI) with an inaugural symposium on May 7, 2025. Request for applications (RFA) are now being sponsored and accepted by Texas A&M Health and the Office of the Vice President for Research. A total of up to $1,250,000 is allocated for one-year research projects. The ultimate goal is to position Texas A&M for competitive funding through the Dementia Prevention Research Institute of Texas (DPRIT).

Applications may request budgets in the range of $75,000 to $100,000.

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Full Proposal Deadline (invited only): September 1, 2025
Award Announcements: October 1, 2025

[Download PDF with full RFA details.](#)

Additional information about the RFA and the executive summary can be found at: [Dementia & Alzheimer's Research Initiative (DARI).](#) Email any questions to dari@tamu.edu

DARI, an initiative of Texas A&M Health and the Division of Research, is aligned with the stated goals of the proposed Dementia Prevention Research Institute of Texas.

Initiative leadership includes:

Dr. Israel Liberzon	Dr. Marcia G. Ory	Dr. Farida Sohrabji
Distinguished Professor	Distinguished Professor	Distinguished Professor
College of Medicine	School of Public Health	College of Medicine

Coming Soon

amazon business

Texas A&M, Procurement Services is excited to announce the launch of an official Amazon Business punchout catalog in AggieBuy, starting **September 1, 2025**!

This new integration combines the convenience of Amazon with the compliance and efficiency of AggieBuy - offering a streamlined, familiar shopping experience while eliminating the need for procurement cards and manual reconciliation.

The transition to **Amazon Business in AggieBuy** will:
- Eliminate the need for procurement card reconciliation for Amazon orders
- Enable better compliance with state and university procurement policies
- Preserve the benefits of Amazon Business, which include:
    - Sales tax exemption – no need for reimbursements or corrections
    - Free two-day shipping on Prime-eligible items
    - Competitive Amazon Business pricing
    - Access to dedicated Amazon Business support

Next Steps:

- **Mark** your calendar for the September 1, 2025, go-live date
- **Join** one or more of the upcoming informational sessions
- **Inform** your department colleagues about this upcoming change
- **Check** your current Amazon access, if applicable
- **Merge** your account (if applicable; instructions will be sent starting in **July**)

For more information, session links, and FAQs, please contact purchasing@tamu.edu or visit the Procurement Services website.

Thank you,

Texas A&M Procurement Services

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
Division of Research

ADVANCING RESEARCH, CREATIVITY, AND INNOVATIONS THROUGH PRIVATE SECTOR PARTNERSHIPS

SEPTEMBER 12   **MSC 2300 A&B**   **8A.M. – 4P.M.**
Memorial Student Center

WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES

This workshop will provide researchers with practical resources for initiating, structuring, and sustaining partnerships with the private sector including industry, philanthropic foundations, and nonprofit organizations.

Participants will gain insights into what motivates the private sector to fund research, strategies to pitch research ideas for funding, and resources available to facilitate sponsored projects and resulting intellectual property. They will also become eligible to participate in the new Private Sector Engagement Leadership Program.

COLLABORATING UNITS

Aggie Collaborate

AgriLife Contract Office

AgriLife Corporate Engagement and Research Support

Sponsored Research Services (SRS)

TEES Contracts Office

Texas A&M Foundation

Texas A&M Innovation

The Texas A&M University System, Research Office

REGISTER BY AUGUST 28

u.tamu.edu/PrivateSector-Workshop