Office of Research Hosts Recognition Reception

On April 16, 2013, the Office of the Vice President for Research hosted the first research recognition reception at the President’s house. At the reception, principal investigators and centers with sponsored projects awarded during the Fall 2012 semester in an amount of $50,000 or more were recognized.

Special recognition was given to the following principal investigators and centers awarded sponsored projects in an amount of $500,000 or more during the Fall 2012 semester: Dr. Joseph Neigel – Biology; Dr. Paul Klerks – Biology; Dr. Peter Sheppard – Curriculum and Instruction; Department of Special Services; Center for Business and Information Technologies; Manufacturing Extension Partnership of Louisiana; and New Iberia Research Center.

The Research Excellence award was presented to University faculty who have received the National Science Foundation CAREER Award. These include Dr. Hongyi Wu, Dr. Dmitri Perkins, Dr. Danella Zhao, and Dr. Miao Jin – all faculty of the Center for Advanced Computer Studies.

The Innovation Award was presented to the following faculty members who were awarded patents or successfully commercialized technology: Dr. William Hollerman – Physics; Dr. Magdy Bayoumi – Center for Advanced Computer Studies; Dr. Mohammed Madani – Electrical and Computer Engineering; Dr. Mike Elsayed – Mechanical Engineering; Dr. Devesh Misra – Chemical Engineering; and Dr. Doug Williams – Education Curriculum & Instruction.

The Office of Research plans to host the recognition reception every Fall and Spring semester to celebrate the accomplishments of our research community on a regular basis.
ORSP is happy to announce the creation of two additional Pre-Award staff positions in the office. The two new Pre-Award Specialists, Aeriel Frederick and Melinda Mauntel, join our current Pre-Award Specialists, Abby Patterson Guillory and Megan Bergeron, in providing proposal development and pre-award support to the members of the University community.

The purpose of this change is to reduce the number of units for which each Pre-Award specialist is responsible, allowing each to dedicate more time to work with PIs in learning about their research interests, actively assisting in the identification of funding opportunities that meet those interests, and serving as a partner in the earlier stages of proposal development. The office is currently planning an active outreach program to introduce the assigned Pre-Award staff person to each department and discuss how ORSP can be of service. If you are interested in scheduling an outreach visit, contact your pre-award administrator.

In addition to welcoming Aeriel and Melinda, ORSP is pleased to welcome Dominique Rosado as Administrative Assistant 4 in the office. In this role Dominique serves a critical member of the ORSP team.

Broadening Your Broader Impact: Engaging Underrepresented Groups in Your Research

As you are probably aware, through all foundation activities, NSF promotes broadening participation in science and engineering fields which includes increasing the participation of underrepresented minorities, women, and persons with disabilities. Including activities aimed at broadening participation in your research proposal is one way to address the NSF Broader Impact Merit Review Criterion. ORSP often sees the mention of the inclusion of underrepresented groups in proposals to NSF in an effort to address the broader impact criterion; however, some proposals lack details of exactly how the research team will actually engage underrepresented groups. UL Lafayette has a wonderful resource for faculty to engage underrepresented groups in their research programs, the Louis Stokes-Louisiana Alliance for Minority Participation (LS-LAMP). LS-LAMP is an undergraduate support program designed to increase the minority student population seeking

(continued on page 3, See Broadening Your Broader Impact: LS-LAMP)
In case you missed it...

NSF Grant Proposal Guide Changes

A new version of the National Science Foundation’s Grants Proposal Guide (NSF GPG) was effective on Monday, January 14th, 2013. Any proposal with a deadline of January 14th or later will be subject to these new rules. Here are some online resources regarding the updated rules which you may find helpful:

NSF Dear Colleague Letter October 4, 2012:

NSF 13-1 GPG Summary of Changes:

NSF FAQs:

Broadening Your Broader Impact: LS-LAMP
(continued from page 2)

higher education degrees in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) fields. The goal of LS-LAMP is to provide research support to students throughout their undergraduate years, leading them to graduate school and on to doctoral degrees in STEM fields. LS-LAMP offers a number of services to their scholars, including mentoring, stipends, support for conference attendance and presentation of research, presentations/seminars, tutoring, resume assistance, and access to an internal research library.

When a student becomes a scholar of LS-LAMP, they will be paired with a mentor in their desired field of research. The scholars usually choose a professor whose research they are interested in studying. During the Fall and Spring semesters, the organization hosts a guest speaker every other Thursday. The speakers are vital to helping scholars who do not already have mentors, and they help facilitate a pairing of mentor and scholar. LS-LAMP meetings also help students network in their field of research with their peers and with older scholars. Finally, the LS-LAMP organization also offers role-playing for individuals who are not comfortable approaching their professors and asking them to become their mentors.

In the state of Louisiana, LS-LAMP is led by Southern University A&M College and is funded by the Louisiana Board of Regents and the National Science Foundation.

If you are interested in serving as a faculty mentor with LS-LAMP or if you would like assistance in recruiting students from underrepresented groups to work in your lab or participate in your research project, contact the LS-LAMP office at 482-6828.

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Finding Funding

SPIN Has a New Interface

What is SPIN?

Sponsored Programs and Information Network (SPIN) allows you to search for research funding in your field by using keywords that identify your particular areas of interest and expertise. SPIN contains over 40,000 opportunities from more than 10,000 sponsors. It is a product offered by InfoEd Global. The Board of Regents funds the program for Louisiana universities, so it’s free for UL Lafayette faculty and staff.

What’s new?

Not only does the SPIN interface have a new look and feel, it provides more flexibility in saving searches and setting up alerts. In the previous version of SPIN, alerts were based on the keywords you selected in your profile from a predefined list and were sent via email on a daily basis. With the new version of SPIN, you can set up multiple searches and schedule alerts for any of the searches you establish. Those searches can be saved and shared with others. This allows for more precise results, as well as more freedom in how you organize information and manage how the information comes to you.

How do I access SPIN?

Anyone can access the SPIN database on any campus computer by going to the InfoEdGlobal site at: https://spin.infoedglobal.com

Any UL Lafayette faculty or staff member can create a user profile to utilize the system off campus. A user profile also allows you to take advantage of more advanced features of the system such as saving searches, creating email alerts, etc. If you already have an established SPIN/SMARTS/GENIUS account, it can be used to log into the new interface. If you don’t already have a SPIN/SMARTS/GENIUS account, you can contact your Pre-Award Administrator or go to: http://www.infoed.org/genius_live/create_new.asp to create one.

What if I need help navigating the new interface?

Simply refer to the Training Videos available at https://spin.infoedglobal.com/Home/TrainingVideos or contact your Pre-Award Administrator.
Your Pre-Award Administrator

With the two new staff additions your Pre-Award Administrator may have changed. Please ensure that you are contacting the correct team member.

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<th>Abby Guillory</th>
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Financial Conflict of Interest Policy Changes

In the Fall of 2012, the UL Lafayette’s Policy and Procedures on Financial Conflicts of Interest Related to Externally Sponsored Projects was revised to meet new requirements in the regulation Responsibility of Applicants for Promoting Objectivity in Research for which PHS Funding is Sought (42 C.F.R. Part 50, Subpart F) issued by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

All Investigators are required to disclose their outside financial interests related to a proposed project to the university at the time of proposal submission. In the event the project is funded, disclosure is required on an annual basis and within 30 days of a new outside interests, activities, or relationships related to an investigator’s institutional responsibilities. Disclosure is made via the Financial Conflict of Interest Policy Changes. For more information, resources, and related materials, go to http://orsp.uhs.louisiana.edu/?q=content/financial-conflict-interest.

WHO DISCLOSES?

- Principal Investigators
- Project Directors
- Participating Investigators
- Key/Senior Personnel
- Others identified by the PI/PD as responsible for the project

WHAT TO DISCLOSE?

- Disclose ALL outside interests related to UL Lafayette responsibilities
- Include travel paid for/reimbursed by outside entity (exceptions apply)

An outside financial interest is a payment for services, equity interest, and travel NOT paid for/reimbursed by a federal, state, or local government agency; or an accredited domestic institution of higher education (including affiliated teaching hospitals, medical centers, research institutes). Exclusions = income from seminars, lectures, teaching engagements; income from mutual funds and retirement accounts; service on advisory review panels if paid by federal/state/local government or US higher education institution.

TRAINING FOR PHS FUNDED INVESTIGATORS

Each Investigator must complete training on this policy prior to engaging in research funded by the Public Health Service (PHS), and at least every four years thereafter. Though not required for investigators funded through agencies other than PHS, this training may also be helpful for investigators who have never thought about Financial Conflict of Interest. For more information on how to access the training, visit the ORSP website.
2012-2013 Board of Regents Support Fund Award Notifications

**Enhancement Program**

**Category: Agricultural Sciences**
Chlan, Caryl *(Biology) College of Sciences* • $65,000 • High Throughput Rapid Analysis of Plant Tissues for Agricultural Applications

**Category: Arts**
Kelly, Brian *(Visual Arts) College of Arts* • $60,000 • Studio Enhancement for Silkscreen and Lithographic Printing Technology for the Printmaking Classroom and Marais Press

**Category: Earth & Environmental Sciences**
Lock, Brian *(Geology) College of Sciences* • $229,500 • Cutting Edge Instrumentation to Support a Shale Gas/Oil Educational and Research Initiative at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette

**Category: Engineering A**
Thomas, George *(Electrical and Computer Engineering) College of Engineering* • $138,400 • A Senior Undergraduate Laboratory for RF and Wireless Communications

**Category: Health & Medical Sciences**
Bellar, David *(Kinesiology) College of Education* • $101,370 • Modernizing the Human Performance Laboratory

**Category: Multidisciplinary**
Saft, Corey *(Architecture) College of Arts* • $76,325 • Digital Fabrication Teaching Laboratory: Essential Upgrades
Visser, Jenneke *(Geosciences) College of Sciences* • $101,455 • Development of a Coastal Wetland Laboratory to Enhance Multidisciplinary Education and Research

**Industrial Ties Research Subprogram (ITRS)**
Gang, Daniel *(Civil Engineering) College of Engineering* • $188,275 • Field Investigation of the Wave Suppressor Sediment Collection (WSSC) System, a Highly Effective System for Shoreline Protection and Sediment Retention
Srivasata, Radhey *(Chemistry) College of Sciences* • $225,000 • Transition-Metal Catalyzed Asymmetric Nitrogenation of Hydrocarbons (olefins): Method Development and its Synthetic Applications to Valuable Chemicals

**Research Competitiveness Subprogram (RCS)**
Carroll, James Chris *(Civil Engineering) College of Engineering* • $134,848 • Investigation of Crumb Rubber Fiber Reinforced Concrete Shear Walls Subjected to Cyclic Loading
McIntyre, Ernest *(Chemical Engineering) College of Engineering* • $153,839 • Smart Adaptable Field-Activated Fluids Containing Nanoparticles
Xu, Wu *(Chemistry) College of Sciences* • $135,315 • Biochemical and Spectroscopic Characterizations of the Site-directed Mutants around Accessory Chlorophylls, A0, A1 and FX of Synechocystis sp. PCC 6803

**ATLAS**
Laudun, John *(English) College of Liberal Arts* • $19,734 • Louisiana Genius: How a Bunch of Cajun and German Farmers and Fabricators Invented a Traditional Amphibious Boat

**Southern Regional Education Board Graduate Fellowships to Promote the Diversity Program**
Breaux, David *(Graduate School)* • $190,000 • Attracting Minority Doctoral Fellows to the University of Louisiana at Lafayette

**Traditional Graduate Fellows**
Klerks, Paul *(Biology) College of Sciences* • $112,000 • Recruitment of Superior PhD Students in Environmental and Evolutionary Biology for 2014
Karen Müller Smith, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
Department of Biology

Karen Müller Smith, Ph.D. obtained her B.S. in Cytogenetics from the School of Allied Health at the University of Connecticut. She was especially interested in the use of chromosomal studies to diagnose cognitive disorders such as Downs Syndrome and Fragile X Syndrome, and as a tool for gene discovery. As a graduate student in the Genetics Program at Tufts University, Dr. Smith studied the genetics of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) in the laboratory of Dr. Bradford Navia. Her studies investigated the role of dopaminergic and noradrenergic system genes in ADHD, identifying an association between variants of the dopamine beta hydroxylase gene and ADHD. During this time, she developed an immense interest in the role of genes in the development of the central nervous system and in how developmental events can influence cognition and behavior. Dr. Smith performed her postdoctoral studies in the laboratory of Dr. Flora Vaccarino at the Yale University Child Study Center. There, she gained experience in neurobiology, childhood psychiatric disorders, and in working with transgenic mice as a model organism to study mammalian brain development. Her research has elucidated how a family of cell signaling receptors, Fibroblast Growth Factor Receptors 1 and 2, participate in axonal guidance, neural stem cell proliferation and the genesis of excitatory neurons and glia of the mammalian cerebral cortex and cerebellum. Dr. Smith has also performed behavioral characterizations of mice lacking Fgfr1. She found that Fgfr1 mutants have locomotor hyperactivity that is correlated to a loss of cortical GABAergic interneurons in mice lacking Fgfr1. This project has evolved to the study of neural glial interactions and the role of Fgfr1 in the cellular plasticity of the postnatal cortex. Dr. Smith has previously been funded by an institutional NRSA training grant in the Neurobiology of Childhood Psychiatric Disorders, as well as the Alexander Brown Coxe award. Currently, her work is funded by both a K01 Mentored Research Scientist award from the National Institute of Mental Health and by a NARSAD Young Investigator Award.

Emily K. Sandoz, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
Department of Psychology

Emily K. Sandoz, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor of Psychology at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. She graduated with a Master’s Degree in Experimental Psychology from UL Lafayette, and went on to earn a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from the University of Mississippi. Emily is the director of the Louisiana Contextual Science Research Group (LCSRG). The mission of the LCSRG is “to support the personal and professional development of its affiliates through training scientific inquiry and activities in keeping with the Contextual Behavioral Science (CBS) model, and in doing so, to make our own small contribution to the alleviation of human suffering.” Much of the LCSRG’s recent work focuses on the application of Relational Frame Theory and the psychological flexibility model to understanding the many challenges facing university students. The psychological flexibility model suggests that much of students’ suffering is attributable to their efforts to manage painful experiences like self-doubt, fear, and shame at a cost to the meaning and vitality in their lives. RFT is a behavior analytic theory that explains how it is that pain and subsequent inflexibility develops, and how flexibility might be learned. Emily recently received a Louisiana Board of Regents Research Competitiveness Subprogram grant to support an investigation of the verbal learning processes underlying body image flexibility. Emily is the co-author of three books, five chapters and three articles on RFT and the psychological flexibility model and serves as an Associate Editor for the Journal of Contextual Behavioral Science. Emily has provided twenty training workshops in five countries for mental health professionals hoping to apply this work in their practice.