UTIA INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE
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University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture Sponsored Programs Office

2017 October

Office of Sponsored Programs Newsletter

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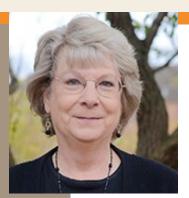**Rumira Xhaferaj**
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Message from the Director

> Fall is certainly in the air. Our office survived a busy Fall season with lots of proposals to USDA AFRI, NSF INFEWS, UTRF Maturation funds and the usual assortment of others. Also, the end of the Federal year brings quite a few last minute awards to process very quickly, which is great. We are glad to be a part of so many awarded proposals. Coming up soon are proposal submissions to NRA, Morris Animal Foundation, NSF, NIH, and TN Soybean Promotion Board.

In addition to proposals and awards, Jane, Rumira, Will and I attended the 50th annual meeting of the Society of Research Administrators in Vancouver, Canada October 14-18. Several of us also presented. Will Helmrath presented *Building and Managing Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) Proposals and Awards,* Will and Jane Burns presented *United States Department of Agriculture (USDA): An Overview from the University Research Administrators Perspective,* and I presented with Miriam Campo from Florida Atlantic University and Beth Eslick from the University of Florida, *Building Mentee/Mentor Relationships for Professional and Institutional Growth.* All of our presentations were well attended and attendees had a lot of questions for us.
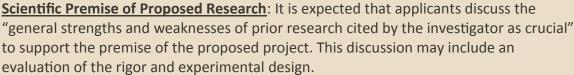
I hope you enjoy this issue of our newsletter. In this issue Will discusses Rigor and Reproducibility a new NIH focus, Rumira explains IDEA, the fairly new online system for routing and reporting inventions, in addition to an article on updates to Cayuse. In an effort to get to know our faculty, we have included Dr. Brian Whitlock, Justin Crowe, and Dr. Scott Lenaghan in our Faculty Spotlight. Our office has been blessed with the addition of Liz Hebert, Everly Manes and DeeDee Wilder replacing Shirley Phillips, Courtney Holbert and Traci Stanley. Their bios and pictures are included.

Let us know how we can improve our newsletter or if you would like us to address a particular topic. We are glad to include any information you would like to provide or think we need to cover.
Thank You,

Debbie Hampstead

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Enhanced Rigor & Reproducibility Focus of the NIH >>>

by Will Helmrath

Over the past several years, the NIH has renewed its focused on the rigor and reproducibility of research funded by its institutes. Revised grant application instructions took effect in starting in early 2016 and sought to clarify the NIH's expectations of the level of detail needed to describe robust research plans. This enhanced rigor and reproducibility emphasis will continue in the proposal preparation instructions for the new application forms package (Forms Version E) in late January 2018. The NIH has detailed four areas that are key to enhancing the rigor and transparency:

Scientific Premise of Proposed Research: It is expected that applicants discuss the "general strengths and weaknesses of prior research cited by the investigator as crucial" to support the premise of the proposed project. This discussion may include an evaluation of the rigor and experimental design.

Rigorous Experiment Design: Applicants are expected to detail how "they will achieve robust and unbiased results" through well-controlled and reproducible experimental conditions.

Consideration of Sex and Other Relevant Biological Variable: Regardless of whether an investigator is proposing the use of vertebrate animal and/or human studies, the Research Strategy document (and subsequent progress reports) should include a description of which biological variables will be tested or controlled and a "clear justification should be provided for exclusion of variables that may be relevant but are not considered in the research plan."

Authentication of Key Biological and/or Chemical Resources: Since May 2016, the NIH has required the inclusion of this document as part of the application materials. In the attachment, the investigator should describe the methods to ensure the identity and validity of key resources that are proposed to be used (maximum 1 page suggested). This is especially important for resources received from outside sources.

For more information, please visit https://grants.nih.gov/reproducibility/index.htm

Submitting & managing your invention disclosures >>>

by Rumira Xhaferaj

> I.D.E.A. – Invention Disclosure Enterprise Application

Launched in 2016, I.D.E.A is the secure, online portal for invention disclosures at The University of Tennessee. I.D.E.A. enables Inventors, Approvers, and UTRF staff to monitor the progress of invention disclosures: submission, management, and approval. It also facilitates the initiation of the commercialization process. At any time, you may log in to idea.tennessee.edu with your UT NetID to submit or manage an invention disclosure and check on its approval status. If you need to add other UT inventors, you can do so by searching and entering their NetID, and their information will be pulled from IRIS. You will need to provide details on the external award if external funding supported the work that led to the invention, as well as provide a list of all public disclosures of your new invention. You can also *view* disclosures that another inventor has created and listed you on.

Online training sessions are available for all UT employees. Contact UTRF if you would like to schedule a session. A video tutorial and manuals are available at: https://utrf.tennessee.edu/inventor-resources/idea-tutorials/

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Dr. Brian Whitlock

Dr. Brian Whitlock, Section Head of Field Services in Large Animal Clinical Sciences, is a tenure-track Associate Professor and a board certified veterinary theriogenologist. He received his B.S. in chemistry from Campbellsville University and his M.S. in animal science from Michigan State University. After working almost exclusively on dairy and beef cattle while in private practice, Whitlock completed a residency in theriogenology at Auburn, followed by a Ph.D. with an emphasis in reproductive neuroendocrinology.

Having been raised on a small tobacco and dairy farm in Kentucky, Dr. Whitlock's background was the biggest influence on his career choice. The interactions he witnessed between farmers and the local veterinarian, as well as the impact that veterinarian had on farmers' lives and animals, made him passionate about helping them improve their operations so they can become more profitable and economically stable. He tries to instill that passion in his students by preparing them to be practice-ready when they graduate. Dr. Whitlock envisioned and initiated a novel way to help students improve their understanding of all aspects of food animal medicine, including routine and emergency health care, as well as production and preventive medicine. Students on their fourth-year Field Services clinical rotation experience a lot of down time in the ambulatory truck driving from farm to farm. He uses that time to engage students in unique ways. Thanks to Dr. Whitlock's vision, the ambulatory truck now has touchscreen monitors, computers, and "clickers" (student response system) to accompany learning modules. This technology allows the professor to quiz the students. So, as this mobile classroom traverses the roads, Dr. Whitlock is able to determine if the students on board are comprehending the learning objectives for the day, and he adjusts his teaching as needed. "*It's one thing for our students to have head knowledge and apply it in a hospital setting with all the technical support they need*," says Whitlock. "*It's a completely different scenario to take students into the field where we don't always know what we are facing until we arrive. At times, it does put students in difficult situations they can't anticipate and forces them to apply knowledge in a unique environment. I think it pushes them further and is the closest thing they will experience to private practice while in vet school.*"

Justin Crowe

Justin Crowe has served as an Extension professional with The University of Tennessee Extension for the past fifteen years. He began his career as a 4-H agent in Metro Nashville/Davidson County (2003-2008) and the past ten years he has worked as an Extension Specialist in the 4-H, ALEC department. Crowe's work focuses primarily in the areas of citizenship, leadership, healthy living, and teen programs. He is recognized as a national leader in the area of citizenship, including service learning and civic engagement, giving leadership to the 4-H Day of Service at National 4-H Congress and serving as chair of the National 4-H Citizenship Service committee. Among his accomplishments in the 4-H Youth Development field is enhanced partnerships with state and national program partners, increased leadership development opportunities for high school and collegiate 4-H members, and a substantial increase in gifts, grants, and contracts to benefit the 4-H program. Since 2008, Crowe has been awarded funds totaling approximately 4.65 million.

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Scott C. Lenaghan

Since 2016, Scott C. Lenaghan has been an Assistant Professor within the Department of Food Science at the University of Tennessee, with an adjunct position in the Mechanical, Aerospace, and Biomedical Engineering (MABE) Department. After completing a PhD from Auburn University in Biological Sciences, and a two-year postdoc in the MABE Department at the University of Tennessee, he was promoted to Research Assistant Professor within MABE in 2011. In 2013 he accepted a Research Assistant Professor position at the Center for Renewable Carbon (CRC) to lead an ARPA-E funded project on single-cell biology and bioengineering. Upon successful completion of that project, he accepted his current position within the Department of Food Science and has established a nationally recognized lab focused on the development and use of synthetic biology for global food security. His research and expertise cover a wide-range of disciplines, with a primary focus on engineering biological systems, biomaterials, and devices that utilize cutting-edge synthetic biology tools and approaches. A goal of his research is to expand the current definition of synthetic biology beyond molecular biology tools, translating advances into synthetic/engineered constructs, such as micro/nanorobots, diagnostic devices, and smart materials. In addition to his research, he currently teaches a course on molecular parasitology to introduce students to underrepresented pathogens that cause significant damage to the overall quality of life of humans and animals. His research has been funded by NSF, DARPA, ARPA-E, UTRF, the Keck Initiative, Morris Animal Foundation, Winn Feline Foundation, Office of Naval Research, and Army Research Office.

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Choose the right journal for your research

Need to choose where to publish?

Wondering how to evaluate a message from an unfamiliar publisher?

Think-Check-Submit (**http://thinkchecksubmit.org/**) is an international effort in 22 languages, from Arabic to Vietnamese. From the Web site: **"Why *Think. Check. Submit.*?** Not all researchers receive the same level of training and support in how to choose a trustworthy journal to submit their work to. *Think. Check. Submit.* provides an easy-to-use checklist that researchers can refer to when they are investigating whether a journal can be trusted."

Pendergrass UTIA Library also has a guide: see Tab "Is this Publisher Reputable Think Check Submit":
https://libguides.utk.edu/veterinaryinformation/researchsupport.

UTIA librarians Isabella Baxter (ibaxter1@utk.edu) or Ann Viera (annviera@utk.edu) are available to answer questions about scholarly communication including, but not limited to:
finding and evaluating publishers, open science and open textbooks (**https://libguides.utk.edu/opentextbooks**).
If you have questions about data, please start with the guide: **https://libguides.utk.edu/dataservices**,
maintained by UT Libraries Data Services Librarian Chris Eaker.

Evisions Cayuse Reports

Department heads and business managers, be sure you are using the latest link to Cayuse Reports. You can access Cayuse proposal and award reports by logging in here:

https://utsystem.tennessee.edu/sites/researchreporting/reports/Pages/default.aspx

Contact Jane Burns at janeburns@utk.edu or 865-974-7375 for help with Cayuse reports.

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New Application Forms >>>

by Will Helmrath

> ### Changes to how human specimen/data research is proposed in the new application forms for NIH and Other PHS Agencies

Effective January 25, 2018, grant applications to NIH and other PHS agencies (such as CDC, FDA, AHRQ, etc.) must use the SF424 (R&R) – Forms Version E package. Most of the forms have little changes that do not impact the overall application or the usually required attachments; however, the NIH has added a new form that exclusively handles PHS Human Subjects and Clinical Trials Information. This form consolidates the human subjects and clinical trial information scattered across the current version of the forms package.

One of the key changes allows for the clearer distinction between human subjects research and research involving human specimens and/or data that may not rise to the level of human subject research. An attachment must now be added when an investigator is proposing the use of human specimens and/or data to justify why the study should not be considered human subjects research. For more information whether your proposed research with human specimens/data should or should not be considered research involving human subjects, please consult the NIH's decision tree: https://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/hs/PrivateInfoOrBioSpecimensDecisionChart.pdf

For more information on the PHS Human Subject and Clinical Trials Form, please watch this walkthrough: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nz9NWFhYOG8&list=PLOEUwSnjvqBJeHcb4yai7_fDnFZFPEmQK&index=1

> ### Please welcome our 3 new Coordinators!

• I'm **Liz Hebert**, and I'm very happy to have joined UTIA as a Grants Coordinator. My love for being in a research environment began when I was a graduate student at Texas A&M University in Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences. I spent much of my time in coastal wetlands of Texas studying phytoplankton ecology. After I graduated I assisted in proposal preparation for 3 years at a nonprofit health research institute in Honolulu. Directly prior to joining UTIA I worked at ORNL in the Computer Science and Mathematics Division where I also assisted in proposal preparation. I love being a part of furthering the mission of UTIA. I am married to Andy and we have 2 boys, Ben and Chris. We enjoy traveling as well as beautiful East Tennessee every chance we get.

• I'm **Everly Manes**, one of the new Coordinators who recently joined UTIA. I previously worked at UC Santa Barbara as a research administrator for 5 years doing pre- and post-award in two different departments. I'm originally from New Mexico, but have lived in Texas, South Korea, and California with my husband Todd who retired from the US Army. My step-son Shane, is 20 years old and in the Army and my daughter Alyna is 6 years old. I received my Bachelor's from New Mexico State University and recently, I was admitted to the MBA program at Pepperdine. When I'm not in the office, you can find me leading my daughter's Girl Scout troop, baking, camping with my family, or watching Netflix.

• Hello, my name is **DeeDee Wilder.** I am a new coordinator in the Office of Sponsored Programs. I received a BA in Modern Foreign Languages and Literatures from UTK. I have worked at UT in research administration for almost 8 years. I started out in Sponsored Projects Accounting at Knoxville. From there I went to Nuclear Engineering and Chemistry. I find proposal preparation to be the most enjoyable aspect of research administration so I am truly excited to be here. When I'm not at work I enjoy long bike rides, walks with my 3 dogs, spending time with my family, and reading.

L to R: Liz Hebert, Everly Manes, and DeeDee Wilder

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- **USDA NIFA:** https://nifa.usda.gov/page/search-grant
- **NIH:** http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/funding_program.htm
- **Non-NIH Opportunities for Predoctoral & Graduate Researchers:** *link*
- **Postdoctoral Non-NIH Opportunities:** https://www.fic.nih.gov/Funding/NonNIH/Pages/postdoctoral.aspx
- **NSF:** http://www.nsf.gov/funding/index.jsp
- **Grants.gov:** http://www.grants.gov/
- **PIVOT (University of Tennessee — Knoxville):** https://pivot.cos.com/funding_main
- **Tennessee State Government:** http://www.tn.gov/ruraltaskforce/section/grants-resources
- **Rural Assistance Center:** Various TN Funding Opportunities at http://www.raconline.org/states/tennessee/funding
- **Philanthropy News Digest (Foundation Center):** http://philanthropynewsdigest.org/
- **Morris Animal Foundation:** http://www.morrisanimalfoundation.org/researchers/
- **Grant Resources in Science, Math, and Integrated STEM:** http://www.cesa2.org/programs/stem/STEMgrants.cfm

HOLIDAY CLOSINGS
November 23rd & 24th ◆ December 25th through 29th

Evisions/Cayuse update >>>
by Rumira Xhaferaj

In September this year, the pre-award offices from different UT campuses across the state met in Nashville, TN, for their annual Pre-award Colloquium. Representatives from UT Research Foundation, UT General Counsel, as well as two representatives from Cayuse, Inc.—Matt McLellan (President) and Erica Beffert (Product Manager) - gave an update on the company, and facilitated discussions on the Cayuse SP and Cayuse 424 software applications.

Cayuse started in 1997 by a former researcher, and in 2005 it received funds through the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program to develop the 424 package (an electronic proposal development and "system-to-system" submission application). In 2012, Cayuse was acquired by Evisions, Inc. In July of this year, the Research Suite business of Evisions was acquired by private equity firm Quad Partners. Based in New York City, Quad Partners was founded in 2000 and is focused 100% on investments in the education research market. The business operates under the Cayuse name, however the product will still be called Evisions for a while, and then it will be called only Cayuse.

Recently, Cayuse has introduced new "Search" features at the department level here at UT, which have been received positively by the end users. Another recent improvement has been in regard to entering split appointments on the proposal side, information which now is pushed and transferred to the award side too.

Scheduled for the last quarter of 2017 are speed enhancement and Cayuse 424 support for Forms version E-Series for proposals to Public Health Service agencies, like NIH. The E-Series forms will be effective in January 2018.

In early, 2018 Cayuse will release updated FDP Subaward forms, and on the proposal side the users will be able to capture the cost share, including 3rd party match, for both the initial period of the project, as well as for the total project period. All of this cost share information will be captured on the award side, too.

For the rest of 2018, Cayuse SP will focus on enhancing communication and collaborations between researchers, integration with other Suite products, and better reporting features. The Cayuse 424 roadmap for 2018 includes providing support for new federal forms and improving validation within 424.

The representative from Cayuse visited the UTIA Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP) in Knoxville on September 19. They met with OSP staff to discuss issues we encounter in our daily interactions with both software applications, as well as to get input on what we would like to see improved.

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COMPLIANCE CORNER >>>

by Jane Burns

UTIA Compliance Lunch Schedule:

Faculty, staff, and students, join us at noon on **Tuesday, 11/14/17** (Plant Biotechnology Building, Room 156/157) for a compliance lunch, featuring Institutional Review Board (IRB) Chair, Dr. Colleen Gilrane.

Dr. Gilrane will discuss **Human Subjects Research and the IRB** and answer your questions. Lunch will be provided. *Watch your e-mail for invitation & registration instructions*. Contact Jane Burns at janeburns@utk.edu or 865-974-7375 with questions.

Responsible Conduct of Research Workshop

UTK's Office of Research and Engagement will host a responsible conduct of research (RCR) workshop for the UT research community

Thursday, November 2, from 8:30 a.m.– 4:00 p.m. in Room 106 of the Panhellenic Building.

This workshop will meet the RCR requirement for sponsored projects funded by US Department of Agriculture (USDA) and National Science Foundation (NSF). USDA requires training of all participants working on research projects, including Hatch and other capacity projects. NSF requires students and postdoctoral researchers be trained in RCR. Lunch will be provided and ORE will distribute certificates of completion for use on CVs and application documents.

Please contact janeburns@utk.edu if you attend this RCR Workshop to meet the requirements of a sponsored project.
Students, this workshop may also meet the RCR requirement of your academic program.
Please contact your advisor to determine if it will meet the requirement.
For more information or to register, see https://research.utk.edu/events/rcr-seminar/

L to R: Debbie Hampstead, Jane Burns, Everly Manes, Liz Hebert, Will Helmrath, Cathy Creswell, DeeDee Wilder, Kathy Dalton, Rumira Xhaferaj

> RESOURCES

- USDA NIFA Grant Training—https://nifa.usda.gov/grant-training
- USDA NIFA 2017 RFA Schedule—https://nifa.usda.gov/request-application-rfa-schedule
- NIH Standard Due Dates—https://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide/due-dates-and-submission-policies/due-dates.htm
- *Storytelling in Grant Writing* — http://grants-plus.com/?newswire=summer-2013-gp-newswire-storytelling-in-grant-writing
- UT Data Services Guide— http://libguides.utk.edu/dataservices

UTIA Office of Sponsored Programs Facebook & Twitter pages are avenues we use to keep you up to date with the ever changing events in Research Administration.

An additional source of information is our web page. (link)
You may submit questions, ideas or suggestions for improvements of our newsletter to aggrant@utk.edu.

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