

Graduate Affairs & Research

VOLUME I, ISSUE 6

MARCH 2004



**COLLEGE OF PHARMACY
UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA
HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER**

Special points of interest:

- *2004 GREAT keynote speakers & workshops*
- *Contracts needed even if no funding*
- *Summer research opportunities*
- *Reminder of Presby grants*

2004 GREAT IS COMING MARCH 29

The Graduate Student Association of the University of Oklahoma HSC is proud to announce the 29th Annual Graduate Research Education and Technology (GREAT) Symposium to be held March 29 through April 2, 2004.

All students are invited to participate. It is an excellent opportunity to meet with other students and explore the possibilities of a graduate degree here on campus.

Any student or faculty member planning to attend a workshop, keynote address or the award luncheon must register online at <http://w3.ouhsc.edu/graduate/gsa/>.

Registration for these events is important for planning purposes.

Streaming video of many workshops and speeches will be available after the GREAT Symposium for those unable to attend.

Here is a sample of workshops:

March 29

10-11:30 am. "Reference Management & Electronic Thesis & Dissertation Submission"

2:30-3:30 pm. "Who/What Industry Leaders are Looking for."

March 31

12:30-1:45 pm (Keynote Address) "How the Heart Grows: From Molecules to Mechanisms." by Dr. Eric N. Olson

2:00-3:00 pm. "Alternative Careers in Science."

April 1

10:00-11:00 am. "Persuasive Communication Skills."

2:00-3:00 pm. "Resume & CV Writing."

April 2

11:30am-12:30 pm. "Pathway to an Independent Career in Science." by Dr. Paul W. Kincade

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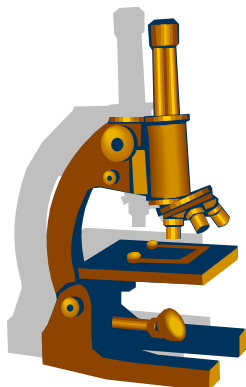
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TWO ONLINE RESOURCES FOR WRITING EFFECTIVE GRANT PROPOSALS ARE AVAILABLE

In a recent (but definitely not comprehensive) search using one of the Internet search engines, a couple of sites proved particularly interesting.

A Guide for Writing a Funding Proposal, by S. Joseph Levine, Ph.D., Michigan State University, provides writing hints and examples for each of the major sections of a proposal: project overview, background information/problem statement, project detail, available resources, needed resources (including the budget), evaluation plan, and appendices. It also has a wide array of links to other proposal writing resources. Its web address is <http://www.learnerassociates.net/proposal>.

The other site is the Albert Einstein College of Medicine's *Grantsmanship Tutorial*, found on the Web at <http://www.aecom.yu.edu/ogs/Guide/Guide.htm>. The tutorial is designed to assist investigators as they prepare the grant proposal.



*Presbyterian Health Foundation (PHF) has announced the deadlines for Bridge and Seed Grant application as **March 17, 2004.***

*The second round of PHF Seed and Bridge grant applications has a deadline of **July 14, 2004,** along with Equipment grant applications.*

RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS

SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM AVAILABLE THROUGH GLAXO SMITH-KLINE (DEADLINE IS MARCH 12!)

GlaxoSmithKline Consumer Healthcare is interested in employing undergraduate and graduate students in Biology, Chemistry, Pharmacy, and Chemical Engineering in an industrial summer internship program. They are looking for the best and brightest summer interns to join their R&D staff for a 12-week period at the northern New Jersey location. Under the direct supervision of a research scientist, the intern will conduct research in relevant areas of product development of non-prescription drugs and drug delivery systems. Please apply online by going to http://www.gsk.com/join/university_us.htm. Please send a letter of interest, resume, and your dates of availability and respond to job requisition #14025. If contacted, please be prepared to supply your current transcript, and at least one letter of recommendation from academia by **March 12, 2004.**

Applicants must furnish proof of eligibility to work in the United States.

ASPET SUMMER RESEARCH PROGRAM IN PHARMACOLOGY AVAILABLE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA

Spend your summer in the lab and help find solutions to important questions in neuroscience, cancer and cardiovascular diseases. The program starts on Monday, June 1, 2004 and ends on Friday, August 6, 2004. There is no official deadline for applications.

An official copy of your academic transcript is required only if you are accepted into the program. A letter of recommendation is helpful to the selection committee and applicants are encouraged to have a letter sent to the summer program director. A stipend of \$3,000 will be provided to the student.

For more information and to apply online: <http://www.unmc.edu/Pharmacology>

Other contact information includes :
University of Nebraska Medical Center
Department of Pharmacology
985800 Nebraska Medical Center
Omaha, Nebraska 68198-5800
Phone: (402) 559-4044
FAX: (402) 559-7495
Email: rkawahar@netserv.unmc.edu

RESEARCH DAY AT THE CAPITOL IS MARCH 29, 2004

Congratulations to Thi Nguyen and Aisha Mack!

Research Day at the State Capitol is an annual event sponsored by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, Oklahoma Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) and the National Science Foundation. The purpose of Research Day is to inform the Legislature and the public about the high quality research being conducted at Oklahoma's universities.

Only two presentations are selected from the entire Health Sciences Center campus—and this year, both are coming from the College of Pharmacy.

Thi Nguyen will present "Identification of the KGF-mediated signal transduction pathway involved in breast cancer cell motility." Her presentation is sponsored by Dr. Thomas Pentto.

Aisha Mack will present her work "Sigma receptor agonists: Possible new class of antidepressant drugs," sponsored by Dr. Rae Matsumoto.

We are proud of our students!

A CONTRACT IS NEEDED EVEN IF THERE IS NO FUNDING RECEIVED

Please keep in mind that a contract is still needed for clinical studies, even if there is no funding received by the Sponsor (pharmaceutical company, another institution, state or federal government, etc).

For instance, if a faculty member shares research or clinical data, or if the faculty member is providing devices/equipment for free, a contract is still needed.

Having a contract is important to the College and University (eg inserting language requiring payment of the University's IRB fee). A contract for studies not receiving funding doesn't have to be lengthy; however, a formal arrangement with the Sponsor that outlines each party's responsibilities is necessary.

The funding part of a contract is usually 10% of the language contained in a contract. The contract also addresses publication, ownership of data, insurance, indemnification, intellectual property, etc.

GENERAL RULE OF THUMB: If you have to submit for IRB approval, that generally means research is taking place and a contract will be needed.

NIH REVISES ITS GRANTS POLICY STATEMENT

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has announced a complete revision of its *Grants Policy Statement* (GPS). The revision, which was announced on November 26, is posted on the Web at http://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/nihgps_2003/index.htm; it supersedes the GPS dated March 2001.



Principal investigators (PIs) need to be reminded that NIH reiterates in the new GPS the long-established principle that transfers of costs from one project to another may not be made for the sole purpose of covering cost overruns. Cost overruns are defined as "any amount charged in excess of the federal share of costs for the project period."

The revised GPS also incorporates previously announced policy changes which include: acceptance of no more than two revised applications after submission of the original; and expansion of just-in-time to include IACUC approval.

DR. SHANKAR RECEIVES RO1 FUNDING FROM NIH

Congratulations to Dr. Nathan Shankar, who has received RO1 funding from NIH for a new 5-year project to study enterococcal biofilms and urinary tract infections. His grant is being funded 07/01/2004 through 06/30/2009 from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

SEMINAR ANNOUNCEMENT

The Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences is hosting an all-College seminar on **Thursday, March 25** in Rm. 339 at the College of Pharmacy building.

Mike McShan, Ph.D. will be presenting the seminar, which starts at noon.

Everyone is welcomed to bring their lunch and attend this seminar!

More News You Can Use Regarding Research

CSR RELEASES PEER REVIEW VIDEO

The Center for Scientific Review (CSR) has produced a video of a mock study section meeting: *Inside the NIH Grant Review Process*. It is an introduction for both applicants and new reviewers to the NIH peer review systems. The video also provides information on what applicants can do to improve their applications. The video may be viewed in streaming media via the Web. Go to the following address for more information and to download the video: <http://www.csr.nih.gov/video/video.asp>.

PEER REVIEW NOTES



The Center for Scientific Review publishes Peer Review Notes three times a year, to inform NIH consultants and staff of new developments related to NIH grant application review policies

and procedures. Take a look at this site: <http://www.csr.nih.gov/prnotes/prnotes.asp>.

THE WORKLOAD CONTINUES TO INCREASE

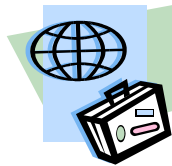
The number of grant applications received by the Center for Scientific Review (CSR) jumped a dramatic 24% between fiscal year 2002 and 2003—from 55,030 to 68,478 applications. The vast majority of these applications are for NIH grants, although CSR receives a small percentage of grant applications for other components of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

This unprecedented increase appears to be continuing. In the first 3 months of FY2004 (October 2003 through December 2003), CSR received over 23,000 applications—an increase of more than 15% over the number of applications received in the same period last year (20,060).

CONGRATULATIONS TO YUN LIU

Congratulations to **Yun Liu**, who was awarded an ASPET Graduate Student Travel Award to the annual meeting to be held in Washington, DC in April.

Yun will receive her award and certificate at a special ceremony and reception on April 17, 2004.



INTERESTING READING

An article in the **June 17, 2003** issue of *the Chronicle of Higher Education* entitled, "Reviving a 'Lesser' Degree in the Sciences" addressed the metamorphosis of the master's degree from a reward or punishment degree given during the pursuit of the Ph.D. to a graduate degree for people who love science but are not interested in pursuing the Ph.D.

The professional science master degree has been growing at universities nationwide, in many cases supported by grants. Interestingly, the 1996-97 AACP Research and Graduate Affairs Committee recommended that colleges and schools of pharmacy investigate the development of a professional master's degree in place of the typical pre-Ph.D. graduate degree.

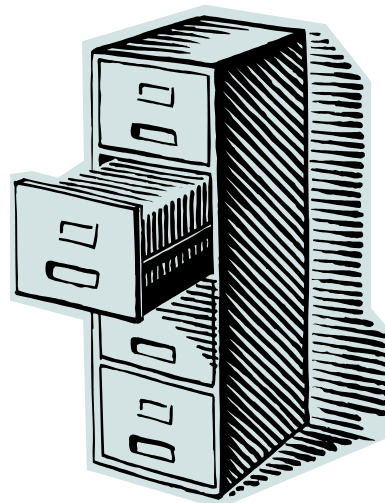
Students who enter the graduate program at the OU College of Pharmacy may work toward a Master of Science (M.S.) or a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree.

The M.S. degree requires completion of at least 30 hours of graduate coursework, a research project leading up to a Master's thesis, and usually takes at least two

years to complete. Students seeking the Ph.D. degree must complete a minimum of 90 hours of graduate coursework, pass the qualifying examination, and conduct a dissertation research project.

The College recently developed a dual degree program through which students may simultaneously work toward the Master of Science and Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.) degrees. The dual program allows a limited number of hours credited toward both degrees, thus saving both time and expense for students.

To qualify, students must complete the first year in the Pharm.D. curriculum with a minimum average of 3.0 before applying for admission to the dual degree program.



- Les Reinke, Associate Dean for Graduate Studies.