Chaz Gardinier, OSP SPAA teammate earned a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in Accounting.

While working full time in OSP SPAA, after hours Chaz attended university classes online. He graduated with the highest honors, Summa Cum Laude.

“My choice to take classes through [the] University was based on their impressive business program that allowed me to concentrate my studies in governmental and not-for-profit accounting. . . . I was able to complete my coursework at night and on weekends.”

Chaz persevered admirably over a long road to achieve his goals. “After attending school off and on for over a decade, amassing a huge number of credit hours, it feels fantastic to finally be finished. All together I went to three different schools, in two different states, but it was worth all the time it took because I met my personal academic goals.”

How has this helped Chaz to be his best in OSP SPAA? “I was able to focus my studies in areas applicable to our work here. For instance, I . . . took auditing courses that have helped me to understand the principles that are fundamental to auditing so as to increase my usefulness in this area.” Congratulations, Chaz!
Audits, Desk Reviews, & Data Requests
On behalf of UT Austin's Researchers, in the months June through September 2014, SPAA has/will handle several data requests from sponsors and government:

- CPRIT audits (2 separately scoped audits)
- NSF payment reviews (still ongoing in July)
- Preliminary work on Audit of the Schedule of Federal Awards (SEFA)
- Preliminary work on Audit of Research and Development Cluster (A-133)

If you are contacted about an audit, please contact SPAA oa.jrichter@austin.utexas.edu. SPAA is available to assist with the audit process and can serve as your liaison with the auditors.

Universities From Other States
These states have at least 1 university which awarded ours a sponsored project this quarter.

September = OSP SPAA's Busiest Month
With planning underway across campus for the new HR, Payroll, and Finance systems, this will be a particularly active September. Included in the SPAA activities this month are:
- final reporting,
- new award set-ups,
- process improvement projects,
- routine invoicing and collection activities,
- closeout reporting for Federal Fiscal Year End,
- preparation of portions of the annual financial report including the Schedule of Expenditures on Federal Awards.

Life Cycle of a Sponsored Research Grant
Participants
The following units on campus have faculty and/or administrative personnel who attended this valuable training. This training is especially helpful for researchers and administrative personnel who are new to the UT Austin sponsored projects process. Elena Mota, Michael Martindale, and Joy Hatch taught the classes.

- Architecture
- Biomedical Engineering
- CNS Freshman Research Init
- Construction Industry Institute
- Ctr for Alcohol & Addiction Rsch
- CoE Curriculum & Instruction
- Energy Institute
- IC2 Innovation Creativity Capital
- ICES Inst for Computational Engineering & Sciences
- IPSI Inst for Public School Initiatives
- Industry Engagement
- Pharmacology
- Pharmacy
- Ransom Humanities Rsch Ctr
- Ray Marshall Ctr for HR
Who’s Up?

OSP has processed more funding from these federal sponsors this year than at this time last year (as of the end of July).

USDA (Agriculture)  
NIH (Health)  
DOD (Army, Navy…)  
Energy  
Interior  
NEA (Arts)

>2700 Award increments total across all sponsors so far this year.

Non-Federal Sponsor-Funded Award Increments May--July

- >$7m
- >$11m
- >$12m
- >$9m

state of Texas  
industrial  
foundations  
nonprofit  
other

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) published its final guidance entitled Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance) late last year and those requirements will be effective with all federal funding received on or after December 26, 2014. The Uniform Guidance combines and revises eight longstanding OMB circulars including those which apply to universities (i.e. A-21, A-110 and A-133). The vast majority of requirements will remain unchanged or at least transparent to principal investigators and departmental research administrators, several areas will require revision of university policies and procedures.

Dr. Sedwick has been actively involved at the national level through the Council on Governmental Relations and the Federal Demonstration Partnership in reviewing, commenting, and requesting clarifications and revisions to the Uniform Guidance to ensure the impact on researchers is minimized. We anticipate the release by OMB of a new list of FAQs that will favorably address several key areas of concern. OSP has created a Uniform Guidance page on our website where the latest information on the Uniform Guidance can be accessed. Any changes in policy or procedures will be widely disseminated through the Research Administrator Network and the Principal Investigator Network, OSP Newsletter and posted on the website.
Meet Michelle Harper, Grants and Contracts Specialist in OSP SPAA’s Post-Award team.

How many years have you been with OSP?
I have worked at UT Austin since June 2010. I started my career at UT assisting PIs and large research labs. I became a Grants and Contract Specialist for SPAA in April 2013.

Why do you prefer to work here at UT Austin, rather than another institution or organization?
I worked for private companies for 20 years, and they do not compare to UT. I appreciate the incredible research initiatives. I like the exciting atmosphere of the campus.

What are your hobbies?
I have two girls, ages 13 and 10, so they keep me incredibly busy. When time permits, I enjoy traveling and short day trips near Austin, volunteering at my favorite dog rescue, seeing live music, cooking, and Netflix marathons.

What do you wish UT’s PIs and Research Administrators knew about OSP SPAA?
I have worked in research within a department, so I do know the importance of timeliness of funding, purchasing, assignments, transfers, etc. I will do my best to assist with your accounts and questions whenever you have the need.

What would you like the PIs and Research Administrators at UT Austin to remember about you?
I have worked in research within a department, so I do know the importance of timeliness of funding, purchasing, assignments, transfers, etc. I will do my best to assist with your accounts and questions whenever you have the need.

What motivates you in your work?
I work with a great team in SPAA, and the encouragement and support I receive from my colleagues is amazing. I also thoroughly enjoy working with the departments and PIs and helping them anyway I can.

Where do you enjoy dining here on the 40 acres?
I usually do not go out for lunch, but if I do, I enjoy East Side King and Madam Mam’s.

What do you wish UT’s PIs and Research Administrators knew about OSP SPAA?
We have a great team here, and we give 100% when managing your accounts. We are definitely a busy group, but we are always here to help with any questions or issues that you might have. ✴
Meet Margaret Hoard, Sr. Grants and Contracts Specialist in OSP Pre-Award team.

How many years have you been with OSP?
I began work in the Excess Research Equipment Office (under Office of Sponsored Projects) in 1982. This division of OSP closed in 2001 and I became a Grants and Contracts Specialist in the new OSP office in the North Office Building. The Research Equipment Office acquired used federal research equipment for PIs with National Science Foundation Grants and was very popular with researchers all over campus. Jim Hall, Ray Berwick, Jim Isbell and I traveled all over Texas searching for items at NASA, Kelly AFB and other federal warehouses searching for treasures for our researchers. And we found them!

What motivates you in your work?
Gratitude, respect, and curiosity for the entire research community.

What are your hobbies?
I act and sometimes direct in theatre and film. I love reading, music, walking, swimming, dancing, exploring, and friends.

Where do you enjoy dining here on the 40 acres?
I welcome any healthy food choices on campus. We need more, particularly in the vending machines.

What do you wish UT's PIs and Research Administrators knew about OSP?
I would like them to remember that some of the most irritating, torturous things we have to ask them to do are the policies of places far, far away and we feel their pain and suffer extreme sympathy pain.

An Interview With
Margaret Hoard

What do you enjoy here on the UT campus?
The Turtle Pond, of course! I have the photo of the students cleaning it for the turtles on my home page. And then there are the theatres, and art galleries, film showings, the red tile roofs, the architectural treasures, the Natural History Museum (let's keep it funded folks!), the Cactus, the fountains, the statues, the smell and feel of the old buildings, the cool furniture in the new buildings, the native plant landscaping, the indoor track, the opportunities for enlightenment for everyone. . . . Before working here I got my degree here.

Why do you prefer to work here at UT Austin, rather than another institution or organization?
At its best a University is a wonderland of people, culture, and ideas all trying to make the world a better place.
Funding Opportunity Tool
SciVal Funding Replaces Pivot

The following information applies to current Pivot subscribers, or those interested in tapping into a new funding opportunity database.

The subscription to the funding opportunity database Pivot will not be renewed once it expires on 8/30/14.

In lieu of Pivot, we would like to introduce you to another funding opportunity database called SciVal Funding. For the next three years, UT Austin will be participating in a trial period of this product, with the possibility of continuation. This trial is being sponsored by UT System.

SciVal Funding (by Elsevier) helps researchers, administrators and research development professionals find new funding opportunities. In addition, by reviewing award history you can gain awareness of new sponsors that match your research interests, along with details of investigators who have successfully won grants in the past. SciVal Funding comprehensively covers grants from Australia, Canada, the European Commission, India, Ireland, New Zealand, Singapore, South Africa, the United Kingdom, and the United States. With more than 6,000 international sponsors, providing more than 19,000 active opportunities, there are many funding opportunities for which researchers both inside and outside of these countries are eligible.

Tutorials for using the database appear on the right-hand side of the SciVal home page and additional information is available on the Elsevier SciVal Funding product page.

In the near future, as part of this subscription to SciVal Funding, UT Austin will also have access to SciVal Experts. Tenured and tenure-track faculty and staff researchers’ profiles will be uploaded automatically in order to participate fully in all the features SciVal Experts has to offer. When this process is completed, a new announcement will be sent out.

SciVal is an IP based service, so anyone logging in with a UT email address or from a computer on campus will have access.

More information: http://www.utexas.edu/research/resources/funding-sources/community-science

This article was published to the RAN listserv on 8/28/14 by Liza Scarborough. It was recommended for inclusion in this newsletter by Henrike de Haas and Dr. Susan Wyatt Sedwick.
In a rule, signed August 1, 2014 Under Secretary of Commerce for Industry and Security Eric L. Hirschhorn, the Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) amends the Export Administration Regulations (EAR) to impose additional sanctions implementing U.S. policy toward Russia to address that country’s continuing policy of destabilization in Ukraine and continuing occupation of Crimea and Sevastopol.

Newly enacted Section 746.5 of the Export Administration Regulations (“EAR”) imposes controls on the export, reexport or transfer (in-country) of any item subject to the EAR listed in the Commerce Control List and items specified in ECCNs 0A998, 1C992, 3A229, 3A231, 3A232, 6A991, 8A992, and 8D999 when the exporter, reexporter or transferor knows or is informed that the item will be used directly or indirectly in Russia’s energy sector for exploration or production from deepwater (greater than 500 feet), Arctic offshore, or shale projects in Russia that have the potential to produce oil.

Such items include, but are not limited to, drilling rigs, parts for horizontal drilling, drilling and completion equipment, subsea processing equipment, Arctic-capable marine equipment, wireline and down hole motors and equipment, drill pipe and casing, software for hydraulic fracturing, high pressure pumps, seismic acquisition equipment, remotely operated vehicles, compressors, expanders, valves, and risers.

No license exceptions may overcome the license requirements set forth in § 746.5, except License Exception GOV § 740.11(b).

The license review policy for all items requiring a license for export to Russia is presumption of denial when there is potential for use directly or indirectly for exploration or production from deepwater (greater than 500 feet), Arctic offshore, or shale projects in Russia that have the potential to produce oil.

To assist in the identification of such license applications, this rule indicates that license applications submitted to BIS under this section may include the phrase “section 746.5” in Block 9 (Special Purpose) in Supplement No. 1 to part 748.

Full article available on the OSP website.
NEWSLETTER -- AWARENESS

National Institutes of Health (NIH)

NIH Salary Cap: Executive Level II $181,500 Prorated

NIH Salary Cap Calculator tool
www.utexas.edu/research/osp/documents/nih_hhs_salary_cap_calculator.xls

Federal Demonstration Partnership

FDP is scheduled to meet again this September.
Here are the May 2014 Meeting Presentations:
http://sites.nationalacademies.org/PGA/fdp/PGA_051651.htm

Council On Governmental Relations

Recent COGR Letters on the OMB Uniform Guidance
http://www.cogr.edu

Congratulations to our newest CRA – Elena Mota!

OSP SPAA alumna Melinda McGlaun is also a new CRA! Learn more: http://www.cra-cert.org

★ Professional Development Opportunities ★

SP 110 Grants.gov Proposal Submission with Cayuse
September 4, 2014 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
in NOA 5.318. Signup in TXClass

SP 601 Effort Reporting Concepts
October 8, 2014 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
in NOA 5.318. Signup in TXClass

SP 602 Effort Reporting Hands On
October 14, 2014 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
in FAC 327.
Additional days & times available
Signup in TXClass

NCURA Fall Events Calendar
SRA Fall Events Calendar