Sponsored Projects Award Administration Newsletter

in this issue

arra | audits | cra

department kudos

hhs | ncura | people

nsf | prof devt | stats

Happy Holidays

SPAA's New Office Hours:
7:30am-4:30pm
Effective February 1, 2012, the Sponsored Projects Award Administration (SPAA) unit of the Office of Sponsored Projects located in Suite 4.300 of the North Office Administration (NOA) building will be changing our normal hours of operation to 7:30am-4:30pm. The change of the office hours reflects what has been the on-going campus need. SPAA recognizes a higher volume of early morning campus contact and we are adjusting our hours of operation to better serve the campus need. SPAA maintains a recorder for hours outside of the normal operation period. The Office of Sponsored Projects (OSP) office located in Suite 5.3 of NOA will continue to remain open from 7:30 AM to 5:30 PM.

Alex and the SPAA team hard at work in December to complete a full month of bills to sponsors in a shortened month.

OSP staff raised over $600 for Orange Santa, and over $390 for Heart of Texas Charitable Campaign.

Contact: aalways@austin.utexas.edu
Effort Reporting

Almost 4,000 effort reports are certified!
Many thanks to our outstanding certifiers who have learned how quick and easy ECS certification can be and completed it right away!

MVP Effort Contacts for this Fall are:
* Sophia Ortiz for proactively helping to manage her researchers’ commitments.
* Francisco Valladares, Le Na Chung ----for notifying Amy Always in September of summer salary being processed for August work, so that Amy could process service date corrections. Thanks, too, to others who notified me later.
* Charla Carrington and Cathy Rapinett for proactively notifying Amy Always regarding PIs who were separating from our university.
* Julie Duiker, Sharon Bugnand, Melinda McGlaun, Melissa Chavez, Le Na Chung-Cantrell, Leslie Crooks, Debra Madden, Estela Sosa, Billie Pierce, and Laurie Gonzales for running our new Department Completion Report so that it could be improved.

Thank you to these and all of the excellent Effort Contacts!

Audits & Desk Reviews

On behalf of UT Austin’s Researchers, in the months October through January 2012, SPAA has/will handle several audits/reviews:

→ Comptroller (2)
→ Governor’s Office
→ Texas Education Agency (TEA)
→ UT SW Medical Center Dallas
→ Petrobras
→ Internal Audit Office - Time and Effort (covering $360K+ in sponsored salaries)

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.

Statistics

SPAA’s FY 10-11 Service Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Amount</th>
<th>Invoice Method</th>
<th>$300,000,000.00</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$250,000,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$200,000,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$150,000,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$100,000,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$50,000,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Amount Invoice Method -- approximately $253.7 million dollars

Total Amount Draw Method -- over $192.4 million dollars

Active Accounts Managed -- approximately 3400 ongoing

Total Number of Invoices -- over 12,200 invoices

The above services (and more) provided by SPAA staff dedicated to helping make research happen.

Stats provided by Amy Blake:
Meet Kristin Cress, Senior Grants & Contracts Specialist in SPAA.

How many years have you been with OSP?
Seven years.

What do you enjoy here on the UT Austin campus?
I love the turtle pond, greenhouses, and the little courtyards spread throughout campus.

What motivates you in your work?
I love to untangle and solve difficult puzzle-like problems. It is also invigorating that in our work there is always something new to learn. Additionally, I like the many chances to be helpful to people.

What would you like the PIs and Research Administrators at UT Austin to remember about you?
I hope that they consider me responsive, swift, diligent, and pleasant to work with.

What do you wish UT’s PIs and Research Administrators knew about SPAA?
Our door is open. If you need to request a meeting face-to-face, call, or e-mail us, we are here to assist you as best we can. If we don’t know the answer, we can hopefully point you in the right direction.

What are your hobbies?
I have studied voice as well as multiple instruments over the years and have [tried] songwriting in the past. I enjoy classical and folk music amongst other genres. I am also known to wander the farmer’s markets every weekend in search of the loveliest veggies to cook with. Plants are...a part of my life...houseplants, a garden, etc. And lastly, I love hanging out with my sweet husband and kitty.

Sponsored Projects Award Administration Newsletter -- Awareness

National Institutes of Health (NIH)

Sally Rockey’s blog keeps us informed:
http://nexus.od.nih.gov/all/rock-talk/

NIH Salary Cap for 2012: Reduction to Executive Level II expected

NIH Modular Budgets - No detailed budget is now required
http://www.utexas.edu/research/osp/resources/handbook.html#nihmodular budgets

Compliance Training Videos from HHS

UT System-wide Compliance Academy – 2012 OIG Work Plan:
http://www.utsystem.edu/compliance/SWCAcademy.html

UT Research Administrators Help Make this Research Happen:
https://twitter.com/UTexasResearch

Professional Development

NCURA Region V Meeting in St. Louis, MO on April 14–17, 2012
http://www.ncura.edu/content/calendar/

SRA International Post Award Meeting in Scottsdale, AZ on February 15--16, 2012
http://www.srainternational.org/sra03/template/tntbpost-aw-12.cfm?id=4841

NIH Regional Seminar in Indianapolis, IN on April 16-18, 2012

NSF Grants Conference in Chicago, IL on March 19-20, 2012

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)

Revised Terms and Conditions -- Project Completion by 9/30/13

*** Congratulations to our Newest OSP - SPAA CRA: Joy Hatch ***

The Research Administrators Certification Council presents the CRA Body of Knowledge (A Free & Open Resource):
http://www.cra-cert.org/CRAbodyofknowledge.html