Embracing Change

It's true that what starts here changes the world. It is also true that when the world changes, we adapt with agility.

OMB.gov has received public comments on proposed changes to the regulations that govern our sponsored expenditures. Published final guidance is anticipated by December. See FDP & COGR on page 5 for more.

Technology has advanced and our university is planning to advance with it. See ASMP for more.
Audits & Desk Reviews
On behalf of UT Austin’s Researchers, in the months March through June 2013, SPAA has/will handle several audits/reviews:

- ONR Site Visit
- NHARP/ATP Audit
- NSF Award Monitoring review
- Texas Homeland Security Site visit

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

Welch Reporting Season
Recipients should look for emails from:
★ OSP regarding the details of their progress report submission, and
★ SPAA’s Robert Prentiss in preparation for the Welch financial reporting → Both due July 15th.

Welch reports require original signatures from their PIs. Robert works with UT’s Welch recipients in advance to plan the most convenient time for PIs to sign after Robert prepares the reports for them in June and early July. Robert Prentiss is a great resource for questions about Welch financial reporting. His e-mail: rprentiss@austin.utexas.edu

For Welch award recipients the annual progress report and financial statement for the year 6/1/12-5/31/13, will be due to the Welch Foundation by July 31, 2013.

Awardees please send a signed original of your progress report to Christian Pfeiffer Flores by July 15th, so these can be countersigned by the Vice President for Research Dr. Juan Sanchez and then shipped to the Welch Foundation.

Info about the Welch Foundation Grants and Awards is available here: http://www.welch1.org/
Welcome Michelle and Michael!

Archiving of Audit Documentation for Closed Sponsored Projects’ Accounts

Amy Blake who supervises SPAA’s Billing Team shared that the team will be engaged in archiving the DEFINE account records for each closed project account dating from 12/31/10 and older. It’s a very laborious and tedious process that requires great attention to detail. SPAA’S administrative staff completes the archiving by running five different accounting jobs for every account that is archived. There are potentially 2,600 accounts that can be archived through August 2013. The archiving will be completed in addition to the team’s usual billing and reporting duties.

In order to keep this daunting task exciting and to create a positive work atmosphere, Amy Blake will motivate the team by creating teams within the team and offering prizes and rewards for excellent progress towards accomplishing the team goal.

Check back in the September issue, in which we will celebrate the accomplishments in this account archiving project.

Welcome to the SPAA Team

As hard as it is to see SPAA teammates depart for opportunities in other states or with other organizations, the upside is the opportunity to bring on new teammates who bring fresh perspective to our team.

Michelle Harper joined our university in 2010 and brings valuable experience to our team of Grants & Contracts Specialists.

Michael Howell completed his accounting degree with Texas State and began his career at Seton Hospital in a position that allowed him to gain some medical experience. We welcome him to the SPAA team as an admin and hope that he will stay and grow with us. OSP SPAA provides great learning opportunities in research administration and accounting that will benefit his long-term career goals. Welcome Michelle and Michael!
Meet Michael Martindale, Sr. Grants & Contracts Specialist in SPAA

How many years have you been with OSP?
I have worked in OSP for six years.

Where do you enjoy dining here on the 40 acres?
I have always liked eating at Players since I was a student here, so I will miss it when it is gone. [http://www.austinplayers.com/](http://www.austinplayers.com/)

What do you enjoy here on the UT campus?
I enjoy getting outside to take walks around campus or attending athletic events - football, baseball, basketball.

What do you wish UT Austin’s PIs and Research Administrators knew about SPAA?
Our goal is always to make their jobs easier when it comes to the administrative tasks and red tape that comes with administering research awards.

What are your hobbies?
I enjoy cooking, especially anything that I can do outside. I particularly enjoy grilling fajitas with peppers and onions, or smoking ribs or pork shoulder. I also enjoy reading and watching college football when I get the chance. I used to play golf fairly often, but I don’t get out as much as I did before.

What would you like the PIs and Research Administrators at UT Austin to remember about you?
I am here to help. I welcome their phone calls and emails when they are not sure who to contact or what to do.

Photo provided by Michael Martindale
Sponsored Projects Award Administration
Newsletter -- Awareness

National Institutes of Health (NIH)
NIH Salary Cap for Summer 2013: Executive Level II
NIH Salary Cap Calculator tool
http://www.utexas.edu/research/osp/documents/nih_hhs_salary_cap_calculator.xls

Federal Demonstration Partnership
FDP May 2013 Meeting Presentations
http://sites.nationalacademies.org/PGA/fdp/PGA_083157

Council On Governmental Relations
COGR Response to OMB Proposed Changes & to the DATA Act (Latest News!)
http://www.cogr.edu/

☆ Professional Development Opportunities ☆

NIH Regional Seminar in Baltimore, MD on June 26-28, 2013
http://grants.nih.gov/grants/seminars.htm
SP101 Life Cycle of a Sponsored Research Grant - Preaward
August 14, 2013
SP102 Life Cycle of a Sponsored Research Grant - Postaward
August 14, 2013
TXCLASS

Professional Grant Writing Resource
http://www.grantcentral.com/workbooks.html
NCURA Summer Events
http://www.ncura.edu/content/calendar/
SRA Summer Events
http://www.srainternational.org/sra03/index.cfm

*** Congratulations to our Newest OSP CRA ***
Mohini Patel
http://www.cra-cert.org