Chrystal Dodson, SPAA teammate completed in 2011 a Bachelor of Arts Earned in the College of Liberal Arts at The University of Texas at Austin

While working full time in SPAA, Chrystal tackled at least 2 courses per semester in pursuit of her bachelor’s degree. Utilizing the staff educational benefit in compliance with the university policy on Taking Course Work During the Workday (HOP 7.E.4), Chrystal gained both valuable education and a deeper understanding of university operations.

“This has allowed me to...be empathetic in relation to delays in response from both professors and departmental staff regarding issues with their projects.”

“I...realize that the professors are typically not working only on research, but also teaching students at the same time.”

SPAA management encourages staff to pursue higher education and reach their full potential. Contracts & Grants Specialist Angi Murphy is currently working on a master’s degree in Information Studies.

Achievements like Chrystal’s are celebrated. They help SPAA remember, “we all have a part in the incredible community that is The University of Texas at Austin.”
Audits & Desk Reviews
On behalf of UT Austin’s Researchers, in the months January through March 2012, SPAA has/will handle several audits/reviews:

→ ACE
→ 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.

DHHS NIH Salary Cap Support
Together we face the challenge of compliance with the new salary limitation issued by Congress effective for projects with award dates after 12/22/12. Resources from SPAA:

Announcement:

Calculator:
www.utexas.edu/research/osp/documents/nih_hhs_salary_cap_calculator.xls

Angi Murphy and A.E. Always are glad to answer your questions. See also p. 4

Keeping Knowledgeable With Training
Life Cycle of a Sponsored Research Grant Participants

Aletky, Christin M (Both)
Brakewood, Beth L (Both)
Brooks, Allison B (Both)
Carter Smith, Tara (Both)
Coy, Dori (Pre-)
Cumpton, Greg (Both)
Ford, Kentya (Both)
Gerhart, Alice (Both)
Gidley, Melissa (Pre-)
Gordon, Wendy (Both)
Harris, Marilyn (Both)
Jean, Sylvia (Both)
Lakavage, John (Pre-)
Meserve, Jeffrey David (Post-)
Messmore, Barbara (Pre-)
Morgan, Melanie (Both)
Murrah, Lauren (Post-)
Ortiz, Sophia (Both)
Thompson, Alisha (Both)
Truitt-Green, Melissa (Post-)
Wallisch, Lynn S (Post-)
Whitman, Jay (Post-)
Wood, Christine Palmer (Pre-)

Departments Benefitting:
Campus Planning
Chemistry and Biochemistry
Communication
Dana Ctr for Sci & Math Ed
Environmental Science Institute
Imaging Research Center
LBJ
Liberal Arts
Microelectronics Research Center
Mechanical Engineering
OSP - SPAA
Petroleum and Geosystems Eng
Pharmacy
Ray Marshall Center
Social Work Research
Statistics and Scientific Comput
Texas Materials Institute

Data Management at UT
Pls represented:
Dr. Barufaulli, Science Education
Dr. Beaman, Manufacturing
Dr. Brown, Nursing
Dr. Barker, Information
Dr. Bayrak, Arch & Elec Eng
Dr. Bryant, Meadows & Vaughn Gross
Dr. Clement, Information
Dr. Gutell, Biology
Dr. Jarrett, IC2
Dr. Kipper, BEG
Dr. Michel, IPSI
Dr. Mikelson, Urban Policy Research
Dr. Morgan, Meadows & Vaughn Gross
Dr. Roberts, Meadows & Vaughn Gross
Dr. Sedwick, OSP
Dr. Simmons, Natural Sciences

(Presentation link p. 4)
More Pls represented:
Dr. Snedden, UTIG
Dr. Vaughn, Meadows & Vaughn
Dr. Watt, Manufacturing
Dr. Westbrook, Information
Dr. Zhang, Information
Biological Sciences PIs
High Energy Density Science PIs
Human Ecology PIs
Industrial Engagement (OIE)
Liberal Arts PIs
Mechanical Eng PIs
Nonlinear Dynamics PIs
Public School Init (IPSI) PIs
Research Support (ORS)
Statistics and Scientific Comp PIs
Texas Materials Inst PIs

Pls represented:
Meet Robert Prentiss, Grants & Contracts Specialist in SPAA

How many years have you been with OSP?
I started at UT in 2004 in the Office of Accounting, and moved to OSP-SPAA about two years later. I’ve held six different positions within SPAA, so I’ve seen a little bit of everything here.

What do you enjoy here on the UT Austin campus?
The turtle pond. I like the big snapping turtles who live in the back. And the Cactus Café, which is a state—if not national—treasure.

Where do you enjoy dining here on the 40 acres?
Madam Mam’s and Kismet Café.

What motivates you in your work?
There is never a routine day. There are always interesting questions to answer and new problems to solve.

Why do you prefer to work here at UT Austin, rather than another institution or organization?
It’s a unique place. The other day I walked over to the Ransom Center on my lunch break and heard fourteen people recite poetry in four languages. Where else does that happen?

What are your hobbies?
I play the acoustic guitar.

What would you like the PIs and Research Administrators at UT Austin to remember about you?
If you have a question about your grant, or about the way we handle it in SPAA, please ask. Give me a call, send me an email, or ask me to drop by your office. I’d be happy to show you new and useful *DEFINE screens or discuss the finer points of OMB Circular A-21.
Sponsored Projects Award Administration Newsletter -- Awareness

National Institutes of Health (NIH)

NIH Salary Cap for 2012: Reduction to Executive Level II

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

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

NIH's Sally Rockey Announces OMB Request for Comments
http://nexus.od.nih.gov/all/2012/02/28/omb-asks-for-comments-on-potential-reforms-to-federal-grant-policies/

Compliance Training Videos from HHS

NSF Guidance on Accelerating ARRA Expenditures
http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/policydocs/arra/faqs_pi.jsp

FDP January 2012 Meeting Presentations
http://sites.nationalacademies.org/PGA/fdp/PGA_066892

Professional Development

Professional Grant Development Workshop
Houston, TX on March 7-9, 2012
http://granttrainingcenter.com/

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

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

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

Professional Grant Writing Resource
http://www.grantcentral.com/workbooks.html

Updated Link: Data Management Plans at UT Austin
docs.google.com/present/view?id=0AZPQAYeCL1VXZGZwc3c3aHJfNjdqdjRnYidkOA

*** Congratulations to our Newest OSP - SPAA CRA:   Joy Hatch, Grants & Contracts Specialist ***

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