Updates from the Associate Dean

It’s time for an update on the activities of the CFAES Research Advisory Committee. As a reminder, this group was formed in August with an initial charge of implementing the recommendations from the recent National Council of Research Administrators (NCURA) review of CFAES. The committee includes: Sheryl Barringer, Anne Dorrance, Michelle Jones, Kimberly Lightle, Chanhee Lee, Jay Martin, Peter Piermarini, Gireesh Rajashekara, Mary Rodriguez, Mazeika Sullivan, and Laura Williams. This group has been working hard since August: prioritizing the 70+ recommendations from the NCURA review, exploring research administration in comparable OSU colleges, developing a “cradle to grave” assessment of sponsored projects within CFAES, and beginning preliminary discussions on staffing needs for the CFAES Office for Research and Graduate Education as well as key standard operating procedures for indirect cost recovery, release time, and off-duty pay. The committee will continue to meet this spring with the goal of addressing nearly all of the review recommendations by the end of the academic year. Thank you to the committee members for their excellent work so far. The committee will likely continue beyond this academic year with a broader mandate to provide input on enhancing the CFAES enterprise.

On another note, do you recall my comments last month about “awards season?” Local awards build resumes to make faculty more competitive for bigger awards. Two great opportunities include the CFAES Faculty Research Awards and the William E. Krauss Award, which were recently announced; the calls for nominations can be found online. I encourage you to work with your department chair or awards committee to ensure deserving colleagues are nominated. These award winners are usually recognized at the CFAES Annual Research Conference, which brings me to my final point. We have been working to gather input on this conference. So far, we have heard many perspectives (and misconceptions) and we welcome your input as we refine the event. This spring, we plan to host a shortened conference, deciding on the future scope/format/timing beginning in 2020.

The 2019 CFAES Annual Research Conference will be held on Monday, April 22, from 9:00am to approximately 12:30pm at the 4-H Center in Columbus. During the first part of the program I will address what changes have been and will be made regarding research administration at CFAES as a result of the NCURA review. I promise not to talk about each of the 70+ recommendations! This will provide some closure on this topic and allow us to look forward. There will also be short presentations by each of our award winners highlighting their research as a way to celebrate the successes of our colleagues. It has also become clear that the poster presentations are an important component of the event, with approximately 60 poster entries each year. Thus, we will end the event with the poster competition, having time for viewing and a reception to showcase the work of our graduate students. A formal announcement and invitation is forthcoming. I hope everyone had an enjoyable and restful semester break and I look forward to working with you on our research activities.

The latest edition of Grant Writing News is available
The OSU Office of Research provides a campus-wide subscription to this excellent newsletter. The writers are experts in proposal development and the content is helpful to those preparing a grant proposal. The recommendations are especially helpful to those who are new to grant writing or want to enhance their proposal-writing skills. Topics include: key documents for NSF Broader Impacts, planning for proposals addressing national water priorities, new funding opportunities, and much more! Visit http://go.osu.edu/grantwritingnews to access the current issue (OSU login required).

A Colleague Included Plagiarized Material in Your Grant Application. Are You Liable?
Last month, a judge recommended that a former University of Kansas Medical Center professor be banned from Federal U.S. funding for two years. The ban came after an investigation showed that the researcher had submitted a grant application that was heavily plagiarized from someone else’s. Read more

Common Rule Updates: The December 2018 issue of the Human Subjects Research Newsletter outlines all the updates to human and animal research based on the updates to the common rule. A must read!

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FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

ANTICIPATED ANNOUNCEMENT: FFAR, LIMITED SUBMISSION—NEW INNOVATOR IN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE RESEARCH AWARD

Each year, the Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research (FFAR) accepts nominations for the New Innovator in Food and Agriculture Research Award. This Award funds new faculty and their teams of graduate students and post-doctoral scholars to conduct innovative research with potential to expand the availability of food and facilitate the global practice of sustainable agriculture as the world’s population grows to more than 9 billion people by the year 2050. The program is intended to shine a spotlight on food and agriculture sciences and elevate the field in the scientific arena. FFAR typically awards each applicant up to $100,000 per year for three years with an additional $100,000 required cash match for a total award of up to $600,000. If you are interested in applying, please contact Jeff Agnoli.

Anticipated Deadline: Internal, January 17, 2019; Sponsor, February 28, 2019

LIMITED SUBMISSION—GORDON AND BETTY MOORE INVENTOR FELLOWS PROGRAM

The Moore Inventor Fellowships will focus on investment at a critical stage of research to capture opportunities that otherwise might be missed. We seek to identify outstanding early-stage inventors who harness science and technology solutions to enhance scientific research, strengthen environmental conservation, or improve the experience and outcomes of patient care. Candidates must be faculty, research scientists, postdocs or other full-time staff at eligible institutions. Candidates must be no more than 10 years past receiving the terminal advanced degree in their field (M.S., Ph.D. or M.D.). If you are interested in applying, please contact Jeff Agnoli.

Deadline: Internal, January 22, 2019; Sponsor, March 4, 2019

USDA-NIFA—FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES NATIONAL NEEDS GRADUATE AND POSTGRADUATE FELLOWSHIP (NNF)

NIFA administers this Federal assistance grant program specifically designated for graduate degree programs and postgraduate training of the next generation of policy makers, researchers, and educators in the Food and Agricultural Sciences. This program, in collaboration with eligible higher education institutions, helps develop intellectual capital to ensure the availability of trained professionals to lead U.S. food and agricultural systems. This grant program supports: (1) training students for master’s and doctoral degrees in food, agricultural and natural resource sciences; and (2) Special International Study or Thesis/Dissertation Research Travel Allowances (IRTA) for eligible USDA NNF beneficiaries. Awards are specifically intended to support traineeship programs that engage outstanding students to pursue and complete their degrees in USDA mission areas.

Deadline: January 23, 2019

INDUSTRY—2018-2019 DANNON YOGURT, PROBIOTICS AND THE GUT MICROBIOME FELLOWSHIP GRANT

Dannon, as a part of DanoneWave Public Benefits Corporation, is awarding two graduate students a grant of $25,000 each. The successful candidates should excel in science and have an interest in studying yogurt, probiotics and the gut microbiome’s role in promoting human health. Examples may include the role of yogurt or other nutrients from yogurt, probiotics, or fermented dairy products on brain function, growth and development, digestive health, weight management or heart health. Topics may also include factors, such as foods or nutrients, that influence the gut microbiome. The award will be for tuition or research-related projects or as otherwise allocated at Dannon’s sole discretion.

Deadline: February 15, 2019

USDA-NIFA—NATIONAL ROBOTICS INITIATIVE: 2.0: UBQUITOUS COLLABORATIVE ROBOTS (NRI-2.0)

The NRI-2.0 program builds upon the original National Robotics Initiative (NRI) program to support fundamental research in the United States that will accelerate the development and use of collaborative robots (co-robots) that work beside or cooperatively with people. The focus of the NRI-2.0 program is on ubiquity, which in this context means seamless integration of co-robots to assist humans in every aspect of life. The program supports four main research thrusts that are envisioned to advance the goal of ubiquitous co-robots: scalability, customizability, lowering barriers to entry, and societal impact. Collaboration between academic, industry, nonprofit, and other organizations is encouraged to establish better linkages between fundamental science and engineering and technology development, deployment, and use.

Deadline: February 19, 2019

INTERNAL OPPORTUNITY—CAPS SCIENTIFIC TEAMS

CAPS seeks to bring together the wide-ranging expertise available at OSU to bridge basic and applied research largely by catalyzing formation of interdisciplinary teams from across the university. Teams are expected to be between 3-8 members, and should tackle a practical challenge. Initial project periods are anticipated to be 2-4 years in duration. CAPS understands the dynamic interactions that occur between team members, and that these applications represent possible solutions to large-scale, multi-faceted problems. Jay Hollick, Director, (Hollick.3@osu.edu) is available for scientific questions and/or to meet with prospective teams or individuals prior to the application deadline to discuss additional information or provide assistance as needed.

Deadline: February 3, 2019

*Note: Federal Agency websites may be unavailable during the government shutdown
I-Corps@Ohio Program

Applications are open for the fifth year of the I-Corps@Ohio Program. The I-Corps@Ohio program incorporates Lean Startup, Customer Discovery and Business Model Canvas methodologies to accelerate commercialization of technologies from Ohio universities, colleges, and research institutions while expanding the business acumen and networks of faculty and students across the state. The resulting companies will drive sustainable technology-based economic development in Ohio.

Seven CFAES teams have successfully completed this program with results of technology licensing, additional funding, and company start-up. The program is an exceptional learning experience for faculty, graduate students, and post-docs. Undergraduates have participated as well. Contact Shauna Brummet to discuss your business idea and prepare the brief application. The deadline to Register is January 15, 2019.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

AN OVERVIEW OF COMPLIANCE ISSUES IN SPONSORED PROGRAMS
THURSDAY, JANUARY 10, 9:00AM - 10:30AM
ROOM 035, PSYCHOLOGY BUILDING (COLUMBUS)
In this 1.5 hour session geared toward staff, we cover a broad array of compliance issues that staff may face and train staff how to recognize red flags and respond appropriately and professionally. Compliance issues discussed include time and effort certification, conflict of interest, research misconduct, and lab safety. Register via BuckeyeLearn.

BETTER MENTORING FOR BETTER SCIENCE: AN INTRODUCTION
THURSDAY, JANUARY 17, 1:00PM - 2:00PM
VIDEO-LINKED: AGRICULTURAL ADMINISTRATION 214 (COLUMBUS) – RESEARCH SERVICES 130 (WOOSTER)
Strong mentorship has been linked to enhanced mentee productivity, self-efficacy, career satisfaction, and is an important predictor of the academic success of scientists and engineers in training. The Center for the Improvement of Mentored Experiences in Research (CIMER) has developed a curriculum based on proven mentorship development curricula. We will explore the curriculum and talk about further training opportunities for faculty to participate in mentoring workshops. Presenters: Marcela Hernandez and Noah Weisleder from the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs

OHIO ETHICS LAW
MONDAY, JANUARY 28, 1:00PM - 3:00PM
SUITE 430, 1590 N HIGH ST (COLUMBUS)
This two-hour in-person case study based workshop covers the major requirements of the Ohio Ethics Law which applies to all faculty and staff. This workshop is led by ethics experts from Academic Affairs, Medical Center Compliance, and University Compliance and Integrity. Register via BuckeyeLearn.

A DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATOR’S INTRODUCTION TO OFFICE OF SPONSORED PROGRAMS ELECTRONIC SYSTEMS
TUESDAY, JANUARY 29, 2:00PM - 4:00PM
ROOM 141, SULLIVANT HALL (COLUMBUS)
This 2 hour workshop geared toward staff covers the Office of Sponsored Programs’ electronic research administration systems, with a strong emphasis on completing and approving PA005 forms. The college view of sponsored programs data is described. This session is designed to show how data from proposals and decisions made at that stage flow through the system and affect grants administration through the grant life cycle. This workshop does not replace PI Portal training offered by the Office of Sponsored Programs. Register via BuckeyeLearn.

SUBMISSION TO WESTERN IRB UNDER THE REVISED COMMON RULE
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30, 2019, 8:00AM - 9:30AM
ROOM 115, BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH TOWER (COLUMBUS)
The Office of Responsible Research Practices, the Western IRB (WIRB), and the Center for Clinical and Translational Science are presenting a session about Western IRB oversight of Ohio State human subjects research with WIRB representative, Christopher Gennai. Register via BuckeyeLearn.

See a full listing of upcoming events on our webpage.
POLICY OVERVIEW

What is a Confidential Disclosure Agreement (CDA)?
A confidentiality agreement, or non-disclosure agreement, is a contract between Ohio State and another party that where the parties promise not to disclose certain information. A CDA needs to be put into place when proprietary or confidential information will be exchanged in discussions about research or business collaborations. The confidentiality agreement will define the terms under which the research, or proprietary/ confidential information can be discussed or exchanged.

Why is it important?
You should not disclose your research or reveal proprietary/confidential information to researchers outside of OSU without first having a confidentiality agreement in place. These documents protect proprietary information, inventions and licensing opportunities, define researchers’ obligations for keeping information confidential, assure the other party that Ohio State will keep their information confidential, and offer protection so that Ohio State researchers won’t be personally liable for a breach.

How do I establish a CDA?
An authorized representative from the Technology Commercialization Office (TCO) must sign all CDAs before any proprietary or confidential information is exchanged. Please note that even if you have been asked to sign a CDA by another party and/or are provided a signature line on the CDA, you cannot sign the CDA. Read more on the TCO website.

To submit a CDA, first, see if you can submit a Simple CDA, which is designed to expedite the process. If not, please use the Innovate IP website and follow the directions below.
1. Sign in with your OSU Name.#
2. Click on Request a CDA/MTA.
3. Select the type of agreement (CDA).
4. Complete questions and upload any documents needed.
5. Click the Save & Submit buttons.

RECENT AWARDS

Feng Qu, Plant Path; $400,000: How do viruses evict close relatives, and why? National Science Foundation.

Elizabeth Long, Ent; $100,000: Developing best management practices to limit the spread of pepper weevil (Anthonomus eugenii), Ohio Department of Agriculture.

Anne Dorrance, Feng Qu, Plant Path; Leah McHale, HCS; $677,801: Confirmation, characterization and deployment of the perfect markers and developing germplasm for resistance to Phytophthora sojae, Pythium spp., and Fusarium graminearum in soybean, Smith Bucklin (United Soybean Board).

MacDonald Wick, Animal Sciences, Konrad Dabrowski SENR, Yael Vodovozt, FST; $197,419: Economic and environmental advantages of high-oleic acid soybean oil in rainbow trout diets, Smith Bucklin (United Soybean Board).

Ajay Shah, FABE; $195,158: Development of resources and tools to improve oil content and quality in pennycress, University of North Texas (US Dept. of Energy).

Melanie Ivey, Plant Path; $100,000: Efficacy of intelligent spray technology in apple and grape production, USDA Agricultural Research Services.

The GDSU is a free service provided to all CFAES faculty and staff. Our specialists offer guidance to researchers in planning and conceptualizing externally funded research projects, finding funding opportunities, and submitting well-crafted and competitive applications. For more information, see our webpage: grants.cfaes.ohio-state.edu.