February 20 – OSP Workshop NSF Framework for Improving STEM

Location: MLK Library, Room 255/257 | Time: 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. | RSVP by February 17

There is still time to RSVP for the February OSP workshop. This informative workshop will feature Dr. Ferdinand Rivera, SJSU Professor of Mathematics and (former) NSF Program Director. Dr. Rivera will provide an overview of the NSF Education Directorate’s strategic goals and framework that are designed to advance science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education and nurture innovation.

RSVP to Carmina Som at foundation-osp-Infoservices@sjsu.edu.

The SJU Student Research Competition Takes Place March 12 and 13

The 2014 SJU Student Research Competition will take place March 12 and 13 on the San Jose State University campus. Interested students are encouraged to contact their faculty advisor or department to receive instructions on how to submit their research to the competition. The deadline for colleges to submit their selected students to Graduate Studies and Research is March 3.

Competition winners will be invited to participate in the California State University Research Competition CSU Research Competition May 2 and 3 at Cal State East Bay in Hayward. The CSU Student Research Competition showcases excellent research conducted by CSU graduate and undergraduate students in the full range of academic programs offered by the CSU. Participants present their research before juries of professional experts from major California corporations, foundations, public agencies, and colleges and universities.

Student winners and their mentors will also be honored at the Annual SJU Student Research Forum April 10, 2014. The Student Research Forum is sponsored by the SJU Research Foundation and Graduate Studies and Research.

To learn more about the competition and for details about the application process, visit the SJU Graduate Studies and Research website.

Consolidated Appropriations Act of FY 2014 Signed into Law

On Friday, Jan. 17, President Obama signed into law the Consolidated Appropriations Act of FY 2014 (also referred to as the Omnibus Appropriations Package). Some programs received more fiscal year 2014 funding than the fiscal year 2013 pre-sequestration funding levels, while others received less than the fiscal year 2013 funding.

- National Science Foundation (NSF)
  The new legislation will provide the National Science Foundation with $7.172 billion, an increase of $287.8 million (or 4.2 percent) over the FY 2013 Current Plan (CP) level of $6.884 billion, and is $454 million (or 6 percent) below the FY 2014 request. This amount is $177 million (or 2.5 percent) above the fiscal year 2014 funding.
level recommended by the House, and $254 million (or 3.4 percent) below the fiscal year 2014 level recommended by the Senate.

- **National Institutes of Health (NIH)**
  NIH will receive a $1 billion increase compared to fiscal year 2013 post-sequester level funding. Funding should allow the agency to continue all current research programs and begin approximately 385 additional research studies and trials, including the proposed initiative to study new ways to prevent and cure Alzheimer’s disease. The bill also includes new funding for the Brain Research through Application of Innovative Neurotechnologies (BRAIN) Initiative, “a multi-agency effort that also involves the National Science Foundation and the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency as well as several private sector partners.”

- **National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)**
  The bill provides $17.65 billion for NASA, which is $781 million above the fiscal year 2013 sequester level. This funding is intended to preserve a balanced NASA portfolio which includes science, aeronautics, technology and human space flight investments.

- **National Endowments for the Arts (NEA) & National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)**
  The bill includes $146 million each for the NEA and NEH to support arts and humanities programs—a total of $16 million above the post-sequestration level.

- **United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Operations**
  The new legislation contains $1.3 billion for USAID operations, a reduction of $215 million from the fiscal year 2013 enacted level.

- **Department of Energy (DOE)**
  The bill provides $10.2 billion for energy programs within the Department of Energy—a $620 million increase above the fiscal year 2013 enacted level—to support energy programs that encourage U.S. economic competitiveness and help advance the nation’s goal of an all-of-the-above solution to energy independence.

Sources: US Senate Committee on Appropriations website and the US House of Representatives Committee on Appropriations website.

**THE NEW NSF 2014 PROPOSAL & AWARD POLICIES & PROCEDURES GUIDE (PAPPG) BECOMES EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 24, 2014**

The new version of the Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide (NSF 14-1) issued late last year will become effective for proposals submitted, or due, on or after February 24, 2014. Significant changes detailed in the new guide include:

- Addition to the certification regarding Conflict of Interest regarding the appropriate disclosure process;
- Reiteration that indirect costs are not allowed on participant support costs;
- Small-scale pilot of a new environmental impacts process with a few programs, prior to NSF-wide implementation;
- Updated process for program income reporting;
- And numerous clarifications throughout the document.

The guidelines in NSF 13-1 will apply for proposals submitted prior to February 24, 2014.

To view the complete guide, visit the NSF website.

**FELLOWSHIPS AND SCHOLARSHIPS**

The SJSU Research Foundation receives notification of fellowship and scholarship opportunities for faculty and students. Highlights this month include:

**Program:** Mental Health and Substance Abuse Fellowship Program  
**Agency:** Council on Social Work Education  
**Deadline:** February 28, 2014

**Program:** East European Studies (EES)  
**Agency:** Council on Social Work Education  
**Deadline:** March 1, 2014