NOAA’s Climate Program Office Estimates $15 million for Research in FY2015

NOAA’s Climate Program Office (CPO) supports competitive research through four major programs: Climate Observations and Monitoring (COM); Earth System Science (ESS); Modeling, Analysis, Predictions, and Projections (MAPP); and Climate and Societal Interactions (CSI). Through its 2015 Federal Funding Opportunity Announcement, CPO’s programs are seeking applications for 10 individual competitions in FY 2015. It is estimated that $15.5 million will be available for approximately 100 new awards pending budget appropriations. CPO anticipates that most awards will be at a funding level between $50,000 and $200,000 per year, with some exceptions for larger awards.

Interested researchers should visit the CPO website for more detailed information and instructions prior to submitting applications.

Source: NOAA Climate Program Office website.

Dear Colleague Letter—International Collaboration in the Division of Materials Research

In a July 18 Dear Colleague Letter Mary E. Galvin, NSF Division Director (Division of Materials Research) provided additional information to the research community regarding international research and education. The July 18 communication follows an earlier Dear Colleague Letter (NSF13-115) that announced the temporary suspension of the Division of Materials Research (DMR) the Computational and Data-Driven Materials Research (CDMR) Program and the Materials World Network (MWN) Program in Fiscal Year 2014, and the sunset of the DMR International Materials Institutes (IMI) Program.

Based on consultations and data analysis that involved input from NSF program officers, counterpart funding agencies, and the DMR awardee community, Ms. Galvin states that “DMR plans to suspend the Materials World Network (MWN) Program and instead pilot alternative mechanisms for supporting the international objectives of the materials research community.”

Further details about priorities and opportunities for international research and education funding are provided on the DMR website.

Source: NSF website.

NIH to Provide More Stable Support for Researchers

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) is piloting a concept to award longer grants for more stable support for investigators at all career stages. The goal is “to provide investigators with more sustained funding and freedom to innovate and explore new lines of research, while decreasing the amount of time researchers must spend on the grant-seeking treadmill”. Francis Collins, Director of NIH, and Sally Rockey, NIH Deputy...
Director for Extramural Research, outlined this strategy and provided insight on the types of programs researchers can expect from NIH and other funders in a recent blog post. An example of this new approach is the NIH Pioneer Award. Pioneer Awards support exceptionally creative individual scientists who propose pioneering – and possibly transformative – approaches to major research challenges. “This award allows for $500,000 annually in direct costs for five years, and, in a recent program evaluation, was shown to facilitate a high level of innovation and productivity.” The next application deadline is October 10, 2014.

Material from 7/21/14 GrantWeek, with permission from the Grants Resource Center.

USDA’s New Foundation to Promote Innovative Partnerships

To support advancing scientific and technological research, innovation, and partnerships in agriculture, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has established the Foundation for Food and Agricultural Research (FFAR) as a part of the 2014 Farm Bill. Congress has authorized an endowment of $200 million, which is required to be matched by non-federal funds as grants are made. The new foundation will support research addressing plant and animal health, food safety, nutrition and health, renewable energy, natural resources, and environment, agricultural and food security, and agriculture systems and technology. The composition of the foundation’s board of directors is a clear indication of the intention to use FFAR to promote public-private partnerships. Board members include five ex-officio agency representatives, eight members from academia, and seven members from industry.

For more information visit the USDA website.

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Jeanne Dittman Named SJSU Research Foundation OSP Director

Jeanne Dittman began her career at the SJSU Research Foundation in 1998, where she first served as Mineta Transportation Institute Web Administrator and later as Acting Research Director and Communications Director. In 2000 Jeanne joined the Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP) team in the SJSU Research Foundation Central Office, serving first as Sponsored Programs Manager for the College of Science, and later as Associate Director of OSP Pre-Award Services. For the past nine months she has successfully “kept the train moving forward” as Interim Director of Sponsored Programs. Prior to joining the Research Foundation Jeanne enjoyed a successful 18-year banking career at Wells Fargo Bank where she held a variety of leadership positions.

Fellowships and Scholarships

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

Program: Postdoctoral Fellowship Awards
Agency: Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation
Deadline: August 15, 2014

Program: Research Grants and Fellowships
Agency: John F. Kennedy Library Foundation
Deadline: August 15, 2014

Program: Cancer Prevention Fellowship Program
Agency: National Institutes of Health
Deadline: August 25, 2014

Program: Research Project Funding and Academic Scholarships
Agency: American Hotel and Lodging Educational Foundation
Deadline: September 1, 2014

Program: Postdoctoral Fellowships
Agency: Lymphoma Research Foundation
Deadline: September 3, 2014