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University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture Sponsored Programs Office

2020 January

# Office of Sponsored Programs Newsletter

## STAFF >>>

Jane Burns  
Interim Director  
& Compliance Officer

Rumira Khaferaj  
Assistant Director

Hope Seaman  
Admin Specialist II

## COORDINATORS

Cathy Creswell  
Kathy Dalton  
DeeDee Wilder  
Liz Hebert  
Everly Manes  
Karin Langan  
Shannon Kite

## UTIA Office of Sponsored Programs

2621 Morgan Circle  
224 & 225 Morgan Hall  
Knoxville, TN 37996-4514  
Phone: 865-974-7357  
Fax: 865-974-7451  
Email: [aggrant@utk.edu](mailto:aggrant@utk.edu)



## Message from the Interim Director

Welcome 2020! We look forward to a productive year helping you bring in funding to support your work.

In this issue of our newsletter, learn more about faculty member Dr. David Ader, Dr. Kristen Johnson, and Dr. Jon Beever, as well as our newest OSP employee, Hope Seaman. Also, we have highlighted resources available to UTIA investigators – including a human subjects research decision tool, Data Management Guide, SciENcv, and support provided by the UTK research development team.

You probably have heard the news that UT has new indirect cost rate agreements. Be sure to talk with me or your OSP coordinator with any questions about how the new rates apply to your work. Also, NSF has released its latest Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide.

With NIFA season approaching quickly, see the list of upcoming deadlines. Notify [aggrant@utk.edu](mailto:aggrant@utk.edu) to let us know about your plans to apply. Make our coordinators part of your team and success.

Watch your e-mail for our weekly funding opportunity digests and pass them along to your colleagues. If you want to be added to the distribution list or want us to look for particular types of opportunities, please let Hope know at [hseaman@utk.edu](mailto:hseaman@utk.edu).

All the best to you during this new year-  
Jane Burns



**Dr. David Ader** works as an interdisciplinary scholar in the fields of sustainable agriculture and rural development. He currently works

as the Assistant Director and Research Assistant Professor in the Smith Center for International Sustainable Agriculture at the Institute of Agriculture. His expertise and research interests include population dynamics of rural communities, sustainable agriculture development for smallholder farmers, and nutrition-sensitive agricultural approaches for development. Ader holds a dual PH.D from Penn State University in Rural Sociology and Demography. His current applied research focuses on rural communities in Southeast Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa, and Central America. He is currently working on privately funded research and education in Guatemala with Ag Econ and BESS faculty looking at environmental impacts of agriculture and climate change; USAID funded poultry project in Rwanda with Animal Science and Ag Econ, looking at nutrition and income of small-holder poultry producers in Cambodia on a USAID funded Sustainable Intensification Innovation Lab project and a new Farmer to Farmer project in Cambodia managed by UT.



**Dr. Kristen Johnson** is an Assistant Professor and Nutrition Specialist in the Department of Family and Consumer Services. Her area of expertise focuses on

nutrition and aging. Her professional interests include understanding and addressing food insecurity, promoting healthy eating patterns across the lifespan, and worksite wellness. Dr. Johnson is a registered dietician and holds a Ph.D. in Foods and Nutrition and a Certificate in Gerontology from the University of Georgia. Her current work includes developing and implementing Extension programs that promote healthy eating among older adults, promote work-life balance through chronic disease self-management skills, and increase access to healthy foods in Tennessee communities.



**Dr. Jon Beaver** is Director of the Genomics Center for Advancement of Agriculture for UTIA. He is also Professor in both Animal Science and Large Animal Clinical Sciences. His areas of expertise are animal science; molecular biology; genetics; and genomics. His professional interests include relationships between molecular and phenotypic variation: DNA polymorphism and genetic responses to the environment. Dr. Beaver holds his Ph.D. from the University of Illinois. He is currently working on genetic / genomic selection for improved animal performance and optimization between genotype and environment.

**Kimberly Eck** spoke at a recent Faculty Fellows meeting about UTK's Office of Research Engagement's resources.

Please check out more on her [presentation](#).

**Science Experts Network Curriculum Vitae (SciENcv)** is an electronic system to help researchers create and maintain biosketches for federally funded research proposals. Many agencies strongly recommend using a SciENcv generated biosketch. NSF will soon begin to require SciENcv created biosketches. There are several benefits to using SciENcv to create your biosketch because it eliminated the need to enter biosketch information continually. Use SciENcv to enter information on expertise, employment, education, and professional accomplishments once and generate an appropriate biosketch for the agency you are submitting a proposal. When creating a biosketch using SciENcv, you have three options:

- 1) create one from scratch;
- 2) import from an external source (such as eRA Commons); or
- 3) duplicate an existing profile. SciENcv allows for greater customizability while providing a compliant biosketch.



The publication section of the biosketch in SciENcv can be linked to your PubMed profile but also allows for manual citations. If you already have an existing award in eRA Commons, you can easily import the award to add to the biosketch or manually enter an award. This tool also allows you to download the biosketch in either PDF, Word, or XML formats. Lastly, you can assign a delegate to manage your profiles. For more information on SciENcv can be found on their website: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sciencv/>.

**We are pleased to announce that a revised version of the NSF Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide (PAPPG) (NSF 20-1) has been issued.**

## Data Management Plan >>> by Everly Manes

Many funding agencies, especially federal agencies, require a **Data Management Plan (DMP)** as part of the proposal. At award, the DMP can become part of the subaward agreement, so it is critical to include any collaborators collecting data. The University of Tennessee Libraries have a [Data Management Guide](#) to assist you in writing your DMP. The Data Management Guide includes additional resources and the [DMPTool](#) to help you create DMP for a specific agency. The DMP should address data issues such as data storage and backup, handling sensitive data, data sharing, and data preservation, among other considerations for collecting and maintaining data.

## Office of Sponsored Programs Spotlight >>>



Hello Everyone, I'm **Hope Seaman**. My family and I recently moved to Knoxville and I started at UTIA Office of Sponsored Programs this past November. I have previous grants experience from working at Florida Atlantic University in the Division of Research with the Office of Research Accounting. Here at UTIA, I will be providing pre-award services to the Institute of Agriculture such as processing No Cost Extensions, Non-Exchanges, PI Changes and distributing the Funding Opportunities Weekly Newsletter.

I am happy to be a part of such a great team! I look forward to getting to know everyone here and enjoying beautiful Knoxville.

The UTK Office of Research & Engagement recently noticed that UT's National Institutes of Health R15 funding success rate has dropped significantly, from 25% (2015) and 33% (2016) to 6% (2017) and 8% (2018), and we have been reviewing proposals submitted during this period to investigate some potential reasons for the decline. Notably, a significant number were submitted without requesting an NIH institute/center (26%) or study section (33%) on the PHS Assignment Request Form. **100% of these proposals were not funded.**

Although the PHS Assignment Request Form is optional, ORE strongly encourages all researchers to provide the three pieces of information requested on this form, which include the preferred NIH institute/center(s) and study section(s), along with keywords representing expertise needed to review the proposal. In the absence of this information, Center for Scientific Review (CSR) staff (likely without subject matter expertise in the proposal's area of focus) will decide where to assign the application.

The person best able to determine where and how a proposal should be reviewed is the person submitting the proposal. NIH not only allows you to have input into the assignment process, they encourage you to provide this information to help CSR staff make the best decisions for your application. Moreover, performing an early analysis of potential institutes/centers and study sections will help you better align your proposal with reviewer and funder expectations (e.g., by having conversations with program officers about their funding priorities, or by evaluating the publication and award records of standing study section members who may review your application).

Submitting a strong proposal is a significant effort, so please take the final step of completing the PHS Assignment Request Form to give your application the best chance of success.

Herbert College faculty **remain eligible** for AREA ([PAR-18-714](#) & [PAR-19-133](#)). UTK & UTIA **remain ineligible** for REAP ([PAR-19-134](#) and [PAR-19-135](#)).

## COMPLIANCE CORNER >>>

by Jane Burns

### Need Help Determining If Your Research Involves Human Subjects?

NIH has updated its [human subjects research decision tool](#) to reflect changes effective in the 2018 [Revised Common Rule](#). Answer a few quick questions to find out if your research could be considered human subjects research or if it may be exempt from federal regulations.

Posted on [January 6, 2020](#) by [NIH Staff](#) - <https://nexus.od.nih.gov/all/2020/01/06/need-help-determining-if-your-research-involves-human-subjects/>

## UTIAs NEW F&A Rate Agreement >>>

UTIA now has one federally-negotiated indirect cost rate agreement, which is attached. Effective immediately, the UTIA on-campus **research rate is 45%** of modified total direct costs (until 7/1/22, when it changes to 46%), & the instruction on-campus rate is 42%. The rates for other sponsored activities (such as **extension**) are **20% for on-campus and 14.5% for off-campus**.

The applicable rate in effect at the proposed start date of a project will be used for the entire first budget period. If any subsequent budget period of the project falls in a time period in which a different F&A rate is applicable, the new rate would be used.

Current projects proposed and awarded under one F&A rate agreement will not be changed to the rates of the new agreement. When submitting a new proposal (including continuation or renewal proposals), the new F&A rates will be used. Please see the [UTIA Indirect Cost Rate Agreement](#) here.

The research development (RD) office in UTK's Office of Research and Engagement offers a collection services, programs, and resources to support faculty members' research goals and funding.

**Proposals are supported** with a range of services from individual consultation to full project management on complex team proposals. RD staff help explore funding opportunities, fit and readiness assessment, conceptual brainstorming, team building, and competitive intelligence. Special programs such as the "Creative Residencies, Awards, Fellowships, and Trainings (CRAFT)" and the "Humanities Faculty Fellows" support professional goals in the arts and humanities, respectively.

**Collaborations are strengthened** through five initiatives: "Coffee and Convergence" offers small networking opportunities; "SPARKS: Seeking Partnerships To Advance Research, Knowledge, and Science" facilitates multidisciplinary discussions; "FUSION: Faculty Understanding Science In Open Networks" day-long workshops culminate in new collaborations, some of which are seeded with small awards; regular "Research Development Community" gatherings connect research developers from throughout the campus; and "Communities of Scholars" bring faculty together to further research on a shared research theme.

**Faculty are further empowered** by several unique training opportunities: "Expanding Horizons" targets recently tenured faculty who have a big idea but not a full team or complete research plan; "Initiative for the Future" supports junior faculty interested in applying for major fellowships; the "Research Development Academy" is a yearlong program designed with diversity in mind; the "Scholarship Agenda" offers individualized sessions for new faculty to explore opportunities; "Strengthening the Culture of Research" is a two-year program in select academic units to increase the number and quality of proposals; and "Teaming, Exploration, and Motivation (TEAM)" is a long-term program that facilitates multidisciplinary teams.

The RD office also manages internal funding to strengthen faculty research portfolios. The Scholarly and Research Incentive Fund (SARIF) offers 10 programs to help fund research and creative activities. In addition, annual research seed programs support focused research projects that can be completed in one year to be leveraged in pursuit of external funding.

For more details and to access the Grantseeker's Toolkit, visit [research.utk.edu](http://research.utk.edu) and click on proposal support or send an email to [avcrd@utk.edu](mailto:avcrd@utk.edu).

**Don't forget to visit the UTIA Office of Sponsored Programs website for forms and information such as:**

- **MTA questionnaires**
- **Indirect Cost Rate Agreements**
- **Uniform Guidance Tools**
- **Standard Contracts and Agreements**
- **Compliance Resources and Documents**
- **Timeline to Meet 3-Business –Day Deadline**

**LINK: <http://agriculture.tennessee.edu/sponsoredprograms/default.asp>**

# DON'T FORGET THE USDA AFRI RFA FOR 2020 IS OUT with due dates as early as March 2020!

Notify [aggrant@utk.edu](mailto:aggrant@utk.edu) NOW with your plans to apply!!!

## Plant Health and Production and Plant Products

- **Foundational Knowledge of Agricultural Production Systems - A1102**  
Deadline: Thursday, April 9, 2020
- **Foundational Knowledge of Plant Products - A1103**  
Deadline: Thursday, March 19, 2020
- **Pests & Beneficial Species in Agricultural Production Systems - A1112**  
Deadline: Thursday, March 12, 2020
- **Physiology of Agricultural Plants - A1152**  
Deadline: Thursday, March 19, 2020
- **Plant Breeding for Agricultural Production - A1141**  
Deadline: Thursday, March 19, 2020
- **Pollinator Health: Research and Application - A1113**  
Deadline: Thursday, March 26, 2020

## Animal Health and Production and Animal Products

- **Animal Reproduction - A1211**  
Deadline: Thursday, March 12, 2020
- **Animal Nutrition, Growth and Lactation - A1231**  
Deadline: Thursday, March 12, 2020
- **Welfare and Well-being of Agricultural Animals - A1251**  
Deadline: Thursday, March 12, 2020
- **Diseases of Agricultural Animals - A1221**  
Deadline: Thursday, March 12, 2020
- **Animal Breeding & Funct'l Annotation of Genomes - A1201**  
Deadline: Thursday, March 12, 2020

## Food Safety, Nutrition, and Health

- **Food Safety and Defense - A1332**  
Deadline: Thursday, March 19, 2020
- **Novel Foods & Innovative Manufacturing Tech - A1364**  
Deadline: Thursday, March 19, 2020
- **Diet, Nutrition & Prevention of Chronic Diseases - A1344**  
Deadline: Thursday, March 19, 2020
- **Food and Human Health - A1343**  
Deadline: Thursday, March 26, 2020
- **Mitigating Antimic. Resistance Across Food Chain - A1366**  
Deadline: Thursday, March 26, 2020

## Bioenergy, Natural Resources, and Environment

- **Soil Health - A1401**  
Deadline: Thursday, April 2, 2020
- **Water Quantity and Quality - A1411**  
Deadline: Thursday, April 2, 2020

## Bioenergy, Natural Resources, and Environment

- **Sustainable Biomass Feedstock Systems - A1414**  
Deadline: Thursday, April 2, 2020
- **Sustainable Agroecosystems: Health, Functions, Processes and Management - A1451**  
Deadline: Thursday, April 9, 2020

## Agriculture Systems and Technology

- **Engineering for Agricultural Production Systems - A1521**  
Deadline: Thursday, March 5, 2020
- **Bioprocessing and Bioengineering - A1531**  
Deadline: Thursday, March 5, 2020
- **Nanotechnology for Agricultural & Food Systems - A1511**  
Deadline: Thursday, March 19, 2020

## Agriculture Economics and Rural Communities

- **Small and Medium-Sized Farms - A1601**  
Deadline: Thursday, March 5, 2020
- **Economics, Markets and Trade - A1641**  
Deadline: Thursday, March 5, 2020
- **Social Implications of Food and Agricultural Tech- A1642**  
Deadline: Thursday, May 14, 2020
- **Environmental and Natural Resource Economics - A1651**  
Deadline: Thursday, May 14, 2020
- **Rural Economic Development - A1661**  
Deadline: Thursday, April 16, 2020

## Crosscutting Programs

- **Agricultural Innovation through Gene Editing - A1191**  
Letter of Intent (required) Deadline: February 19, 2020  
Deadline: Thursday, April 23, 2020
- **Agricultural Microbiomes - A1402**  
Letter of Intent (required) Deadline: March 10, 2020  
Deadline: Thursday, May 14, 2020
- **Critical Agricultural Research & Extension (CARE) - A1701**  
Deadline: Thursday, April 23, 2020
- **Food & Agriculture Cyber informatics Tools (FACT) - A1541**  
Deadline: Thursday, April 16, 2020
- **Inter-Disciplinary Engagement in Animal Systems (IDEAS) - A1261**  
Deadline: Thursday, May 21, 2020
- **Tactical Sciences for Agricultural Biosecurity - A1181**  
Letter of Intent (required) Deadline: March 10, 2020  
Deadline: Thursday, May 28, 2020

## UPCOMING FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

- Tennessee Department of Agriculture TAEP Farmers Market — [LINK](#)
- USDA AFRI Foundational and Applied Science Program — [LINK](#)
- USDA NIFA Higher Education Challenge (HEC) Grants — [LINK](#)

### #Funding Opportunities >>>

> Watch for UTIA Office of Sponsored Programs weekly funding opportunities digest.

> The [UTK Faculty Development Team](#) has also launched a weekly funding digest featuring information from the NIH Digest, round-ups from the Corporate and Private Foundations Office, limited submissions, and internal opportunities. [Sign up to receive the digest here.](#)

> Use [Pivot](#) to search and save funding opportunities, set up funding alerts, or manage your scholar profile using your UT NetID. Use the [Foundation Directory Online](#) to search a database of the 10,000 largest private, community, and corporate foundations in the U.S.

> UTK's Office of Research and Engagement's Management of [Limited Submission Funding Opportunities](#) has a listserv ([link](#)) that you can subscribe to.

- **USDA NIFA:** <https://nifa.usda.gov/page/search-grant>
- **NIH:** [http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/funding\\_program.htm](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/funding_program.htm)
- **Non-NIH Opportunities for Predoctoral & Graduate Researchers:** [link](#)
- **Postdoctoral Non-NIH Opportunities:** <https://www.fic.nih.gov/Funding/NonNIH/Pages/postdoctoral.aspx>
- **NSF:** <http://www.nsf.gov/funding/index.jsp>
- **Grants.gov:** <http://www.grants.gov/>
- **Tennessee State Government Rural Task Force:** <https://www.tn.gov/ruraltaskforce/search-for-grants---resources.html>
- **Rural Assistance Center:** Various TN Funding Opportunities at <http://www.raconline.org/states/tennessee/funding>
- **Philanthropy News Digest (Foundation Center):** <http://philanthropynewsdigest.org/>
- **Morris Animal Foundation:** <http://www.morrisanimalfoundation.org/researchers/>
- **Grant Resources in Science, Math, and Integrated STEM:** <http://stemgrants.com/stem-grants-for-universities-and-colleges/>

UTIA Office of Sponsored Programs Facebook & Twitter pages are avenues we use to keep you up to date with the ever changing events in Research Administration.



An additional source of information is our web page. ([link](#))  
You may submit questions, ideas or suggestions for improvements of our newsletter to [aggrant@utk.edu](mailto:aggrant@utk.edu).

