News & Updates

Principal Investigator’s (PI) Handbook: Revised Version

The Principal Investigator’s (PI) Handbook was recently revised to include up-to-date information and links to current sponsored program related processes, procedures, and policies. The last revision of the PI Handbook occurred in 2005. Since then, a vast amount of sponsored program related processes, procedures and policies have changed. Therefore, it was necessary to update the PI Handbook to ensure that it contained accurate and current information.

The PI Handbook is intended to assist faculty, staff, and administrative officers with the management of sponsored program proposals and awards. The handbook contains information to specific and common areas related to sponsored program management. Where applicable, the handbook includes links and references to policies and procedures impacting sponsored programs administration.

Section IV (Compliance Overview) of the handbook is currently under review. Another revision of the PI Handbook will be available after the review of Section IV is complete.

View the latest revision of the Principal Investigator’s Handbook here.
Join Art Works and the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) for their one-hour Art Works Media Arts grants guidelines workshop. NEA conducts discipline-specific webinars for Art Works grant guidelines at the beginning of each calendar year. These webinars provide deeper insights into the guidelines for grant submission and allow applicants the opportunity to ask specific questions in real-time during a Q&A session.

*Registration is free.*

**Art Works Media Arts Guidelines Webinar**

*Date: Wednesday, January 15, 2014*  
*Time: 1:00—2:00pm EST*  
[Link to Register](#)

The new Art Works guidelines will be available in early January 2014.

**Fulbright Scholar Program: Campus Representative Workshops**

The Fulbright Scholar Program, administered by the Council for International Exchange of Scholars (Division of the Institute of International Education), will be hosting a workshop for faculty and campus representatives in Washington, D.C. on February 13-14, 2014.

Campus Representative Workshops provide the most comprehensive training available on the Fulbright Scholar Program. Participants who attend will discuss the full suite of opportunities available for faculty and administrators within the Fulbright Program, learn strategies in promoting the Fulbright Scholar Program with their faculty, as well as network with other Campus Representatives across the country.

*Registration is free* and open to anyone wishing to learn and share best practices for promoting and understanding the full breadth of the Fulbright Scholar Program.

**Fulbright Scholar Campus Representative Workshop**

*Location: Washington, D.C.*  
*Dates: February 13-14, 2014*

For more information, or to register please [click here](#) or contact [afulay@iie.org](mailto:afulay@iie.org) directly.
Research Administration Certification (RAC) Program
RAC is a comprehensive training and certification program designed to assist AU departmental and school/college level staff with research administration and management responsibilities. This 8-session program provides pertinent information to enable participants to effectively manage sponsored awards.

RAC is offered in both online and instructor-led formats.

Information on the next instructor-led sessions are as follows:

- **Session 5: Financial Management I (Post-Award Policies)**
  - February 13, 2014, 10:00-12:00 PM, Butler Board Room
- **Session 6: Financial Management II (Post-Award Procedures)**
  - February 27, 2014, 10:00-12:00 PM, Butler Board Room
- **Session 7: Systems Overview**
  - March 20, 2014, 10:00-12:00 PM, Butler Board Room
- **Session 8: Research Compliance Overview**
  - April TBD

Information on the online sessions can be obtained from the following link.
View more information about RAC and how to register for the instructor-led and online formats here >>

Funding Search Information Sessions
OSP has created a series of informational sessions for those interested in independently searching for funding opportunities. The sessions will provide training on how to use our current funding search databases, and will assist faculty and staff in developing user profiles to receive direct funding opportunity announcements related to their research/program interests.

- **Next Sessions:**
  - General Overview: February 6, 2014, 10:30-12:00 PM, Butler Board Room—Open to all AU faculty and staff
  - Unit/School Oriented (CLALS/SIS): February 18, 2014, 10:00-12:00 PM, Butler Board Room—Open to all CLALS and SIS staff

View more information about the Funding Search Information sessions and how to register here >>

Grant Administration Roundtable (GAR) Sessions
OSP and Grants and Contracts Accounting (GCA) would like to invite you to the next scheduled GAR sessions where they will be discussing the following topics:

- **February 19, 2014, 10:00—11:30am, MGC 4&5**
  - NCURA Peer Review Site Visit
  - Subrecipient Monitoring Policy
  - Risk Account Request/Approval Form

- **April 8, 2014, 10:00—11:30am, Butler Board Room**
  - Proposal Budget Template

View more information about GAR and how to register here >>
Research Matters

OSP SPOTLIGHT

Each month, OSP Monthly highlights a specific American University faculty/staff member for their contributions in providing cutting-edge research or a research related program that serves to create and advance knowledge, and enrich the resources of our educational community while answering and accelerating challenging issues we face today. This month, we are featuring Cristel Russell, Assistant Professor in the Department of Marketing.

Q&A with Cristel Russell

Q: Please tell us about what your research interests are:
Cristel: My research focuses on the power of the messages in the content of entertaining programming, as opposed to commercial messages on programming. Promotional practices that embed advertising messages within entertainment programs (sometimes called product placements or embedded advertising) are a relatively recent evolution in marketing, and I have been at the forefront of the academic research in this domain. My reputation as an international expert in this area has been fueled by my many academic publications and presentations regarding the use of embedded content as a communication tool for business, but also its use in health education.

Q: In your own words, what is the main purpose/importance of your research?
Cristel: At heart, I am most concerned about the well-being of consumers. The research questions I tackle focus on how we can better educate consumers about the potentially negative influences that they may receive through embedded advertising or what can be done to prevent unethical, deceptive, or otherwise unhealthy practices. My product placement work promptly led me to realize its potential for deception as it is a subtle and often unnoticed marketing practice, and to witness the prevalence of product depictions, such as alcohol, tobacco or other drugs that could be damaging to audiences - especially the youth. Thus, I turned to prevention research and focused on documenting the negative influences of television programs and their contents, and on strategies to help combat these negative influences.

Q: Currently, what type of research are you primarily focused on?
Cristel: I always have many projects underway! The one funded by France’s Institut National Du Cancer (INCA) looks at the content of music video and TV series for any messages related to alcohol or tobacco. It will then assess what influence those messages may have on younger audiences.

Q: What are some of the ways to learn and find out about your research?
Cristel: I use multiple methods across all my research projects, depending on the research question. I value multi-paradigmatic research approaches because they trigger novel perspectives and subsequently enrich our understanding of consumer behavior. I was fortunate to receive my Ph.D. training in the interdisciplinary marketing department at the University of Arizona, home to cognitive psychologists, modelers, social psychologists, and anthropologists. This multiplicity of perspectives gave me a deep appreciation for the value of using multiple lenses to understand consumers.

For example, this latest project on alcohol in music videos and TV series requires a content analysis of the actual nature of the alcohol portrayals in these entertainment programs and then, to test their effects, I will use both survey techniques and experimental methods to study whether different types of alcohol messages impact youth differently.

Q: What inspired you to enter your field of research initially?
Cristel: When I started my Ph.D. in the mid 1990’s, Seinfeld was at its prime and it had many tongue in cheek placements in the TV show. This prompted my interest because it had not been studied at all before. So, I developed a whole program of research in this domain and I have become the expert for what used to be a ‘new’ marketing communications tool that has now exploded and is very prevalent across many forms of media including TV, movies, videogames, music videos, plays, etc.
**FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

**Arts & Humanities**

**Phillips Foundation—Robert Novak Journalism Fellowship Program**
The Foundation created this program to provide fellowships for projects to be undertaken by journalists who share the Foundation's mission to advance constitutional principles, a democratic society and a vibrant free enterprise system. Applicants propose a one-year writing project on a topic of their choosing, focusing on journalism supportive of American culture and a free society. In addition to the regular fellowships, the Foundation awards special fellowships on the environment, on free enterprise, and on law enforcement.
**Deadline: February 2014**

**Harvard University—Mellon Visiting Scholarship**
A limited number of Mellon Visiting Fellowships, for periods ranging from three to six months, are available each academic year for advanced research in any aspect of the Italian Renaissance. This Fellowship is designed to support and promote Italian Renaissance studies in areas that have been under-represented at I Tatti. Preference will be given to junior scholars who teach, or plan to teach, in Asia, Islamic countries, Latin America, and the Mediterranean basin.
**Deadline: February 1, 2014**

**West African Research Association—WARA Residencies**
In the interest of enhancing transatlantic exchange and collaboration, the West African Research Association, with funding from the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the US State Department, offers Residencies for West African Scholars to visit WARA member institutions. WARA is a consortium of colleges and universities with academic interests in Africa. Each residency will provide the visiting scholar with opportunities for library research, guest lecturing or teaching, and/or collaborative work with American colleagues.
**Deadline: February 1, 2014**

**American Scandinavian Foundation—Public Project Proposals**
The American-Scandinavian Foundation promotes the cultures of the Nordic countries in the United States and American culture in the Nordic countries by encouraging programs that will enhance public appreciation of culture, art, and thought. In establishing priorities, the Foundation considers the lasting benefits that may be achieved by any grant, and favors projects where its contribution will complement support from other sources.
**Deadline: February 15, 2014**

**National Endowment for the Humanities—Digital Humanities Implementation Grants**
This program is designed to fund the implementation of innovative digital-humanities projects that have successfully completed a start-up phase and demonstrated their value to the field. Such projects might enhance our understanding of central problems in the humanities, raise new questions in the humanities, or develop new digital applications and approaches for use in the humanities. The program can support innovative digital-humanities projects that address multiple audiences, including scholars, teachers, librarians, and the public.
**Deadline: February 19, 2014**

**Society of American Archivists—Hamer Kegan Award**
Established in 1973 (and modified in 1987 and 1991), this award recognizes an archivist, editor, group of individuals, or institution that has increased public awareness of a specific body of documents through compilation, transcription, exhibition, or public presentation of archives or manuscript materials for educational, instructional, or other public purpose. Archives may include photographs, films, and visual archives. Publication may be in hard copy, microfilm, laser disk, or other circulating medium.
**Deadline: February 28, 2014**

**National Film Preservation Foundation—Avant-Garde Masters Grants**
Avant-garde film is generally produced and distributed outside mainstream film channels. Often created by a single filmmaker or a small team, these films are intended as artistic expressions. They often experiment with the film medium in unique and personal ways. This grant supports the preservation of a film or films by a single filmmaker or from a cinematic group significant to the development of avant-garde film in America. Works made within the last twenty years are not eligible. Applications should show how the proposed titles have made a significant contribution to American experimental film or, if the works are lesser known today, demonstrate how the films will contribute to a better understanding of avant-garde film history.
**Deadline: March 7, 2014**
FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Social Sciences & Sciences

Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor (DRL)—Internet Freedom Technology
DRL funds programs that support internet freedom under the “Governing Justly and Democratically” foreign assistance program objective. DRL invites organizations interested in potential funding to submit statements of interest (SOI) outlining program concepts and capacity to manage projects that will foster freedom of expression and the free flow of information on the internet and other connection technologies around the world.
Deadline: February 28, 2014

Washington Center for Equitable Growth—Grant Program
The Washington Center for Equitable Growth is a new, non-partisan organization housed at the Center for American Progress that seeks to work with academics and policymakers to develop a new vision for achieving economic growth—one that is supported by research, grounded in rigorous analysis, and compelling enough to spark policy debate. Our grant program will support a number of lines of inquiry that examine many different types of evidence and cut across academic fields. Our goal is to build a portfolio of projects that address specific aspects of this question, investigating individual channels through which inequality may affect growth, but we will also consider projects that directly explore the question of how inequality affects growth. In each category listed below we encourage researchers to consider the effects of public policies on both economic growth and inequality.
Deadline: February 1, 2014

Mary Kay Foundation—Cancer Research Grants
The Mary Kay Foundation, a funding source for cancer research, is currently accepting applications for innovative grants for translational research in ovarian, uterine, breast, or cervical cancer. The program will offer between ten to fifteen grants. The awards will be up to $100,000 each (combined direct and indirect costs). The grant period is for two years. Applications must be submitted by one Principal Investigator, selected by the Institution. Grants are limited to the United States.
Deadline: February 3, 2014

Open Society Foundations—Fellowships
The Open Society Fellowship was founded in 2008 to support individuals pursuing innovative and unconventional approaches to fundamental open society challenges. The fellowship funds work that will enrich public understanding of those challenges and stimulate far-reaching and probing conversations within the Open Society Foundations and in the world. A fellowship project might identify a problem that has not previously been recognized, develop new policy ideas to address familiar problems, or offer a new advocacy strategy. Project themes should cut across at least two areas of interest to the Open Society Foundations. Among these are human rights, government transparency, access to information and to justice, and the promotion of civil society and social inclusion.
Deadline: February 3, 2014

National Science Foundation—Science, Technology & Society
STS considers proposals for scientific research into the interface between science or technology, and society. STS researchers use diverse methods including social science, historical, and philosophical methods. Successful proposals will be transferrable (i.e., generate results that provide insights for other scientific contexts that are suitably similar). They will produce outcomes that address pertinent problems and issues at the interface of science, technology and society, such as those having to do with practices and assumptions, ethics, values, governance, and policy.
Deadline: February 3, 2014

Vodafone Americas Foundation—Wireless Innovation Project
The Vodafone Wireless Innovation Project™ (the “competition”) seeks to identify and fund the best innovations using wireless related technology to address critical social issues around the world. Project proposals must demonstrate significant advancement in the field of wireless-related technology applied to social benefit use. The competition is open to projects from universities and nonprofit organizations based in the United States. Although organizations must be based in the United States, projects may operate and help people outside of the United States.
Deadline: February 3, 2014
FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Office of Community Planning and Development—Continuum of Care Grant
These are the premier federal funds to address the nation’s homelessness crisis. The program promotes community-wide partnerships to end homelessness; provides funding for nonprofit providers and state and local governments to quickly re-house homeless individuals and families to minimize trauma and dislocation; encourages access usage of mainstream programs; and optimizes self-sufficiency among individuals and families experiencing homelessness.
Deadline: February 3, 2014

Environmental Protection Agency—Environmental Education Grants
The purpose of the Environmental Education Grants Program is to provide money to support environmental education projects that increase the public’s awareness about environmental issues and provide them with the skills to take responsible actions to protect the environment.
Deadline: February 4, 2014

Klarman Family Foundation—Grants Program in Eating Disorders Research
The Klarman Family Foundation is interested in providing strategic investment in translational research that will accelerate progress in developing effective treatments for anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa and binge eating disorder. The program’s short-term goal is to support the most outstanding science and expand the pool of scientists whose research explores the basic biology of feeding, anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa, and/or binge eating disorder. The long-term goal is to improve the lives of patients suffering from these conditions.
Deadline: February 11, 2014

Mathematical Association of America—Tensor Women and Mathematics Projects
The MAA plans to award grants for projects designed to encourage college and university women or high school and middle school girls to study mathematics. The Tensor Foundation, working through the MAA, is soliciting college, university, and secondary mathematics faculty (in conjunction with college or university faculty) and their departments and institutions to submit proposals. Projects may replicate existing successful projects, adapt components of such projects, or be innovative.
Deadline: February 12, 2014

World Anti-Doping Agency—Research Grants
WADA is committed to increasing the volume of research dedicated to developing new and improved detection methods for prohibited substances and methods. WADA is also responsible for studying emerging doping threats, such as gene doping. In addition to the regular Research Grant Program, urgent doping research topics identified by WADA (e.g. detection of emerging doping substances) or research projects of high interest in the fight against doping in sport presented outside the regular program application process may receive funding as part of the Target Research or Reactive Research Programs, respectively.
Deadline: February 16, 2014

Burroughs Wellcome Fund—Institutional Program Unifying Population and Laboratory Based Sciences
The Burroughs Wellcome Fund’s Institutional Program Unifying Population and Laboratory Based Sciences (PUP) is an institutional training award launched in 2008 to bridge the gap between the population and computational sciences and the laboratory based biomedical sciences. The award will stimulate formation of new connections between existing concentrations of research strength in population approaches to human health and in bench based biomedical sciences.
The goal is to establish training programs that partner researchers working in schools of medicine and schools (or academic divisions) of public health.
Deadline: February 17, 2014

National Institute of Food and Agriculture—Grant Program
The program focuses on developing the next generation of scientists in the food, forestry and agricultural sciences. Priority areas include food safety and nutrition, especially in rural areas.
Deadline: February 20, 2014

National Science Foundation—Energy for Sustainability
This program supports fundamental research and education that will enable innovative processes for the sustainable production of electricity and transportation fuels. Processes for sustainable energy production must be environmentally benign, reduce greenhouse gas production, and utilize renewable resources. Current interest areas are biomass conversion, biofuels & bioenergy, photovoltaic solar energy, wind energy, and advanced batteries for transportation.
Deadline: February 20, 2014
FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

RAND Corporation—Training Program in Study of Aging
The RAND Postdoctoral Training Program in the Study of Aging enables outstanding junior scholars in demographic and aging research to sharpen their analytic skills, learn to communicate research results effectively, and advance their research agenda. Housed within the Labor and Population Program, the program blends formal and informal training and extensive collaboration with distinguished researchers in a variety of disciplines.
Deadline: February 21, 2014

National Institutes of Health
NIH Funding Opportunities—Grants & Funding Page
(Search by keywords to narrow down your search to locate funding opportunities)

Education

Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation—Toolbox for Education K-12 Grant
The program supports projects that encourage parental involvement in local schools and build stronger community spirit. Toolbox for Education grants of up to $5,000 will be awarded in support of projects that have a permanent impact on a school community. Grant funds cannot be used to pay for memorials, stipends, salaries, artists in residence, field trips, or scholarships. Only 10 percent of any award can be allocated for outside expenses such as labor, installation, consultation, and delivery. Lowe’s will only consider grants for projects that can be completed within a year of receipt of the grant. A Toolbox grant can be used as part of a large-scale project like a playground as long as the grant is used to complete a phase of the project that can be completed within twelve months of the award.
Deadline: February 14, 2014

International Education Research Foundation—Sepmeyer Research Grant Program
IERF’s mission is to research and disseminate information on world educational systems and to facilitate the integration of individuals educated outside the United States into the U.S. educational environment and work force. IERF accomplishes this by conducting and supporting comprehensive, quality research on world educational systems, sharing its research findings with the international community and providing research-based credentials evaluations and related services.
Deadline: February 15, 2014

General

IBM Center for the Business of Government—Research Report Stipends
The IBM Center for The Business of Government aims to tap into the best minds in academe and the nonprofit sector who can use rigorous public management research and analytic techniques to help government leaders and public managers improve efficiency and effectiveness. We are looking for sound research design, practical findings and actionable recommendations—not just theory or concepts—in order to assist executives and managers to respond more effectively to mission and management challenges.
Deadline: April 1, 2014

Federal Contracts
Federal Business Funding Opportunities
(Search by keywords to narrow down your search to locate funding opportunities)
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Here is some of what to expect in next month’s OSP Monthly:

- OSP Spotlight with Seth Gershenson, Assistant Professor in the Department of Public Administration and Policy
- Hot Topics in Research Administration
- Revised FAQ Section on the OSP Website
- Information on Opportunities to Serve on Scientific Review/Grant Proposal Review Committees

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