As previously announced, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) officially published the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards ("Uniform Guidance") on December 26, 2013. The new OMB uniform guidance consolidates eight OMB circulars into a single document and significantly changes some requirements governing the management and administration of federal sponsored awards. The new guidance is the single most significant change in sponsored programs/research administration regulations in the last 50 years. Thus, to ensure compliance, OSP will periodically provide guidance to the university community for proposals that will be awarded on or after December 26, 2014, when the new regulations become effective. Below is guidance advising when administrative and clerical salaries can be charged as direct costs to federal sponsored awards.

Charging Administrative and Clerical Salaries

Uniform Guidance allows, in certain circumstances, for administrative and clerical salaries to be included in proposal budgets (submitted after December 26) as direct costs. Direct charging of these costs may be appropriate only if all of the following conditions are met:

1. Administrative or clerical services are integral\(^1\) to a project or activity;
2. Individuals involved can be specifically identified with the project or activity;
3. Such costs are explicitly included in the budget or have the prior written approval of the Federal awarding agency; and
4. The costs are not also recovered as indirect costs.

If all of the above conditions are not met, administrative and clerical support costs will be treated as indirect (F&A) costs and should not be proposed as direct costs.

\(^{1}\)To be determined on a case-by-case basis as the Uniform Guidance does not specifically define “integral”. Applicability is subject to audit.
Collaborations and IRB Approval

Q: I am collaborating with a researcher at another university who already has IRB approval from their institution. Do I still need to go through the IRB process at AU?

A: All research involving human participants by faculty and students of AU will need IRB approval. It is possible to set up an agreement between different IRBs to allow one to accept the decision of another on a case-by-case basis. This is typically known as an Institutional Authorization Agreement (IAA) or IRB of Record Agreement. IAAs typically have a shorter turnaround time than seeking individual approval. There are no federal requirements or standards for these agreements, and each institution has its own processes and guidelines. Ultimately, your collaborators will need to follow the policies and procedures of their institution.

Q: What will I need to provide to the IRB office?

A: Please provide a contact for the other institution’s IRB, the name of the Principle Investigator, the title of the approved protocol, and the protocol number. The Office of Research Integrity will handle the execution of the agreement once these details are provided.

Q: What if an agreement cannot be reached?

A: In this case, you will need to have the protocol approved by the AU IRB. In most cases, the IRB will review the application that was approved by the other institution, so you will not need to resubmit a protocol on AU forms. If the AU IRB requests modifications, these will also need to be reviewed and approved by the other institution as well.

Q: Can AU act as an IRB of record?

A: Each request is handled on an individual basis, but it is possible to initiate an agreement where AU is the IRB of record. For questions on IAAs at AU, contact the Office of Research Integrity at x3447 or irb@american.edu.
If you are interested in attending a workshop, and/or scheduling a 1-on-1 session, please RSVP to Anita Brown, Special Assistant to Vice Provost for Research at abrown@american.edu.

More details about the workshop will be sent in October to all interested faculty members.

---

THE OSP AT A GLANCE CALENDAR

OSP has created a calendar on our website that references specific OSP-related information sessions, upcoming events, and important dates for you to see. The At-a-Glance Calendar will be updated frequently whenever changes or additions are added.

View the OSP At-a-Glance Calendar here >>
AU Senior Jessie Hirtenstein has always loved math. When an opportunity to apply to the 11-week Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) program hosted by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) presented itself, she seized it.

The competitive SURF program presented a unique research proposition. For an undergraduate, the ability to be mentored by field leaders and to conduct innovative research for 40 hours per week is rare. Conducting research at the professional level in theoretical mathematics, at the NIST was the core focus of her SURF summer experience. Jessie discovered this opportunity through her physics professor, Phil Johnson who gave a talk at NIST last year. His invitation to the talk and subsequent exposure to the program, allowed Jessie the opportunity to experience a professional research environment first hand.

When the physics department advertised the fellowship opportunity she applied and was selected to participate in the program. The SURF program’s goal is to help students across engineering, science, and technology disciplines discover a world of opportunity available to them through research. Through mentorship, collaboration and practical application, students explore, discover, and transform ideas into reality to advance society and improve people's lives. As the American University representative, Jessie has spent the past few months working on two projects within the field of theoretical mathematics. In the first, she worked on deriving new theorems based on functions originally presented by Wilhelm Magnus. In the second, she worked with a partial differential equation known as the polyharmomic equation. The results of each project will be published over the next two years. Ultimately, she says, “working with these special functions, and using them in different equations and situations, we can begin to understand more about them and the world around us.”

In her view, the program taught her more than just math and complex analysis. She also says it taught her about how to respond to the challenges of research. Her take away from the experience? “Don’t worry! Just keep working, go back and check your previous work, etc. What seems impossible will work itself out.” Her summer experience also enabled her to further refine her own research interests while simultaneously improving her ability to work like a mathematician: “I consider myself more of a physicist than a mathematician, so this summer I had to learn to think and present my work as a mathematician.” Overall, one of the things Ms. Hirtenstein enjoyed most about her summer at NIST was meeting new friends with similar interests to her own. For other students about to embark on a research fellowship or similar program, Ms. Hirtenstein has one piece of advice. “Don’t be overwhelmed or discouraged by the project, or institution, when you first see it. Just take a deep breath, and take everything one step at a time.”
Grant Administration Roundtable (GAR) Sessions

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

- NCURA Peer Review Status & Updates

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

Research Administration Certification (RAC) Program

First announced in the August issue of OSP Monthly, 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.

View more information about RAC and how to register here >>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10.14.2014</td>
<td>10:00 am - 12:00pm</td>
<td>Butler Conference Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.18.2014</td>
<td>10:00 am - 12:00pm</td>
<td>MGC Room 247</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Funding Search Information Sessions

As announced in the August issue of OSP Monthly, OSP has created a series of information 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 opportunities related to their research interests.

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

Patricia Aufderheide

Each month, OSP Monthly highlights a specific American University faculty/staff member for their contributions in providing cutting-edge research or research related program that serves to create and advance knowledge, enrich the resources of our educational community while answering and accelerating challenging issues we face today. This month, we are featuring Dr. Patricia Aufderheide, University Professor for the School of Communication & Co-Director for the Center for Media and Social Impact.

Q&A with Patricia Aufderheide

Q: In a few words, would you tell us about your center?

A: The Center for Media and Social Impact houses projects by faculty on media and social impact, both in research and production.

Q: What is the main focus and importance of your research?

A: One of the main focuses of my research is copyright and creativity. I collaborate with Professor Peter Jaszi in the law school. I look at how people create and work considering their assumptions about copyright. People use existing copyrighted material often in their work, whether it’s students quoting for their papers or someone making a mashup. We have found that because people suffer from confusion and are often misinformed about their rights to reuse copyrighted material, they self-censor. This is true for filmmakers, journalists, English teachers, poets and many others.

We have researched practices that inhibit creativity in different practice communities, and also worked with them to create codes of best practices in fair use, which allow them to understand their rights to reuse copyrighted material, and the limits on those rights. These codes have enabled practitioners to change the way they work, and to stop self-censoring. Our latest work is a pledge with the TV channel PIVOT, on producing responsibly.

Another concern of the Center and of mine is the future of public media--the spaces in the society where information can be generated for public knowledge and action. We share this interest and concern with our colleagues at J-Lab and at the Investigative Reporting Workshop, among others. For six years, we ran a project with the Ford Foundation to host a national conversation about the future of public media, which among other things generated a white paper, Public Media 2.0: Dynamic, Engaged Publics, which informed later work and policy fundamentally.
Q: What are the functions of the staff assigned to The Center for Media and Social Impact?

A: Our Creative Director Professor Caty Chattoo is concerned with the metrics of media impact, and is working on a variety of research projects to assess media impact, with among others Working Films, Participant Productions and the BBC. She also produces a range of public media, including a series on Muslim comics internationally with Link TV. Our Media Fellow Nina Shapiro-Perl works with nonprofits and with American University students to produce videos that can promote the community-building activities of D.C.-area nonprofits while our other Media Fellow, Larry Kirkman hosts the Visiting Filmmakers program associated with the Media That Matters conference. He is also responsible for cultivating relationships and partnerships with the social-issue film community.

Our Media Fellow Felicia Pride works with our Associate Director Angelica Das to host our annual Media That Matters conference, for media makers to learn cutting edge practices in strategic design. Our Research Fellow Laura DeNardis hosts an annual lecture series on communication and Internet policy and the public good. The Center also has worked and expects to work with a broad range of AU faculty on concerns about media and the public good. Our graduate fellows both produce media and conduct research with our faculty.

Q: What are some of the ways to learn and find out about the types of research you are doing?

A: At Cmsimpact.org/fair-use, you can find all our studies and fair use codes, our public media research, a sampling of our videos and other explainers, and profiles of current researchers and projects.

Q: What inspired you to enter your field of research initially?

A: I have always been interested in cultural production—how the culture that we take for granted gets made and under what terms. I have been fortunate to be permitted both by American University and funders to explore these issues, both individually and collaboratively.
FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Arts & Humanities

American Council of Learned Societies – Robert H.N. Ho Family Foundation Program in Buddhist Studies
The American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) announces the second year of an initiative supporting research and teaching in Buddhist studies funded by a $1.9 million grant from The Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation. Working with the Foundation, ACLS will offer an articulated set of fellowship and grant competitions that will expand the understanding and interpretation of Buddhist thought in scholarship and society, strengthen international networks of Buddhist studies, and increase the visibility of innovative currents in those studies.
Deadline: October 22, 2014

Asian Cultural Council – Individual Grants
Whether Asian or American, whether a cutting-edge painter or a traditional dancer, whether a classical musician or a modern cultural archeologist—any gifted individual artist or scholar who seeks to grow in his or her craft or field can apply for funding to conduct research and study, receive specialized training, undertake observation tours, or pursue non-commercial creative activity in the United States or among the countries of Asia.
Deadline: November 1, 2014

Kellogg Institute Visiting Fellowships – Exploring Democracy and Human Development
The Kellogg Institute for International Studies seeks both accomplished and promising scholars who conduct international research on democracy and human development, as relevant to contemporary societies around the world. Visiting fellowships afford the time to move research projects forward in an interdisciplinary, intellectually stimulating environment, share findings, and develop linkages with renowned US and international scholars.
Deadline: November 1, 2014

State Justice Institute – Project Grants
SJI is interested in funding both innovative programs and programs of proven merit that can be replicated in other jurisdictions. SJI is especially interested in funding projects that: formulate new procedures and techniques, or creatively enhance existing procedures and techniques; address aspects of the state judicial systems that are in special need of serious attention; have national significance by developing products, services, and techniques that may be used in other states; and create and disseminate products that effectively transfer the information and ideas developed to relevant audiences in state and local judicial systems, or provide technical assistance to facilitate the adaptation of effective programs and procedures in other state and local jurisdictions.
Deadline: November 1, 2014

Tribeca Film Institute – TFI Documentary Fund
The TFI Documentary Fund furthers the development of exceptional character-driven, non-fiction works that spotlight contemporary themes with an original focus and bold, creative filmmaking. This fund allows TFI to fund many audience-grabbing genres that fall under the documentary umbrella including arts, sports, hybrid and experimental projects. With this fund, TFI looks for films that specifically sit outside of the social-issue landscape by painting a dynamic portrait of compelling individuals and uplifting stories. By playfully engaging in these unexplored perspectives, TFI seeks to spotlight the journey of the individual.
Deadline: November 5, 2014
Motor Neurone Disease Association – Biomedical Research Grants
The MND Association supports biomedical research on Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis and related conditions, in all relevant disciplines. The objectives of the MND Association research funding programme are to support research aimed at understanding the causes of MND, elucidating disease mechanisms and facilitating the translation of therapeutic strategies from the laboratory to the clinic.
Deadline: October 31, 2014

The Glaucoma Foundation – Grant Program
The Glaucoma Foundation offers grants to researchers striving to improve the lives of glaucoma patients through novel innovations and scientific advances. The area of current focus for TGF's Grant Research program is exfoliation syndrome and exfoliation glaucoma. Initial grant funding for a one-year period is for up to $40,000; a grantee is permitted to apply for a grant renewal of up to $50,000. A renewal grant is a one year grant based upon research findings from the initial research.
Deadline: November 1, 2014

Alex’s Lemonade Stand Foundation – Innovation Grants
These grants are designed to provide critical and significant seed funding for experienced investigators with a novel and promising approach to finding causes and cures for childhood cancers. A Letter of Intent is required. The Innovation Award amount totals $250,000 over two years. The Award may not be renewed however no cost extensions are allowable.
Deadline: November 3, 2014

National Science Foundation – Mathematical Biology
The mathematical biology program supports research in areas of applied and computational mathematics with relevance to the biological sciences. Successful proposals are mathematically innovative and address challenging problems of interest to members of the biological community. Projects may include development of mathematical concepts and tools traditionally seen in other disciplinary programs within the Division of Mathematical Sciences, e.g. topology, probability, statistics, and computation, etc.
Deadline: November 17, 2014

American Foundation for Suicide Prevention – Grants
AFSP Suicide Research Grants support studies aimed at increasing our understanding of the causes of suicide and factors related to suicide risk, or that test treatments and other interventions designed to prevent suicide. The Foundation offers Suicide Research Grants in six categories. Investigators from all academic disciplines are eligible to apply, and both basic science and applied research projects will be considered, provided that the proposed study has an essential focus on suicide or suicide prevention.
Deadline: November 15, 2014
The Arthur Vining David Foundations – Secondary Education Grants
A key philanthropic goal of the secondary education program is to fund initiatives with the capacity for expansion or replication to the state, regional or national levels. Requests should target professional development of high school teachers and offer best-in-class training to address a significant issue(s) facing teachers. Efforts to assist either in-service teachers or new teacher preparation are welcome. Encouraging the use of technology to promote improved teaching and outreach efforts to connect colleges and universities with school districts are invited. Curricular improvement should be aligned with relevant standards and include both content and pedagogy. Requests to support well-established programs should have the potential to improve quality significantly.
Deadline: November 1, 2014

The Council of the AERA established the fellowship program to provide support for doctoral dissertation research, to advance education research by outstanding minority graduate students, and to improve the quality and diversity of university faculties. This fellowship is targeted for members of racial and ethnic groups historically underrepresented in higher education (e.g., African Americans, Alaskan Natives, American Indians, Asian Americans, Hispanics or Latinos, and Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islanders). This program offers doctoral fellowships to enhance the competitiveness of outstanding minority scholars for academic appointments at major research universities. It supports fellows conducting education research and provides mentoring and guidance toward the completion of their doctoral studies.
Deadline: November 3, 2014

National Science Foundation – Innovative Technology Experiences for Students and Teachers (ITEST)
The Innovative Technology Experiences for Students and Teachers (ITEST) program supports projects that build understandings of best practice factors, contexts and processes contributing to students' motivation, participation, enhanced interest in and capabilities to successfully pursue STEM and/or STEM cognate (e.g., information and communications technology (ICT), computing, computer sciences, data analytics, among others) domain intensive education programs and careers. ITEST seeks to ensure a high-quality STEM workforce that can meet U.S. technology needs by supporting projects that: (1) increase students' awareness of STEM and cognate careers; (2) motivate students to pursue appropriate education pathways for STEM and cognate careers; and/or (3) provide students with technology-rich experiences that develop disciplinary-based knowledge and practices, and non-cognitive skills (e.g., critical thinking and communication skills) needed for entering STEM workforce sectors. ITEST is funded by H-1B visa revenues in direct response to current concerns about effectively responding to extant and emerging areas requiring specialists at all levels and in all fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), including cognate domains.
Deadline: November 6, 2014

International Reading Association – Esther Zolt Academic Research Grant
This grant, established in memory of Esther Zolt, a life-long elementary classroom teacher, may be given annually for a research study on the classroom implementation of In2Books or an e-Pals project and the Common Core State Standards that inspires others to improve teaching and learning in innovative ways.
Deadline: November 15, 2014
FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

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

Federal Contracts
Federal Business Funding Opportunities
(Search by keywords to narrow down your search to locate funding opportunities)

Encourage those who are not on the newsletter subscription list to join!
Subscribe by sending an email with your name and academic/business unit to Newsletter-L@listserv.american.edu

Here is some of what to expect in next month’s OSP Monthly:
- OMB Updates
- OSP Spotlight
- Funding Opportunities

Contact Information
Office of Sponsored Programs
202-885-3440
osp@american.edu
www.american.edu/provost/osp/index.cfm