Welcome from the Dean

In my over 22 years of being a member of the faculty or administration at SJSU, CSU East Bay, and now HSU, my most memorable experiences have been related to student success in research. It is such a wonderful feeling to actually participate in what some call the “a-ha” moment, when the lights come on and the points are connected. It makes the hard work of being a professor or research administrator all the more worthwhile. Research also contributes to a faculty member’s sense of success and well-being. The challenges and successes of the research process for both faculty and students contribute to a university that is vibrant, whole, exciting, and successful.

So, what do I know about Humboldt State University’s vision for research? I know from our Mission and Core Value Statements that, “We strive to create an inclusive environment of free inquiry, in which learning is the highest priority. In this environment, discovery through research, creative endeavors and experience energizes the educational process,” and that “We believe in intellectual growth through scholarship, creative activities and research.” I know from the faculty and staff I have met in my first months at HSU that research is an integral part of their work and that many want to do more of it. I know that HSU is unique in its approach to research, particularly at the undergraduate level, by offering hands-on experiences working with faculty in the field and the laboratory.

Given, what I now know, what do I offer as a service to HSU that adds value to the HSU research agenda? I promise to work closely with the faculty and staff to help HSU further gain recognition as a destination for research opportunities. I promise to facilitate efforts that support our students through involvement in research that enhances the likelihood that our students will graduate and strive for a higher degree, will achieve at the highest levels, and will remember HSU as their starting point. I promise to work diligently and collaboratively so that research efforts at HSU double and possibly triple in the next five years.

I honestly believe that leveraging resources, involving students, reaching out to external partners, and thinking entrepreneurially and with an interdisciplinary and collaborative lens will help launch HSU to a higher level of success in research, scholarship and creative activity efforts.

Dr. Rhea L. Williamson
Dean for Research
Office for Research and Sponsored Programs
New Responsible Conduct
Of Research Program

Each principal investigator applying for financial assistance from the National Science Foundation (NSF) for science and engineering research, as well as education, is subject to a new training requirement. Specifically, all NSF proposals must include a plan to provide appropriate training and oversight in the “responsible and ethical conduct of research” to all undergraduate students, graduate students, and postdoctoral researchers participating in the research project.

SPF has a site license with CITI, the subscription service providing research ethics education to all members of our campus research community.

Selecting this link will allow you and your students to take any research training course at no charge to your department. Once you have selected the link you will need to select new registration.

Featured Funding Opportunities:

- COAST – Council on Ocean Affairs, Science and Technology
- WRPI – Water Resources and Policy Initiatives
- ARI – Agricultural Research Institute

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<tr>
<th>P.I. Responsibilities</th>
<th>Pre-Award Responsibilities</th>
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<tr>
<td>- Identify potential funding opportunities</td>
<td>- Work with PI to identify &amp; review solicitation</td>
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<td>- Confirm your status as a P.I.</td>
<td>- Review RFP for limited submission restrictions</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Send Pre-Award solicitation</td>
<td>- Assist with budget preparation</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Work with Pre-Award Specialist to review solicitation</td>
<td>- Submit final proposal</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Notify Pre-Award Specialist of your preparation timeline</td>
<td>- File Proposal as Pending</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Confirm final budget</td>
<td>- Forward funded proposals to Grant Analyst</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Complete Institutional Routing</td>
<td>- Return withdrawn or declined proposals to PI</td>
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Brown Bag Faculty Research Forums

Bring your lunch and join us for an interactive discussion regarding your research goals and ideas! Drinks, chips, cookies and the like will be provided. Held during the lunch hour 12-1pm in SBS 405 (4th floor) on the following dates:

- Oct: 18th 19th
- Nov: 1st 2nd 15th 16th
- Dec: 6th 7th
OBI Reporting

We have transitioned from Hyperion to OBI as our reporting tool as of July 1st 2011. To access your OBI reports you can follow this link (OBI works best if opened in Mozilla Firefox). If you are having trouble logging in you might need to complete an Access Request Form. If you are interested in attending an OBI training workshop you can sign up here. Classes will be held alternating Fridays during the fall semester.

Post-Award Corner

Our focus for Post-Award grants management encompasses three areas: training, monitoring, and reporting. Post-Award services provide support to your project throughout the life of your grant.

Fun Facts

In 2010/11 SPF’s Grant/Contract Revenue was $17 million

During that time SPF employed:

321 Students = $948,960

433 Faculty = $5,455,488

For a total paid salary = $6,404,488

What is Cost Share?

Cost sharing or “matching” means: the portion of project or program costs not borne by the funding agency. It includes all contributions, including cash and in-kind, that a recipient makes to an award. If the award is federal, only acceptable non-federal costs qualify as cost sharing and must conform to other necessary and reasonable provisions to accomplish the program objectives. Cost sharing effort is included in the calculation of total committed effort. Effort is defined as the portion of time spent on a particular activity expressed as a percentage of the individual's total activity for the institution. Examples of Cost Share documentation include:

* Non-reimbursed timesheets (volunteered time)
* Salaries Reimbursed documentation
* Third Party Cash or In-kind documentation

Reminders for P.I.’s

☐ Be sure to copy your Grant Analyst on all correspondence with funders i.e.
  ☑ No Cost Extensions
  ☑ Budget Modifications
  ☑ All Reports: technical, interim, final, etc…
  ☑ Any changes in terms and conditions in your contract

☐ If your project has cost-share requirements make sure to submit documentation to your Grant Analyst

☐ All SPF employees are required to submit timesheets/level of efforts to payroll in the appropriate time period. The payroll schedule can be found here.

☐ Student employees must be enrolled in at least 6 units as an undergrad or 4.5 units as a graduate student and work only 20 hours or less per week. All other employees must be paid on non-student timesheets.

New Forms & Functions

Our office has been working to develop new, condensed, user friendly forms that best meet the needs of our P.I.’s as well as cut down on unnecessary paperwork. All of our most recent forms are available on our website. Nearly all our new forms are available in PDF and offer helpful drop down menus that give tool tips. We strongly encourage you to complete all of our forms electronically in order to get the most out of them. If you have difficulty completing any of our forms or have feedback please contact us at x 5159.

Post-award Grant Analysts

Anthony Johnson
(707) 826-5164

Keelye Wilson
(707) 826-5167

Cassi Goldsmith
(707) 826-5163

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Grant News

Campus Takes Lead in Statewide Tsunami-Probability Research

HSU Geology Professor Lori Dengler and students Kelly Givins and Matt Eiben take core samples at the Mad River Slough just outside Arcata, CA. Cores reveal evidence of centuries of earthquake and tsunami activity. Humboldt State University is taking the lead in the 23-campus California State University system to gather the data necessary to understand the state’s tsunami risks better. HSU faculty scientists and students are pioneering research in an academic discipline scarcely known a generation ago: paleotsunami science. View full article here.

HSU Students Put Einstein Theory to Test

A two-year, $117,000 National Science Foundation grant will enable Humboldt State University physics students led by Professor C.D. Hoyle, Principal Investigator at HSU’s Gravitational Research Laboratory, to conduct the most rigorous test worldwide of Einstein’s famous theory of relativity. View full article here.

Talent Search Wins $1.9 Million Grant

The Department of Education has awarded Humboldt State University’s Talent Search program a $1.9 million grant to continue its programs that help disadvantaged youths attend college. The five-year grant will support academic, college preparation and financial counseling for middle and high school students from 13 local schools who have the potential to succeed in higher education. View full article here.

The Office of Research and Sponsored Programs wants to congratulate all of our P.I.’s and their amazing Staff on their many accomplishments and notable awards this year.
Congratulations to Marisol Cortes-Rincon who was recently awarded $57,516 from the National Science Foundation! Dr. Cortes-Rincon is collaborating with social, geological, and biological scientists from University of Puerto Rico-Rio Piedras, the Community College of Philadelphia, George Mason University, Georgetown University, and the University of Texas at Austin to study the cultural and environmental conditions in the ancient Maya region and how that civilization reached a human-natural tipping point and collapsed, as well as the consequences of those tipping point conditions for the present-day environment.

The study will take place in the Rio Bravo Conservation and Management Area, a preserve in northwest Belize that contains dozens of Prehispanic Maya archaeological sites, ranging from urban ceremonial centers to small villages. Dr. Cortes-Rincon and her colleagues will bring 25 American undergraduate students to Belize each year to take part in archaeological fieldwork and collaboration with Belizean students. The impacts of this research will improve understanding of deforestation and its consequences, as well as forge a strong, multi-disciplinary collaboration among social, geological, and biological scientists. This field research builds on her previous work studying settlement patterns between three large Maya centers: Dos Hombres, Gran Cacao, and Great Savannah.

Request for Applications: Incentives Program

The Office of Research and Sponsored Programs (ORSP) is requesting applications for assigned time funding for the 2011-2012 academic year. The purpose of the HSU Faculty Research Incentive Award Program is to stimulate tenured/tenure-track faculty members to develop and submit full proposals to external funding agencies and organizations for research and educational projects. Applications to develop full proposals on any fundable topic are eligible providing they seek to advance or promulgate the mission of HSU. In accepting an Award, a Principal Investigator (PI) commits to develop and submit a full proposal for external funding through the campus research office. Application materials are available on our website.

Application Deadline: 5:00 p.m., Monday, October 31, 2011