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RESEARCH TRACKS

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Internal grant programs support a variety of research and scholarly activities

Faculty Research Investment Program (FRIP) and Young Investigator Development Program (YIDP)

The FRIP and YIDP programs each provide grants of up to \$25,000 in support for faculty research projects. The grants are intended to help investigators gather preliminary data to strengthen their proposals for external funding.

The difference between the two is that while the FRIP is open to all Baylor faculty, the YIDP is limited to tenure-track faculty members in their first four years at Baylor.

FRIP and YIDP grants are reviewed by subject matter experts from other universities who provide applicants with written comments to help them improve their proposals. The reviewers are current or former reviewers for major federal funding agencies who are well qualified to evaluate the funding potential of projects in their fields.

Within program limitations, FRIP and YIDP funds may be used for virtually any research-related expense. Often these grants are used to purchase equipment, pay graduate or undergraduate research assistants, or support travel to collect data.

Dr. Rebecca Sheesley, an assistant professor of environmental science, used a YIDP grant to collect atmospheric samples and develop new analytical capabilities for sample analysis.

Her YIDP-funded research resulted in data which has already contributed to three external funding submissions, as well as providing research and publication experience for graduate students working in her lab.

University Research Committee (URC)

The URC provides funding in two categories: small and mid-range grants. Small grants provide up to \$4,500, while mid-range grants provide up to \$7,500. Recipients of URC mid-range grants are required to submit a proposal for external funding following completion of their URC project, while the small grants program does not carry this leveraging requirement.

URC grants are reviewed by a committee of Baylor faculty members representing a broad mix of academic units from across the university.

Like the FRIP and YIDP grants, URC funds may be used for a variety of research-related expenses, including equipment, travel, or compensation of research subjects.

A grant from the URC helped Dr. Joe Fulton uncover and catalog a previously unknown collection of notes, letters and manuscripts by and about American author Mark Twain.

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Internal grant deadline reminder

FRIP, YIDP, and URSA applications are due on **February 6, 2013**.

URC applications are due on **February 20, 2013**.

Applications to the Arts & Humanities Faculty Research Program (AHFRP) are accepted year-round.

[Click here](#) for more information about each of these programs. To begin the application process, contact your department's assigned [OSP coordinator](#).



Fulton traveled to Twain's hometown of Florida, Missouri, where a small, remote research library holds a "treasure trove" of materials that scholars had considered lost, including books from Twain's personal library and an early manuscript of *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*.

By cataloging the materials, Fulton created a valuable resource for literary scholars and historians, and his findings have contributed to a book project now under contract.

Undergraduate Research and Scholarly Achievement (URSA)

The URSA small grants program promotes opportunities for undergraduate students to undertake meaningful research and creative discovery in their disciplines.

The grants provide up to \$5,000 in funding, which may be used for student wages, research supplies or to help offset the cost of a student's travel to present at a regional or national conference.

Since the program began in FY 2008, URSA funds have given hundreds of students the chance to gain valuable, real-world research experience. Many of these students have finished their undergraduate degrees at Baylor and gone on to enroll in research-intensive graduate programs at some of the nation's most prestigious institutions.

Dr. Tamarah Adair, a senior lecturer in the Biology Department, used URSA funds to provide research opportunities for eight students as part of a two-semester research course. The students developed and carried out experiments, wrote scientific papers, and presented posters at URSA Scholars Week and off-campus meetings.

Kevin Farquhar, one of the students who worked with Adair as part of the URSA grant, earned his B.S. in Biology in 2011 and subsequently entered the Genes and Development Ph.D. program at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center.

Arts & Humanities Faculty Research Program (AHFRP)

The OVPR also provides funds through the Arts & Humanities Faculty Research Program for faculty research or creative activities in the areas of art, music, and the humanities.

Funding amounts under the AHFRP are based on need, but typical awards are less than \$2,000. AHFRP grants often support faculty travel to perform research at specialized archives or to offset fees for recording or publication of creative works.

Dr. Thomas Hanks, a professor in the department of English, received an AHFRP grant that enabled him to spend time at the New Bodleian Library in Oxford, UK, where he conducted research on J.R.R. Tolkien's short story "Leaf by Niggle." Tolkien wrote "Leaf" as an illustration of his theory of fantasy writing, which he outlined in an essay called "On Fairy-Stories."

Hanks examined Tolkien's notes and early drafts of "Leaf" to help him trace the development of the story and the author's creative process. His findings indicate that while Tolkien maintained that he wrote "Leaf" in a single sitting, the story actually went through weeks or months of editing and revision before arriving at its final form.

Hanks' research resulted in two article submissions to top journals.

Interested in applying for internal grants?

For more information about any of these internal grant programs, visit the OVPR's [internal funding](#) website, or contact [Blake Thomas](#). To apply for any internal grant program, contact your academic unit's [assigned coordinator](#) in the Office of Sponsored Programs.

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Daniel Peppe's research featured in American Museum of Natural History documentary

Research by Dr. Daniel Peppe, an assistant professor in Baylor's Department of Geology, is included in a short documentary currently on display online and at the American Museum of Natural History (AMNH).

The documentary focuses on research on Rushinga Island in Kenya. Peppe and other researchers study fossilized remains found on the island in an attempt to understand how plants and animals there may have adapted to changes in the environment. Peppe received a YIDP grant in support of his research in FY 2012, and he is currently funded by the National Science Foundation and the Leakey Foundation.

[Click here](#) to watch the video on the AMNH website.

URSA seeks proposal reviewers

The Undergraduate Research and Scholarly Achievement (URSA) Steering Committee is seeking faculty members who are interested in serving as peer reviewers for the annual URSA Small Grants competition.



Reviewers are responsible for reading and preparing brief written comments on a small number of proposals (exact number varies depending on the volume of applications).

Reviewing proposals is a valuable service to your colleagues, and it is also a great way to learn more about what makes a proposal successful. Individuals who have mentored undergraduates as part of URSA grants in the past are especially encouraged to review.

To get more information or to volunteer, contact Dr. Dennis Johnston at 710-4079.

Foundation grant supports Byron Johnson's research on prison seminary programs

Nearly 80 inmates at a Texas prison have become seminary students as part of a program committed to sending "field ministers" to other prisons. Dr. Byron Johnson, director of Baylor's Institute for Studies of Religion (ISR), has been awarded a grant to study the impact of that program and a similar one at a maximum security prison in Louisiana. The grant is funded by Premier FOTO, LLC, a subsidiary of Premier Designs, Inc.

"If voluntary participation in prison seminaries - at no cost to taxpayers - is found to be effective, it has the potential to fundamentally change the way we think about corrections," Johnson says.

Johnson has conducted and published a number of studies on the role of religion in prisons and states that "religious instruction can provide a bridge to other faith-motivated individuals and resources that can prove instrumental in reshaping an offender's life. Faith-motivated individuals within these networks can help address such issues as housing and employment, which are problematic for ex-prisoners."

UPCOMING WORKSHOP

Want to write better grant proposals?

A small number of seats remain for the OVPR's third annual proposal development workshop. This is your last chance to register!

January 10, 2013 (Science faculty)

January 11, 2013 (Arts & Humanities faculty)

Baylor Sciences Building, room E.231

[Click here](#) to register for the workshop, or contact [Blake Thomas](#) at 710-3153 for more information.



COMPLIANCE CORNER

IACUC, IRB announce spring meeting dates

The Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) and Institutional Review Board (IRB) have announced their meeting dates for the spring 2013 semester. Proposals to either committee must be submitted through IRBNet two weeks before a meeting to be placed on the agenda.

Contact [Jill Combs](#) at 710-3708 with questions, or visit the [IACUC](#) or [IRB](#) websites for more information.

IRB Meeting Dates

Monday, January 28, 2013
Monday, February 25, 2013
Monday, March 25, 2013
Monday, April 22, 2013
Monday, May 27, 2013

IACUC Meeting Dates

Monday, January 14, 2013
Monday, February 18, 2013
Monday, March 18, 2013
Monday, April 15, 2013
Monday, May 20, 2013

Federal Grants

Opportunity Title	Due Date
<u>NSF - Perception, Action and Cognition</u>	02/01/2013
<u>NIH - Nanoscience and Nanotechnology in Biology and Medicine (R01)</u>	02/05/2013
<u>DARPA - Behavioral Neuroscience Research</u>	02/07/2013
<u>NSF - Sensors and Sensing Systems</u>	02/15/2013
<u>NIH - Psychosocial/Behavioral Interventions and Services Research in Autism Spectrum Disorders (R34)</u>	02/16/2013
<u>NIH - NIAID Science Education Awards (R25)</u>	02/18/2013
<u>NSF - Engineering and Systems Design</u>	02/15/2013
<u>National Gallery of Art - Visiting Senior Fellowships</u>	03/21/2013

Foundation Grants

Opportunity Title	Due Date
<u>Smithsonian Institution - Senior Fellowships</u>	01/15/2013
<u>Chemical Heritage Foundation - Fellowships and Travel Grants</u>	02/15/2013
<u>International Education Research Foundation - Sepmeyer Research Grant Program</u>	02/15/2013
<u>Holocaust Educational Foundation - Research Grants</u>	02/28/2013
<u>Evolving Earth Foundation - Student Research Grants</u>	03/01/2013
<u>LBJ Foundation - Moody Research Grant</u>	03/15/2013

Search for funding with COS Pivot

The OVPR maintains a subscription to COS Pivot, a searchable database of funding opportunities in all academic areas. To search for funding in your discipline and receive email alerts with newly listed opportunities, [sign up with COS Pivot](#) today. If you have questions or would like training on using COS Pivot, contact [Blake Thomas](#) in the OVPR at 254-710-3153.

Ready to apply?

If you'd like to apply for these or other specific opportunities, contact your department's assigned [OSP coordinator](#).