Research Development and Internal Funding

The OVPR offers financial support to promote research and scholarly efforts of Baylor faculty across all academic units.

**Research Grants**

**Collaborative Faculty Research Investment Program** - promotes collaborative projects involving Baylor University faculty and colleagues from Baylor Scott & White Health and Baylor College of Medicine. Proposals are externally peer-reviewed.

**Faculty Research Investment Program** - designed to leverage internal funding by providing seed money to establish or re-direct research programs to make faculty more competitive for external funding. Proposals are externally peer-reviewed.

**Young Investigator Development Program** - designed to leverage internal funding by enhancing the ability of newly-appointed faculty (within their first four years of appointment) to compete successfully for external research funds. Proposals are externally peer-reviewed.

**Arts and Humanities Faculty Research Program** - designed to stimulate research and scholarship in the arts, humanities and education.

**University Research Committee Small and Mid-Range Grant Programs** - distribute funds to support projects and programs promoting faculty research and scholarship and strengthening efforts to secure external funding. Proposals are peer-reviewed by the URC committee.

**Internal Grant Application Deadlines:**
- Fall URC: September 28, 2016
- CFRIP: January 18, 2017
- FRIP/YIDP/URC/AHFRP/Brown/URSA: February 15, 2017

About the OVPR

The Office of the Vice Provost for Research supports faculty members from all academic units in their research and scholarship. The office provides pre- and post-award services for grants and contracts, facilitates partnerships and collaborative agreements with external entities, manages compliance oversight and provides assistance with intellectual property and technology transfer.

In addition to these services, the office also funds and manages competitive internal grant programs to advance knowledge and help faculty more successfully compete for external research funding.

Please contact OVPR staff with any questions or suggestions.
Research Development Support

Undergraduate Research and Scholarly Achievement (URSA) Small Grant Program - expands opportunities for research participation by undergraduate students by fostering active faculty/student collaborative learning relationships. Proposals are peer-reviewed by the URSA Steering Committee.

Dr. Benjamin F. Brown IV Fund for Interdisciplinary and Collaborative Scholarship (Brown Fund) - up to $5,000 in funding for curriculum development and research projects on issues of global significance. Open to full-time faculty members with three or more years of full-time service at Baylor. Proposals are peer-reviewed by the University Research Committee.

Faculty Travel Assistance Grant Program - matching funds to help defray the cost of travel to promote or support the development of new or expanded research programs at Baylor. Tenured/tenure-track faculty and funded principal investigators are eligible to apply.

Principal Investigator Research Investment Program - limited support (up to $10K) to address specific issues in critiques of major (>100K) external proposals.

VPR Colloquium Support - funding and logistical support to help bring major national and international speakers to campus. In most cases, program provides travel funding and an honorarium.

Conference Support Program - seed money and logistical support to bring major regional, national or international conferences to Baylor.

Postdoctoral Fellowship Program - competitively awarded 12-month postdoctoral research fellowships for Ph.D. granting departments. Initial appointments are funded for one year, with a second year extension allowed for successful fellows.

Research Equipment Acquisition Program (REAP) - designed to enhance the ability of faculty to retire and replace research equipment necessary to sustain an established research program. Awards may be to an individual researcher or group of researchers to support efforts to garner external funding, promote multidisciplinary research/creative activities and stimulate research development.

Bridge Funding Program - The Bridge Program is designed to span a gap for researchers who have temporarily lost significant external research funding.

University Sabbatical Program – Summer sabbaticals are available for full-time faculty members and lecturers. Acceptable projects must improve professional competence related to courses one teaches or will teach; include work on a scholarly or creative project; and/or be used to develop materials to be used in a course that is being taught or course that will be taught.

Research Project Manager: Blake Thomas, 254-710-3153

Office of Sponsored Programs

The Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP) is the central point of coordination for grants, contracts and other agreements from government agencies, private industry and nonprofit sponsors.

Each academic unit has a designated OSP coordinator who assists faculty in the acquisition, performance and administration of projects and programs funded from sources outside the university. Coordinators are assigned by academic unit rather than by funding agency to facilitate a close working relationship with faculty and research staff. Click here for coordinator assignments and contact information.

Pre-Award Services - interpretation of sponsor guidelines; determination of eligibility; budget preparation; assistance with proposal preparation; institutional approvals; proposal submission.

Award Acceptance - negotiation of terms and conditions; account set-up; review of sponsor requirements and any special terms and conditions with individual investigators.

Post-Award Services - coordination with PIs and with Baylor financial service units to monitor financial transactions and meet sponsor reporting requirements; invoicing grant and contract accounts; approval of project modifications (e.g., re-budgeting, project extensions, changes in project scope or key personnel); project closeout.

OSP Director: Lisa McKethan, 254-710-8905

New OMB Uniform Grant Guidelines Became Effective December 26, 2014

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) consolidated eight grant circulars into a single document that creates uniform requirements for all federal awards. A few important changes are noted below.

- Computing devices <$5,000 are supplies. The supplies must be essential and allocable to the project.
- Closeout reports are due no later than 90 calendar days after the project period for some agencies; 120 days for others.
- Cost share cannot be considered in the merit review unless specified in the funding opportunity.
- New requirements for procurement documentation are dependent upon the purchase price.
- Costs associated with visas when critical skills are needed for a specific award may be proposed and charged as a direct cost.

The Office of Sponsored Programs and Grants Accounting will provide training on the new guidelines during the Fall Semester.
Compliance Oversight

The OVPR monitors all university research activity to ensure that it is conducted in accordance with federal, state, local and institutional policies and guidelines.

Compliance responsibilities include: management and administration of federally-mandated research review committees and compliance responsibilities; implementation and monitoring of federal and institutional research policies, procedures, and guidelines; coordination with other university offices when compliance implications of research activities necessitate additional institutional review; and guidance to researchers for the responsible and ethical conduct of research.

Research Compliance Committees

**Institutional Review Board (IRB)** - responsible for the protection of the rights and welfare of human subjects involved in research activities conducted at or supported by Baylor.
IRB Chair: **Dr. David Schlueter**, 254-710-6920

**Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)** - responsible for the oversight and evaluation of the university's animal care and use program to ensure consistency with federal regulations and policies.
IACUC Chair: **Dr. Rick Duhrkopf**, 254-710-2082

**Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC)** - responsible for regulating research involving recombinant or synthetic nucleic acid molecules and research using pathogenic microbes.
IBC Chair: **Dr. Chris Kearney**, 254-710-2131

OVPR is the central point of contact for our committees & research questions.

**Deborah Holland**, AVPR, Director of Compliance, 254-710-1438

**Deb Penney**, Administrative Associate, 254-710-3708

Intellectual Property & Technology Transfer

The OVPR manages the process of identifying innovative discoveries, securing appropriate legal protections, and negotiating licensing agreements with industry.

**How it Works:**
The office retains the services of **TreMonti Consulting, LLC** to assist with management of intellectual property portfolios and technology commercialization. OVPR and TreMonti work together to assess the potential impact of inventions, analyze the market for new innovations, and effectively license technologies to interested companies.

**Nondisclosure Agreements; Material Transfer Agreements; Collaborative / Sponsored Research Agreements**
OSP staff prepare and negotiate nondisclosure agreements, material transfer agreements and collaborative or sponsored research agreements on behalf of faculty.

For more information on technology transfer or to begin the disclosure process for a new invention, contact **Jim Kephart** at 254-710-1690.

For more information on NDAs, MTAs or Research Agreements, contact **Lisa McKethan** at 254-710-8905.

Electronic Funding Database & Alert Service

The OVPR subscribes to the COS Pivot database of funding opportunities and faculty profiles.

All Baylor faculty are invited to use the database to search for funding, find potential collaborators, and set up custom email alerts for newly listed opportunities.

**To get started,** visit the COS Pivot website and click “Sign Up” in the top-right corner.

COS Liaison: **Blake Thomas**, 254-710-3153
Undergraduate Research and Scholarly Achievement (URSA)

URSA promotes expanded opportunities for undergraduate participation in research and other creative activities.

URSA offers guidance for faculty mentors and for student researchers, and sponsors on-campus research presentation events for undergraduates. URSA encourages synergy between faculty scholarship and undergraduate educational experiences for all fields including science, humanities, arts and the professions.

**URSA Programs and Services**

**URSA Scholars Week** - URSA and individual schools and colleges offer multiple opportunities for undergraduates to present their research. URSA organizes platform and poster presentation sessions for students from all disciplines, and publishes a program and book of abstracts.

**URSA Small Grant Program** - URSA supervises a grants program to fund undergraduate research projects under the supervision of faculty mentors. The maximum annual grant is $5,000.

**Mark Your Calendar!**

**What:**
7th Annual OVPR Proposal Development Seminars

**When:**
January 5-6, 2017

**About the Workshop:**
Just prior to the beginning of the spring 2017 semester, the OVPR will sponsor its seventh annual Proposal Development Seminars. The workshop is designed to help faculty in all academic areas become more effective grant writers.

Our presenter is Dr. Peg AtKisson of Grant Writers’ Seminars & Workshops (GWSW). Click here to visit the GWSW website and learn more about Dr. AtKisson.

**Proposal Development Award**
The OVPR offers this competitive award to provide faculty with one-on-one assistance in implementing the techniques and timeline for grant preparation presented in the Grant Writing Seminar.

Application is open to faculty who have attended the “Write Winning Grant Proposals” seminar in either of the previous two years. The next application deadline is May 1, 2017.

**Central Texas Technology & Research Park (CTTRP)**

In its first two years of operation, the Baylor Research Innovation and Collaborative (BRIC) has experienced remarkable growth. The BRIC is now home to researchers in the departments of electrical engineering, mechanical engineering and computer science. Birkeland Current has also joined L3 as corporate partners.

Additionally, BRIC recently hosted a ribbon-cutting for the new Learning Experience Lab (LEx Lab), a partnership between Baylor, the Region 12 Education Service Center and Huckabee, Inc. LEx Lab occupies a 5,306-square-foot space for research and evaluation of next generation teaching spaces and laboratories.

Visit the BRIC website for more information.

URSA Director: Dr. Susan Bratton, 254-710-3405

Visit the URSA website for more information.