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# RESEARCH TRACKS

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## National laboratory grant supports research on predicting solar energy

Dr. Jane Harvill, an associate professor in the Department of Statistical Science, recently received a grant from the Sandia National Laboratories in support of her research aimed at improving statistical models used to predict solar irradiance — the amount of solar energy that can be gathered in a given location.

The amount of energy from the sun that reaches the earth can vary depending on a number of factors including atmospheric interference, sunspots and solar flares. Being able to predict these fluctuations more accurately would help providers better manage the energy produced in large solar farms.

Harvill's research will examine data on solar energy gathered in and around solar energy farms over time and apply statistical methods to create a predictive model for determining the average amount of solar energy that can be expected over the farm's geographic footprint in the future.

She will also seek to determine the extent to which currently existing models for solar irradiance can be improved by the use of spatio-temporal statistical methods.

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### INTERNAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

#### Internal grant deadlines coming soon

Applications to the FRIP, YIDP, and URSA programs 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](#).



#### Postdoctoral fellowship application date announced

Applications to the OVPR Postdoctoral Fellowship Program are due on **October 2, 2013**. The program enhances Baylor faculty research capacity by supporting postdoctoral research positions in Ph.D.-granting departments.

Preference is given to research clusters within or across departmental boundaries which propose to share a postdoc position between two or more faculty members.

Positions are initially funded for one year, with a second year possible for successful fellows. [Click here](#) for more information on the program.



## Foundation grant supports civics education research

Dr. Brooke Blevins and Dr. Karon LeCompte, both assistant professors in the School of Education, were recently awarded a grant from the Hatton W. Summers Foundation in support of their research on the effectiveness of a civics learning tool.

Their research is based on iCivics, an online program developed by retired Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor that uses interactive games to teach civics concepts and encourage students to become engaged in the political process. Baylor has been involved in research on the iCivics program through a partnership between the School of Education, the Law School, and the Waco and Midway Independent School Districts.

The iCivics curriculum is currently used in all 4th, 8th, and 11th grade classes in the Waco and Midway ISDs. Teachers in these classes use

age-appropriate iCivics modules as a launching point for service learning, giving students an opportunity to learn about community issues by becoming directly involved in identifying the causes and solutions of problems.

The Summers grant will provide funding for a summer professional development program for Waco-area civics teachers where they will receive training on the iCivics program, then implement the curriculum with area students who participate in the iCivics Summer Camp.

The research to be conducted by Baylor faculty, assisted by 10 undergraduate students, is part of a broader research agenda which seeks to evaluate the effectiveness of iCivics curriculum by putting the teaching methods into practice in actual classroom environments.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### ISR lecture to examine impact of religion on business and industry

The Institute for Studies of Religion will present a lecture by Dr. Darren Dochuk, an associate professor in the humanities at Washington University in St. Louis' John C. Danforth Center on Religion and Politics.

The lecture, *There Will Be Oil: A Sacred History of Pipeline Politics in Cold War America*, will employ previously untapped church, corporate and personal archives to chart the impact of religion on business and industry culture in America.

Admission is free, but registration is requested.

[Click here](#) for more information or to register.

**February 11, 2013**  
**3:30 PM**  
**Kayser Auditorium**

### OVPR-supported composition to debut on Baylor campus

A new song cycle composed by Grammy award winner Libby Larsen will debut next month on the Baylor campus.

Commissioning of the work was sponsored in part by a grant from the OVPR's Arts & Humanities Faculty Research Program (AHFRP).

Dr. Jeffrey Peterson, a professor in the School of Music, is the grant's principal investigator and will be the pianist for the performance. Dr. Rebecca Wascoe, an adjunct professor of voice at William Carey University, is the soprano vocalist.

The event is free and open to the public.

**February 23, 2013**  
**7:30 PM**  
**Roxy Grove Hall**

## NSF to transition project reporting from FastLane to Research.gov

As part of a government-wide effort to streamline and standardize reporting on federally funded research, the National Science Foundation will transition all project reporting from FastLane to Research.gov effective March 18, 2013. Investigators will use Research.gov to meet all NSF project reporting requirements, including Final, Annual and Interim Project Reports and the Project Outcomes Report.

The new system will include a Project Reporting Dashboard where investigators and research administrators can see which reports are due and view previously submitted reports.

In advance of the transition, investigators must discontinue submitting reports through FastLane by **February 1**. To accommodate the necessary freeze in FastLane reporting, the agency will extend the overdue date for all project reports currently due between January 31 and April 30, 2013.

The NSF has made information available on their website to help investigators meet the new requirements. [Click here](#) to learn more about project reporting on Research.gov.

Contact your department's [OSP coordinator](#) with questions about required reporting.

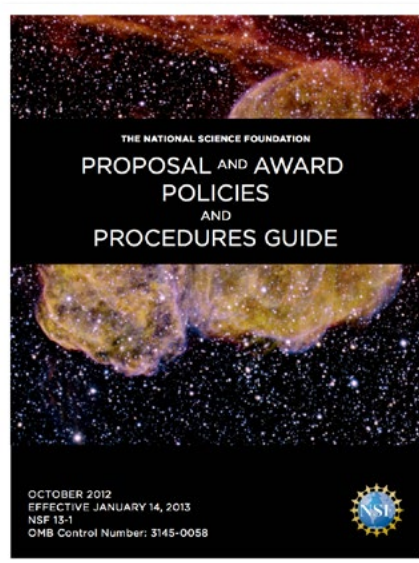
## NSF issues new Proposal and Award Policies and Procedures Guide, 2013 edition now in effect

The National Science Foundation's new Proposal and Award Policies and Procedures Guide is in effect as of January 14, 2013. The guide contains revisions to merit review criteria, clarifications on indirect costs and other changes.

Alongside the release of the new procedures guide, NSF has provided supporting materials and other resources including:

- A revised [NSF Merit Review website](#) with information on the new regulations;
- A [resource website](#) for investigators containing presentations, fact sheets and other important links; and
- A webinar covering all of the PAPPG revisions. [Click here](#) to view a recording of the webinar with audio and slides (387 MB .WMV file) or [click here](#) to view the slides alone without audio (3 MB .PDF file).

[Click here](#) to access the 2013 PAPPG.



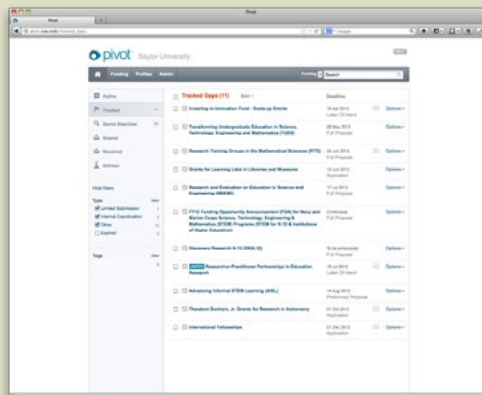
## COS PIVOT UPDATES

### COS Pivot eases funding searches with improved user interface

The OVPR provides a campus-wide subscription to [COS Pivot](#) to allow faculty to search for funding and set up alerts for recently listed opportunities. An update to the database's user interface has made it even easier to locate and track funding announcements from federal agencies, private foundations and other organizations.

COS provides live or recorded webinars where the new tool will be demonstrated. [Click here](#) to view the schedule of upcoming live webinars or to view the recorded sessions at your convenience.

Contact [Blake Thomas](#) with questions regarding using COS Pivot or setting up funding searches.



## Federal Grants

Opportunity Title	Due Date
<a href="#"><u>NEA - Art Works</u></a>	03/07/2013
<a href="#"><u>U.S. Dept. of Ed. - Research Fellowships Program</u></a>	3/18/2013
<a href="#"><u>NSF - Research Initiation Grants in Engineering Education</u></a>	03/28/2013
<a href="#"><u>NEH - Preservation and Access Research and Development</u></a>	05/01/2013
<a href="#"><u>NIH - Advances in Patient Safety Through Simulation Research</u></a>	05/25/2013
<a href="#"><u>NSF - Hydrologic Sciences</u></a>	06/03/2013
<a href="#"><u>NIH - Alcohol Marketing and Youth Drinking</u></a>	06/05/2013
<a href="#"><u>NEH - Humanities Collections and Reference Resources</u></a>	07/18/2013
<a href="#"><u>NSF - Sociology Program</u></a>	08/15/2013

## Foundation Grants

Opportunity Title	Due Date
<a href="#"><u>McDonnell Foundation- Studying Complex Systems</u></a>	Continuous
<a href="#"><u>MacArthur Foundation - International Peace and Security: Nuclear Security Policy Research</u></a>	03/01/2013 (LOI)
<a href="#"><u>Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Foundation - Research Grants</u></a>	04/01/2013
<a href="#"><u>William T. Grant Foundation - Understanding the Acquisition, Interpretation, and Use of Research Evidence in Policy and Practice</u></a>	04/16/2013
<a href="#"><u>Brady Education Foundation - Research &amp; Program Evaluations in Early Education</u></a>	04/22/2013
<a href="#"><u>Mid-Atlantic Arts Foundation - French-American Jazz Exchange</u></a>	05/31/2013

## 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](#).