Office of Grants & Sponsored Research

Grants Bulletin

Fall 2019

The Office of Grants and Sponsored Research (OGSR) represent the *pre-award* administration office and non-financial post award administration at St. John's University. We provide service and support related to research activities across all schools and units at the University and work closely with the Office of Business Affairs regarding post-award items such as the financial management of sponsored projects. Sponsored programs include research, instruction and training, public service, evaluative testing, and other scholarly and creative activities conducted under the direction of University faculty and staff and funded by organizations external to the University in accordance with award regulations.

Please visit our website for more in depth information at:
https://www.stjohns.edu/academics/research/grants-and-sponsored-research

STUDENT RESEARCH OPPORTUNITY CENTER (SROC)

The **Student Research Opportunity Center (SROC)** is **located inside the main entrance of the D'Angelo Center**, featuring two 50-inch touch-screen monitors that provide listings of research opportunities available to both undergraduate and graduate students.

The SROC was created to engage more students in research and projects (high impact practice) that would afford undergraduate and graduate students internal research opportunities. Students can benefit from these opportunities by gaining knowledge and experience to support their career goals. Our aim is to create the researchers of tomorrow. At St. John's University, you will find a very supportive researcher environment at every level.

We invite and encourage faculty to take advantage of the SROC by filling out the Research Project Student Request Form information about any opportunities you can offer.

The SROC benefits students as well as faculty by promoting the culture of research on campus. As positions are posted, we will contact students to alert them of new research opportunities available via the SROC.

Upcoming Fall 2019 OGSR Workshops

#1 Elements for Grants Success
Monday, October 14, 2019
1:50 P.M. – 3:15 P.M.
St. Augustine Hall (Library Room B3)

Learn the basics of successful proposal writing and identifying a diverse array of sponsors. The Elements for Grants Success workshop will inform you of the "do's and don'ts" of proposal writing and submission preparation. Enhance your understanding of sponsor review criteria, provide constructive proposal building techniques and much more.

#2 Student Research Opportunities Fostering Student Success
Monday, October 28, 2019
1:50 – 3:15 PM
St. Augustine Hall (Library Room B3)

To engage more students in research and projects (high impact practice) and opportunities to increase experiential learning.

To reserve a seat for either or both of these workshops, please contact Adrianna Berlingerio x6276 or berlinga@stjohns.edu

CAYUSE

OGSR successfully implemented the **Cayuse SP** internal review system for all outgoing external grant and fellowship applications. The former Project Authorization Budget Summary (PABS) form has permanently been retired in place of this automated system.

Some of the benefits that Cayuse SP provides are:

- Transparent electronic approvals: Paper transmittal sheets (PABS) will be replaced by a simple online process for reviewing and approving proposals for submission.
- Electronic proposal routing will replace antiquated "snail mail" internal review system.
- Integrated record keeping: Principal Investigators and OGSR staff will have full access to proposals, award notices, and progress reports regardless of submission method or sponsor.
- Repository for all proposal/award documents.

OGSR has implemented a cloud-based software called **Cayuse IRB**. This software streamlines Institutional Review Board (IRB) submission processes and provides greater access to your IRB records.

Some benefits of Cayuse IRB include:

- Easy to use electronic forms with autofill features
- Ability to submit and certify protocols from your computer
- Real-time submission tracking
- IRB record management, from initial submission through study closure

If you are a first-time user, contact irbstjohns@stjohns.edu and provide your first name, last name, email address and academic department in order to receive your user ID. You will then receive instructions on how to get started in Cayuse.

AWARDS

Dr. Tanaji T. Talele, Professor of Medicinal Chemistry, is the recipient of a **$492,000** *Support for Competitive Research* (SCORE SC3**)** grant from the **National Institutes of Health** (NIH/NIGMS) as a Principal Investigator. He will use the award to develop isoform-selective chemical probes for Poly (ADP- ribose) polymerases (PARPs). The research project is significant due to sparse reports on PARP-isoform selective inhibitors. The project is expected to deliver selective PARP-inhibitors for the first time to understand biological functions of individual PARP-isoforms in cancer cells. The project will also provide an opportunity to evaluate selective PARP-inhibitors without off-target liability.

Dianella Howarth, Ph.D. of St. John's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Department of Biological Sciences, was awarded a 3 year grant from the **National Science Foundation** (DEB, Systematics and Biodiversity Science Program) in the amount of **$363,827** for her project titled "Honeysuckle phylogenomics and the evolution of organ fusion (Lonicera, Caprifoliaceae)." The project is in collaboration with Wendy Clement at The College of New Jersey and Michael Donoghue at Yale University with a total combined award amount of $899,971 to the three institutions.

Plant structures such as flowers and fruits often develop through the fusion of component parts. The aim of this project is to understand the evolution and gene regulation of fusion using honeysuckles (*Lonicera*) as a model. In *Lonicera*, fusion can be observed across pairs of leaves, between small leaf-like structures associated with the flowers, or among adjacent fruits. This project will reconstruct the evolutionary history of honeysuckles to determine how many times fusion has changed during the evolution of the honeysuckles. Additionally, the project team will investigate the genes that control fusion across this group, which could aid future research in modifying fusion in other plants. For instance, in the NAM gene family, we have found evidence of a loss of a major member of the gene family, correlating with an increase in fusion across *Lonicera*. This work will also greatly enhance genomic resources for a widely cultivated of group plants, which also includes honeyberry (*Lonicera caerulea*), a crop plant grown for the high antioxidant content of its fruit. The principle investigators will mentor 15 undergraduates as well as a post-doc and a graduate student. The botanical images produced in connection with this research will form the foundation for developing an art exhibit, *Plant Communication and the Art of Fusion.*

Francisco X. Vazquez, Ph.D. of St. John's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Department of Chemistry, was awarded a **$492,000** *Support for Competitive Research* (SCORE SC2**)** grant from the **National Institutes of Health** complimenting his research *Multiscale Modeling of Dynamin Induced Membrane Fission.*

This grant is focused on understanding how protein-protein interactions control key cellular functions. After neurotransmission, the machinery required to send the neurotransmitters across the synapse is recycled back into the neuron using endocytosis. The final stage of endocytosis involves the scission of the membrane vesicle by a helical dynamin protein coat. Two competing models of dynamin induced membrane scission have been proposed, but there is no clear consensus on the actual mechanism. Dr. Vazquez's lab are using multiscale molecular-modeling methods to compare the two models directly and determine which is the mostly likely mechanism.

TIME and EFFORT POLICY

The full institutional Time and Effort policy can be referenced at:

Time and Effort Policy

In order to certify that effort expended on a project is at least commensurate with the salary charged against the sponsored program, the University employs an after-the-fact effort reporting system for faculty, administrators, and staff who have a portion of their salary or time charged to a sponsored program. Individual effort reports are required for each cycle, as defined below, for all employees who have a portion of their salary or time charged to a federal sponsored program as mandated. The Office of Grants and Sponsored Research (OGSR) shall ensure full compliance with the University's time and effort reporting requirements and along with Business Affairs, maintain full documentation, which will be available for inspection by the University's auditors.

INTERNAL REVIEW PROCESS FOR ALL OUTGOING PROPOSALS

All outgoing proposals being submitted to the attention of an external sponsor (including individual applications and Fellowships) must first be vetted through the Office of Grants and Sponsored Research prior to agency deadlines in order to ensure compliance to institutional and external regulations, adhering fully to this internal review process.

Any awards that subsequently result from independent submissions without prior OGSR administrative review will be automatically deemed as non-compliant with this internal process and run the risk of being declined by the University**.**

In order to guarantee the submission of all competitive grant proposals, it is required that all final applications for external support be in receipt of the Office of Grants and Sponsored Research for internal review no later than **five (5) business days prior to the applicable agency deadline**. Sufficient lead time should be provided for institutional review and endorsement, and to accommodate applicable submission mechanics (either electronically or hard copy). The OGSR will do everything possible to ensure that a proposal is submitted complete and on time; however, as the amount of

processing time is reduced, so are our chances to take the appropriate actions leading to strong, competitive grant awards.

Cost- Share Requests

***All cost share requests must undergo initial vetting and secure the approval of Business Affairs**, and advance time must be afforded them in order to review any and all SJU contributions prior to your submission. All such final proposals (bearing the approvals of your Chair, Dean or Supervisor) should be in receipt of the OGSR no later than **ten (10) business days prior to the agency deadline.**

Cayuse Electronic Approvals

Once your budget is finalized, the assigned OGSR Grants Specialist will provide you with the electronic **Cayuse SP internal review** platform for routing through administrative channels. Through use of this system, OGSR will initiate an electronic routing chain which will require the initial approvals of (in following order) the PI, Chair, Dean (or applicable Director).

The following supporting documentation should be uploaded into Cayuse for review:

- **Final Budget/Justification**
- **Abstract**
- **Proposal Narrative**

Only after these internal authorizations are in place, the OGSR will submit the complete proposal to the attention of the sponsor.

Proposals not following these described procedures and internal deadlines will be **deemed as non-compliant with institutional process**, and their submission cannot be guaranteed as a result.

2019 NATIONAL INSTITUTES of HEALTH (NIH) DEADLINES

Program	Deadline
NIH R01 Research Grants- ***New***	February 5 June 5 October 5
NIH R01 Research Grants - ***Renewal, Resubmission, Revision***	March 5 July 5 November 5
NIH R03, R21, R34, Other Research Grants - ***New***	February 16 June 16 October 16

NIH R03, R21, R34, Other Research Grants - ***Renewal, Resubmission, Revision***	March 16 July 16 November 16
NIH R15 Grants -*New, Renewal, Resubmission, Revision*	February 25, June 25, October 25