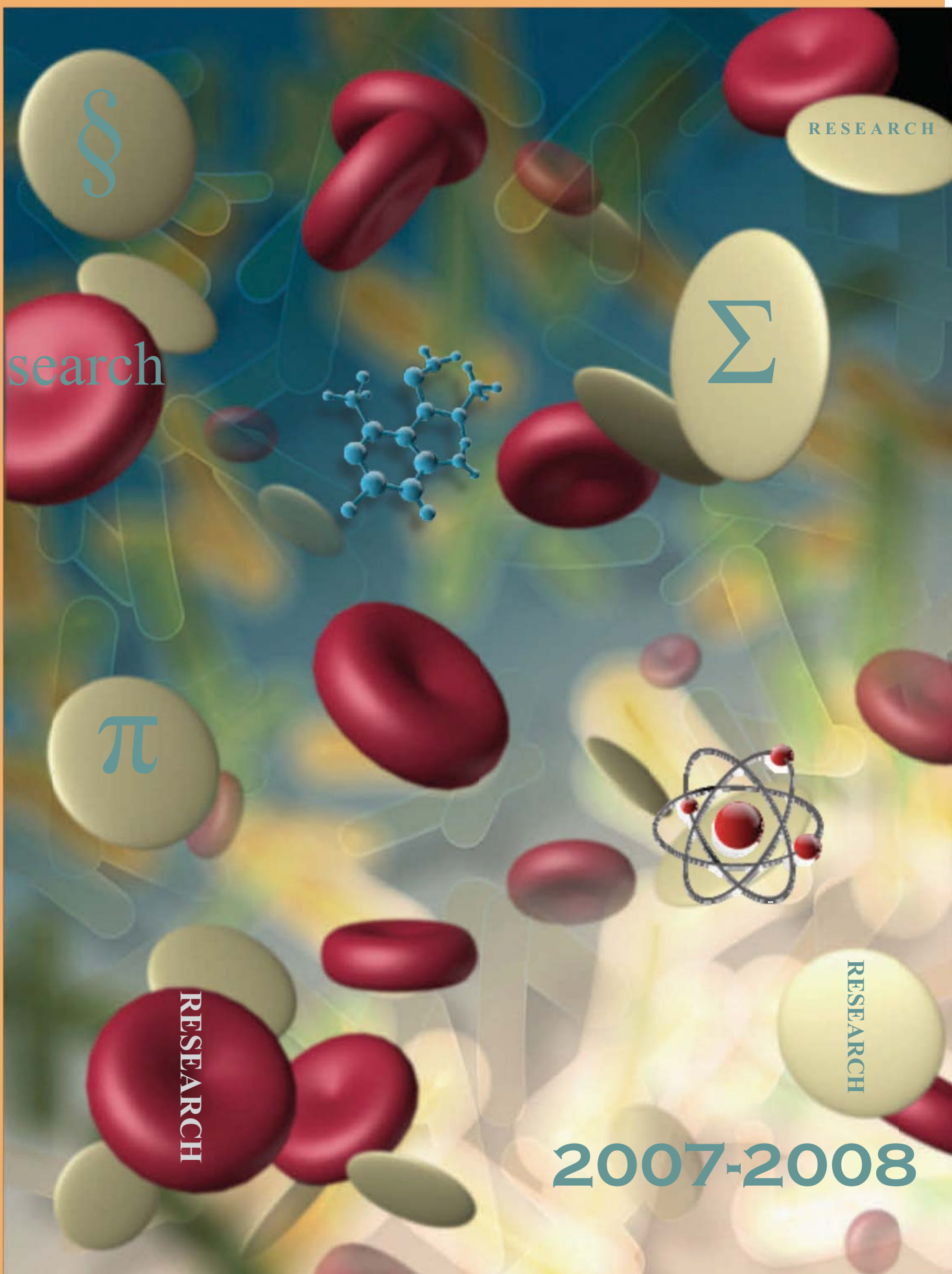


RESEARCH AT TAMU

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2007-2008

**From the Dean
Office of Graduate Studies and Research**



I am pleased to present the 2007-2008 annual report of the Office of Grant Resources, a unit under the Office of Graduate Studies and Research. Once again, TAMIU's wonderful and dedicated faculty and staff have had a banner year within the realm of grants and contracts. This continued success not only impacts our faculty, staff and current students, but also opens our campus doors to more and more students from Laredo and the south Texas region.

The report has two parts: 1) a brief summary of important numbers and descriptions of activities from the year, including selected success stories, and 2) an appendix containing a detailed list of all individual awards.

For this year, TAMIU submitted 85 applications and processed 36 awards totaling \$5,112,613. This represents an increase of 35% in the number of applications submitted and a 20% increase in the number of grants awarded.

During this fiscal year, 24 faculty received University Research Grant (URG) funding for course-releases, summer stipends, equipment, funding for travel and research assistant salaries. We anticipate increased activity this year for external sponsored research proposals submitted as last year many URG recipients submitted proposals to more than one program or agency.

The first annual URG grant cycle resulted in the submission of 33 grant applications for external funding. So far, two of the applications were funded during this fiscal year for a total of \$132,709 and 11 are pending peer review. Overall, in 2007-2008, research funding totaled \$1,130,672, representing 22.1% of the total grant funding received, and a 32% increase from the previous year.

The maintenance and growth of sponsored programs awarded to TAMIU continues to be impressive in an increasingly restrictive budget and competitive environment. This continued increase in the number of proposals submitted and funded is an encouraging sign of underlying excellence in our research faculty and staff and of our ability to compete successfully on the national stage. We have reason to expect continued increases in the research funding picture across the board for FY 2008-2009.

I am proud of the efforts of TAMIU faculty and staff and look forward to another productive year for research.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeffrey Brown', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jeffrey Brown, Ph.D., Dean
Office of Graduate Studies and Research

TAMIU SPONSORED AWARD ACTIVITY FY 2007-2008

The Office of Grant Resources (OGR) is pleased to present this Executive Summary of Texas A&M International University's Sponsored Awards Activity for FY 2007-2008, a period over which faculty attracted over \$5 million in funding from external sponsors in support of research, public service, instruction, academic support, student support, and public service projects.

Please note that this report **only** provides a summary of the FY 2007-2008 proposals and awards handled by the Office of Grant Resources and not other funds received by the University.

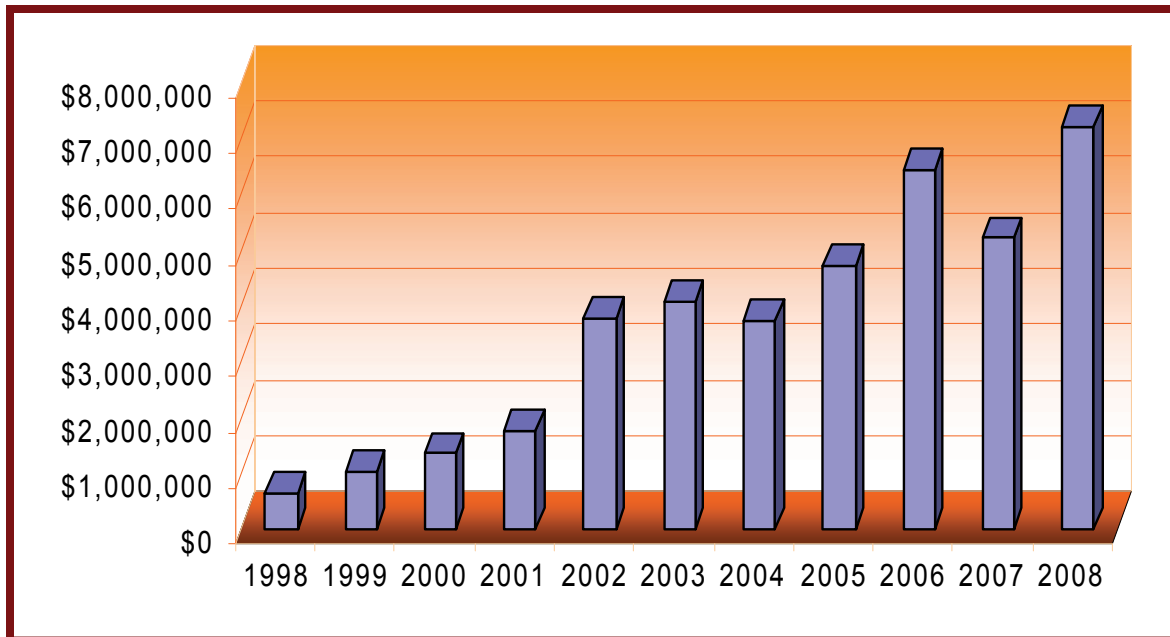
*Cristina Hernández, Director
Office of Grant Resources*

FY 2007-2008 OFFICE OF GRANT RESOURCES SUMMARY DATA

<i>Proposals Submitted.....</i>	<i>85</i>
<i>Dollars Requested.....</i>	<i>\$28,666,536</i>
<i>New Awards.....</i>	<i>\$5,112,613</i>
<i>Continuation Awards.....</i>	<i>\$4,083,321</i>
<i>Faculty Submitting Proposals.....</i>	<i>54</i>
<i>Faculty Receiving Awards.....</i>	<i>30</i>
<i>Number of Applications Awarded.....</i>	<i>36</i>
<i>Number of Applications Pending.....</i>	<i>40</i>

Award Activity

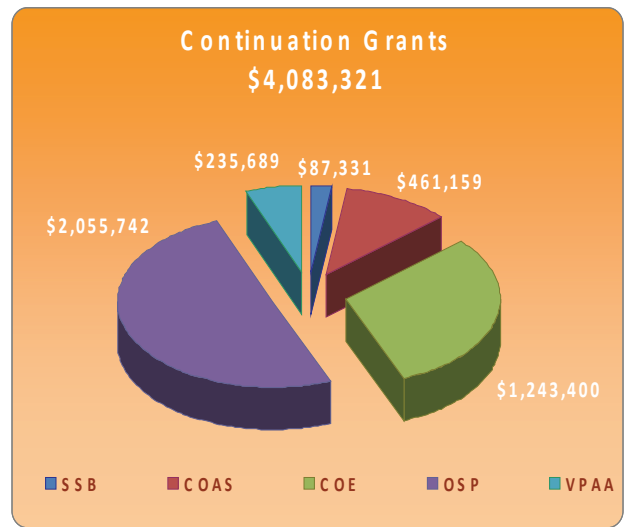
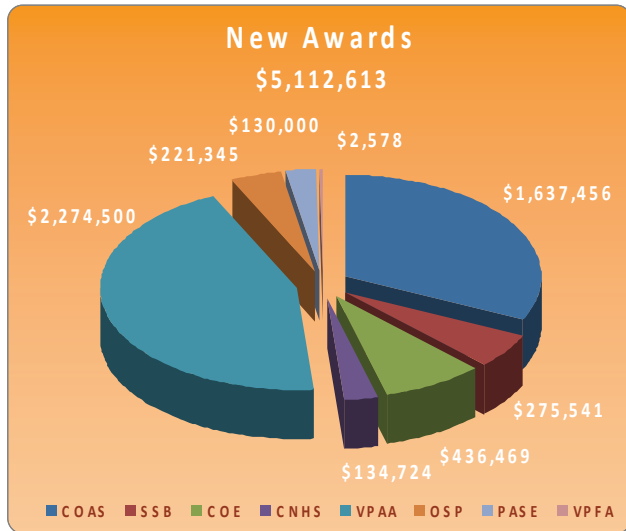
The 10-year annual increase of 1008% represents a strong growth rate. The growth rate varies somewhat from year to year do in part to the multi-year funding received for a particular funding period.



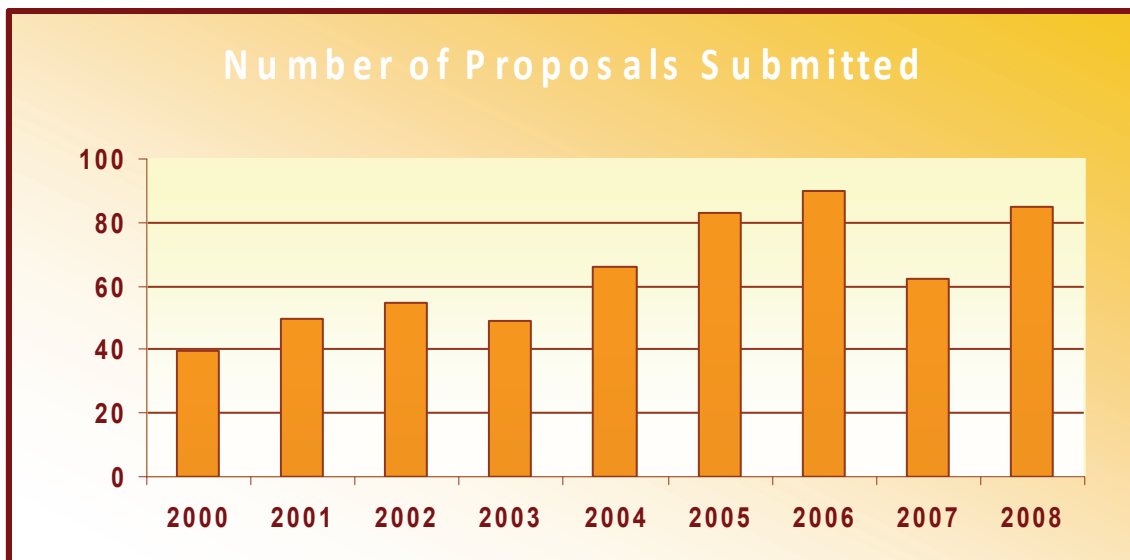
Note: Figures presented on charts **only** depict the dollar amount of grants received through the OGR and not other funds received by the University.

FY 2007-2008 AWARD ACTIVITY AND SUBMISSION BY COLLEGE

Grants and contract activities continue to play an integral role in the on-going effort to create an environment that is supportive of research and innovative ideas conducted by the faculty and staff at TAMIU. For FY 2007-2008 there were a total of **36** new projects and/or contract agreements awarded, totaling **\$5,112,613**. The total amount of continuation funding received for this fiscal year was **\$4,083,321**, which included **17** projects.



Proposal Submissions For FY 2007-2008 there were a total of **85** grant applications submitted representing a **35%** increase from the previous fiscal year with a total request of **\$28,666,536**. Of the total submissions, **56%** were research and/or restricted research applications. The indicator of proposal traffic is both the number of submissions and the number of awards, even though the dollar amount requested may vary from year-to-year.



Note: Figures presented on charts only depict the dollar amount of grants received through the OGR and not other funds received by the University.

FY 2007-2008 AWARDS BY SOURCE AND PURPOSE

AWARDS BY SOURCE AND PURPOSE

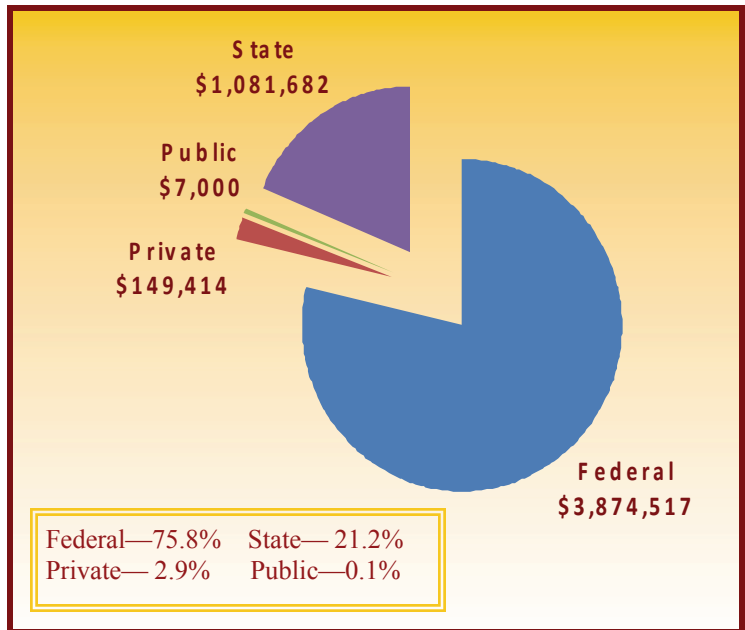
For FY 2007-2008, there was a notable 12.1% increase in funds received for research and research-related activities from the previous fiscal year. This represents 22% of the total funding received.

The majority of the support received has been provided by the federal government, accounting for 75.8% of the total award dollars.

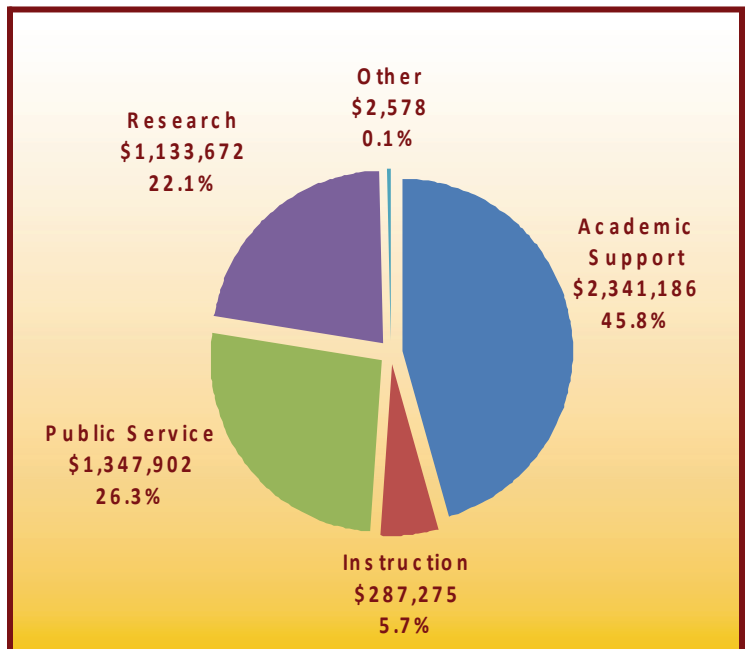
The major portion of FY 2007-2008 federal funding came from eight agencies: U.S. Department of Education, National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), National Science Foundation (NSF), National Institute of Health (NIH), Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), U. S. Department of Justice, U.S. Department of Energy and the U.S. Small Business Administration. The University's largest sponsor is the U. S. Department of Education, which provided over \$1.8 million in funding.

As in the past, the majority of this year's awards supported academic program activities, which represents 45.8% of the total funds received.

Awards by Source



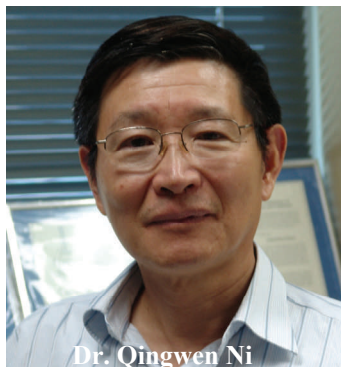
Awards by Purpose



Note: Figures for all sources of private funding **only** depict the dollar amount of grants received for research-related projects through the Office of Grant Resources and not other funds received by the University.



Successful Stories...



Dr. Qingwen Ni

NSF Major Research Instrumentation Grant

Texas A&M International University secured funds to purchase a Bruker low-field benchtop Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) system with a \$99,210 grant from the National Science Foundation. The NSF awarded the grant to TAMIU for support of the project “Major Research Instrument: Acquisition of a Low-Field NMR for Research/Education at TAMIU.” Project principal investigator Qingwen Ni, an associate professor of physics. Co-PIs are Fuming Wu, assistant professor of computer science, Hoonandara R. Goonatilake, associate professor of mathematics, Runchang Lin, assistant professor of mathematics, and Tongdan Jin, assistant professor of systems engineering. “One of the objectives of the proposed research is to develop a non-destructive and non-invasive technique to assess bone quality by quantifying the distribution of water (bound and mobile water) within bone tissue, porosity and pore size distributions in cortical bone in vitro,” according to the project summary. “Success of this research will provide the preliminary data basis for studies on other bone-related research, including material and medical applications,” said Ni. “Students will also benefit from the new equipment because they will be able to study the physical and mathematical concepts of nuclear magnetic resonance, pursue and develop current research questions including bone-related research and learn NMR technology and its applications. The equipment will help revamp the science curriculum, thereby making the science program at TAMIU more competitive and aid in the recruitment of more undergraduate students to science degree programs. This equipment will help TAMIU to establish an NMR laboratory,” explained Ni.



\$134,724 Scholarship Grant Award to Nursing School

TAMIU’s College of Nursing and Health Sciences’ Dr. F. M. Canseco School of Nursing received a \$134,724 grant award from the Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Human Services (HRSA) to be used to increase nursing educational opportunities for students from educationally and economically disadvantaged backgrounds and from under-represented ethnic minority groups. Specifically, these funds will provide scholarships to help facilitate enrollment and retention of project participants and their successful graduation with a bachelor's degree in Nursing. It is also expected that this project will improve the quality of health care in medically underserved area and rural regions by increasing access to a diversified and culturally sensitive bilingual nursing workforce. The Texas Board of Nursing recently commended the faculty and administration of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences’ Dr. F. M. Canseco School of Nursing for their graduates’ 94.87 percent pass rate on the NCLEX-RN. Scholarships will be awarded based on students’ ranking by the TAMIU Office of Financial Aid and the students’ commitment to pursue nursing in the Laredo area.





Research Grant from Hispanic History of Texas Project



Lola Orellano-Norris

A Texas A&M International University doctoral student has been named the recipient of a 2008 Research Grant from the University of Houston's Recovering the U.S. Hispanic History of Texas Project. Lola Orellano-Norris received the \$4,365 grant for her planned research focused on an analysis of expedition diaries (1686-1690) of General Alonso de León's five military expeditions into Texas. De León's diaries hold major linguistic, historical and anthropological importance because they are among the earliest documentary records written in and

about Texas. Orellano-Norris said she was excited about the opportunities provided by the research grant which also figures prominently in her doctoral dissertation. "This research project is part of my doctoral dissertation which will include the identification, location, transcription, English translation and linguistic analysis of de León's expedition diaries. The manuscripts are held in different archives in Spain, México and the United States and this grant will support my travel and research. My research approach takes into consideration not just one, but all extant manuscripts for each expedition. Linguistically, these manuscripts are invaluable. They form a distinct body of information particularly suitable for the study of linguistic features and documentation of Spanish language change in early Texas. Some of the accounts have been edited and published with historians in mind. They have never been studied as an interconnected body of work or subjected to a linguistic analysis or philological study," she noted. Orellano-Norris also received a \$1,500 Summer Dissertation Research Grant from Texas A&M University's College of Liberal Arts, Department of Hispanic Studies. She said she believes that her research will reveal new linguistic, cultural and historical data, correct commonly accepted historical facts and clarify existing inconsistencies.



National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute

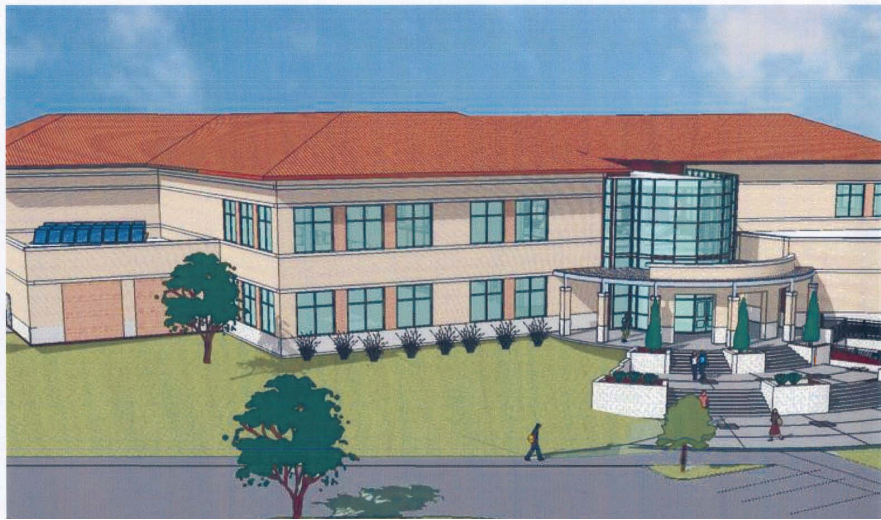
A Texas A&M International University faculty member was selected as one of 19 national participants in the Fourth Biennial Summer Institute for College and University Teachers held at Ferrum College in Ferrum, Va., during the month of June 2008. Dr. Jaclyn Jeffrey, TAMIU associate professor in the Department of Social Sciences, attended the Summer Institute funded by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). The Institute examined Appalachian issues that link regional study to the liberal arts. The 19 teacher-scholars selected to receive stipends for travel and expenses to participate in the Institute represented colleges and universities from 13 States and Japan. Before attending, Dr. Jeffrey said she hoped to apply the model of Appalachian studies to studies of south Texas. "I hope to gain ideas for ways to help our students bridge the cultural gap that exists between border culture and mainstream American culture," Jeffrey said. Nationally known guest faculty included poet Frank X. Walker, historian Gordon McKinney, feminist researcher Mary Anglin, book and CD producer Paul Kuzco, Appalachian musician Ron Short, and migration scholar Phillip Obermiller. Ferrum College is part of a select group of institutions of higher education, including Harvard, SUNY Oswego and the University of Tennessee, to receive NEH awards this year. It is a four-year, private, co-educational, liberal arts college affiliated with the United Methodist Church.



Dr. Jaclyn Jeffrey



Energy-Efficient Green Campus Research Initiative



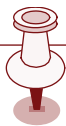
This past fall, Texas A&M International University received a congressionally directed grant in the amount of **\$492,000** to implement a Green Campus Program initiative.

The objectives of this initiative are to: 1) Demonstrate the use of solar power while developing sustainable green campus practices at TAMIU, including energy and water efficiency and conservation; and 2) Transfer the knowledge gained to the campus students,

faculty, and administration as well as the surrounding community and The Texas A&M University System. This initiative will provide TAMIU with critical resources to undertake a path to a more cost-effective, environmentally friendly future. It will mitigate the impact on student fees by lowering the energy cost in existing and new facilities through more efficient design, operations, controls optimization, use of renewable resources, and lower water use. Like many, the University is faced with high energy costs that have increased by almost 50 percent over the last two years, reducing critical teaching funds.

\$1,000,000 to TAMIU and LCC for the Implementation of a Community Awareness Training and Transboundary Risk Identification and Mitigation

Texas A&M International University (TAMIU) and Laredo Community College (LCC) received a congressionally directed grant in the amount of \$1,000,000 to implement a project that provides training to military personnel and other support groups such as local, state, and federal law enforcement. This program is designed to further enhance understanding and knowledge about community awareness and response to critical incidents. In addition, the project will provide for transboundary risk identification and mitigation. This activity will support the Texas National Guard Joint Force Commander by developing a detailed mitigation and crisis action plan that will support civil authorities during a disaster. Principal Investigators for this initiative are Dr. John Kilburn and Dr. Kenneth Tobin.



\$3.5 Million Title V Cooperative Grant Awarded to TAMIU and LCC for Math Programs

Texas A&M International University (TAMIU) and Laredo Community College (LCC), received a Title V Cooperative Arrangement Development Grant in the amount of \$3.5 million. LCC is the lead agency and TAMIU is the partnering institution. Funds from this grant will be use to improve the academic recruitment and retention of Hispanic students and other low-income individuals. This project is central to both institutions' comprehensive development plans to improve the teaching and learning process of Hispanic students and low-income individuals who make up over 90% of the student population at both institutions.

The Educational Excellence Project: Teaching, Technology, and Learning seeks to strengthen academic offerings and program quality at both Institutions by: (1) improving student achievement in mathematics by offering tutorial and counseling services, (2) providing computer labs for mathematics and related fields, (3) providing faculty development in the areas of curriculum design, working with diverse populations, assessment and instructional strategies through the use of technology, (4) providing support to the Council on Educational Excellence which aims to expand the educational opportunities for and improve the academic attainment of Hispanic students in the Laredo area by providing information on rigorous secondary school programs, and (5) creating an endowment to support college students who have excelled in rigorous high school programs included in the SMART fields.

Tomás Rodríguez, TAMIU student and member of the Mathematical Society of TAMIU, said the impact of the grant will help students appreciate math and become better members of society. "The impact of this grant through tutoring and counseling services in the Mathematics and related sciences will help mold our student body into one that is more appreciative of Mathematics and its relatives. Providing computer labs for Mathematics will help students become more interactive and have them relate Mathematics to our technological world. Providing professional development for faculty will assist them in creating resources and activities that will create relevance between the subject and our environment. This relevance is crucial in not only helping the learning process but also molding us into alumni that are civically active and can apply our knowledge to our surroundings to create a better future."

Dr. Nora R. Garza, Vice President for Resource Development at LCC was equally excited about the funding, "As a Hispanic Serving Institution, Laredo Community College is committed to its mission of making higher education accessible to all. With the support of the Title V Cooperative Development grant, we will be able to achieve greater strides in meeting our goals to help more students achieve brighter futures," said Dr. Garza.

Fiscal Year 2007-2008

New Awards

A. R. Sanchez, Jr. School of Business

Pérez, Richard

Awarded: \$255,541

UTSA South-West Texas Border SBDC, A Cooperative Agreement with UTSA

Granting Agency: U.S. Small Business Administration

Purpose: In addition to its successful business counseling and training activities, the Laredo Small Business Development Center (SBDC) team activity supports the economic development efforts of other business organizations, non-profits, and faith-based organizations in the three county area.

Rivas, Andres

Awarded: \$20,000

Hippy Laredo Program

Granting Agency: AmeriCorps/ University of North Texas

Purpose: This project focuses on school readiness for children ages three through five by recruiting parents from targeted communities to learn the parenting and in-home teaching skills that enable them to instruct children in reading and better prepare them for school and a lifetime of learning.

College of Arts and Sciences

Aguilar, Marian

Awarded: \$64,118

Title IV-E Child Welfare Grant 2007-2008

Granting Agency: State of Texas Department of Family and Protective Services

Purpose: Provide financial support for students (stipends), modify curriculum in the Social Work Program to include topics relevant to Title IV-E program goals, and provide field placement for students to increase their knowledge and skills in the areas of case planning, case management and court preparation.

Bachnak, Rafic

Awarded: \$13,964

Communicating the Impact of Space Exploration Programs

Granting Agency: University of Texas at Austin/National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Purpose: Increase K-12 educator knowledge of space research projects, attract and recruit Hispanic and other under-represented students, and communicate to students at TAMIU about NASA educational activities and career opportunities.

Real Time Laser Position Tracking Device

Awarded \$70,915

Granting Agency: United Negro College Fund/National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Purpose: This project will address the position tracking mechanism by designing and testing a real time laser tracking device that provides positional data that, when combined with the output of eddy current probe, can provide a visual representation of the scanned surface.

College of Arts and Sciences (cont'd)

Duffy, Stephen

Awarded: \$6,000

Redesign of U.S. History 1302 and Developmental Writing

Granting Agency: University of North Texas

Purpose: This project is a collaborative among faculty at the University of North Texas and Grayson County College to create a redesigned paired delivery of the U.S. History 1302 and Developmental Writing course for credit at the undergraduate level and as Dual Credit in Texas high schools to promote the goals of "Closing the Gaps" and increase the participation, retention, success, and learning among students.

Goonatilake, Hoonandara

Awarded: \$36,131

TEA/TAMIU Interagency Contract: Conduct Audit of Proclamation 2005 Corrected English & Spanish Instructional Materials Programs

Granting Agency: Texas Education Agency

Purpose: Conduct an audit of Proclamation 2005 corrected English and Spanish instructional materials program, confirm errors are corrected, identify uncorrected errors and document recommended changes.

Haertlein, Alma

Awarded: \$1,230

"Migrations": Artwork by Billy Hassell

Granting Agency: Texas Commission on the Arts

Purpose: This project will make it possible for the TAMIU Art Gallery to provide Laredo and surrounding communities with an opportunity to experience the exhibits featuring the paintings and prints of Dallas artist Billy Hassell.

Hartley, Richard D.

Awarded: \$33,499

Inter-District Variation in Receipt of Substantial Assistance Departures: Reintroducing Unwarranted Disparity into the Federal Sentencing System

Granting Agency: American Statistical Association

Purpose: This study will explore federal sentencing data on offenders convicted of narcotics offenses in 2004.

Jeffery, Jaclyn L.

Awarded: \$3,000

NEH Summer Institute

Granting Agency: National Endowment for the Humanities

Purpose: This grant gave Dr. Jaclyn Jeffery the opportunity to attend the 4th Biennial Summer Institute for College and University Teachers. The Institute examined Appalachian issues that linked regional studies to the liberal arts.

Khosraviyani, Firooz

Awarded: \$87,000

The Río Grande Border Elementary Mathematics (RiGEM) 2008-2009 Institute

Granting Agency: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Purpose: Provide high quality professional development for 24 High/Middle School teachers from six local school districts in an effort to enhance classroom performance and student achievement in mathematics.

College of Arts and Sciences (cont'd)

Kilburn, John/ Tobin, Kenneth

Awarded: \$1,000,000

Community Awareness Training and Transboundary Risk Identification and Mitigation

Granting Agency: Homeland Security/Congressionally directed

Purpose: Provide training for military personnel and other support groups such as local, state, and federal law enforcement to further enhance their understanding and knowledge about community awareness and response to critical incidents. In addition, the project will support the Texas National Guard Joint Force Commander by conducting a detailed disaster mitigation and crisis action plan that will support civil authorities during a disaster.

Leyendecker, Bede

Awarded: \$5,000

City of Laredo Third Party Funding Grant 2007-2008

Granting Agency: City of Laredo

Purpose: Support, promote and encourage participation and involvement of all citizens of the region in quality experiences in the Arts through the dance medium.

Webb County Third Party Funding Grant 2007-2008

Awarded: \$1,000

Granting Agency: Webb County Texas Third Party Funding

Purpose: Support, promote and encourage participation and involvement of all citizens of the region in quality experiences in the Arts through the dance medium.

Mandal, Hari

Awarded: \$45,000

Basic Chemical Research

Granting Agency: The Welch Foundation

Purpose: Support the chemical research being done by the faculty members in the biology and chemistry department and provide an opportunity for students to study chemistry in a less structured way.

Ni, Qingwen

Awarded: \$99,210

MRI: Acquisition of a Low-Field NMR for Research/ Education at TAMU

Granting Agency: National Science Foundation

Purpose: This project will allow for the acquisition of a Bruker low-field proton 7.5 MHz bench-top NMR system for research and teaching.

Orellano-Norris, Lola

Awarded: \$4,365

Alonso de León's Expedition Diaries into Texas (1686-1690): A Linguistic Analysis of the Spanish Manuscripts

Granting Agency: University of Houston

Purpose: Provide funds to locate manuscripts related to Alonso de León's five expeditions.

Pardue, Brenda

Awarded: \$75,024

Title IV-E Child Welfare 2008 – 2009

Granting Agency: State of Texas Department of Family & Protective Services

Purpose: Provide financial support for students (stipends), modify curriculum in the social work program to include topics relevant to Title IV-E program goals, and provide field placement for students to increase their knowledge and skills in the areas of case planning, case management and court preparation.

College of Arts and Sciences (cont'd)

Sánchez, Bernice

Awarded: \$43,000

South Texas Writing Project 2008-2009

Granting Agency: National Writing Project, funded through the U.S. Dept. of Education

Purpose: Support the National Writing Project Model, which emphasizes improving students' writing and learning.

Soto, Gilberto

Awarded: \$1,000

TAMIU Guitar Ensemble

Granting Agency: Webb County

Purpose: This project offers free fine arts performance programs around the County of Webb and in different area of Laredo with primary interest in the colonias.

Vaughn, Tom/Krishnamurthy, Sushma

Awarded: \$48,000

Environmental Monitoring and Assessment (EMA)

Granting Agency: Texas A&M University at Kingsville/National Science Foundation

Purpose: Improve the fundamental understanding of the scale-dependent behavior of air and water pollution in the semi-arid lands and shorelines through monitoring and subsequent assessment of these critical resources areas, and thus contribute to sustainable infrastructure development in South Texas.

College of Education

Brown, Randal

Awarded: \$26,500

Special Education Recruitment and Retention Grant

Granting Agency: Texas A&M University Texarkana/Texas Education Agency

Purpose: Provide workshops, summer camps, and stipends to support teacher training, seminar activities, summer camp activities or activities which directly support special education teacher recruitment and retention.

Coronado, Jennifer

Awarded: \$6,750

Project STARSET (Striving to Attract and Retain Special Education Teachers)

Granting Agency: Texas A&M University Texarkana

Purpose: Attract high school students and instructional aides to enter into a special education certification program by presenting a "Discover Teaching" day and to provide newly certified special education teachers with experienced mentors who have been training using the Texas Beginning Educator Support System (TxBESS) model.

Flores, Gloria

Awarded: \$112,000

TAMIU Regional Science Collaborative Science Grant

Granting Agency: Texas Regional Science Collaborative at Austin, Texas

Purpose: Provide for a minimum of 105 total contact hours of training in high quality, research-based professional development to teachers of science.

College of Education (cont'd)

González, Humberto

Awarded: \$151,480

The Mid-Rio Professional Learning Community: Math/Science Interactive Collaborative

MRPLC:MSIC

Granting Agency: Texas Education Agency

Purpose: Improve instruction for students in small rural communities where recruitment and retention of qualified teachers is difficult.

Solis, Thelma

Awarded: \$139,739

Texas A&M International Regional Collaboratives for Excellence in Science and Mathematics Teaching

Granting Agency: The University of Texas at Austin

Purpose: Provide for an average of 105 contact hours of training in high quality, research-based professional development to 53 teachers of science.

College of Nursing and Health Sciences

Burkhalter, Natalie

Awarded: \$134,724

TAMU Disadvantaged Nursing Student Scholarships (DNSS)

Granting Agency: Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

Purpose: Increase nursing education opportunities for individuals from educationally and economically disadvantaged backgrounds and from under-represented racial/ethnic minority groups by providing scholarships.

Office of Special Programs

Madrigal, Julio

Awarded: \$87,366

South Texas Bridge 2008

Granting Agency: South Texas Workforce Development Board, Inc.

Purpose: Increase the number of Workforce Investment Act (WIA) participants entering post-secondary education.

South Texas Pre-Bridge 2008

Awarded: \$20,264

Granting Agency: South Texas Workforce Development Board, Inc.

Purpose: Increase the number of WIA participants entering and graduating from post-secondary education.

Texas Pre-freshman Engineering Program (TexPREP) 2008

Awarded: \$75,190

Granting Agency: University of Texas at San Antonio

Purpose: Identify high achieving middle and high school students with an interest and potential for careers in engineering, science, technology and other mathematics-related areas and reinforce their pursuit of these fields.

2008 Bridge to Success College Readiness Program

Awarded: \$38,525

Granting Agency: Middle Río Grande Workforce Board

Purpose: This project will help to alleviate the challenges that WIA-eligible students must confront to complete high school and enroll and succeed in postsecondary education.

Office of Programs for Academic Support and Enrichment

Hickey, Concepción

Awarded: \$75,000

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Intensive Summer Program

Granting Agency: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB)

Purpose: Increase the college readiness of our under-prepared students.

Council for Education Excellence (P-16 Enhancement Grant)

Awarded: \$55,000

Granting Agency: Texas Higher Education Coordination Board (THECB)

Purpose: The Council of Educational Excellence coordinates the efforts of Webb, Zapata, and Jim Hogg Counties' independent school districts, higher education institutions, the business community and other local agencies to promote a college-going culture, improve the college readiness, and increase the college graduation rates of our students.

Office of Vice President for Academic Affairs

Lira, Juan

Awarded: \$1,782,500

Educational Excellence Project: Teaching, Technology and Learning

Granting Agency: U.S. Department of Education—Title V Program

Purpose: Strengthen academic offerings and program quality by: (1) improving student achievement in mathematics by offering tutorial and counseling services, (2) providing computer labs for mathematics and related fields, (3) providing faculty development in the areas of curriculum design, working with diverse populations, assessment and instructional strategies through the use of technology, and (4) providing support to the Council on Educational Excellence which aims to expand the educational opportunities for and improve the academic secondary school programs, and (5) creating an endowment to support college students who have excelled in rigorous high school programs included in the SMART fields.

Congressionally Directed Grant Award

Awarded: \$492,000

Texas A&M International University Green Campus Research Initiative

Granting Agency: U.S. Department of Energy

Purpose: Conduct a solar renewable energy demonstration and research; create a Green TAMIU campus; improve the energy-efficiency of campus buildings; and incorporate sustainable energy and resource efficient measures and practices into the current design of the new Student Success Center at TAMIU.

Other

Ríos, Jaime

Awarded: \$2,578

Bulletproof Vest Partnership Program

Granting Agency: U. S. Department of Justice

Purpose: This grant helped fund the purchase of bullet proof vests for the TAMIU Police Department.

Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Continuation Projects

Note: Continuation projects reflect the grant amount received this fiscal year only.

A. R. Sanchez, Jr. School of Business

Sagafi-Nejad, Tagi

Awarded: \$87,331

Reaching for New Global Heights at TAMIU: Faculty & New Student Development Initiatives in International Business

Granting Agency: U.S. Department of Education

Purpose: Enhance the linkage between the local business community and the University, providing a combination of academic and practical experience that enables Ph.D. students to become more effective in conducting international business.

College of Arts and Sciences

García-Ríos, Mario

Awarded: \$15,000

Joint Admission Medical Program (JAMP)

Granting Agency: State of Texas/Joint Admission Medical Program Council

Purpose: Provide services to support and encourage disadvantaged students pursuing a medical education.

Lin, Runchang

Awarded: \$125,000

Mathematics and Engineering Best ME-Best

Granting Agency: National Science Foundation (NSF)

Purpose: Increase the number of low-income students who are ethnic minorities, women, or persons with disabilities pursuing undergraduate and graduate studies in STEM fields.

Mandal, Hari

Basic Chemical Research

Awarded: \$20,000

Granting Agency: The Welch Foundation

Purpose: Support the chemical research being done by the faculty members in the chemistry department and to provide an opportunity for students to study chemistry in a less structured way.

Mott, Daniel J.

Awarded: \$141,508

Promoting Undergraduate Education Now Through Experimental Science (PUENTES)

Granting Agency: National Institute of Health (NIH)

Purpose: Recruit under-represented minority (LCC) students with an interest in biomedical science. It also plans to strengthen students' performance in science while enrolled at the community college, and to provide them with experience and training that will ensure success in a four-year college or university.

Sánchez, Bernice

Awarded: \$42,000

South Texas Writing Project 2006-2008

Granting Agency: National Writing Project, funded thru U.S. Dept. of Education

Purpose: This project supports the National Writing Project Model, which emphasizes improving students' writing and learning.

College of Arts and Sciences (cont'd)

Pletsch de García, Kathleen

Awarded: \$80,795

TAMIU Latin American Studies and Foreign Language Program

Granting Agency: U.S. Department of Education

Purpose: Improve TAMIU's Latin American Studies and Spanish heritage language programs over the next two years to prepare students for careers in business, government and public service related to Latin America.

Tobin, Kenneth

Awarded: \$36,856

Methodologies for Applying TRMM -Estimated Precipitation Data to Hydrologic Modeling of Watersheds in the South Texas-Mexico Borderland Region

Granting Agency: National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Purpose: Expand the interdisciplinary study of satellite-based precipitation estimates from missions such as the current TRMM and the future GPM in the context of quantifying the regional water balance of the Middle Río Grande and Nueces River Basins at hourly time-scales.

College of Education

Alaniz, Ramón

Awarded: \$ 139,055

Excellence in Early Childhood Education (E³)

Granting Agency: U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

Purpose: Increase the number of qualified personnel in early childhood education.

González, Humberto

Awarded: \$ 75,000

Early College High School

Granting Agency: TAMU/Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

Purpose: This project serves as the intermediary organization to manage the effort to establish Early College High Schools in collaboration with selected A&M system universities and school districts.

Lira, Juan

Awarded: \$379,347

Alternative Transition to Teaching (AT³P)

Granting Agency: U. S. Department of Education

Purpose: The goal of the AT³P is to produce 600 highly qualified certified teachers to serve in high-need schools operated by high-need Local Education Agencies (LEAs) within a five-year period who will remain in the teaching profession for three years or more.

Vargas, Miroslava

Awarded: \$649,998

Hispanic Student Success Initiative: Preparing Tomorrow's Teachers Today

Granting Agency: U.S. Department of Education

Purpose: Increase the number of students admitted into the TAMIU College of Education. The project seeks to strengthening the advisement system and retention efforts and to develop a seamless transfer system for students enrolled at LCC and transferring to TAMIU.

Office of Special Programs

Madrigal, Julio F.

Awarded: \$698,299

Creating a Vision II

Granting Agency: U. S. Department of Education

Purpose: Provide services to a cohort of 7th graders enrolled in the Antonio González Middle School, George Washington Middle School and Dr. Joaquín González Cigarroa Middle School. The project seeks to strengthen existing academic strategies and implement new programs to raise academic standards, provide academic support for students, improve teacher training and increase student knowledge of higher education opportunities and admissions and develop a parental education program that teaches parents English language and parenting skills so that they can provide a nurturing academic environment for their children.

Creating a Vision III (GEAR UP)

Awarded: \$604,809

Granting Agency: U. S. Department of Education

Purpose: This multi-year collaborative project serves 930 seventh grade students from Hebronville Junior High School, Bernarda Jaime Junior High School, Benavides Secondary School, Carrizo Springs Junior High School, Zapata Middle School, Newman Middle School, and Fly Junior High School and continue to their respective area high schools. The project seeks to strengthen existing academic strategies, implement new programs, raise academic standards, provide academic support for students, improve teacher training and increase student knowledge of higher education opportunities and admissions. It will also develop a parental education program that teaches parents English language and parenting skills so that they can provide a nurturing academic environment for their children.

TAMU High School Equivalency (HEP)

Awarded: \$413,277

Granting Agency: U. S. Department of Education

Purpose: Assist migrant and seasonal farm workers and their children obtain the equivalent of a secondary school diploma and subsequently gain employment or be placed in an institution of higher education or other post-secondary education or training.

TAMU College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP)

Awarded: \$339,357

Granting Agency: U. S. Department of Education

Purpose: To enable eligible low-income, migrant and seasonal farm workers students to successfully obtain the equivalent of a secondary school diploma and subsequently to gain employment or be placed in an institution of higher education.

Office of Programs for Academic Support and Enrichment

Valle, Leticia

Awarded: \$235,689

TRiO Program – Student Support Services (SSS)

Granting Agency: U. S. Department of Education

Purpose: To motivate and help students complete their post-secondary education. The SSS provides academic and financial support services, cultural, career and educational activities to help participants reach their academic goals.



FY 2007-2008 OGR Events...

First Annual Grant Awards Recognition Gala



From left to right: Dr. Kenneth Tobin holding the Most Sponsored Research Submissions Award for Tenured Faculty; Ms. Cristina Hernandez, OGR director, holding the Most Persistent and Dedicated Grant Writer; Ms. Anne Frey, OGR Associate Director; Ms. Linda Garay, OGR Support Assistant; Dr. Christopher Ferguson holding the Most Sponsored Research Submissions Award for Junior Faculty; and Dr. Julio F. Madrigal holding the Largest Sponsored Program and Most Submissions Award. Not pictured are Dr. Daniel Mott who received the Largest Sponsored Research Award for Tenured Faculty and Dr. Joshua Stevenson who received the Largest Sponsored Research Award for Junior Faculty.



Cristina and Dr. Dan Jones presenting one of Dr. Madrigal's awards



Dr. Tobin and Dr. Madrigal celebrating with Dr. Jeffrey Brown

Seminars and Training

The OGR offers the following seminars and training sessions on aspects of the grant application process and award administration:

New Faculty/Staff Orientation, an overview of services provided by the Office of Grant Resources, scheduled annually in August.

Fall Research Seminars, five days of funding facts for both faculty and staff involved in proposal preparation, scheduled annually in the fall. Included are presentations by experienced researchers, and local/national/international speakers. Also, during the spring semester a series of seminars are scheduled consisting of presentations by knowledgeable faculty members and staff from the OGR office as well as Program Officers from various federal agencies.

A schedule of upcoming workshops and training can be found on the OGR website at <http://www.tamui.edu/gradschool/grant/seminarform.cfm>

Upcoming Fall Research Seminars October 13-17, 2008

Monday Oct. 13	Tuesday Oct. 14	Wednesday Oct. 15	Thursday Oct. 16	Friday Oct. 17
<p><i>Tips on Successful Grant Writing—The Obvious and Not-So Obvious</i> Dr. Eugene Billiot, TAMU-CC 9-10:15 a.m. WHTC-103</p> <p><i>One-on-One Meetings with Dr. Billiot</i> 10:30-3:15 a.m. WHTC-126</p> <p><i>SPIN</i> 10:30-11:45 p.m. PH-211 2-3:15 p.m. PH-219</p>	<p><i>Pre-Award Process & Proposal Development</i> 9-10:15 a.m. Bullock Hall-113</p> <p><i>SPIN</i> 1:30-3:45 p.m. PH-219</p>	<p>Guest Speaker Dr. Juan F. Arratia <i>Model Institutions for Excellence (MIE) Best Practices, Proposal Writing & Implementation</i> 10-11:15 a.m. WHTC-116</p> <p><i>One-on-One Meetings with Dr. Arratia</i> 1:30-3:30 p.m. WHTC-126</p>	<p><i>NSF CAREER Proposal Writing</i> Dr. Tongdan Jin 9-10:15 a.m. Bullock Hall-113</p> <p><i>IRB Procedures</i> Dr. David Beck 10:30-11:45 a.m. Bullock Hall-113</p> <p><i>Grant Writing for Success</i> Dr. Harold I. Perl Dr. Michael A. Sesma, National Institutes of Health 1:30-4:00 p.m. WHTC-104</p>	<p><i>Institutional Animal Care & Use Committee (IACUC) Procedures</i></p> <p>Dr. Thomas C. Vaughan 9-10:15 a.m. WHTC-125</p> <p><i>IRB Procedures</i> Dr. David Beck 10:30-11:45 a.m. WHTC-125</p>

About the Office of Grant Resources

The Office of Grant Resources (OGR), a unit within the Office of Graduate Studies and Research, supports and provides services for faculty and staff in securing external funds from public and private agencies. Emphasis is placed on securing funds to achieve the University's priorities. The Office supports the contract and grant writing activities of the faculty and staff through all stages of the project -- from the initial planning through project completion.



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University Research Grant Awardees 2008-2009

Congratulations to the faculty members receiving University Research Grants for 2008-2009. Over \$180,000 in course-releases, summer stipends, equipment, funding for travel and research assistant salaries was awarded to the following 24 faculty members. The OGR staff looks forward to assisting these faculty members and all others applying for external sponsored research grants in the coming year.

Dr. David Beck	Dr. Nereu F. Kock	Dr. Claudia San Miguel
Dr. Neela A. Emanuel	Dr. John Kilburn	Dr. Kyung-Shin Park
Dr. Christopher Ferguson	Dr. Tongdan Jin	Dr. Jerry Thompson
Dr. Cecilia Garza	Dr. Sukho Lee	Dr. Judith A. Warner
Dr. Robert W. Haynes	Dr. Runchang Lin	Dr. Haibo Wang
Dr. Roberto R. Heredia	Dr. Hari D. Mandal	Dr. Fuming Wu
Dr. Juan H. Hinojosa	Dr. Neal C. McReynolds	Dr. Marcus Ynalvez
Dr. Eugenio Jaramillo	Dr. Qingwen Ni	Dr. Ruby Ynalvez

University Research Grants (URG) Summary Data FY 2007-2008

<i>Number of Proposals Submitted.....</i>	<i>33</i>
<i>Dollar Amount Requested.....</i>	<i>\$6,470,674</i>
<i>Number of Proposals Awarded.....</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Dollar Amount for Proposals Awarded.....</i>	<i>\$132,709</i>
<i>Number of Proposals Pending.....</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>Dollar Amount for Proposals Pending.....</i>	<i>\$1,225,833</i>

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