

Research@CMU

Promoting Scholarship and Creative Work Throughout the University

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News from the Hedge

Over the past several years, CMU has become increasingly successful in obtaining funds from the National Science Foundation (NSF). Among CMU's areas of success is the Major Research Instrumentation (MRI) program, which provides funding for shared instrumentation for integrated research and education in research-intensive environments. MRI applications are divided into organizational categories, defined by the number of Ph.D.'s in NSF-supported fields earned annually. CMU has tracked this institutional information for many years and as of this August, CMU has earned the designation of a "Ph.D. granting institution." Though we are still eligible for MRI support, **CMU now must identify and provide a cash match of 30% for all of its MRI proposals.** As in prior years, because institutions are limited to up to two instrument acquisition proposals and one instrument development proposal per annual competition, ORSP and college deans have selected among submitted pre-proposals those applications that will compete for NSF MRI funding in 2012.

In contrast to the MRI program, the NSF's Research in Undergraduate Institutions (RUI) program uses the number of earned Ph.D.'s in NSF-supported fields as a criterion for determining eligible applicants. New this year, **CMU is no longer eligible for the RUI project designation.** Though CMU has received a few RUI awards, this program has not been a strong component of CMU's NSF funding.

While changes to these programs might be somewhat disconcerting, they are also a sign of CMU's increased stature as a doctoral granting institution. As the work of our talented faculty and staff becomes more widely known, CMU will become an increasingly valuable partner and a stronger attraction for committed and accomplished students.

If you have any questions about MRI, RUI or opportunities to fund your project, please call ORSP at x.6777 or email ORSP@cmich.edu.

Deb Clark

Upcoming Events

Monday, December 12

**ORSP Early Career (EC)
Preliminary Proposal
Deadline:**

Preliminary project title, abstract and list of five external reviewers due. Please attach and email the required materials in .pdf format to klump1se@cmich.edu by Monday, December 12 at 5 p.m.

CMU's Holiday Closure

External Grant Submission

For external proposals with due dates prior to January 2, 2012, you must contact your ORSP program officer no later than December 9, 2011 so that the proposal can be submitted by Friday, December 16. It will not be possible for ORSP program officers to submit external proposals during the holiday closure December 17, 2011 – January 1, 2012. If you have questions, please contact ORSP at 6777 or your ORSP program officer.

**Office of Research and
Sponsored Programs**

ORSP@cmich.edu

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New Institutional Diversity Funding Promotes Inclusion and Student Achievement

CMU's Office for Institutional Diversity (OID), led by Associate Vice President, Dr. Denise O'Neil Green, is committed to fostering a campus and Mt. Pleasant community that respects and celebrates diversity. OID strives to provide all students with equitable educational opportunity and the resources to develop into accomplished scholars and global citizens.

This fall, the OID is celebrating three, new competitive grant awards that will benefit hundreds of pre-college, transfer, and enrolled CMU students. CMU was chosen by the King-Chavez-Parks program for Michigan College/University Partnership (MICUP) program (\$120,000 annually) and Select Student Support Services (4S) funding (\$130,000 annually) to launch the **Student Transition Enrichment Program (STEP)** and the **Pathways to Academic Student Success Program**, respectively. These programs target low-income and/or first generation college students, are six years in duration, and together will fund \$1.5 million in student service and support.

STEP supports the successful university transfer of up to 250 community college students each year. Program partners include Bay Mills Community College, the Saginaw-Chippewa Tribal College, Lansing Community College, and Mid-Michigan Community College. STEP students will benefit from extensive information and support during the transfer process, build supportive early relationships with other CMU students, staff, and faculty, develop effective academic skills and participate in career planning supportive of their long-term goals.

The **Pathways** program will support up to 260 students per year through academic guidance and tutoring, adjustment to college life sessions, financial and career counseling and mentoring services. By connecting participating students with the support appropriate to their individual needs, OID will help more students realize a positive college experience and successful persistence to graduation.

Lastly, CMU is the successful recipient of state funding for **Gaining Early Awareness**

and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP). CMU will receive more than \$125,000 per year for the next five years to assist Flint-area students to graduate and successfully prepare for opportunities in higher education.

Dr. Green is enthusiastic about the launch of these three complementary and student-focused programs. Her research interests span diversity, public policy in higher education, and qualitative research methods. As of July 2011 she began her 5th year in the role of CMU's Chief Diversity Officer, arriving here from a faculty position at the University of Nebraska. Among her other successful proposals, Dr. Green wrote the retention projects for *Supplemental Instruction and Pathways to Student Success and Excellence*, a program cited by George Kuh and Associates-

Post Award Tip #5

If you have received external funding that supports travel and will need to expend some related funds prior to the travel occurring, please be aware of CMU's travel reimbursement policy:

According to the Travel Services website:

"Reimbursement *prior to travel* has been eliminated. However, employees who are CMU Business Credit Card holders may charge their pre-trip expenses to their CMU Business Credit Card if the expenses are to be fully reimbursed by the University. Employees without a CMU Business Credit Card may do one of the following:

- Charge their airfare and/or conference fees only on a CMU Business Credit Card held by another employee within their department (if fully reimbursable), or
- Pay out of their own pocket and seek reimbursement *after* taking the trip."

This policy applies to all individuals who will be traveling, including students. If you have a question regarding the processing of travel expenses contact Travel Services at 774-3481 .before incurring any travel related expenses.

TWO HINTS FOR TRACKING YOUR GRANT BUDGET

First, install SAP onto your computer by going to: <http://www.controller.cmich.edu/FIS/Forms/SAPRequest.asp> and completing the forms. With SAP, you can get up to the minute information related to your processed grant expenses and remaining funds, in two ways.

For inserting a single button application on your computer desktop that will connect you directly to your budget summary page, click on the *url* below and follow the directions: <http://www.cmich.edu/Documents/SAP/pdfs/shortcut%20on%20desktop.pdf>

Alternatively, you can view your externally funded budget by:

Logging into SAP

Double clicking on "FMRA Grant Report"

Clicking on "Inception to Date (Grants)"

Clicking on "Grant After 11/1/05 (WBS)"

Double clicking on "Grant Summary Report"

Entering your grant or contract number (this is the number with the alpha character in front of it) into the Grant box

Finally, on the upper left portion of the screen clicking on the button that looks like a clock with a green check mark (the execute button).

Please remember that if you would like training as to how SAP can best help you manage your grants, call Grant Accounting at extension 3707. They provide excellent services including group and one-to-one trainings.