



SFA Directory of Faculty Research and Creative Interests!

ORSP will publish an updated edition of this resource for the SFA community in the coming months. The directory serves as a central source of information about faculty members' professional experience, research interests, and creative endeavors. It also includes a list of specialized facilities and equipment that may be made available to the SFA community for collaborative use. Copies of the current directory are available at the Faculty Excellence Center and ORSP Web site.

The directory is a great way to expand your network and get a taste of the wide variety of interests and projects across campus. *If you didn't get your entry to us for the first edition*, please consider sending one to ORSP now so that we can include it in the next edition. Forms (a new short version) as well as a PDF version of the directory are available on-line! Just download the form, fill it out, and send it via email to ORSP. www.sfasu.edu/orsp/Networking/resdirectory.htm

Already have an entry? We will edit your current information to fit our new short form. You will receive the revision and have a chance to make changes before it is included in the new directory.

New Awards, continued...

Warren Conway: TPWD, Eastern Wild Turkey Reintroduction in Texas (\$91,492); TPWD, Landscape Scale Evaluation of Eastern Wild Turkey (\$523,820); David Creech: Texas Nursery and Landscape, Container Nursery Strategies (\$9,974); Michael Legg: USDA, Lower Neches Valley Auth/Sabine River Auth., Trail Between the Lakes Evaluation (\$44,000); Matthew McBroom: TWDB, Large Woody Debris Budget for the Sabine River (\$30,000); Shiyu Li: USDA - 2 awards, Development of Commercial Production Methods for Shikimic Acid (\$169,541); David Ownby: Copper Development Association, Inc., Copper Toxicity in Very Soft Waters (\$34,000); Pat Stephens Williams: USDA, Forest for Every Classroom Curriculum (\$40,000).

Science and Mathematics: Ken Farrish: USDA, Alley Cropping Switchgrass (\$6,500); USDA, Phytoremediation of Phosphorous (\$19,000); Will Godwin: USDI, Invertebrate Collection (\$7,500); USDA, American Burying Beetle Survey (\$6,500); Alexander Karatayev: TPWD, Invasive Freshwater Mollusks in Texas (\$17,794); TPWD, East Texas Mussel Surveys (\$32,056); TWDB, Freshwater Mussel Survey (\$65,000); Wisconsin DNR, Zebra Mussels in Madison Lakes (\$47,037); Kevin Langford: JAMP, Joint Admissions Medical Program 2007 (\$15,000); Jan Ritter: USDHHS, Piney Woods AHEC (\$82,000).



Spring 2007

ORSP Update

IN THIS ISSUE

- NEW AWARDS!
- GRANT SUPPORT GROUP
- INDIRECT COSTS, POLICY, AND YOU
- RESEARCH DIRECTORY

New Awards! We are pleased to announce awards made since the beginning of the academic year. They include programs for Multilingual Classrooms, Mussel surveys, and Native Plant research. Following is a summary of new grants of \$5,000 or more by College and Project Director. **Education:** (all awards originate with the US Dept of ED): Leisha Bridwell: Etiquette & Protocol = Success (\$5,000); Bill Bryan: Visually Impaired Prep Program (\$320,000); John Jacobson: State Leadership Consortium (\$35,000); Janice Pattillo: FIPSE, Articulated Internet Teacher Education Program for Multilingual Classrooms (\$592,260)

Forestry and Agriculture: Theresa Coble: WNPA, Visitor Voices: Assessing Interpretive Practice (\$15,000); USDI, Borders, Frontiers and Trade Routes (\$21,600); Chris Comer: TX Parks and Wildlife (TPWD), East Texas Black Bear Assessment (\$69,490); TPWD, Distribution and Habitat of Bats in East Texas (\$91,575)

continued on back page...

SFA GRANT SUPPORT GROUP - *Do you feel overwhelmed by your grant? Do the phrases 'Time and Effort,' 'Sub-recipient Monitoring' and 'Cost Sharing' haunt you?*

Come to the first Grant Support Group meeting and network with others who are working through the same issues. We hope to create an ongoing forum for discussing the challenges and strategies of grant management.

- Network with your colleagues and find out how others are dealing with their grants, managing their budgets, filing their reports, etc.
- Get to know people from other departments who have the same responsibilities as you.
- Meet personnel who support grant activities across campus, including purchasing, travel, and accounting.
- Most importantly - Have fun and get information to help run a successful grant-funded program!

CALL ORSP AT 6606
(before February 28, please)
TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT
FOR THE **GRANT SUPPORT GROUP MEETING**
LUNCH WILL BE SERVED
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7TH
FROM 11:00a.m. - 12:30p.m.

INDIRECT COSTS, POLICY, AND YOU. A PRIMER.

THE BASICS: Indirect Costs (**IDC**), or Facilities and Administrative Costs, are basically the costs of doing business that are not identified specifically within a particular grant, contract, or activity, but are necessary for the general operation of the organization and the conduct of the project in question. Practicality precludes itemizing costs such as building space, utilities, and university services (payroll, purchasing, etc.) in a project budget. Therefore, **indirect cost rates** are used to calculate a single figure for your budget to offset these costs.

Looking at it another way, indirect costs are those costs that are not classified as direct. Direct costs can be identified specifically with particular cost objectives and generally include salaries and wages, fringe benefits, consultant services, employee travel, materials, supplies/equipment, and communication costs used directly on a specific grant.

THE RATE: SFA's federal Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (**NICRA** - a mechanism for determining fairly and conveniently what proportions of administration costs each program should bear) is **50% of salaries and wages**. This mechanism allows each program or activity to assume its fair share of indirect costs when the rate is applied.

THE POLICY: As SFA Policy A-51 states, "The Principal Investigator or Project Director **must include indirect costs in the proposed budget for all grants, contracts and cooperative agreements at the maximum rate allowed by the sponsor**. Only the Associate Vice President (AVP) for Graduate Studies and Research or his/her designee, in consultation with the President, is authorized to negotiate indirect cost rates with sponsors."

In short, **IF** the sponsoring agency (funder) allows indirect costs, you **MUST** include them in your request up to the maximum allowed. Federal agencies must accept our NICRA unless an alternate program rate is published in the grant announcement. We realize that in some instances an alternate, unpublished rate may be appropriate; however, this rate **MUST** be negotiated by the AVP.

THE BENEFITS: Now, **the exciting part about Indirect Costs...**The Texas Education Code provides that recovered indirect costs (what is collected from grants and contracts... the 50% of salaries and wages or appropriate amount) can be retained by the university **to support and encourage further research**. The revenue from indirect cost reimbursements to SFA is used to pay for the operating costs of ORSP and then is allocated as follows:

- Fifty percent (50%) of any remaining revenue up to \$100,000 AND one hundred percent (100%) of any remaining revenue is to be distributed to academic units that generated the recovered indirect costs.

**The more IDC collected from grants and contracts...
the more \$MONEY\$ that will go to Colleges, Departments, and YOU!**

These funds shall be expended for projects encouraging further research, including:

- conducting pre-grant feasibility studies;
- preparing competitive proposals for sponsored programs;
- providing carryover funding for research to provide continuity between externally funded projects;
- supporting new researchers, pending external funding;
- purchasing capital equipment directly related to expanding the research capability of the institution; and
- covering research or project administrative costs not covered by the funding entity.



WHAT DOES ALL OF THIS MEAN TO YOU?

If you receive a grant from an external source and include the indirect costs required by Policy A-51, you and your department/college should receive funding in a discretionary account (in the following fiscal year) that can be used for any of the above purposes. Indirect Costs come back to you and can be used to enhance your research, help you attend conferences to present your research, etc.

IDC - IT'S AS EASY AS 1-2-3

- 1. FIND OUT IF YOU CAN REQUEST IDC ON YOUR PROJECT.** CONSULT THE APPLICATION GUIDELINES, ASK THE FUNDING LIAISON, OR CALL ORSP.
- 2. CALCULATE IDC IN YOUR PROPOSAL BUDGET AS ALLOWED BY THE FUNDING AGENCY.** THIS MIGHT BE 50% OF SALARIES, 10% OF TOTAL, OR ANOTHER PUBLISHED RATE. CONTACT OUR AVP IF YOU WANT TO NEGOTIATE A LOWER RATE.
- 3. KEEP ON TRACK TO COLLECT IDC REVENUE.** IF YOU BUDGETED YOUR IDC AT 50% OF SALARIES/WAGES, BUT ACTUALLY SPEND LESS ON SALARIES/WAGES THAN YOU ANTICIPATED, YOU WILL NOT COLLECT AS MUCH IDC AS ANTICIPATED EITHER. THIS WILL RESULT IN AN IDC SHORTFALL (*MEANING LESS \$\$ TO GO BACK TO COLLEGES, DEPARTMENTS, AND YOU*).