

ORSP Update

December 2006

Faculty Research Grant Competition

It's time to start thinking about applying for a Faculty Research Grant for FY2007! These internal grants provide substantive support for research and scholarly creative activities. Through an annual competition held during the spring semester, funds are awarded for the next academic year. Detailed information about these grants is located on the ORSP website under 'Internal Funding'.

ORSP is hosting a workshop on Friday, December 9th in the Wyatt Room of the Library from 2:30-3:30 to discuss the process, answer questions, and distribute information to faculty who are interested in preparing an application this year. A Panel Discussion will also be held on January 27th from 2:00-3:00 which will provide helpful hints from the University Research Council, experiences of previous grant awardees, general information, and question time.



Past Faculty Research Grant projects include research on the plant genus *amaranthus* to develop nuclear DNA protocols for evolutionary studies; recover a hypothesis of its evolutionary history; and to compare evolutionary histories obtained from independent data sets to identify potential for hybridization. Currently a study is being conducted with Faculty Research Grant funds to collect data about the number of U.S. counties that have declined in population over the last thirty years and to determine if this decline is statistically related to social problems such as violent crime, suicide, or drug use.

Deadlines:	Responsibilities of:			
	Project Director	Chair	Dean	ORSP
Friday, February 3 5pm	Submit 1 copy to Department Chair	Before next deadline - review proposal and provide feedback to PD.	N/A	Available to provide recommendations to project directors through Feb. 10th.
Friday, February 10 5pm	Incorporate Chair and ORSP comments (if applicable) and submit revised proposal to Chair	Submit 1 copy of revised proposal to ORSP and required copy(ies) to Dean.	Before next deadline - review proposal and provide feedback to PD.	Before next deadline - review proposal and provide recommendations according to application checklist only.
Absolute Deadline! Friday, March 10 5pm	Ensure recommendations have been incorporated into final proposal and submit 13 copies of final proposal to Dean.	N/A	Submit 12 copies of final proposal to ORSP. Retain 1 copy in Dean's office.	Receive 12 copies of final proposal and prepare for University Research Council review.

Faculty Research Grant funds to collect data about the number of U.S. counties that have declined in population over the last thirty years and to determine if this decline is statistically related to social problems such as violent crime, suicide, or drug use.

Vocational Rehabilitation Counseling Program

Dr. Robert Choate, Professor of Counseling in the SFA Department of Human Services, has received \$750,000 in funding from the US Department of Education to work on increasing the knowledge of students of the role and responsibilities of the vocational rehabilitation counselor and of the benefits of counseling in State VR agencies.

This program is designed to train qualified rehabilitation counselors and increase the supply of qualified personnel available for employment and/or retention in public employment. It also strengthens the relationship between rehabilitation educators and state VR agencies in preparation of qualified counselors by concentrating on SFA's existing partnership with the Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS), formally known as the Texas Rehabilitation Commission. The function and purpose of SFA's Rehabilitation Counseling Education Program (RCEP) is related directly to the mission of the Federal program: to provide qualified rehabilitation counselors who can provide effective, and comprehensive rehabilitation services.

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Vocational Rehabilitation Counseling Program *cont.*



In discussing placement opportunities in the profession, Dr. Choate said, “Students graduating from the Rehabilitation Counselor Education program have a wide variety of employment opportunities, both in Texas and nationwide.” Major employers are the DARS, serving persons with disabilities in Texas; Goodwill Industries; Burke Center; and many private companies serving injured workers. The placement rate of graduates is 100%, with many students finding employment during their practica and internships. Graduation from this program also provides all the coursework necessary for licensure in Texas as well as certification as a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor and a Nationally Certified Counselor.

According to Dr. Choate, “the best thing is working with students, many of whom have disabilities as they prepare to enter a profession that until recently was not available to them.” He believes that getting the word out about the program can be the most challenging part, “The most daunting aspect of this grant is that it is hard to recruit students into the field. Many who are going into counseling think only of marriage and family or child counseling and are not aware of the rewards of helping people get their lives back after a disability. Once they become a part of the program, they often wonder why they never thought of this in the beginning.”

Grant Recipients for Fall ‘05

<i>Department</i>	<i>Project Director</i>	<i>Funding Agency</i>	<i>Amount</i>
AAS	Dr. James Standley	US Dept of Education	\$95,000
Biotechnology	Dr. Beatrice Clack	National Science Foundation	\$151,565
Education	Dr. John Jacobson	US Dept of Education (2 awards)	\$289,766
Forestry	Dr. Theresa Coble	Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center	\$15,000
	Dr. Warren Conway	Texas Parks & Wildlife (2 awards)	244,704
	Dr. James C. Kroll	Temple-Inland Forest Product Corporation	\$25,000
	Dr. Michael Legg	US Dept of Agriculture	\$20,000
	Dr. Shiyu Li	US Dept of Health & Human Services	\$595,200
	Dr. Darrel McDonald	City of Nacogdoches	\$484,700
	Mr. David Treadaway	Pineywoods Foundation	\$9,500
Human Services	Dr. Robert Choate	US Dept of Education	\$750,000
	Dr. Dixie Mercer	US Dept of Education	\$800,000
Library	Ms. Rachel Galan	Ford Foundation	\$3,000
	Ms. Rachel Galan	Institute of Museum & Library Services	\$570,288
Sciences and Mathematics	Dr. Kenneth Farrish	Shell Western E & P	\$8,000
	Ms. Janis Ritter	US Dept of Health & Human Services (3 awards)	\$256,311
	Dr. Glenda Walker	Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board	\$34,968
Secondary Education	Dr. Betty Alford	US Dept of Education	\$6,160,438
Social Work	Ms. Becky Price-Mayo	US Dept of Health & Human Services	\$196,267

