WDC and ITC transition to Office of Operations and Accreditation

By Matt McGrievy

With the creation of the Office of Operations and Accreditation (led by Associate Dean Lee Pearson) last fall, the Web Development & Communications Core and the Information Technology Core have transitioned to this new office from the Office of Research. Both groups continue to work closely with the Office of Research and remain committed to assisting Arnold School faculty, staff, students, and partners with the various services they offer.

The Core for Applied Research & Evaluation and the Research Support Core remain with the Office of Research. See the Arnold School website for a refresher on the services provided by the Web Development & Communications Core and the Information Technology Core.

Grant Staff Network Continues Workshop Series

The ASPH Grant Staff Network will continue with a series of workshops designed for staff members who are either new to the University or new to the world of sponsored awards, and who provide either pre-award or post-award grant support as part of their job duties.

A set of workshops on pre-award issues was held in 2016. Post-award topics are now being covered in weekly workshops held Fridays at 1:00 PM in Discovery Building Room 502. If anyone is interested in attending who is not already a part of this group, contact Holly Rauch at 777-0998.

The next meeting/workshop of the full Grant Staff Network membership will be held February 15, 2:00 PM in Discovery Building Room 331. Guest speakers will include Linda Ross, Michele Hay, and Mellissa Williams, ASPH’s representatives from the Sponsored Awards Management Office; and David Shinn, ASPH’s Director of Human Resources.
News from Information Technology

Over Summer and Fall 2016, numerous upgrades were installed in PHRC Seminar Rooms including new bulb-free laser projectors, permanent PCs in the rooms, and touchscreen controls. Spring and Summer 2017 will see many of those same upgrades along with webcam / Skype capabilities added to many DISC and PHRC conference rooms. If you have any questions or issues with usage of the rooms please submit a ticket to the Office of Information Technology at http://support.asph.sc.edu.

Remember that **ALL** IT-related issues in Public Health should start with a ticket at the IT support site: http://support.asph.sc.edu.

IT is getting a lot of emails from UTS passing along issues that are their responsibility because users are calling UTS first. If there is a UTS/USC issue, Public Health’s IT will work with UTS to resolve it, but all ASPH IT issues must start with a ticket at the IT support site first.

Doug Foster has joined USC as Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer (CIO).

Foster has more than 25 years of experience in higher education and in private sector IT leadership roles. His career includes significant accomplishments in enterprise portfolio management and business relationship management work, developing and implementing IT governance structures and leading a research computing organization. In addition, he has many years of experience working to implement IT security best practices, leading large organizations of technical and service staff, and leading/managing change in large IT organizations. His experience with Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system implementation and management is significant to us in this critically important part of our organization.

“During his introduction to the IT community, he emphasized large scale research computing as not only his immediate focus but also the reason he came to Carolina,” said Tom Johnson, ASPH’s IT Director. “He saw both the lack of availability here and the need.”

Doug will succeed Bill Hogue, who is retiring.

Stay Secure!

Visit the UTS security office website at http://www.sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/university_technology_services/security/ for information and updates.
Internal Funding Opportunities for USC Faculty Members, Post Doctoral Scholars, and Graduate and Undergraduate Students from the Offices of USC’s Vice President for Research (VPR) and Provost

Please click on hyperlinks and read the guidelines carefully.
All applications for the following funding opportunities are submitted through USCeRA.

Internal Funding Opportunities for Faculty & Post Doctoral Scholars (Post Docs - ASPIRE I-2-B only)

VPR ASPIRE - Advanced Support Programs for Innovative Research Excellence (VPR): Offers all USC faculty with independent research programs (and post docs) an opportunity to compete for funding to bolster research excellence at the university. Note that eligibility differs by track.

**ASPIRE I** supports faculty and post docs seeking to develop a new research project for which they ultimately plan to seek external funding. 2018 Deadline: End of January
- **Track I-1:** Tenure-track Assistant Professors to encourage the development of research projects for further extramural funding or other scholarly pursuits, up to $15,000.
- **Track I-2:** I-2-A Non-tenure Track Faculty, up to $10,000, and I-2-B Postdoctoral Scholars, up to $5,000, to encourage the development of research projects for further extramural funding.
- **Track I-3:** Tenure-track, Tenured, or Research Faculty who have not been able to renew their recent grants and need bridge funding, up to $15,000.
- **Track I-4:** Tenure-track or Tenured Associate and Full Professors to expand or re-focus their research through innovative and/or exploratory projects, up to $15,000.

**ASPIRE II** encourages interdisciplinary, collaborative research among faculty members representing a minimum of two USC colleges or schools (or, with pre-approval, extremely diverse departments within the same college or school), up to $100,000. 2017 Deadline: February 24.

**ASPIRE III** supports the procurement by all faculty of multi-user research equipment and/or facilities to enhance USC’s research infrastructure, up to $100,000. 2017 Deadline: February 24.

Provost Internal Grants: Provides funding to assist all full-time faculty with achieving their scholarship goals through four categories: Creative and Performing Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences, and Pedagogy; up to $10,000 provided for 12 months and $20,000 for 24 months. 2018 Deadline: End of January.

Provost Visiting Scholars Grant Program: Supports visits to the USC Columbia campus by distinguished scholars to advance scholarly and creative endeavors of faculty and students through lectures, workshops, seminars, performances, and/or mentoring of USC faculty and students. This program offers up to $25,000 for periods between one week to six months. 2017 Deadline: TBA in Spring.

VPR RISE - Research Initiative for Summer Engagement funding program – Senior & Regional Campus Faculty only (VPR): Provides up to $6,000 to faculty at USC’s senior and regional campuses for summer salary, research supplies, travel related to research and undergraduate student support. **Senior & Regional campus faculty members can use these funds to spend the summer collaborating with USC Columbia faculty members.** 2017 Deadline: TBA (usually due in December).

VPR Crowdfunding with Experiment.com: The crowdfunding model is used to seek small amounts of funding where it otherwise might be hard to raise. Up to a 50 percent funding match is offered for all projects selected for funding through Experiment.com. Deadline: None – ongoing.

Continued on page 4
Internal Funding Opportunities for Students

Graduate Students

VPR SPARC - Support to Promote Advancement of Research and Creativity Graduate Research Grant Program (VPR): Provides up to $5,000 for up to 15 months to outstanding students to pursue new and exciting directions during their graduate career at USC. The application process for a SPARC grant trains students to write competitive research proposals, helping to equip them with the skills necessary to seek national fellowship awards. 2017 Deadline: TBA (usually due at the end of October).

Undergraduate Students

VPR Magellan Scholar Program (VPR): Comprised of the following six funding opportunities, this program supports undergraduate students' work with faculty, staff, or community mentors on meritorious projects. Students write applications, but their faculty or staff mentors submit them.

- **Magellan Scholar**: Provides up to $3,000 for a research, scholarship, or creative project developed in collaboration with an undergraduate student's faculty mentor. Selection is based on the project's educational and intellectual merit, the potential impact of the project, and the student's previous academic success. 2017 Deadlines: February 16 and October (TBA)

- **Magellan Mini-Grant**: Provides up to $1,000 for reimbursement for qualifying travel costs, equipment, and/or supplies for undergraduate students working on approved research, scholarly, or creative projects in conjunction with a faculty, staff, or community mentor. 2017 Deadlines: February 23 and October (TBA).

- **Magellan Voyager**: Provides up to $500 towards travel expenses for USC undergraduates to share their research at regional, national, and international meetings through poster sessions, presentations, performances, and/or screenings. Deadline: Ongoing - Funding is limited and awarded on a rolling basis, so apply early.

- **Magellan Apprentice**: Provides up to $1,000 to 1st and 2nd year Capstone Scholars to conduct research projects. Funds may be used for salary, materials, supplies, and travel. 2017 Deadlines – February 23 and October (TBA).

- **Magellan Explorer**: Provides up to $500 to Preston residents to conduct research projects. Funds may be used for salary, materials, supplies, and travel. Deadline: None – ongoing.

- **Magellan Guarantee**: Provides up to $2,000 for 1st and 2nd year Opportunity Scholars awardees and TRIO Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program participants for student salary, supplies, and professional development opportunities. Deadlines: May (TRIO) and September (Opportunity).

VPR SMART - Support for Minority Advancement in Research Training funding program Enhances the training of under-represented minority undergraduate students and their recruitment into graduate programs at USC. Faculty who mentor under-represented minority students from historically black colleges and universities, USC, or other institutions during the summer receive a supplement of $1,000 per student for up to two students to be used for summer salary for the mentor, research costs and/or for the under-represented minority undergraduate students. Faculty submit applications on behalf of students. 2017 Deadline: TBA (usually due beginning of Summer).

Students also may apply for VPR Crowdfunding with Experiment.com.
**Tips, Updates, and Reminders**

**NIH Implementation of the Interim-RPPR while a Renewal Application is Under Consideration**

Release Date: January 19, 2017

The purpose of this notice is to update the timeframe for implementation of the Interim-RPPR when the current competitive segment is ending but a renewal application has been, or will be, submitted.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scenario</th>
<th>Status of Competing Renewal Application</th>
<th>Workflow Process</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Competing Renewal not submitted</td>
<td>Submit a Final-RPPR no later than 120 calendar days from the period of performance end date.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Competing Renewal submitted</td>
<td>Submit an Interim-RPPR no later than 120 calendar days from the period of performance end date. If the competing renewal is funded, NIH will treat the Interim-RPPR as the annual performance report for the final year of the previous competitive segment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Competing Renewal submitted but not funded</td>
<td>Submit an Interim-RPPR no later than 120 calendar days from the period of performance end date. If the competing renewal is not funded, NIH will treat the Interim-RPPR as the institution’s Final-RPPR. To reduce burden NIH will not require recipients to submit an additional Final-RPPR if the renewal application is not funded.</td>
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Any questions, contact Lumi Bakos in the ASPH Office of Research.

**USCeRA Tip**

How do I answer the question “Project Uses Non-Standard Rate” in the Proposal/Award Processing (PAP) form cost section?

A non-standard rate is a rate other than the DHHS federally negotiated IDC rates. The On-Campus rates are listed to the right of this question on the PAP form in USCeRA. For the Off-Campus rates, please visit the SAM website: [http://sam.research.sc.edu/idc14-17.html](http://sam.research.sc.edu/idc14-17.html). If you are not using one of the rates listed, then you should answer this question, “Yes”. Once you click “Yes”, another box will appear asking the reason you are using another rate. This explanation can be as simple as the % rate based on guidelines. Something needs to be added to this section to tell the reviewers why you are using a different rate.

**NIH Required Training – Good Clinical Practice**

Beginning on January 1st, NIH requires that all investigators involved in NIH clinical trials receive training in Good Clinical Practice (GCP). If your study meets the NIH definition of “clinical trial”, the training is required.

NIH’s Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research notified the research community that their Good Clinical Practice training modules that are specifically tailored to social and behavioral science researchers conducting clinical trials are now available through the Society of Behavioral Medicine, including for non-members of the Society of Behavioral Medicine.

This training is available at [www.sbm.org/training/good-clinical-practice-for-social-and-behavioral-research-elearning-course](http://www.sbm.org/training/good-clinical-practice-for-social-and-behavioral-research-elearning-course).

**Fair Labor Standards Act Update**

On Tuesday, November 22, 2016, a federal court approved a judge’s request to temporarily delay the implementation of the U.S. Department of Labor’s changes to the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA). As a result, the new rules will not go into effect on December 1, 2016 as originally planned. We will update you with any further information or changes.

**Pre-Award Reminder**

Please be aware that the insurance rates increased as of January 1st and will affect your fringe rates for the next 6 months. You can find the current fringe rates on SAM’s website: [http://sam.research.sc.edu/fringebenefits.html](http://sam.research.sc.edu/fringebenefits.html).
Spotlight on . . . .

New ASPH Faculty

Christine Pellegrini, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor, Exercise Science

Dr. Pellegrini joins us from the Department of Preventive Medicine at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine in Chicago. She became interested in USC’s ASPH because of its great reputation nationwide. “There are also many faculty members who are leaders in the field and who I could collaborate with on a variety of projects,” she said. “Additionally, I look forward to teaching more and getting students involved with research. Coming to USC for the warmer weather was another bonus!” Her research interests include the development and implementation of technology-supported behavioral interventions targeting diet, physical activity, sedentary behavior, and weight loss. In her free time she enjoys running and traveling. She and her husband Vinnie and daughter Emma haven’t been in this area of the country much, so they are looking forward to exploring more of South Carolina. She is expecting her second child in June, and has two cats, Rory and Marvin.

Shana Harrington, PT, Ph.D.
Clinical Associate Professor, Physical Therapy

Dr. Harrington comes to us from the Department of Physical Therapy at Creighton University where she was an Associate Professor. She was particularly interested in USC because of small DPT class size and faculty, student research involvement, and the location of the university. Outside of work, she is involved in Paralympic classification for para-swimming and para-triathlon, she likes to watch UNC sports, and she enjoys spending time with her family - husband Scott, son Beckett (who is three), daughter Stella (who is one) and Jamison, their Newfoundland dog. She is especially passionate about getting rehabilitation integrated into the care plan at diagnosis in individuals diagnosed with cancer.

Shuo Xiao, MD, MS, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor, Environmental Health Sciences

Dr. Xiao is originally from China where he received his medical degree and his master’s degree in Public Health. He came to the United States in 2008 and earned his Ph.D. in toxicology from the University of Georgia and was most recently a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at Northwestern University in Chicago. Dr. Xiao was interested in USC because of the ASPH’s reputation. His research is primarily focusing on endocrine and reproductive toxicology and investigating how chemo-chemicals adversely affect fertility in young female cancer patients. Dr. Xiao and his wife, Yi and 2-year old son Wei Wei, are enjoying the Columbia area, especially the zoo and the children’s museum. They are expecting their second child in August. In his spare time, Dr. Xiao enjoys running and playing intramural soccer.
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