Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) is the practice of scientific investigation with integrity. RCR involves the awareness and application of established professional norms and ethical principals in the performance of all activities related to scientific research.

Effective **January 4, 2010**, the National Science Foundation (NSF) mandated that all students receiving research funds or who participates in research activities funded by NSF must engage in a program of study in RCR. The National Institute of Health (NIH) also issued a notice that requires all NIH trainees, fellows, participants and scholars receiving support through any NIH training grant or program, to receive RCR instruction. This policy became effective for all new and renewal applications submitted on or after **January 25, 2010** and for all continuation applications with deadlines on or after **January 1, 2011**. NIH applicants must provide detailed descriptions of this instruction in applications for funding and reports.

The Office of Research Integrity, Department of Health and Human Services, supports several programs designed to promote RCR education and training that covers the following instructional areas:

- Data Acquisition, Management, Sharing and Ownership
- Mentor and Trainee Responsibilities
- Publication Practices and Responsible Authorship
- Peer Review
- Collaborative Science
- Human Subjects
- Animals Welfare
- Research Misconduct
- Conflict of Interest and Commitment

Many institutions are satisfying this requirement by offering the core RCR curriculum through CITI online education, hosted by the University of Miami. Completion of all training modules usually takes about 4-6 hours.

Currently at CAU, several NIH funded projects have contracted with consultants to provide RCR instruction through seminars. Going forward, a formal decision will be made regarding how all NSF/NIH funded projects at CAU will receive this instruction.

**Author:** Georgianna D. Bolden, Ed.D.
Senior Research Administrator
On April 6th and 8th, 2010, the Office of Grants and Contracts Accounting and the Division of Research and Sponsored Programs, conducted a training session for Principal Investigators (PIs), Program Directors (PDs), and Program Managers (PMs). This Brown Bag Session was designed to assist in interpreting and understanding Banner Production financial reports.

Participants received reports for review during this training session, including the Grant Inception to Date, Organization Detail Activity, and Effort Certification Report. The Grant Inception to Date Report is a snapshot of the fiscal activity from the start date of an award. The Organization Detail Report provides information about the expenditures that have posted to an account within a specified time period. Effort Certification Reports, which are extremely important, reflect the distribution of actual effort spent on a sponsored project(s). Please remember to contact your Grants Analyst in (OGCA) to request these reports. As a rule of thumb, you should review the financial data for your account(s) prior to your quarterly meeting with OGCA staff to ensure that charges are correct and have posted timely.

Other brown bag training sessions will be offered this semester on topics related to financial management of sponsored projects. Make sure that you sign up for these great training opportunities!

PIs and PMs please remember it is extremely important that you reconcile your accounts MONTHLY and keep track of all purchases including equipment.

The Chemical Hygiene Plan (CHP) is Now Online!

The CHP is intended for all personnel engaged in the laboratory use of hazardous chemicals and is used by RSP as a training tool to address OSHA’s “occupational exposure to hazardous chemicals in laboratories.”

Ms. LaTonya Burkhalter recently joined RSP as Sr. Staff Assistant.

RSP would like to welcome its newest member to the team!

Visit our Website for Workshop details, proposal information, IP Policy, compliance, funding/research opportunities and more!!

www.cau.edu/research

Be sure to visit the website and stay informed!!
It started with a simple question "Would you have some time to help us with our Database?", "Sure..." At the first meeting it became clear that we had to start over. The old database looked simple enough: two tables, one for pre-, one for post award data. But the innocent looking beast had to be fought fiercely to reveal any information that was deeply buried in its text and memo fields. Fortunately the experienced RSP staff knows every nuance of research administration at CAU by heart. Without their detailed recollection of current and past CAU projects the battle would have been lost. Obviously, the simple structure of the database did not reflect the complexity of sponsored projects: there are awards, sub-awards, sub-projects, current and projected funding, and all types of reporting requirements.

Following that decision, Carol Johnson, Tanya Young, and I met about twice a week for several months. Ms. Johnson and Ms. Young learned about database normalization principles, primary and foreign keys, queries and forms. I learned details about RSP responsibilities and functions, and the impact of institutional policies, such that open purchase orders for sub-awardees have to be closed after two fiscal years even if the project continues. I also learned that every agency has their own award funding procedures, which sometimes differ even within the same agency. While we analyzed the policies and procedures of all these agencies the requirements for the new database seemed to multiply faster than Fibonacci numbers. We tackled them all!

Our resulting database has about twenty tables, and a few more to capture funding opportunities and planned proposals. Reports on current and pending projects, deadlines, balances, future funding, and proposed time-commitment of individuals can be produced in no-time. Furthermore, because of the staff's participation in the development process training requirements are minimal.

In the next few years the database will have to be extended as the division grows, and new policies come into effect. The RSP staff has the tools and the knowledge to ensure that their database system will always fit the job.

This is a fairly common phenomenon in organizations and small businesses. Even though some form of database system is used to store information, critical data often can not be retrieved without the detailed memory of the employees. While tables and spreadsheets are well understood, databases that often contain a dozen or more inter-connected tables are not intuitive at all. Databases do not grow organically, and their proper design requires detailed analysis of the underlying business processes. An ill-fitting database system is ineffective in the short term and damaging in the long term.

At CAU, just like at most institutions of higher education, the database needs of the Research and Sponsored Programs Division are very different from the University's overarching database structure. Even among these institutions the responsibilities of the RSP divisions vary widely. Since there is no one-size-fits-all solution we decided to take on the task to develop a new database for the RSP Division.

Our resulting database has about twenty tables, and a few more to capture funding opportunities and planned proposals. Reports on current and pending projects, deadlines, balances, future funding, and proposed time-commitment of individuals can be produced in no-time. Furthermore, because of the staff's participation in the development process training requirements are minimal.

In the next few years the database will have to be extended as the division grows, and new policies come into effect. The RSP staff has the tools and the knowledge to ensure that their database system will always fit the job.

RSP Would Like To Thank
Dr. Péter Molnár
for his assistance and support in accomplishing this state of the art database system for research administration!
Charged with the task of significantly increasing the quantity and quality of underrepresented minorities awarded B.S. degrees in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) disciplines, LSAMP is one of the National Science Foundation's (NSF) core projects. The GA LSAMP is one of 41 coalitions of institutions with the common mission of providing mentors to undergraduate scholars doing research and supporting these scholars with financial assistance, internship opportunities, and academic and professional enhancement workshops. As part of this mission, alliances sponsor scholarly symposia which allow the young LSAMP scholars to participate and present their research to professors and graduate mentors (e.g., Ph.D. candidates) across the nation. At these symposia scholars have an opportunity to converse with these faculty experts and with their peers, often developing lifelong bonds.

Four scholars from the Georgia LSAMP participated in the 17th Annual Florida Georgia LSAMP "Expo 2010" in Tampa, Florida, (February 26th-28th) and presented posters. The University of South Florida hosted this year's conference. DeMario Butts (Morehouse College, chemistry), Keana Graves (Clark Atlanta University, chemistry), Kyarra Thompson (Clark Atlanta University, chemistry), and G. Travell Williams (Morehouse College, mathematics) presented their research to judges and competed for awards and recognition of scholarly accomplishment. The scholars from the GA LSAMP (shown in the photo above) met USF Ph.D. candidate and CAU alumna Dorielle Price, CAU (04), and a fellow Morehouse scholar who was attending another conference.

Mr. DeMario Butts won first place in the Chemistry poster section. He presented from his research experience at the State University of Campinas in Campinas, Brazil, a poster titled "The Presence of Alkaloids in Erythrina Mulungu: A Natural Sedative." The combined efforts of all the scholars brought the Georgia LSAMP back to North Georgia as a winner. They made connections with the exhibitors from universities with internship and fellowship opportunities. GA-LSAMP senior Travell Williams learned at the Expo that he was accepted to Iowa State University as an AGEP (Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate) fellow. GA-LSAMP junior Kyarra Thompson secured an internship with Georgia Tech in their Center for Material Devices for Information Technology Research. The GA-LSAMP scholars represented the collaborative of institutions well and clearly benefited from their participation.

The GA-LSAMP will have a symposium on April 17th, 2010 at CAU. For information about GA-LSAMP contact Dr. Randal L. N. Mandock, Director, or Ms. Brenda M. Tillman, Program Manager, at 404-880-6907. The GA-LSAMP Principal Investigator is Dr. Carlton E. Brown, President of Clark Atlanta University. Clark Atlanta University, Morehouse College, Paine College, Georgia State University and Atlanta Metropolitan College form the Georgia LSAMP.
The goal of the MARC U*STAR Program is to increase the number of minority college graduates that pursue advanced degrees (Ph.D. or M.D./Ph.D.) leading to careers in biomedical research. The Program has been very successful in increasing the number of students that now enter PhD/MD/PhD Programs. Over 400 students have graduated from the Program and over 50 graduates have completed the PhD or MD/PhD (over 20 are in the pipeline as of today.)

In the recent CCRTD Annual National Symposium on Prostate Cancer held on March 14-16, 2010, MARC students won first and second place in the undergraduate poster competition. Wanbul S. Wandu won first place for her poster entitled *Sterols Supplementation Modulate Apoptosis and Invasiveness in Prostate Cancer Cells*. Victoria Davis won second place with her poster entitled *Snail Promotes Expression and Activity of Bone Osteoclastic Markers in Prostate Cancer Cells*. Wambul and Victoria work in the laboratories of Dr. Godwin Ananaba and Dr. Valerie Odero-Marah.

The MARC U*STAR Program has just completed it’s 33rd year of continuous funding. Dr. Windfred Harris took the leadership roll in writing and submitting the first MARC Proposal in 1977. After the first year he was asked to spend a year in the MARC Program Office at the National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS). Dr. Isabella Finkelstein was asked to be Interim Director and has continued as the Program Director until the current year.

**Graduate Students**
1st Place -- Jason Carey  
2nd Place -- Lindsey Walker  
3rd Place -- Ashley Evans-Knowell

**Undergraduate Students**
1st Place -- Wambul Sylvia Wandu  
2nd Place -- Victoria Davis  
3rd Place -- Danaya Bethea

Let us continue to support our students in their future endeavors and applaud them on their recent achievements!!

Visit [www.cau.edu/research](http://www.cau.edu/research) for other student opportunities, summer programs and more!
1. **Research Opportunities in Materials Science**

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Headquarters has released a (NRA) This call is for ground-based research that may eventually lead to research on the International Space Station (ISS). Because some of the selections may be considered for a future flight experiment, the proposers must show a clear path from the proposed ground-based research to an experiment that can feasibly be conducted in the Low Gradient Furnace (LGF) or the Solidification and Quenching Furnace (SQF) on the ISS.

RSP Deadline: April 26, 2010
Agency Deadline: April 30, 2010

2. **Emergency Management for Higher Education**

This U.S. Department of Education grant program is designed to fund higher education institution projects to develop, or review and improve, and fully integrate all-hazards campus-based emergency management planning efforts. A program funded under this absolute priority is required to use the framework of the four phases of emergency management: Prevention-Mitigation, Preparedness, Response, and Recovery.

RSP Deadline: May 5, 2010
Agency Deadline: May 12, 2010

3. **Engineering Design of Advanced H2-CO2 Membrane Sep**

The primary purpose of this Department of Engineering effort is to demonstrate the separation of hydrogen from coal (or coal-biomass) derived syngas via membranes at the pre-engineering/pilot scale.

RSP Deadline: May 10, 2010
Agency Deadline: May 17, 2010

4. **Youth Leadership Program with Central Europe**

The Office of Citizen Exchanges, of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs announces an open competition to submit proposals for a reciprocal exchange program between four European countries – Hungary, Serbia, Slovakia, and Slovenia – and the United States. Applicants should plan to recruit and select between 50 and 75 youth and adult participants in Europe and in the United States to participate in short-term exchanges in the partner countries. The exchange activities will focus on themes of civic rights and responsibilities, leadership, and community activism, and the theme of common global issues in the American-European relationship. Activities will be geared toward preparing participants to conduct projects at home that serve community needs.

RSP Deadline: May 12, 2010
Agency Deadline: May 19, 2010

5. **Bridging Cultures: Planning and Implementation Grants for Academic Forums and Program Development Workshops**

NEH welcomes proposals to plan and implement a program consisting of a forum and a workshop on one of two humanities themes: “Civility and Democracy” or “The Muslim World and the Humanities.”

RSP Deadline: May 12, 2010
Agency Deadline: June 1, 2010

To receive solicitations specific to your research expertise please visit [http://www.grants.gov/search/subscribeAdvanced.do](http://www.grants.gov/search/subscribeAdvanced.do)

Remember to check the RSP Public Folder on Outlook for other funding opportunities!! Visit [http://owa.cau.edu/public](http://owa.cau.edu/public) and login to view.
Recent Awards

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<th>AWARD TITLE</th>
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<td>Healthy American People and Places Initiative (HAPPI)</td>
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<td>EJRC</td>
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<td>DHHS/ NIEHS Dillard University</td>
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<td>Religion &amp; Philosophy</td>
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<td>HIPPAC</td>
<td>Lockheed Martin</td>
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*ARRA Funded Awards

White House Initiative for HBCU’s Technical Assistance Conference
Huntsville, Alabama April 26-28, 2010
A key focus of the conference will be to provide participants with an opportunity to interact with federal agency representatives and to learn about proposal development, grants and contracts, fellowships, internships and other initiatives.

Nanotechnology for Defense Conference
Atlanta, GA May 3-6-2010
Participants will discuss defense technology needs, identify exciting nanostructure-enabled material advancements that are primed for technology development, and forge connections to facilitate and accelerate the development process.

DOE Small Business Conference and Expo
Atlanta, GA May 10-12-2010
Attendees will represent all levels of federal, state, and local government agencies, small business community, contractors, minority educational institutions, and many more!

Special Announcement! View the Application Guide for NIH and Other PHS Agencies
This is a guide developed and maintained by NIH for preparing and submitting applications via Grants.gov to NIH and other PHS Agencies using the SF424 (R&R)

RSP Reminders:
Alert us, when you are interested in submitting a proposal by completing the Proposal Alert Form
Research and Sponsored Programs’ internal deadline for all proposals is five (5) days before the agency deadline.
All documents not submitted using the appropriate “approved” forms will not be processed.

CONTACT US

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