



Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR): What it Means for CAU

The Radar

- **R**esearch Funding Opportunities
- **A**ddress an Issue
- **D**ocument Your Observations
- **A**nalyze the Results
- **R**eview the Project



Agencies Require RCR Training!

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.

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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.

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Senior Research Administrator*

Grants and Contracts Accounting and Research and Sponsored Programs Are Conducting Brown Bag Training Sessions

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!



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!!

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

Space Allocation and Key Authorization

The Space Advisory Committee was formed by Dr. Marcus Shute, VP-RSP in November 2009, having as its primary role to assist in making recommendations on space assignments in the SRC/Annex. It was decided that priority for space assignment would be given to research and sponsored projects that are funded. Other space would be allocated based on availability, alignment with future direction/priorities, etc. To prevent wide-scale misuse of keys by authorized and unauthorized personnel in SRC/Annex, Mr. Michael Lacour, VP for Management Facilities and Dr. Shute, initiated a program to change the entire access and key control system in the Center. All key requests now require approval from the Chair/Director of the requestor, and the office of the VP-RSP.

Lab Inspections

Violations and corrective actions from the EPA-peer audit, conducted November 2008 have been addressed by RSP. Subsequent laboratory inspections performed in SRC/Annex, address (1) hazardous chemical waste; and (2) the safe use of lab chemicals. The inspections utilize weekly inspection checklists and self-auditing lab checklists respectively. RSP's goal is zero violations per inspection.



[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."

Congratulations

Ms. Carol Johnson for 25 Years of Service



Dr. Georgianna Bolden for 35 Years of Service



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

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

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.

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.

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.

**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!

The Georgia Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (GA LSAMP) is on the rise.

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.



DeMario Butts is shown presenting his poster to a judge.

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.

MARC U*STAR Students Win First and Second place in 6th Annual National Symposium on Prostate Cancer



Wanbul S. Wandu receives 1st place award from Dr. Marjorie Campbell and Dr. Shafiq Khan

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 its 33rd year of continuous funding. Dr. Windfred Harris took the leadership role 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.



Victoria Davis receives 2nd place award from Dr. Marjorie Campbell and Dr. Shafiq Khan

6th Annual National Symposium on Prostate Cancer

And the Winners Are.....

<u>Graduate Students</u>	
1st Place --	Jason Carey
2nd Place --	Lindsey Walker
3rd Place --	Ashley Evans-Knowell
<u>Undergraduate Students</u>	
1st Place --	Wambul Sylvia Wandu
2nd Place --	Victoria Davis
3rd Place --	Danaya Bethea

Would you like to be featured in the *Radar*?
Submit your research experiences and activities to research@cau.edu

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

Visit www.cau.edu/research for other student opportunities, summer programs and more!

Funding Opportunities

1. Research Opportunitites 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>

Remember to check the RSP Public Folder on Outlook for other funding opportunities!! Visit <http://owa.cau.edu/public> and login to view.

Recent Awards

AWARD TITLE	PI	DEPT/CENTER	AGENCY	AMOUNT
Healthy American People and Places Initiative (HAPPI)	Bullard, Robert	EJRC	W.K. Kellogg Foundation	\$400,000.00
*Minority Worker's Training Program (MWTP)	Bullard Robert	EJRC	DHHS/ NIEHS Dillard University	\$139,800.00
MaHAT, Mental Health Ambassadors in Training	Dunston, Phillip	Religion & Philosophy	Morehouse School of Medicine	\$10,000.00
Coupon Test Plan for 2010 Light Weight Materials IRAD	Mintz, Eric	HIPPAC	Lockheed Martin	\$29,818.00
*ARRA Funded Awards				



Announcements

[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.

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