

# FUNDING NEWS

## Eastern Kentucky University Division of Sponsored Programs

*Dedicated to assisting the EKU campus community obtain resources to turn ideas into reality*

Volume 1, Issue 1

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### News from Sponsored Programs

#### *Revised Internal Review and Approval Form*



The Internal Review and Approval Form (IRAF) for externally sponsored projects has been revised and now requires the signature of the Associate Vice President for Financial Affairs. The revised form is effective December 1, 2005 and can be downloaded from the Sponsored Programs website at <http://www.sponsoredprograms.eku.edu/forms/>.

Project Directors will continue to be responsible for acquiring the authorizing signatures of their college deans and department chairs before submitting the completed form to the Division of Sponsored Programs. Sponsored Programs will secure the signatures of the Associate Vice President for Research and the Associate Vice President for Financial Affairs.

As a result of this signature addition, it is imperative that all Project Directors adhere to the requirement of submitting grant proposals and the completed IRAF to the Division of Sponsored Programs a minimum of five days before the due date.

#### *Revised Subcontractor Process*

Beginning January 1, 2006, all grant-related contracts will be subcontracts; there will no more personal service contracts on grant projects. The Division of Sponsored Programs is in the process of revising the process for initiating subcontracts. The use of the Subcontractor Determination Form will be discontinued and replaced with a Subcontractor Approval Form.

Revised guidelines and an electronic version of the Subcontractor Approval Form will be available online on January 1, 2006. Please check the Sponsored Programs website at [www.sponsoredprograms.eku.edu](http://www.sponsoredprograms.eku.edu) for an update on this process.

#### *Revised University Research Committee Grant Guidelines*

The University Research Committee has recently revised its grant guidelines and application. Notable changes include the addition of money for graduate assistants, clarification of eligibility and funding priorities, and slight revisions to the narrative sections of the grant

application. Revised guidelines are available online at [www.sponsoredprograms.eku.edu/URC](http://www.sponsoredprograms.eku.edu/URC).

The next deadline for submitting URC grant proposals is Monday, January 17, 2006.

#### *University Research Committee selects grant recipients for fall semester*

The purpose of EKU's University Research Committee is to provide seed money for attracting substantial external funding for faculty research. The University Research Committee recently selected three grant recipients for the fall semester.

Dr. Louisa DeBolt, Exercise and Sports Science, received funding to study the effects of exercise on physical activity and quality of life in adults with multiple sclerosis.

Dr. Robert J. Topmiller, History, was approved for funding to investigate the Vietnamese occupation of Cambodia.

Dr. John C. White, Earth Sciences, received a grant to research the phase equilibria constraints on intensive crystallization parameters of peralkaline granite and rhyolite.

Congratulations, grant recipients, and good luck on your research projects.

### Sponsored Programs Training Calendar

The Division of Sponsored Programs is pleased to offer grants-related training sessions for the campus community. To register for any of the following sessions, please send your name and department along with the name and date of the session for which you wish to register to [Tiffany.Hamblin@eku.edu](mailto:Tiffany.Hamblin@eku.edu) or call 622-3636.



#### *Grant Writing 101: Introduction to Proposal Development*

Proposal development can be an overwhelming and tedious process for those who are unfamiliar with the experience. This seminar is intended to serve as an introduction to the process of developing a grant proposal, from planning to submitting the final draft. The components of a proposal will be discussed, and grant-writing tips will be offered.

Date: Tuesday, January 24, 2006 or Wednesday, January 25, 2006

Time: 2:00-3:30 p.m.

Location: Library Student Technology Lab

### *The Money Hunt: Locating and Evaluating Funding Sources*

Choosing the right funding sponsor is a critical step in the grants development process. This hands-on workshop will focus on searching for and evaluating funding sources. Participants will be given time to conduct searches online. This training will be a joint presentation by the Division of Sponsored Programs and the University Development Office.

Date: Tuesday, January 31, 2006 or  
Wednesday, February 1, 2006  
Time: 2:00-3:00 p.m.  
Location: Library Student Technology Lab

### *Measuring Success: Designing a Project Evaluation*

Evaluations are becoming an increasingly important aspect of grant proposals. This session is designed to assist grant writers with designing an effective evaluation plan to measure the success of grant projects. Discussions will focus on writing appropriate goals and objectives and establishing criteria for measuring achievements. Other topics include process and outcome objectives, formative and summative evaluation phases, and internal and external evaluation models.

Date: Tuesday, February 14, 2006 or  
Wednesday, February 15, 2006  
Time: 2:00-3:00 p.m.  
Location: Library Student Technology Lab

If there are additional grants-related topics in which you are interested in receiving training, please send a description of your training needs to the Division of Sponsored Programs or call 622-3636.

## **Sponsored Programs Spotlight**

### *Eastern Kentucky Environmental Research Institute*

After working on a grant proposal for nearly two years, Dr. Alice Jones and Dr. Danita LaSage received an \$800,000 grant from the National Science Foundation's Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (NSF-EPSCoR) to develop the Environmental Research Institute at Eastern Kentucky University. The project began in July 2005 and is well underway at this point.

Dr. Jones serves as the Director of the Institute, and Dr. LaSage serves as the Senior Researcher. The institute is an interdisciplinary approach to Kentucky's ecosystem and was designed to provide faculty from various disciplines with opportunities to integrate research into their teaching assignments. The institute seeks to provide support to faculty to conduct research in Eastern Kentucky rather than outside the region or state. It was developed with the intention of connecting university technical resources and expertise to the needs of Eastern Kentucky communities.

The NSF-EPSCoR program is aimed at balancing the geographic distribution of federal research money by targeting states that have traditionally received a disproportionately low percentage. The grant is intended to build the research infrastructure of the University to increase the likelihood that ECU faculty can successfully compete for federal research dollars.

A key condition of the grant award was the University's demonstrated support of the Institute beyond the initial three-year start-up grant period. The grant funds will be used for purchasing both laboratory and field research equipment to study systemic ecological health as well as funding the director's position, a laboratory manager position, and three student positions for the three-year start-up period. The University's commitment includes continuing the Director and lab manager positions past the start-up period, provision and renovation of a shared-use interdisciplinary laboratory and GIS facility (which will begin renovation in the Summer of 2006), and a small continuing annual budget for environmental outreach and education activities.

Jones and LaSage are committed to involving other faculty into the Institute's work and securing additional resources to grow its research activities over time. They also seek to link communities with faculty experts to direct energy toward solving the problems Eastern Kentuckians face.



*Student researchers participate in field activities.*

Motivation for a community-focused institute grew out of a water quality research project in Letcher County involving three classes from ECU. Students and faculty members from the Center for Appalachian Studies conducted research on the quality of drinking water and its relationship to community health problems and presented their findings to the community in a formal report. Community members took action on the issue of water quality, and their efforts resulted successful lobbying for funding for local water projects. After witnessing the impact environmental research made on this rural community, Jones and LaSage desired to create a university-wide initiative with substantial influence on Eastern Kentucky communities.

The Institute for Environmental Research currently has USGS monitoring stations at North Fork in Letcher County and Muddy Creek in Madison County. Mobile equipment and a vehicle

with GIS mapping capabilities are available for use in collecting and transporting sample data. A collaborative partnership with the University of Kentucky provides researchers with access to UK's lab facilities.

In the coming months, the Institute for Environmental Research intends to build on relationships with public school systems in Eastern Kentucky. Field experts will speak to K-12 students to spark their interest in environmental research. Teachers throughout Eastern Kentucky will also be invited to bring their students to join researchers in the field to observe and participate in real-world research in their own communities. Teachers will be encouraged to integrate research into their curriculum, and students will be invited to participate in data collection for environmental research projects.

Among other Eastern Kentucky environments, the institute will utilize Eastern Kentucky University's Natural Areas for research purposes, including Lilley Cornett Woods, the first and one of the longest protected tracts of old-growth forests in Eastern Kentucky.

As a major proponent for interdisciplinary research, Dr. Jones said, "The interdisciplinary nature of environmental problems allows the institute to provide support for faculty across a wide range of fields." Jones also advocates helping faculty incorporate field research into their existing teaching load rather than treating it as an added burden to their already heavy schedules. "We want to provide a resource to encourage faculty from all disciplines to synthesize research with their teaching and service assignments."

Still in its early stage of development, the institute has already experienced significant accomplishments in research. An undergraduate student at ECU recently presented his work at an international conference in Puerto Rico. Jones and LaSage are excited about these accomplishments and others that will develop from the Institute for Environmental Research.

The institute currently has funds available to encourage ECU faculty to conduct and supervise research contributing to the understanding of Eastern Kentucky's ecosystems and to incorporate field research into new or existing courses. For more information about the types of support that are available, visit the institute's website at <http://www.eri.eku.edu/opportunities.php> or contact Dr. Alice Jones.

## Award News

Dr. Debra Bautista, Chemistry, and Dr. Patrick Calie, Biological Sciences, received \$218,532 from the University of Louisville Research Foundation to conduct a research program on QSAR of adrenergic receptor antagonist using computational approaches to assist in determining the structures.



Mr. Rick Cox, Public Safety, received \$7,282 from the Governor's Office for Local Development to purchase body armor for peace officers.

Dr. Eric Dueno, Chemistry, received \$22,824 from the National Science Foundation's Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (NSF-EPSCoR) for synthesis of cavitand metal complexes.

Dr. Charles Elliott, Biological Sciences, received \$20,000 from the Bluegrass Army Depot to conduct surveys and monitoring of designated plant and animal populations on the Bluegrass Army Depot. Dr. Elliott also received \$6,000 from the United States Department of Agriculture to determine the impact of silvicultural practices on bat community biodiversity.

Dr. Alice Jones, Geography, and Dr. Danita LaSage, Earth Sciences, received \$800,000 from the National Science Foundation's Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (NSF-EPSCoR) to develop the Environmental Research Institute at Eastern Kentucky University.

Dr. Jerry Palmer, Psychology, and Dr. Eric Popp, Psychology, received \$5,000 from Household Finance to review industry best practices regarding methods for minimizing the stress of debt collectors.

Dr. Bruce Pratt, Agriculture, received \$5,000 from the Kentucky Department of Agriculture to conduct a Field Day demonstrating the latest production practices in Agriculture and Horticulture.

Dr. William Staddon, Biological Sciences, received \$72,851 from the National Science Foundation to develop an inquiry-based biology lab manual for pre-service elementary and middle school teachers. Dr. Staddon also received \$22,269 from the National Science Foundation's Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (NSF-EPSCoR) to examine soil microorganisms in a former mine site in Western Kentucky.

Dr. Melinda Wilder, Natural Areas, received \$87,800 from the Kentucky Heritage Land Conservation Fund to provide environmental education and research opportunities at Lilley Cornett Woods.

## **Selected Funding Opportunities**

The following are brief descriptions of selected open grant competitions. The opportunities are sorted in order by the date proposals are due. A hyperlink is included with each announcement that provides access to additional information and grant proposal guidelines.

### *National Institutes of Health: Antidepressant Treatment and Suicidality*

NIH seeks to fund 4-6 research projects that study the relationship between the use of antidepressant medications, especially selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs), and suicidality (including suicidal ideation, suicidal attempts, and suicide deaths). The program is designed to encourage innovative, multi-disciplinary, multi-method efforts to explore the pharmacological, psychological, and social mechanisms that potentially put some individuals at greater risk for suicide when prescribed antidepressant medications.

Proposal submission deadline is December 20, 2005.

For more information, visit

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-MH-06-001.html>.

### *US Department of Agriculture: Solid Waste Management Grants*

The USDA seeks to fund up to 50 applicants to evaluate landfill conditions in rural areas. Allowable activities include determining threats to water resources, providing training in the maintenance and operation of active landfills, providing training to help associations reduce the solid waste stream, and providing assistance for rural landfills that are closed or will be closed in the near future.

The deadline for submitting proposals is December 31, 2005.

Additional information is available at

<http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/swm05.htm>.

### *US Department of Education: Special Education Community Parent Resource Centers*

This program seeks to support initiatives that provide underserved parents of children with disabilities with the training and information they need to enable them to participate effectively in helping their children with disabilities meet developmental, functional, and academic achievement goals and to be prepared to lead productive, independent adult lives to the maximum extent possible. The sponsor has a particular interest in projects that serve low-income parents, parents of limited English proficient children, and parents with disabilities. Proposals

will be funded at amounts between \$100,000 and \$390,000.

The deadline for submitting a proposal is January 3, 2006.

Complete application materials are available at <http://www.ed.gov/programs/oseppic/index.html>.

### *National Science Foundation: Computer Systems Research*

This program supports innovative research and education projects that have the potential to lead to significant improvements in existing computer systems by increasing the fundamental understanding of such systems, producing systems software that is qualitatively and quantitatively more reliable and more efficient, and/or producing innovative curricula or educational materials that better prepare the next generation of computing professionals.

Deadline for submitting proposals is January 11, 2006.

For more information and complete grant guidelines, visit

<http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2005/nsf05629/nsf05629.htm>.

### *US Department of Health and Human Services: Nursing Workforce Diversity*

This program seeks to fund projects to increase nursing education opportunities for individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds (including racial and ethnic minorities underrepresented among registered nurses) by providing student scholarships or stipends, pre-entry preparation, and retention activities. HHS anticipates that awards will be funded at an average of \$300,000.

Proposals must be submitted by January 12, 2006.

Complete grant information is available at

<http://www.fedgrants.gov/Applicants/HHS/HRSA/GAC/HRSA-06-035/Grant.html>.

### *National Atmospheric and Oceanic Administration: Open Rivers Initiative*

This program seeks to fund locally driven barrier removal projects to remove dams and other barriers in order to benefit living marine resources. Projects should include strong on-the-ground habitat restoration components that foster economic, educational, and social benefits for citizens and their communities. The agency anticipates funding fifty proposals ranging from \$50,000 to \$250,000.

The deadline for submitting proposals is January 13, 2006.

Complete grant information is available at

<http://www.fedgrants.gov/Applicants/DOC/NOAA/GMC/NMFS-HCPO-2006-2000405/Attachments.html>.

*Department of Health and Human Services: Sexually Transmitted Diseases/HIV Prevention Training*

This program provides up to \$1.4 million to create a national network of approximately 18 training centers to provide high-quality training in the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of STDs/HIV for health care professionals and prevention specialists across the United States.

The deadline for submitting proposals is January 13, 2006.

Additional information is available online at <http://www.fedgrants.gov/Applicants/HHS/CDC/PGO/CDC-RFA-PS06-606/listing.html>.

*US Department of Justice: Grants to Reduce Violence Against Women on Campus*

This program provides up to \$200,000 to campuses to develop and strengthen victim services in cases involving violent crimes against women on campuses. The program also seeks to strengthen security and investigative strategies to prevent and prosecute violent crimes against women on campuses.

Proposals must be submitted by January 19, 2006.

Additional information and application materials are available online at <http://www.usdoj.gov/ovw/fy2006campussolicitationfinal.pdf>.

*NEA Foundation: Innovative Grants*

These grants are to support collaborative efforts by two or more colleagues to develop and implement creative project-based learning that results in high student achievement. Effective project-based learning should involve students in critical thinking and problem solving to deepen their knowledge base. Preference is given to NEA members and to applicants who serve disadvantaged students. Maximum grant award is \$5,000.

Applications must be received by one of three deadlines: February 1, June 1, or September 15 annually.

For more information, visit <http://www.neafoundation.org/programs/grantguides.htm>.

*Alcoholic Beverage Medical Research Foundation*

This foundation seeks grant applications for projects to conduct research on important aspects of alcohol consumption and its effects. Areas of primary interest are factors influencing transitions in drinking patterns and behavior, effects of moderate alcohol use on health and well-being, mechanisms underlying the behavioral and biomedical effects of alcohol, and biobehavioral/interdisciplinary research on the etiology of alcohol misuse. Typically, grants do not exceed \$50,000.

Deadlines for submitting applications are February 1 and September 1.

Additional details and application procedures are available online at <http://www.abmrf.org/grants.htm>.

*Dirksen Congressional Center: Congressional Research Awards Program*

This grant program provides up to \$3,500 for original research on congressional leadership and the United States Congress. The program supports political scientists, historians, biographers, scholars of public administration or American studies, and journalists.

The deadline for submitting proposals is February 1, 2006.

Application guidelines are available at [http://www.dirksencenter.org/grants\\_overview.htm](http://www.dirksencenter.org/grants_overview.htm).

*National Aeronautics and Space Administration: Graduate Student Researchers Program*

NASA awards fellowships for graduate study leading to master's or doctoral degrees in the fields of science, mathematics, and engineering related to NASA research and development. Grant awards include an \$18,000 student stipend to cover tuition and other costs, a \$3,000 student allowance, and a \$3,000 university allowance.

The application deadline is February 1, 2006.

More information and access to the online application is available at <http://fellowships.hq.nasa.gov/gsrp/program/>.

*National Science Foundation: High End Computing University Research Activity*

This program encourages research and education projects in I/O file and storage systems design for efficient, high throughput data storage, retrieval, and management. NSF is particularly interested in hardware and software tools for design, simulation, benchmarking, performance measurement, and tuning of file and storage systems.

Deadline for proposal submission is February 3, 2006.

For a complete list of supported areas and proposal guidelines, go to <http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2006/nsf06503/nsf06503.htm>.

*National Science Foundation: Human and Social Dynamics Research Grants*

NSF seeks to fund research projects that focus on how cognitive systems, individuals, formal and informal organizations, cultures, and societies evolve and change over time and space. This year's competition focuses on the following three emphasis areas: Agents of Change; Dynamics of Human Behavior; and Decision Making, Risk, and Uncertainty. Up to \$750,000 is available for Full

Research projects for a three-year period. Up to \$125,000 is available for Exploratory Research and HSD Research Community Development projects.

Exploratory Research and Community Development proposals are due by February 14, 2006, and Full Research proposals are due by February 21, 2006.

Complete details are available online at [http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub\\_summ.jsp?ods\\_key=nsf06509](http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=nsf06509).

#### *American Museum of Natural History Grant Programs*

The museum provides awards to advanced graduate students and postdoctoral researchers who are commencing their careers in the fields of zoology, paleontology, anthropology, astrophysics and earth and planetary sciences.

The deadline for submitting applications is February 15, 2006 for the Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Fund Grants and March 15, 2006 for the Lerner-Gray Fund for Marine Research.

Complete details on each grant program and application materials are available online at <http://research.amnh.org/grants/>.

#### *US Department for Health and Human Services: Small Grant Program for Conference Support*

Applications are solicited for requests up to \$50,000 to support conferences on issues relevant to health services research including research development, design & methodology, dissemination, training, infrastructure, and career development.

The next due date for submitting proposals is February 20, 2006.

Additional information is available online at <http://www.ahrq.gov/fund/grantix.htm>.

#### *Resources for the Future: Gilbert F. White Postdoctoral Fellowship Program*

This agency provides fellowships to enable professionals with a Ph.D. to devote eleven months to scholarly work in residence. Research areas include those related to natural resources, energy, and environment. Selected fellows receive an annual stipend based on their current salary, in addition to research support and office facilities.

The next deadline for applications is February 28, 2006.

For more information, visit [http://www.rff.org/rff/About/Fellowships\\_and\\_Internships/White/Gilbert-F-White-Postdoctoral-Fellowship-Program.cfm](http://www.rff.org/rff/About/Fellowships_and_Internships/White/Gilbert-F-White-Postdoctoral-Fellowship-Program.cfm).

#### *Corporation for National and Community Service: Learn and Serve America Higher Education Grants*

The purpose of this grant competition is to expand participation in community service and service-learning by supporting innovative

community service programs carried out through institutions of higher education that act as civic institutions to meet the human, education, environmental, or public safety needs of neighboring communities. Emphasis is placed on institutional change to support service and service-learning within higher education and on community problem-solving and capacity-building. A single higher education institution is eligible to apply for \$125,000 to \$200,000.

Deadline for submission of proposals is February 28, 2005.

Complete application information is available at [http://www.learnandserve.gov/for\\_organizations/funding/nofa\\_detail.asp?tbl\\_nofa\\_id=19](http://www.learnandserve.gov/for_organizations/funding/nofa_detail.asp?tbl_nofa_id=19).

#### *American Chemical Society Research Grants*

Through this grant, the society provides funds to support advanced scientific education and fundamental research in the petroleum field. Funding may be granted for up to \$80,000 for a two-year project or up to \$120,000 for a three-year project.

Grant submissions are due five months prior to board meetings, which are held in February, May, and October.

Complete details are available online at <http://www.chemistry.org/portal/a/c/s/1/acsdisplay.html?DOC=prf%5Cindex.html>.

#### *National Endowment for the Arts: Literature Fellowships in Creative Writing (Poetry)*

This program provides fellowships in the amount of \$20,000 to published creative writers. The intent of the fellowships is to provide writers with time to pursue writing, research, travel, and general career advancement. Funds cannot be used to support work toward academic degrees.

Deadline for submission is March 1, 2006.

For more information and complete application guidelines, visit <http://www.arts.gov/grants/apply/Lit06/>.

#### *Department of Health and Human Services: Public Health Conference Support*

Grant funds may be used to support a portion of the costs involved in a public health conference pertaining to a specified list of topics. This program addresses "Healthy People 2010" focus areas. The purpose is to provide partial support for non-Federal conferences in the areas of health promotion and disease prevention, information and education programs, and applied research.

Deadline for submission of proposals is March 6, 2006.

For more details on this grant competition, visit <http://www.cdc.gov/od/pgo/funding/05031%20Amendment-1.htm>.

### *Environmental Research and Education Foundation Grant Program*

Funds are available for research or education in topics pertaining to solid waste management. Funding range is \$10,000-\$500,000. Past funded projects include field tests, case studies, and certification course development.

Grants should be submitted several weeks in advance of the Foundation's board meetings, which are held in April, August, and December.

Additional information and proposal criteria are available at <http://www.erefdn.org/guide.html>.

To search for additional funding announcements, visit the Sponsored Programs [website](#) and click on Funding Sources. The Division of Sponsored Programs is available to assist the campus community with the grants development process. Please contact us for assistance.

### **Featured Grants Resource**

#### *EKU Sponsored Programs website*

EKU's Division of Sponsored Programs website includes a wealth of information of interest to the campus community involved or interested in grant-seeking endeavors. Take time to peruse the website at [www.sponsoredprograms.eku.edu](http://www.sponsoredprograms.eku.edu) to learn about resources available for your use.

The website includes information commonly needed to prepare external grant applications, links to funding sources and searches, online forms, and links to consulting and intellectual property policies. Information concerning the University Research Committee, Institutional Review Board, and Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee is also available on the website. Archives of this newsletter are available on the website as well.

The information on the Sponsored Programs website is provided for the benefit of the campus community. If there is information you would like to see posted on this website, please feel free to contact the Division of Sponsored Programs.

### **Featured Grants Tip**

#### *Planning is the first step to success.*



The planning process should always be the first step in the grants development process. Begin by identifying the need for the project. Determine what problem you plan to address and make a plan for solving it.

Discuss your idea with colleagues to refine and further develop your project. Then, search for a funding source with similar interests. Take time to do some research on the funding source and understand their grant selection process. When

possible, contact someone who has received funding from the sponsor, past grant reviewers, and someone from the sponsor's office to learn as much as you can before you begin preparing the application.

By taking the time to formulate a well-developed plan for your project, you will increase your chances of obtaining the funding you need to conduct your project.



*Happy Holidays from the  
Sponsored Programs Staff!*

### **EKU Division of Sponsored Programs**

*A grants resource for the campus community*

Dr. Gerald Pogatshnik  
Associate Vice President for Research  
[Jerry.Pogatshnik@eku.edu](mailto:Jerry.Pogatshnik@eku.edu)

Gus Benson  
Acting Director  
[Gus.Benson@eku.edu](mailto:Gus.Benson@eku.edu)

Tiffany Hamblin  
Proposal Development Specialist  
[Tiffany.Hamblin@eku.edu](mailto:Tiffany.Hamblin@eku.edu)

Madonna Barnes  
Budget Specialist  
[Madonna.Barnes@eku.edu](mailto:Madonna.Barnes@eku.edu)

Kathy Mounts  
Administrative Assistant  
[Kathy.Mounts@eku.edu](mailto:Kathy.Mounts@eku.edu)

Eastern Kentucky University  
Division of Sponsored Programs  
Million House 2  
521 Lancaster Avenue  
Richmond, KY 40475-3102  
(859) 622-3636  
Fax (859) 622-6610  
[www.sponsoredprograms.eku.edu](http://www.sponsoredprograms.eku.edu)