



Research UpDATE

..... NOVEMBER 2007

College of Education and Human Services • Office of Research Services



From the Associate Dean

Researchers and scholars in the College of Education and Human Services were very productive during the last fiscal year. External grants and contracts totaled over 28.6 million dollars! Scholarly productivity included 9 books, 20 book chapters, 121 refereed articles, and involvement in over 150 editorships, editorial boards, or review panels. A special thank you goes out to all who carry out, and report on, the CEHS research mission.

The Vice President for Research Office recently announced that a more targeted seed grant program is being developed. In preparation for the new program, the Research Office will not issue an RFP for Community/University Research Initiative (CURI) grants in FY 2008. However, the RFP for New Faculty Research Grants (NFRG) in FY 08 has been issued. Details are available on the VPR website

In the past, CEHS faculty who have received CURI and NFRG funds have had considerable success with scholarly activity and external funding linked to these projects. This month's Research UpDATE features the grant proposals of the FY 08 CURI awardees. We look with anticipation to receiving details of the revised seed grants program.

Jim Dorward

Announcements

FY 2008-09 New Faculty Grant Deadlines

Please submit grant applications to the Office of Research EDUC 454. Second drafts are due by November 1, 2007. Final draft is due December 3, 2007. More information can be found at: www.usu.edu/research/funding/nfrg/ or phone 435-797-1469.

Nominations for CEHS Researcher/Scholar of the Year Award 2007-08

Deadline: January 22, 2007

The annual College of Education and Human Services (CEHS) Researcher/Scholar of the Year Award recognizes an individual's outstanding research/scholarly contribution(s) within the prior five years. For information on nominating a deserving individual go to: www.cehs.usu.edu/ors/pdf/files/researchscholaroftheyearcriteria.pdf

\$1.6 Million Extension on Grant Awarded

Brian Higginbotham (FCHD) was recently awarded an expansion grant to continue his work teaching healthy marriage skills to Utah step-families. The original award from the Department of Health and Human Services was \$2.3 million.

Six CEHS Colleagues Awarded 2007-08 CURI Funds

Six faculty members of the College were awarded CURI grants for 2007-2008 by the Vice President for Research Office. What follows is a summary of each successful proposal.



Infant Massage for Wellness

PI: Vonda Jump
Co-PI: Richard Roberts
Unit: Center for Persons with Disabilities
Amount Funded: \$27,973

Abstract: Infants with Down syndrome have compromised immune function and are sick quite often. A randomized experimental design study will be implemented to investigate whether infant mas-

sage by mothers is effective in reducing infant illness for babies with Down syndrome.



Body Composition Change During the First Year of College

PI: Dale Wagner
Co-PI: Edward Heath
Department: Health, Physical Education, and Recreation
Amount Funded: \$23,821

Abstract: Most of the previous research on the phenomenon of the “freshman 15” has focused on weight gain rather than changes in body composition. The aim of this study is to use laboratory methods to track the changes in body composition of traditional freshmen during their first year in college.

Examining Parent Language and Regulation Supporting Behavior in Early Aggression

PI: Lisa Boyce
Co-PI: Gina Cook
Unit: Emma Eccles Jones Center for Early Childhood Education
Amount Funded: \$29,536



Abstract: This study offers an important opportunity to examine toddlers’ language and emotion/self regulation skills and explore the influence of early mother-infant interaction on these skills and aggressive behaviors.

Preferred Jobs and Vocational Tasks for Youth with Developmental Disabilities

PI: Robert Morgan
Department: Special Education and Rehabilitation
Amount Funded: \$18,369

Abstract: The purpose of the proposed research is to investigate the reliability and validity of a video web-based program for identifying preferred jobs and vocational tasks for youth with disabilities. Given evidence of the reliability and validity of the program, the prospect for extramural funding will be significantly enhanced.

Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC)

PI: Beth Foley
Co-PI: Sandra Gilliam
Department: Communicative Disorders and Deaf Education
Amount Funded: \$36,984

Abstract: The purpose of this project is to examine mechanisms supporting literacy development in children who use AAC, and includes an approach for improving spelling, memory, and reading.



Developing an Animal Model of Methamphetamine Abuse

PI: Tim Shahan
Department: Psychology
Amount Funded: \$24,419

Abstract: The purpose of the proposed research is to develop a preclinical animal model of methamphetamine abuse appropriate for testing novel treatments for methamphetamine addiction.

www.cehs.usu.edu/ors/home.htm

Think Research

CEHS Research Council: Kim Corbin-Lewis • Jim Barta • Rich Gordin • Grace Huerta • Mimi Recker • Richard Roberts • Lori Roggman • Tim Slocum • Karl White

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