



Building Mountains of Knowledge

Western Carolina University

# Research Administration

Volume 3 — September 2008

## RAMSeS Goes Live!

RAMSeS (Research Administration Management System and eSubmission) is a web based system that will streamline proposal submissions—making it virtually paperless. It is scheduled to be online January 19, 2009.

### Proposals

**In September, the following researchers submitted proposals:**

- Anna Fariello
- Bruce W. Yarrington
- Cheryl L. Johnston
- Jamie Davis
- Janice Holt
- Mark R. Wilson

**Thanks for your submissions and good luck!**

### Awards

**In September, the following researchers received funding:**

- Barbara St. John
- Billy Ogletree
- Cheryl Johnston
- Johnny Westall
- Steve Ha
- Tom Martin
- Walter Turner

**Congratulations and good luck with your research!**

Find the latest funding news at: <http://research.wcu.edu/6788.asp>



## Institutional Review Board Training

As of September 1, 2008, all of Western Carolina University researchers who submit an Institutional Review Board (IRB) request will need to complete certification training. This on-line course takes only about an hour and ensures researchers are aware of the latest federal and local guidelines concerning human subjects research. It is available at our [IRB Online Training](#) web page. If you have any questions, contact John Hawes at 828-227-3177.

## NSF Grant Trends

The number of grants awarded by and/or available from the National Science Foundation over a time period from 1996 to 2008, has increased for the fields of Biology, Education, Engineering, Geosciences, Mathematics, Physical Sciences, Polar Programs, and Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences. The largest increase was in Mathematics and Physical Sciences.

## Fringe Benefits for FY09 are as Follows!

Here are the fringe benefits for the FY09. Social Security is paid at 7.65% for the first \$102,000. Then it is paid at 1.45% on all wages after \$102,000. The State Retirement percentage is 8.14%. Medical insurance is paid at an annual rate of \$4,293, and a monthly rate (from July to October) of \$375.72. For more information go to our [Budget Preparation](#) web page.

## Numbers in the News

	Month of		Year to Date	
	September 2008		(7/1/08 to Present)	
	Dollars	Number	Dollars	Number
<b>Proposals received</b>	\$528,718	7	\$4.7 Million	25
<b>Awards received</b>	\$335,818.59	9	\$2.1 Million	28
<b>IRBs received</b>	17		60	

## Federal and State Spending in Education

In a fifteen year period between 1990 and 2005, the federal share of spending on K-12 education has increased from 5.7% to 8.3%. During the same period the state expenditure on K-12 education has been on a steady increase as well. Within the ten year period between 1995 and 2005, federal government spending on higher education has had an increase of 103%.

REMEMBER: To ensure that the best possible proposal package is submitted for funding, it must be received by Research Administration **at least 5 days** before it is due to the sponsor. A special thanks goes to those researchers that met the deadline and helped us help them succeed! Proposals received by RA the day they are due to the sponsor run a **high risk of not being submitted**.

# Meet the Team

## U.S. Department of Education Grant Trends

**Michelle Hargis**, Ed.D.,  
Associate Dean, Graduate  
School and Research  
828-227-7212  
[mhargis@email.wcu.edu](mailto:mhargis@email.wcu.edu)  
With over 25 years in research  
administration, Dr. Hargis  
leads a dedicated staff to  
reduce the administrative  
burden of conducting research.

**Reginald Rogers**, Assistant  
Director  
828-227-2576  
[rlrogers@email.wcu.edu](mailto:rlrogers@email.wcu.edu)  
Reggie can help you find  
funding, develop your budget,  
prepare your proposal, and a  
whole lot more. Bring your  
research ideas to him and he'll  
help you get started.

**Wanda Ashe**, Grants Manager  
828-227-2575  
[ashe@email.wcu.edu](mailto:ashe@email.wcu.edu)

Wanda is the one to guide you  
through the maze of setting up  
your budgets, reconciling your  
funds, getting a subcontract  
signed, and providing the  
guidance and training you  
need to stay out of hot water  
with auditors.

**John Hawes**, Project Specialist  
828-227-3177  
[jhawes@email.wcu.edu](mailto:jhawes@email.wcu.edu)

John is the point man for the  
Institutional Review Board, so  
if your project will involve  
human subjects he's the one to  
see.

The data for the Grants  
on the U.S. Department of  
Education site indicate  
illuminating trends.  
These trends are recorded  
between 10/03/2005 and  
10/10/2008. The data  
shows that many more  
grants are awarded from  
October to May, rather  
than from May to October.  
Also, the largest number  
of grants available and/or  
awarded are concerning  
Children with Disabilities.  
The second most awarded  
are for Minority and  
Immigrant Assistance.

Editors: David Joseph Brown  
K.ystal St. Smith

## Funding Opportunities!

Funding for many disciplines at Western Carolina University is available.  
Here are a few:

- Cultural Anthropology ([www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\\_summ.jsp?pims\\_id=5388&org=BCS](http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5388&org=BCS))
- Physical Anthropology ([www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\\_summ.jsp?pims\\_id=5407&org=BCS](http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5407&org=BCS))
- Political Science ([www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\\_summ.jsp?pims\\_id=5418](http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5418))
- Sociology ([www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\\_summ.jsp?pims\\_id=5369](http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5369))
- Teacher of English ([www.ncte.org/about/grants](http://www.ncte.org/about/grants))
- Construction Management ([www.federalgrantswire.com/facility-planning-and-construction-health-federal-grants-1.html](http://www.federalgrantswire.com/facility-planning-and-construction-health-federal-grants-1.html))
- Philosophy/Ethics ([www.morris.umn.edu/~grants/phil.shtml](http://www.morris.umn.edu/~grants/phil.shtml))
- Public History (<http://artsnet.org/phmc>)

Also, at <http://blog.lib.umn.edu/clagrant/grantopportunities/grant/>,  
grant opportunities are available to fields such as library science, English,  
education, archaeology, the arts, sociology, history, communications, and  
philosophy (just to name a few).

## Indirect Cost (IDC) Rate

Western Carolina University's Indirect Cost (IDC) Rate is required on all  
sponsored programs with few exceptions. This rate is currently 31.6% of  
the Modified Direct Cost (MTDC). The MTDC is your total direct cost mi-  
nus exclusion costs. For example,  $MTDC \times IDC \% = IDC \$$ . For more de-  
tails on IDC and/or MTDC (and its exclusions), go to:

<http://www.wcu.edu/6780.asp>

## Western Carolina University

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