

RESEARCHNOTES

Office of the Associate Dean for Research / Culverhouse College of Commerce / The University of Alabama

For information on funding opportunities and other information related to sponsored research, please visit research.cba.ua.edu or contact Deborah Hamilton (8-2952).

New University of Alabama Fringe Benefit Rates by Category

Faculty and Regular Full-time Exempt Staff—28.41 percent
Regular Full-time Nonexempt Staff—36.61 percent
Part-time Staff (Exempt and Nonexempt)—35.83 percent
Post Doctoral Fellows—17.38 percent
Temporary Employees—7.80 percent

Graduate Students—7.70 percent of summer earnings,
+ \$1,200/year for health insurance

Plank Center for Leadership in Public Relations

The Plank Center for Leadership in Public Relations at The University of Alabama is dedicated to advancing the ethical and effective practice of public relations and helping develop leadership values and skills in the classroom and profession. Themes for research proposals this year are

1. What leadership means in public relations and what it looks like
2. Dimensions of excellence in leadership in public relations
3. Curriculum developments in, and pedagogical approaches to, leadership values and skills

Applications may come from scholars, educators, graduate students, and professionals in public relations, organization studies, management studies, and related fields. The center will award up to \$25,000 in grants of \$2,500 to \$10,000.

Deadline is May 25.

<http://plankcenter.ua.edu/researchcalls.html>

Sloan Foundation Human Resources, Jobs, and Income

The goal of this program is to build understanding of management practices in the changing workplace and the effects of changes on people, jobs, and income by studying specific industries. Major changes affecting the workplace in the past decade include increases in outsourcing, offshoring and temporary work; increases in wage inequality; far greater global competition; work restructuring and downsizing. Study of the effects of these new conditions has been supported with an industry-by-industry focus and making use of Sloan Industry Center resources and researchers. Human resource and labor economics researchers have been brought into factories and offices to understand how people work.

Current research is focused on developing facts about offshoring in specific industries and understanding its effects on jobs and workers in those industries, although other compelling human resources research will be supported. A small number of industry-based studies of this issue as it affects U.S. and also foreign workers will be supported this year.

Proposals are accepted throughout the year. Letters of inquiry are recommended as a first step.

http://www.sloan.org/programs/stdndr_human.shtml

German Marshall Fund of the United States

The economics grant program supports a wide range of institutions and individuals working on various economic, trade, agriculture, and development issues. Applications are considered throughout the year.

<http://www.gmfus.org/grants/index.cfm>

NSF Manufacturing Enterprise Systems

The National Science Foundation's Manufacturing Enterprise Systems program addresses research on design, planning, and control of operations in manufacturing enterprises, from shop floors to the associated procurement and distribution supply chains. Contributions should impact and extend the range of analytical and computational techniques addressed to extended enterprise operations, and/or advance novel models offering policy insights or the prospect of implementable solutions.

Among the categories of research supported are the following:

Analytical and computational tools and systems for planning, monitoring, control, and scheduling of manufacturing and distribution operations

Methods for personnel planning

Methods for evaluation, comparison, and optimization of designs for manufacturing systems and facilities, especially in the presence of massive uncertainty and risk about the operating environment.

Full Proposal Window: September 1, 2007 - October 1, 2007

http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=13342

AHRQ Health Services Research (R01)

This program announcement expresses Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) priority interests for ongoing extramural grants for research, demonstration, dissemination, and evaluation projects to:

1. Support improvements in health outcomes. Drawing from literature on variations in clinical practice and associated outcomes, the documented increase in the prevalence of chronic disease, and growing interest in the impact of different delivery modalities and financing arrangements on the outcomes of care, AHRQ seeks to support research to understand and improve decision-making at all levels of the health care system, the outcomes of health care, and, in particular, what works, for whom, when, and at what cost.
2. Strengthen quality measurement and improvement. AHRQ is interested in a broad array of research topics, including studies to develop valid and reliable measures of the process and outcomes of care, causation and prevention of errors in health care, strategies for incorporating quality measures into programs of quality improvement, and dissemination and implementation of validated quality improvement mechanisms.
3. Identify strategies to improve access, foster appropriate use, and reduce unnecessary expenditures. This area focuses on issues pertaining to the types of health care services Americans use, the cost of these services and sources of payment, determinants of access to care, and whether particular approaches to health care delivery and financing, or characteristics of the health care market, alter behaviors in ways that improve access and promote cost-effective use of health care resources.

Deadlines are June 5 and October 5, 2007.

<http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-07-243.html>