

RESEARCH NOTES

Center for Business and Economic Research / Culverhouse College of Commerce / The University of Alabama

If you would like information about any announcement, contact Deborah Hamilton (8-2952).

Please visit our web site research.cba.ua.edu. This site has links to searchable databases such as SPIN and IRIS and to select funding agencies. There is also a link for C&BA research reports.

Business and International Education

The U.S. Department of Education's Business and International Education Program provides grants to institutions of higher education to enhance international business education programs and to expand the capacity of the business community to engage in international economic activities. Awards range from \$50,000 to \$95,000. Deadline is November 5.

Business of Government and Leadership Forums

Through grants for research and forums, the PricewaterhouseCoopers Endowment for the Business of Government stimulates research and facilitates discussion on new approaches to improving the effectiveness of government at the federal, state, local, and international levels.

Research grants will provide funding for individuals to prepare research papers. Individuals receiving grants will be responsible for producing a 20 to 40-page research report on one of the Endowment's approved topics. Funding is \$15,000.

Grants for Thought Leadership Forums provide funding for universities and nonprofits to design, implement, and host forums that bring together practitioners and experts in executive conference settings. Organizations receiving grants will be responsible for designing, implementing, and hosting a two to three day conference bringing together 25 to 30 participants for an executive conference. Funding is \$20,000.

Deadlines are October 31, February 28, and June 28.

Institute of Management Accountants

The Institute of Management Accountants seeks grants in the areas of management accounting, financial management and information systems. Grants are for \$5,000. Topics include:

- 1) Research on Life-Long Learning;
- 2) The Use of Professional Examinations to Meet University Accreditation Standards; and
- 3) Research on International Membership.

Deadline is October 1.

Research on Surveys and Data Analysis

The National Science Foundation's Methodology, Measurement, and Statistics Program seeks proposals that further the development of new and innovative approaches to surveys and to the analysis of survey data. Priority will be given to basic research proposals that are interdisciplinary in nature, have broad implications for the field in general, and have the greatest potential for creating fundamental knowledge of value to the federal statistical system. Collaborations are encouraged. Topics include: measurement issues, questionnaire design, survey technology, analytical issues, and small area estimation. Projects will range from \$60,000 to \$125,000 per year for one to three years. Deadline is November 30.

Retirement Research

The Center for Retirement Research at Boston College seeks proposals to the Steven H. Sandell Grant Program for Junior Scholars in Retirement Research. The programs purpose is to promote research on retirement issues by junior scholars in a variety of disciplines, including economics, finance, public policy, and statistics. The program is funded through a grant from the Social Security Administration. Grants will be up to \$25,000. Deadline is November 16.

Internal Auditing

The Institute of Internal Auditors Research Foundation funds research in the field of internal auditing. Current priority topics are:

- 1) Electronic Commerce;
- 2) Role of Internal Auditing Services in Corporate Governance and Management; and
- 3) Auditing of Continuous/Online Controls.

Deadlines are October 31 and April 30.

Information Technology

The National Science Foundation's Information Technology Research Program will focus this year on emerging opportunities at the interfaces between IT and other disciplines, including the social and behavioral sciences. Focus areas are:

- 1) Software and hardware systems.
- 2) Augmenting individuals and transforming society—seeks to understand how people use information, how they can use it more easily, and how more people can use IT for more tasks. Activities might include investigations of:
 - a. Changes in business, labor and organizational processes, telecommuting, mobile and distributed work practices, organizational productivity and new technologies and designs for reliable e-commerce and effective electronic markets.
 - b. Technologies for assisting in teaching, learning, collaboration, and creating educational environments.
 - c. Theories and methods for linking IT design to social and economic outcomes.
- 3) Scientific frontiers and information technology.

Proposals are divided into three classes: 1) Small projects—individual or small-group projects that are innovative and high risk and do not exceed \$500,000 total; 2) Medium projects—substantial and ambitious research and education projects are for up to \$5 million and no more than \$1 million per year; and 3) Large projects—research that is innovative in terms of its ideas, scale or integration of its parts. Preproposals

are required and budgets may be for up to \$15 million total and no more than \$3 million yearly.

Deadlines are November 9 for mandatory preliminary proposals for large projects; April 4 for full proposals for large projects; November 13 for full proposals for medium projects; and February 6 for full proposals for small projects.

International Studies

The U.S. Department of Education's Undergraduate International Studies and Foreign Language Program supports strengthening and improvement of undergraduate instruction in international studies and foreign languages. Activities include: development of a global studies program that is interdisciplinary; development of a program that focuses on issues or topics, such as international business; development of an area studies program; establishment of internship opportunities; and research for and development of specialized teaching materials, i.e., business French.

Deadline is November 5.

Quality, Cost, and Equity of Health Care Services

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality seeks research related to the effects of payment and organizational structures and processes on the cost, quality, and equity of health care services. Issues include:

- 1) How do different payment methodologies and financial incentives within the health care system affect health care quality, costs, and access?
- 2) What has been the impact of purchaser and public sector initiatives on quality, costs, and access to health care and health insurance?
- 3) What organizational structures and processes are most likely to sustain high-quality, efficient, effective, timely, and accessible health care?
- 4) How do different patterns and levels of market competition affect the quality and cost of care?

Deadlines are October 1, February 1, and June 1.