

# RESEARCHNOTES

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

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

## **Center for the Business of Government**

The IBM Center for the Business of Government provides grants to stimulate research and improve the effectiveness of government at the federal, state, local, and international levels.

Individuals receiving research stipends will be responsible for producing a 30- to 40-page research report in one of the areas presented in the Research Announcement. The manuscript must be submitted no later than six months after the start of the project.

Recipients will select the start and end dates of their research project. The reports should be written for government leaders and should provide practical knowledge and insights.

There are two funding cycles, with deadlines of October 1, 2007 and March 3, 2008.

[http://www.businessofgovernment.org/pdfs/Research\\_Announcement\\_07.pdf](http://www.businessofgovernment.org/pdfs/Research_Announcement_07.pdf)

## **NSF International Research and Education: Planning Visits and Workshops**

International Planning Visit/Workshop Awards can support the initial phases of developing and coordinating integrated research and education activities with foreign partners. Support is primarily for travel and subsistence expenses; salaries and stipends are not typically supported. Individual proposals can be submitted for:

Planning visits to assess foreign facilities, equipment, or subjects of research, and to have detailed discussions with prospective foreign partners to finalize plans for cooperative research. Visits typically range from 7-14 days.

Joint workshops designed to identify common research priorities, focused on a specific, well-defined area of research collaboration.

Proposals for Planning Visits may be submitted at any time.

Workshop Proposals are due September 20 and February 20.

[http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\\_summ.jsp?pims\\_id=12815&org=NSF&sel\\_org=NSF&from=fund](http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=12815&org=NSF&sel_org=NSF&from=fund)

## **Searle Freedom Trust**

The Searle Freedom Trust aims to foster research and encourage public policies that promote individual freedom and economic liberty while at the same time advancing a commitment to personal responsibility and a respect for traditional American values. One of the Foundation's chief objectives is to help develop policies that advance liberty without encouraging license, and that demand personal responsibility without compromising freedom.

The Foundation supports research and education on a range of U.S. domestic public policy issues, including:

- Tax and budget issues
- Cost-benefit analysis of regulatory practices
- Welfare policy
- K-12 and higher education reform
- Environmental policy
- Legal reform

The Foundation seeks to develop policies that encourage the transfer of responsibility from government to the private sphere, and the devolution of power from the national to the state and local level—in short, policies that return authority to

individual citizens so they are in a position to make the decisions that govern their lives.

<http://www.searlefreedomtrust.org/>

The Foundation currently has a request for proposals related to new media and invites interested parties to submit applications for grants of up to \$250,000.

All ideas are welcome and will receive consideration. In recent months, new media grants have included:

\$100,000 for an organization to sponsor film and web-video internships

\$75,000 for a website to host a contest of free-market videos

\$27,000 for a contest to encourage blogging on campus issues by college students

Proposals that may hold particular interest include fellowships for bloggers who focus on government spending, tort reform, or problems in higher education; projects that encourage emerging filmmakers and video producers and help them develop their talent; and podcasting.

Deadline is October 1.

## ***Coca-Cola Foundation***

The mission of The Coca-Cola Foundation is to improve the quality of life in the community and enhance individual opportunity through education. The Foundation supports educational programs primarily within three main areas: higher education, classroom teaching and learning, and international education. Programs support scholarships for aspiring students; encourage and motivate young people to stay in school; and foster cultural understanding.

Activities in higher education include:

Pipeline programs connecting various levels of education that encourage students to stay in school and to proceed with confidence to college and perhaps graduate school.

Scholarship programs in support of graduate and undergraduate students.

Minority advancement in the form of scholarships, urban programs and cultural diversity programs.

[http://www.thecoca-colacompany.com/citizenship/foundation\\_guidelines.html](http://www.thecoca-colacompany.com/citizenship/foundation_guidelines.html)

## ***Advancing Measurement of Equity and Patient-Centered Care to Improve Health Care Quality, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation***

Through this special solicitation, the Foundation is seeking proposals for projects that will improve the understanding of how to measure equity and patient-centered care and the role of both in promoting quality.

For the three topic areas below, approximately \$3 million will be available starting in 2008. Grants between \$100,000 to \$300,000, depending on the topic, will be available for policy relevant research grants.

Three topics have been identified to address specific knowledge gaps needed to advance our regional quality strategy:

Topic 1—Performance Measurement

Topic 2—Patients' Experience with Care and Survey Instruments

Topic 3—Shared Decision-making and Diverse Populations

Interdisciplinary research teams that include investigators focused on racial and ethnic disparities or quality are encouraged to apply. Proposals should demonstrate the potential to produce high quality, scientifically sound research that could be used to inform the development of our regional quality strategy.

Deadline for receipt of proposals is September 25.

[http://www.rwjf.org/files/applications/cfp/cfp\\_TBS\\_QE082007.pdf](http://www.rwjf.org/files/applications/cfp/cfp_TBS_QE082007.pdf)