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

research.cba.ua.edu has links to searchable data bases and the UA internal coordination sheet. Proposals must be coordinated through the College before submission and those submitted jointly with another UA college as the lead still require C&BA prior approval.

**UA Research Grants**

The Research Grants Committee, through the Office of the Vice President for Research, is accepting applications for research grant funding for full-time permanent UA faculty and staff. Applicants may apply for modular funding in the amount of $500, $2,500, or $5,000 for grant-in-aid (salary for all or part of summer), assistants, supplies, equipment, books, and travel. The deadline for applications is January 31, 2007.

Details of the procedures, priorities, and restrictions used by the Research Advisory Committee in awarding research funds are included in the RAC Manual. All faculty and staff who are planning to apply for RAC awards are encouraged to read the RAC Manual before submitting a proposal. The RAC Manual may be obtained from the Office for Sponsored Programs' web site. For further assistance, contact Beverly Kauchick at 348-4566.

**Upjohn Institute for Employment Research**

The Upjohn Institute invites submission of proposals to conduct policy-relevant research on employment issues under its 2007 Grant Program. The Institute expects to fund research on a variety of issues related to employment and unemployment.

The Institute awards both Research Grants and Mini-Grants. For Research Grants, the maximum funding amount is $75,000. For Mini-Grants, the maximum funding amount is $5,000.

For Research Grants the Institute has also identified a Priority Research Topic, which is designed to elicit research in an area where the Institute believes additional work would generate extra value added. However, proposals from any area of interest will be fully considered. Again this year, as part of its Research Grant Program, the Institute is seeking proposals related to the effects of health care costs on labor demand. Relevant research questions might include:

- The effect of health care costs on the creation and expansion of small business
- The effect on the hiring of part-time versus full-time employees
- The effect on the decision to contract out services
- The effect on the ability to hire highly qualified workers
- Other labor demand issues

For this Priority Research Topic only, a book length manuscript will not be strictly required, although it is still preferred. Prospective researchers should indicate that they are applying under the Priority Research Topic and must submit specific alternative dissemination plans as part of their proposal if they do not propose a book-length manuscript.

There will be two competitive review rounds for the 2007 Grant Program.

**Cycle 1**

- January 31, 2007 - Cycle 1 deadline for 3-page summary applications
- February 28, 2007 - Cycle 1 Research Grant finalists invited to prepare a full 15-page proposals
- April 11, 2007 - Full proposals due and Mini-Grant proposals due
- May 9, 2007 - Cycle 1 announcement of awards.

**Cycle 2**

- August 1, 2007 - Cycle 2 deadline for 3-page summary applications
- September 5, 2007 - Cycle 2 Research Grant finalists invited to prepare a full 15-page proposals
October 17, 2007 - Full proposals due and Mini-Grant proposals due

November 14, 2007 - Cycle 2 announcement of awards.

**LSAC Research Grants**

The Law School Admission Council Research Grant Program accepts proposals from social, behavioral, and educational researchers of all kinds for empirical research on legal training and legal practice broadly viewed. This includes the study of precursors to legal training (including demographic variables), all varieties of legal training itself, and the work that lawyers, judges, law teachers, and other legal professionals do after they complete their training (“law jobs”).

The program welcomes proposals for comparative research proceeding from any of a variety of methodologies, a potentially broad range of topics, and varying time frames.

Although the program supports only empirical research, a meritorious project could be formed by any disciplinary perspective and be guided by any of a variety of methodologies. Projects can be qualitative or quantitative, cross-sectional or longitudinal. They may involve surveys, experiments, correlational methods, systematic observations, ethnography, and so on. The program requires that any project that is funded be planned and conducted in accordance with the best social scientific standards that are applicable to the type of research in question.

The program welcomes proposals for comparative studies that further understanding of legal training and legal practice both in North America and globally. Possible topics can address a broad range of issues including:

- How social and academic backgrounds affect the experience of legal education
- The economics of legal education
- Studies of teaching methods for some of the new and nontraditional courses (e.g., courses in quantitative methods, alternative dispute resolution, etc.)
- The effects of new technologies (e.g., computer-assisted research, electronic casebooks)
- How students decide what kinds of jobs to take


**Economic Capital for Life Insurance Companies**

The Society of Actuaries’ Committee on Financial Research is seeking proposals that would examine the mechanics and implementation of Economic Capital methods employed by insurance companies operating in the United States (both domestic and foreign owned). Letters of intent are due by January 15, 2007. Final proposals are due by January 30, 2007.

**Society of Actuaries, Health Projects**

The Health Section Research Team of the Society of Actuaries welcomes proposals at any time for projects that result in information, data, or tools useful to practicing health actuaries.

The specific subject matter, methods, and presentation of results are intentionally undefined, with the hopes that many unique and valuable projects will be proposed.

Examples of projects include (but are in no way limited to) the following:

- Development of a spreadsheet or other tool health actuaries can use to perform their jobs
- A literature review on a topic of interest to health actuaries
- An exploration of the use of data mining techniques and sources of data for health actuaries
- A research project involving data collection and analysis (This may include a small project intended to move forward a larger project being sponsored by the Health Section Research Team.)
- An investigation of the impact of economic variables on long term and short term disability products
- Development and presentation of a modeling technique that provides a creative solution to a common problem faced by health actuaries

Proposals are welcome any time and will be reviewed for funding consideration by the Health Section Research Team at its next meeting after receipt of the proposal.