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

research.cba.ua.edu has links to searchable databases 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.

**Training, Leader Development**

The U.S. Army Research Institute for the Behavioral and Social Sciences (ARI), Basic Research Office (BRO), is soliciting proposals for its contract program of fundamental research in behavioral science. Proposals are sought in the areas of training, leader development, and soldier/personnel issues.

The award amount is unspecified. Normally, research programs can range from one to three years. Deadline is September 30.

**Fulbright Senior Specialist**

The Fulbright Senior Specialist Program is open to qualified scholars (requires U.S. citizenship and Ph.D.). Activities will be designed to provide U.S. faculty and professionals with opportunities to collaborate with professional counterparts on curriculum and faculty development, institutional planning, and a variety of other activities. For example, grantees may present lectures at graduate and undergraduate levels; participate in or lead seminars or workshops at overseas academic institutions; conduct needs assessments, surveys, institutional, or programmatic research; take part in specialized academic programs and conferences; consult with administrators and instructors of postsecondary institutions on faculty development; develop or assess academic curricula or educational materials; and conduct teacher-training programs at the tertiary level.

During the first year of the program, applications will be accepted in business administration, economics, and information technology among others.

Applicants apply through the calendar year for candidacy on the Fulbright Senior Specialists Roster. The program will award grants ranging from two to six weeks and will make use of serial grants. Grants awarded will include travel and per diem plus a $200 per day honorarium. Per diem costs, which are in-country costs for lodging, meals, and in-country transportation, will be covered by the host institution.

**Actuarial Science**

The Actuarial Education and Research Fund Committee (AERF) of the Actuarial Foundation and the Society of Actuaries Committee on Knowledge Extension Research have announced the 2007 Individual Grants Competitions to support the advancement of knowledge in actuarial science. Projects may be either theoretical or empirical in nature. A key criterion for both organizations is that the project should have the potential to contribute significantly to the advancement of knowledge in actuarial science.

AERF gives preference to projects relating to current policy issues having direct applications and those that further the basic or continuing education...
of actuaries. Proposals for innovative developments in actuarial education also are invited for consideration by AERF.

Letters of intent are due by October 16. Application forms will be distributed by November 21 to researchers being invited to submit proposals for funding consideration.

**Spencer Foundation**

The Spencer Foundation provides funding for investigations that promise to yield new knowledge about education in the United States or abroad. The Foundation funds research grants that range in size from smaller grants that can be completed within a year, to larger, multi-year endeavors. The Foundation’s current areas of interest are:

1. **The Relation between Education and Social Opportunity**—The Spencer Foundation seeks to shed light on the role education plays in reducing economic and social inequalities—as well as, sometimes, re-enforcing them—and to find ways to more fully realize education’s potential to promote more equal opportunity.

2. **Organizational Learning in Schools, School Systems, and Higher Education Institutions**—The Foundation is interested in advancing understanding of ways to strengthen the capacity of schools and education systems as learning organizations.

3. **Teaching, Learning, and Instructional Resources**—The Foundation is interested in studies that lead to better understanding and improvements in the intellectual, material, and organizational resources that contribute to successful teaching and learning. New designs in curriculum and subject-matter standards as well as developments in computing and communication technologies may provide instructional resources that enrich students’ learning and support teaching practice are of interest.

4. **Purposes and Values of Education**—Analytical, historical, and empirical work that probes effectively and creatively into purposes and values of education can contribute toward social decision-making that moves education along constructive paths.

5. **Field-Initiated Proposals**—The Foundation is open to the possibility that someone may have a terrific idea for worthwhile research that does not fit easily into even these broad categories and would be happy to entertain such proposals. The Foundation asks in such cases that you address explicitly how your proposed study aligns with the Foundation’s mission of research toward educational improvement, and that you understand that the Foundation will be asking whether this proposal promises to advance its purposes more effectively than research in its declared areas of interest.

For proposals up to $40,000, a funding decision will be made on the basis of the initial proposal.

For proposals over $40,000, the initial proposal will be used to decide whether to invite an expanded proposal. Initial proposals are accepted at any time, regardless of the level of funding requested.

For proposals over $40,000, if you are invited to submit an expanded proposal, the deadlines normally fall at the beginning of April, July, and December each year, with notification taking place within eight months.