COS-Pivot—New & Improved
Grant Funding Database

Paine College subscribes to COS-Pivot, which provides our campus access to resources for all types of funding opportunities in every discipline. Pivot is an invaluable resource for faculty and staff seeking external funding for sponsored projects. Pivot is a tool that merges COS Funding Opportunities and COS Expertise Profile Databases, providing useful integration between the two, promoting research and collaboration.

Some of Pivot’s features include:

- Access to the most comprehensive sources of funding opportunities globally;
- Identifies researcher expertise from within or outside of the institution;
- Enhances communications, monitoring, and tracking between individual faculty, teams, or researchers and the campus Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP);
- Enables users to add internal deadlines to critical funding opportunities and sends weekly updates on saved searches that users organize in their own folders.

If you have not yet done so, we encourage you to create or claim your profile in Pivot and become familiar with this useful tool. If you need assistance, contact Geno Clark at 706-396-8118 or gclark@paine.edu.

“Where funding connected with researcher expertise turns into success.”

Log on at http://pivot.cos.com

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Congratulations!

Spotlight on Faculty

NSF HBCU-UP Research Initiation Award

In the Department of Math, Sciences, and Technology, Dr. Lixin Wang, Asst. Prof. of Computer Science, received the Research Initiation Award (RIA) from the National Science Foundation’s HBCU-UP (Undergraduate Program). The grant is for $162,262 for the two year project. Dr. Wang and his student research assistants will explore the boundaries of multihop wireless networks. This project could expand the scientific knowledge of this field and have an impact on homeland security, national infrastructure, and other concrete needs of society.

Morehouse School of Medicine - Behavioral Health Grant

Dr. Adeleri Onisegun, Associate Professor of Psychology, has been awarded a Behavioral Health Capacity Mini-grant for her proposal, entitled, “Project Harambee: Promoting Help Seeking, Substance Abuse and Suicide Prevention Initiative.” The program addresses the behavioral health needs of students and fosters workforce development in the field. The $7,500 award will be used to research various aspects of campus related mental health issues including the stigma behind seeking help and substance abuse.

UNCF Special Programs - Global Entrepreneurship Initiative

Dr. Okoroafor Nzeh is the Chair of Paine’s Department of Business. He and his team were awarded the Global Entrepreneurship Initiative grant from the Special Programs Division of UNCF. The $75,000 award for this project will support the program’s goal of initiating and developing an international trade delegation with South Africa and Nigeria. Dr. Nzeh and his student research assistant recently returned from Africa after laying the groundwork for this important international trade program.

Paine College’s Most Recent Grant Awardees

Dr. Lixin Wang
Dr. Adeleri Onisegun
Dr. Okoroafor Nzeh
Tips from the Trenches: Working with OSP

Writing a grant proposal can be a complicated, time-consuming, and tedious business. However, you are not alone: The Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP) offers help with the process. Here are some tips to better utilize OSP as a resource:

**Inform OSP of your intention to submit a proposal as soon as possible.** A specialty of OSP is helping to identify and explain the various sections and pieces that may be required in a proposal. The more notice you give, the better we can guide you through the proposal process. This process may include assistance with the Intent Form, where to find background information, formatting specifications, the budget, Federal certifications, and many others.

**Set milestones and define a timeline.** Create a proposal writing game plan and stick to it. Define all of the components that need to be created and develop a timeline with dates and milestones. OSP can help with this task. As the process progresses, make adjustments to take into account any changes that need to be made. Keep OSP in the loop so we know what to expect and when. The best advice is to start early and set an artificial deadline at least a week before the real one.

**Do some of the easy parts first, then the hard parts.** Getting things like your Biosketch, facilities and other resources, preliminary budget, or data management plan out of the way early may save you from hastily putting them together at the end. Additionally, then OSP can be checking these items over while you are drafting your technical proposal, abstract, and references.

**Know when to say “when.”** Sometimes ambition gets the best of us and we attempt to put together a proposal at the last minute. While these “Hail Mary’s” can be an adrenaline rush, they are seldom fruitful. Proposal writing is an activity that requires sufficient time. Although it can be a difficult decision, sometimes the best choice is to pull the plug, realign your time and resources, and pursue another activity.
Major Funding Sources—FY2012

The primary sources of external funding for Paine College are the U.S. Department of Education, U.S. Department of Energy, and the U.S. Department of Defense. Private sources include the United Methodist Church, Community Foundation for the CSRA, and CampusEAI. Paine College is also very proud of our commercial grant, sponsored by ADP, Inc. of Augusta. FY2013 is shaping up to be an exciting year as well with grants already awarded from UNCF and the National Science Foundation.

Message from the Director:

Greetings Paine College:

‘Tis the season...For getting your research funded!!

As always, the OSP Team is ready and eager to help you find opportunities, prepare your application, and administer your awarded grant. Registration for Pivot is at an all time high, so I know that we are out there looking. The two biggest lessons that I have learned over this last year are 1) persistence pays off, and 2) OSP’s 5 day rule should be written into law, rather than just a guideline! Grant seekers have to be thick skinned and tenacious—it’s a fact. Chances are, it is going to take more than one shot to get funded these days. Take heed of those reviewer comments and try again! With regard to the 5 day rule, if you can get a polished draft of your proposal to OSP 5 days before the deadline, your chances of submitting a more competitive application will drastically increase. It’s just that simple. Good funding opportunities are too rare and too competitive to be rushed through.

I hope you have enjoyed this volume of OSP’s Funding News. Happy grant hunting!

Geno Clark
Director, Sponsored Programs

Partnership with ADP!

Paine College, Augusta Tech, and ASU share an exciting commercial partnership with ADP, Inc. of Augusta. This dynamic program was selected as a finalist for the Public-Private Partnership Award sponsored by TAG (Technology Association of GA).

(Pictured: From Paine College: Geno Clark, Dr. Derek Stone; From ADP: Mr. James Heffner and spouse; From Augusta Tech: Dr. Terry Elam, Pres., Beverly Peltier, Jo Ann Robinson; From ASU: Wes Zamzow, Clif Gardiner; TAG Officials: Melanie Brandt, Michael Robertson)