Science Highlights & Good News

  – Establishment of the International Center for Advanced Renewable Energy and Sustainability (I-CARES)
  – Center for Materials Innovation (CMI)
  – George Warren Brown School of Social Work ranked #1 by US News and World Report
  – 19 schools hold top ten rankings
Historic First! PI Submits Proposal 5 Days Ahead of Agency Deadline!

Two years ago, U.S. Navy personnel and their families assigned to the Atragi Navy base, home of the U.S.S. Kittyhawk, were treated to a rare experience when Terry Fleming and his local Irish/American band, Invisifree, traveled to the base to entertain them on St. Patrick’s Day. Fleming and the other five members of Invisifree were delighted and honored to be able to go to Japan and lift the spirits, if only for a few hours, of the Navy personnel and their families.

For the third year in a row, Fleming—a local insurance broker in Rolling Hills by day and an entertainer by night—and the band traveled to entertain the Navy men, women and families at various bases throughout Japan.

Fleming, the leader of the band on accordion and harmonica, actually is the only member of the band from Ireland. Other members include lead singer Jake Delaney, a civil engineer in Newport Beach, Terry Doyle, guitarist, a news director with CBS news, Denis Doyle, Celtic harpist, a professor at Glendale College; Kevin Weed, keyboards and bagpipes, music teacher and assistant director of the Orange County Symphony; and Mike Tiffanis, bass, a computer engineer. The band has been playing the length and breadth of California for the past 25 years. They have played at balls, weddings, birthdays and on occasions where there was little excuse for throwing a party.

Fleming says he was so impressed with the band’s performance at Atragi, he submitted a proposal to the Army to bring the band to Japan, and the Army approved the proposal.

A couple of the families even took time out from their busy schedule to host Terry and the band members. They treated them to a guided tour of the base and accompanied them on a few exciting trips off the base, visiting beautiful ancient temples, monuments and revered giant Buddhas.

On a visit to downtown Tokyo, the band came across what they assumed was a very rare sight, a place called “Scally Murphy,” a real authentic Irish Pub with excellent Guinness and good pub grub, it also happened to be open mic night, so the band members took over the stage.
FY07 Funding ($M)

School of Arts & Sciences

School of Engineering

School of Medicine

School of Social Work
AGENCY UPDATES
NASA & DOD

• NASA has restricted grant budget inflation increases to 2.8% in 2008, 2.5% in 2009, 2.4% in 2010 and 2.7% in 2011.

• Reminder: DOD Limitation on F&A @ 35% TPC (equivalent to 53.8% TDC) so, if you use our negotiated rate of 52% MTDC in your proposal, you will still be compliant with the new DOD rate.

  – ACRONYM ALERT:
    • TPC = Total Project Cost
    • TDC = Total Direct Cost
    • MTDC = Modified Total Direct Cost
      – (excludes budget categories such as equipment, tuition, subcontract amounts over $25,000, etc.)
AGENCY UPDATES

NSF

- April “Dear Colleague” letter emphasizing **broader impacts** importance in the project summary, project description and results of prior NSF support sections of your proposal. (Samples included). Link from Proposal Development tools on RO website. [http://research.wustl.edu](http://research.wustl.edu)
- **America Competes Act** – new mandatory ethical compliance training required for PIs, Post Docs and Graduate Students – waiting for regulation with additional information re: what type/nature of educational programs will be compliant. (Stay tuned).
Agency Updates

NIH

- Reporting tool in e-commons is recommended by NIH and WUSTL, however, if you must send hard copies, there is a new address at NIH to allow for centralized processing of all reports:
  - NIH Centralized Processing Center
    6705 Rockledge Drive
    RM 2207, MSC 7987
    Bethesda, MD 20892 (for regular or US Postal Service Express mail)
    Bethesda, MD 20817 (for other courier/express deliveries only)
    E-mail: DeasCentralized@od.nih.gov
    Fax: (301) 480-2304

- NIH Director report on the Peer Review self study with proposed changes to the NIH peer review process.
  http://enhancing-peer-review.nih.gov/
• New Energy Research Frontier Center Opportunity.
  – Purpose is to “bring together the skills and talents of multiple investigators to enable research of a scope and complexity that would not be possible with the standard individual investigator or small-group award” to find new energy solutions for the future.
  – July 1\textsuperscript{st} letter of intent
  – Only 3 applications per institution
  – Up to $25 Million total award
Strategic Application Support Services (SASS)

- Support for multi-disciplinary, interdisciplinary, inter-institutional and center or regional based funding opportunities.
  - Identifying large collaborative opportunities
  - Identifying Institutional expertise relative to opportunities
  - Proposal development support & boilerplates (to be developed).
  - Logistical Pre-award Management
  - Collaboration and post-award agreement tools
  - Core Facilities and Centralized information for collaborative enhancement (part of Gateway project)
Research Office
Procedure Reminders

• **Proposal Processing**: We request 5 business days to make sure a proposal is adequately reviewed and can make it to the agency prior to agency deadline (especially for electronic submissions). If proposal arrives late, a reminder letter will be sent back to PI about our 5 day timeline.

• **Subcontract Processing**: Make sure a copy of the Notice of Award (NOA) is provided to the Research Office at the time of subcontract WIZARD request to avoid delays in getting the agreement out the door.
Subrecipient Monitoring Tools

- Subrecipient Monitoring Guidelines at:  
  - http://spa.wustl.edu/adminpol/subrecipient%20v1.2.pdf
- Subrecipient Monitoring Departmental Checklist Tool - handout
- Subrecipient Monitoring short PI statement – label or stamp:
  - [ ] Invoiced charges appear reasonable, allocable & allowable relative to scope of work, awarded budget and Sponsor requirements.
  - [ ] All subcontractor technical reports/data/deliverables required to date have been submitted in a timely and satisfactory manner.

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Principal Investigator       Date
Educational Opportunities

• SRA Section Meeting: May 17 to 21 in Hilton Head Island, South Carolina
• NCURA Regional Meeting: May 4 to 7 in Kansas City, MO
• Brownbag with the Research Office every 3rd Wednesday of the Month from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm (RO Conference Room 2nd floor)