

# Research Recharged

OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND SPONSORED PROGRAMS

Fall | 2013



## Externally Submitted Grant Proposals

	12-13	11-12
<b>CAS</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>26</b>
Biology	6 (5)	5 (2)
Chemistry	4 (3)	5 (3)
Communication	2 (3)	0 (0)
English & Theater	0 (0)	2 (1)
Hope Horn Gallery	2 (1)	2 (1)
Mathematics	1 (2)	0 (0)
Philosophy	1 (1)	6 (3)
Physics/EE	2 (4)	2 (2)
Psychology	2 (1)	3 (1)
Theology	2 (2)	0 (0)
World Lang. & Culture	1 (1)	1 (1)
<b>KSOM</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
Accounting	1 (1)	2 (1)
<b>Library</b>	<b>1 (1)</b>	<b>0 (0)</b>
<b>PCPS</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
Education	1 (1)	1 (1)
Exercise Science	2 (2)	1 (1)
HA/HR	1 (1)	3 (2)
Leahy Clinic	8 (1)	4 (1)
Nursing	4 (4)	8 (5)
<b>Staff Offices</b>	<b>14 (8)</b>	<b>4 (3)</b>

The listing of externally submitted grant proposals, represents all external proposals submitted through the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs (ORSP) for the Fiscal Years 2012-2013 and 2011-2012, respectively.

*University of Scranton Policy requires all external funding proposals be submitted through ORSP.*

External grant proposals with co-investigators in multiple departments were counted in all departments involved with the proposal. If a grant proposal included multiple investigators within the same department, the proposal is only counted once within the respective department.

The numbers in parentheses represent the actual number of faculty/staff members who submitted grants in the respective department.

Of the above grants, 22 and 11 grants originated from the Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations in 2012-2013 and 2011-2012, respectively.

*These grants flowed through ORSP for compliance and budget review as required by University policy.*

### Upcoming Events:

- 09/06/13—Research Seminar Series, Prof. David Friedrichs
- 09/27/13—Research Seminar Series, Mike Carey, Ph.D.
- 10/04/13—Research Seminar Series, Cyrus Olsen, D. Phil.
- 10/08/13—Grants & Compliance Workshop for Junior Faculty
- 10/25/13—Research Seminar Series, Andrew LaZella, Ph.D.
- 11/01/13—Research Seminar Series, Gary Kwiecinski, Ph.D.
- 11/12/13—Finding Funding Workshop
- 11/15/13—Research Seminar Series, Rob Smith, Ph.D.
- 11/22/13—Research Seminar Series, Jason Graham, Ph.D.
- 12/06/13—Research Seminar Series, Christie Karpiak, Ph.D.

## Prof. Nicholas P. Truncale

### Research Spotlight

**Prof. Nicholas P. Truncale**, Faculty Specialist in the Department of Physics and Electrical Engineering, is the elementary physics laboratory director. Prof. Truncale's research interests include creating new innovative laboratory experiments and sustainable solar power. Recently he created a new experimental accommodation allowing a deaf student to visualize sound using an electro-optical eardrum device. Currently Prof. Truncale is the project leader of the Reflective Solar Tracker (RST) Collaboration. This collaboration involving both the Pennsylvania State University and Sustainable Energy Fund (SEF) is developing a new solar collection technology invented by James Loven also of the Physics/EE Department. The RST device increases the energy density of light incident on commercially available solar panels while tracking the sun with an electronic light sensor or Raspberry Pi computer system utilizing astronomical data. With an external grant from the SEF and internal funding by the College of Arts and Sciences, multiple devices were manufactured and are currently being tested at Penn State in their Center for Sustainability and at our RST solar site near the Tennis courts. Data shows the device increases the energy output of the solar panels by 75-140% depending on weather conditions. The device was showcased in an exhibit and a keynote presentation at the 2013 Energy Path conference this past summer to over 500 industry experts, policy makers, educators, and students. Over the past year, four faculty/student research projects (FSRP) were completed as a result of the collaboration, with two more in progress. A presentation is planned for fall 2013 detailing the project and our collaborations "practical sustainability" philosophy.

### What's News in Research?



#### **Cost-Sharing in Grant Proposal—7 Common Myths and Realities Published in the NIH & NSF Funding Advisor**

Coming up with ideas for cost-sharing—where to get additional resources outside the grant, who can add value to your proposal and how—often is a creative process. But the creativity ends there. When actually applying for grants using cost-sharing, you must be wary of what you promise and how you'll execute it after the award.

That advice comes from **Sandra Nordahl**, co-director, Authored Research Contracting and Compliance Department at San Diego State University.

"Any cost-sharing offered by faculty members needs to be in accordance with agency guidelines and fully documented," Nordahl says.

What is cost-sharing? It's the portion of research-project costs that are not supported by a sponsor like NIH or NSF, but instead are borne by your institution or another third party.

1. **Myth:** It (cost-sharing) will help you get the award. **Reality:** You don't get direct review credit for cost-sharing. Many agencies prohibit considering cost-sharing as a review criterion.
2. **Myth:** If it's not in the budget, but in the narrative, you don't have to document it. This often happens when you include a section on "resources available to the project" in the narrative, but don't include those items in the budget. **Reality:** If you use those resources, you must document them.
3. **Myth:** If it's not required, you don't have to document cost-sharing. **Reality:** Anything that can be quantified or valued needs to be documented once the award is granted, regardless of the voluntary status of the cost-sharing.
4. **Myth:** To document sufficiently, it's enough to have a letter from a third party saying it will commit the resources. **Reality:** You need complete cost documentation from third parties.
5. **Myth:** If you're submitting several proposals simultaneously, you can show the same cost-sharing on all of them and then actually use the resources on the winning proposal. **Reality:** That's not allowed.
6. **Myth:** You don't have to provide documentation until you finish the project. **Reality:** It won't have as much credibility, and you probably won't be able to completely backtrack the entire financial history of your project's cost-sharing portion.
7. **Myth:** Teaching your courses counts as an in-kind contribution. **Reality:** That's not allowed in most cases. "The only way it would be allowed is if the course were developed specifically for the grant or contract," Amison explains.

For full article contact Therese Kurilla in ORSP.

The University of Scranton's cost-sharing policy can be found on the ORSP website: <http://matrix.scranton.edu/academics/provost/research/pdf/sponsoredpolicies.pdf>

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Contact us at 570-941-6353.

Website: <http://matrix.scranton.edu/academics/provost/research/>