

1. TTU now a member of Oakridge Associated Universities (ORAU)

<http://www.orau.org/>

VP for Research Taylor Eighmy notes.. *"Our membership in the Oak Ridge Association of Universities (ORAU) is in response to an invitation from ORAU and the U.S. DOE. ORAU is a university partnership with Oak Ridge National Laboratories (ORNL) and U.S. DOE. Like our membership with FermiLab and U.S. DOE through the Association of Research Universities (ARU), ORAU affords us a very special faculty to partner with and use specialized facilities at ORNL. We have a number of faculty who will immediately benefit from membership. All major research universities are members of ORAU."*

2. Feedback NIH

NIH has developed a new site "Feedback NIH" (<http://feedback.nih.gov/>) to seek input from individuals across NIH and the broader community on important NIH initiatives as well as issues that affect NIH, the biomedical research community, and human health in general. For reference, this site also provides links to activities undertaken by NIH regarding SMRB recommendations

3. The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation is now accepting grant proposals for Round 7 of Grand Challenges Explorations, an initiative to encourage innovative and unconventional global health solutions. Applicants can be at any experience level; in any discipline; and from any organization, including colleges and universities, government laboratories, research institutions, non-profit organizations and for profit companies.

Grant proposals are being accepted online until **May 19, 2011** on the following topics:

- * Explore Nutrition for Healthy Growth of Infants and Children

- * Apply Synthetic Biology to Global Health Challenges

- * The Poliovirus Endgame: Create Innovative Ways to Accelerate, Sustain, and Monitor Eradication

- * Create the Next Generation of Sanitation Technologies

- * Design New Approaches to Cure HIV Infection

- * Create Low-Cost Cell Phone-Based Solutions for Improved Uptake and Coverage of Childhood Vaccinations

Initial grants will be US \$100,000 each, and projects showing promise will have the opportunity to receive additional funding of up to US \$1 million. Full descriptions of the new topics and application instructions are available at: www.grandchallenges.org/gce/

4. TTU-TTUHSC System Cancer Symposium

Cancer researchers from the Lubbock, El Paso, Abilene and Amarillo campuses will share their research and plan for the future at an annual cancer research symposium to be held and hosted by the TTUHSC in Amarillo from **April 29-May 1, 2011**. Nobel laureate Dr. Al Gilman will present the keynote address.

80 abstracts have been submitted from TTU system schools.

5. The Nanomanufacturing Sciences (NMS)

area of SRC is soliciting white papers (due **Thursday, April 14th at 3pm ET**) in the area of Environment, Safety & Health for work to begin January 1, 2012, as part of an ESH Research Center based at the University of Arizona.

Responses are limited to two pages (including references), using at least a 10-point font, and must be submitted via the SRC website between March 14 - April 14, 2011, with a deadline of 3 pm EDT / 12 pm PDT on Thursday, April 14th. No email submissions will be accepted. White papers not meeting these requirements will not be considered.

This call for research, issued to universities worldwide, may be addressed by individual investigators or by research teams. Successful white paper authors will be invited to submit a full proposal. Contracts resulting from this solicitation are anticipated to be three years in duration. Interested researchers should note the proposal and review schedule, needs document, and instructions for web-based white paper submissions on the SRC GRC Web site at: <http://www.src.org/compete/s201105>

6. Collaborative opportunity between conservation scientists, chemists and materials scientists to address grand challenges in the field of science of cultural heritage.

Deadline May 11, 2011

<http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2011/nsf11528/nsf11528.htm>

7. Assembling, Visualizing and Analyzing the Tree of Life (AAAToL)

<http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2011/nsf11534/nsf11534.pdf>

In the 150 years since Darwin's recognition that all living organisms are related by descent with modification, we have made enormous progress in elucidating phylogenetic relationships within major branches of the tree of life. In the last decade, DNA sequences and other data have provided compelling confirmation of many previously inferred relationships, provided evidence of unexpected relationships, and accelerated the discovery of new clades. The NSF Assembling the Tree of Life or **AToL program** has further enabled clarification of relationships within major groups of organisms. At this point, compelling needs are to achieve integration and synthesis of these separate phylogenies into a cohesive tree across all of life and to develop new tools for visualizing, querying, and further analyzing the tree of life. This is a daunting challenge requiring enormous conceptual advances, potential use of new kinds of data and characters, massive data

collection, and the development of powerful analytical and visualization techniques.

8. House Appropriators Review FY 2012 Department of Energy Request

The House Energy and Water Development Appropriations Subcommittee held hearings on Tuesday and Wednesday of this week on the FY 2012 Department of Energy request, and the request for the department's science programs. Importantly Energy Secretary Chu noted that the Administration's goal for producing 80% of the national electricity from clean sources by 2035 has not changed.

(*CASCMEM*)

9. NSF to end STEM Fellows program

The Graduate Science, Technology Engineering and Mathematics Fellows in K-12 Education Program that began in 1999 will no longer be supported. Some of the features of this program will be incorporated into other programs at NSF.

(*Science Education News*)

10. Pulitzer Prize winner to speak at TTU

<http://today.ttu.edu/2011/03/pulitzer-prize-winner-to-speak-about-career-in-journalism/>

When-6 PM March 24th

Where-Merket Alumni Center.

11. Do you know your numbers??

38,000-the number of different TYPES of microbes in one liter of ocean water.