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Grant Award Recipients

Congratulations to:

Dr. Sungkyun Lim, with the Department of Electrical Engineering, who received a research grant from ARRIS Group, Inc.

Dr. Francisco Jose Cubas Suazo, with the Department of Civil Engineering & Construction Management, who received a research grant from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

Dr. Robert Kelly Vance, with the Department of Geology and Geography, who received a research grant from the MK Pentecost Ecology Fund Committee.

Dr. Dominique Halaby, with the Department of Business Research & Economic Development, who received a research grant from both the Development Authority of Bulloch County, and the Development Authority of Jefferson County.

Dr. Barry Joyner, Dean of the College of Health and Human Sciences, who received a research grant from the Magnolia Coastlands Area Health Education Center.

Dr. Lisa Stueve, with i2STEMe, who received a research grant from Georgia State University.

Dr. Kathleen Comerford, with the Department of History, who was awarded a fellowship from the Yale Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

Survey Research Email Access – New GSU Policy

A new policy on the administration of survey research became effective June 2016 to clarify the use of campus email systems for survey research. Approval of exceptions to the policy for distribution of any survey throughout the GS email system lists must receive prior presidential approval. The request must be accompanied by Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval, and either Academic Affairs (student research) or Office of Strategic Research and Academic Affairs (ORSA) approval prior to delivery.

Policy statement: No person or entity (including campus community members and groups) shall be permitted to access or use campus listservs (including, but not limited to GSNEWS, GSINFO, GSFAC, and student listservs...
utilized by the Division of Student Affairs) to distribute surveys. This rule applies regardless of whether the survey is being conducted for research, marketing, or any other purpose. Campus employees with access to these listservs as an official job duty are prohibited from allowing access to third parties and/or distributing survey documents on behalf of third parties.

Any person or entity (including campus community members and groups) seeking to access or use individual campus emails (e.g. students or subsets thereof, faculty or subsets thereof, and/or staff or subsets thereof) to distribute surveys may only do so in compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) for students and University policy for faculty and staff. Georgia Southern’s FERPA guidelines do not allow release of student emails, unless the request meets the regulatory requirements. This rule applies regardless of whether the survey is being conducted for research, marketing, or any other purpose. Campus employees with access to these emails as an official job duty are prohibited from allowing access to third parties and/or distributing survey documents on behalf of third parties. Read the entire policy here.

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Financial Conflict of Interest Disclosure Time

Remember to renew your Financial Conflict of Interest disclosure in August. In accordance with the Georgia Southern University Financial Conflict of Interest Disclosure Policy, FCOI Disclosures must be renewed annually. Renewals are required in August of each year regardless of when your disclosure was originally submitted. FCOI refresher training is required every four years. Watch your email for a customized set of instructions for renewing your disclosure. The renewal must be completed by August 31st, 2016. If you have any questions, please contact the Office of Research Integrity at 478-5465, or visit the website here.

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NIH Policy on Single Review for Multi-site Research

The NIH has issued a new policy that will become effective May 27, 2017 to promote single IRB review for multi-site research projects that occur at domestic sites of NIH-funded multi-site studies where:

- each site will conduct the same protocol involving non-exempt human subjects research,
- supported through grants, cooperative agreements, contracts, or the NIH Intramural Research Program,
- it does not apply to career development, research training or fellowship awards or projects.

Any study that wishes to use a single IRB for multi-site research must assure that all sites follow the same exact protocol, are US based research and have an “authorization agreement” or “Reciprocal Agreement” established between the participating institutions for the project. Contact the IRB office for more information about reciprocal IRB review. Read more information here.

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NIH Human Subjects Research Portal

The National Institute of Health has produced a new website to assist researchers in finding information quickly to help them classify human subjects research and apply for funding. The site offers access to apply for certificates of confidentiality, assistance in identifying exempt research and access to NIH human subjects training. (Warning – GS utilizes the CITI (https://www.citiprogram.org/) platform for the training you need to apply to the IRB. Completion of the NIH training does not replace CITI training.)
If you are submitting for PHS funding NIH has prepared a tutorial to walk you through the new grant application human subjects requirements. Access the tutorial here. Read more information or explore the site here.

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