A Message from President Tony Frank

While so much of our energy at this time of year is focused on the start of classes and the return of students to campus, it’s also a critical time for our research programs and committees as we gear up for another busy year. In doing so, it seems worthwhile to reflect on the importance of research to the mission and character of our University.

Our research mission is as old as the University. In the very first years our campus was in operation, even before we were able to offer our first college-level courses, agricultural experiments were being carried out at the College Farm under the direction of Ainsworth Blount. As he analyzed some 90 varieties of potato and 30 varieties of wheat to see which would provide the most benefit to Colorado farmers, he was laying the groundwork for what eventually would become our University’s distinguished research program, with faculty engaged in critical studies on campus and around the world.

I mention these historic roots to provide context to the current state of research at Colorado State University: CSU faculty have more than doubled the number of inventions filed with our technology transfer office in the past three years, moving to 91 in FY08 from 42 in FY06. As of the end of June, faculty had exceeded 100 invention disclosures in FY09. For the first time in the University’s history, the dollar volume of grant proposals put forward by our faculty exceeded $1 billion. While not all of these proposals will ultimately be funded, this volume of activity—an increase of 47 percent in a single year—is likely to have a long-term impact on overall research funding. Overall funding for research is up about 3 percent over last year, reaching a new record high of $311.7 million. This represents an increase of nearly 40 percent over the last five years.

These are among many notable testaments to the continued productivity and competitiveness of our research operation. From humble beginnings, Colorado State has established itself as one of the nation’s premier land-grant research universities, and this is entirely a result of the dedication and talent of our faculty, research scientists, graduate students, and staff, including the entire RICRO operation. It takes the dedication of the entire faculty body to be a successful research university. Being part of this collective requires faculty serving on compliance and review committees, participating and leading critical training, becoming involved in the establishment of needed protocols, and holding the institution to the highest standards of research integrity.

RICRO would like to Thank President Frank for contributing this article to the RICRO Report, and we Wish him All The Best in the years to come as President of CSU!
Certainly, this is not the flashy side of research, and it takes time that any of us would rather spend in the lab or the classroom. But these activities are crucial to our success as a University and our competitiveness as an environment for groundbreaking research and scholarship.

Thank you for your involvement and best wishes to everyone at RICRO as we embark on another record-setting year for research at Colorado State University!

Sincerely,

Dr. Tony Frank
President

IRB News and eProtocol Update

It Was a Busy Summer!  IRB reviewers, researchers with human subject research projects, and the RICRO IRB coordinators had a busy and productive summer.  Even with trips across our country (and Europe!), our reviewers were logging on to eProtocol, reviewing protocol submissions, and helping to move research endeavors forward.  One reviewer even reviewed a protocol on a road trip!  We hope that your interesting research projects went well this summer, and we are looking forward to this fall’s protocol submissions.

Human Subjects Protection Training:  Many of you have recently taken one of our on-campus training sessions or have gone through the CITI training online.  Thank you all for updating your training!  Still have questions or would like would like a training session for your students or lab?  Contact us, and we will try our best to accommodate your training needs.  The next on-campus session is:  Monday, September 21, 8:30am- 11:30am  (click here to register).

It Just Takes a Few Minutes…..Clarification on Expired Protocols:  Before eProtocol, renewing your IRB protocol meant locating your IRB file and recent approval letter to sort out your participant numbers, completing the H-101 form, tracking down your department head for a signature, and putting the form in snail mail.  Renewing your protocol via eProtocol (the Continuing Review form) is a virtual snap compared to the old days:  Your approval documents can be found in the event history section, only a click on the Obligations page is required for signatures, and the form can usually be completed and submitted in less than an hour.  To our surprise, we have recently noticed an increase in protocols that are expiring.  “Out of sight out of mind?”  “It’s so easy, that I’ll do that later?”

continued on pg. 3
We aren’t sure how to account for this trend. We would like to gently remind you, that according to federal regulations and our Federal Wide Assurance - protocols must be reviewed annually. If your protocol expires, work on that project must stop. When a protocol expires in eProtocol, it’s expired. We can’t undo this action, so to get a protocol back under approval again means the protocol will have to be submitted as a new protocol and re-reviewed. Click here for tips on how to manage your IRB protocols via eProtocol. Need help? Please feel free to call Evelyn: 491-1381; Janell: 491-1655 OR contact our eProtocol Help Desk: Cell: 970-689-0641; Email: RICRO_eProtocol_Help@mail.colostate.edu

IACUC Semi-Annual Inspection in October

As the seasons change from summer to fall, it is time once again to remind all campus animal users that it is time once again for the IACUC’s federally-mandated semi-annual inspection of all animal care and use facilities. The inspection will take place the weeks of October 12-16 and October 19-23, with the bulk of the inspection likely taking place on October 15. You will be receiving additional information about the exact schedule, but please be aware that the IACUC will be visiting all facilities that house and use animals for research, testing and teaching.

Wondered How You Can Make Sure There Are No Deficiencies in Your Laboratory at the Inspection?
The following are a few tips that can help you maintain compliance:

- Make sure that all personnel working with animals know what is approved in your protocol(s). Copies of the approved IACUC protocol and any amendments to it should be readily available for all project staff to reference.
- Watch out for “protocol drift,” or the implementation of protocol changes without IACUC approval. The following are some examples of “protocol drift:"
  - Change in the type of euthanasia or anesthesia
  - Collecting more blood or tissue or using an altered collection schedule
  - Change in the type or dose of drug administered
  - Failure to adhere to endpoints defined in an approved protocol
  - Involving personnel not listed on the protocol in animal procedures
  - Conducting pilot studies or practicing procedures without IACUC approval.
- Make sure everyone wears the appropriate PPE when handling animals.
- Records, records, records (or “If it isn't written down, it didn't happen”):
  - Intra-operative monitoring records, surgery, anesthesia, neuromuscular blocking agent monitoring, etc.
  - Post-procedural monitoring records (post-surgery, post-anesthesia)
  - Other medical records.
- Be sure you have records for all equipment certifications, tests, or maintenance such as bio-safety cabinet certification, eyewash function checks, vaporizer calibration.
- Make sure all staff have the training they need, including training from LAR and EHS.
- Check your lab for any expired anesthetics, analgesics or other drugs and supplies.
- Be sure all lab safety procedures are being followed including:
  - All gas tanks secured
  - Sharps containers used properly (no recapped needles) and emptied in a timely fashion
  - Controlled drugs locked up
  - Correct labeling and SOPs for chemical use, and proper disposal of hazardous waste.
National Science Foundation Announces New “Responsible Conduct of Research” (RCR) Training Requirements for Grant Proposals

On August 20th, 2009, the National Science Foundation (NSF) notified institutions of its new policy implementing Section 7009 of the America Competes Act. This policy requires that, as of January 4, 2010, NSF science and engineering research or education grant proposals include a plan to provide appropriate training and oversight in the responsible and ethical conduct of research (RCR) to undergraduate students, graduate students, and postdoctoral researchers participating in the proposed research project. NSF will not require that such training be documented in annual progress reports, and instead will rely upon institutions to certify that appropriate training was, in fact, provided. The implementation of the NSF policy has stimulated much discussion on campus about what constitutes appropriate training at CSU, given our mission and values. There is great interest in providing formal training in the ethical conduct of research and scholarly activity on campus. Currently, Provost Rick Miranda and Senior VP for Research & Engagement Bill Farland are working with colleges to assess RCR activities that are currently underway at CSU, and to describe a vision for how these activities might be enhanced in the future. Their goal is two-fold: CSU must take appropriate action to remain in compliance with NSF, and as importantly, the CSU community has taken the position that providing such training will help our students be successful here and beyond.

This recent action follows the previous implementation of Section 7008 of the America Competes Act, the NSF requirement for the inclusion of “mentoring plans” for proposals that request support for postdoctoral researchers. This supplemental document – no more than one page – must be a description of the mentoring activities that will be provided for such individuals. Examples of mentoring activities include, but are not limited to: career counseling; training in preparation of grant proposals, publications and presentations; guidance on ways to improve teaching and mentoring skills; guidance on how to effectively collaborate with researchers from diverse backgrounds and disciplinary areas; and training in responsible professional practices. The proposed mentoring activities will be evaluated as part of the merit-review process, under the “broader impacts” criterion. Proposals that do not include the mentoring plan will be returned without review. For information on this requirement, see the NSF Grant Proposal Guide.

If you would like additional resources to assist you in fulfilling either of these requirements, please contact Kathy Partin, Director of the Research Integrity & Compliance Review Office.

Thank You Brian and Hillary and Best Wishes!

RICRO would like to thank Brian Lee and Hillary Swiss for their hard work over the summer months. Brian has returned to the University of Montana to complete his senior year as a Business Information Systems major, and Hillary returned to the corn fields of Oberlin, Ohio to continue pursuing her English/Creative Writing studies as a Junior at Oberlin College. Together with Emily Bauer (our own CSU student who we are so thankful is still with us), these students contributed enormously to the office and will be missed (although Brian is still helping RICRO on a limited basis). Thank you for all your efforts this past summer, and...Wordle on!!
Regional Biosafety Group

Christine Johnson, IBC Coordinator, is starting a Regional Biosafety Group consisting of Biosafety Officers and IBC Coordinators within the Denver – Laramie Rocky Mountain area. The purpose of this group is to get together once or twice a year to network with other biosafety professionals in the area and to learn from each other’s experiences. The first meeting will be hosted at Colorado State University on Wednesday, November 4th, 2009. Suggested agenda topics for this first meeting include, “What is the Regional Biosafety Group and how does it work?,” “Lessons learned from an NIH OBA site visit,” and “Highlights from the ABSA meeting.”

Online IBC Training

Do you have questions about working with rDNA, infectious agents or human tissue? To help you understand how the Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) provides oversight of these types of research, and to meet the training requirements of the NIH Office of Biotechnology Activities (OBA), the IBC has developed an online training course. The IBC training course will soon be required of all PIs submitting new or renewing Agent and/or Project Approval Requests. The training includes details on the CSU IBC review and approval process, as well as the bio-safety levels and the types of research covered by the NIH Guidelines, and the roles and responsibilities of investigators under the NIH Guideline. Once implemented, the training will be accessed and tracked through the online IBC database that PIs currently use to view and submit IBC approvals. After the initial training, PIs will be required to update their training every three years. For more information about the Online IBC Training, please contact Christine Johnson, IBC Coordinator, at christine.johnson@colostate.edu.

Did you Notice?—RICRO has a new logo!

Did you notice the change in our newsletter banner? We felt it was time to think about developing a new logo for our office. RICRO Director, Kathy Partin, asked Molly Gutilla (RICRO Assistant Administrator) to work with graphic artist, John Gieser, to create a new logo, and we could not be more pleased with their results. Hikers can tell at a glance that our logo is a cairn: a stack of stones that serves as a welcome guide to hikers by marking the trail or the summit. Molly described the selection of the cairn for our logo as “a good symbol for us because we, RICRO, are assistants along the path of a research journey. Our group assists in guiding researchers in decisions and ultimately is a mark on the route to the summit, the summit being a new scientific discovery.” We feel her idea and John’s graphic interpretation are brilliant, and we are auditioning our logo for a few months. Thank you, Molly and John!!

What do you think of our new logo? Let us know! RICRO@Research.Colostate.edu
# Schedule of Upcoming Events

## September-October-November, 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, September 8</td>
<td>IACUC Protocol Submission Deadline (Noon)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, September 9</td>
<td>IBC Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, September 10</td>
<td>IRB Protocol Submission Deadline (New time: 5:00 p.m.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, September 15</td>
<td>IACUC Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, September 17</td>
<td>IRB Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, September 21</td>
<td>IRB Human Subjects Protection Training Session + IRB eProtocol Basics (8:30-11:30 a.m.) Room #321, General Services Building</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, October 7</td>
<td>IBC Deadline (Noon)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, October 8</td>
<td>IRB Protocol Submission Deadline (New time: 5:00 p.m.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, October 13</td>
<td>IACUC Protocol Submission Deadline (Noon)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, October 14</td>
<td>IBC Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, October 15</td>
<td>IRB Meeting &amp; Retreat (8:30-3:00)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, October 20</td>
<td>IACUC Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, October 22</td>
<td>IRB Human Subjects Protection Training Session + IRB eProtocol Basics (1:00-4:00 p.m.) Room #340, General Services Building</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, November 4</td>
<td>IBC Deadline (Noon)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, November 6</td>
<td>IRB Human Subjects Protection Training Session + IRB eProtocol Basics (8:30-11:30 a.m.) Room #340, General Services Building</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, November 10</td>
<td>IACUC Protocol Submission Deadline (Noon)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, November 11</td>
<td>IBC Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, November 12</td>
<td>IRB Protocol Submission Deadline (New time: 5:00 p.m.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday, November 17</td>
<td>IACUC Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, November 19</td>
<td>IRB Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 26-27</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Holiday—RICRO Office Closed</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
**ETHICAL ISSUES**

**CONFRONTING GTAs**

*All Graduate Students Are Invited to Attend*

What will you do if your student asks you out?
What will you do if your student is academically dishonest?
What will you do if your supervisor gives you too much work?
What will you do if you don’t have time to finish grading papers?
What will you do if... *Let’s talk about it!*

**DATE: WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23**
4:30PM – 6:30PM
**REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED.**
**TILT BUILDING, AUDITORIUM**

**RSVP TO: MOLLY.GUTILLA@COLOSTATE.EDU**