ORA Staff
ORA is now divided into four functional units:

- **Funding and Information Services** — assistance with identification of funding sources, funding databases (Pivot [formerly COS] and GrantSearch), information dissemination, limited submission coordination, ORA website maintenance, the Reporter, etc.
- **Proposal and Award Management** — budget development, proposal submission, award negotiation and acceptance, subawards, project modifications such as time extensions, expense review and approval, cost transfer approvals, effort certification, and more
- **Financial Reporting and Audit** — invoice preparation, financial reporting, payment deposits, project closeout, audit management, F&A and salary recovery distributions, and more
- **Systems and Technology** — supports all internal systems used by ORA, SOARFIN queries, local ORA desktop support, and more

There is also the central ORA office staff supporting all activities. We are aligning positions within each function, and changes will occur over time as responsibilities are redefined.

Find **staff & contact information** at www.usm.edu/research/directory-services.

**ORA Services**
- provide faculty and staff with timely information on funding opportunities
- contribute to development of proposals to support research, creative, and scholarly activities
- support principal investigators (PIs) by providing information, interpretation, and guidance from proposal preparation through close-out of the award
- process and submit proposals in an accurate, timely manner
- ensure that accounts for funded projects are in place as quickly as possible
- serve as the source of information on contracts and subcontracts
- verify that research and other sponsored activities are conducted in compliance with state, federal, and university requirements
- develop and ensure compliance with university policies related to Cost Accounting Standards
- ensure cost-sharing commitments are documented
- determine the propriety of costing issues
- capture, analyze and report pertinent costing data to the administration
- assist in preparation of the University's facilities and administrative (F&A) costs rates
- review service center rate calculations
- prepare financial billings and reports
- prepare disclosure statements

**Proposal Submission Procedures** — www.usm.edu/research/faculty-staff-resources
Funding Opportunities
For more information about funding sources, publications, internet resources, internal competitions, funding databases, and training, please contact our Information Specialist at sponsoredprograms@usm.edu.

Encompassing all disciplines, Pivot (formerly called "COS") is the largest and most comprehensive research funding database on the Web. Pivot Web-based products and services are designed to promote your work, find funding, access experts, consult, and collaborate with colleagues. Updated daily, Pivot Funding Opportunities includes more than 20,000 records of opportunities from around the world. Pivot is a fee-based subscription service paid for by the University. To help you get started, try out the Pivot Quick Start Guide. In addition, hands-on Pivot training for Southern Miss faculty and staff is scheduled periodically, or you can request special arrangements for yourself, your department or unit.

The Grants Resource Center (GRC)*, a division of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU), is a comprehensive, Washington, DC-based service available to subscribing institutions. Assisting with private as well as federal sponsors, GRC offers up-to-date funding information combined with individualized services. GRC's GrantSearch is a user-friendly funding database arranged by academic discipline.

*You may need to log in the first time you access GRC's members-only features. When you navigate to the GRC home page (www.aascu.org/GRC/), if you do not see "Welcome, University of Southern Mississippi" at the top of the page, please contact our Information Specialist for a user name and password.

The Reporter
Each month we produce and publish an online newsletter, the Reporter, which features news related to grant-funded research and other scholarly activities, as well as solicitations — from government, private, and corporate sources — for grant proposals, fellowships, scholarships, and awards, etc. With funding opportunity summaries compiled by the Grants Resource Center (a division of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities), the Reporter is available to USM users (after logging in to the University's Info Center) via our Reporter home page. The funding opportunities are summarized, then organized in four broad categories:

- Arts/Humanities/International;
- Education/Human & Community Development;
- Health/Mental Health; and
- Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics.

The Reporter's PDF format enables readers to use Adobe Reader/Acrobat's search function to find keywords related to their particular funding needs. Because of copyright restrictions, access to this publication is limited to USM faculty, staff, and students.

Listservs
Subscribe to these electronic message services to receive e-mail alerts about funding news & opportunities

- The Foundation Center — RFP Bulletin See "Subscribe" on the vertical menu at left.
- Grants.gov (subscription management)
- Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) See "Connect With Us" at bottom right.
- Mississippi Arts Commission (MAC) Look for the subscription box.
- National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)
- National Institutes of Health (NIH)
- National Science Foundation (NSF) Choose "Email" and/or "RSS".
- State Science and Technology Institute (STTI)
- Technological Horizons in Education
- U.S. Department of Education (ED)
  - ED Info
  - Newsletters and Journals