

Report on Distribution of Recovered Indirect Cost

In fiscal year 2010, Sam Houston State University (SHSU) recovered a total of \$801,306. This money was generated as the negotiated indirect cost allowed on externally funded research. SHSU has a federally negotiated rate of 39% of salaries, although some federal agencies and other grant funding entities do not allow this rate. In cases where the full 39% is allowed by the funding agency, the Office of Research required researchers to include this amount. If a lesser amount was the maximum allowed, researchers included the maximum that was allowed by that funding agency and if no indirect costs were allowed by the funding agencies, SHSU waived this requirement. If less than the negotiated 39% was allowed, SHSU required researchers to submit a waiver with justification showing that a lesser amount was the maximum allowed. This procedure was completed before the Office of Research approved submission of the grant proposal. The Associate Vice President for Research Administration, Dan Davis and Associate Vice President for Research, Jerry Cook each verified that the indirect cost budget was correct before signing approval for submission of proposals.

As per Academic Policy Statement 950818, the money collected as indirect cost on successful grants was generally distributed as 50% retained by SHSU for general infrastructure and institutional support of research and 50% redistributed as follows:

- 30% to the College of the Principal investigator (PI) of the grant
- 35% to the Department of the PI of the grant
- 35% to the PI

Individual accounts were set up for the PI through the Office of Grants Administration and moneys for the College and Department were transferred to the respective units.

The money from indirect cost is spent at the digression of the College, Department and PI, but it must be spent for one of the following purposes:

- Conducting pre-grant feasibility studies for proposed and ongoing research
- Preparing competitive proposals for sponsored programs
- Providing carry over funding for research efforts to provide continuity between externally funded projects
- Supporting new researchers pending external funding
- Purchasing capital equipment directly related to expanding the research capability of the institution
- Research or project administrative costs.

For the purpose of reporting how these indirect costs were used, the Office of Research asked all Colleges to provide a summary of how the funds were actually spent. These funds were used for the following purposes:

- Domestic and foreign travel for faculty and students conducting research
- Travel for presentation of research results at conferences, including registration fees
- Page charges for publication of research papers
- Processing specimens for research
- Purchase and update of computer equipment to enhance research
- Library serials, books and DVDs
- General research equipment, supplies and materials
- Renovations to lab space
- Repair of research equipment
- Salary for students assisting in research
- Website development for research
- Minor misc. expenses associated with research activities