

The **COES Mentoring Program May 2011 Mentee Newsletter** contains information on resources, upcoming events, mentoring tips and other items of interest to help you be successful.

*** Set a Lunch Date or Coffee Break today!** Stop right now - email your Mentor and set a lunch date or a coffee break for sometime in the next two weeks. Traveling? Schedule a one-hour teleconference. Try a new restaurant, grab an afternoon snack with your coffee at Starbucks - and talk with your Mentor about the three to five goals you have for this summer. Don't let the time slip away!

*** The Astonishing Secret to Getting Jobs, Grants, Papers and Happiness in Biomedical Research.** Okay - with a title like that, it might sound too good to be true, but this article hits it dead on (and, in case you were wondering, really has nothing to do with biomedical research at all!). Having reviewed more grant proposals than I can count, I can guarantee you that an innovative (or "astonishing") idea, presented well with the key elements present, is your best shot at getting that grant funded (or paper published). So when you are working on both grants and papers this summer, remember this advice. You can find this short article at: <http://cgi.stanford.edu/~dept-ctl/tomprof/posting.php?ID=1073>.

*** Spending Money during the "Dead" Period.** Even though most of the deadlines for spending money for 2010-2011 have passed, did you know that you can still order items provided you have funds? Continuing grant funds can be used until June 1. If you submit a requisition after June 1 the Comptroller's Office will review the requisition to see if it can be processed this fiscal year (prior to June 30) or whether it will be held until after July 1 (for next fiscal year). Questions? Contact COES Budget Manager Carrie Kelly at 257-2902 or ckelly@latech.edu.

*** Check out the Louisiana Peach Festival - and don't forget to sample the famous Peach Ice Cream.** There are always some great local events in the summer that you should be sure to catch. They are an easy and inexpensive way to have fun and de-stress. The Festival dates are Friday and Saturday, June 24 and 25. There are a variety of events - from a parade to an Arts and Crafts Festival to a 5K Run/Walk and more. There are events for kids, sporting events, contests, food (like the Peach Ice Cream - usually available at Railroad Park), shopping opportunities, etc. For more information, check out the website at: <http://www.louisianapeachfestival.org/>. And if you want some of those great peaches, Mitcham's Orchard is the most popular place to find them - it's best to go early in the morning as they will sell out each day. Check out their website (<http://www.mitichamfarms.com/>) for driving directions.

Mentoring Tip for May:

*** Your summer may well include a trip to a conference.** While this resource was developed for grad students, it contains some GREAT tips for getting the most out of your conference experience. Conferences provide so many opportunities for networking - and most of us don't fully capitalize on those. Your network should include people not at Tech or your graduate institution. It should include people who are leaders or up-and-comers in your field. Your network can be a key part of successful grant proposals, papers, conference presentations, etc. And, lastly, you network to build relationships - not to ask people for something. People need to get to know you - your strengths, your interests, your experiences - and you need to get to know

them. So much of what happens depends on who you know (and hence what information you know, what influence and opportunity for input you have, and what resources to which you have access), not what you know (which can't be of value if it is a well-kept secret!). Check out “**20 Tips for Getting the Most Out of Your Research Conference Experience**” at: http://www.sera-edresearch.org/grads/Res_Exp.pdf.