

REQUIRED COVER PAGE

APPLICATION FOR FACULTY RESEARCH GRANT

****All questions must be completed to be considered for grant award.**

Choose one: <input type="checkbox"/> Creative Project <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Research Project	Date of Last FRG Award (Semester and Year awarded): <u>1-15-2006 to 6-30-2006</u> Date of ATU Faculty Appointment (Semester and Year): <u>Fall, 1976; Fall, 2002; Fall, 2005</u>
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1. Project Title: Phase II: Understanding Crystal Methamphetamine Use: Community Impact and Interventions for Vulnerable Populations

2. Name of Principal Investigator/Project Director: Co PI- Marti Wilkerson, Terri Earnest, PhD; Sean Huss, Ph.d

3. School (abbrev): LFA **4. Department:** Behavioral Science

5. Campus Mail Address: WPN 367 **6. PI/PD Campus Phone:** 968-0466

7. Amount Requested: \$ 16,821.22 **8. Total Cost of Project:** \$ unknown

9. Does this project involve: **10. Duration of Project:** October 15, 2006 to June 30, 2007

Yes No

- ☒ ☐ human subjects?
☐ ☒ animals/animal care facility?
☐ ☒ radioactive materials?
☐ ☒ hazardous materials?
☐ ☒ biological agents or toxins restricted by the USA Patriot Act?
☒ ☐ copyright or patent potential?
☐ ☒ utilization of space **not** currently available to the PI/PD?
☐ ☒ the purchase of equipment/instrumentation/software currently **available** to the PI/PD?

NOTE: If the answer is "yes" to any of the above questions, the investigator must attach appropriate documentation of approval or justification for use/purchase.

SIGNATURES

Department Contribution (if applicable): \$in-kind (space & clerical support)

Account Number: LABEAY → 250 300

[Signature]
Chairperson

10-06-06
Date

School Contribution (if applicable): \$in-kind (space)

Account Number: _____

[Signature]
Dean

10-10-06
Date

This Section to be completed by the Office of Academic Affairs

FSBA Committee Award Recommendation: Yes _____ No _____
FSBA Committee Proposal Rank: _____ of _____ Total Proposals.
Recommendation of VPAA: Yes _____ No _____
Recommendation of President: Yes _____ No _____
Award Date: _____

B. Abstract

In August 2004, the River Valley Methamphetamine Project (RVMP) organized as a grassroots multi-faceted community action demonstration project to respond to the methamphetamine (meth) epidemic in Arkansas' 5th Judicial District which includes Pope, Johnson, and Franklin counties. The project included over 59 organizations, schools, law enforcement, mental health, child protection, faith-based groups, and others. It was action-based and focused locally upon increasing awareness about methamphetamine, reducing use, manufacture, and distribution of methamphetamine, and improving treatment for meth users (Wilkerson & Earnest, 2004). Although much was accomplished and the community became positively and collaboratively engaged in the RVMP, the project lacked a social science research component that provided an adequate knowledge base about the scope and depth of meth problems in the communities and counties of the 5th Judicial District. Phase I of the research effort led to a social community survey of Pope County with resulting information that confirmed that community awareness regarding meth continues to be a need. The current research proposal aims at answering questions about the scope and depth of the meth epidemic in the 5th Judicial District focusing upon Johnson and Franklin counties in Arkansas, with implications for statewide replication of the River Valley Methamphetamine Project. Expected results include improved community law enforcement response and recommendations for treatment strategies for those affected by the methamphetamine epidemic.

C. Purpose/ Objectives

The purpose of the project is to close the knowledge gap regarding the underlying individual and social problems which complicate the multi-faceted methamphetamine epidemic in Arkansas.

The objectives of the project are: 1) To understand the scope and magnitude of public concern about meth for Pope, Johnson, and Franklin Counties in Arkansas, 2) To understand individual level reasons for meth production and use, 3) To determine the extent to which non-violent misdemeanors and felonies are associated with meth production or use, 4) To measure the extent to which current intervention strategies result in accomplished county-level goals for reducing meth production and use, and 5) To understand and facilitate community action as a response to meth use as well as offer recommendations and alternative strategies for identification and intervention of community and individual level problems.

D. Significance / Need

Nationwide, methamphetamine has been declared a problem of epidemic proportions. Likewise, in Arkansas, methamphetamine-related problems are viewed as epidemic. The *National Drug Threat Assessment* lists Arkansas as one of the central states along with Missouri, Iowa, Indiana, and Illinois that collectively constitute a primary market for meth due to high demand and extensive regional distribution (U.S. Department of Justice, 2004). The *Arkansas Drug Threat Assessment* (U.S. Department of Justice, 2003) identified methamphetamine as a threat primarily due to ready availability.

Pope County, Arkansas, is a rural county located in northwest Arkansas and claims a population of approximately 55,000 of Arkansas' approximately 2.6 million residents (U.S. Census Bureau, 2000). Russellville is the county seat of Pope County, population 23,682, and is

the home base of the 5th Judicial District. It is also the home of Arkansas Tech University, which increases the city's population during the academic year by approximately 1,500 young adults (J. W. Watson, Arkansas Tech University, personal communication, December 2, 2004).

In the 5th Judicial District, in 2003 and the first five months of 2004, 52% of all felonies filed in the district involved either the use, distribution, or manufacture of meth. Between 1997 and 2003 there was a 114.6% increase in the number of methamphetamine cases filed in the district. When the focus narrowed to manufacturing cases (manufacture and possession of paraphernalia with intent to manufacture), the increase went from nine cases in 1997 to sixty-seven cases in 2003 – a 644% increase. In the first five months of 2004, there were 36 meth manufacturing cases filed (David Gibbons, Prosecuting Attorney, 5th Judicial District, personal communication, December 8, 2004).

While law enforcement agencies have been burdened by the meth epidemic, treatment programs and service agencies have also felt the impact of increased meth use. For example, in 2004, the local residential substance abuse facility indicated that approximately 80% of their population had meth related problems and the mental health clinic reported that over 50% of the clients treated had meth related problems (Wilkerson & Earnest, 2004).

This research project will contribute to the fields of sociology, criminal justice, psychology, and rehabilitation through obtaining quality information and knowledge which will serve to guide grassroots organizing and law enforcement efforts to contain the growing social problem often referred to as the “meth epidemic”.

E. Process for Attainment of Objectives/ Goals

Faculty researchers will conduct this research project. This project will include: 1) A Phase II survey of the general population of Johnson and Franklin Counties to assess public

concerns over multiple issues including meth use and production, 2) On-going face-to-face interviews with inmate and bonded or released populations to assess motivation, behaviors, and estimates of use and production of meth in Pope, Johnson, and Franklin Counties (no student participation), 3) Assessment of background characteristics of those seeking treatment through review of secondary sources, and 4) Face-to-face interviews with treatment professionals through a “referral” technique to assess the adequacy of treatment offered in the community (See the attached Human Subjects approval statement in appendix A).

ATU students enrolled in SOC 3163 “Introduction to Social Research” (Sean Huss) during the spring semester, 2007, will be involved in survey revisions from Phase I, selection of random samples for Johnson and Franklin Counties, secondary data input and analysis, survey administration, and on a very limited basis, interviews with treatment professionals in the community. Faculty will illustrate and facilitate collaboration with the grassroots community organization (River Valley Meth Project); refine a documentary which was begun in Phase I; provide follow up reports regarding “Rally Round the Rails,” a health and wellness festival developed as a result of the Phase I survey; improve the RVMP informational website; and assess the potential for the development of a Meth Clearinghouse.

F. Dissemination of Results

Results will be shared with members of the River Valley Meth Project in May, 2007. Articles will be submitted to refereed sociological, criminal justice, and rehabilitation journals. Findings will be shared with the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) Center for Alcohol and Drug Abuse, with the Arkansas Drug Director, with academic colleagues at the University of North Florida, and others as funding permits.

G. Repeated Request

This is a follow-up request to pursue the on-going needs identified in Phase I of the “Understanding Crystal Methamphetamine Use: Community Impact and Interventions for Vulnerable Populations” project.

The focus will center on surveying Johnson and Franklin counties; continued data analysis from the Pope County survey which was completed in Spring 2006; on-going interviews with inmates, recovering addicts and treatment professionals; streamlining the existing survey; seeking funds to do a state-wide survey of Arkansas residents; refining and continued development of a project documentary; assessment and development of a web-based meth information clearinghouse; and follow-up reporting related to the community health and wellness festival “Rally Round the Rails” which stemmed from information collected from the Phase I community survey.

I. Bibliography

United States Department of Justice (2004). *National Drug Threat Assessment*. Johnstown, PA: National Drug Intelligence Center.

United States Department of Justice (2003). *Arkansas Drug Threat Assessment*. Johnstown, PA: National Drug Intelligence Center.

United States Census Bureau (2000). Arkansas quick facts: Pope county, Arkansas. Retrieved November 17, 2004 from <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/05/05115.html>.

Wilkerson, M. & Earnest, T. (2004). Final Report: Pope County Methamphetamine Demonstration Project (PCMDP), Project Period: September 8, 2004 to December 1, 2004.

PROPOSED BUDGET FACULTY RESEARCH GRANT

*Note: This budget proposal is for the survey component and inmate questionnaire for Johnson and Franklin Counties. Other funds have been requested from the Arkansas Drug Director. In kind support from student and community volunteers, and facility contributions from ATU are expected. It is estimated that CoPI's will expend 3 hours per week to complete the survey component and inmate questionnaires and have a preliminary report completed by June 30, 2007.

1. 2 student assistants @ 10 hours per week \$10 per hour for 18 weeks (may vary according to labor pool) \$ 3600.00

2. *Supplies

• Sample Johnson & Franklin Counties & State of Arkansas	Estimated Price	3000.00
• Survey printing @ .36 per survey for sample of 1500	Estimated Price	540.00
• Business Reply printing @ .09 per envelope for sample of 1500	Estimated Price	135.00
• Final Report, 10 @ \$10	Estimated Price	100.00
• Postage- Original mailing @ \$ 0.16 for 1200 two reminders @ \$1.04 for 1200 business reply @ \$1.28 for 1200	Estimated Price	2976.00
• Photocopy expense, letterhead, envelopes, plain paper	Estimated Price	700.00
• Printer Cartridges: 10 hp56 @ \$16.03 ea and 10 Hp96 @ \$27.14 ea .plus taxes @ .085	Estimated Price	468.40
• Supplies for Documentary Development/ Health Fair Follow-up	Estimated Price	200.00
• Website Development/ Clearinghouse Development	Estimated Price	200.00
• Public Relations and T-shirts	Estimated Price	1500.00
Total estimated supplies		<u>\$ 9,819.40</u>

3. Travel (please list travel expenditures by date and estimated costs):

• Travel- multiple local trips to Pope Co. Detention Center, Counseling Associates, and Department of Health and Human Services between October 15, 2007 and June 30, 2007 for qualitative interviews.	Estimated Price	300.00
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- 10 trips of 52 miles to Clarksville, AR and
10 trips of 94 miles to Ozark, AR @ \$0.42
per mile for interviews and reports to Law
Enforcement. Estimated Price 613.20

- 3 Meetings with the Arkansas Drug Director
In Little Rock, AR Estimated Price 200.00

- Community Symposium Estimated Price 1400.00

- Meeting Expenses- For students to attend

- 3 local RVMP meetings,
\$7.80x 35 community
volunteers & students Estimated Price 819.00

- Taxes @ .085 Estimated Price 69.62

Total estimated travel \$ 3401.82

TOTAL PROPOSED BUDGET \$ 16,821.22

Appendix I

Eldon Clary re: Human Subjects Committee

Marti Wilkerson

From: Eldon Clary [eldon.clary@mail.atu.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, October 04, 2006 11:40 AM
To: 'Marti Wilkerson'
Subject: RE: human subjects committee

Marti

As long as the work is a continuation of the original and the same protocol as to obtaining informed consent of the subjects is followed, I do not believe you will need to resubmit a proposal.

Eldon Clary

-----Original Message-----

From: Marti Wilkerson [mailto:marti.wilkerson@atu.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, October 03, 2006 12:57 PM
To: Eldon.Clary@atu.edu
Subject: human subjects committee

Hello Dr. Clary,

Sean Huss, Terri Earnest, and myself are making application for Phase II of the "Understanding Crystal Methamphetamine ..." project. The focus for phase II is to survey Johnson and Franklin counties with an improved survey and to continue the process of interviewing subjects mentioned previously in our human subjects review.

Please advise as to whether we are required to submit to a new review process with the human subjects committee or if the previous review remains valid for the on going work that we are doing.

Thank you for your assistance.mw10/03/06

Marti Wilkerson
Associate Professor, Rehabilitation Science
Coordinator, Academic Partnership in
Public Child Welfare
Arkansas TECH University, WPN 367
Russellville, AR 72801
(479) 968-0466
fax (479) 964-3242

10/5/2006

Appendix II

Curriculum Vitae

Margaret G. Wilkerson
Associate Professor - Rehabilitation Science
Arkansas Tech University, WPN 367
(479) 968-0466

Education and Certification

MRC	Rehabilitation Counseling, Arkansas State University, 1972
LPC	Licensed Professional Counselor in Arkansas, 1986-Present

Teaching and/or Administrative Experience

2004- Present	Associate Professor, Rehabilitation Science
1992 – Present	Assistant Professor, Rehabilitation Science
1996 - Present	Coordinator & Principal Investigator, Child Welfare Emphasis, Academic Partnership in Child Welfare, Behavioral Sciences Department
1976 – 1992	Instructor, Rehabilitation Science; Director – ATU Youth Vocational Development Program

Related and/or Consulting Experience

2004 – Present	Facilitator and Evaluator – River Valley Methamphetamine Project
1996 - Present	Consultant for various community organizations
	\$ CASA of the 5 th Judicial District – Grant Writing
	\$ Family Preservation - Crawford Elementary School – Grant Writing
	\$ River Valley Violence and Abuse Prevention Task Force – Grant Writing
	\$ Family Preservation - Jasper Public Schools, Grant Writing
1996 - Present	Subcontracts
	\$ Child Welfare Partnership - \$1,720,236
	\$ 1998 - 2000 Mid South Academy - Child Welfare - \$62,998
	\$ 1999-2000 TEA Case Consultation - \$99,925

Scholarly and Professional Activities

Wilkerson, M. & Earnest, T. (2004). Final Report: Pope County Methamphetamine Demonstration Project (PCMDP), Project Period: September 8, 2004 to December 1, 2004.

Professional Research Meetings Attended

August 2002	Research Summit: Poverty in Arkansas, Little Rock, AR
April 2002	Social Work Research Center – Pre-Summit, Little Rock, AR

Terri L. Earnest, PhD
Assistant Professor- Sociology
Arkansas Tech University, WPN 346
(479) 498-6050

Classes Taught

(Fall 2002 to present): Courses taught include Social Problems, Social Research, Prisons and Corrections, Probation and Parole, Communities, Social Deviance, and Minority Group Relations.

Professional Development

May and September 2005: Attended the Adult Drug Court Planning Initiative Training Program sponsored by the National Drug Courts Institute.

September 2000: Attended the Human Subjects Research Training Workshop sponsored by the Sponsored Programs Administration of Mississippi State University.

November 1998: Attended the Evaluation 98: Transforming Society Through Evaluation conference sponsored by the American Evaluation Association, Chicago, IL.

Research Experience

July 2005 to Present: Evaluator for the Drug Court Planning Team of the 5th Judicial District of the State of Arkansas.

October 2004 to Present: Co-Evaluator, Pope County Methamphetamine Demonstration Project (now the River Valley Meth Project).

October 1995 to May 2002: Co-Principal Investigator, Mississippi Crime and Justice Research Unit. Organized to conduct the evaluation of the Mississippi Drug Court Program and of the effects of the multijurisdictional drug task forces in the state.

Publications and Research Reports

Wilkerson, Marti and Terri Earnest. 2004. Final Report: Pope County Methamphetamine Demonstration Project. For the State of Arkansas, Drug Director, Governor's Office.

Dunaway, R. Gregory, Terri L. Earnest, Jonathan Reed, and Peter B. Wood. 1999. Evaluating Mississippi's Multijurisdictional Drug Task Forces. Final Report for the Department of Public Safety, Division of Public Safety Planning, Governor's Office, Jackson, MS.

Additional reports as co-author:

- < An Impact Analysis of Mississippi's Multijurisdictional Drug Task Force Program on Drug-Related Crime and Violence
- < An Evaluation of Drug Control Programs in Mississippi
- < An Assessment of Multijurisdictional Drug Task Forces in Mississippi
- < Multijurisdictional Drug Task Forces in Mississippi: Are They Making A Difference?

**Sean T. Huss, PhD
Assistant Professor- Sociology
Arkansas Tech University, WPN 346
(479) 968-0465**

Classes Taught

(Fall 2005 to present): Courses taught include Statistics, Research Methods, Environmental Issues, and Social Stratification.

Publications

English, Mary and Sean Huss. 2005. "Population and Urbanization: Population and Land Use Patterns for the Upper Tennessee Valley and the Southern Appalachian Mountains." Pp. 155-171 in *A Land Imperiled: The Declining Health of the Southern Appalachian Region*, John Nolte (Ed.).

English, Mary, Cory Blad, and Sean Huss. 2005. "Projecting Urban Area Growth Boundaries and Economic Development in Tennessee." (White paper prepared for Tennessee Advisory Council on Intergovernmental Relations in May 2005).

Presentations at a Professional Meeting

"The Legitimation of Porn: A Technological, Political and Economic Explanation" With David Steele, *Society for the Study of Social Problems*. Philadelphia, PA. August, 2005.

Professional Awards and Recognition

Contributor to *A Land Imperiled: The Declining Health of the Southern Appalachian Region*—Book recently nominated for National Appalachian Studies Book Award.

Co-Principal Investigator, River Valley Meth Project

Research Consultant, Arkansas Tech University Wellness Survey—September, 2005 to Present

Research Consultant, Housing and Urban Development HOPE VI Project—February, 2004

Co-Principal Investigator, Tennessee Growth Boundary Project—September 2004 to Present

Survey Research Director, International Forestry and Food Services Consortium (USDA), Human Dimensions Laboratory