An Overview
Russ Karow, Executive Director

- The Agricultural Research Foundation (ARF) was established in October of 1934 to encourage and facilitate research in all branches of agriculture and related fields for the benefit of Oregon's agriculture and natural resource industries.
- ARF is a non-profit foundation that is independent from Oregon State University (OSU) but operates under a Memorandum of Understanding with OSU.
- ARF works in cooperation with the Oregon Department of Agriculture to administer commodity commission funds - Master Agreements with commissions through ODA.
- ARF must operate under its guiding documents to ensure that funds are used in a manner that is consistent with those documents as well as to prevent fraud. We are audited annually – auditors same as those used by OSU.
- ARF operates on investment income generated from its holdings.
- ARF accepts unrestricted gifts from corporations, foundations, and private individuals
  - need letter from donor specifically stating the funds are unrestricted
  - can be no background agreement on work that is to be completed
  - 5% ARF administrative fee for out-state gifts of $100 or more
  - Some units charge an additional overhead fee on gift funds
- ARF accepts funding for sponsored research projects from commodity commissions, grower groups, committees, councils, associations and non-profit organizations involved in ag or natural resource work – can be local, regional, national or international
  - No overhead charge
  - Is contract agreement behind this work – cannot involve IP assignment in any way
  - If you will be doing on-going work with commissions or associations, you will need to set up a multi-year, umbrella project within the OSU system
  - Sponsored research is most often funded via a RFP process managed by the commission or growers group – can be individually negotiated agreements
- All professorial faculty may hold ARF accounts – senior research, extension, professors or practice, courtesy, affiliate; research assistants and instructors need unit approval
- ARF Competitive Grants Program
  - Specifically designed to help younger faculty
  - Up to $12,500 – discovery/exploratory grants
  - @$400K allocations in recent years - @30-35 individuals
  - Call for 2016-18 proposals is now posted – www.agresearchfoundation.oregonstate.edu/grant-program
  - Four-page, November 13 due date
- Your business center accounting staff will know the details of dealing with ARF funds