

January 25, 2021

Heather Fuller

January 2021 RCA Researcher of the Month

Heather Fuller's passion for working with older adults began when she was young. Through both volunteer time and jobs, she found herself drawn to them and curious about what helps them age well. As an associate professor in the department of human development and family science at NDSU, Heather has continued along this path by conducting research about the importance of social relationships throughout our lifespans including the impact of interruptions in these relationships caused by distance or, most recently, the COVID-19 pandemic.



"Human development is a process of growth and change across the entire lifespan, from infancy to old age," says Heather. "My research focuses on the role of social support in that developmental process throughout adulthood – but especially in the later years of life. Social support from family, friends, neighbors, and communities is an integral factor influencing well-being and development. Individuals do not develop alone; our lives are linked, and through those links we influence each other's developmental paths and outcomes."

As an undergraduate student studying psychology and Spanish at the University of Minnesota, Heather had the opportunity to start upon her path of research when she created an honors thesis studying mental health and the social connections in nursing homes in Ecuador.

"It appeared that the individuals who were more socially supported and connected were happier, healthier, and even lived longer than those who were isolated, regardless of their disease or disability level," she commented. Adding to the sense of isolation was the fact that nursing homes in Ecuador aren't a common cultural practice and many who lived in the homes felt like they had been abandoned by their families. This led to even higher rates of isolation. "Social and family connections truly seemed to affect health and wellness," she added.

[Read more about Dr. Fuller's research >>](#)

NDSU Inventor Portal Launched

The [NDSU Inventor Portal](#) is a new, secure, web-based system for the development and submission of disclosures for new technologies and plant / horticultural varieties.

Login to Inventor Portal

User Name: Password: [Forgot password?](#)[Questions or Comments?](#)[Login](#)[Request Account](#)

Additional information about invention disclosures and how to register to use the NDSU Inventor Portal is available on the [RCA Website](#).

If you have questions, contact the [Industry Engagement and Intellectual Property team](#).



January Issue: Research Development & Grant Writing News

The January issue of [Research Development and Grant Writing News](#) is now available to view. Use your NDSU login information to access this resource. Various topics are covered, including:

- Humanities and Arts Funding Opportunities
- Humanities and Social Science Scholars: Are You Registered with Grants.gov?
- Expanding Your List of Potential Agency Funders
- Long-Range & Near-Term Research Funding Horizons
- New Year's Resolutions for Preparing Your NSF CAREER proposal
- The Tentative (Maybe / Maybe Not) Proposal

Proposal Development Virtual Program

The Proposal Development Program provides professional development opportunities for faculty, staff, and graduate students who are new to proposal writing or are seeking a refresher about proposal writing skills and funding agency opportunities. This semester, these sessions will be held virtually on Zoom.

Collaborative Proposals: Best Practices in Organizing a Submission

Wednesday, February 17, 2021 | 12-1pm

Presenter: Christine Strohm, Ph.D., Grant Writing Consultant

Meeting Expectations of Funding Agencies: USDA

Wednesday, March 24, 2020 | 12-1pm

Presenter: Christine Strohm, Ph.D., Grant Writing Consultant

[Register for these sessions >>](#)

Zoom access information will be shared with registrants.

InfoEd SPIN Funding Opportunity Database



On January 1, NDSU transitioned to a new funding opportunity database subscription: SPIN by InfoEd Global. SPIN is free for current NDSU faculty, staff, and students.

For more information, visit the [SPIN page](#) on the RCA website. If you have questions, please contact ndsu.researchdev@ndsu.edu.

Application Changes: Otto Bremer Trust

The Otto Bremer Trust (OBT) funds grants in Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota, and Wisconsin. Learn more about the application process [here](#).

Beginning in the summer of 2021, OBT will implement a new grant application process to streamline their grantmaking process. As part of this process, their current applications are no longer available. Until the new application is released, grant seekers will need to wait to begin or submit a new application. For those who would like to begin working with the new application before it's available in the application portal, OBT will release a Microsoft Word version of the application questions in the spring. This early release will allow you to consider how you might want to approach the application process. See answers to common questions about this process [here](#).

In July 2020, OBT launched a new application portal. If you have applied for funding from OBT in the past but have not yet activated your account in the new portal, send an email to portal@ottobremer.org to request activation.

To receive updates from OBT, [sign up for Otto Bremer Trust news](#) and select General Announcements. For questions, [contact OBT](#).

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Upcoming Limited Submission Program Deadlines

[Limited submission grant programs](#) are those that indicate a limit on the number of proposals that may be submitted by an institution for a particular deadline. A selection process becomes necessary if more applicants express interest in applying than NDSU is allowed to submit to the grant program. Email notifications of interest to ndsu.researchdev@ndsu.edu.

If you identify a limited submission opportunity that is not on the list below, please notify ndsu.researchdev@ndsu.edu.

- [FFAR New Innovators in Food and Agriculture](#)
Notification Deadline: 01/28/2021
- [HRSA: Emerging Issues in Maternal and Child Health](#)
Notification Deadline: 01/28/2021
- [USDA Equipment Grants](#)
Internal Pre-application deadline: 02/08/2021
- [NIH Research Education: Biomedical Engineering](#)
Notification Deadline: 02/15/2021
- [NIH Research Education: Genomic Research for Data Scientists](#)
Notification Deadline: 03/09/2021
- [NIH Research Education: Enhancing STEM Educational Diversity](#)
Notification Deadline: 03/09/2021

There are a number of limited submission grant programs with upcoming agency deadlines for which we did not receive any notifications of interest. For those interested in applying to the programs listed below, approval to move forward with a full proposal submission to the funder will be given on a first come, first served basis. Email notifications of interest to ndsu.researchdev@ndsu.edu.

- [CDC: Reducing Inequities in Cancer Outcomes through Community-Based Interventions on Social Determinants of Health](#)
Agency deadline: February 10, 2021
- [NEA: Grants for Arts Projects](#)
Agency deadline: February 11, 2021
- [NSF: Ethical and Responsible Research](#)
Agency deadline: February 22, 2021
- [USDA-NIFA: Biotechnology Risk Assessment](#)
Agency deadline: February 24, 2021
- [NSF: Scholarships in STEM](#)
Agency deadline: April 7, 2021

DoD: Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs for 2021

The Fiscal Year 2021 Department of Defense Appropriations Act provides research funding for the following peer reviewed programs managed by the Department of Defense office of Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRP):

- **Alcohol and Substance Abuse Disorders** Research Program - \$4.0 million
- **Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis** Research Program - \$40.0 million
- **Autism** Research Program - \$15.0 million
- **Bone Marrow Failure** Disease Research Program - \$7.5 million
- **Breast Cancer** Research Program - \$150.0 million
- **Chronic Pain Management** Research Program - \$15.0 million
- **Combat Readiness Medical** Research Program - \$10.0 million
- **Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy** Research Program - \$10.0 million
- **Epilepsy** Research Program - \$12.0 million
- **Gulf War Illness** Research Program - \$22.0 million
- **Hearing Restoration** Research Program – \$10.0 million
- **Joint Warfighter Medical** Research Program - \$40.0 million
- **Kidney Cancer** Research Program - \$50.0 million
- **Lung Cancer** Research Program – \$20.0 million
- **Lupus** Research Program - \$10.0 million
- **Melanoma** Research Program - \$30.0 million
- **Military Burn** Research Program - \$10.0 million

- **Multiple Sclerosis** Research Program - \$20.0 million
- **Neurofibromatosis** Research Program - \$20.0 million
- **Neurotoxin Exposure Treatment Parkinson's** Research Program - \$16.0 million
- **Orthotics and Prosthetics Outcomes** Research Program - \$15.0 million
- **Ovarian Cancer** Research Program - \$35.0 million
- **Pancreatic Cancer** Research Program - \$15.0 million
- **Peer Reviewed Alzheimer's** Research Program – \$15.0 million
- **Peer Reviewed Cancer** Research Program (20 Topics) - \$115.0 million
- **Peer Reviewed Medical** Research Program (42 Topics) - \$370.0 million
- **Peer Reviewed Orthopaedic** Research Program - \$30.0 million
- **Prostate Cancer** Research Program - \$110 million
- **Rare Cancers** Research Program - \$17.5 million
- **Reconstructive Transplant** Research Program - \$12.0 million
- **Scleroderma** Research Program - \$5.0 million
- **Spinal Cord Injury** Research Program - \$40.0 million
- **Tick-Borne Disease** Research Program - \$7.0 million
- **Traumatic Brain Injury and Psychological Health** Research Program - \$175.0 million
- **Tuberous Sclerosis Complex** Research Program - \$8.0 million
- **Vision** Research Program - \$20.0 million

Pre-announcements and comprehensive Program Announcements will be forthcoming. The pre-announcements will provide a general overview of the anticipated funding mechanisms. The Program Announcements will include detailed descriptions of funding mechanisms, evaluation criteria, submission requirements, and deadlines. Each Program Announcement may be downloaded from CDMRP <https://cdmrp.army.mil>, Grants.gov <https://www.grants.gov>, or eBRAP <https://eBRAP.org> upon its release. For email notification when pre-announcements and Program Announcements are released, subscribe to program-specific news and updates under “Email Subscriptions” on the eBRAP homepage.

For more information about the CDMRP, our research programs, previous awardees, as well as research highlights please visit the website at <https://cdmrp.army.mil>.

FFAR: 2021 New Innovators in Food and Agriculture Research Award – Limited Submission Program

[Limited submission grant programs](#) are those that indicate a limit on the number of proposals that may be submitted by an institution for a particular deadline. A selection process becomes necessary if more applicants express interest in applying than NDSU is allowed to submit to the grant program.

FFAR New Innovators : [Notify RCA](#) by 01/28/2021, 5:00 p.m. if you are interested in submitting to this program; pre-applications are due 02/04/2021 (see instructions below).

The Food and Agricultural Research (FFAR) [New Innovator in Food and Agriculture Research Award](#) provides early-career scientists the investment needed to propel them into successful research careers. These awards allow the grantees to focus exclusively on research without the pressure of securing additional funding.

Eligible faculty members are in the first three years of their scientific career and are within eight years of receiving their Ph.D. *Faculty with significant research experience prior to obtaining a faculty position will not be considered.* Eligible candidates must also conduct research that aligns with one of the FFAR Challenge Areas:

- Advanced Animal Systems
- Health-Agriculture Nexus
- Next Generation Crops
- Soil Health
- Sustainable Water Management
- Urban Food Systems

If you are eligible for this program and would like to be considered, please follow the process outlined below.

Thursday, January 28, 2021: Notifications of interest are due

to ndsu.researchdev@ndsu.edu by 5pm CT.

Thursday, February 4, 2021: NDSU pre-applications are due to ndsu.researchdev@ndsu.edu by 5pm CT. Pre-applications should be prepared as indicated below and emailed as a single pdf file to ndsu.researchdev@ndsu.edu. Following a review of pre-applications received, one nominee will be selected.

Pre-applications should include the following:

- Cover Sheet – include name, department, date of hire in a tenure-track or equivalent position, name of nominator, and applicable FFAR Challenge Area.
- Provide a brief description of your research program (300 words or less).
- Provide a brief statement on the innovative nature of your research / how you are outstanding in your field (500 words or less).
- Curriculum Vitae

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HRSA: Emerging Issues in Maternal and Child Health - Limited Submission Program

[Limited submission grant programs](#) are those that indicate a limit on the number of proposals that may be submitted by an institution for a particular deadline. A selection process becomes necessary if more applicants express interest in applying than NDSU is allowed to submit to the grant program.

HRSA MCH : [Notify RCA](#) by 01/28/2021, 5:00 p.m. if you are interested in submitting to this program.

This funding opportunity [[HRSA-21-080](#)] is a mechanism to support capacity-strengthening activities that will improve state- and / or local-level organizations' abilities to address emerging issues that threaten the health and well-being of MCH populations in an effective, timely manner. For the purposes of this opportunity, MCH populations include the following groups: women, children (birth to 21),

children with special health care needs (CSHCN), adolescents, and families. Recipients will implement a set of activities under at least one of the three capacity strengthening areas below and through these activities address an emerging issue specific to their state or local community.

Capacity Areas:

1. Data and Informational Systems
2. Workforce Development
3. Strategic Partnerships

“Emerging issues” refers to issues that affect MCH populations at an increased rate, for which there is new knowledge or an increased level of awareness of, or there are new approaches to solving the issue. You will select an emerging issue specific to the needs of your state or local community. Examples of emerging issues include, but are not limited to, increasing rates of opioid and other substance use disorders, emergent environmental health threats, persistent or increasing disparities in maternal mortality, inadequate availability of and access to behavioral health services, disparities in access to health services for CSHCN, and declining immunization coverage. You are encouraged to utilize your state’s needs assessment report at the [Title V Information System \(TVIS\)](#) to inform the selection of an appropriate emerging issue.

LIMITED SUBMISSION: NDSU may only submit one application.

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NIH: Health Services Research on Minority Health and Health Disparities

The purpose of this Funding Opportunity Announcement [[PAR-20-310](#)] is to encourage innovative health services research that can directly and demonstrably contribute to the improvement of minority health and / or the reduction of health disparities at the health care system-level as well as within clinical settings.

Upcoming deadlines: March 17 and November 17

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NIH Research Education Programs (R25)

The NIH Research Education Program (R25) supports research education activities in the mission areas of the NIH. There are multiple upcoming R25 program deadlines, some of which are [limited submission programs](#). See below for details.

Biomedical Engineering Education [[PAR-19-215](#)]

Applications are encouraged from institutions that propose to establish new or to enhance existing team-based design courses or programs in undergraduate biomedical engineering departments or other degree-granting programs with biomedical engineering tracks / minors.

Limited Submission Program: [Notify RCA](#) by 02/15/2021, 5:00 p.m. if you are interested in submitting to this program.

Biostatistics and Data Science [[RFA-HL-22-09](#)]

This opportunity will support creative educational activities with a primary focus on courses for skills development.

Deadline: March 8, 2021

Genomic Research for Data Scientists [[PAR-21-075](#)]

This opportunity will support creative educational activities with a primary focus on research experiences.

Limited Submission Program: [Notify RCA](#) by 3/9/2021, 5:00 p.m. if you are interested in submitting to this program.

Enhancing STEM Educational Diversity [[PAR-20-223](#)]

This opportunity will support creative educational activities with a primary focus on courses for skills development and research experiences for undergraduate freshmen and sophomores from diverse backgrounds.

Limited Submission Program: [Notify RCA](#) by 3/9/2021, 5:00 p.m. if you are interested in submitting to this program.

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NIJ: Office on Violence Against Women

The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) Office of Violence Against Women (OVW) has a number of open funding opportunities with deadlines in March. Topics include:

- Improving Criminal Justice Responses to Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking;
- Reduce Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault and Stalking on Campus; and
- Rural Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Program Solicitation.

For a full list of open solicitations, see the [OVW website](#).

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NSF: Designing Accountable Software Systems

The Designing Accountable Software Systems (DASS) program [[NSF 21-554](#)] solicits foundational research aimed towards a deeper understanding and formalization of the bi-directional relationship between software systems and the complex social and legal contexts within which software systems must be designed and operate. **The DASS program aims to bring researchers in computer and information science and engineering together with researchers in law and social, behavioral, and economic sciences** to jointly develop rigorous and reproducible methodologies for understanding the drivers of social goals for software and for designing, implementing, and validating accountable software systems. DASS will support well-conceived collaborations between these two groups of researchers. The first group consists of researchers in software design, which, for the purposes of this solicitation, is broadly defined as formal methods, programming languages, software engineering, requirements engineering and human-centered computing. The second group consists of researchers in law and the social, behavioral, and economic sciences, who study social systems and networks, culture, social norms and beliefs, rules, canons, precedents, legal code, and routine procedures that govern the conduct of people, organizations, and countries.

Proposals for this program must create general advances in both (1) understanding the social, behavioral, economic and / or legal context of software design; and (2) improving the methodology for designing accountable software beyond specific use cases. **Each proposal must have at least one Principal Investigator (PI) or co-PI with expertise in software design and at least one PI with expertise in law or a social, behavioral, or economic science.** All proposals must contain a detailed collaboration plan that leverages

the complementary expertise of the PIs / co-PIs in the designated areas and describes the mechanisms for continuous bi-directional collaboration. Projects are limited to \$750,000 in total budget, with durations of up to three years.

Deadline: April 19, 2021

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USDA-NIFA: Equipment Grants

Limited submission grant programs are those that indicate a limit on the number of proposals that may be submitted by an institution for a particular deadline. A selection process becomes necessary if more applicants express interest in applying than NDSU is allowed to submit to the grant program.

USDA-NIFA EGP: Submit Pre-Application by 02/08/2021, 5:00 p.m. if you are interested in submitting to this program.

The Equipment Grant Program (EGP) serves to increase access to shared-use special purpose equipment / instruments for fundamental and applied research for use in the food and agricultural sciences programs at institutions of higher education, including State Cooperative Extension Systems. The program seeks to strengthen the quality and expand the scope of fundamental and applied research at eligible institutions, by providing them with opportunities to acquire one major piece of equipment/instruments that support their research, training, and extension goals and may be too costly and / or not appropriate for support through other NIFA grant programs.

The EGP does not support the acquisition of suites of equipment to outfit research laboratories / facilities or to conduct independent experiments simultaneously. Similarly, the EGP does not fund common, general purpose ancillary equipment that would normally be found in a laboratory and / or is relatively easily procured by the organization or through other NIFA grant programs. Rather, it is intended to help fund items of equipment that will upgrade infrastructure. Moreover, EGP does not fund research projects, including research that uses the equipment acquired with

support from the program nor does it support the operation and maintenance of facilities.

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USDA-NIFA-AFRI: Education and Workforce Development Program

The Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) - Education and Workforce Development (EWD) [program](#) focuses on developing the next generation of research, education, and extension professionals in the food and agricultural sciences. In FY 2021, EWD invites applications in seven areas:

1. agricultural workforce training;
2. professional development for agricultural literacy;
3. training of undergraduate students in research and extension;
4. fellowships for predoctoral candidates;
5. fellowships for postdoctoral scholars;
6. a new program for food and agricultural non-formal education; and
7. an FY 2021-only program for evaluation of NIFA's agricultural literacy and workforce development portfolio.

Deadlines vary by program area.

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USDA-NRCS: Funding for Projects in North Dakota

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), an agency under the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), is announcing potential availability of awards for the purpose of leveraging NRCS resources, addressing local natural resource issues, encouraging collaboration and developing state- and community-level conservation leadership. Proposals will be accepted for projects located in North Dakota.

Proposals are requested for competitive consideration for grant agreement and cooperative agreement awards for projects between 1 and 3 years in duration. Applicants must be a Federally recognized tribal governments, State and local units of government,

non-governmental organizations, or institution of higher learning. Entities may submit more than one application as long as the proposals are for different projects and entities may receive more than one award.

- [Grant Agreements RFP](#)
- [Cooperative Agreements RFP](#)

Deadline: March 1, 2021

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SBIR / STTR Webinars from SHARPhub

[SHARPhub](#), an NIH-funded program to assist in translating bioscience discoveries into startup companies, is offering multiple free webinars on SBIR / STTR programs.

Commercializing your research through SBIR / STTR Proposals - Wednesday, February 10 from 8:30 am to 1:00 pm CST

Learn about essential components of an effective plan, how to find and use cost-effective market research to direct your efforts, supporting documents you will need, and other tips for writing a winning plan.

REGISTER: <https://bit.ly/2JfNCvZ>

Q&A session for NIH workshop attendees – Thursday, February 4 from 8:30 to 9:30 am CST

SBIR / STTR virtual training attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions to BBCetc consultants regarding their specific proposal. *Please note that you must have attended training on January 14th and Jan 25th to be able to take advantage of this session.*

Cuss and Discuss - March 12 from 9 –10:30 am CST

Meet others planning to submit SBIR / STTR proposals to NIH, sharing challenges and learning from others.

REGISTER: <https://bit.ly/371phUf>

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Have questions, ideas, or suggestions for the RCA Update?

[Contact Us](#)



The Office of Research and Creative Activity (RCA) sends weekly emails to NDSU faculty and staff to provide current information on various topics including funding opportunities, grant program changes, research resources, deadlines, notices, and training.

You are receiving this notification through the NDSU official employee listserv or sub-list. The official listserv refreshes after each pay period.

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