

RCA UPDATE

April 19, 2021



The 2021 NDSU EXPLORE Virtual Showcase of Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity is now LIVE!

We invite you to visit the virtual showcase, view the presentations, and engage with the students through comments and questions in the virtual platform.

Access the NDSU EXPLORE Showcase

at <https://symposium.foragerone.com/ndsuexplore>.

The event will remain open throughout Undergraduate Research Week, April 19-23, 2021.

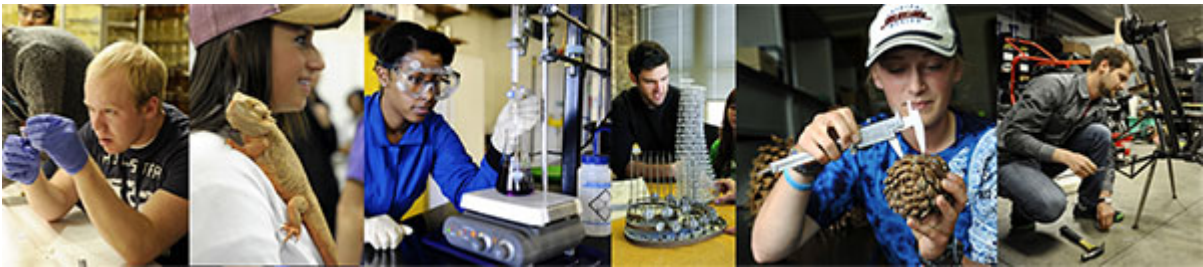
The showcase is open for public viewing, but commenting on presentations is limited to those affiliated with NDSU, and requires a quick registration process:

1. Go to <https://symposium.foragerone.com/signup>.
2. Use your NDSU email address.

3. Create a new password.
4. Verify your email address.
5. Add "NDSU EXPLORE" under "My Events" in Symposium.

A virtual awards ceremony will take place Friday, April 23 at 12:00pm, and is open to all. Information about joining the session is available on the [NDSU EXPLORE](#) website.

If you have any questions about this event, please send an email to ndsuhresearchdev@ndsuh.edu.



NDSU Undergraduate Students Present at NCUR 2021

Nine NDSU undergraduates recently presented at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR). Held virtually April 12-14, 2021, the students and their faculty mentors joined more than 3,400 undergraduate researchers from across the globe in presenting their research through posters, oral presentations, visual arts, and performances for the event.

The NDSU Office of Research and Creative Activity (RCA) paid for student and faculty

fees for this year's event. RCA has supported NCUR participation in previous years as well.

NDSU students presented topics this year from an array of disciplines including biology; engineering; microbiology; health, exercise, and nutrition science; and apparel merchandising, interior design, and hospitality management.

Application of Microbiology Concept Inventories to Identify Student Misconceptions and Improve Programmatic Curriculum

Students: Madeline Schroeder and Macy Rennpferd

Faculty mentor: Danielle LJ Condry, PhD, Microbiological Sciences

Evaluating the Shear Strength of Overconsolidated Clays

Student: Mohammed Mohammed

Faculty mentor: Beena Ajmera, PhD, PE, Civil Engineering

Experimental Evaluation of Scaled, Prototype, Heat Exchanger Configurations to Provide Refugia for Trout

Student: Sarah LaVallie

Faculty mentor: Adam Gladen, PhD, Mechanical Engineering

Exploring the Relationship Between Sleep and Body Composition in Young, Healthy, Adult Females in North Dakota

Student: Zach Johnson

Faculty mentor: Sherri Stastny, PhD, Health, Nutrition, and Exercise Sciences

Hotel Managers' Perceptions of and Attitude Toward the Application of AI Service Robots

Student: Kaija Dockter

Faculty mentors: Jeongdoo Park, PhD, and Kwangsoo Park, PhD, Apparel, Merchandising, Interior Design, and Hospitality Management

Machine Learning to Develop Algorithms to Predict Strength Degradations Resulting from Cyclic Loading

Student: Tiffany Meeks

Faculty mentor: Beena Ajmera, PhD, PE, Civil Engineering

Novel Ferroelectric Nanomaterial, K₂W₇O₂₂, for Breath Acetone Detection in

Diabetes

Student: Anna Marie Schornack

Faculty mentor: Danling Wang, PhD, Electrical and Computer Engineering

The Effects of Incubation Temperature on Metabolic Physiology in Temperature Sex Determined Reptile Species: Eublepharis macularius

Student: Twyla Gross

Faculty mentor: Matthew Smith, PhD, Biological Sciences

NCUR is dedicated to promoting undergraduate research, scholarship, and creative activity in all fields of study through the annual conference. NCUR is a partner to the Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR), which has focused on providing high-quality and collaborative undergraduate research, scholarly, and creative activity opportunities for faculty and students since 1978.

CUR supports faculty development for high-quality undergraduate student-faculty collaborative research and scholarship. More than 700 institutions and more than 13,000 individuals belong to CUR.

Communicating Science Seminars

The Office of Research and Creative Activity is hosting Paul M. Sutter, astrophysicist, author, and communications expert, for fun and informative sessions about science communications. Two sessions are scheduled: a seminar tailored for a student audience, and a workshop for faculty.

NOBODY UNDERSTANDS WHAT YOU DO (AND THAT'S OK)

A Communicating Science Seminar for Graduate and Undergraduate Students

Wednesday, April 21, 2021 | 12-1pm | Zoom

HOW TO SPEAK WITH HUMANS: A WORKSHOP FOR ACADEMICS

A Communicating Science Workshop for Faculty

Wednesday, April 21, 2021 | 2-3:30pm | Zoom

[Learn more and register >>](#)



NSF Virtual Grants Conference

The National Science Foundation (NSF) Spring 2021 Virtual Grants Conference will be held the week of **June 7-11, 2021**. Registration will be free of charge and opens on **Wednesday, May 5 at 11am**. Sessions typically reach capacity very quickly, so we encourage you to register as soon as possible once the portal opens.

In the meantime, please feel free to check [nsfpolicyoutreach.com](https://www.nsf.gov/policy/outreach) for the most up-to-date information and view [recordings](#) of sessions from previous years. You may also view the Fall 2020 Virtual Grants Conference recordings on our [YouTube](#) page. For those who cannot attend the live conference, all recorded conference sessions will be available on-demand shortly after the event and posted on our [website](#) and our [YouTube](#) page.

If you have any logistical questions about this virtual conference, please contact grants_conference@nsf.gov.

RCA Research Support Services Awards

Through the Research Support Services program, funds of up to \$2,500 can be requested to help defray the costs of support services required for research, creative, or scholarly activity. Funds must be spent by June 15, 2021. More information and application instructions are posted on the [RCA website](#). Please contact ndsu.researchdev@ndsu.edu with questions.

Convergence Accelerator Informational Webinar

Join the NSF Convergence Accelerator April 20 from 1:30–3 p.m. to learn about the program and specifically the current solicitation opportunity [[NSF-21-572](#) / LOI Due 05/05/2021]. During the webinar, participants will learn about the program’s model and fundamentals, including the program’s phased approach and innovation processes used to accelerate basic research into practice; and the solicitation opportunity to include the research track focuses, required Convergence Accelerator fundamentals, and important submission information. The goal of this webinar is to bring awareness of this opportunity to accelerate previous research and discovery to have a positive impact on societal challenges. [Learn more and register >>](#)

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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.

- [DOE: Data Reduction for Science](#)
First to Notify
- [NEA: Grants for Arts Projects](#)
Notification Deadline: 04/21/2021

- [Retirement Research Foundation](#)
Notification Deadline: 04/21/2021
- [NIH: Science Education Partnership Award](#)
Notification Deadline: 05/05/2021
- [NSF: Partnerships for Innovation](#)
Notification Deadline: 05/05/2021
- [William T. Grant Foundation: Scholars Program](#)
Notification Deadline: 05/05/2021
- [Breast Cancer Alliance: Young Investigator Grants](#)
Notification Deadline: 05/12/2021

There are a number of limited submission grant programs with upcoming agency deadlines for which we did not receive any notifications of interest. A full list of those programs is available on the [Limited Submissions page](#). For these programs, marked "First to Notify," 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.

Looking for more funding opportunities?



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.

Breast Cancer Alliance: Young Investigator Grants – 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.

BCA YIG: [Notify RCA](#) by 05/12/2021 if you are interested in submitting to this program.

To encourage a commitment to breast cancer research, Breast Cancer Alliance (BCA) invites clinical doctors and research scientists, including post docs, whose primary focus is breast cancer and who are in the early stages of their careers, to apply for funding for the [Young Investigator Grant](#) (YIG). This grant is open to applicants at institutions throughout the contiguous United States. This is a two-year grant beginning March 1, 2022. Funding is \$125,000, with half the grant award being paid out each year.

Applicants for the 2022 award must (i) not have held a tenure track faculty or tenure track research position for more than four years following completion of their training, as of March 1, 2022; (ii) not have been a principal investigator on an NIH R01 or equivalent national / international non-mentored award; and (iii) dedicate at least 50% of their work effort to research. This grant is intended to help advance the careers of young researchers who do not yet have their own major grant support but who design and conduct their own independent research projects.

LIMITED SUBMISSION: BCA will accept a maximum of 2 YIG applications per institution.

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Cisco Research Center Funding Opportunities

[Cisco Research Center](#) funds research projects related to improving the Internet, adjacent technologies, and networking. Current requests for proposals include:

- Cybersecurity in Emerging Tech Areas
- Contactless Supply Chain
- Quantum Computing and Networking

- Edge Computing; and
- Ethics in AI.

[View the full list of open opportunities >>](#)

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DOE: Advanced Scientific Computing Research - Data Reduction for Science – 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.

DOE Data Reduction: [Notify RCA](#) if you are interested in submitting to this program. Approval to submit will be given to the first to notify.

The Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Science (SC) program in Advanced Scientific Computing Research (ASCR) is interested in research applications to explore potentially high-impact approaches in the development and use of data reduction techniques and algorithms to facilitate more efficient analysis and use of massive data sets produced by observations, experiments and simulation.

A virtual DOE workshop entitled "Data Reduction for Science" was held in January of 2021, which identified four priority research directions (PRDs):

1. effective algorithms and tools that can be trusted by scientists for accuracy and efficiency,
2. progressive reduction algorithms that enable data to be prioritized for efficient streaming,
3. algorithms which can preserve information in features and quantities of interest with quantified uncertainty, and
4. mapping techniques to new architectures and use cases.

The principal focus of this Program Announcement [[DE-FOA-0002501](#)] is to support

applied mathematics and computer science approaches that address one or more of the identified PRDs. Significant innovations will be required in the development of effective paradigms and approaches for realizing the full potential of data reduction for science. Proposed research should not focus only on particular data sets from specific applications, but rather on creating the body of knowledge and understanding that will inform future scientific advances. Consequently, the funding from this Announcement is not intended to incrementally extend current research in the area of the proposed project. Rather, the proposed projects must reflect viable strategies toward the potential solution of challenging problems in data reduction for science. It is expected that the proposed projects will significantly benefit from the exploration of innovative ideas or from the development of unconventional approaches. Proposed approaches may include innovative research with one or more key characteristics, such as compression, reduced order models, experiment-specific triggers, filtering, and feature extraction, and may focus on cross-cutting concepts such as scientific machine learning or trust. Preference may be given to pre-applications that include reduction estimates for at least two science applications.

LIMITED SUBMISSION: No more than two pre-applications or applications as the lead institution.



Facebook: 2021 Networking – Internet and Web Services

To foster further innovation in internet and web services Facebook is pleased to invite faculty to respond to this call for research proposals.

Key Focus Areas:

- Internet transport protocols (e.g., QUIC, HTTP/3)
- Content delivery techniques (e.g., load balancing, telemetry)
- Distributed caching
- Edge computing services

Facebook anticipates awarding up to six winners, each in the \$50,000 range. Payment will

be made to the proposer's host university as an unrestricted gift. For full details and to apply, please visit the [2021 Privacy Enhancing Technologies RFP Page](#).

Deadline: May 24, 2021

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ND Renewable Energy Program

The mission of the Renewable Energy Council is to promote the growth of North Dakota's renewable energy industries through research, development, marketing, and education.

North Dakota's [Renewable Energy Program](#) (REP) was established by the Legislature in 2007 under the control of the North Dakota Industrial Commission. The Program's responsibilities include providing financial assistance as appropriate to foster the development of renewable energy and related industrial use technologies including, but not limited to, wind, biofuels, advanced biofuels, biomass, biomaterials, solar, hydroelectric, geothermal, and renewable hydrogen through research, development, demonstration and commercialization. In addition, the Program shall promote research and use of renewable energy co-product utilization for livestock feed, human food products and industrial use technologies.

Note that there is a higher priority for projects that have matching funds equal to at least 50% or more of the total cost.

Deadline: August 1, 2021; February 1, 2022

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NIH: RADx-UP - Social, Ethical, and Behavioral Implications (SEBI) Research on Disparities in COVID-19 Testing among Underserved and Vulnerable Populations (U01 Clinical Trials Optional)

High rates and disparities of COVID-19 infection, morbidity, and mortality continue among underserved and vulnerable populations across the United States. The overarching goal of the [Rapid Acceleration of Diagnostics for Underserved Populations](#) (RADx-UP) initiative is

to understand and ameliorate factors that have placed a disproportionate burden of the pandemic on underserved and / or vulnerable populations, specifically by implementing programs that expand the scope and reach of COVID-19 testing interventions to reduce these disparities. To address barriers to testing and vaccination, social, ethical, and behavioral research is urgently needed to inform related mitigation efforts. This Phase II RADx-UP Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) [\[RFA-OD-21-009\]](#) is designed to expand research to understand and address the social, ethical, and behavioral implications (SEBI) of COVID-19 testing interventions among underserved and vulnerable populations. Desirable studies for Phase II will move beyond descriptive health disparities research to focus on developing interventions and other actionable solutions in collaboration with community partners and stakeholders. The funding for this initiative is provided from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

Deadline: July 7, 2021

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NIH: SARS-CoV-2, COVID-19 and Consequences of Alcohol Use

These Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOAs) will support research grants to address urgent, time-sensitive research questions on the relationships between alcohol consumption and COVID-19 related outcomes and consequences. The principal area of focus is research that can improve public health in the near term by informing responses to the current COVID-19 pandemic, in view of 1) the impact of alcohol misuse on incidence and severity of COVID-19 disease or 2) the effect of the COVID-19 disease and pandemic-induced restrictions on alcohol use and alcohol use disorder (AUD). Time-sensitive applications for which standard NIH review and funding timelines would compromise either the ability to conduct the research or the value of the knowledge and with the potential to inform responses to the current pandemic will be considered.

- R01 [\[RFA-AA-21-002\]](#)
- R03 [\[RFA-AA-21-003\]](#)
- R21 [\[RFA-AA-21-004\]](#)

Deadline: August 17, 2021

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NIH: Science Education Partnership 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.

NIH SEPA: Notify RCA by 05/05/2021 if you are interested in submitting to this program.

The NIH Research Education Program (R25) supports research education activities in the mission areas of the NIH. The overarching goal of this R25 program is to support educational activities that complement and/or enhance the training of a workforce to meet the nation's biomedical, behavioral and clinical research needs.

To accomplish the stated over-arching goal, this FOA will support creative educational activities with a primary focus on:

- Courses for Skills Development
- Research Experiences
- Mentoring Activities
- Curriculum or Methods Development
- Outreach

Information on current SEPA projects can be found at the following pages:

- <https://www.nigms.nih.gov/Research/crcb/sepa/Pages/default.aspx>
- <https://www.nihsepa.org>

Applicants are strongly encouraged to consult with the SEPA Scientific / Research Contact to be advised on the appropriateness of the intended project for SEPA program objectives and the priorities of the NIGMS.

LIMITED SUBMISSION: Only one application per institution is allowed.

NSF: Social and Economic Sciences

Several Programs of the National Science Foundation (NSF) Division of Social and Economic Sciences have upcoming deadlines:

- [Accountable Institutions and Behavior](#)
This program supports basic scientific research that advances knowledge and understanding of issues broadly related to attitudes, behavior, and institutions connected to public policy and the provision of public services.
Deadline: August 16, 2021
- [Law and Science](#)
This program considers proposals that address social scientific studies of law and law-like systems of rules, as well as studies of how science and technology are applied in legal contexts. The program is inherently interdisciplinary and multi-methodological.
Deadline: August 2, 2021
- [Security and Preparedness](#)
This program supports basic scientific research that advances knowledge and understanding of issues broadly related to global and national security.
Deadline: August 16, 2021
- [Sociology](#)
This program supports basic research on all forms of human social organization -- societies, institutions, groups, and demography -- and processes of individual and institutional change.
Deadline: August 16, 2021
- [Decision, Risk and Management Sciences](#)
This program supports scientific research directed at increasing the understanding and effectiveness of decision making by individuals, groups, organizations, and society.
Deadline: August 18, 2021
- [Economics](#)
This program supports research designed to improve the understanding of the processes and institutions of the U.S. economy and of the world system of which it is a part.
Deadline: August 18, 2021

USDA: Soil Science Collaborative Research Proposals

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), an agency under the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), [is announcing the potential availability of funding for agreements](#) for the purposes of:

- promoting research collaboration between the NRCS Soil and Plant Science Division (SPSD) and university cooperators on significant national issues;
- providing technology transfer and training for NRCS staff; and
- assisting in training of students in soil science and related fields.

Proposals must be for projects based in the United States and its territories and possessions and focus on the priorities described in the solicitation. In the North Central region, the focus is biogeochemical process models, which seek to simulate the cycling and elements within ecosystems. These models, such as DAYCENT, have been used to simulate changes in soil carbon and nitrogen pools in response to external drivers (e.g. climate or land use change). These models have the potential to enhance the development of dynamic soil survey by informing the ways in which Dynamic Soil Properties (DSPs) respond to external drivers. Potential research topics could include:

- use of biogeochemical process models to quantify and predict changes in DSPs across soil taxonomic classes or pedological gradients that can be tied to soil mapping units;
- predictions of the speed of changes to DSPs as relevant to soil survey; or
- models that quantify DSPs in state and transition models for ecological site descriptions (i.e. “quantitative ecological sites”).

NRCS anticipates that the amount available for support of this program in FY 2021 will be up to \$1,000,000.00. Eligibility is limited to institutions of higher education in the Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit ([CESU](#)) network (NDSU is a member of the Great Plains CESU). Proposals are requested for competitive consideration of awards for projects 2-3 years in duration.

Deadline: June 15, 2021



NSF CAREER Proposal Development Program

The National Science Foundation (NSF) Faculty Early Career Development ([CAREER](#)) Program is a prestigious grant award program that supports early career faculty who have the potential to serve as academic role models in research and education and to lead advances in the mission of their department or organization. Activities pursued by early-career faculty should build a firm foundation for a lifetime of leadership in integrating education and research.

The NDSU Office of Research and Creative Activity is offering NSF CAREER-focused, virtual sessions to assist potential applicants with preparing competitive proposals.

- **NSF CAREER Awardee Panel [April 28, 2021 - 12pm (noon)]**

For this session, four recent NSF CAREER awardees at NDSU will share their experiences and offer their tips for writing a successful proposal and answer your questions about the process.

Presenters:

Britt Heidinger, Ph.D. - Biological Sciences

Ying Huang, Ph.D. - Civil and Environmental Engineering

Dmitri Kilin, Ph.D. - Chemistry and Biochemistry

Keerthi Nawarathna, Ph.D. - Electrical and Computer Engineering

[Register to attend this session >>](#)

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Virtual Conference: Artificial Intelligence and the Humanities

In April, the National Humanities Center is hosting a series of free, virtual events - presentations, conversations, webinars, film screenings, and an art exhibition - highlighting perspectives from leading humanists, scientists, engineers, artists, writers, and software company executives collectively advancing inquiry into key emerging questions related to AI's influence on daily life.

[Learn more and register >>](#)

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SharpHub Webinar: ABC of SBIR / STTR funding

Find out whether your research is a candidate for SBIR / STTR federal R&D funding and learn SBIR / STTR program basics, including program purpose, eligibility, and sources of funding. This presentation will provide ample information to help you determine if you should seriously pursue proposal development and tools to help begin the process.

ABC of SBIR / STTR Funding

April 21, 2021 | 8:30-10am

[Learn more and register >>](#)

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NASEM Workshop: Strategies for Effective Data Management and Sharing

On April 28-29, 2021, the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) is hosting Changing the Culture of Data Management and Sharing, a virtual public workshop to examine strategies for effective data management and sharing. The workshop will discuss challenges to and potential solutions for data management and sharing across scientific disciplines and ways researchers can integrate data management and sharing practices into their routine research conduct. The workshop aims to inform implementation strategies for the new [NIH Policy for Data Management and Sharing](#).

Strategies for Effective Data Management and Sharing

April 28-29, 2021

[Learn more and register >>](#)

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NEH Virtual Grant Workshops

In April and May, the National Endowment for Humanities (NEH) is hosting a series of virtual workshops with NEH program staff to share information about NEH grant

opportunities, deadlines, and application information.

Topics include:

- Digital Humanities
- Individual Scholars
- Archives and Libraries
- College and University Grants and Sponsored Research Offices

[Learn more >>](#)

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Dakota Cancer Collaborative on Translational Activity (DaCCoTA) Virtual Symposium

[Registration](#) is now open for the **2021 DaCCoTA Virtual Symposium**.

The symposium will be held on June 18th from 8am to 5pm. It is free and open to the public.

The symposium includes:

- **Educational Opportunities (educational credit will be provided)**
 - Use of navigators in cancer care
 - Design, conduct and analysis of clinical trials
 - Navigating collaboration with industry
 - Best practices in community engagement
 - Mentorship: It takes two to tango
 - Demystifying the NIH study section
- **Poster Sessions**
- **DaCCoTA Awardee Presentations**
- **Networking Opportunities**

Register through the following link:

https://und.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_ekW1Jpngue1U4Zf.

For additional information about the symposium and details regarding poster presentation requirements, please visit: <https://med.und.edu/daccota/symposium.html>.

The DaCCoTA is supported by the National Institute of General Medical Sciences of the National Institutes of Health under Award Number U54GM128729.

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Workshops for Health Professionals

Paul Casella, MFA, is a writer, teacher, editor and producer. Since 1988, Paul has worked with health professionals to improve the clarity and effectiveness of their manuscripts for publication, formal presentations, grant applications, slides, posters, videos, and other media for scientific purposes.

On June 24, 2021, Paul will visit the NDSU campus to conduct a series of workshops for health professionals:

- Writing for Publication
- Writing Effective NIH Grant Proposals
- Speaking for Success: Strategies for Effective Medical and Scientific Presentations

[Learn more and register >>](#)

This workshop is hosted by NDSU, UND, and the DaCCoTA. The workshop is sponsored by Great Plains IDeA-CTR.

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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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