

NDSU OFFICE OF
RESEARCH AND CREATIVE ACTIVITY

RCA UPDATE

October 7, 2019

Rooth Varland

October 2019 RCA Researcher of the Month

Rooth Varland believes in the value of good theatrical literature and how it brings together artists to collaborate in a shared community experience of writing, music, and design. The NDSU professor and costume designer for NDSU's Little Country Theatre has been doing just that throughout her career and this school year marks her 20th at NDSU. In addition to her time here, Rooth has also designed costumes for premier productions in Norway, Georgia, Mississippi, Minnesota, Kentucky, and Tennessee.



Rooth sees her work in theatre arts as a synthesis of design, coaching, and production that gives her students an opportunity to understand the overall art of theatre dress and décor. By utilizing aspects of the research process in determining historical accuracy of design and materials, she

feels that she is providing her design students an understanding that goes beyond the walls of the theatre. “I believe one of the most important contributions of my research is helping others to see new things,” she says. Her research tools are primarily books and digital resources although at times she has also enlisted individuals with special knowledge for detailed costumes such as military uniforms. In addition to costuming, she also teaches courses in the history of dress and décor and dramatic literature.



Rooth received an MFA in Theatre Design from Northwestern University in 1988. In 1995, she was a National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) fellow at the Center for 20th Century Studies at the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee. At the Center,

considered to be one of the nation’s first humanities research centers and a destination for some of the world’s foremost artists and thinkers, Rooth studied postmodern performance theory with Herbert Blau, an American director and theoretician of performance. In 2003, she was the recipient of the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival Fellowship for designers. Rooth has also served as resident designer at 7stages in Atlanta, where she collaborated with theatre legend Joseph Chaiken. As a member of United Scenic Artists Local 829 (Chicago), Rooth is the only union designer in North Dakota.

A self-proclaimed introvert, Rooth enjoys how her work gives her an easy way to both connect with others and express herself. “Modern communities of people don’t come together as often as they used to,” she notes. “Communal activities used to be much more woven into our lives which allowed us to experience things together. Theatre is a communal activity that really hasn’t changed that much and the process of creating environments for others to experience really drives me.”

[Read more about Rooth Varland, the October 2019 Researcher of the Month >>](#)



Congratulations to all award recipients from August 2019!

View the complete list online: [PDF](#) | [Excel](#)

The awards listed are externally funded projects. Each month one of the RCA Updates will include prior month awards.

[See Award Reports from previous months >>](#)

Submitting to DEPSCoR?

If you're planning to submit to the Defense Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (DEPSCoR) program, more information, including webinars and FAQs, is available on the [grant opportunity page](#) and the [ND EPSCoR Website](#).

Please note two key deadlines to participate in this round:

- AcquTrak Registration (required by) **October 18, 2019** at 11:59 PM EDT
- White Paper and Supporting Documentation (required by) **October 25, 2019** at 11:59 PM EDT

Reference Letters vs. Letters of Support

Reference letters and letters of support provide key information for reviewers and funding agency staff. But what is the difference between these two types of letters? The National Institutes of Health (NIH) provide an overview table that outlines when each type of letter is used, who writes each type of letter, and what content should be included. Learn more and view the table on the [NIH Extramural Nexus Blog](#).

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AIA-NEH: Grants for Archaeological Research

The Archaeological Institute of America ([AIA](#)) and the National Endowment for the Humanities ([NEH](#)) are excited to announce a new NEH-funded, AIA-managed [grant program](#) to support archaeological research around the world. The program offers two types of grants: small grants up to \$15,000 each for post-fieldwork research and publication preparation and larger grants up to \$50,000 each for fieldwork. Projects can focus on any region of the world or time period, but must include a humanistic core of methods and goals. These grants, for individuals, are open to both AIA Members and to non-members who are U.S. citizens or residents of the United States for the three years preceding their application submission.

Application Deadline: December 1, 2019

NEH: Collaborative Research

The National Endowment for the Humanities ([NEH](#)) Division of Research Programs is currently accepting applications for the [Collaborative Research program](#). Collaborative Research grants support groups of two or more scholars seeking to increase humanistic knowledge through research, convenings, and collaborative publication. The program allows projects in a single field of study or those conducting interdisciplinary work. Projects that include partnerships with researchers from the natural and social sciences are encouraged, but projects must remain firmly rooted in the humanities and must employ humanistic methods.

Proposal Deadline: December 4, 2019

[Track this opportunity in Pivot >>](#)

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NIH: The Intersection of Sex and Gender Influences on Health and Disease (R01 Clinical Trial Optional)

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) recently published its very first sex- and gender-focused R01: The Intersection of Sex and Gender Influences on Health and Disease [[RFA-OD-19-029](#)]. This represents a milestone achievement for NIH and reaffirms its commitment to the consideration of sex and gender influences in research and the mission of the Office of Research on Women's Health ([ORWH](#)), which is leading the R01 effort.

Researchers can apply to this new NIH grant to support disease-agnostic studies. Scientists will be tasked with developing research that:

1. Examines sex and gender factors and their intersection in understanding health and disease; and
2. Addresses one of the five objectives from Strategic Goal 1 of [Advancing Science for the Health of Women: The 2019–2023 Trans-NIH Strategic Plan for Women's Health Research](#).

Letter of Intent Deadline: October 24, 2019

Proposal Deadline: November 25, 2019

[Track this opportunity in Pivot >>](#)

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NIH: Tobacco Regulatory Science (R01 Clinical Trial Optional)

The purpose of this National Institutes of Health (NIH) Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA / [RFA-OD-19-028](#)) is to invite R01 applications to support biomedical and behavioral research that will provide scientific data to inform regulation of tobacco products to protect public health. Research Projects must address the research priorities related to the regulatory authority of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Center for Tobacco Products (CTP). Research results from this FOA are expected to generate findings and data that are directly relevant in informing the FDA's regulation of the manufacture, distribution, and marketing of tobacco products to protect public health.

Application Deadline: February 13, 2020

[Track this opportunity in Pivot >>](#)

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NSF: Ethical and Responsible Research (Formerly Cultivating Cultures for Ethical STEM) - 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.

NSF ER2: Notify RCA by 10/14/2019, 5:00 p.m. if you intend to apply.

The National Science Foundation (NSF) Ethical and Responsible Research (ER2) [[NSF 19-609](#)] funds research projects that identify:

1. factors that are effective in the formation of ethical STEM researchers, and
2. approaches to developing those factors in all STEM fields that NSF supports.

ER2 solicits proposals for research that explores the following: What constitutes responsible conduct for research (RCR), and which cultural and institutional contexts promote ethical STEM research and practice and why? Do certain labs have a culture of academic integrity? What practices contribute to the establishment and maintenance of ethical cultures and how can these practices be transferred, extended to, and integrated into other research and learning settings?

Factors one might consider include: honor codes, professional ethics codes and licensing requirements, an ethic of service and/or service learning, life-long learning requirements, curricula or memberships in organizations (e.g. Engineers without Borders) that stress responsible conduct for research, institutions that serve under-represented groups, institutions where academic and research integrity are cultivated at multiple levels, institutions that cultivate ethics across the curriculum, or programs that promote group work, or do not grade. Successful proposals typically have a comparative dimension, either between or within institutional settings that differ along these or among other factors, and they specify plans for developing interventions that promote the effectiveness of identified factors.

ER2 research projects will use basic research to produce knowledge about what constitutes or promotes responsible or irresponsible conduct of research, and how to best instill this knowledge into researchers and educators at all career stages. In some cases, projects will include the development of interventions to ensure ethical and responsible research conduct.

Proposals will be accepted in three categories:

1. Standard Research Grants and Institutional Transformation Research Grants
2. Conference Proposals

3. Project Incubation Proposals

For more information, read the [program solicitation](#).

[Track this opportunity in Pivot >>](#)



NSF Emerging Frontiers in Research and Innovation (EFRI): Distributed Chemical Manufacturing and Engineering the Elimination of End-of-Life Plastics

The Emerging Frontiers in Research and Innovation ([EFRI](#)) program of the National Science Foundation (NSF) Directorate for Engineering (ENG) serves a critical role in helping ENG focus on important emerging areas in a timely manner. This solicitation is a funding opportunity for interdisciplinary teams of researchers to embark on rapidly advancing frontiers of fundamental engineering research. For this solicitation, we will consider proposals that aim to investigate emerging frontiers in one of the following two research areas:

- **Distributed Chemical Manufacturing (DCheM) - Research**
Thrusts: Fundamental Chemical and Physical Transformations of Matter; Process Integration and Advanced Manufacturing; and Process Modeling, Optimization and Control.
- **Engineering the Elimination of End-of-Life Plastics (E3P) –**
Research Thrusts: Depolymerization of plastic materials, Valorization of Plastic Materials and Plastic-derived Molecules; and Enabling Processes that Eliminate Plastic Waste.

This field will benefit tremendously from research that draws on many disciplines, including engineering, chemistry, materials science, biology, and social sciences. Proposals must include one investigator from an appropriate engineering discipline, and it is strongly encouraged that proposals also include a participant from an appropriate physical or biological science discipline. Inclusion of investigators from relevant social science disciplines (e.g., ethicists, behavioral scientists, economists) is also strongly encouraged. Projects should be designed to leverage interdisciplinary expertise bridging engineering, chemical, biological, social, and other specialties to build new knowledge at the intersection of the disciplines, but fully informed by each. Proposed projects

must address at least two of the three thrusts.

This solicitation will be coordinated with the Directorate for Biological Sciences, the Directorate for Mathematical and Physical Sciences and the Directorate for Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences.

Letter of Intent Deadline: November 4, 2019

Preliminary Proposals Deadline: December 2, 2019

[Track this opportunity in Pivot >>](#)

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NSF: Inclusion Across the Nation of Communities of Learners of Underrepresented Discoverers in Engineering and Science (NSF INCLUDES)

Through this solicitation, National Science Foundation (NSF) Inclusion across the Nation of Communities of Learners of Underrepresented Discoverers in Engineering and Science ([NSF INCLUDES](#)) will support Planning Grants to build capacity for the development of collaborative infrastructure to: (a) facilitate innovative partnerships, networks, and theories of action for broadening participation in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) at scale and (b) lead to the establishment of future centers, alliances, or other large-scale networks to address a broadening participation challenge. While this solicitation is open to all, NSF INCLUDES Design and Development Launch Pilots are especially encouraged to apply, as a Planning Grant could serve as an intermediate conduit for bringing their exploratory pilot work to scale. A hallmark of NSF INCLUDES is to support the development of collaborative infrastructure to achieve systemic change. Collaborative infrastructure refers to the process by which partnering organizations come together with a shared vision; map out mutually reinforcing activities; develop goals, objectives, and measures to chart their progress; engage in constant communication; and advance the potential for expansion, sustainability, and scaling that would not be possible otherwise.

Proposers funded through this solicitation may use the Planning Grant funding

to organize catalytic activities (including, but not limited to, workshops and conferences) that can help collaborating organizations to crystallize their broadening participation vision and to develop one or more of the five NSF INCLUDES design elements of collaborative infrastructure. An individual may be listed as a PI or Co-PI on only one NSF INCLUDES Planning Grant proposal.

Proposal Deadline: December 3, 2019 and July 13, 2020

[Track this opportunity in Pivot >>](#)

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Spencer Foundation: Large Research Grants on Education

The Spencer Foundation invites proposals for its [large research grants on education](#). These support education research projects that will contribute to the improvement of education, broadly conceived. This program supports proposals with multiple disciplinary and methodological perspectives that develop new foundational knowledge that may also have a lasting impact on policy-making, practice or educational discourse.

Proposal Deadline: January 14, 2020, 12pm CT

[Track this opportunity in Pivot >>](#)

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NDSU Rodent Training Series

The NDSU Rodent training series is a 4 course training series which covers basic mouse handling and techniques. The series is designed to provide foundational training and experience for faculty, staff, and students. Participation in all sessions is encouraged. Space is limited so register early.

Fall Course Schedule:

- **Anesthesia, Euthanasia, Necropsy**
Wednesday, October 9 | 8-9:30 AM | Sudro 207
Class is Full - Registration Closed
- **Breeding, Genotyping, Injections**
Wednesday, October 30 | 3-4:30 PM | Van Es 107
[Register for this session >>](#)
- **Venipuncture**
Wednesday, November 20 | 3-4:30 PM | Van Es 107
[Register for this session >>](#)

The Rodent Training Series is sponsored by the Vice President for Research and Creative Activity. If you have questions about these sessions, please contact the IACUC Administrator, Josie Hayden, at 701.231.8114 or josie.hayden@ndsu.edu.



National Council of University Research Administrators Education Program Workshops

Sponsored Programs is sponsoring three webinars that are a part of the National Council of University Research Administrators (NCURA) education program.

NIH Fundamentals Workshop:

The NIH Fundamentals provides a primary basis of understanding of proposals to and awards from the National Institutes of Health (NIH). This workshop will give you the basics and we will walk you through the grants process, and give you an overview of key resources and websites you will need to be successful. The program is perfect for someone new to Research Administration, as well as for Research Administrators seeking to expand their knowledge of federal funding agencies. The curriculum provides an overview of the policies and procedures essential to preparing successful proposals to and managing grant awards from the NIH.

Date: October 16, 2019

Time: 1:30PM – 5:00PM

Location: Research 1, Room 148/154

Financial Research Compliance Workshop:

The Financial Research Compliance workshop is a professional development opportunity that focuses primarily on the financial regulatory compliance aspects of Research Administration. This workshop provides an in-depth look at financial compliance issues through a combination of lecture, case studies, review of Federal audit reports, and a discussion of best practices.

Date: November 20, 2019

Time: 1:30PM – 5:00PM

Location: Research 1, Room 148/154

NSF Fundamentals Workshop:

The NSF Fundamentals workshop provides a primary basis of understanding of proposals to and awards from the National Science Foundation (NSF). The program is perfect for someone new to research administration, as well as for research administrators seeking to expand their knowledge of federal funding agencies. The curriculum provides an overview of the policies and procedures essential to preparing successful proposals to and managing grant awards from NSF.

This workshop took place September 18, 2019.

[Access the recording >>](#)

If you have any questions about these webinars, please contact the Sponsored Programs Office at ndsu.research@ndsu.edu or call 701-231-8045.

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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