

November 9, 2020

Meet NDSU's New Faculty Members

Throughout the year, RCA will be highlighting new faculty in the weekly newsletter.

Full profiles are available on the [RCA website](#).

Ryan Scoble, MFA

Theatre Arts

What are your primary research and scholarly interests?

My research is focused on "the other" in the world of theatre. Some specific areas of interest are sizism and body positivity in the world of theatre, LGBTQ+ theatre and gender performance, and the training methodologies of Michael Chekhov.



Where are you from and where did you pursue your education?

I'm originally from right outside Nashville, TN, but spent 14 years in NYC, and 2 years in Cleveland, OH. I earned my Bachelor of Music degree in Musical Theatre from New York University, my MEd in Educational Theatre from The City College of New York (CCNY), and my MFA in Acting from Kent State University.

What excites you about NDSU?

I'm excited for my first full-time position within higher education. I love shaping young actors for professional careers in the business.

What motivates you?

My students.

[Learn more about Ryan >>](#)

NDSU researchers featured on list of world's top cited scientists

NDSU researchers are included among the top scientists in the world on a list released by Stanford University. Originally published in 2019, the rankings were updated in October, 2020 and show career-long citation impact through the end of 2019. The list utilizes algorithms that strive to quantify and systematically rank individuals into consistent scientific fields.

NDSU researchers and their scientific field on the list include:

- Kalidas Shetty, Biotechnology
- Lawrence P. Reynolds, Dairy & Animal Science
- William W. Beatty, Experimental Psychology
- Michael D. Robinson, Social Psychology
- Mukund P. Sibi, Organic Chemistry
- Michael R. Kessler, Polymers
- Scott A. Wood, Geochemistry & Geophysics
- Gordon P. Bierwagen (Emeritus), Polymers
- Dale A. Redmer (Emeritus), Dairy & Animal Science
- Alan R. Denton, Fluids & Plasmas
- Dean C. Webster, Polymers
- Abraham A. Ungar, General Mathematics
- Kalpana S. Katti, Materials
- Guodong Liu, Analytical Chemistry
- Qifeng Zhang, Nanoscience & Nanotechnology
- Jagdish Singh, Pharmacology & Pharmacy
- Dennis E. Tallman (Emeritus), Energy

- Ghodrat Karami , Mechanical Engineering & Transports
- Marinus L. Otte, Environmental Sciences
- Sylvio May, Chemical Physics
- Sumathy Krishnan, Energy
- Stuart G. Croll (Emeritus), Polymers
- Jeremy Straub, Optoelectronics & Photonics
- Erik K. Hobbie, Chemical Physics

The list is compiled from a set of metrics including total citations; the Hirsch h-index (which quantifies the cumulative impact of a scholar's work) and the co-authorship-adjusted Schreiber hm-index; the number of citations to papers as a single author; the number of citations to papers as single or first author; and the number of citations to papers as single, first, or last author.

Utilizing data from Scopus, an abstract and citation database, the values of the metrics are then used to calculate a composite score for the most-cited researchers. These scores are provided both with and without self-citations to lessen the impact of researchers employing extreme self-citations or the use of citation farms (small clusters of researchers massively citing each other's work). Institutional affiliation and the respective country are inferred based on most recent publications according to the Scopus data.

Besides the composite score, the list also ranks scientists by most common scientific field and the two most common scientific subfields of their publications along with the percentage for each based on the standard Science-Metrix journal classification system. These classifications include 22 main fields and 176 subfields.

The updated study was published in PLOS Biology in October, 2020:
<https://journals.plos.org/plosbiology/article?id=10.1371/journal.pbio.3000918>.



Congratulations to all award recipients from September 2020!

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 >>](#)



SAVE THE DATE: APRIL 19-23, 2021

The 2021 NDSU Explore **VIRTUAL** Showcase of Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity will take place online during Undergraduate Research Week: April 19-23, 2021.

Undergraduate students in all disciplines are invited to showcase their research and creative projects at this event.

Registration and schedule of events will be available spring semester.

Understanding the NIH Peer-Review Process: SBIR / STTR Grants

On Tuesday, November 10, beginning at 11:30am, [SHARPhub](#) is hosting a free, virtual workshop on the National Institutes of Health review process. In

this workshop, you'll learn what reviewers look for in SBIR/STTR applications, the role of different reviewers, how to interpret your summary statement, and what to do if you have questions. Panelists will perform a mock review to give you an inside look at how peer researchers review NIH grant applications for scientific and technical merit.

The session will feature:

- Overview of the NIH peer-review process;
- Mock peer-review session;
- Tips for submitting a successful SBIR / STTR application;
- Application resources and programs;
- What to do if you have questions.

[More information and registration >>](#)

COVID-19 Guidance for researchers is available on the [RCA Website](#), including NDSU guidance for PIs, Federal Agency guidance, and Funding Opportunities. As this situation is rapidly changing, please refer to the [NDSU COVID-19 Preparedness and Response page](#) for additional information.

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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.

- [NSF: Scholarships in STEM \(S-STEM\)](#)
Notification Deadline: November 10, 2020
- [NEH: Preservation Assistance Grants](#)
Notification Deadline: November 18, 2020

Looking for
Collaborators?
Search
[Researcher
Profiles](#)

In Search of
Equipment?
Check the
[NDSU Equipment
Database](#)



Need to update your profile?
Click here to learn how!

DoD: Army Research Institute for the Behavioral and Social Sciences BAA

The Army Research Institute (ARI) is the Army's lead agency for the conduct of research, development, and analyses for the improvement of Army readiness and performance via research advances and applications of the behavioral and social sciences that address personnel, organization, and Soldier and leader development issues. Programs funded under this [Broad Agency Announcement \(BAA\)](#) include basic research, applied research, and advanced technology development that can improve human performance and Army readiness.

Topic areas of interest include:

- Understanding Team Dynamics;
- Improving Leadership and Leader Development;
- Identifying, Assessing, and Assigning Quality Personnel;
- Enhancing Lifelong Learning.

This BAA is open through April 29, 2023

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High Plains Intermountain Center for Agricultural Health and Safety

The High Plains Intermountain Center for Agricultural Health and Safety (HICAHS) is seeking proposals for the Emerging Issues Grant Program. Projects will be funded on a rolling basis, up to \$25,000 funded per project, on the following priorities identified by regional stakeholders:

- COVID-19;
- Labor shortages and high worker turnover;
- Mental health;
- Youth on the farm;

- Zoonotic diseases;
- and more.

Proposals will be considered for research, intervention, and educational programs. Projects must be completed by August 14, 2021.

[Click here for eligibility requirements and application instructions.](#)

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ND EPSCoR Funding Opportunities

The North Dakota Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (ND EPSCoR) currently has two open calls for proposals:

ND ACES Track-1 Emerging Area Seed Awards

The 2020-2025 ND EPSCoR National Science Foundation (NSF) Research Infrastructure Improvement (RII) Track-1 cooperative agreement, *New Discoveries in the Advanced Interface of Computation, Engineering, and Science (ND-ACES)*, has a mission to contribute to cancer research in ways that have state, national, and international ramifications and underpin sustainable activities for a trained and diverse workforce and informed populace and lead to future (beyond the scope of this project) efforts focused on new therapeutic solutions. To accomplish this, faculty from institutions across the state are participating in the Center for Cellular Biointerfaces in Science and Engineering (CCBSE).

The ND-ACES team recognizes several areas of spin-off and emerging research that may expand the reach and capacity of ND-ACES and increase the opportunity for sustainability. Thus, the Track-1 has a pool of funds available each year to support seed awards focused on high-risk, high-impact emerging areas or gaps in the current biosciences research. The RFP lists the following seven areas of interest:

1. Imaging Techniques for Cell Growth in Testbeds,
2. Inclusion of Additional Cell Types and Fluid Flow Conditions in Testbeds,
3. Innovation Pilot Funding and Translational Seed Research that Fit the CCBSE Mission,
4. New and Efficient Computational Techniques for Evaluation of Cancer Progression and Biology,
5. Multimedia Art Modules for Explaining CCBSE Science,

6. New Biomaterials in Tissue Engineering and Advanced Manufacturing of Biomaterials, and
7. Novel Biobased Specialty Crop Extracts for Anticancer Therapy Applications.

Deadline: November 16, 2020; Noon

ND NASA EPSCoR Supplemental Project Funding

Under this solicitation, funding will be awarded in the following focus areas that are designed to promote, develop, and expand NASA research in North Dakota in accordance with NASA's program:

- NASA 2017 [Strategic Technology Investment Plan](#)
- NASA 2018 [Strategic Plan](#)
- NASA 2020 [Technology Taxonomy](#)

Deadline: November 16, 2020; Noon

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NEH: Institutes for Advanced Topics in Digital Humanities

The [Institutes for Advanced Topics in the Digital Humanities](#) program supports national or regional (multistate) training programs for scholars, humanities professionals, and advanced graduate students to broaden and extend their knowledge of digital humanities. Through this program NEH seeks to increase the number of humanities scholars and practitioners using digital technology in their research and to broadly disseminate knowledge about advanced technology tools and methodologies relevant to the humanities.

Applicants may apply to create institutes that are a single opportunity or are offered multiple times to different audiences. Institutes may be as short as a few days or as long as six weeks and held at a single site or at multiples sites; virtual institutes are also permissible. Training opportunities could be offered before or after regularly occurring scholarly meetings, during the summer months, or during appropriate times of the academic year. The duration of a program should allow for full and thorough treatment of the topic; it should also be appropriate for the intended audience.

These professional development programs may focus on a particular computational method, such as network or spatial analysis. They may also target the needs of a particular humanities discipline or audience.

Optional Draft Deadline: January 9, 2021

Application Deadline: March 2, 2021

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NEH: Preservation Assistance Grants for Smaller Institutions - 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.

NEH Preservation Assistance Grants : Notify RCA by 11/18/2020, 5:00 p.m. if you are interested in submitting to this program.

Preservation Assistance Grants help small and mid-sized institutions — such as libraries, museums, historical societies, archival repositories, cultural organizations, town and county records offices, and colleges and universities — improve their ability to preserve and care for their significant humanities collections. These may include special collections of books and journals, archives and manuscripts, prints and photographs, moving images, sound recordings, architectural and cartographic records, decorative and fine art objects, textiles, archaeological and ethnographic artifacts, furniture, historical objects, and digital materials. Allowable activities include:

- general preservation assessments;
- consultations with preservation professionals to address a specific preservation issue, need, or problem;
- purchase of storage furniture and preservation supplies;
- purchase of environmental monitoring equipment; and
- education and training.

LIMITED SUBMISSION: Only one application is allowed per applicant. Distinct collecting entities of a larger organization may apply under this announcement, such as the library and museum of a university or two historic sites within a historical society.

NIH: Aging, Cancer-Initiating Cells, and Cancer Development (U01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

Through this Funding Opportunity Announcement ([RFA-CA-20-040](#)), the National Cancer Institute (NCI) and National Institute on Aging (NIA) will promote research to advance the understanding of the mechanistic factors and cellular interactions during aging that contribute to cancer initiation. Collaborations are strongly encouraged between scientists in the fields of aging biology and cancer biology. Applications should address key questions regarding how hallmarks of aging that lead to impaired cellular activities (metabolic alterations, proteostasis, epigenetic changes, and DNA repair) and alterations in the microenvironment (inflammation and immunosenescence) contribute to the development and outgrowth of cancer-initiating cells.

Deadline: February 17, 2021

NSF DCL: Strengthening American Infrastructure (SAI)

With this [Dear Colleague Letter \(DCL\)](#) the National Science Foundation (NSF) seeks to build research capacity that can address challenging infrastructure contexts that require a human- and social-centered approach. NSF anticipates nurturing and growing a research community in SAI over the longer term. This DCL constitutes the first step in that direction. NSF invites conference and EAGER proposals that will bring together experts across disciplines to support substantial and potentially pathbreaking, untested fundamental research grounded in user-centered concepts and offering the potential to substantially improve or transform the design, use, development, cost-effectiveness, or maintenance of U.S. infrastructure. These proposals should include a central focus on at least one Directorate for Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences (SBE) program area with the lead PI being an expert in social, behavioral, or economic science. Proposals must also demonstrate an interdisciplinary approach beyond that of any single Program or NSF Directorate.

NSF is particularly interested in proposals that integrate a deep understanding of human cognition, perception, information processing,

decision making, social and cultural behavior, legal frameworks, governmental structures, and related areas into the design, development, and sustainability of infrastructure. Infrastructure may be of any kind, including cyber, economic, educational, physical, and social.

NSF is also interested in proposals that include development of new or improved performance metrics that can help stakeholders more effectively and efficiently assess infrastructure usability, cost-effectiveness, sustainability, resilience, and adaptability to changing circumstances.

Conference proposal deadline: November 30, 2020

EAGER concept outline deadline: December 11, 2020 (earlier if possible)



NSF: Environmental Convergence Opportunities in Chemical, Bioengineering, Environmental, and Transport Systems (ECO-CBET)

The National Science Foundation (NSF) Environmental Convergence Opportunities in Chemical, Bioengineering, Environmental, and Transport Systems (ECO-CBET) solicitation [[NSF 20-517](#)] will support activities that confront vexing environmental engineering and sustainability problems by uncovering and incorporating fundamental knowledge to design new processes, materials, and devices from a systems-level perspective. Projects should be compelling and reflect sustained, coordinated efforts from interdisciplinary research teams. A key objective of the solicitation is to encourage conversations and robust collaborations amongst the chemical process, transport phenomena, bioengineering, and environmental and sustainability research communities such that unanticipated solutions may arise. Furthermore, training the future workforce to actively engage and be successful in interdisciplinary research will be necessary to continually innovate given the scope of the environmental problems faced by our global community.

Teams should be constructed in such a manner that expertise is complementary and distinct, drawing from the program descriptions as inspiration; non-traditional collaborations between research communities is highly encouraged. There should be at least three named investigators to ensure a diversity of perspectives. Teams may also wish to consider, as appropriate, incorporating individuals with expertise

in manufacturing or social sciences.

Pre-Proposal Deadline: February 12, 2020



NSF: Formal Methods in the Field

The National Science Foundation (NSF) Formal Methods in the Field (FMitF) program [[NSF 20-613](#)] aims to bring together researchers in formal methods with researchers in other areas of computer and information science and engineering to jointly develop rigorous and reproducible methodologies for designing and implementing correct-by-construction systems and applications with provable guarantees. FMitF encourages close collaboration between two groups of researchers. The first group consists of researchers in the area of formal methods, which, for the purposes of this solicitation, is broadly defined as principled approaches based on mathematics and logic to system modeling, specification, design, analysis, verification, and synthesis. The second group consists of researchers in the “field,” which, for the purposes of this solicitation, is defined as a subset of areas within computer and information science and engineering that currently do not benefit from having established communities already developing and applying formal methods in their research. This solicitation limits the field to the following areas that stand to directly benefit from a grounding in formal methods: computer networks, distributed/operating systems, embedded systems, human centered computing, and machine learning. A proposal pursuing a different field area must make a strong case for why the field area of interest is one that does not currently benefit from formal methods but would be a strong candidate for inclusion as a field area.

The FMitF program solicits two classes of proposals:

Track I: Research proposals: Each proposal must have at least one Principal Investigator (PI) or co-PI with expertise in formal methods and at least one with expertise in one or more of these fields: computer networks, distributed/operating systems, embedded systems, human centered computing, and machine learning. Proposals are expected to address fundamental contributions to both formal methods and the respective field(s) and should include a proof of concept in the field along with a detailed evaluation plan that discusses intended scope of applicability, trade-offs, and limitations. All proposals are expected to contain a

detailed collaboration plan that clearly highlights and justifies the complementary expertise of the PIs / co-PIs in the designated areas and describes the mechanisms for continuous bi-directional interaction. Projects are limited to \$750,000 in total budget, with durations of up to four years.

Track II: Transition to Practice (TTP) proposals: The objective of this track is to support the ongoing development of extensible and robust formal-methods research prototypes / tools to facilitate usability and accessibility to a larger and more diverse community of users. These proposals are expected to support the development, implementation, and deployment of later-stage successful formal methods research and tools into operational environments in order to bridge the gap between research and practice. A TTP proposal must include a project plan that addresses major tasks and system development milestones as well as an evaluation plan for the working system. Proposals are expected to identify a target user community or organization that will serve as an early adopter of the technology. Collaborations with industry are strongly encouraged. Projects are limited to \$100,000 in total budget, with durations of up to 18 months.

Deadline: February 16, 2021



NSF: Human Networks and Data Science

The National Science Foundation (NSF) Human Networks and Data Science (HNDS) program [[NSF 21-514](#)] supports research that enhances understanding of human behavior and how humans interact with and are influenced by their environments by leveraging data science and network science research across a broad range of topics. HNDS research will identify ways in which dynamic, distributed, and heterogeneous data can provide novel answers to fundamental questions about individual and group behavior. HNDS is especially interested in proposals that provide data-rich insights about human networks to support improved health, prosperity, and security.

HNDS has two tracks:

Human Networks and Data Science – Infrastructure (HNDS-I). Infrastructure proposals will address the development of data resources and relevant analytic techniques that support fundamental Social, Behavioral and Economic (SBE)

research. Successful proposals will, within the financial resources provided by the award, construct user-friendly large-scale next-generation data resources and relevant analytic techniques and produce a finished product that will enable new types of data-intensive research. The databases or techniques should have significant impacts, either across multiple fields or within broad disciplinary areas, by enabling new types of data-intensive research in the SBE sciences.

Human Networks and Data Science – Core Research (HNDS-R). Core research proposals will address theoretically motivated questions about the nature, causes, and/or consequences of human behavior (broadly defined) that occurs within contexts defined by the networks that determine the human experience, from the biological networks in the human body to the sociocultural, economic and geospatial networks that comprise human societies. HNDS-R proposals should be submitted through any primary disciplinary program within SBE and not to this solicitation. HNDS-R is interested in leveraging multi-scale, multi-level network data and techniques of network analysis to further theory development across the social sciences. Proposals that address human behavior within complex hierarchical network structures and/or that address problems involving nonlinear dynamics and network heterogeneity are particularly encouraged. Supported projects are expected to yield results that will enhance, expand, and transform theory and methods, and that generate novel understandings of human networks – particularly understandings that can improve the outcomes of significant societal opportunities and challenges. HNDS-R encourages core research proposals that make innovative use of NSF-supported data networks, data bases, centers, and other forms of scientific infrastructure including those developed by HNDS-I (formerly RIDIR) projects.

Deadline: February 4, 2021

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NSF: Mid-Career Advancement

The Mid-Career Advancement (MCA) program [[NSF 21-516](#)] offers an opportunity for scientists and engineers at the Associate Professor rank (or equivalent) to substantively enhance and advance their research program through synergistic and mutually beneficial partnerships, typically at an institution other than their home institution. Projects that envision new insights on existing problems or identify new but related problems previously inaccessible without new methodology

or expertise from other fields are encouraged.

Partners from outside the PI's own sub-discipline or discipline are encouraged, but not required, to enhance interdisciplinary networking and convergence across science and engineering fields.

By (re)-investing in mid-career investigators, NSF aims to enable and grow a more diverse scientific workforce (more women, persons with disabilities, and underrepresented minorities) at high academic ranks, who remain engaged and active in cutting-edge research.

The MCA is the only cross-directorate NSF program specifically aimed at providing protected time and resources to established scientists and engineers targeted at the mid-career (Associate Professor rank or equivalent) stage. Participating programs in the Directorates for Biological Sciences (BIO), Geosciences (GEO), Engineering (ENG), Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences (SBE), and Education and Human Resources (EHR) will accept MCA proposals. PIs are encouraged to discuss the suitability of their MCA proposal with a program officer from the appropriate directorate (see https://www.nsf.gov/bio/MCA_contacts.jsp).

Deadline: February 1, 2021

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NSF: Scholarships in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics - 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 S-STEM : Notify RCA by 11/10/2020, 5:00 p.m. if you are interested in submitting to this program.

A well-educated science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) workforce is a significant contributor to maintaining the competitiveness of the U.S. in the global economy. The National Science Foundation (NSF) S-STEM program

([NSF 20-526](#)) addresses the need for a high quality STEM workforce in STEM disciplines supported by the program and for the increased success of low-income academically talented students with demonstrated financial need who are pursuing associate, baccalaureate, or graduate degrees in STEM fields.

Recognizing that financial aid alone cannot increase retention and graduation in STEM, the program provides awards to Institutions of Higher Education to fund scholarships and to advance the adaptation, implementation, and study of effective evidence-based curricular and co-curricular activities that support recruitment, retention, transfer (if appropriate), student success, academic / career pathways, and graduation in STEM. The S-STEM program encourages collaborations among different types of participating groups, including but not limited to partnerships among different types of institutions; collaborations of STEM faculty and institutional, educational, and social science researchers; and partnerships among institutions of higher education and business, industry, local community organizations, national labs, or other federal or state government organizations, if appropriate.

The program seeks to 1) increase the number of low-income academically talented students with demonstrated financial need obtaining degrees in S-STEM eligible disciplines and entering the workforce or graduate programs in STEM; 2) improve the education of future scientists, engineers, and technicians, with a focus on low-income academically talented students with demonstrated financial need; and 3) generate knowledge to advance understanding of how interventions or evidence-based curricular and co-curricular activities affect the success, retention, transfer, academic/career pathways, and graduation of low-income students in STEM.

Scholars must be low-income, academically talented students with unmet financial need who are enrolled in an associate, baccalaureate or graduate degree program, with a major in an S-STEM eligible discipline.

The STEM disciplines supported by the S-STEM program include:

- biological sciences (except medicine and other clinical fields);
- physical sciences (including physics, chemistry, astronomy, and materials science);
- mathematical sciences;
- computer and information sciences;
- geosciences;
- engineering; and

- technology areas associated with the preceding disciplines.

LIMITED SUBMISSION: An Institution may submit one proposal (either as a single institution or as subawardee or a member of a Collaborative Research project) from each constituent school or college that awards degrees in an eligible field.

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Proposal Development Virtual Program

The Proposal Development Program provides professional development opportunities for faculty and staff 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.

Writing a Good First Page and Project Summary

December 2, 2020 - Noon

Presenter: Christine Strohm, Grant Writing Consultant

[Register for this session >>](#)

Zoom access information will be shared with registrants.

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Office of Industry Engagement and Intellectual Property Virtual Office Hours

Do you think that your research has resulted in something that is patentable or has commercial potential? Interested in learning more about disclosing an invention or the patenting process? Every Thursday during the Fall semester, the Office of Industry Engagement and Intellectual Property is [hosting a Zoom meeting](#) between 2:00 PM and 4:00 PM to discuss research discoveries and answer general questions about intellectual property. If you can't join us on Thursday afternoons, [reach out](#) and we'll be happy to schedule a time to meet that works with your schedule.

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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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