Undergraduate Research Mentor

Sherri Stastny, Ph.D.

Health, Nutrition, and Exercise Sciences

Describe your research interests / programs:
Nutrition and lifestyle factor identification for healthy aging.

How have undergraduates been involved in your research?
Undergraduate students complete a variety of research tasks from putting together blinded placebo and supplement packets to entering food diary entries submitted by research participants. Thanks to software accessibility students can work at home on some projects while other projects require human interaction in our labs.

What is the best thing about being an undergraduate research mentor?
I really enjoy seeing the "lightbulb" moments in that young student; and
the students bring so many new ideas to our projects!

*Learn more about Dr. Stastny’s experiences and mentoring advice >*>.

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**EXPLORE**

**UNDERGRADUATE EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH AND CREATIVE ACTIVITY**

**SAVE THE DATE**

**APRIL 11, 2019**

Registration will open in Spring semester

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Meet NDSU’s New Assistant Professors

**M. Zubair Malik, Ph.D.**

Computer Science
What are your primary research and scholarly interests?
I work in the area of Software Systems, and my work focuses on automated program analysis, program repair, and program synthesis. I want to make programming more accessible. As computing pervades our everyday lives and the Internet of Things becomes a reality, we will have to engage many more programmers and make the end users smarter. The ability to devise plans and think logically is a basic human trait. However, the majority are not trained to translate their logic to efficient algorithms and reliable imperative code. I want to enhance programming tools such that an average person can produce high quality software using unambiguous natural language or declarative specifications.

Where are you from and where did you pursue your education?
I have a PhD from The University of Texas at Austin in 2014. Subsequently, I worked at the Robotics Institute of Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh as a Post Doctoral Researcher and later as a Research Scientist.

What excites you about NDSU?
It is a long list, but in short: NDSU has outstanding, bright, and respectful students. The staff is extremely warm and friendly. The faculty is diverse and world class. I really enjoy various research collaborations I have at NDSU. While I still feel like a longhorn at heart, I am truly excited to see the dominance of Bison Football team.

What motivates you?
The joy of discovery is the biggest motivator. We are working on cutting edge problems. The very idea that we might find a solution that can change the whole world is exhilarating.
Throughout the year, RCA will feature new assistant professors. These profiles are available on the RCA website. 

Congratulations to all award recipients from December 2018! 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.

NSF Update: Impact on Existing NSF Due Dates
Guidance to the proposer and awardee community was updated on January 25, 2019, to specify that NSF will be extending the deadline date for the solicitations or Dear Colleague Letters (DCLs) listed in the table on the NSF website. The table was updated January 31, 2019, to include any additional affected solicitations and DCLs, along with the revised deadlines. Deadlines for published program descriptions, announcements, solicitations and DCLs that do not appear on the list below remain unchanged.
Pivot is Moving to a New URL

On March 1, 2019, Pivot is moving to https://pivot.proquest.com and the current Pivot URL, https://pivot.cos.com will be discontinued. Traffic to cos.com will not automatically redirect to the new URL, including any links you have saved.

This is a change in address only: all data remains, and the user experience and functionality are unchanged.

Pivot users should update saved links to reflect the new address.

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- NIH: Shared Instrumentation
- NIH: Shared Instrumentation - Animal Research
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- Sanford Health - NDSU Collaborative Research Seed Grants

EVENT
The Outdoor Heritage Fund was established in 2013 as a multi-million dollar program to provide grants to state agencies, tribal governments, political subdivisions, and nonprofit organizations, with higher priority given to projects that enhance conservation practices in the state by:
1. Providing access to private and public lands for sportsmen, including projects that create fish and wildlife habitat and provide access for sportsmen;
2. Improving, maintaining and restoring water quality, soil conditions, plant diversity, animal systems, and by supporting other practices of stewardship to enhance farming and ranching;
3. Developing, enhancing, conserving and restoring wildlife and fish habitat on private and public lands; and
4. Conserving natural areas and creating other areas for recreation through the establishment and development of parks and other recreation areas.

The North Dakota Industrial Commission has oversight of the Outdoor Heritage Fund. The Outdoor Heritage Fund Advisory Board (consisting of 12 voting and 4 ex-officio members) will make recommendations to the Commission on the funding of grants.

Upcoming application deadlines: May 1, 2019; November 1, 2019

NIH: Graduate Research Training Initiative for Student Enhancement (G-RISE) (T32) - 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 G-RISE: Notify RCA by 2/20/2019, 5 p.m. if you intend to apply.
The goal of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Graduate Research Training Initiative for Student Enhancement (G-RISE) program (PAR-19-102) is to develop a diverse pool of scientists earning a Ph.D., who have the skills to successfully transition into careers in the biomedical research workforce. This funding opportunity announcement (FOA) provides support to eligible, domestic institutions to develop and implement effective, evidence-based approaches to biomedical training and mentoring that will keep pace with the rapid evolution of the research enterprise. NIH-NIGMS expects that the proposed research training programs will incorporate didactic, research, mentoring, and career development elements to prepare trainees for careers that will have a significant impact on the health-related research needs of the Nation. This program is limited to applications from training programs at research-active institutions (i.e., those with an average of NIH Research Project Grant funding less than $7.5 million total costs over the last 3 fiscal years; NDSU is eligible). This FOA does not allow appointed Trainees to lead an independent clinical trial but does allow them to obtain research experience in a clinical trial led by a mentor or co-mentor.

Application deadline: May 21, 2019

NIH: Shared Instrumentation Grant Program (S10)

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) Shared Instrument Grant (SIG) Program (PAR-19-179) encourages applications from groups of NIH-supported investigators to purchase or upgrade a single item of expensive, specialized, commercially available instruments or integrated systems. The minimum award is $50,000 of direct costs. There is no maximum price limit for the instrument; however, the maximum award is $600,000 of direct costs. Types of instruments supported include, but are not limited to: X-ray diffractometers, mass spectrometers, nuclear magnetic resonance, spectrometers, DNA and protein
sequencers, biosensors, electron and light microscopes, cell sorters, and biomedical imagers. Three Major Users who have substantial need for the instrument must be identified. Each of these Major Users must be a PD/PI on a distinct active NIH research award in an area of basic, translational, or clinical research. (The requirement is one award per investigator, with more awards per investigator allowed. An award given to multi-PDs/PIs is counted only once towards the fulfillment of this requirement.)

NIH-NIGMS is especially interested in promoting participation of Institutional Development Award (IDeA) states and programs in the S10 Program. The IDeA program will provide co-funding for scientifically meritorious applications from IDeA states and encourages sharing and collaboration among institutions, programs, and states. (North Dakota is an IDeA state.)

Application deadline: May 31, 2019

NIH: Shared Instrumentation for Animal Research Grant Program (S10)

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) Shared Instrumentation for Animal Research (SIFAR) Grant Program (PAR-19-178) encourages applications from groups of NIH-funded investigators to purchase or upgrade scientific instruments necessary to carry out animal experiments in all areas of biomedical research supported by the NIH. Applicants may request clusters of commercially available instruments configured as specialized integrated systems or as series of instruments to support a thematic well-defined area of research using animals or related materials. Priority will be given to uniquely configured systems to support innovative and potentially transformative investigations.
This funding opportunity announcement (FOA) supports requests for state-of-the-art commercially available technologies needed for NIH-funded research using any vertebrate and invertebrate animal species. **This FOA does not support requests for single instruments.** At least one item of the requested instrumentation must cost at least $50,000, after all applicable discounts. No instrument in a cluster can cost less than $20,000, after all applicable discounts. There is no maximum price requirement; however, the maximum award is $750,000 of direct costs.

*Application deadline: May 31, 2019*

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**Prevent Cancer Foundation: 2019 Community 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.

Prevent Cancer Foundation: [Notify RCA](#) by 2/7/2019, 5 p.m. if you intend to apply.

The mission of the Prevent Cancer Foundation is saving lives across all populations through cancer prevention and early detection. One-year, $25,000 Community Grants are awarded to U.S. organizations that will develop new or implement existing community projects/programs in cancer prevention and early detection. Proposed projects must be aligned with their mission to support community projects or programs across the United States that focus on helping to prevent cancer or find it earlier and that demonstrate a potential to make a positive impact, especially in underserved communities.
Sanford Health - NDSU Collaborative Research Seed Grant Program

The fifth Sanford Health - NDSU Collaborative Research Seed Grant program’s Request for Applications (RFA) has been released. Proposals are to be submitted electronically to NDSU.BusinessDev@ndsu.edu by 5:00 PM on March 19, 2019. The full RFA and Application form can be downloaded from the program’s webpage.

Questions regarding suitability of topic areas, collaborating with Sanford, or other program-related questions can be addressed by Business Development (231-6660 or NDSU.businessdev@ndsu.edu).

AHSS Faculty Research Conversations

The College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences is holding its first AHSS Faculty Research Conversations event. This event will provide an opportunity for faculty to share and discuss their recent publications, research, and creative activity with colleagues, students, and other members of the campus community. Sixteen faculty from across the college will participate through poster and book presentations. It will take place from 3-6 p.m. on February 12, 2019, in the Prairie Rose Room of the Memorial Union.
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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