

## RCA UPDATE

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May 14, 2019



Dear Colleagues,

Summer hours are upon us and now is the perfect time to reflect upon the past year.

My start date 10 months ago coincided with NDSU faculty members Christi McGeorge and Dennis Cooley serving as faculty fellows in RCA. Both have had a positive impact on our teams and practices.

They spent time gathering input and developing ideas and recommendations for new RCA programs and processes. Their efforts have changed the way we communicate about research on campus, added cohort programming for new faculty, heightened recognition of the unique individuals who make up our research ranks, and guided recommendations for a revamped conflict of interest policy all with an intent to better serve the faculty.

We have begun to collaborate across the university and state with new models for developing interdisciplinary projects, new industry-university and government-university initiatives that reinforce our land grant mission. In addition, RCA has continued to provide travel grants, research support services, and equipment repair funding to assist the community of scholars in their scholarship.

But this is just the beginning! As we look forward to the coming year, we are working to implement an electronic grant management system,

enhance research development programming, and improve our web presence to assist you in quickly finding the answers and support you need.

Please accept my appreciation for the excellent research you do, your dedication to our students, and your collaboration with the teams in my office. Please continue reaching out to me when our initiatives are working for you. But more importantly, let me know if we aren't reaching the mark. Your input will continue to make us better every day.

Kind regards,  
**Jane Schuh**  
Vice President  
Research and Creative Activity

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**Congratulations to the following faculty who received RCA funding support this year through the travel, research support services, and equipment repair programs:**

***Travel Awards***

Beena Ajmeera, Civil and Environmental Engineering

Laura Aldrich-Wolfe, Biological Sciences

Lisa Arnold, English

Trung Bao Le, Civil and Environmental Engineering

Bradley Benton, History, Philosophy, and Religious Studies  
Anne Blankenship, History, Philosophy, and Religious Studies  
Sarah Boonstoppel, Criminal Justice and Political Science  
Kimble Bromley, Visual Arts  
Jeffrey Bumgarner, Criminal Justice and Political Science  
Dong Cao, Electrical and Computer Engineering  
Bingcan Chen, Plant Sciences  
Larry Cihacek, School of Natural Resource Sciences  
Ross Collins, Communications  
Joe Deutsch, Health, Nutrition, and Exercise Science  
Dominc Fischer, Architecture and Landscape Architecture  
Charlott Greub, Architecture and Landscape Architecture  
Kyle Hackney, Health, Nutrition, and Exercise Science  
Harlene Hatterman-Valenti, Plant Sciences  
Joel Hektner, Human Development and Family Science  
Verlin Hinsz, Psychology  
Donald Johnson, History, Philosophy, and Religious Studies  
Dinesh Katti, Civil and Environmental Engineering  
Matthew Kirkwood, Architecture and Landscape Architecture  
Ryan Kota, Health, Nutrition, and Exercise Science  
Andrei Kryjevski, Physics  
Ben Laabs, Geosciences  
Trung Le, Civil and Environmental Engineering  
Zhibin Lin, Civil and Environmental Engineering  
Jenny Linker Zarak, Health, Nutrition, and Exercise Science  
Zhaohui Liu, Plant Pathology  
Katie Lyman, Health, Nutrition, and Exercise Science  
Christi McGeorge, Human Development and Family Science  
Ryan McGrath, Health, Nutrition, and Exercise Science  
Keerthi Nawarathna, Electrical and Computer Engineering  
Stephen O'Rourke, Pharmaceutical Sciences  
Jiajia Rao, Plant Sciences  
Kenton Rodgers, Chemistry and Biochemistry  
Paul Rokke, Psychology

Kelly Sassi, English  
Indranil SenGupta, Mathematics  
Teresa Shume, School of Education  
Sherri Stastny, Health, Nutrition, and Exercise Science  
Jeremy Straub, Computer Science  
Lydia Tackett, Geosciences  
Anna Maria Visilia, Architecture and Landscape Architecture  
Heath Wing, Modern Languages  
Wenjie Xia, Civil and Environmental Engineering  
Mijia Yang, Civil and Environmental Engineering  
Zhongyu Yang, Chemistry and Biochemistry  
Ravi Yellavajjala, Civil and Environmental Engineering  
Nita Yodo, Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering  
Mingao Yuan, Statistics  
Yan Zhang, Mechanical Engineering  
Shaobin Zhong, Plant Pathology

### ***Research Support Services***

Erika Beseler Thompson and Nathan Wood, School of Education  
Elizabeth Blodgett Salafia, Human Development and Family Science  
Amanda Brooks, Pharmaceutical Sciences  
Ivan Lima, Electrical and Computer Engineering  
David Rider, Entomology  
Dali Sun, Electrical and Computer Engineering  
Danling Wang, Electrical and Computer Engineering

### ***Equipment Repair***

Beena Ajmera and Dinesh Katti, Civil and Environmental Engineering  
Uwe Burghaus, Chemistry and Biochemistry  
Greg Cook, Chemistry and Biochemistry  
Chunju Gu, Coatings and Polymeric Materials  
MD Mukhlesur Rahman, Plant Sciences  
Sathish Venkatachalem, Pharmaceutical Sciences

## **Revised Human Subjects Regulations: Waiving Documentation of Informed Consent**

Waiving documentation of informed consent, often referred to as “waiving the signature requirement,” continues to be approvable when:

- i. The individual’s signature is the only record linking the subject to the research, and the principal risk is the potential harm resulting from a breach of confidentiality;
- ii. The research involves no more than minimal risk, and involves no procedures for which written consent is normally required outside of the research context;

In addition, the revised Common Rule has added a new category for waiving documentation of informed consent:

- iii. When subjects are members of a distinct cultural group or community in which signing forms is not the norm, the research is no more than minimal risk, and there is an appropriate alternative mechanism for documenting that informed consent was obtained.

While there has been no guidance on what constitutes an ‘appropriate alternative mechanism’, recording a verbal consent prior to a recorded interview may suffice in some circumstances, and the IRB will evaluate each mechanism on a case-by-case basis.

For questions, please contact Kristy Shirley [[kristy.shirley@ndsu.edu](mailto:kristy.shirley@ndsu.edu); 231-8995].

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Looking for  
Collaborators?  
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## HICAHS: Emerging Issues in Agricultural Worker Health and Safety

The [High Plains Intermountain Center for Agricultural Health and Safety \(HICAHS\)](#) has funding available for short-term projects that address [emerging issues](#) affecting agricultural worker health and safety. Investigators and students of all levels are invited to apply. Given the short funding period, proposals for student summer work or additions to projects already in progress are encouraged.

**Application deadline:** June 2, 2019, 11:59pm MDT to [hicahs@colostate.edu](mailto:hicahs@colostate.edu)

**Project end date:** August 15, 2019

**Budget maximum:** \$25,000

[View proposal and budget requirements >>](#)

For more information, please contact Joshua Schaeffer, Emerging Issues Program Lead, [joshua.schaeffer@colostate.edu](mailto:joshua.schaeffer@colostate.edu)

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## NEH: Summer Stipends - 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 Summer Stipends:** [Contact Christina Weber](#) regarding the nomination process and internal NDSU deadline.

[NEH Summer Stipends](#) support individuals pursuing advanced research that is of value to humanities scholars, general audiences, or both. Eligible projects usually result in articles, monographs, books, digital materials and publications, archaeological site reports, translations, or editions. Projects must not result solely in the collection of data; instead they must also incorporate analysis and interpretation. Summer Stipends support continuous full-time work on a humanities project for a period of two consecutive months. Summer Stipends support projects at any stage of development. Up to two applicants may be nominated by their institution.

*Application deadline: September 25, 2019 (for projects beginning May 2020)*

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## **NSF: Research Experiences for Teachers (RET) in Engineering and Computer 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.

**NSF RET:** [Notify RCA](#) by 6/3/2019, 4:00 p.m. if you intend to apply.

The National Science Foundation (NSF) Research Experiences for Teachers (RET) in Engineering and Computer Science program [\[NSF 17-575\]](#) supports active long-term collaborative partnerships between K-12 Science, Technology, Engineering, Computer and Information Science, and Mathematics (STEM) in-



service and pre-service teachers, full-time community college faculty, and university faculty and students to enhance the scientific disciplinary knowledge and capacity of the STEM teachers and/or community college faculty through participation in authentic summer research experiences with engineering and computer science faculty researchers. The research projects and experiences all revolve around a focused research area related to engineering and/or computer science that will provide a common cohort experience to the participating educators. The K-12 STEM teachers and/or full-time community college faculty also translate their research experiences and new scientific knowledge into their classroom activities and curricula.

This announcement features two mechanisms for support of in-service and pre-service K-12 STEM teachers and full-time community college faculty:

1. **RET supplements:** RET supplements may be included outside this solicitation in proposals for new or renewed ENG and CISE grants or as supplements to ongoing ENG- and CISE-funded projects.
2. **RET Site awards:** New RET in Engineering and Computer Science Sites, through this solicitation, are based on independent proposals from engineering and/or computer and/or information science departments, schools or colleges to initiate and conduct research participation projects for K-12 STEM teachers and/or full-time community college faculty.

*RET Sites proposal deadline: September 18, 2019*



## **NSF: Sociology**

The National Science Foundation (NSF) [Sociology Program](#) supports basic research on all forms of human social organization -- societies, institutions, groups and demography -- and processes of individual and institutional change. The Program encourages theoretically focused empirical investigations aimed at improving the explanation of fundamental social processes. Included is research on organizations and organizational behavior, population dynamics, social movements, social groups, labor force participation, stratification and

mobility, family, social networks, socialization, gender, race and the sociology of science and technology. The Program supports both original data collections and secondary data analysis that use the full range of quantitative and qualitative methodological tools. Theoretically grounded projects that offer methodological innovations and improvements for data collection and analysis are also welcomed.

**Please Note:** Principal Investigators should select **PD 98-1331** in the program announcement/solicitation block on the proposal Cover Sheet for submission of regular research projects to the Sociology Program and **NSF 18-577** for submission of Sociology Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement proposals.

*Proposal Deadline: August 15, 2019*

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## **RWJF: Research on Business Culture of Health**

The [Robert Wood Johnson Foundation](#) (RWJF), the nation's largest philanthropy dedicated solely to health, has issued a [call for proposals](#) for research on the ways that for-profit anchor businesses advance health and well-being in the communities where they are located. Funded studies are expected to include rigorous empirical research that can inform the business case for why and how more companies serve as anchor institutions in their immediate surrounding geographies. Studies should also inform future RWJF strategies to motivate companies to act in a way that promotes health and well-being. Potential research questions might include:

- What factors facilitate or hinder anchor businesses from addressing health equity or social determinants of health?
- What are the motivations and incentives of anchor businesses across a range of sectors?
- What kind of equity-promoting narrative and framing resonates with the leaders of corporate anchor institutions?

- What interventions (led or co-led by corporate anchors) appear to be effective or show promise?
- What tools and resources would most help leaders of anchor businesses who are committed to community health improvement?

Proposals must discuss approaches focused in one or more geographically defined communities. Projects may be generated from a range of disciplines, including business management and administration, finance, marketing, economics, labor studies, anthropology, communication science, sociology, program evaluation, political science, public policy, public health and health care, public administration, law, and related fields. Under this RFP, grants of up to \$250,000 for up to eighteen months will be awarded to three to four studies. Proposals that exceed the recommended budget must provide strong justification for the proposed budget.

*Application deadline: June 12, 2019*

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## **USDA AFRI: FY2019-2020 Foundational and Applied Science Program**

The USDA Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) [Foundational and Applied Science Program](#) supports grants in six AFRI priority areas to advance knowledge in both fundamental and applied sciences important to agriculture. The six priority areas are:

1. Plant Health and Production and Plant Products;
2. Animal Health and Production and Animal Products;
3. Food Safety, Nutrition, and Health;
4. Bioenergy, Natural Resources, and Environment;
5. Agriculture Systems and Technology; and
6. Agriculture Economics and Rural Communities.

Research-only, extension-only, and integrated research, education and/or extension projects are solicited in this [Request for Applications \(RFA\)](#).

Significant changes described in this RFA include:

1. The inclusion of two fiscal years with separate sets of deadlines for each year;
2. Acceptance of year-round conference grant applications;
3. The addition of new program area priorities within the Plant health and production and plant products; Animal health and production and animal products; Food safety, nutrition, and health; Bioenergy, natural resources, and environment; and Crosscutting program areas; and
4. The addition of 5 specific priorities for co-funding with the American Egg Board, Colorado Potato Administrative Committee, Kansas Wheat Commission, National Peanut Board, and National Potato Promotion Board.

The closing date is December 18, 2019. Some programs require Letters of Intent as follows:

- Agricultural Innovation through Gene Editing - Letter of Intent required  
Letter of Intent Deadline - June 19, 2019
- Agricultural Microbiomes - Letter of Intent required  
Letter of Intent Deadline - July 9, 2019
- Tactical Sciences for Agricultural Biosecurity - Letter of Intent required  
Letter of Intent Deadline - July 9, 2019
- Inter-Disciplinary Engagement in Animal Systems (IDEAS) - Letter of Intent required  
Letter of Intent Deadline - June 20, 2019
- All Conference Grants - Letter of Intent required  
Letter of Intent Deadline - Minimum of 135 days before the conference begins

See [Program Area Priorities for additional information](#) (See Part I, C.).

## NDSU IACUC: Update to Blood Collection Guiding Principle

The NDSU Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee ([IACUC](#)) has updated the [Blood Collection](#) Guiding Principle; if you work with animals at NDSU please take a moment to review the revised document.

All NDSU IACUC Guiding Principles can be found on the [NDSU IACUC Guidelines](#) website.

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## USDA-NIFA Announcement: Changes to F&A / Indirect Cost Limitation

USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) recently [announced](#) changes to the F&A / indirect cost limitation to be used in open and new requests for applications (RFA's) as well as for new awards issued after December 20, 2018:

“Section 7125 of the 2018 Farm Bill modified Section 1462 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 resulting in a different indirect cost limitation for new competitive awards under many of NIFA's program. As applicable, under the Section 7125 amendment, **indirect costs are limited to 30 percent of the total Federal funds provided under the award and the limitation on indirect costs applies to both the initial grant award and to any subgrants, so that the total of all indirect costs charged against the total Federal funds awarded does not exceed the 30 percent limitation.** NIFA has updated the [indirect cost recovery table](#) on the NIFA website to list the new indirect cost rate requirements by program.” Additionally, USDA/NIFA has developed [guidance for calculation of indirect costs](#) under the new requirements.

"For applicable programs, this requirement is effective for new awards issued after Dec. 20, 2018, regardless of whether grants are Fiscal Year 2018 or 2019 funds. Where grants were awarded after Dec. 20, 2018, grantees will be contacted by the Awards Management Division regarding application of the new indirect cost provisions. For impacted RFAs that have closed, NIFA will work with entities recommended for funding, prior to award, to make any necessary changes to comply with the new provision. All impacted open RFAs have been modified to include the new provision. Future RFAs will include the new provision, as applicable."

Please contact Sponsored Programs at [ndsu.research@ndsu.edu](mailto:ndsu.research@ndsu.edu) for questions related to F&A/IDC calculations in proposal budgets or the potential impact on new USDA/NIFA awards.

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## SBIR Road Tour Coming to Fargo

Every year, the Department of Defense, National Institutes of Health, NASA, Department of Energy, National Science Foundation, and other government agencies fund **small technology-based businesses** with more than \$3B through the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs. The SBIR and STTR programs provide non-dilutive funding to support research, product development, and commercialization of new technologies. **SBIR and STTR funding is not a loan and never needs to be repaid.**

The SBIR Road Tour is a national outreach effort to connect small businesses with representatives from each of these government agencies to engage small tech companies, including women and minority-owned research and development businesses. Attendees will have the opportunity to meet directly with Federal Program Managers who fund a wide spectrum of innovative ideas.

**The SBIR Road Tour will be in Fargo, ND, on Friday, May 24, 2019.**

If you are interested in meeting one-on-one with agency representatives about your company or technology research, register for the SBIR Road Tour.

[Learn more and Register >>](#)



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

[Contact Us](#)



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*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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