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NDSU OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND CREATIVE ACTIVITY

RCA UPDATE

August 20, 2018

Welcome to the Research and Creative Activity Update!

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.

These weekly email updates are archived on the [RCA Website](#).

SEARCH FOR NDSU SCHOLARS

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

- [ACLS: Religion, Journalism & International Affairs](#)
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- [DoD: DARPA Young Faculty Award](#)
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NEWS & NOTICES

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EVENTS

- [Save the Date: NDSU EXPLORE](#)

ACLS: Religion, Journalism & International Affairs Program; Humanities and Social Sciences Fellowship

The [American Council of Learned Societies](#) is accepting applications to its [Luce/ACLS Program in Religion, Journalism & International Affairs](#). The program is a two-part initiative designed to foster new connections between scholars and journalists covering international affairs and, to that end, offers an interrelated set of awards, including programming grants for universities and fellowships for scholars in the humanities and social sciences who study religion in international contexts. Luce/ACLS RJIA Fellowships support scholars in the humanities and related social sciences with a desire to connect their specialist knowledge with journalists and media practitioners. The ultimate goal of the research should be a significant piece of scholarly work by the applicant and concrete steps to engage journalistic and media audiences.

Application deadline: October 24, 2018



American Heart Association

The American Heart Association (AHA) is now accepting applications for [2019 Career Development Awards](#) and mandatory letters of intent for [2019 Collaborative Sciences Awards](#) and [2019 Established Investigator Awards](#).

The [Career Development Award](#) supports highly promising healthcare and academic professionals in the early years of an investigator's first professional appointment, to enable exploration of innovative questions or pilot studies that will provide preliminary data and training necessary to assure the applicant's future success as a research scientist in the field of cardiovascular and stroke research.

Application Deadline: Wednesday, October 17, 2018

The [Collaborative Sciences Award](#) fosters innovative, new collaborative approaches to research projects that propose novel pairings of investigators from at least two broad disciplines. The proposal must focus on the collaborative relationship, such that the scientific objectives could not be achieved without the efforts of at least two co- principal investigators and their respective disciplines. The combination and integration of studies may be inclusive of basic, clinical, population and/or translational research. Applications by existing collaborators are permitted, provided that the proposal is for a new idea or new approach that has not been funded before. Only applicants who submit a letter of intent and are subsequently invited to apply may submit a full application.

Required Letter of Intent Deadline: Tuesday, October 9, 2018; Invited full applications will be due by Thursday, January 31, 2019

The [Established Investigator Award](#) supports mid-career healthcare and academic investigators with unusual promise and in rapid growth phase, who have established records of accomplishments, and demonstrated commitment to questions related to cardiovascular or cerebrovascular science. Only applicants who submit a letter of intent and are subsequently invited to apply may submit a full application.

Required Letter of Intent Deadline: Tuesday, October 23, 2018; Invited full applications will be due by Tuesday, January 15, 2019

AHA Proposal Tips:

- Monitor the [AHA Application Information](#) Web page for updates about subsequent programs.
- You can begin preparing your application even if [Grants@Heart](#) is not yet open for the program to which you will apply.
- The [Supporting Documents](#) page lists the documents that will need to be uploaded as part of the application. Click on each document title for specific instructions.



DoD: DARPA Young Faculty Award

The Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) funds the Young Faculty Award (YFA - [DARPA-RA-18-02](#)) which aims to identify and engage rising stars in junior faculty positions in academia and equivalent positions at non-profit research institutions and expose them to Department of Defense (DoD) and National Security challenges and needs. In particular, this YFA will provide high-impact funding to elite researchers early in their careers to develop innovative new research directions in the context of enabling transformative DoD capabilities. The long-term goal of the program is to develop the next generation of scientists and engineers in the research community who will focus a significant portion of their future careers on DoD and National Security issues. DARPA is particularly interested in identifying outstanding researchers who have previously not been performers on DARPA programs, but the program is open to all qualified applicants with innovative research ideas. [See the FAQs](#) for more information.

Abstract deadline (not required): September 10, 2018; Application deadline: November 13, 2018



EmcArts: Arts in Complex Community Change Workshops

[EmcArts](#) is accepting Letters of Interest from artists and community agencies to host its [2019 Community Change Workshop Series](#). The program, which comprises the Arts in Complex Community Change workshops and Artists as Change Agents Within Complexity workshops, is designed to help both artists and community organizations make effective use of the arts in grappling with complex community challenges.

Letter of Interest deadline: October 15, 2018; Invited full application deadline: December 17, 2018



NIH: Alzheimers Centers for Discovery of New Medicines (U54)

This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) ([RFA-AG-19-010](#)) invites U54 Cooperative Agreement applications aiming to establish multi-component Alzheimer Centers for the Discovery of New Medicines. The overarching purpose of this Centers program is to improve, diversify and reinvigorate the Alzheimers disease (AD) drug development pipeline by accelerating the characterization and experimental validation of next generation therapeutic targets and, integrating the targets into drug discovery campaigns. In addition, this program aims to de-risk potential therapeutics to the point that industry will invest in them, accelerating the delivery of new drugs to AD patients. To this end, the funded Centers will design, develop and disseminate tools that support target enabling packages (TEPs) for the experimental validation of novel, next generation therapeutic targets, including those emanating from the NIA-funded, target discovery programs such as AMP-AD, and initiate early stage drug discovery campaigns against the enabled targets.



NSF DCL: Planning for New Signals in the Soils (Sits)-Themed Industry/University Cooperative Research Centers

The National Science Foundation's (NSF) Directorate for Engineering (ENG), in collaboration with its Computer and Information Science and Engineering (CISE) and Geosciences (GEO) Directorates, aims to encourage convergent research that transforms existing capabilities in understanding dynamic near-surface processes through advances in sensor systems and dynamic models. Specifically, the goal of this Dear Colleague Letter (DCL) is to encourage planning of one or more Industry-University Cooperative Research Centers (IUCRC). The Industry-University Cooperative Research Centers ([NSF IUCRC program](#)) strives to develop long-term partnerships among industry, academe, and government to promote convergent research programs of mutual interest, contribute to the nation's research infrastructure base, enhance the intellectual capacity of the engineering or science workforce through the integration of research and education, and facilitate knowledge and technology transfer. The IUCRC program seeks to achieve these goals by:

- leveraging NSF funds with industry to support graduate students performing industrially-relevant pre-competitive research;
- expanding the innovation capacity of our nation's competitive workforce through partnerships between industries and universities; and
- encouraging the nation's research enterprise to remain competitive through active engagement with academic and industrial leaders throughout the world.

Preliminary proposals for IUCRC planning grants addressing [Sits-themed](#) precompetitive research areas are welcome and will be fully considered. Faculty are encouraged to collaborate within their institutions as well as with other institutions to bring together a multi-institution partnership towards planning a prospective center per the requirements of the IUCRC program.

Looking for collaborators? Visit the [NDSU Scholars database](#).

Pre-proposal deadline: October 17, 2018 and April 17, 2019



Retirement Research Foundation: Projects in Aging

The [Retirement Research Foundation](#) is accepting proposals from nonprofit organizations for local and national projects designed to improve the [quality of life for older Americans](#). Grants will be awarded for projects that provide direct services, advocacy, education and training programs for professionals working with elders, as well as for research that investigates causes and solutions to significant problems of older adults. Advocacy, training, and research projects of national relevance will be considered from organizations located anywhere in the United States, but projects with a local focus will be considered only from organizations based in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Missouri, Wisconsin, and Florida. See the Retirement Research Foundation website for eligibility and application guidelines, as well as examples of previously awarded grants and grant amounts.

Deadline: February 1, 2019



NIH RPPR Requires Commons User ID

NIH annual and final progress reports called RPPRs are completed and submitted in eRA Commons. The Participant section D of an RPPR should include each person who has worked at least one month per year on the project during the reporting period, regardless of the source of compensation. A Commons user ID is now required for all individuals with a postdoctoral, graduate or undergraduate role on a project.

Sponsored Programs Administration will create a Commons user ID for project personnel who do not have an existing ID. Requests for faculty, staff and student Commons IDs should include full name, email address and role on the project (i.e. postdoctoral scholar, undergrad student, faculty PI) and can be submitted via email to ndsu.research@ndsu.edu. The eRA Commons system will send an email to the individual upon account creation. Each account requires activation with an initial login and answer to basic demographic information.

Additional information regarding NIH RPPR completion can be found in the [NIH RPPR Instruction Guide](#).



Science Breakthroughs to Advance Food and Agriculture Research by 2030

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine has recently published a report titled “Science Breakthroughs to Advance Food and Agricultural Research by 2030.” This report ([free download here](#)), supported by the U.S. Department of Agriculture National Institute of Food and Agriculture (USDA-NIFA), the National Science Foundation (NSF), and the Department of Energy (DOE), looks at the new directions of agricultural research over the next decade, giving an insight into where agricultural research is heading and the likely path it will take to get there. The report lists five breakthrough areas:

1. A systems approach to understand the nature of interactions among the different elements of the food and agricultural system can be leveraged to increase overall system efficiency, resilience, and sustainability. Transdisciplinary science and systems approaches should be prioritized to solve agriculture’s most vexing problems.
2. The development and validation of precise, accurate, field-deployable sensors and biosensors will enable rapid detection and monitoring capabilities across various food and agricultural disciplines. Initiatives should be created to more effectively employ existing sensing technologies and to develop new sensing technologies across all areas of food and agriculture.
3. The application and integration of data sciences, software tools, and systems models will enable advanced analytics for managing the food and agricultural system. Initiatives should be established to nurture the emerging area of agri-food informatics and to facilitate the adoption and development of information technology, data science, and artificial intelligence in food and agricultural research.
4. The ability to carry out routine gene editing of agriculturally important organisms will allow for precise and rapid improvement of traits important for productivity and quality. An initiative should be established to exploit the use of genomics and precision breeding to genetically improve traits of agriculturally important organisms.
5. Understanding the relevance of the microbiome to agriculture and harnessing this knowledge to improve crop production, transform feed efficiency, and increase resilience to stress and disease. An initiative should be established to increase the understanding of the animal, soil, and plant microbiomes and their broader applications across the food system.



August Issue of Research Development and Grant Writing News

The August issue of [Research Development and Grant Writing News](#) is now available to view. Use your NDSU login information to access this resource. Various topics are covered, including:

- Mapping Proposals to Agricultural Research Priorities
- Funding for Advanced Building Technologies Research: NSF and DOE
- Federal 2020 Budget Priorities for R&D



Save the Date for NDSU EXPLORE – Showcase of Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity

Mark your calendars: the NDSU EXPLORE Undergraduate Showcase will take place **Thursday, April 11, 2019** in the NDSU Memorial Union.

Please note that this event has moved to the Spring Semester.

Students present their creative projects, whether complete or in-progress, as a poster, oral presentation, or other format.

For more information, visit the [NDSU EXPLORE](#) page online.



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