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To: NDSU-EMPLOYEE-OFFICIAL@LISTSERV.NODAK.EDU
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NDSU OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND CREATIVE ACTIVITY

RCA UPDATE

August 27, 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

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DoD: Naval Engineering Education Consortium (NEEC) Broad Agency Announcement for FY18

The Naval Surface Warfare Center is seeking research of interest in support of the Naval Engineering Education Consortium (NEEC). Many research topics are outlined in the [Broad Agency Announcement](#) (BAA), including advanced materials, electronics, quantum computing, big data, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, advance manufacturing, advanced computer vision and algorithms, automation/robotics, computational fluid dynamics, sensors, novel computing techniques, as well as other topics. Grant awards made from this BAA are planned to be approximately \$150,000. Work funded under a BAA may include basic research, applied research and some advanced technology development research.

Application deadline: October 31, 2018

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



DOE-EERE: Innovative Design Concepts for Standard Molecular Hydropower and Pumped Storage Hydropower

According to the U.S. Department Of Energy (DOE) report [Hydropower Vision](#), today's electricity system is changing rapidly, creating new opportunities for hydropower and pumped storage to contribute to system resilience, reliability, and affordability. The DOE has [announced](#) up to \$9 million in funding for innovative design concepts in the following topic areas:

Topic Area 1: Innovative Design Concepts for Low-head Hydropower

The first topic area in the funding opportunity seeks to stimulate innovative design concepts for small, low-head hydropower plants capable of lowering the capital costs and reducing the environmental impacts of development at new stream-reach (i.e., greenfield) sites.

Topic Area 2: New Use Cases for Pumped Storage Hydropower

The second topic area explores new use cases for pumped storage hydropower, including two key areas of interest: innovative technology concepts that address critical barriers (e.g., time to commissioning) or tap new value streams; and analysis and modeling enhancements that examine how pumped storage can improve electricity system resilience, reliability, and affordability.

Access the full funding opportunity announcement (DE-FOA-0001836) [here](#). Informational webinars will be held on September 5, 2018 for the [funding opportunity](#) and on September 6, 2018 about [SMH resources](#).

Concept paper deadline: September 28, 2018; Application deadline: November 30, 2018

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



Graham Foundation: Architecture and the Designed Environment

The Chicago-based [Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts](#) provides [project-based grants](#) to individuals and organizations and produces public programs to foster the development and exchange of diverse and challenging ideas about architecture and its role in the arts, culture, and society. The foundation invites applications from individuals for the creation and development of a project about architecture and the designed environment that contributes to their creative, intellectual, and professional growth at a crucial or potentially transformative stage in their careers; supports their efforts to take positions, develop new forms of expression, and engage debate; and helps them communicate their work in the public realm and reach new and wider audiences. Overall, the foundation is most interested in opportunities that enable it to provide critical support at key points in the development of a project or career. The Graham Foundation offers two types of [grants to individuals](#): Production/Presentation Grants and Research/Development Grants.

Letter of Inquiry deadline: September 15, 2018

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Institute for Regional Studies: Gunlogson Endowment

The NDSU Institute for Regional Studies solicits proposals for funds of up to \$5,000 from the Gunlogson Endowment to support research and creative activity on topics related to the fund's purpose. Between 0-3 awards will be made each year.

The purpose of these awards, which are jointly awarded by NDSU Libraries and the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, includes:

- supporting the publications and archives of the Institute for Regional Studies;
- advancing general university outreach through institute-related activities; and
- enhancing NDSU's land-grant mission through Institute projects that preserve the cultural history of North Dakota.

Preference will be given to projects that propose to use the archives of the Institute for Regional Studies, and/or, secondarily, projects that propose to publish through the North Dakota State University Press. However, projects that meet any of the fund's purposes will be considered.

Those eligible to apply for funding include tenured and tenure-track faculty, professors of practice, and graduate students working on disquisitions directly related to the purpose of the fund.

For more information and to submit a proposal, contact Christina Weber (christina.d.weber@ndsu.edu).

Application Deadline: September 7, 2018

Johnson & Johnson: Women in STEM²D Scholars Program (WiSTEM²D Scholars Program) – 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.

Women in STEM²D Scholars Program : Notify RCA by 8/31/2018 at 5:00 p.m. if you intend to apply.

The Johnson & Johnson Scholars Program aims to fuel the development of female STEM²D leaders and feed the STEM²D talent pipeline by awarding and sponsoring women at critical points in their research careers, in each of the STEM²D disciplines:

1. Science
2. Technology
3. Engineering
4. Mathematics
5. Manufacturing
6. Design

Each University can support and recommend one applicant per each STEM²D discipline for a total of 6 applicant submissions (one for science, one for technology, one for engineering, etc.) The awards will fund one woman per discipline who has completed her advanced degree, who is working as an assistant professor and who is not yet tenured at an accredited university or design institution. The goal is to fuel the research passion of the awarded women and inspire career paths in their respective STEM²D fields. By offering these awards, Johnson & Johnson hopes to play an influential role in STEM²D breakthroughs in the future.

Application deadline: September 25, 2018

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

NEH and NSF: Documenting Endangered Languages

This funding partnership between the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) supports projects to develop and advance knowledge concerning **endangered human languages**. Made urgent by the imminent death of roughly half of the approximately 7000 currently used languages, this effort aims to exploit advances in information technology to build computational infrastructure for endangered language research. The program supports projects that contribute to data management and archiving, and to the development of the next generation of researchers. Funding can support fieldwork and other activities relevant to the digital recording, documenting, and archiving of endangered languages, including the preparation of lexicons, grammars, text samples, and databases. Funding will be available in the form of one- to three-year senior research grants, fellowships from six to twelve months, and conference proposals. Note: a conference proposal should generally be submitted at least a year in advance of the scheduled date of the conference.

Application deadline: November 19, 2018

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

NIH: Short-term Mentored Career Enhancement Awards in Mobile and Wireless Health Technology and Data Analytics: Cross-Training at the Intersection of Behavioral and Social Sciences and STEM Disciplines (K18)

The goal of this **career enhancement program** is to support the development of research capability in mobile and wireless health technology (e.g., wearable devices, mobile applications, electronic health records, data analytics). Special emphasis will be given to independent behavioral and social sciences investigators who seek to train in a STEM discipline (e.g., big data analysis, computational modeling, engineering, computer science, and mathematics) or to STEM scientists who wish to train in a behavioral and social science discipline. The objective is to provide support for experienced scientists who either wish to broaden their scientific capabilities or to make changes in their research careers by acquiring new research skills or knowledge. The purpose of this Funding Opportunity Announcement (PAR-18-881) is to provide such investigators with support for an intensive period of mentored research experience to acquire new research capabilities in mobile and wireless health technology and data

analytics that align with research areas supported by the sponsoring NIH Institute(s)/Center(s). Such experiences will afford candidate investigators protected time to:

1. enrich and expand their expertise and research programs through retooling in new techniques, emerging technologies, and/or scientific areas; and/or
2. redirect their research programs in new trajectories; and/or
3. catalyze research collaborations in new research directions.

Candidates will not be required to have active research grant support at the time of application. However, they will be expected to identify one or more research mentors with the relevant expertise who are established, well-qualified, and willing to sponsor the short-term research career development experience. It is expected that this initiative will lead to new and augmented research collaborations that will be competitive for future NIH funding.

Application deadline: July 12, 2019

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NIH: Research Supplements to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) hereby notify Program Director(s)/Principal Investigator(s) (PD(s)/PI(s)) holding specific types of research grants (activity codes listed in [solicitation](#)) that funds are available for [administrative supplements](#) to improve the diversity of the research workforce by recruiting and supporting students, postdoctorates, and eligible investigators from diverse backgrounds, including those from groups that have been shown to be underrepresented in health-related research. This supplement opportunity is also available to PD(s)/PI(s) of research grants who are or become disabled and need additional support to accommodate their disability in order to continue to work on the research project. Administrative supplements must support work within the scope of the original project.

Deadlines vary by awarding institute or center.

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



NSF: Improving Undergraduate STEM Education: Pathways into Geoscience (IUSE: GEOPATHS) – 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 IUSE: GEOPATHS : Notify RCA by 8/31/2018 at 5:00 p.m. if you intend to apply.](#)

Improving Undergraduate STEM Education: Pathways into Geoscience (IUSE: GEOPATHS) invites proposals that specifically address the current needs and opportunities related to undergraduate education within the geosciences community. The primary goal of the *IUSE: GEOPATHS* funding opportunity is to increase the number of undergraduate students interested in pursuing undergraduate degrees and/or post-graduate degrees in geoscience through the design and testing of novel approaches for engaging students in authentic, career-relevant experiences in geoscience. In order to broaden participation in the geosciences, engaging undergraduate students from traditionally underrepresented groups or from non-geoscience degree programs is a priority. The *IUSE: GEOPATHS* solicitation features two funding tracks:

1. engaging students in the geosciences through extra-curricular experiences and training activities (*GEOPATHS-EXTRA*), and
2. improving pathways into the geosciences through institutional collaborations and transfer (*GEOPATHS-IMPACT*).

Letter of Intent deadline: September 21, 2018; Full Proposal deadline: November 19, 2018

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



NSF: Major Research Instrumentation (MRI) – 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 Major Research Instrumentation \(MRI\) : Notify RCA by 9/5/2018 at 5:00 p.m. if you intend to apply.](#)

The Major Research Instrumentation (MRI) Program serves to increase access to multi-user scientific and engineering instrumentation for research and research training in our Nation's institutions of higher education and not-for-profit scientific/engineering research organizations. An MRI award supports the acquisition or development of a multi-user research instrument that is, in general, too costly and/or not appropriate for support through other NSF programs. An MRI proposal may request support for either the acquisition or development of a research instrument.

- Track 1: Track 1 MRI proposals are those that request funds from NSF greater than or equal to \$100,000 and less than \$1,000,000. Two proposal submissions are allowed per organization.
- Track 2: Track 2 MRI proposals are those that request funds from NSF greater than or equal to \$1,000,000 up to and including \$4,000,000. One proposal submission is allowed per organization.

Application window: January 1-22, 2019

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



NSF: Research Traineeship Program (NRT) Priorities – 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 Research Traineeship Program \(NRT\) : Notify RCA by 9/10/2018 at 5:00 p.m. if you intend to apply.](#)

The NSF Research Traineeship (NRT) program is designed to encourage the development and implementation of bold, new, and potentially transformative models for STEM graduate education training. The NRT program seeks proposals that explore ways for graduate students in research-based master's and doctoral degree programs to develop the skills, knowledge, and competencies needed to pursue a range of STEM careers. For FY2019 and FY2020, the NRT Program requests proposals in any interdisciplinary research theme of national priority, with special emphasis on the six [NSF Research Big Ideas](#). The NSF Research Big Ideas are:

1. Harnessing the Data Revolution (HDR),
2. The Future of Work at the Human-Technology Frontier (HTF),
3. Navigating the New Arctic (NNA),
4. Windows on the Universe: The Era of Multi-Messenger Astrophysics (WOU),
5. The Quantum Leap: Leading the Next Quantum Revolution (QL), and
6. Understanding the Rules of Life: Predicting Phenotype (ROL).

A new solicitation with the updated priority area information will be posted to replace NSF 18-507.

Letter of Intent window: November 26, 2018-December 6, 2018; Proposals deadline: February 6, 2019

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



Robert Wood Johnson Foundation: System & Services Research for a Culture of Health

Grants of up to \$250,000 will be awarded for research that generates new scientific evidence on ways to optimize the delivery of medical, social, and public health services that improve health and reduce inequities. Systems for Action ([S4A](#)) is a national program of the [Robert Wood Johnson Foundation](#) that aims to discover and apply new evidence about ways of aligning the delivery and financing systems for medical, social, and public health services that support a Culture of Health. S4A uses a wide research lens that includes and extends beyond medical care and public health systems to include other sectors that affect health and well-being, such as housing, transportation, social services, education, criminal and juvenile justice, and economic and community development. In 2018, the program will award up to six grants of up to \$250,000 for four years.

Letter of Intent deadline: September 12, 2018

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



Export Controls: National Defense Authorization Act

On August 13, President Trump signed into law the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for fiscal year 2019, which contains the Export Controls Reform Act (ECRA) of 2018.

Of particular importance to us, the ECRA prohibits agencies from procuring or contracting for certain covered equipment or services from companies that are associated with, owned by, or controlled by the People's Republic of China. This includes **ZTE** and **Huawei**, two companies whose activities in the United States have been the subject of increased scrutiny in recent months. The ban also covers video surveillance and telecommunications hardware produced by Chinese firms **Hytera Communications**, **Hangzhou Hikvision Digital Technology Company**, and **Dahua Technology Company**.

As a producer of government-funded research, **the NDAA prohibits NDSU from conducting research for any of the five companies or for any of their subsidiaries**. These are huge companies with hundreds of subsidiaries. If you have any concern that your current or planned projects will be impacted by the Act, please contact the Research Office/Export Control at ndsu.exportcontrols@ndsu.edu or 231-6455. We will be happy to assist you with the appropriate steps.



Timely Submission of Technical Reports, Final Reports, and Other Deliverables

Most sponsors require submission of periodic reports and/or other deliverables at various times throughout the period of performance of a project. It is important for PI's to review the award notice and any sponsor guidelines to ensure awareness of reporting requirements such as timing, format and submission method. NDSU has experienced sponsors taking various actions when reports or deliverables were not submitted timely, including sponsors that have:

- delayed review of a PI's proposal or have delayed review of other proposals submitted by NDSU until an overdue report was submitted;
- delayed payments to NDSU or refused to pay outstanding invoices;
- delayed release of incremental funding or even new awards, as well as delayed review of other award change requests;
- reduced the anticipated award amount, and/or
- terminated projects early.

In order to avoid these types of sponsor actions, please submit reports and other deliverables on or before the sponsors identified deadlines. Please contact Sponsored Programs Administration (SPA) at ndsu.research@ndsu.edu or 1-8045 with any questions.



NDSU Federally Negotiated Indirect Cost (F&A) Rates

NDSU has a federally negotiated indirect cost (F&A) rate agreement available on the Sponsored Programs Administration (SPA) [Forms](#) page. The effective period of the current F&A agreement (7/1/2014 - 6/30/2018) identified predetermined rates to include in budgets for sponsored projects. Given that the effective period has passed, the previously predetermined rates are now formally provisional rates, and are still in effect. The Controller's Office has made a request to our cognizant agency, the Department of Health and Human Services, to extend the current rates for an additional four years. Until notified, faculty and staff should continue to use the current rates when developing proposal budgets. If a sponsoring agency needs any supporting documentation concerning NDSU's request for an extension to our rate agreement, SPA can provide a copy of the letter from the Controller. Contact SPA at ndsu.research@ndsu.edu or 1-8045.



Pivot Tip: Tracking Funding Opportunities

If you find a grant or hear of another funding opportunity for which you would like to continue to stay informed, you can use the Tracked Opps feature in Pivot (pivot.cos.com).

One method for tracking opportunities is to search for the grant opportunity by name from [Pivot's Funding page](#). Once your search results show the program you want, click on the program name to pull up the full record. In the right hand column, click on Track, which changes to "Tracking" in red to let you know that Pivot is now tracking that program for you.

You can track as many programs as you like in Pivot. To see a list of all your Tracked Opps, go to your Pivot homepage by clicking on the house icon, found on the green menu bar when you are logged into Pivot. From your Tracked Opps page, note the right-hand column called "Options," which provides a number of ways for you to

manage each program, including:

- **Turn Alert Email On:** this option will send an email alert whenever a change or a new cycle of that program is announced by the grant agency;
- **Add Deadline Reminder:** this option will send an email reminder of an upcoming deadline (you can choose how far in advance of the deadline the reminder will be sent); and
- **Move to Active:** the “Active Opps” list is a list of the opportunities that are the most important to you. It’s your “short list” of the most critical opportunities that you are tracking.

For more information about saving or tracking opportunities in Pivot, view this [YouTube Video](#). If you need a Pivot account, please email ndsu.researchdev@ndsu.edu to request one.



Webinar: Spencer Foundation Education Research Awards

The Spencer Foundation is hosting an informational webinar about its [Lyle Spencer Research Awards](#) program on **Wednesday, September 5, 2018, at 11:00 a.m.** The Lyle Spencer Research Awards program provides grants of up to \$1 million in support of intellectually ambitious, large-scale education research projects. The Letter of Intent deadline is October 2, 2018.

[Register for the webinar >>](#)



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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