

# RCA UPDATE

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September 10, 2018



When writing a grant proposal, keep reviewers in mind. Even minor mistakes can impact how a reviewer reacts to your proposal. Avoid having illegible figures and graphs, typos and grammatical errors, using too much jargon and overusing acronyms. Write clearly, concisely and include only essential information. Get to the point of the proposal early. Too much background information may

cause a reviewer to set aside the proposal. Make sure your description is easy to follow and adheres to the funding agency requirements and proposal guidelines.

For assistance with proposal development, please feel free to contact RCA at [ndsu.researchdev@ndsu.edu](mailto:ndsu.researchdev@ndsu.edu).



Information Technology Services and the Department of Statistics jointly support a Statistical Consulting Service. This resource is available to NDSU faculty, staff, and students. The consultants provide assistance at various stages of the research process including the planning phase, data organization and analysis, and

communication of results. Most of the consulting work is done with SAS, but consultants also have experience with SPSS, JMP, and R. More information can be found by visiting the [Statistical Consulting Service](#) website.

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## Baylor University: Cherry Award for Great Teaching

The [Baylor University Cherry Award program](#) is designed to honor great teachers, to stimulate discussion in the academy about the value of teaching, and to encourage departments and institutions to value their own great teachers. The award recipient will receive \$250,000 and will teach in residence at Baylor University during the 2020 fall or 2021 spring semester. The award recipient's home department will receive \$25,000. Three finalists will be chosen from the field of nominees. Each finalist will receive \$15,000 and will be invited to present a series of lectures at Baylor University in the fall of 2019. Additionally, each finalist will present a Cherry Award Lecture on his or her home campus, and each home department will receive \$10,000. Baylor University's Robert Foster Cherry Award for Great Teaching honors outstanding professors in the English-speaking world who are distinguished by their ability to communicate as classroom teachers. Individuals nominated for the award should have a proven record as an extraordinary teacher with a positive, inspiring and long-lasting effect on students, along with a record of distinguished scholarship. Nominations should correspond with academic units engaged in undergraduate teaching at Baylor. For more information on the nomination process, please visit [baylor.edu/cherry\\_awards](http://baylor.edu/cherry_awards).

*Nomination deadline: November 1, 2018*

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



## MN Wheat Research and Promotion Council:

### Research Grants

The Minnesota Wheat Research and Promotion Council (MWRPC) is now accepting [research pre-proposals](#) for projects that aim to improve the productivity of wheat production in Minnesota and the region by increasing yields, lowering input costs, or increasing the value of wheat produced. The timeline and process continues to change from previous years with the goal to better provide input from growers to principal investigators ahead of the pre-proposal deadlines. They also want to provide opportunities for coordinating between small plot research and large-scale, on-farm research wherever coordination may enhance or accelerate the research and education outcomes. If you would like additional guidance or grower feedback, MWRPC can arrange for a few growers to meet with you prior to the pre-proposal deadline to discuss and provide feedback on your pre-proposal ideas. If you have questions or would like to line up a meeting with growers, please call David Torgerson, Executive Director, MWRPC, at 218-253-4311 (ext 1), or e-mail him at [torgerso@gvtel.com](mailto:torgerso@gvtel.com).

*Pre-proposal deadline: November 20, 2018; Full proposals invited after pre-proposal review.*



## National Pork Board: Research Grants

The National Pork Board (NPB) is soliciting research proposals dealing with these categories:

- Animal Science
- Animal Science – Swine Nutrition
- Animal Welfare
- Pork Safety – Post-Harvest

- Pork Safety – Pre-Harvest
- Sustainability – Air
- Swine Health – Foreign Animal Disease
- Swine Health – General Swine Disease

Scientific peers will evaluate submitted proposals for scientific merit. Pork producers will evaluate the proposal for application to and impact on the pork production industry. The overall research plan and individual objectives contained within the proposal must meet the standards of scientific rigor and statistical validity expected of National Pork Board research grants. Proposals may be returned to the PI with suggested/requested revisions prior to final funding decision. Final funding decisions will be made by producer-led committees.

[RFP details and submission instructions](#) are available on the NPB website.

NPB also provides a free webinar recording, “[Writing Research Proposals for the NPB](#),” in which Dr. Chris Hostetler gives more information about NPB's research proposal process and provides tips to make your research proposal more competitive.

*Application Deadline: October 16, 2018*



## NEA: Research-Art Works

The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) is interested in funding [Research-Art Works projects](#) within two tracks:

- Track One: Value and Impact
- Track Two: Experimental and Quasi-Experimental Designs

Proposed research should identify and examine:

- Factors that enhance or inhibit Arts Participation or Arts/Cultural Assets;

- Detailed characteristics of Arts Participation or Arts Cultural/Assets, and their interrelationships;
- Individual-level outcomes of Arts Participation, including those corresponding with the following domains: social and emotional well-being; creativity, cognition, and learning; physiological processes of health and healing; and
- Societal or community-level outcomes, including those corresponding with the following domains: civic and corporate innovation; attraction for neighborhoods and businesses; national and/or state-level economic growth.

Regarding the types of studies to be undertaken, funds will be given for projects that involve analyses of primary and/or secondary data. Primary data collection is an allowable activity under these grants, as long as a proposed project also includes analysis of that data. Projects that focus exclusively on data acquisition will not be funded. Projects may include, but are not limited to, primary and/or secondary data analyses; economic impact studies; organizational research; psychological and physical health-related or therapeutic studies that take place in clinical or non-clinical settings; education studies in a variety of contexts (e.g., classrooms, informal venues, distance learning, or home-school environments); third-party evaluations of an arts program's effectiveness and impact; and statistically-driven meta-analyses of existing research so as to provide a fresh understanding of the value and/or impact of the arts. Also of interest is translational research that moves scientific evidence toward the development, testing, and standardization of new arts-related programs, practices, models, or tools that can be used easily by other practitioners and researchers.

*Application deadline: October 9, 2018 (Stage 1); October 19, 2018 (Stage 2)*

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



## **NEH: Scholarly Editions and Translations Grants**

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) funds [Scholarly Editions and Translations grants](#) to support the preparation of editions and translations of pre-existing texts of value to the humanities that are currently inaccessible or available only in inadequate editions or transcriptions. Typically, the texts and documents are significant literary, philosophical, and historical materials; but other types of work, such as musical notation, are also eligible. Projects must be undertaken by at least one editor or translator and one other collaborating scholar. These grants support full-time or part-time activities for periods of one to three years. Applicants should demonstrate familiarity with the best practices recommended by the [Association for Documentary Editing](#) or the [Modern Language Association Committee on Scholarly Editions](#). Translation projects should also explain the theory and method adopted for the particular work to be translated. Editions and translations produced with NEH support contain scholarly and critical apparatus appropriate to their subject matter and format. This usually means introductions and annotations that provide essential information about a text's form, transmission, and historical and intellectual context. Proposals for editions of foreign language materials in the original language are eligible for funding, as well as proposals for editions of translated materials. In the last five competitions, the Scholarly Editions and Translations program received an average of 111 applications per year. The program made an average of 24 awards per year, for a funding ratio of 22 percent.

*Proposal draft deadline: October 15, 2018; Full proposal deadline: December 5, 2018*

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



## **NSF: Plant Genome Research Program (PGRP)**

The NSF [Plant Genome Research Program \(PGRP\)](#) supports genome-scale research that addresses challenging questions of biological, societal and

economic importance. PGRP encourages the development of innovative tools, technologies and resources that empower a broad plant research community to answer scientific questions on a genome-wide scale. Emphasis is placed on the scale and depth of the question being addressed and the creativity of the approach. Data produced by plant genomics should be usable, accessible, integrated across scales and of high impact across biology. Training, broadening participation, and career development are essential to scientific progress and should be integrated in all PGRP-funded projects. Two funding tracks are currently available:

1. RESEARCH-PGR TRACK: Genome-scale plant research to address fundamental biological questions in biology, including economically important processes of societal importance.
2. TRTech-PGR TRACK: Tools, resources and technology breakthroughs that further enable functional plant genomics

*Proposals Accepted Anytime*



## **NSF EPSCoR: Research Infrastructure Improvement Program: Track-2 Focused EPSCoR Collaborations (RII Track-2 FEC) - 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 EPSCoR RII Track-2 FEC : Notify RCA by 9/17/2018 at 5:00 p.m. if you intend to apply.



The NSF EPSCoR Research Infrastructure Improvement Program: Track-2 Focused EPSCoR Collaborations (RII Track-2 FEC) program builds interjurisdictional collaborative teams of EPSCoR investigators in scientific focus areas consistent with NSF priorities. **For FY 2019, RII Track-2 FEC proposals are invited on a single topic: "Harnessing the Data Revolution to solve problems of national importance."** Projects are investigator-driven and must include researchers from at least two RII- eligible jurisdictions with complementary expertise and resources necessary to tackle those projects, which neither party could address as well or rapidly alone. The Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) research and education activities should seek to broaden participation through the strategic inclusion and integration of different types of individuals, institutions, and sectors throughout the project. Proposals must describe a comprehensive and integrated vision to drive discovery and build sustainable STEM capacity that exemplifies diversity of all types (individual, institutional, geographic, and disciplinary). The development of diverse early-career faculty is a critical component of this sustainable STEM capacity. A single proposal is submitted for a project. Support for non-lead collaborating institutions should be requested as subawards. Separately submitted collaborative proposals are not allowed. Each participating EPSCoR jurisdiction must have at least one co-PI on the project. Proposals that do not comply with these requirements will be considered not responsive, and will be returned without review.

*Letter of Intent Deadline: November 26, 2018; Full Proposal Deadline: January 25, 2019*



## **NSF / USDA-NIFA: Plant Biotic Interactions (PBI)**

The [Plant Biotic Interactions \(PBI\) program](#) supports research on the processes that mediate beneficial and antagonistic interactions between plants and their

viral, bacterial, oomycete, fungal, plant, and invertebrate symbionts, pathogens and pests. This joint NSF / USDA-NIFA program supports projects focused on current and emerging model and non-model systems, and agriculturally relevant plants. The program's scope extends from fundamental mechanisms to translational efforts, with the latter seeking to put into agricultural practice insights gained from basic research on the mechanisms that govern plant biotic interactions. Projects must be strongly justified in terms of fundamental biological processes and/or relevance to agriculture and may be purely fundamental or applied or include aspects of both perspectives. All types of symbiosis are appropriate, including commensalism, mutualism, parasitism, and host-pathogen interactions. Quantitative modeling in concert with experimental work is encouraged. Overall, the program seeks to support research that will deepen our understanding of the fundamental processes that mediate interactions between plants and the organisms with which they intimately associate and advance the application of that knowledge to benefit agriculture.

*Proposals Accepted Anytime*



## **NSF 2026 Idea Machine Competition**

The National Science Foundation (NSF) announces the launch of the [NSF 2026 Idea Machine](#), a prize competition to help set the U.S. agenda for fundamental research in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) and STEM education. Participants can earn cash prizes and receive public recognition by suggesting the pressing research questions that need to be answered in the coming decade, the next set of “[Big Ideas](#)” for future investment by NSF. It's an opportunity for researchers, the public and other interested stakeholders to contribute to NSF's mission to support basic research and enable new discoveries that drive the U.S. economy, enhance national security and advance knowledge to sustain the country's global

leadership in science and engineering.

Entries will be accepted through **October 26, 2018**. For more information, including entry instructions, eligibility, rules, and judging criteria, please visit the [NSF 2026 Idea Machine website](#).



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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