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**.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES
- **National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Institutes for Advanced Topics in the Digital Humanities**
- **National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Fellowships**
- **ND Humanities Council Funding Opportunities**
- **Joint USDA-NIFA, NSF, DOD, and DOE Funding Opportunity: Collaborative Robotics**
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- **Defense Enterprise Science Initiative (DESI)**
- **Sanford Health NDSU Collaborative Seed Grant-Internal grant program**
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NOTICES
- **January 2018 Issue of Research Development and Grant Writing News**
- **Delay in Revised Common Rule Implementation**
- **Call for Abstracts: NDSU Graduate Student Council 2nd Annual Research Symposium**

National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Institutes for Advanced Topics in the Digital Humanities
The National Endowment for the Humanities funds the **Institutes for Advanced Topics in the Digital Humanities** program to support national or regional (multistate) training programs for scholars, humanities professionals, and advanced graduate students to broaden and extend their knowledge of digital humanities. Through this program, NEH seeks to increase the number of humanities scholars and practitioners using digital technology in their research and to broadly disseminate knowledge about advanced technology tools and methodologies relevant to the humanities. Application receipt deadline is March 13, 2018 for projects beginning October 2018.

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National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Fellowships
NEH fellowships support individuals pursuing advanced research that is of value to humanities scholars, general audiences, or both. Recipients usually produce articles, monographs, books, digital materials, archaeological site reports, translations, editions, or other scholarly resources in the humanities. Fellowships cover periods lasting from six to twelve months at a stipend of $4,200 per month. The maximum stipend is $50,400 for a twelve - month period.

Applicants should request award periods that suit their schedules and the needs of their projects. Application receipt deadline is April 11, 2018 for projects beginning January 2019. Applicants interested in research projects that require digital expression and digital publication are encouraged to apply for **NEH-Mellon Fellowships for Digital Publication**.

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ND Humanities Council Funding Opportunities
ND Humanities Council grants are funded in amounts ranging from $1,501 to $10,000 and support program costs of humanities projects that bring historical, cultural or ethical perspectives to bear on topics and issues of interest to our communities. These may take many different forms, but they have the following characteristics in common:
- They engage participants in thinking critically about fundamental questions of value, purpose, and meaning;
- They promote better understanding of ourselves and others, past and present;
- They are conducted in a spirit of open and informed inquiry, providing multiple viewpoints, where applicable; and
- They involve partnerships between community organizations, cultural institutions, and scholars in the humanities.

Grants which further HND's special initiatives will be given funding priority.
- 2018 Special Initiative: The Pursuit of Health and Happiness
- 2019 Special Initiative: What Happened to the American Dream?

Two annual application deadlines are available:
Intent to Apply Form must be submitted by February 1, 2018, if applying for the March 1, 2018, proposal deadline.
Intent to Apply Form must be submitted by September 1, 2018, if applying for the October 1, 2018, proposal deadline.

Another HND program, **Quick Grants**, support direct program costs of humanities projects that bring historical, cultural or ethical perspectives to bear on topics and issues of interest to our communities. These may take many different forms, but they have the following characteristics in common:
- They engage participants in thinking critically about fundamental questions of value, purpose, and meaning;
- They promote better understanding of ourselves and others, past and present;
- They are conducted in a spirit of open and informed inquiry, providing multiple viewpoints, where applicable;
- They involve partnerships between community organizations, cultural institutions, and scholars in the humanities.
Applications should be submitted six weeks prior to the need, with a grant decision within two weeks.

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Joint USDA-NIFA, NSF, DOD, and DOE Funding Opportunity: Collaborative Robotics
The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) has announced support through the joint National Robotics Initiative (NRI-2.0) to research the development and use of collaborative robots. NIFA's funding is made through the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) program, which aims to address challenges in food and agricultural sciences, through research, extension, and education. The **NRI-2.0** program is a partnership between NIFA, the National Science Foundation, Department of Defense, and Department of Energy. It supports foundational research in robotic science and technology. There are four main areas of research to advance the goal of ubiquitous co-robots: scalability, customizability, lowering barriers to entry, and societal impact. There is $7 million available in funding. See the **request for applications** for further details.

There are two full proposal deadlines: Feb. 20, 2018, and Feb. 5, 2019.

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Joint USDA-NIFA and NSF Funding Opportunity: Crop Breeding Research
The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) announces support for Early Concept Grants for Exploratory Research (EAGER) to speed the development of new crop varieties. Funding is made through the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative, which seeks to address challenges in food and agricultural sciences through research, extension, and education opportunities. EAGER is established jointly among NIFA, the

National Science Foundation's (NSF) Biological Sciences Directorate, and the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council of the United Kingdom to foster the development of breakthrough technologies for advancing crop breeding. Additionally, EAGER addresses the barriers to improving crop varieties, such as producing hybrids, understanding recombination, and epigenetic inheritance. This EAGER opportunity invites proposals to overcome these barriers to crop breeding in highly innovative and transformative ways. There is approximately $3 million in available funding. See the **funding opportunity** for additional details.

The deadline for summary submission is March 14, 2018.

Advanced Research Projects Agency – Energy (ARPA-E) OPEN 2018 Funding Opportunity

The **Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E)** at the U.S. Department of Energy funds high-potential, high-impact energy technologies that are too early for private-sector investment. ARPA-E awardees are unique because they are developing entirely new ways to generate, store, and use energy. ARPA-E projects have the potential to radically improve U.S. economic prosperity, national security, and environmental wellbeing.

Approximately every three years, ARPA-E issues OPEN Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOAs) as a means to address the full range of energy-related technologies and fund those potentially disruptive technology concepts not currently supported through an ARPA-E focused FOA.

A broad variety of projects will be welcomed, and examples include electricity generation by both renewable and non-renewable means; electricity transmission, storage, and distribution; energy efficiency for buildings, manufacturing and commerce, and personal use; and all aspects of transportation, including the production and distribution of both renewable and non-renewable fuels, electrification, and transportation energy efficiency.

Applicants must address the potential impact of the proposed technology on the agency's Mission Areas:
- Reducing imported energy
- Reducing energy-related emissions
- Improving energy efficiency

Cost share is required; see the **funding opportunity announcement** for details.

Concept Papers are due February 12, 2018, by 4 p.m. For more information, visit the **OPEN 2018 website**, download the **funding opportunity announcement**, or read this **program summary** with concept paper guidelines.

Defense Enterprise Science Initiative (DESI)

The DoD is piloting a new program, the **Defense Enterprise Science Initiative (DESI)**. Its purpose is to support use-inspired basic research performed by university-industry teams. The recommended topics include:
1. Power Beaming
2. Highly-maneuverable autonomous UAV
3. Soft Active Composites with Intrinsic Sensing, Actuation, and Control
4. Metamaterial-based Antennas
5. Alternate topics are also encouraged

Much more detail on the topics is included in the **BAA**. Teams must include at least one university member and at least one industry member.

Early-career university researchers and current recipients of young investigator programs across the federal agencies are strongly encouraged to seek industry partners for this program.

The deadline for proposals is February 28, 2018.

Sanford Health NDSU Collaborative Seed Grant Program-Internal grant program

The fourth Sanford Health NDSU Collaborative Seed Grant program's Request for Applications will be released January 8, 2018. Proposals are to be submitted electronically to **NDSU.BusinessDev@ndsu.edu** by 5:00 PM on March 19, 2018. The full Request for Applications and Application form can be downloaded from **https://www.ndsu.edu/research/for_facultyresearchers/sanford_health_ndsu_seed_grant/**.

To better facilitate collaboration between NDSU and Sanford Health collaborators is requested to submit a short description of a possible proposal by January 29th. Additional information about the Collaboration Request can be found in the RFA or at the link above.

Questions regarding suitability of topic areas, collaborating with Sanford or other program related questions can be addressed by Business Development (1-6660 or **NDSU.businessdev@ndsu.edu**).

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New Application form available for Research ND and Phase II Venture Grant Proposals

The ND Department of Commerce has issued a new application for Research ND and Phase II Grant Proposals. The new application is available directly for download at **https://www.commerce.nd.gov/uploads/9/researchnorthdakotaapplication.pdf.** Additional information can be found on the **Research ND** website. Updates to the form include:

Changes
Section 13
In Research ND/Research ND BIO / FAST Track, the application asks for additional clarification of what the PSP's responsibilities are in the project and how communication between the research university and PSP will guide this.

In Venture Grant Phase I, II, and I/II one item was added to the Market Analysis requirements. That item is a predicted timeframe to the launch of a business and time to profitability.
Section 14
This section is new. This is the Technologic and Economic Impacts to the PSP. This section should be completed by the PSP. It asks what the PSP believes a successful project will do for the PSP and its operations and the State of North Dakota? If no PSP exists (which is common in Venture Grant Phase I applications) then this section will not be required. Information that pertains to this section in a Venture Grant Phase I would be covered in the market analysis from Section 13 for a Venture Grant Phase I with no PSP.
Section 15
This section is much like the Section 14 on the previous version of the application. This is the Technologic and Economic Impacts to the Research University and should be completed by the research university. It asks what the research university believes a successful project will do for the university?
Section 16
This is the section for Confidential information. No changes were made to this section other than the number.

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January 2018 Issue of Research Development and Grant Writing News

The January 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:
- Expectations by NSF for Proposal Success
- Funding Fundamentals for New Faculty
- Narrative Reference Resources
- How to be Competitive for Externally Funded Grants – Internationally
- Last-minute MRI checklist

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Delay in Revised Common Rule Implementation

The Federal Register has published the "**Delay of the Revisions to the Federal Policy for the Protection of Human Subjects**". Officially scheduled to be published January 22, 2018, this delays the effective date and general compliance date of the revised common rule to **July 19, 2018**, six-months after the original date of January 19, 2018.

We will continue to utilize the revised **consent template** for non-exempt research which was developed in response to the changes; however, we will be unable to utilize the **additional exemptions** or the changes to continuing review processes for research qualifying for Expedited review until the July effective/compliance date.

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Call for Abstracts: NDSU Graduate Student Council 2nd Annual Research Symposium

The Graduate Student Council (GSC) coordinates events to provide a platform for graduate students to share their research. NDSU-GSC invites all graduate students to submit abstracts for the **2nd Annual Research Symposium** to be held in the **Memorial Union Ballroom on April 6, 2018, from 8:00 am – 4:00pm**.
Best oral and poster presentation award will be presented to the top three best oral and poster presentations.
Deadline for abstract submission: January 31, 2018
Guidelines for abstract submission can be found on the GSC **website**. Contact **Priyanka Swami** with questions.

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