Welcome to the Research and Creative Activity Update!
To share information quickly rather than through multiple emails, we will be providing weekly updates for researchers, scholars and staff to keep up-to-date on grant program changes, deadlines, notices and training, with links to expand the information you may be interested in. Thank you for your contributions to research and creative activity at NDSU.

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

**FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**
- Limited Submission Program: NSF EPSCoR Research Infrastructure Improvement Program: Track 2

**NOTICES**
- [Legacy Grants.gov Application Package Ending](#)
- [JEOL IB09010CP Ion Beam Cross-Sectional Polishing System](#)
- [October Issue of Research Development and Grant Writing News](#)
- [Proposal and Award Management Session Materials Available](#)

**EVENTS**
- [Support Undergraduate Researchers – Attend the NDSU EXPLORE Showcase November 1](#)
- [Engaging Undergraduates in Knowledge Creation, Entrepreneurship, and Leadership – NDSU EXPLORE Keynote](#)
- [NSF Fall 2017 Virtual Grants Conference](#)
- [Gear up for Grants: Grant Writing Workshops](#)
- [Additional Proposal and Award Management Sessions Scheduled](#)

**Limited Submission Program: NSF EPSCoR Research Infrastructure Improvement Program: Track 2**

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 Research Infrastructure Improvement Program - Track 2: Notify RCA by 11/03/2017, 5:00 p.m.**
The Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) is designed to fulfill the mandate of the National Science Foundation (NSF) to promote scientific progress nationwide. The focus of the RII Track-2 Program is to build interjurisdictional collaborative teams of EPSCoR investigators in scientific focus areas consistent with NSF priorities. This year’s competition is limited to proposals that address the single topic: Understanding the Relationship Between Genome and Phenome.

*NSF Letter of Intent deadline: November 27, 2017 | Application deadline: January 26, 2018.*

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Legacy Grants.gov Application Package Ending

On December 31, 2017, the Legacy Grants.gov application package will be obsolete. Going forward, many federal grant applications will be submitted through Grants.gov Workspace, a web-based application site. The only known federal agencies that are excluded from the Workspace application process will be NIH and NSF. To become familiar with Workspace, please follow the link for a YouTube video. SPA will be providing a training session on Grants.gov Workspace at the December 7, 2017, Proposal and Award Management Session.

JEOL IB09010CP Ion Beam Cross-Sectional Polishing System

The JEOL IB09010CP Ion Beam Cross-Sectional Polisher, available in the Electron Microscopy Center Institutional Core Lab, uses an argon ion beam to produce a pristine cross section of almost any material at 90 degrees to the sample surface, ideal for measurement of multilayered structures at the micron length scale.

While mechanical preparation (cutting, grinding) distorts sample cross-sectional surfaces as seen below, the ion beam generated in the JEOL IB09010 effectively mills a distortion-free flat surface even when viewed in the high-resolution JEOL 7600F field-emission scanning electron microscope (FESEM).

Scanning electron micrographs of silver conductive via for printed circuit board, JEOL JSM-7600F field-emission SEM. A - cross section cut with new razor blade. B - cross section produced with JEOL IB09010CP cross-sectional polisher. Bar = 10 µm

The JEOL ICB09010CP system is useful for difficult-to-polish soft materials (Cu, Al, Au, polymers, paper) as well as difficult-to-cut hard materials (ceramic, glass, Si) and composites with both hard and soft components. Ideal sample size is 10 mm x 20 mm x 1.5 mm; maximum area polished is about 700 µm wide X 250 µm high, depending on material.

For additional information or a demonstration, please contact the Electron Microscopy Center Institutional Core Lab at 231-8234 or ndsu.em.center@ndsu.edu.
October Issue of Research Development and Grant Writing News
The October 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:

- Gaining a Competitive Edge by Reading Abstracts of Funded Projects
- Nonlinearity in Proposal Development
- Reorganizations and Deadline Changes at NSF
- The Schedule and Task Assignment Table for Proposal Production

Proposal and Award Management Session Materials Available
The seventh in a series of *Proposal and Award Management Sessions* was held on October 19, 2017. The topic for this session was Research Development. Slides and handouts are available on the [Sponsored Programs Training](https://www.sponsoredprograms.ndsu.nodak.edu) website. Due to a technical malfunction, a recording of the presentation will not be available.

Support Undergraduate Researchers – Attend the NDSU EXPLORE Showcase November 1
The 2017 NDSU EXPLORE Undergraduate Research Showcase will take place November 1, 2017, in the NDSU Memorial Union. Students present their creative projects, whether complete or in-progress, as a poster, oral presentation, or other format. We encourage you to attend in support of the student researchers. For more information, visit the [NDSU EXPLORE](https://www.ndsu.edu/ndsuexplore) page online, or find NDSU EXPLORE on Facebook.

**Morning Student Presentation Session**
*Wednesday, November 1, 2017 | 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. | Memorial Union, 2nd Floor*

**Afternoon Student Presentation Session**
*Wednesday, November 1, 2017 | 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. | Memorial Union, 2nd Floor*

Engaging Undergraduates in Knowledge Creation, Entrepreneurship, and Leadership – NDSU EXPLORE Keynote
Mahesh Daas, Dean of the School of Architecture and Design at the University of Kansas, will present “An Inconvenient Education for an Uncertain Future” at the NDSU EXPLORE Showcase. Daas will detail select organizational and educational models of experiential/design pedagogy and research that engage undergraduate students in knowledge creation, entrepreneurship, and leadership aimed at developing self-actualized individuals who can innovate under conditions of uncertainty.

Daas’ latest book, “Towards a Robotic Architecture,” defines robotics research in architecture on Earth and Mars. He earned his bachelor’s degree in architecture from Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University, Hyderabad, India; his master’s degree in urban design from Kansas State University; and his doctorate in higher education management from the University of Pennsylvania.

**An Inconvenient Education for an Uncertain Future | Mahesh Daas, Ed. D., DPACSA**
*Wednesday, November 1, 2017 | 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. | Memorial Union, Great Room*
NSF Fall 2017 Virtual Grants Conference
The National Science Foundation will live stream the plenary sessions of the Fall 2017 NSF Grants Conference November 13-14, 2017. Agenda topics include Proposal Preparation, the Merit Review Process, Award Management, NSF Policy Update, and the NSF CAREER Program. To view the complete schedule and to register to attend the conference virtually, visit the [conference website](#).

Gear up for Grants: Grant Writing Workshops
Lucy Deckard, a consultant with [Academic Research Funding Strategies, LLC](#), will present a series of grant writing workshops in November:

**Gear up for Grants: Pursuing Funding for Large Team and Center Grants**
*Monday, November 20, 2017 | 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. | Memorial Union, Badlands Room*
This workshop is interactive and geared toward mid-career and senior faculty who are ready or considering applying for large team or center grants within the next few years.
Workshop spots are limited. [Register for this workshop >](#)

**Gear up for Grants: How to Write Successful Grants for Instrumentation**
*Tuesday, November 21, 2017 | 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. | Memorial Union, Room of Nations*
This session discusses grants that fund instrumentation and equipment and how to develop a successful proposal for these types of grants.
[Register for this workshop >](#)

**Gear up for Grants: Pursuing Funding in the Humanities and Social Sciences**
*Tuesday, November 21, 2017 | 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. | Memorial Union, Room of Nations*
This session discusses the types of funding available to support research in the humanities and humanities-related social sciences and how to be competitive when applying for these opportunities.
[Register for this workshop >](#)

Additional Proposal and Award Management Sessions Scheduled
Additional sessions in the Proposal and Award Management series have been scheduled. They are as follows:

- Thursday, Nov. 16, 2017 – Cost Sharing
- Thursday, Jan. 18, 2018 – Electronic Research Administration & Compliance
- Thursday, Feb. 15, 2018 – Effort Reporting/Recharge Centers/Service Centers
- Thursday, Mar. 22, 2018 – Research Integrity & Compliance – IRB, IACUC, IBC, RCR, COI, Export Controls

The topics are tentative and all sessions are from 11:00 – 11:45 a.m. in the Quentin Burdick Building, room 422.

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