

NDSU OFFICE OF
RESEARCH AND CREATIVE ACTIVITY

RCA UPDATE

December 17, 2018



Season's Greetings

**From the Office of the Vice President for
Research and Creative Activity**



Dear colleagues,

Happy Holidays from the Research and Creative Activity Office!

Even though my history at NDSU spans more than three decades, it's been a year of firsts for me as I stepped into the role of Vice President for Research and Creative Activity only a mere six months ago. I thought I had a pretty good grasp of our research programs and activities, but I am impressed and inspired daily by the work that is going on at

NDSU. I'm glad that we have been able to provide support to your excellent programs via our teams in RCA.

We have heard your feedback and have made some changes that include removing F&A charges for non-profit sponsored activities; providing travel funding for presenting research; creating a new faculty training and cohort program for researchers; helping start three new public/private partnerships between NDSU and local businesses; and reconfiguring our Business Development Office to assist with moving intellectual property to commercialized technology.

As we look ahead to 2019, you can expect even more from our teams including plans for an incremental revamp to RCA to better reflect our renewed commitment to faculty success; a new face in Technology Transfer to manage licensing; and the rollout of the web-based electronic research administration system Novelution software package.

I love how the people on our team have a drive and passion for supporting research and creative activity. We look forward to working with you in 2019. Despite the budget woes that never seem too far away, I am inspired every day by the potential I see at NDSU and the pure joy of working with friends to realize it. I encourage you to look around, share in the vision, tell your story, and be an advocate. I know 2019 is going to be a great year for NDSU!

On behalf of all of us in RCA, I wish the best for you and your families during this joyous holiday season!

Jane Schuh

Vice President

Research and Creative Activity

Sherri Stastny

December 2018 RCA Researcher of the Month

Sherri Stastny is a professor in the department of Health, Nutrition and Exercise Sciences at NDSU. She's a researcher, a registered dietitian, a board certified specialist in sports dietetics, and she plays clarinet in the Red River Valley Veterans Concert Band. Sherri likes to consider herself an active participant in her life and she takes pride in using her time as efficiently as possible.



"I seek to minimize the time needed to get an answer. I don't like waiting, especially when we're waiting to learn if a grant was funded, when the funding stream kicks in, or if we will be able to fund continuing graduate (research assistant) students," she said. "I'm driven by deadlines like everyone else, but

I am also motivated to improve knowledge, processes, and systems. If we need a new system, I'll develop it. Ideation is one of my skills."

It's not so much that Sherri struggles with being impatient, but she has learned the value of being an expert time manager. Her advice to people early in their careers is to learn these strategies. She recommends they schedule time for research and, "keep extremely organized electronic files and back 'em up. Schedule face to face meetings often and make sure they're productive so that everyone leaves with a feeling of accomplishment. And remember to log procedures, especially if the task is complicated and involves multiple layers of people. It is important to build sustainability into protocols (such as cross training). You never know when someone is going to get sick or leave the university."

Sherri has learned the value of both showing up and adding value. Whether it's finding a piece of necessary equipment or the right person to add to a team, she points out that much like in a concert band, getting the parts in harmony is the key to effective collaboration.

"Dietitians play such an important role in nutrition research," she states. "Food intake is incredibly hard to estimate and varies by individual. Dietitians add preciseness to this type of research." Sherri adds that future studies could benefit by having more biomedical testing procedures, a registered nurse as part of her research team, and the testing of identification of parameters that mark potential risk factors for chronic disease.

A native of Bismarck, North Dakota, Sherri earned her BS, MBA, and PhD from NDSU. She has been recognized numerous times throughout her career including as the Outstanding Dietetic Educator representing a Dietetic Education Program for the upper Midwest; by her college for the past four school years as someone who has made a difference to students; and she's earned the James Lebedeff Endowed Professorship Development Award. She considers her most significant research contributions to date to be increases in the analysis of macronutrients in foods and increased awareness

among the scholarly community that accuracy in food intake, while not easy, is critical to the research process.

Currently working with a team of eight students that includes both undergraduate and graduate students, Sherri seeks to inspire by being a role model for the attributes that inspire her. She is personally drawn to researchers who deliver results in an understandable manner and who motivate change without being perceived as offensive or pushy. She coaches her students to keep in mind average consumer science-literacy and to task students with contributions that help the team move forward to improve knowledge and awareness of projects among consumers.

Sherri believes that researchers don't need to be experts at everything and should instead focus on their individual strengths. Much like the variations in the sound of a concert band's individual instruments, Sherri doesn't expect everyone to bring the same abilities to a project. Instead, she strives to bring together a team of dissimilar but complementary skillsets and to make sure they're all playing from the same set of music. Sherri Stastny is our December Researcher of the Month.

[View the RCA Researcher of the Month Archive >>](#)



NIH AREA (R15) Program Implements Major Changes

Historically the goal of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Academic Research Enhancement Award (AREA / R15) program has been to support meritorious research while exposing undergraduates to research

and strengthening the research environment of schools that have not been major recipients of NIH support. The AREA program has also supported graduate students at eligible schools and students at eligible health professional schools. Without a medical school, NDSU has been a nice fit for the type of institution and student population the AREA program was meant to support. However, as of January 2019, [NIH is shifting its approach to R15](#). While NIH will continue to provide R15 research enhancement opportunities for health professional and graduate schools, the name, AREA, will be reserved for grants to undergraduate-focused institutions that do not receive substantial funding from NIH.

In order to qualify for the AREA program, all the non-health professional components of the institution together cannot have received support from the NIH totaling more than \$6 million per year in total costs in 4 of the last 7 years.

NIH will also offer R15 opportunities to support graduate schools of arts and sciences and health professional schools that grant baccalaureate or advanced degrees. It will be called the **Research Enhancement Award Program (REAP)**. For these grants, the applicant organization (all components) may not receive research support from the NIH totaling more than \$6 million per year in total costs in 4 of the last 7 years. The announcement is expected to become available this month.

As of January 24, 2019, NIH will no longer maintain its list of institutions ineligible for R15 grants. For R15 applications submitted for due dates on or after February 25, 2019, NIH will rely on an institutional letter verifying eligibility that will be required in the application as part of the letters of support attachment. NIH has updated the [R15 web page](#) and created a [resource to assist institutions in calculating eligibility](#).

Based on 2012-2018 data, NDSU is eligible for both programs. However, the REAP announcement is expected to be released this month and may have additional details on eligibility.

For eligibility letters, please contact NDSU Sponsored Programs Administration: ndsu.research@ndsu.edu.

NIH Signature Form Reminder

With each submission to the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Principal Investigator (PI) must complete a new [NIH Signature Form](#). This form needs to be on file with the Proposal Transmittal Form ([PTF](#)). Contact Sponsored Programs Administration ([SPA](#)) with any questions or concerns.

CONTENTS

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

- [American Cancer Society: Health Policy Research](#)
- [Gerber Foundation: Pediatric Research](#)
- [Graham Foundation: Architecture & the Designed Environment](#)
- [NEH: Public Scholar Program](#)
- [NSF: EPSCoR Research Fellows \(RII Track 4\)](#)
- [Organization for Autism Research](#)
- [Internal Grant Program: Sanford Health - NDSU Collaborative Seed Grant](#)

NEWS & NOTICES

- [Updated! IACUC Training Requirements Guiding Principle](#)
- [December Issue of Research Development & Grant Writing News](#)
- [NDSU CCAST: Advanced Research Computing Training](#)

Looking for
Collaborators?
Visit the
[NDSU Scholars
Database](#)

In Search of
Equipment?
Check the
[NDSU Equipment
Database](#)



Need to update your profile?
Click [here](#) to learn how!

American Cancer Society: Health Policy Research

The American Cancer Society ([ACS](#)) is accepting proposals for research projects that have the potential to generate new knowledge of the effects of the United States healthcare system on both access to and outcomes of cancer screening, early detection, and treatment services. ACS is keenly interested in supporting rapid-learning [research on the effects of health policy](#) changes on patients, providers, and health systems. This includes but is not limited to:

- facilitators and barriers to care;
- unintended consequences;
- differential experiences of and outcomes for patients seeking or receiving care;
- best practice models for quality care; and
- economic impact.

Awards will not exceed \$200,000 per year (direct costs) for up to four years. Most awards may not exceed a period of four years; it is anticipated that some studies will require no more than two years to complete. To be eligible, applicants must be affiliated with a not-for-profit institution located in the United States, any of its territories, or the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico; and be a citizen, non-citizen national, or permanent resident of the United States. Independent investigators at all stages of their career are encouraged to apply. Potential research areas that may be applicable involve the following four A's of meaningful healthcare reform: availability, affordability, adequacy, and administrative simplicity.

Application deadlines: April 1, 2019 and October 15, 2019



Gerber Foundation: Pediatric Research

The mission of the [Gerber Foundation](#) is to enhance the quality of life of infants and young children in nutrition, care, and development. To that end, the

Foundation currently is accepting [concept papers](#) for health and/or nutrition-related research projects with the potential to have a significant impact on issues affecting infants and young children, from birth to the age of three. The Foundation awards grants to [research projects](#) focused on solutions that, when implemented, will improve health, nutrition, and/or developmental outcomes for infants and young children.

Projects may address:

- etiologic mechanisms of disease;
- new, improved, or less invasive diagnostic procedures;
- reduction or elimination of side effects;
- alleviation of symptoms;
- new, improved, or less invasive therapies or treatments;
- dosage or dosing requirements or mechanisms for drugs, nutrient supplementation, or other therapeutic measures (under or overdosing); and
- preventive measures.

Priority is given to projects offering a substantial promise of meaningful advances in the prevention and treatment of diseases, as well as those with broad applicability to the general population on a regional or national level. Total requested grant size should not exceed \$350,000.

Concept paper deadlines: May 15, 2019 and November 15, 2019



Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts: Architecture & 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. To that end, [grants of up to \\$30,000 will be awarded to nonprofit organizations](#) to assist with the production and presentation of significant programs about architecture and the designed environment in order to promote dialogue, raise awareness, and develop new and wider audiences; support them in their effort to take risks in programming and create opportunities for experimentation to recognize the vital role they play in providing individuals with a public forum in which to present their work; and help them to realize projects that would otherwise not be possible without the Foundation's support. 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.

Organization Grant application deadline: February 25, 2019

[Learn more about grants to individuals >>](#)

[^^](#)

NEH: Public Scholar Program

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) [Public Scholar Program](#) supports the creation of well-researched books in the humanities intended to reach a broad readership. Some humanities scholarship is necessarily specialized, but the humanities can also engage broad audiences in exploring subjects of general interest. Such scholarship might present a narrative history, tell the stories of important individuals, analyze significant texts, provide a synthesis of ideas, revive interest in a neglected subject, or examine the latest thinking on a topic. Books supported by this program must be grounded in humanities research and scholarship, making appropriate use of primary and/or secondary sources. They must also be written in a readily accessible style, addressing significant humanities themes in a way that will appeal to a large audience of general readers. Applications to write books directed primarily to scholars are not appropriate for

this program. Applicants may seek support for the creation of digital or Web-based products intended to supplement the book that they propose.

Application deadline: February 6, 2019



NSF: EPSCoR Research Fellows (RII Track 4) - 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 4 : Notify RCA by 1/09/2019, 5:00 p.m. if you intend to apply.

The National Science Foundation (NSF) EPSCoR Research Infrastructure Improvement Track 4 Program (RII Track 4 / NSF 18-526) provides opportunities for non-tenured investigators in EPSCoR states to further develop their individual research potential through extended collaborative visits to the nation's premier private, governmental, or academic research centers. During these visits, the EPSCoR Research Fellows will be able to learn new techniques, develop new collaborations or advance existing partnerships, benefit from access to unique equipment and facilities, and/or shift their research toward potentially transformative new directions. The experiences gained through the fellowships are intended to have lasting impacts that will enhance the Fellows' research trajectories well beyond the award period. These benefits to the Fellows are also expected in turn to improve the research capacity of their institutions and jurisdictions more broadly. Those submitting proposals must hold either a non-tenured faculty appointment at an institution of higher education or an early-career

career-track appointment at an eligible non-degree-granting institution. Only three RII Track-4 proposals may be submitted in response to this solicitation by any single institution in a RII-eligible jurisdiction (state).

NSF application deadline: March 12, 2019



Organization for Autism Research: Applied Research

The Organization for Autism Research ([OAR](#)) is seeking pre-proposals for its 2019 [Applied Research Competition](#). The annual program aims to promote innovative research that directly supports the autism community by expanding the body of knowledge related to autism intervention and treatment, producing practical and objective results, and providing outcomes that enhance the quality of life for persons with autism and their families. Preference will be given to the analysis, evaluation, or comparison of current models of assessment, intervention, or systems of service delivery, including:

- policy analysis;
- applied aspects of educational, behavioral, or social/communicative intervention;
- effective intervention across the lifespan for individuals considered to be severely impacted by autism;
- adult issues such as continuing education, employment, residential supports, sexuality instruction, quality-of-life determinants, and "later intervention"; and
- issues related to family support, social and community integration, assessment and intervention with challenging behavior, and the use of technology in support of learners with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

In 2019, OAR will award grants of up to \$40,000. Studies can range from one to two years.

Pre-proposal deadline: March 25, 2019

^^

Sanford Health NDSU Collaborative Seed Grant Program - Internal Grant Program

The fifth Sanford Health NDSU Collaborative Seed Grant program's Request for Applications was released December 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 (RFA) and application form can be downloaded from www.ndsu.edu/research/for_facultyresearchers/sanford_health_ndsu_seed_grant/.

To better facilitate collaboration between NDSU and Sanford Health, **NDSU researchers interested in introductions to Sanford researchers/clinicians are requested to submit a short description of a possible proposal to NDSU.BusinessDev@ndsu.edu 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 (231-6660 or NDSU.businessdev@ndsu.edu).

^^

Updated! IACUC Training Requirements Guiding Principle

The NDSU Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) recently updated the [Training Requirements Guiding Principle](#) which covers training requirements for individuals working with live vertebrate animals at NDSU. The update includes the new training log as well as Species Specific and Procedural Training PowerPoint presentations which are now available on the [IACUC Training page](#).

If you have any questions regarding the NDSU IACUC training requirements please contact [Josie Hayden](#) or [Dr. Neil Dyer](#).

^^

December Issue of Research Development & Grant Writing News

The December 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:

- Key Documents for NSF Broader Impacts
- Defining and Supporting Your Premise
- Federal Strategy for STEM Ed and Its Impact on Writing a Proposal's Education Narrative

- Planning for Proposals Addressing National Water Research Priorities



CCAST Advanced Research Computing Training

FREE training sessions offered by the NDSU Center for Computationally Assisted Science and Technology (CCAST)

[Please register by January 15, 2019 >>](#)

The Center for Computationally Assisted Science and Technology (CCAST) is conducting a series of training sessions to introduce advanced research computing to NDSU faculty, staff, and students. This training series also aims to provide researchers with the basic knowledge to make the best use of local and national high-performance computing (HPC) resources and ultimately to advance their research capabilities.

The training events, offered **every other Thursday** from **2:00–4:00 p.m.** in **Quentin Burdick Building (Room 132)**, will include lectures, demonstrations, and hands-on sessions where participants have opportunities to run simple and not-so-simple programs on CCAST's HPC clusters. *No prior knowledge of advanced computing and computer programming is needed!*

The schedule for Spring 2019 is as follows:

- **January 17:** Introduction to HPC, HPC resources at NDSU (and elsewhere)
- **January 31:** Linux for HPC: Working with a Linux system, command-line basics
- **February 14:** How parallel programs work? Ensemble computing, OpenMP, and MPI

- **February 28:** How parallel programs work? Parallel computing using MPI
- **March 28:** How to get your work done faster? Parallel scaling performance
- **April 11:** Linux for HPC: Text processing and shell scripting
- **April 25:** Introduction to machine learning using TensorFlow

The training events are free and open to the entire NDSU community; however, space is limited to 24 seats per session and *pre-registration is required*. **Please register by January 15, 2019** by emailing ndsu.ccast.training@ndsu.edu the following information: first and last names, e-mail address, department/division, current status (faculty, staff, or student), and the sessions you would like to attend.

Prospective participants might register for any training sessions they are interested in; however, *registering and attending the entire series is strongly recommended* because the sessions are sequential. Those who already have significant experience working with Linux environment and with CCAST's Thunder cluster may skip the session on Jan. 31.

For more information about CCAST, go to www.ccast.ndsu.edu

^^

Have questions, ideas, or suggestions for the RCA Update?

[Contact Us](#)



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.

North Dakota State University does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, disability, gender expression/identity, genetic information, marital status, national origin, public assistance status, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or status as a U.S. veteran. Direct inquiries to: Equal Opportunity Specialist, Old Main 201, 701-231-7708 or Title IX/ADA Coordinator, Old Main 102, 701-231-6409.