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To: NDSU-EMPLOYEE-OFFICIAL@LISTSERV.NODAK.EDU
Subject: RCA Update - Feb. 21, 2017 Edition



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](#).

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FM Area Foundation Program Officer to Present Gear up for Grants Brown Bag Seminar

Wednesday, March 8, 2017 | 12pm-1pm | Memorial Union Arikara Room

Lexi Oestreich, FM Area Foundation Program Officer, will visit NDSU campus on Wed., March 8, to present a Brown Bag Seminar from noon to 1pm in the Memorial Union Arikara Room. She will talk about the [FM Area Foundation Community Grants program](#) and their topics of interest, in anticipation of their next application deadlines on April 7 and May 25. FM Area Foundation will accept up to seven applications per calendar year from seven different NDSU units, but all potential proposals should be discussed with Ms. Oestreich before submission. Faculty, staff, and students are welcome to attend the Brown Bag seminar.



All-Day Interactive Grant Proposal Development Workshop

Facilitated by Lucy Deckard, [Academic Research Funding Strategies, LLC](#)

Tuesday, March 21, 2017 | 8:30am-4:30pm | Memorial Union Prairie Rose Room

[Register Now!](#)

This highly interactive workshop will cover setting your research and education agendas, identifying and understanding funding agencies, talking to Program Officers, planning your project, writing the proposal (section by section), understanding the review process, and interpreting and responding to reviews. Participants will be asked to bring paper and pen or a laptop for writing exercises. Participants will also need to have a tentative project in mind in order to conduct the exercises.



Conference Opportunity – “Predictive Crop Design: Genome to Phenome”

Sponsored by Nebraska EPSCoR

Opportunity for Faculty, Post Docs and Students to present posters

A two-day plant science symposium will be April 6-7 at the Lincoln Marriott Cornhusker Hotel. The event theme is “Predictive Crop Design: Genome to Phenome,” with speakers from the University of California at Berkeley, Duke University, and private industry—including both startup and multinational companies.

This conference is part of the Nebraska Research & Innovation Conference (NRIC) annual series, conducted by Nebraska EPSCoR and funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF). In 2016, a five-year NSF EPSCoR project established the Center for Root & Rhizobiome Innovation (CRRI): a collaboration to research crop productivity focused on plants’ root microbiome. CRRI scientists--from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, University of Nebraska at Kearney, University of Nebraska Medical Center and Doane University--aim to grow scientific knowledge that will better feed the growing population.

The symposium provides an opportunity for interested faculty, post docs, and students to present posters and network with colleagues for future collaborations. For further information on the presentation opportunities, agenda, and accommodations please visit the [conference website](#).



Guidance for Postdoctoral Mentoring Plans

The [Grant Resources webpage](#) offers a number of informational resources for faculty who are required to develop a postdoctoral mentoring plan as a part of their grant proposals. Included are the following:

- [National Postdoctoral Association](#)
- [Sample plan](#) (NSF)
- [Sample Plan](#) (Univ. of Texas-San Antonio)
- [Guidelines for Mentoring Postdocs](#) (Univ. of CA, San Francisco)
- [FASEB statement](#) on mentoring plans, [sample plans](#), [IDPs](#)
- [Advancing Postdoc Women Guidebook](#)
- [Making the Right Moves: A Practical Guide to Scientific Management for Postdocs and New Faculty](#) produced by Burroughs Wellcome Fund and Howard Hughes Medical Institute.
- Guidance for [Individual Development Plans \(IDP\)](#)



New Issue of Research Development and Grant Writing News Available

The February issue of [Research Development & Grant Writing News](#) is now available. Use your NDSU login to access this publication.

Many topics are covered in this edition, including:

- Four Key Questions in Editing a Research Narrative
- Seed Your Narrative with Explanatory Clauses

- Surviving Chaos in Proposal Development
- Funding Agency Research News
 - Now Accepting Applications to Join the FFAR Expert Reviewer Database
 - Public Access to Results of NSF-funded Research
 - NSF Dear Colleague Letters
- Funding Agency Reports, Workshops & Research Roadmaps
- Agency Funding Opportunities



Hysitron Nanomechanical Test Instrument

The RCA Recharge Center's Hysitron TriboIndenter has recently been repaired and is available for use again. This test instrument is capable of performing automated nanomechanical tests on a wide range of materials including thin films and coatings. Measurement modes include:

- DMA Nanoindentation: measure storage and loss modulus for soft materials
- Quasistatic Nanoindentation: measure Young's modulus, hardness, fracture toughness and other mechanical properties via indentation for a wide range of materials
- ScanningWear™: observe and quantify wear rates and wear volumes using in-situ imaging
- Scratch testing: quantify scratch resistance, critical delamination forces, and friction coefficients
- Surface Finish: surface topography can be mapped and surface roughness can be calculated

For more information on using this tool for your research, contact Greg Strommen (1-5339 or greg.strommen@ndsu.edu) or visit the Research Operations website at https://www.ndsu.edu/research/research_operations/.



Important Terms of a License Agreement

When a company wants to practice a technology developed at NDSU, negotiations will begin with the NDSU Research Foundation to discuss the terms of the license. There are a number of standard terms that do not vary from license to license. The focus in this article are those terms that are more "deal specific." Two of the most important terms are the Grants section and the Consideration section.

The Grants section defines exactly what is being licensed to the company. It describes the technologies included, whether it grants an exclusive or non-exclusive license, the fields of use included, the geographical territories included, and the rights the university retains. For example, NDSURF usually retains on behalf of NDSU a right to practice the technologies for academic research and the right to publish results.

The Consideration section outlines what the company is giving to NDSURF in return for the license. This usually involves financial payments and other promises. Financially, NDSURF requires some or all of the following payments:

an upfront licensing fee at the time the license is signed, a percentage royalty on sales of any product that uses the technology to produce it, performance of diligence milestone payments, minimum annual royalties if sales do not reach a certain level, payment of patent costs not previously reimbursed, a portion of sublicensing fees generated by a sublicense, and milestone payments. Milestone payments can be based on developmental and commercial achievements or performance achievements (such as passing a regulatory hurdle). The Consideration usually includes a diligence clause that the company will continue towards commercialization, so that the technology does not just sit on a shelf.

A portion of any financial payments received by NDSURF are distributed to the inventors and contributing units per the NDSU Intellectual Property Policy.

If you have questions regarding your research as relating to patenting or commercialization, contact the Technology Transfer Office: Henry Nowak (1-8173 or henry.nowak@ndsu.edu) or Dale Zetocha (1-8931 or dale.zetocha@ndsu.edu).



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