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To: NDSU-EMPLOYEE-OFFICIAL@LISTSERV.NODAK.EDU
Subject: RCA Update - Feb. 22 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](#).

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

- [Research Sought on Zika Virus](#)
- [INCLUDES Funding Aimed at Expanding STEM Talent](#)

NOTICES

- [Financial Conflict of Interest \(FCOI\) Disclosures Required for PHS Agency Grants](#)
- [View Pivot Gallery and Check Your Profile](#)
- [Proposal Budget Format](#)

NEWS

- [Josie Hayden, Research Compliance Administrator for IACUC Resigns](#)
- [X-Ray Photoelectron Spectrometer \(XPS\) System Added to Recharge Center](#)

Research Sought on Zika Virus

Federal agencies are soliciting research to address the Zika Virus. The National Institutes of Health (NIH) seeks applications for research on the Zika virus in reproduction, pregnancy, and the developing fetus and announced priorities for that research in a [statement](#) issued on February 5. The National Science Foundation (NSF) recently issued a [Dear Colleague Letter](#) announcing its interest in receiving proposals relevant to the ongoing spread of the Zika virus. Proposals may be submitted through one of two routes: as a submission to the annual call for EEID proposals (http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5269&org=DEB&from=home) or as a RAPID proposal (see [Grant Proposal Guide](#), Chapter II.D.1).

INCLUDES Funding Aimed at Expanding STEM Talent

The National Science Foundation (NSF) is preparing details for a new science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education funding opportunity in fiscal year 2016. The new funding is designed to engage minority students who have been traditionally underrepresented in STEM fields to choose majors and pursue careers in STEM. The program draws heavily on research from several sources, including the [Center for Advancement of Informal Science Education \(CAISE\)](#) and the *Stanford Social Innovation Review* article, ["Transformative Scale: The Future of Growing What Works,"](#) which discusses "transformative scale" as a way to achieve rapid social change.

INCLUDES, which stands for *Inclusion across the Nation of Communities of Learners of Underrepresented Discoverers in Engineering and Science (INCLUDES)*, will provide grants to networks of organizations and institutions that use replicable approaches to broaden participation in STEM fields.

The funding opportunity will address the continuing urgent need to diversify the U.S. scientific workforce. That need was documented in a 2011 National Academy of Sciences (NAS) report, [*Expanding Underrepresented Minority Participation: America's Science and Technology Talent at the Crossroads*](#), as well as in other reports. The NAS report was guided by a steering committee, chaired by Dr. Freeman A. Hrabowski III. Dr. Hrabowski is the founder of the Meyerhoff Program (PAEMEM 1996) and president of the University of Maryland, Baltimore County.

To address the report's findings and other research on diversity issues in STEM, INCLUDES will help to quicken the pace of STEM talent expansion.

"We are eager to make much faster progress on improving the participation of people from all groups in STEM, particularly groups that have been underrepresented—women, racial and ethnic minorities and people with disabilities," said Dr. Joan Ferrini-Mundy, assistant director of Education and Human Resources (EHR) at NSF. "We know there are terrific efforts going on all around the country, but they don't necessarily all connect with each other, share best practices or work at scale."

Consequently, INCLUDES will solicit proposals for pilot programs to find ways to reverse a decades-old pattern. The first pilot will seek to streamline and share ideas for broadening participation in STEM across institutional and professional organizational partners. These institutional and professional organizational partners will be funded to develop, scale up and measure current or new models and programs for nurturing STEM talent at the undergraduate level and beyond.

"We are still working on many of the implementation details for INCLUDES," said Dr. Sylvia James, director of NSF's Division of Human Resource Development (HRD) and a co-chair of the INCLUDES implementation group. "We are in the process of working on the official launch for FY 2016 funding opportunities."

She encourages the community to follow the NSF Budget Request for FY 2017, which provides additional plans for INCLUDES.

Financial Conflict of Interest (FCOI) Disclosures Required for PHS Agency Grants

Financial Conflict of Interest (FCOI) disclosures are required from all people named on a grant when submitting to a PHS agency. Due to the time involved between grant submission and awards, student personnel can change. For this reason, you may want to list "Graduate Student" or "Undergraduate Student" rather than a name. If/when the grant is awarded, we can get FCOI disclosures from the students at that time. Contact Julie (1-8908, j.sherwood@ndsu.edu) with any questions.

View Pivot Gallery and Check Your Profile

Take a minute to view the new **Pivot Gallery** and do a search for NDSU scholars at <http://scholars.proquest.com/gallery/NDSU>. Faculty and research staff should try searching for their own profile and check for accuracy of the information. To edit your profile, log in to Pivot at <http://pivot.cos.com>, click on your name in the upper right hand corner, and choose 'Your Profile.' The next screen will have a blue button labeled 'Edit Profile.' Click on it and follow the prompts to complete your profile edits. If you need assistance or do not remember your login/password, email kay.sizer@ndsu.edu.

Proposal Budget Format

When preparing proposal budgets to be routed through Sponsored Programs, the budget attached to the proposal transmittal form should be presented in the sponsor specified forms to ensure budgets are properly and accurately

reviewed. If a sponsor has not identified a specific budget format, one of the budget templates located on the Sponsored Programs website should be used. https://www.ndsu.edu/research/sponsored_programs_admin/forms

Josie Hayden, Research Compliance Administrator for IACUC resigns

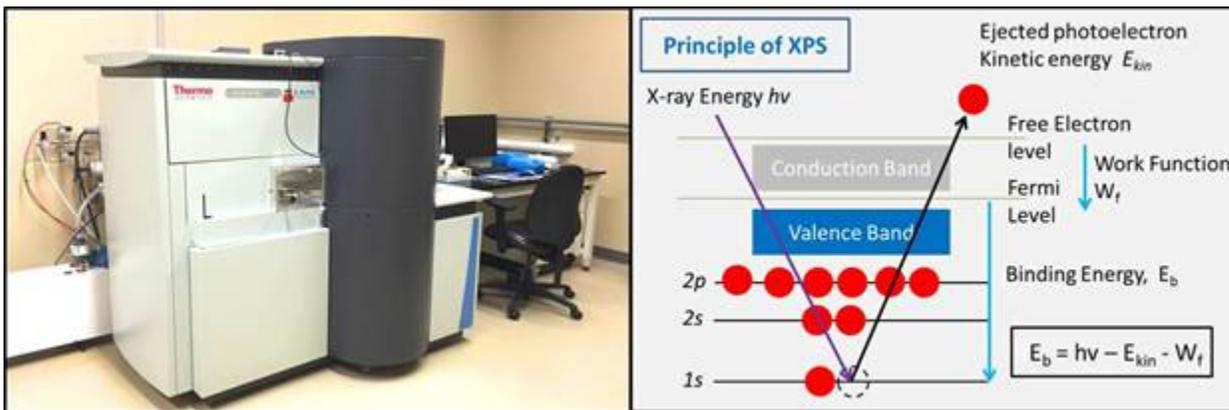
Josie Hayden, Research Compliance Administrator for the IACUC, has accepted an offer to work with Sanford Health as a Clinical Research Coordinator.

Josie's last day as a member of the RCA team will be on Friday, February 26, 2016. Josie has been an integral member of our team since October of 2008, and she will be missed greatly. Her contributions to the IACUC and improving animal welfare on our campus have been truly outstanding.

A search to try to find a replacement will begin immediately. In the interim, if you have questions about veterinary care, please contact Dr. Scott Walden, (1-7830, scott.walden@ndsu.edu). Questions concerning IACUC protocols and committee work should be directed to Julie Sherwood (1-8908, j.sherwood@ndsu.edu).

X-Ray Photoelectron Spectrometer (XPS) System Added to Recharge Center

A Thermo Scientific K-Alpha™ X-ray Photoelectron Spectrometer (XPS) system has been added to the RCA recharge center. XPS is a surface characterization technique with an analysis penetration depth of <10nm which features sputtering capabilities that allow for 3-dimensional chemical state and composition analysis. The instrument is combined with a MAGCIS cluster ion gun capable of etching "soft" polymeric and inorganic materials with minimal alteration to the composition or chemical state of the substrate.



The system is a fully integrated, monochromated small-spot XPS with depth profiling capabilities. Additional features and capabilities of the system include: selectable area spectroscopy, sputter depth profiling, micro-focused monochromator, snapshot acquisition, high-resolution chemical state spectroscopy, insulator analysis, and quantitative chemical imaging. This instrument enhances the capabilities of the recharge center's Materials Characterization and Analysis Laboratory (MCAL).

Additional information about the recharge center can be found at the following link:

https://www.ndsu.edu/research/research_operations/.

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