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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Feb. 16 Deadline - Sanford Health NDSU Collaborative Seed Grant Program
The second Sanford Health NDSU Collaborative Seed Grant program’s Request for Applications has been issued. Proposals are to be submitted electronically to NDSU.BusinessDev@ndsu.edu by 5:00 PM on February 16, 2016. The full Request for Applications and Application form can be downloaded from https://www.ndsu.edu/research/research_development/funding_opportunities/.

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).
Polymer Extrusion Equipment Aids NDSU Researchers in Biomaterials Development

Birgit Pruess, Associate Professor of Veterinary and Microbiological Sciences, and Shane Stafslien, Senior Research Specialist at NDSU Research and Creative Activities, received $74,787 in funding from the Agricultural Products and Utilization Commission for the project “Improvement of novel biofilm inhibiting materials and application in food processing.” Their research requires the blending of various biofilm inhibitors with polyurethane in order to develop composite sheet materials that can be tested for efficacy in the lab.

Although these departments did not possess the required equipment for the blending of their materials, they were able to gain access to it through one of the recharge centers at NDSU.

Polymer Extrusion Equipment Aids NDSU Researchers in Biomaterials Development

The ability to utilize specialized equipment such as the polymer extrusion equipment depicted above was an important enabling aspect to this research. Tools such as this and many others managed by the Research Operations Recharge Center are available to NDSU researchers for use on their projects. For more information on how these tools can help with your research, contact Aaron Reinholz (1-5338 aaron.reinholz@ndsu.edu) or visit the Research Operations website at https://www.ndsu.edu/research/research_operations/.

Research and Technology Park Announces the Innovation Challenge ‘16 Round One Winners

Congratulations to the teams listed below for advancing to the next round of the Innovation Challenge ’16 competition! Twenty-seven thousand dollars ($27,000) will be awarded to the top teams in the four tracks at the awards ceremony on March 1, 2016, to be held at the FARGODOME. Further details regarding the next round of judging and the awards luncheon will be forthcoming. Best wishes to all the finalists!

**Product Track**
- 3S Auto Remote Starter
- Advanced Bone Technology
- OverWatch (Sleep Assist)
- Prosthetics
- Rock Solid ABS (Anti-Biofilm)
- T & T Innovative Solutions
- Take Wing
- Treker

**Social Track**
- AuSome Environments
- KidSmiley (Globalimpact)
- Protein Per Dollar
- One Hawk
- Carbon Negative

**Service Track**
- Gone Rogue Travel Co.
- Herd
- Job Fairy
- Opti-M3D

**Ag Track**
- Adaptive Rover
- Bio-Tech
- Clean the Cluck Up
- ConveySure
Conflict of Interest Disclosure and Management

Section 151.1 of the NDSU Policy Manual governs External Activities and Conflicts of Interest, and applies to all full-time and part-time employees. (https://www.ndsu.edu/fileadmin/policy/151_1.pdf) Potential and actual conflicts of interest (COI) must be disclosed using the COI Disclosure - Administrative Review Form that can be found on the SPA webpage, with navigation being SPA, Research Tools, Forms. (This form is referenced under 6.2.) Under part 6 of Section 151.1, this form is to be completed and routed to the appropriate Administrative heads of units (as defined by Section 151.1, part 12.1). Upon completion of routing, the COI will either be approved, approved with oversight, or not approved. In the event the COI is approved with oversight, a COI Management Plan will need to be completed. There is a SAMPLE COI Management Plan template that can be used as a starting point and modified to fit individual circumstances. This SAMPLE is also found in the Forms section of the SPA webpage.

Reminder – IBC Reviews

A reminder that anyone on campus working with recombinant or synthetic nucleic acids, infectious agents or human blood, tissues or bodily fluids needs to submit an application to the IBC for review. This applies to both research and teaching applications. For more information, call 1-8908, or send an e-mail to ndsu.ibc@ndsu.edu, or go to https://www.ndsu.edu/research/integrity_compliance/ibc/.

Pivot Gallery is Now Available to Campus and the Public

February 8 marks the date that Pivot profiles become accessible through searches on a public webpage. See http://scholars.proquest.com/gallery/NDSU. The webpage is linked to the websites of the Office of Research and Creative Activity and the NDSU Research and Technology Park. Faculty and staff are encouraged to check their profile and keep it updated. For assistance with updates, contact kay.sizer@ndsu.edu.

Comparison of Grant Proposal Review Criteria

How Do I Review Thee? Let Me Count the Ways (Falk-Krzesinski, Tobin). This article compares the review criteria of 10 US federal agencies that support research through grant programs, and demonstrate that there are actually only a small and finite number of ways that a grant proposal can be evaluated. Though each funding agency may use slightly different wording, the authors found that the majority of the agencies’ criteria address eight key questions. Recognizing that grant proposal review criteria are similar across funding agencies may help lower the barrier to applying for federal funding for new and early career researchers, or facilitate funding portfolio diversification for experienced researchers. The full article can be found on the Research Development Grant Resources page, under Proposal Writing.

Updates on Addressing Rigor in NIH Applications

NIH’s Deputy Director for Extramural Research, Dr. Michael Lauer, provides this summary on the October 2015 changes to the NIH application instructions and review criteria. He also provides information on resources that should help as researchers consider how to address rigor in NIH applications. To view the summary, visit http://nexus.od.nih.gov/all/2016/01/11/updates-on-addressing-rigor/.

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