

RCA UPDATE

August 17, 2020



NDSU Research Community:

Even though Spring fills this role for most people, I have always loved the new beginnings that come with back-to-school time in the Fall. To this day, the smell of a box of new crayons makes me feel rich with possibilities. Fall is the time when I get excited to welcome students, catch up with old friends, make new ones, and remember fondly those colleagues who have moved on to a new chapter. For me, Fall always holds hope for new beginnings. It's time for a haircut, a new pair of shoes...and football.

This year feels different, and we will all be challenged with innovating to adapt new ways to conduct research while keeping ourselves, our colleagues, our students, and our study participants safe. I salute your concern for your colleagues and students, your willingness to learn and share tips for success, and your ability to navigate uncertainty with professionalism. It's definitely a brave new world and 2020 certainly has had its share of frustrations already (and I'm not even talking about football), but you are the brightest and most creative people I know. I have full faith that we will rise to this challenge.

To accommodate as many faculty as possible while following public health guidelines, our RCA team has flexed to move all research development and training opportunities online. The long-awaited [Novelution](#) electronic grant management system came online just as we needed it and has made the grant application process so much easier for faculty who are working remotely. Look for new modules in the near future, as we add IRB (training info below), IACUC, IBC,

and COI functions to make your research life simpler. In the community, we're working with the Research and Technology Incubator, the Nice Center, and the Challey Institute to connect research innovation and the Fargo entrepreneurial community. On a state-wide scale, we're partnering with UND, ND state government, and industry to evangelize the value of university research to the state and beyond.

Finally, to those of you who are new to NDSU, welcome! We are so glad to have you here, and I look forward to getting to know you. I'd like to invite you to take part in an online cohort for new faculty (invitation coming this fall). I am excited about the addition of [two new faculty fellows](#), Rajani and Sam, who will be helping with this initiative. It has been incredibly successful over the last few years, and we would love to have you join us! Finally, before your schedule gets busy, please take a few minutes to complete our [New Faculty Survey](#). We will use this information to feature new faculty members in future RCA Updates so that everyone can get to know you and your research.

On behalf of the entire RCA Team, welcome to the 2020 / 2021 school year! We are excited to work with you.

Kind regards,

Jane Schuh

Vice President

Research and Creative Activity

The RCA Update is a weekly e-newsletter distributed by the Office of Research and Creative Activity. Aimed at NDSU researchers, scholars, students, and staff, it provides up-to-date information on grant program changes, deadlines, notices, training, and other announcements. On alternating weeks, the RCA Update focuses primarily on funding opportunities.

The latest edition is sent to the employee email listserv each Monday afternoon throughout the year. Past newsletters are archived on the [RCA Website](#).

Update to IACUC Guiding Principle

The NDSU Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) has updated the [Biological Materials Used in Rodents Guiding Principle](#). Materials must now be tested for Mouse chapparovirus (MCPV) aka MKPV. Please reference the Guiding Principle for details.

For questions regarding testing requirements, please contact Josie Hayden (josie.hayden@ndsu.edu) or Dr. Neil Dyer (neil.dyer@ndsu.edu).



August Issue: Research Development & Grant Writing News

The August 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:

- Understanding Peer Review
- Observations on the NSF ERC Letter of Intent
- When There's Too Much To Stay: Strategies to Meet the Page Limit
- Writing a Stronger K-12 Teacher Workforce Component to an NSF Research Proposal and Relevance to an ERC
- Writing a Winning USDA Foundational Grant Proposal
- The Role of the Project Evaluator on the Writing Team

New NIH Resources Available

RCA is working with Dr. Meg Bouvier, a neuroscientist-turned-fulltime-grantwriter, to provide her virtual, self-paced training course *NIH Ready: R Series*, a 4-part grantwriting course as well as *Deadline-Push*, a 10-week workplan that offers 10 weekly emails offering NIH expertise and up-to-the-minute strategies for submitting an R-series application. We're excited to bring you this flexible training resource.

How it Works

The course is hosted on [Meg Bouvier Medical Writing website](#). You'll need to register and watch the courses from there. Even if you're not actively working on a submission, we encourage you to [register now](#) in order to take full advantage of the offering. To complete registration:

- Click 'Add to Cart'.
- At checkout, apply your coupon code (**NDSU NIH TRAINING**)
- Add organizational email address, and create a unique password. Do not use your NDSU password.
- When you're ready, click Watch Now on [megbouvier.com](#).

Sign up for Dr. Bouvier's [mailing list](#), so you don't miss timely announcements and information on the Deadline-Push: 10-week workplan program.

To learn more about Dr. Bouvier, please see her [website](#). If you have any questions or need assistance with accessing the training, please contact the NDSU Research Development office at ndsuhdev@ndsuh.edu.

COVID-19 Guidance for researchers is available on the [RCA Website](#), including NDSU guidance for PIs, Federal Agency guidance, and Funding Opportunities. As this situation is rapidly changing, please refer to the [NDSU COVID-19 Preparedness and Response page](#) for additional information.

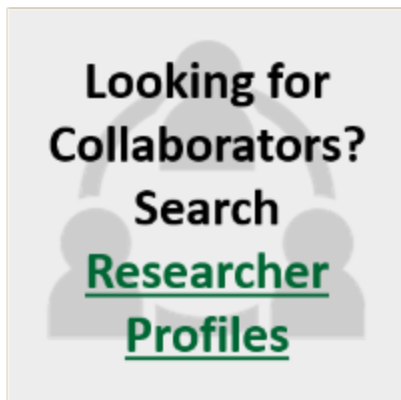
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Need to update your profile?
Click here to learn how!

Facebook: People's Expectations and Experiences with Digital Privacy

Facebook is [seeking applications](#) from across the social sciences and technical disciplines, including but not limited to disciplines such as anthropology, communications, computer science, economics, engineering, human-computer interaction, human factors, political science, social psychology, and sociology. Most notably, applications that are interdisciplinary and seek collaboration across fields are particularly welcome. Applicants from diverse backgrounds and those with expertise in specific countries, cultures, or vulnerable populations, including those that have not previously been examined in relation to privacy, are especially encouraged to apply. Research methodologies that use qualitative, quantitative, ethnographic, and / or mixed method approaches are all welcome.

Topics of interest include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Improving understanding of users' privacy attitudes, concerns, preferences, needs, behaviors, and outcomes;
- Novel interventions for digital transparency and control that are meaningful for diverse populations, context, and data types.

Deadline: September 16, 2020

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Johnson & Johnson Women in STEM²D Scholars 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.

WiSTEM²D : [Notify RCA](#) by 8/26/2020, 5:00 p.m. if you are interested in submitting to this program.

The [Johnson & Johnson Women in STEM²D Scholars Program](#) aims to fuel the development of female STEM²D leaders and feed the STEM²D talent pipeline by awarding and sponsoring women at critical points in their research careers, in each of the STEM²D disciplines:

1. Science
2. Technology
3. Engineering
4. Mathematics
5. Manufacturing
6. Design

The awards will fund one woman per discipline who has completed her advanced degree, who is working as an assistant professor and who is not yet tenured at an accredited university or design institution. The goal is to fuel the research passion of the awarded women and inspire career paths in their respective STEM²D fields. By offering these awards, Johnson & Johnson hopes to play an influential role in STEM²D breakthroughs in the future.

LIMITED SUBMISSION: Each University can support and recommend one applicant per each STEM²D discipline for a total of 6 applicant submissions (one for science, one for technology, one for engineering, etc.)

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ND EPSCoR NDSU-Specific Request for Proposals

The ND EPSCoR State Office has a mission to support the efforts of EPSCoR-participating institutions across the state that result in increased STEM faculty capacity and competitiveness and a stronger STEM pathway that produces our next generation workforce, educators, and researchers.

To help support the efforts of faculty and students engaged in STEM research and education, ND EPSCoR is [requesting proposals](#) from NDSU Faculty for activities in the following categories:

1. equipment,
2. equipment repair,
3. undergraduate research,

4. faculty seed awards,
5. awards to fund external peer review of large collaborative / interdisciplinary proposals prior to submission to a federal agency,
6. faculty / student awards to support K-12 outreach activities, and
7. development of online / virtual modules for STEM laboratory courses.

Deadline: September 25, 2020; Noon

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ND EPSCoR State-Wide Request for Proposals

The ND EPSCoR State Office has a mission to support the efforts of EPSCoR-participating institutions across the state that result in increased STEM faculty capacity and competitiveness and a stronger STEM pathway that produces our next generation workforce, educators, and researchers.

To help support the efforts of faculty and students engaged in STEM research and education, the ND EPSCoR State Office is [requesting proposals](#) for activities in the following categories:

1. equipment,
2. equipment repair,
3. undergraduate research,
4. faculty seed awards,
5. awards to fund external peer review of large collaborative / interdisciplinary proposals prior to submission to a federal agency,
6. faculty / student awards to support K-12 outreach activities, and
7. development of online / virtual modules for STEM laboratory courses.

Deadline: September 21, 2020; Noon

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NIH: Collaborative Program Grant for Multidisciplinary Teams (RM1)

[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.

NIH RM1 : [Notify RCA](#) by 9/22/2020, 5:00 p.m. if you are interested in

submitting to this program.

This National Institutes of Health (NIH) funding opportunity announcement (FOA / [PAR-20-103](#)) is designed to support highly integrated research teams of three to six PD/PIs to address ambitious and challenging research questions that are important for the mission of the [National Institute of General Medical Sciences \(NIGMS\)](#) and are beyond the scope of one or two investigators. [Collaborative program teams](#) are expected to accomplish goals that require considerable synergy and managed team interactions. Project goals should not be achievable with a collection of individual efforts or projects. Teams are encouraged to consider far-reaching objectives that will produce major advances in their fields. Applications that are mainly focused on the creation, expansion, and/or maintenance of community resources, creation of new technologies or infrastructure development are not appropriate for this FOA.

LIMITED SUBMISSION: Only one application per institution is allowed per review round.

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North Central Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education Grant Program

The North Central Region SARE (NCR-SARE) [Research and Education \(R&E\) Grant Program](#) is a competitive grant program for researchers and educators involved in projects that explore and promote environmentally sound, profitable, and socially responsible food and / or fiber systems.

Research and Education projects include a strong outreach component and significant farmer / rancher or other end user involvement from inception of the idea through implementation of the project. Many projects are interdisciplinary and / or multi-institutional, involving a broad range of agricultural interests. Project coordinators in the past have explored sustainable agriculture under the following topics: biocontrol, crop production, education / extension, networking, livestock production, marketing, quality of life, soil quality, value-added marketing, waste management, water quality, and weed control.

Deadline: October 8, 2021

NSF / VMware: The Next Generation of Sustainable Digital Infrastructure

The goal of this joint solicitation [[NSF 20-594](#)] between the National Science Foundation (NSF) and VMware is to foster novel, transformative research in fundamental and systematic approaches that bring dramatic increases in the environmental sustainability of the Digital Infrastructure leading to practical methodologies and tools. The Digital Infrastructure is broadly defined as the totality of software, hardware, and the methods for managing them for the purpose of efficient computation. This research includes, but is not limited to, computer software and systems; management of distributed software, the Digital Infrastructure, and data center power sourcing; and resource allocation and scheduling. Critical to initiating such research is to set its objectives through the definition of novel metrics and benchmarks that capture the sustainability challenges of all components in the entire computation chain.

The program also aims to support a research community committed to advancing research and education at the confluence of management technologies for software, hardware and power for Sustainable Digital Infrastructure, and to transition research findings into practice. A new generation of innovation would build on many recent advances such as passive and active measurements, statistical analysis and inference, learning for automated control and complex optimization, workload isolation and management, agile development, convergence of development and production environments, and architecture-optimized language translation.

Deadline: November 4, 2020

NSF: Computer and Information Science and Engineering Directorate Opportunities

The National Science Foundation (NSF) Computer and Information Science and Engineering (CISE) Directorate has several open opportunities:

The **CISE Core Programs** support research and education projects that develop new knowledge in all aspects of computing, communications, and information science and engineering, as well as advanced cyberinfrastructure. This solicitation [[NSF 20-591](#)] will accept proposals for Small Projects beginning October 1, 2020, and establishes a submission window of October 28-November 1, 2020, for Medium Projects and OAC Core Projects.

The **CISE Community Research Infrastructure (CCRI) program** [[NSF 19-512](#)] drives discovery and learning in the core CISE disciplines of the three participating divisions [(Computing and Communication Foundations (CCF), Computer and Network Systems (CNS), and Information and Intelligent Systems (IIS))] by funding the creation and enhancement of world-class research infrastructure. This research infrastructure will specifically support diverse communities of CISE researchers pursuing **focused research agendas in computer and information science and engineering**.

Letter of Intent Deadline: November 11, 2020

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NSF: Improving Undergraduate STEM Education: Pathways into the Earth, Ocean, Polar and Atmospheric & Geospace Sciences (IUSE: GEOPATHs)

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 IUSE:GEOPATHs : Notify RCA by 9/2/2020, 5:00 p.m. if you are interested in submitting to this program.

IUSE:GEOPATHs invites proposals that specifically address the current needs and opportunities related to education within the geosciences community through the formation of STEM Learning Ecosystems that engage students in the study of the Earth, its oceans, polar regions and atmosphere. The primary goal of the IUSE:GEOPATHs funding opportunity is to increase the number of students pursuing undergraduate and/or postgraduate degrees through the design and testing of novel approaches that engage students in authentic, career-relevant experiences in geoscience. In order to broaden participation in the geosciences,

engaging students from historically excluded groups or from non-geoscience degree programs is a priority. This solicitation features three funding tracks that focus on Geoscience Learning Ecosystems (GLEs):

1. GEOPATHs: *Informal Networks (IN)*. Collaborative projects in this track will support geoscience learning and experiences in informal settings for teachers, pre-college (e.g., upper level high school) students, and early undergraduates in the geosciences.
2. GEOPATHs: *Undergraduate Preparation (UP)*. Projects in this track will engage pre-college and undergraduate students in extra-curricular experiences and training in the geosciences with a focus on service learning and workplace skill building.
3. GEOPATHs: *Graduate Opportunities (GO)*. Projects in this track will improve research and career-related pathways into the geosciences for undergraduate and graduate students through institutional collaborations with a focus on service learning and workplace skill building.

LIMITED SUBMISSION: An organization may serve as sole submitting organization or as lead organization of a collaborative project on only one submission per competition, regardless of track, but may serve as the non-lead organization of a collaborative project more than once per competition. A Principal Investigator may serve in the role of PI or Co-PI on only one proposal per competition if they are at the sole-submitting organization or the lead organization of a collaborative project, but may serve as the Co-PI for a non-lead organization of a collaborative project more than once per competition.

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NSF: Innovations in Graduate Education - 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 IGE : Notify RCA by 8/26/2020, 5:00 p.m. if you are interested in submitting to this program.

The Innovations in Graduate Education (IGE) program [NSF 20-595] is designed to

encourage the development and implementation of bold, new, and potentially transformative approaches to STEM graduate education training. The program seeks proposals that explore ways for graduate students in research-based master's and doctoral degree programs to develop the skills, knowledge, and competencies needed to pursue a range of STEM careers.

IGE focuses on projects aimed at piloting, testing, and validating innovative and potentially transformative approaches to graduate education. IGE projects are intended to generate the knowledge required for their customization, implementation, and broader adoption. The program supports testing of novel models or activities with high potential to enrich and extend the knowledge base on effective graduate education approaches.

The program addresses both workforce development, emphasizing broad participation, and institutional capacity building needs in graduate education. Strategic collaborations with the private sector, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), government agencies, national laboratories, field stations, teaching and learning centers, informal science centers, and academic partners are encouraged.

LIMITED SUBMISSION: An eligible organization may participate in two Innovations in Graduate Education proposals per competition. **Participation includes serving as a lead organization on a non-collaborative proposal or as a lead organization, non-lead organization, or subawardee on a collaborative proposal.** Organizations participating solely as evaluators on projects are excluded from this limitation.

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NSF: International Research Experiences for Students

The International Research Experiences for Students (IRES) program [[NSF 20-598](#)] supports international research and research-related activities for U.S. science and engineering students. The IRES program contributes to development of a diverse, globally engaged workforce with world-class skills. IRES focuses on active research participation by undergraduate and / or graduate students in high quality international research, education and professional development experiences in NSF-funded research areas.

The overarching, long-term goal of the IRES program is to enhance U.S.

leadership in science and engineering research and education and to strengthen economic competitiveness through training the next generation of research leaders.

This solicitation features two mechanisms; proposers are required to select one of the following tracks to submit their proposal. Track I focuses on the development of world-class research skills in international cohort experiences. Track II is dedicated to targeted, intensive learning and training opportunities that leverage international knowledge at the frontiers of research.

For all IRES proposals, PIs are strongly encouraged to outline virtual, hybrid or other alternative approaches to strengthen and maintain international collaboration in the event travel is not undertaken, and/or in addition to travel. It is expected that these approaches will extend collaboration beyond the actual international trip and strengthen IRES proposals overall.

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NSF: Major Research Instrumentation (MRI)

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 MRI : Notify RCA by 9/15/2020, 5:00 p.m. if you are interested in submitting to this program.

The National Science Foundation Major Research Instrumentation (MRI) Program [NSF 18-513] serves to increase access to multi-user scientific and engineering instrumentation for research and research training in our Nation's institutions of higher education and not-for-profit scientific / engineering research organizations. An MRI award supports the acquisition or development of a multi-user research instrument that is, in general, too costly and/or not appropriate for support through other NSF programs. **Cost sharing of precisely 30% of the total project cost is required.**

Based on the NSF 18-513 solicitation, an MRI proposal may request support for either the acquisition or development of a research instrument.

- Track 1: Track 1 MRI proposals are those that request funds from NSF greater than or equal to \$100,000 and less than \$1,000,000. Two proposal submissions are allowed per organization.
- Track 2: Track 2 MRI proposals are those that request funds from NSF greater than or equal to \$1,000,000 up to and including \$4,000,000. One proposal submission is allowed per organization.

LIMITED SUBMISSION: The MRI program requires that an MRI-eligible organization may, as a performing organization, submit or be included as a significantly funded subawardee in *no more than three MRI proposals*. Each performing organization is limited to a maximum of three proposals in the “Tracks” as defined above, with no more than two submissions in Track 1 and no more than one submission in Track 2.

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NSF: Research Traineeship (NRT)

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 NRT : Notify RCA by 9/15/2020, 5:00 p.m. if you are interested in submitting to this program.

The National Science Foundation (NSF) Research Traineeship (NRT) program [NSF 19-522] is designed to encourage the development and implementation of bold, new, and potentially transformative models for STEM graduate education training. The NRT program seeks proposals that explore ways for graduate students in research-based masters and doctoral degree programs to develop the skills, knowledge, and competencies needed to pursue a range of STEM careers. The program is dedicated to effective training of STEM graduate students in high priority interdisciplinary research areas, through the use of a comprehensive traineeship model that is innovative, evidence-based, and aligned with changing workforce and research needs. The NRT program addresses workforce development, emphasizing broad participation, and institutional capacity building needs in graduate education. Strategic collaborations with the private sector, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), government agencies, national laboratories,

field stations, teaching and learning centers, informal science centers, and academic partners are encouraged.

LIMITED SUBMISSION: Based on the NSF 19-522 solicitation, an eligible organization may participate in *two proposals* per competition. **Participation includes serving as a lead organization, non-lead organization, or subawardee on any proposal.** Organizations participating solely as evaluators on projects are excluded from this limitation.

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NSF DCL: Planning for Midscale Infrastructure for the Biological Sciences

The Mid-scale Research Infrastructure (MSRI) initiative is a National Science Foundation (NSF)-wide *Big Idea* designed to address the research community's growing needs for visionary and unique research infrastructure for the advancement of contemporary science and engineering research. NSF's MSRI program is designed to support the implementation of research capabilities and infrastructure with total project costs between \$6M and \$70M. In FY 2019, the NSF released two associated solicitations: [Mid-scale RI-1 \(NSF 19-537\)](#) for design and implementation projects requesting up to \$20 million and [Mid-scale RI-2 \(NSF 19-542\)](#) for implementation projects between \$20 million and \$70 million.

NSF's Biological Sciences Directorate (NSF/BIO) recognizes that infrastructure needs of the biology community span a wide spectrum ranging from discrete instrumentation, cyberinfrastructure, collections resources, or broadly used data sets to major facilities and associated expertise to enable generation or processing of data through monitoring, experimental, or computational means. Accordingly, the state of readiness and preparation of the community likely varies widely, wherein some mid-scale infrastructure projects for biological research are in the earliest stages of conceptualization or planning while others are ready for implementation having already matured through previous developmental investments. This [Dear Colleague Letter \(DCL\)](#) is intended to address the current need for pre-implementation activities in the biology research community including early-stage design or development that lead projects through conceptual, preliminary and final design stages and places them on a path to implementation of mid-scale research infrastructure projects. Moreover, even projects that are in an advanced stage of readiness may lack the full complement of skills needed for

effective management and technical activities that are required to prepare, initiate, execute and conclude implementation of projects at these larger scales in an accountable and flexible manner.

With this DCL, NSF/BIO announces its intent to support workshops and planning awards. Such workshops are typically identified as conferences in the *NSF Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide* ([PAPPG](#)). These activities will help increase capacity across the biological sciences research community to develop ideas, facilitate team formation and develop effective, milestone-based project management practices that will enable teams to be better equipped to implement mid-scale infrastructure projects.

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Robert Wood Johnson Foundation: Equitable Green Spaces

City parks and green spaces play a vital role in the social, economic, and physical well-being of America's cities and their residents. Research shows that a lack of green space—specifically trees—can impact academic performance, crime rates, personal health and even increased illness and death from extreme heat and poor air quality, yet many low-income communities and communities of color are left without access to quality parks.

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) is [interested in funding](#) an organization or a collaboration of up to three organizations to develop an initiative that will work to increase equitable access to parks and green spaces through influencing policy and systems change, particularly in small and midsize cities. Up to \$400,000 is available for this planning grant with the expectation that the recipients will apply for a larger implementation grant.

Deadline: September 9, 2020

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Russell Sage Foundation: Social Science Research

The [Russell Sage Foundation \(RSF\)](#) has long supported social science research with the aim of improving social and living conditions in the United States. RSF is

accepting letters of inquiry under the following core programs and special initiatives: [Future of Work](#); [Immigration and Immigrant Integration](#); [Race, Ethnicity and Immigration](#); [Social, Political and Economic Inequality](#). RSF will continue to accept letters of inquiry relevant to any of RSF's core programs that address at least one of the following issues:

1. [Research on the Covid-19 pandemic and the resulting recession in the U.S.](#) Specifically, research that assesses the social, political, economic, and psychological causes and consequences of the pandemic, especially its effects on marginalized individuals and groups and on trust in government and other institutions. RSF priorities do not include analyses of health outcomes or health behavior.
2. **Research focused on systemic racial inequality and / or the recent mass protests in the U.S.** Specifically, research that investigates the prevalence of racial disparities in policing and criminal justice and their social, political, economic, and psychological causes and consequences; the effects of the current social protest movement and mass mobilization against systemic discrimination; the nature of public attitudes and public policies regarding policing, criminal justice, and social welfare; and the effects of those attitudes in the current political environment.

Deadline: November 11, 2020

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USDA-NIFA: Women and Minorities in STEM Fields Program (WAMS)

[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.

USDA WAMS : [Notify RCA](#) by 9/15/2020, 5:00 p.m. if you are interested in submitting to this program.

The National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) requests applications for [WAMS](#) to support research and extension activities that increase the number of women and underrepresented minorities from rural areas who will pursue and complete a postsecondary degree in science, technology, engineering or

mathematics (STEM) disciplines. WAMS-funded project activities must support the creation, adaptation, and adoption of learning materials and teaching strategies to operationalize what we know about how students learn. WAMS-funded projects shall also focus on imparting both technical knowledge as well as 'soft' skills such as communication, team work, and problem solving, as these are abilities expected by employers.

For this program, NIFA will support projects with a target audience of K-14 students (kindergarten through twelfth grade plus two years of post-secondary school (e.g., vocational technical institutions or community or junior colleges). Four-year undergraduate, graduate, and post-doctoral focused projects will not be awarded under this grant announcement.

LIMITED SUBMISSION: Each eligible, individual institution, independent branch campus, and branch institution of a State system may submit one application as an individual institution.

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Department of Energy Summer Webinar Series

This free webinar series will connect early- and growth-stage companies, accelerators and incubators, and university entrepreneurial scientists and engineers to the latest program initiatives and partnering opportunities from the Department of Energy (DOE). It will provide attendees with an opportunity to hear from DOE senior leaders and program managers, those who are the administrators and decision-makers for current and upcoming funding and partnering opportunities. All webinars are scheduled for 12pm (Noon) CT. [Learn more and register >>](#)

- **August 20:** DOE and the Federal Lab Consortium - What's in it for you?
- **September 4:** DOE's Prize Competitions and Challenges
- **September 11:** The Laboratory Partnership Service
- **September 18:** Wells Fargo Innovation Incubator (IN2) and the NREL Industry Growth Forum

Past webinars are available to watch on-demand.

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Date Change: Export Controls Roundtable on Foreign Influence

Roundtables are designed to be discussions regarding specific topics and are less formal than webinars. There will be a 1-2 slide formal presentation providing background on the subject, and two discussion leaders will lend their experience to the group. Participants will be encouraged to share their own knowledge as well as ask questions, hopefully leading to a successful group discussion. The direction of the conversation is entirely dependent on the group.

Foreign Influence

DATE CHANGE: **Wednesday, September 23, 2020** - 11:00 AM

Facilitators: Sharon May and Julie Sherwood

Safeguarding research on campus against threats from some foreign governments seeking to influence, interfere and, in some cases, steal scientific research and intellectual property has been the subject of warnings by national security and law enforcement officials over the past several years. To date, cases have been brought against professors, scholars and students from universities and research institutions across the US. This roundtable will open the discussion on the issue of foreign influence on American university campuses and how we can protect federally funded research projects from cyberattacks, theft, and other foreign threats while still maintaining openness and international academic collaboration.

Spots are limited. Please email sharon.may@ndsu.edu to reserve your space. *Sessions will be limited to around 20 participants to maximize discussion.*

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Save the Date: Novelution Software Training - IRB Module

Virtual training sessions for the Novelution Institutional Review Board (IRB) protocol submission modules have been scheduled. Sessions will be held via Microsoft Teams and will be recorded and archived to be viewed at any time. We would love to have you join us in real time. Two sessions will be held for faculty and students submitting protocols for review on:

- August 25, 2020 | 1:30-3:00 p.m.
- September 2, 2020 | 1:30-3:00 p.m.

Links to the Microsoft Teams meetings will be provided in a later edition.

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.

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