Message from Gary Pierzynski, Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Education

Cultivate Your Creativity

Generally, we tend to think of research and the arts (such as literature and music) as polar opposites. Research is logical and follows clearly defined rules, while the arts seem to defy logic and have few constraints. Of course, such broad characterizations are not true. For example, the rhythms and patterns in music have a strong mathematical foundation, while scientific discoveries often begin as a creative solution to a problem.

The topic of my message this month is creativity—another important connection between the arts and sciences that can be underappreciated in research. Composers and writers create songs and novels out of nothing, starting from a basic idea in their minds. Similarly, a sculptor combines a creative idea with his or her “gift,” of sculpting to turn a block of stone into a masterpiece. We see parallels in research: new areas of inquiry often begin when a scientist finds something worthy of investigation. We comb through data sets looking for the story within, recognizing patterns in disparate areas of knowledge that can be pieced together to advance science. Scientists identify solutions to vexing problems where others have failed. New knowledge to the scientist is what a new song is to the composer.

Many have tried to define creativity narrowly, often concluding that some people have it and others don’t. My belief is that everyone can be creative. This skill can be developed, and with appropriate time management our creativity can more readily be expressed. As the end of the spring semester approached, I have no doubt that most everyone was quite busy, which is not an ideal recipe for creativity. Steven Covey, author of The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People, notes that we often spend too much time doing things that appear urgent, but really aren’t important in the long run. We should be spending more time doing things that may not appear urgent, but are highly important when looking at the big picture. Creativity falls into this category—it doesn’t usually seem urgent, but is vitally important to our work. The timing of this article is no accident. As we enter the summer months when the busyness subsides for a while, this is an excellent time to cultivate your creativity. Take a breather, reduce the clutter in your mind, do something different to exercise your brain, and enhance your creativity in the process. If you are looking for ways to jumpstart your creative process, try this podcast. On this note, I wish you all a restful and productive summer.

SEEDS Summary Documents Now Available

The summary of awards for SEEDS: The CFAES Research Competitive Grants Program Report (FY 2019) is available online. This document shows the funding rates and awards for our last grant cycle. Additionally, the SEEDS Report of Progress is published online, including research impacts about SEEDS funded projects from CY 2018 and other information about the program. If you have any questions relating to the SEEDS program, please contact the program coordinator, Melissa Burant.

A Reminder and Request from GDSU and Human Resources

As you develop your budgets, be sure to reach out to your Human Resources Professionals (and subject matter experts) to ensure everything has been included for your personnel estimates. HR can provide the proper classification from a list of duties needed to be executed under the grant. They will also help you develop a salary/salary range that will be cost-effective and attractive to possible candidates while also being supported by the University and our college. HR will always have the most up to date cost of benefits and requirements for hiring. Do not hesitate to contact cfaeshr@osu.edu with questions at any stage of your budget development.

NSF outlines effective practices for data sharing: Agency policy requires awardees to share data collected as part of an award. Now NSF has identified several practices to make data usable by others and advance open science. Read more.
FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

USDA-NIFA—NATIONAL FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES TEACHING EXTENSION AND RESEARCH AWARDS (TERA)
The purpose of the TERA awards is to recognize and promote excellence in teaching in the food and agricultural sciences within U.S. colleges and universities. Examples of relevant activities under this project type include (but are not limited to): formal classroom instruction; laboratory instruction; and practicum experience such as faculty development, student recruitment and services, curriculum development, and innovative teaching methodologies. It also includes activities that directly or indirectly contribute to student learning such as research, extension/outreach, and organizational arrangements needed for the proper functioning of the educational institution.
Deadline: June 14, 2019

INTERNAL OPPORTUNITY—Foods for Health (FFH) SEED GRANTS
The FFH Seed Grant Competition is a university-wide initiative with a primary goal of advancing research in food, nutrition and health. Proposed projects must have at least 2 out of 3 topics covered: metabolomics, health, food and/or nutrition. Successful proposals will focus on research that is innovative, collaborative, and with a clear plan to create value through peer-reviewed publication, while catalyzing the submission of competitive extramural grants.
Deadline: June 17, 2019

EPA—CHEMICAL MECHANISMS TO ADDRESS NEW CHALLENGES IN AIR QUALITY MODELING
EPA, as part of its Science to Achieve Results (STAR) program, is seeking applications proposing research to improve air quality models relevant to ozone, particulate matter (PM), regional haze, air toxics, and emerging pollutants. Specifically, EPA is interested in proposals focusing on the development of the component of an air quality model that represents the relevant atmospheric chemical reactions, which is known in this field of modeling as “the chemical mechanism.”
Deadline: June 24, 2019

LIMITED SUBMISSION, NSF—THE INNOVATIONS IN GRADUATE EDUCATION PROGRAM (IGE)
The IGE program 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. If you are interested in applying, please contact Jeff Agnoli.
Internal Deadline: June 24, 2019

USDA-FS—GREAT LAKES RFA 2019
The Forest Service (FS) anticipates around $4 million in new funds will be available for tree planting and forest health improvement in the Great Lakes Basin. Funding is provided under the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative through an interagency agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Funds will be distributed across the following three program areas: forest insect and disease mitigation, reduced runoff from degraded sites through green infrastructure, and enhanced coastal wetland filtration.
Deadline: June 28, 2019

USDA-NIFA—NORTH CENTRAL REGIONAL AQUACULTURE CENTER (NCRAC), REQUEST FOR PRE-PROPOSALS
The North Central Regional Aquaculture Center (NCRAC) is seeking pre-proposals designed to address immediate research needs. There is approximately $500,000 (actual level subject to final FY2019 USDA-NIFA funding) available from NCRAC yearly grants to fund relevant and selected projects. Proposed research or project must support commercial aquaculture industry in the 12-state North Central Region. The Center typically fund projects for up to two years.
Deadline: July 1, 2019

EPA—GREAT LAKES RESTORATION INITIATIVE (GLRI)
The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is now accepting applications for the GLRI. The GLRI was launched in 2010 to accelerate efforts to protect and restore the Great Lakes. Priorities such as agricultural nutrients and stormwater runoff, cleaning up highly-contaminated “Areas of Concern,” and combating invasive species have been funded in the past. This year, EPA is including a category to provide funding for innovative water quality trading projects, promoting cost-effective and market-based approaches to reduce excess nutrients to surface waters. Another $12.5 million is available to fund projects that target the following priorities: riparian restoration to reduce runoff to the Maumee River, green infrastructure to reduce stormwater runoff, manure management to reduce nutrient runoff from farms, or accelerating adoption of nutrient management through farmer-led outreach and education.
Deadline: July 12, 2019
NOAA—GREAT LAKES BAY WATERSHED EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAM (B-WET)
The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Office of National Marine Sanctuaries is seeking proposals under the Great Lakes Bay Watershed Education and Training Program (B-WET). The Great Lakes B-WET Program is a competitive grant program that supports existing, high quality environmental education programs, fosters the growth of new, innovative programs, and encourages capacity building and partnership development for environmental education programs throughout the Great Lakes watershed. Successful projects provide Meaningful Watershed Educational Experiences (MWEES) for students and related professional development for teachers, while advancing regional Great Lakes education priorities.
Deadline: July 12, 2019

NSF—SMART AND CONNECTED COMMUNITIES PROGRAM
Communities in the US and around the world are entering a new era of transformation in which residents and their surrounding environments are increasingly connected through rapidly-changing intelligent technologies. This transformation offers great promise for improved wellbeing and prosperity, but poses significant challenges at the complex intersection of technology and society. The goal of the NSF Smart and Connected Communities program is to accelerate the creation of scientific and engineering foundations that will enable smart and connected communities to experience new levels of economic opportunity and growth, safety, security, health, wellness, and overall quality of life.
Deadline: August 6, 2019

INDUSTRY—CENTER FOR PRODUCE SAFETY, WATER TREATMENT BASELINE PROGRAM
Microbiological quality characterization and management of agricultural water (ag water) is immensely important to preventative food safety systems. The purpose of this RFP is to solicit proposals detailing administrative management, plans to conduct required baseline datasets, and proposed associated relevant research activities. Any proposal must address a region specifically and provide guidance to the produce industry for technical implementation and knowledge of the efficacy of antimicrobial treatment of ag water. If you are interested, there is an upcoming webinar (June 4, 2019 @ 1:00pm ET) where CPS representatives will provide the RFP background, guidance, and proposal requirements—registration is free.
Deadline: August 20, 2019

USDA-NIFA—AFRI EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT (EWD)
This Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) program focuses on developing the next generation of research, education, and extension professionals in the food and agricultural sciences. In FY 2019, EWD invites applications in five areas: professional development for agricultural literacy; training of undergraduate students in research and extension; fellowships for predoctoral candidates; fellowships for postdoctoral scholars; and a brand new program for agricultural workforce training. Please refer to Parts I, c and IV, c of the Request for Applications for more details.
Deadline: August 22, 2019

LIMITED SUBMISSION, NSF—THE MAJOR RESEARCH INSTRUMENTATION PROGRAM (MRI)
The MRI serves to increase access to shared scientific and engineering instruments for research and research training in our Nation's institutions of higher education, museums and science centers, and non-profit organizations. This program especially seeks to improve the quality and scope of research and research training in science and engineering, by providing shared instrumentation that fosters the integration of research and education in research-intensive learning environments. If you are interested in applying, please contact Jeff Agnoli.
Deadline: September 16, 2019

FULLBRIGHT AMERICAN SCHOLAR AWARDS 2020 /2021
These Fulbright Awards provide approximately 50 teaching and/or research grants to U.S. faculty and experienced professionals in a wide variety of academic and professional fields. Applicants can propose projects for a period of 4, 9, or 12 months. The dates of the awards should coincide with the academic year of the host institution. Applications are now being accepted for awards to be taken up in the 2020-2021 Academic Year.
Deadline: September 16, 2019

USDA-NIFA—AFRI FOUNDATIONAL AND APPLIED SCIENCE PROGRAM
The Foundational and Applied Science Program supports grants in six Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) priority areas to advance knowledge in both fundamental and applied sciences important to agriculture. The six priority areas are: Plant Health and Production and Plant Products; Animal Health and Production and Animal Products; Food Safety, Nutrition, and Health; Bioenergy, Natural Resources, and Environment; Agriculture Systems and Technology; and Agriculture Economics and Rural Communities. See Foundational and Applied Science RFA for specific details. NOTE: The RFP covers two funding cycles, 2019 and 2020 (a first for NIFA).
Deadline: Varies by program area
**USDA-NIFA—North Central Regional Aquaculture Center (NCRAC), Out of Cycle Proposals**
Out-of-Cycle Projects are 1-year projects designed to address immediate research or extension/outreach needs or an opportunity that arises outside of the regular funding cycle (up to $35,000). Proposed research or project must support commercial aquaculture industry in the 12-state North Central Region. Individuals who wish to submit their proposal need to contact the Director’s office for initial review.

**Deadline: Ongoing**

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**EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**

**Ohio Ethics Law**
**JUNE 19, 1:00-3:00PM, SUITE 430, 1590 N HIGH ST. (COLUMBUS)**
This two-hour in-person case study based workshop covers the major requirements of the Ohio Ethics Law which applies to all faculty and staff. This workshop is led by ethics experts from Academic Affairs, Medical Center Compliance, and University Compliance and Integrity. Register via BuckeyeLearn.

**Postdoc Orientation and IDP Workshop**
**JUNE 26, 3:00-5:00PM, RESEARCH COMMONS, 3RD FLOOR 18TH AVE. LIBRARY (COLUMBUS)**
All recently hired postdoctoral scholars are invited to this special orientation program. This is an opportunity to learn about how the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs and the Postdoc Association can help and support postdocs at Ohio State. At the workshop you will be introduced to important things you’ll need to know as you pursue your postdoctoral training, learn about the Individual Development Plan, and meet other postdocs. More information is available online.

See a full listing of upcoming events on our webpage.

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**OSU Office of Postdoctoral Affairs, Call for Nominations**
The Office of Postdoctoral Affairs is pleased to announce the call for nominations for the following awards:

- **The 2019 Postdoctoral Service Award** - this award is presented to a postdoctoral scholar who has demonstrated profound, sustained leadership contribution to improving the postdoctoral experience at Ohio State.
- **The 2019 Postdoctoral Scholar Mentor Award** - this award is presented to a postdoc who has demonstrated their outstanding mentoring and advising skills through leadership and support.
- **The 2019 Postdoctoral Scholar Mentor Award** - this award recognizes a faculty member who has engaged in exceptional mentoring of postdoctoral scholars by creating a supportive environment for research among other notable qualities.

Please note that only one nomination package will be accepted per postdoc or faculty nominee. If you plan on nominating a mentor, please coordinate with anyone else who is interested in nominating the same person and submit materials as one PDF. View full details about each award and nomination instructions online. The submission deadline for nominations is June 21, 2019.

**The Do's and Don'ts of Hyperlinks in Grant Applications**
According to National Institutes of Health (NIH), the do's and don'ts of hyperlinks in grant applications are simple:

1. **Do** include hyperlinks when explicitly requested in application guide, funding opportunity, or NIH Guide notice instructions.
2. **Do** use hyperlinks in relevant citations and publications included in biosketches and publication list attachments.
3. **Don't** use hyperlinks anywhere else in your application.

At the end of the day, risk avoidance may be the most convincing reason to avoid unrequested hyperlinks - NIH may withdraw your application if you include them. Read the rest of the article on their website.