USDA Records Freeze?
Officials at your institution likely received an email from Mr. Robert Magill, USDA-ARS Director of Financial Management and Agreements, informing all USDA Non-Federal partners and recipients that USDA is under a “Records Disposal Freeze.” Such a freeze requires your organization to retain (i.e., not destroy) all paper and/or electronic records associated with agreements with some USDA agencies and offices. The freeze does not pertain to the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), only to records associated with the following USDA agencies and offices:

- OCE – Office of Chief Economist
- NASS – National Agricultural Statistics Service
- ERS – Economic Research Service
- ARS – Agricultural Research Service
- APHIS – Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
- AMS – Agricultural Marketing Service
- OPMP – Office of Pest Management Policy
- OSEC – Office of the Secretary

The freeze was predicated upon a Freedom of Information Act request of the USDA, which may or may not require USDA to eventually provide third party cooperator records. You will receive further instructions from USDA when the freeze is lifted or in the unlikely event that some other action is required on your part. Please let Bill Hoffman, NIFA Chief of Staff, know if you have any specific concerns or would like additional information.

NSF UPDATE
Beginning on April 30, 2018, proposers will be able to prepare and submit full, research non-collaborative proposals in the National Science Foundation’s Research.gov system. The initial release of this new capability will run in parallel with existing FastLane proposal preparation and submission capabilities. Other proposal types will be added to Research.gov in the future. Please note, proposals initiated in the new system will not be available in FastLane and proposals prepared in FastLane will not be available in the new system. This new system is being developed incrementally and features will expand until it eventually replaces FastLane for proposal preparation and submission.

NEW USDA-NIFA DIRECTOR
The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Acting Deputy Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics and Acting Chief Scientist, Dr. Chavonda Jacobs-Young, announced that Dr. Thomas Shanower, will be replacing outgoing NIFA Director Sonny Ramaswamy. A copy of the press release can be found here. Starting in July, Sonny will become the president and CEO of the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities.

New intellectual property policy goes into effect at OSU
Last revised in 1989, the university’s newly revised intellectual property policy went into effect on April 15, 2018 after it was approved by the Board of Trustees. The new policy clarifies and strengthens the rights of faculty members with respect to their scholarship and outlines the process for commercialization between inventors and the Technology Commercialization Office (TCO). Read more about the new policy here. For questions about specific works, please contact the TCO. If you have questions or comments about the policy in general, please contact the Intellectual Property, Patents, and Copyright Committee (IPPC).
EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

INDIVIDUAL INVESTIGATOR USE OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES IN NON-THERAPEUTIC RESEARCH
EVERY TUESDAY IN MAY, 10:00AM—11:00AM
MELING HALL 233 (370 W. 9TH AVE, COLUMBUS)
This course will cover procedures involved in use, administration, storage and recordkeeping and disposal of controlled substances. Principal Investigators, research staff and students who plan on using controlled substances in their laboratories must attend this course. Register via BuckeyeLearn.

DISCUSSION PANEL ON FACILITIES AND ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS
MAY 9, 2018, 1:00PM—2:30PM
PSYCHOLOGY BUILDING, ROOM 35 (1835 NEIL AVE, COLUMBUS)
In this session, Ohio State’s Director of Financial Reporting Tom Ewing and the Director of Sponsored Programs Christine Hamble will discuss and answer your questions about indirect costs at Ohio State. They will cover how the University goes about calculating our indirect cost rate, how we recover these funds from our sponsors and what happens to them once they are in Ohio State’s coffers. This discussion will be moderated by Andrea Ward Ross. Register via BuckeyeLearn.

INTRODUCTION TO CAYUSE424
MAY 11, 2018, 1:00PM—2:00PM
VIDEO- LINKED: RESEARCH SERVICES 130 (WOOSTER) - KOTTMAN HALL 200 (COLUMBUS)
The Cayuse SF424 system is a web-based product that facilitates electronic preparation and submission of proposals to federal agencies including NIH, NSF, and USDA. The product provides significant auto-filling of forms, extensive error checking, and the ability to see the entire proposal as it will look to reviewers before submission. This session will give an overview on how to use the system including a live demo. Please register if you plan to attend. Presenter: Amy Nielsen-Link, Office of Sponsored Programs

INTRODUCTION TO RESEARCH COMPUTING AT THE OHIO SUPERCOMPUTER CENTER
MAY 24, 2018, 1:00PM—4:00PM
RESEARCH COMMONS, 3RD FLOOR, 18TH AVENUE LIBRARY (COLUMBUS)
This is a great opportunity to ask any questions you have about performing your computational research on our systems. Topics for this workshop include high performance computing concepts, hardware and software available at OSC, how to move data on and off the systems, and storage and file systems. Participants who bring a laptop computer will be able to connect to the supercomputers during the workshop. OSU wireless is available in the seminar room. OSC workshop accounts will be provided or you can use your own OSC accounts. This workshop is for new OSC users, or researchers interested in learning about new OSC resources, including OnDemand. Please register here.

A DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATOR'S INTRODUCTION TO OFFICE OF SPONSORED PROGRAMS ELECTRONIC SYSTEMS
MAY 24, 2018, 9:00AM—11:00AM
TOWNSHEND HALL, ROOM 38 (1885 NEIL AVE, COLUMBUS)
This workshop geared toward staff covers the Office of Sponsored Programs' electronic research administration systems, with a strong emphasis on completing and approving PA005 forms. The college view of sponsored programs data is described. This session is designed to show how data from proposals and decisions made at that stage flow through the system and affect grants administration through the grant life cycle. This workshop does not replace PI Portal training offered by the Office of Sponsored Programs. Register via BuckeyeLearn.

See a full listing of upcoming events on our webpage.
FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

USDA—OUTREACH AND ASSISTANCE FOR SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED FARMERS AND RANCHERS
The Office of Advocacy and Outreach's (OAO) 2501 Program provides funding to eligible organizations for training and technical assistance projects designed to assist socially disadvantaged and veteran farmers and ranchers in owning and operating viable agricultural enterprises. The OAO is committed to ensuring that socially disadvantaged and veteran farmers and ranchers are able to equitably participate in USDA programs.
Deadline: May 15, 2018

NIFA—AQUACULTURE RESEARCH PROGRAM
The purpose of the Aquaculture Research program is to support the development of an environmentally and economically sustainable aquaculture industry in the U.S. and generate new science-based information and innovation to address industry constraints. Over the long term, results of projects supported by this program may help improve the profitability of the U.S. aquaculture industry, reduce the U.S. trade deficit, increase domestic food security, provide markets for U.S.-produced grain products, increase domestic aquaculture business investment opportunities, and provide more jobs for rural and coastal America. The Aquaculture Research program will fund projects that directly address major constraints to the U.S. aquaculture industry and focus on one or more of the following program priorities: (1) genetics of commercial aquaculture species; (2) critical disease issues impacting aquaculture species; (3) design of environmentally and economically sustainable aquaculture production systems; and (4) economic research for increasing aquaculture profitability.
Deadline: May 17, 2018

NIFA—RURAL HEALTH AND SAFETY EDUCATION COMPETITIVE GRANTS PROGRAM (RHSE)
RHSE program proposals are expected to be community-based, outreach education programs, such as those conducted through Extension outreach, that provide individuals and families with: Information as to the value of good health at any age; Information to increase individual or family’s motivation to take more responsibility for their own health; Information regarding rural environmental health issues that directly impact on human health; Information about and access to health promotion and educational activities; and Training for volunteers and health services providers concerning health promotion and health care services for individuals and families in cooperation with state, local and community partners.
Deadline: May 24, 2018

NIFA—HIGHER EDUCATION MULTICULTURAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM (MSP)
The purpose of this competitive undergraduate scholarship grant program is to increase the multicultural diversity of the food and agricultural scientific and professional workforce, and advance the educational achievement of all Americans by providing competitive grants to colleges and universities.
Deadline: June 20, 2018

NIFA—AGRICULTURE AND FOOD RESEARCH INITIATIVE - SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL SYSTEMS
Applications to the FY 2018 Agriculture and Food Research Initiative - Sustainable Agricultural Systems (SAS) Request for Applications (RFA) must focus on approaches that promote transformational changes in the U.S. food and agriculture system within the next 25 years. NIFA seeks creative and visionary applications that take a systems approach, and that will significantly improve the supply of abundant, affordable, safe, nutritious, and accessible food, while providing sustainable opportunities for expansion of the bioeconomy through novel animal, crop, and forest products and supporting technologies.
Deadline—Letter of Intent: June 27, 2018

NSF - FACULTY EARLY CAREER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (CAREER)
The Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Program is a Foundation-wide activity that offers the National Science Foundation's most prestigious awards in support of early-career faculty who have the potential to serve as academic role models in research and education and to lead advances in the mission of their department or organization. Activities pursued by early-career faculty should build a firm foundation for a lifetime of leadership in integrating education and research. NSF encourages submission of CAREER proposals from early-career faculty at all CAREER-eligible organizations and especially encourages women, members of underrepresented minority groups, and persons with disabilities to apply.
Deadline: July 18, 2018

FFAR SEEKING EXPERT REVIEWERS
FFAR seeks expert reviewers from academia, federal and state governments, industry, commodity groups, professional organizations, and other stakeholder groups to evaluate research proposals submitted in response to calls for proposals. Responses submitted below will be added to a reviewer database and reviewers will be called upon based on their particular expertise. Expertise is needed in the FFAR Challenge Areas: Forging the Innovation Pathway to Sustainability; Food Waste and Loss; Overcoming Water Scarcity; Protein Challenge; Urban Food Systems; Making "My Plate" Your Plate; and Healthy Soils, Thriving Farms. Apply to become an expert reviewer for FFAR.
INNOVATE FORWARD 2018
On May 11, The Ohio State University’s Office of Distance Education and eLearning will host the 2018 Innovate conference at the Ohio Union. Innovate is an annual conference that brings together educators, administrators and tech industry professionals to explore recent advancements, best practices and provocative approaches to teaching and learning with technology. This year, the theme is Forward, exploring technology, teaching and learning environments, and access to technology and learning. The event is free and open to all. Read more and register on the event website.

Computing and Networking Resources at Ohio State
Ohio State’s Research Computing Committee has assembled a list of computing and networking resources for researchers. The list includes information on electronic lab notebooks, large scale computing and storage, data networking, software, governance and policy and more.

RECENT AWARDS

VM Balasubramaniam, Christopher Simons, Rafael Jimenez-Flores, Ahmed Yousef, Food Science; $891,513: Ultra shear treatment of low-acid liquid foods, National Institute of Food & Agriculture

Lingying Zhao, FABE; Gil Bohrer, Engineering; $497,000: Modeling fluxes, fate and transport of ammonia emission from egg production and manure management facilities, National Institute of Food & Agriculture

Jessica Cooperstone, Food Science; David Francis, HCS; Martha Belury, EHE—Human Nutrition, Steven Clinton, Thomas Mace, Audrey Mathe, College of Medicine; $499,999: Modulation of inflammation in obese males after consuming a functional tomato-soy juice, National Institute of Food & Agriculture

Kayla Perry, Entomology; $158,324: Investigation of regional and local processes of ground-dwelling insect community assembly in urban greenspaces of Cleveland, Ohio, National Institute of Food & Agriculture

Susan Jones, Entomology; $50,000: Bed bug mobile app, Ohio Department of Agriculture

Stephen Matthews, SENR; $56,109: Development and testing of DED-tolerant elm selections for restoration, USDA Forest Service

Marilyn Rabe, OSUE—Franklin County; $31,475: Senior series education—2018, Franklin County Office on Aging

David Mackey, HCS; $50,000: Determining the effect of key bacterial type III effectors on host susceptibility and immunity, Rural Dev Admin of Republic of Korea

The GDSU is a free service provided to all CFAES faculty and staff. Our specialists offer guidance to researchers in planning and conceptualizing externally funded research projects, finding funding opportunities, and submitting well-crafted and competitive applications. The GDSU has been successful in obtaining more than $87 million in new extramural funding since its inception in 2010. We have offices on both the Wooster and Columbus campuses. For more information, see our webpage: grants.cfaes.ohio-state.edu