Updates from the Associate Dean

Last month was my inaugural message in this newsletter and I described some of my activities since starting at OSU in July, along with a description of the new CFAES research advisory committee. This month I would like to expand on my role with graduate education and post-docs. Since this component of the job description for the Associate Dean/Director is new, the starting point is a blank canvas (and I welcome suggestions). Overall, my goals for graduate education and post-docs in the college are to increase graduate enrollment and post-doc numbers where appropriate, facilitate the enhancement of the graduate student and post-doc experience, assist departments and schools with graduate student recruitment, and provide student services including coordinating the fellowship and directorship selection processes for the college. Valuable input has been received from graduate students, post-docs, and graduate coordinators/chairs.

We have ongoing activities that contribute to enhancing the graduate student and post-doc experiences, including the graduate student competition in the SEEDS grant program, graduate student financial workshops, and a scientific writing workshop. New activities include a peer-led mental health support group on both the Columbus and Wooster campuses and a forthcoming targeted listing of grant opportunities for graduate students.

Earlier this year the National Academy of Sciences published a report entitled Graduate STEM Education for the 21st Century—you can access the study highlights here. The study reports several elements that should be common to STEM graduate education including the development of leadership, communication, and professional competencies in addition to a focus on scientific and technological literacy as applicable to multidisciplinary research. These elements apply to the post-doc experience as well. To meet this challenge, my efforts will focus on facilitating awareness of existing opportunities, encouraging participation, and trying to fill in the gaps whenever possible. The report also serves as a reminder that the time spent at OSU by graduate students and post-docs is about much more than taking classes and conducting research. I encourage student and post-docs to take advantage of the professional development opportunities and faculty mentors to support these efforts in any way they can.

Associate Dean’s Coffee Hour

Based on feedback, there will be more opportunities for graduate students and post-docs to chat informally with the Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Education. The next opportunities will be:

- **November 16, 9:30-10:30am — Research Services 126 (Wooster)**
- **UPDATED** November 30, 9:30-10:30am — Parker Food Science and Technology Building, Room 120 (Columbus)

Stay tuned for more information about additional opportunities.

Looking for Funding?
The Grant Development Support Unit works closely with CFAES faculty, post-docs, research staff and students at the college to develop responsive and competitive proposals. If you find an opportunity that you are interested in, please contact Pamela Schlegel or Melissa Burant.

There is also a new page on the Grant Development Support Unit website with funding opportunities specifically for graduate students. You can access it here, or from our homepage under the tab Funding Opportunities > Graduate Student Opportunities.

LabArchives Available for Use
Ohio State has recently licensed LabArchives, an electronic laboratory notebook (ELN) package, for research and instructional use across the University and the Wexner Medical Center. LabArchives is the leading secure and intuitive cloud-based Electronic Lab Notebook (ELN) application enabling researchers to create, easily store, share, and manage their research data. Far more than an "ELN", LabArchives provides a flexible, extensible platform that can be easily customized to match a lab's workflow providing benefits to Principal Investigators, lab managers & staff, post-doctoral fellows and graduate students.

grants.cfaes.ohio-state.edu
gdsu@osu.edu
Reminder: Appoint Personnel Early!
It is very important to initiate appointments on sponsored projects, including any relevant cost share, immediately when projects are set up. This will preclude the need for corrections and providing justification for delinquent action. Faculty and OSUE Educator appointments should be sent to Angie LeMaster and Laura Keesor via completion of the CFAES Release Time/Cost Share Form and can be found on the CFAES Finance website, here. Other staff should be initiated by departmental HR/Fiscal Staff. Please direct questions to Laura Keesor or Angie LeMaster.

The application for the 2019 DC Days trip is currently available. Each year, a trip is arranged by the Grant Development Support Unit and CFAES Office for Research and Graduate Education. The trip allows a group of CFAES faculty to travel to Washington, DC for 2-3 days in May. This trip allows researchers to become more competitive by providing an opportunity to visit with federal program officers. This enables researchers to determine whether their basic concept is a good fit with the sponsor's mission, to seek advice concerning project design and appropriate funding track, and to better understand the peer review process. Meetings with program officers will take place at federal agency offices in Washington, D.C. See the RFA for more information.

Grants requiring a 501(c)(3) Applicant
Many funders require a 501(c)(3) applicant institution when applying for grants. Pls in CFAES can apply through The Ohio State University Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization, by contacting Jason Phillips in the Office of Foundation Relations. Previously, grants awarded to the OSU Foundation were placed into a 180-day hold prior to being released into a development fund, but this is no longer the case. In most instances, funds will be transferred to the Office of Sponsored Programs for management and will be available for project expenses once received. Please contact Jason Phillips.814 if you have any questions.

The first CFAES Junior Faculty Development Conference was held on September 27, 2018 at the Blackwell Inn and Pfahl Conference Center. The event started with an introduction from Terry Niblack and Dean Cathann Kress, followed by a networking opportunity. Faculty then headed to meet with President Drake and Provost McPherson to hear about teaching and learning updates at the university.

Attendees heard introductions from various CFAES service departments and could attend sessions on topics such as promotion and tenure, collaborative research, and research resources. Over 25 junior faculty members attended.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

FORD FOUNDATION POST-DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS
The post-doctoral fellowships provide one year of support for individuals engaged in post-doctoral study after the attainment of a Ph.D. or Sc.D. degree. The awards will be made to individuals who, in the judgment of the review panels, have demonstrated superior academic achievement, are committed to a career in teaching and research at the college or university level, show promise of future achievement as scholars and teachers, and are well prepared to use diversity as a resource for enriching the education of all students. This year the program will award approximately 24 post-doctoral fellowships.

Deadline: December 6, 2018

THE ALLEN FOUNDATION INC.
The connections between diet and health remain a basic and primary priority. The foundation welcomes proposals that develop and advance: (1) the inclusion of mandatory courses in nutrition in medical schools; (2) bringing the promise of nutrigenomics or nutritional genomics to realization; and (3) the promotion of environmentally sound, economically viable, socially responsive, and sustainable food and agricultural systems. Consideration has always been given to projects that benefit nutritional programs in the areas of education, training, and research. Low priority has traditionally been given to proposals that help solve immediate or emergency hunger and malnutrition problems. Grants are limited under the terms of the foundation’s charter to projects that primarily benefit programs for human nutrition in the areas of health, education, training, and research.
Deadline: January 15, 2019
OHIO DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION—I-CORPS@OHIO
I-Corps@Ohio is a state-wide grant program to assist faculty, staff, post-docs, and graduate students from Ohio universities and colleges to validate the market potential of their technologies and launch startup companies. Teams from all institutions of higher learning in Ohio are eligible to compete for a $15K grant, which provides funding for the team to participate in the 7-week summer program. The program is modeled after the National Science Foundation’s (NSF) successful I-Corps program, which is proven to increase innovation, entrepreneurship, and industry collaboration. The Ohio program incorporates Lean Startup, Customer Discovery and Business Model Canvas methodologies, and will accelerate commercialization of technologies from Ohio universities and colleges while expanding the business acumen and networks of faculty and students across the state.
Deadline: January 15, 2019

MULTI-STATE RURAL DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH OR EXTENSION PROJECTS
The North Central Regional Center for Rural Development (NCRCDR) at Michigan State University announces a competition for seed grants aimed at enhancing the ability of Land Grant institutions to positively influence the quality of life in rural areas of the twelve-state U.S. North Central region. Grant awards may range from $5,000 to $25,000 each (up to $144,000 will be awarded). The Center does not pay overhead or other administrative costs. For anyone who has questions regarding submitting a proposal or the proposal process, there will be a Q/A conference call on Wednesday, January 16, 2018 at 1:00 PM (Eastern Time). To receive the call in information, email soliz@msu.edu.
Deadline: February 6, 2019

NIH—ADVANCING MECHANISTIC PROBIOTIC/PREBIOTIC AND HUMAN MICROBIOME RESEARCH
National Institutes of Health (NIH) and its participating Institutes and Centers invite applications for basic and mechanistic science that facilitates the development of effective probiotics or pre-/probiotic combinations of relevance to human health and disease; and (2) determine biological outcomes for the evaluation of efficacy of pre/probiotics in appropriate test systems and animal models. This FOA encourages basic and mechanistic studies using in vitro, in vivo, ex vivo, and in silico models that focus on prebiotic/probiotic strain selectivity, interaction, and function.
Deadline: There are three cycles (May 7, September 7, January 7) — standard dates apply

NSF - LONG TERM RESEARCH IN ENVIRONMENTAL BIOLOGY (LTREB)
The Long Term Research in Environmental Biology (LTREB) Program supports the generation of extended time series of data to address important questions in evolutionary biology, ecology, and ecosystem science. Research areas include, but are not limited to: the effects of natural selection or other evolutionary processes on populations, communities, or ecosystems; the effects of interspecific interactions that vary over time and space; population or community dynamics for organisms that have extended life spans and long turnover times; feedbacks between ecological and evolutionary processes; pools of materials such as nutrients in soils that turn over at intermediate to longer time scales; and external forcing functions such as climatic cycles that operate over longer return intervals.
Deadline: Proposals accepted at any time

NSF - PLANT BIOTIC INTERACTIONS
The Plant Biotic Interactions (PBI) program supports research on the processes that mediate beneficial and antagonistic interactions between plants and their viral, bacterial, oomycete, fungal, plant, and invertebrate symbionts, pathogens and pests. This joint NSF/NIFA program supports projects focused on current and emerging model and non-model systems, and agriculturally relevant plants. The program’s scope extends from fundamental mechanisms to translational efforts, with the latter seeking to put into agricultural practice insights gained from basic research on the mechanisms that govern plant-biotic interaction.
Deadline: Proposals accepted at any time

NSF–INFRASTRUCTURE CAPACITY FOR BIOLOGY (ICB)
The Infrastructure Capacity for Biology (ICB) supports the development, expansion, or improvement of infrastructure that will enable fundamental research within the biological sciences. Infrastructure supported under this solicitation may include cyberinfrastructure, instrumentation, biological collections, living stocks, field stations, marine labs, or other resources that are shared and openly accessible. Proposals submitted to the ICB solicitation must make a compelling case that the proposed infrastructure will advance or transform research in areas of science that are supported by the Directorate for Biological Sciences (BIO) at the National Science Foundation.
Deadline: Proposals accepted at any time

The Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Collaborative Research on Sorghum and Millet is now inviting concept notes on research topics, combined with human and institutional capacity building, with a specific focus on pearl millet in West Africa. Research may focus on pearl millet in Senegal and Niger and have associated activities in other West African nations subject to the limits described in the RFA document. Project activities may be proposed from two years to four and one-half years (until July 20, 2023). Following evaluation of the concept notes, full proposals will be requested from a short-list of applicants. Read more and submit a concept note here.
NSF Adds Funding for Student Internships outside of Academia
The National Science Foundation has added a supplemental funding opportunity for non-academic research internships for graduate students during fiscal years 2019 and 2020 to support career opportunities in any sector of the U.S. economy. NSF will consider supplemental funding requests that enable principal investigators to request up to six months of additional support for graduate students.

Need some distraction-free time to focus on your writing?
Join one of the Wooster Campus library-sponsored writing boot camps designed to give you the time and space to write and think. Each boot camp will consist of a 70 minute quiet writing period followed by a 20 minute break and another 70 minute writing period.

Research Services 126 (Wooster) RSVP here
Thursday November 8, 3:00 PM-6:00 PM
Saturday November 17, 9:00 AM - 12:00PM
If you are unable to attend these dates but would be interested in attending at another time, please fill out question #3 on the survey so we can schedule future events at more convenient times.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

SEEDS Student RFP INFORMATIONAL SESSIONS
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 10:00-11:00AM AND 1:00-2:00PM IN AGRICULTURAL ADMINISTRATION 250A (COLUMBUS)
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9 FROM 10:30-11:30AM IN RESEARCH SERVICES 126 AND 1:00-2:00PM IN RESEARCH SERVICES 130 (WOOSTER)
Are you thinking about submitting a proposal to the SEEDS student competition? If so, you may want to attend this session presented by Melissa Burant, the SEEDS Coordinator, for an overview of the Student Request for Proposals (RFP) and to have any questions answered. You can access the RFP here.

INTRODUCTION TO THE RED TEAM REVIEW PROCESS
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2018, 1:00PM-2:30PM
RESEARCH COMMONS, 3RD FLOOR OF 18TH AVENUE LIBRARY (COLUMBUS)
In this session, the “Red Team” review, a critical review step in the proposal development process, will be discussed. Topics include the importance, timing, and composition of the review, as well as how this review process differs from others, such as peer reviews. We describe the Red Team stages, roles, responsibilities, and we will include a live demonstration of a Red Team meeting to highlight the key features and benefits of the process. Register here.

COMMUNICATING SCIENCE
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2018, 1:00PM-2:00PM KOTTMAN HALL 244 (COLUMBUS)
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2018, 11:00AM-12:00PM FABE 200 (WOOSTER)
It is incredibly important that scientists are able to communicate their research in ways that the general public can understand. In this session, we will discuss tips on how to communicate your work to non-scientists, including how to write compelling impact statements. Register here.
Presenter: Kayla Arnold, Administrative Associate, Office for Research and Graduate Education

GRANT WRITING: AN INTRODUCTION
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2018, 11:00AM-1:00PM
RESEARCH COMMONS, 3RD FLOOR OF 18TH AVENUE LIBRARY (COLUMBUS)
This session will address some of the similarities and differences between the funding processes for federal/state agencies and private foundations. Topics include best practices for engaging with sponsors, navigating the research administration and proposal submission process, drafting a compelling narrative, and seeking funding. Register here.
Presenters: Leanda Rix, Executive Director, Foundation Relations and Jeff Agnoli, Office of Research

EXPORT CONTROLS FOR DEPARTMENTAL RESEARCH ADMINISTRATORS
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2018, 9:00AM-10:30AM
ROOM 035, PSYCHOLOGY BUILDING (COLUMBUS)
In this 1.5 hour session geared toward staff, learn about export control regulations and discuss how the university’s missions are impacted. Travel, non-citizen personnel involvement, shipping, and sharing of data are among the most common activities that may be regulated by export control laws. Learn how the university manages the risk associated with this compliance risk and your role in those processes. Register via BuckeyeLearn.

See a full listing of upcoming events on our webpage.
POLICY OVERVIEW

Maintaining Accessibility when Using Qualtrics
Through a settlement agreement between Ohio State and the federal Office of Civil Rights, Ohio State has pledged to make all of its digital content accessible to individuals with visual impairments who use screen readers to access digital content. Because Qualtrics is licensed at the university level, the university will disable certain question formats that are not compatible with screen readers.

When will Ohio State disable inaccessible Qualtrics question formats?
As of January 1, 2019, users will no longer be able to use inaccessible question formats unless an exception has been granted.

How do I request an exception?
To request an exception for research, click here.
To request an exception for teaching or administrative purposes, contact Jay Johnson at johnson.1043@osu.edu

The exception process makes exception requests very simple for several common research scenarios:

- Currently underway research in which data collection is ongoing
- Research that uses Qualtrics to present visual stimuli (pictures, figures, graphics) to participants
- Research in which the IRB approval states that individuals with visual impairments are explicitly excluded
- Research that is attempting exact replication of work, if modifying question formats would invalidate the replication

For other scenarios, exception requests will be reviewed by an ad-hoc committee of faculty researchers. Note that, for researchers with multiple active studies, only a single exception need be requested.

ClinicalTrials.gov is a public database containing information about federally and privately supported clinical trials. A service of the U.S. National Library of Medicine (NLM) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and in collaboration with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), ClinicalTrials.gov requires registration and results reporting for Applicable Clinical Trials (ACT) and clinical trials wishing to share their findings with the public. Investigators wishing to publish on ClinicalTrials.gov must do so in the Protocol Registration and Results System (PRS) at register.clinicaltrials.gov. Lori Kaser will be following up with CFAES investigators with an active IRB/Clinical Trials component in November to ensure registration and compliance with this new federal regulation.

RECENT AWARDS

Fred Michel, FABE: $222,056: Understanding the container media microbiome and its effects on plant health, USDA Agricultural Research Service.

Lauren Pintor, SENR: $146,924: Environmental drivers of intraspecific variation in animal behavior and consequences for ecosystem functions, National Science Foundation.

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. For more information, see our webpage: grants.cfaes.ohio-state.edu.