Research News

June 2017

DC Days
Four faculty members and three staff members attended the 2017 Washington, D.C. Days trip from May 22-24, 2017. This is the fourth year that faculty members have had the opportunity to travel to The Hill. They visited agencies such as USDA, USAID, and NIH in order to meet with program officers and administrators and find out more about their programs. Attendees all spoke very highly of the program, and one said, “I greatly enjoyed getting to meet not only the program officers and the support staff, but also getting to meet other faculty and grants support staff from OSU.”

The OARDC Director’s Office and the CFAES Grant Development Support Unit designed DC Days to allow early career faculty members to meet with program officers and learn more about submitting research proposals to federal agencies. Attendees are chosen from a pool of applicants in the fall. If you are interested in joining DC Days 2018, be on the lookout for more information about the selection process and application submission deadlines.

Front to back: Megan Meuti, Keeley J. Pratt, Cäzilia Loibl, Kimberly Lightle, Valente B. Alvarez, Pam Schlegel, Melissa Burant

Academic Analytics

Academic Analytics is a free subscription-based database that enables Ohio State’s departments to obtain discipline-level comparisons of faculty research productivity. If you would like to be credentialed to access Academic Analytics data, please contact Sheila Craft-Morgan at craft-morgan.1@osu.edu.

NSF Biosketch Update

Effective April 24, 2017, NSF will require the use of a template for identifying collaborators and other affiliations. The FastLane Collaborators and Other Affiliations screens will include a link to the new template and instructions on the Policy Office webpage at: https://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/coa.jsp.

The new Collaborators and Other Affiliations pilot will only be for FastLane proposal submissions. NSF uses collaborator and other affiliation information during the merit review process to help manage reviewer selection. To expedite identification of potential reviewers, having a standard, searchable format for this information is essential. In the past, the submission of collaborators and other affiliations information were often in formats that resulted in unsearchable text because of the variety of software and document formats used.

Contact us for proposal development services or with any comments or questions. To submit news items or request certain topic areas, email FAES Grant Support at gdsu@osu.edu
Upcoming Events

IRB Submission Process Overview
Tuesday, June 20
8:00 - 9:00am
Room 620, Clinical Skills Education and Assessment Center, Prior Hall
The Office of Responsible Research Practices and Center for Clinical and Translational Science are offering an introductory workshop about the IRB submission process. The session will:

- Explain the oversight requirements for research involving human subjects
- Provide regulatory background and definitions
- Identify submission components
- Discuss basic Buck-IRB navigation

While the session will be tailored to medical researchers, anyone preparing IRB submissions is welcome. The workshop will be held on Tuesday, June 20th, from 8am to 9am in the Clinical Skills Education and Assessment Center, Room 620, 6th Floor Prior Health Sciences Library, 376 West Tenth Avenue.
Registration requested via BuckeyeLearn: http://go.osu.edu/ByHZ

OSC@OSU Workshop: Computing Services to Accelerate Research and Innovation
Thursday, June 22
1:00 - 4:00pm
Research Commons, 18th Avenue Library, Third Floor, 175 W. 18th Avenue
This workshop will provide an introduction to Ohio Supercomputer Center (OSC) resources and how to access them. Topics include: High performance computing concepts, hardware and software available at OSC, getting allocations and accounts, an introduction to batch processing, and more. Register.

Measuring the Economic Contribution of Agriculture in Ohio: An Educational and Informative Workshop
Thursday, June 29
9:00 - 12:00pm
250A Agricultural Administration Building OR Webinar
The Department of Agricultural, Environmental and Development Economics (AEDE) is beginning the process of estimating the contribution of the agricultural and food sectors to the Ohio economy. On June 29, 2017 from 9am-12pm, AEDE will be hosting a short workshop in their department to provide information to interested stakeholders on process and methods. At this workshop, AEDE will discuss the methods that are used to estimate the contribution of agriculture to the economy, proposed analysis, and will seek stakeholder input. This workshop is free and open to anyone. There is limited room in the conference facility, so they will also broadcast the workshop via ZOOM. Register for the event at go.osu.edu/Bw2z.

Faculty Research Mentoring Workshop
Monday, August 7
Tuesday, August 8
2:00 - 4:30pm
Room 260, Prior Hall
Are you a faculty mentor or would you like to be one? Attend this workshop. A case-based approach will be used to explore topics such as establishing expectations, communications, assessing understanding, addressing diversity and fostering independence. Presented by Ohio State's Center for Clinical and Translational Science. Participants must attend both days. Register through BuckeyeLearn. Contact Stuart Hobbs for more information.
FFAR
Accelerating Advances in Animal Welfare initiative - FFAR
The Accelerating Advances in Animal Welfare initiative is a new program at the Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research (FFAR) to support farm animal welfare research. Research is critical to progress in this field, as changes to animal production practices may impact animal physiology, may require large-scale alterations in animal housing and may have environmental and economic impacts that extend beyond the farm or production facility.

The Accelerating Advances in Animal Welfare program is the first initiative within the FFAR Protein Challenge, a suite of research programs that will support producers’ efforts to improve plant and animal production efficiency to meet the growing global protein demand while conserving natural resources.

This research funding opportunity is designed to support producers’ ability to adapt to a changing animal production landscape, partially driven by consumer demand for products such as cage-free eggs and increasing global demand for pork.

Deadline: August 2, 2017

USDA NIFA Funding
Rural Health and Safety Education Competitive Grants Program
The RHSE program proposals are expected to be community-based, outreach education programs, such as those conducted through Human Science extension outreach, that provides 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: June 30, 2017

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: July 21, 2017

Other Funding Opportunities
Investigators in the Pathogenesis of Infectious Disease
The Investigators in the Pathogenesis of Infectious Disease (PATH) award provides $500,000 over five years to support accomplished investigators at the assistant professor level to study pathogenesis, with a focus on the interplay between human and microbial biology, shedding light on how human and microbial systems are affected by their encounters.
Deadline: Pre-proposals - July 14, 2017
Final - November 15, 2017

Defense Multidisciplinary University Research Initiative (MURI) Grants
The MURI program supports basic research in science and engineering at U.S. institutions of higher education that is of potential interest to the Department of Defense (DoD). The program focuses on multidisciplinary research efforts where more than one traditional discipline interact to provide rapid advances in scientific areas of interest to DoD. Typical annual funding per grant is in the $1.25 to $1.5 million range.
Deadline: White Papers - July 17, 2017
Proposals: November 1, 2017
NSF: Participant Support Costs Explained
The NSF Policy Office receives questions related to many aspects of proposal and award policy. The most common questions as of late, however, revolve around the topic of participant support costs. The policy as stated in Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide (PAPPG) Chapter II.C.2g(v) defines the participant support budget category as direct costs "such as stipends or subsistence allowances, travel allowances, and registration fees paid to or on behalf of participants or trainees (but not employees) in connection with NSF-sponsored conferences or training projects." This definition is straight from the Uniform Guidance (2 CFR § 200.75). In accordance with the PAPPG, participant support costs must be specified, itemized and justified in the budget justification of the proposal; indirect cost recovery is not permitted. The questions we receive cover a wide range of issues related to participant support, so we have included a representative sampling below. Of course, you can always send your specific questions to policy@nsf.gov.

Q: May I include conference speaker fees in the participant support costs section of the budget?
A: No, the participant support category is for the support of participants or trainees only. Speakers and trainers are not considered participants and should not be included in this section of the budget.

Q: We would like to rebudget our NSF award to move funds out of the participant support category. Do we need NSF approval to do this?
A: Yes. While NSF does provide rebudgeting authority for many categories, you must receive the approval of the cognizant NSF program officer to reallocate funds out of the participant support category. You may, however, rebudget funds into this category without prior NSF approval.

Q: How should student employees be budgeted?
A: A student cannot be compensated partially as an employee and as a participant on the same grant. It is up to the proposing organization to determine whether they should be a student employee or a participant based on the role of the student in the project. Student employees are compensated for services rendered and their level of compensation is tied to the number of hours worked. Participant support costs should be used to defray the costs of students participating in a conference or training activity related to the project.

Q: Are costs such as room rental fees, catering, supplies, etc. related to an NSF-sponsored conference considered participant support costs?
A: No, the participant support cost line in the NSF budget should not be used for such costs.

Excerpt from Proposal & Award Policy Newsletter, NSF, May/June 2017. You may view the rest of the article [here].