NSF

In FY 2013, the NSF did not release funding for the Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship (IGERT) program. Now in its place, the National Science Foundation Research Trainee (NRT) Program encourages proposals that develop, implement, and scale-up innovative and effective STEM graduate training models and practices while fostering fundamental research advances in support of national priorities.

To learn more about grant support for ECU graduate students in STEM, the NRT program is one to watch closely. The program supports both levels of graduate students and the definition for “trainee” is particularly broad.

For this first solicitation, ECU would be limited to submitting no more than two proposals, and can request up to $3M for up to three years. A full proposal is due June 24.

Key to moving forward on any NSF student STEM trainee grant is to align the proposal with a national STEM priority research area.

The online hub for the IGERT funded programs remains an undeniable resource: http://www.igert.org/

NIH

On April 17, the NIH announced a change in the resubmission policy. The new policy limits resubmissions from two to one. After one unsuccessful resubmission, applications can be amended and submitted as a new submission to meet NIH standard due dates.
Second Annual Reception for Faculty

On Monday, April 14, the Second Annual Reception for Faculty Grant and Contract Award Recipients was hosted by the Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences Dean’s Office of Research. Recognized were 49 THCAS faculty members for garnering 62 new external awards totaling $3,842,928.00 and 34 THCAS faculty members for their receipt of internal awards totaling $239,174.00.

The timing of the event is planned to coincide with Research and Creative Achievement Week which was held March 31 through April 4. Held in the Great Rooms in Mendenhall, light refreshments and wine were served. A program accentuated round, white-clothed tables where conversations quieted down to hear the accolades by Dr. Cindy Putnam-Evans, Dr. John Sutherland, and Dr. Michael Van Scott. Faculty, funding agencies, project titles and details, were identified in recognition of the great advancements being made through research at ECU. Congratulations grant awardees!

Updates: Soup to Nuts

Best Browser for RAMSeS—the variety in browser software likely has many of us searching for “a better browser.” It’s human nature to assume the newer browser defaults to the old browser’s settings. Careful review and update of browser settings in any can result in better RAMSeS performance.

Call for Reviewers—If you are not applying for nomination for the NEH Summer Stipend then consider serving as a reviewer. Please contact Gina Betcher, betcherg@ecu.edu, by Monday, June 2 with your interest.

EPAFs for Summer—must be completed by August 15, 2014. This includes financial guarantees and student scholarships (student personnel on grants).

EPAP Conflict of Interest Disclosure—DUE June 30. All EPA, SPA employees, visiting faculty, students, post docs, trainees must disclose activity that may affect your university roles and responsibilities or decision making with respect to University teaching, research, or administration. Select the App from the pirate port from this site. Chairs report as faculty to the unit they report to and not to the department they oversee.

The F&A Waiver Policy—in summary, a waiver is required if a PI asks for a percentage less than what the sponsor supports. Distribution equates to: • F&A rate of < 26%: 100% to RGS; • F&A rate ->26%: follows 70/30 or 60/40 F&A distribution policy. For details: Overhead Distribution Policy.

Financial Fitness—Chairs need to ensure department lead admins reconcile grant award budgets every month and PIs must certify their effort and expenditures. Lead admins retain hard copies of written certification. Upon award announcement, set up an initial new award meeting with Gina Betcher. For best practices, link here.

Internal Budget—always access OSP’s website to use the most current internal budget form. Do not rely upon updating a previously used spreadsheet.

Humanities Roundtable—the Office of Research (OOR) THCAS wishes to establish a humanities roundtable for the purpose of identifying funding opportunities, preparing proposals, and discussion. Please contact betcherg@ecu.edu to convey your interest. Commitment will require consistency and follow-thru.

RAMSeS—The recent update added types of attachments: DEHS Approval (documentation); DRAFT Agreement; Internal Approvals Documentation. OOR maintains guidelines for RAMSeS, available here. RAMSeS will be offline May 31, 2014.

RAMSeS responsibility—The PI: initiates RAMSeS minimal-ly two weeks before deadline; alerts OOR of the preparation; completes the required items to route RAMSeS (internal budget, budget justification, draft proposal, all subaward requirements as pertains); receives clearance from Chair for any buyout or potential time away; works with OOR grant coordinator to build the application; meets with department lead admin upon award to re-view hiring needs, e.g.
Awards

External awards made to faculty between November 1, 2013 and April 30, 2014, in Thomas Harriot College of Arts and Sciences, total over $3M and were received from federal, state, commercial industry and private sponsors. Be sure to congratulate your THACS faculty colleagues!

Elizabeth Ables, Biology, “Steroid Hormone Signaling and the Control of Adult Stem Cell Activity in Drosophila.” March of Dimes.


Thomas Allen, Geography, Planning & Environment, “Planning and Implementation of a North Carolina Coastal Atlas.” NCDENR.


Christopher Balakrishnan, Biology, “The Evolution Host Mimicry in Brood Parasitic Finches (Vidua)” National Geographic Society.


Lisa Campbell, Psychology, “Reducing Disparities with Literacy-Adapted Psychosocial Treatments for Chronic Pain: A Comparative Trial.” University of Alabama-Tuscaloosa.

David Chalcraft, Biology, “Indicators and indices of drought in southeastern coastal ecosystems.” University of South Carolina—DOC NOAA.


Jean Golden, Psychology, “Abstinence Education (Project INSIGHT).” NC Department of Public Instruction.


Keith Keene, Biology, “Genomic Epidemiology of a Diverse African American Cohort.” American Heart Association.

Anthony Kennedy, Chemistry, “Chemistry and Physics Scholarship Program (CAPS).” National Science Foundation.


Michael McCoy, Biology, “Effects of sea level rise on coastal freshwater communities.” NC Sea Grant.


Roger Rulifson, Biology & ICSP, “Gastric Evacuation and Daily Ration of Atlantic Spiny Dogfish (Squalus acanthias).” NC Sea Grant.


John Rummel, Biology, “Sea Grant Extension Program at East Carolina University.” NC Sea Grant.

Sam Sears, Psychology, “Ask the ICD Patient Website.” Medtronic, Inc.

Mark Sprague, Physics, “Improving Physical Science Content Delivery Through Teacher Professional Development.” Beaufort County Schools.


Funding Opportunities

**Education Research**

**NSF-Trainee Program** DUE June 24 The program supports active research participation by students enrolled as undergraduates or graduate students in any of the areas of research funded by the National Science Foundation.

**US Department of Education—Fulbright Hays Group Projects Abroad** DUE June 24 Supports overseas projects in training, research, and curriculum development in modern foreign languages and areas studies for groups of teachers, students, and faculty engaged in a common endeavors. Short term projects may includes seminars, curriculum development, or group research or study. Required countries: Africa, East Asia, South Asia, Southeast Asia and the Pacific.

**NSF-Advancing informal STEM Learning** DUE July 10 The AISL program supports six types of projects: (1) Pathways, (2) Research in Service to Practice, (3) Innovations in Development, (4) Broad Implementation, (5) Conferences, Symposia, and Workshops, and (6) Science Learning+ Proposals.

**NSF Program in Mathematical Sciences** DUE June 15 The NSF is interested in programs that seek to improve rates of retention and diversity in math majors, broaden graduate and undergraduate education content to prepare students for a wider range of career options, and more.

**Humanities**

**NEH Summer Stipend** Applications for Nomination DUE July 11 into OOR 2303 Bate Bldg. The College is limited to nominating two applications. Follow NEH application guidelines and submit a strong hard copy draft of items 1 thru 4 by July 11. Results will be sent the last week of July. The full proposal is due to the NEH for nominees September 30.

**NEH Humanities Collections and Reference Resources** DUE July 17 This program strengthens efforts to extend the life of reference materials and make their intellectual content widely accessible, often through the use of digital technology.

**Fulbright Core Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program** DUE August 1 These are submitted by the individual scholar. Areas include strictly research and also research and teaching. Guidelines are generous. Applications require clear affiliation acceptance by the host international college of university.

**The American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) Fellowships** DUE September 24 & October 1 & October 31. Collaborative Fellowships and ACLS Fellowships Due Sept 24; Luce with focus in Chinese studies Due Oct 1; African Humanities focus DUE Oct 31. Important to plan ahead.

**Social Sciences**

**NSF Perception, Action and Cognition** DUE June 16 Supports research on perception, action and cognition. Emphasis is on research strongly grounded in theory.

**Office of Justice—Juvenile Delinquency Prevention—Investigator Initiated Research on Risk Assessment** DUE June 30 An additional partnership is a strength. This solicitation seeks applications for research studies on the implementation and impact of risk assessment in the juvenile justice system.

**NSF - Social Psychology** DUE July 15 The Program supports basic research on human social behavior, including cultural differences and development over the life span.

**NSF- Developmental and Learning Sciences** DUE July 15 Research supported by this program will add to our basic knowledge of how people learn and the underlying developmental processes that support learning, social functioning, and productive lives as members of society.

**Environmental & Life Sciences**

**NSF Crosscutting-Cultivating Cultures for Ethical STEM** DUE June 17 & Feb 17 CCE STEM solicits proposals for research that explores the following: "What constitutes ethical STEM research and practice? Which cultural and institutional contexts promote ethical STEM research and practice and why?"

**EPA National Clean Diesel Funding Assistance Program** DUE June 17 Support is for projects that achieve significant reductions in diesel emissions in terms of tons of pollution produced by diesel engines and diesel emissions exposure, particularly from fleets operating in areas designated by the Administrator as poor air quality areas.

**NSF-Instrument Development for Biological Research** DUE July 25 The program supports the development, production, and distribution of novel instrumentation that addresses demonstrated needs in biological research in areas supported by NSF Biology programs.

**NSF-Archeology and Archaeometry** DUE July 1 Supports research projects conducted by senior archeological researchers.

**NSF-Biological Anthropology Doctoral Dissertation Program** DUE July 28 Dissertation research projects in all of the subareas of biological anthropology, whether conducted in specialized facilities or field settings, are eligible for support through these grants.

**NSF-Long term Research in Environmental Biology** DUE August 1 The program supports the generation of extended time series of data to address important questions in evolutionary biology, ecology, and ecosystem science.
NSF - Collections in Support of Biological Research DUE August 11 The program provides funds: 1) for improvements to secure, improve, and organize collections that are significant to the NSF BIO-funded research community; 2) to secure collections-related data for sustained, accurate, and efficient accessibility of the collection to the biological research community; and 3) to transfer collection ownership responsibilities.

Physical Sciences

NSF-Geophysics DUE June 4 The Geophysics Program supports basic research in the physics of the solid earth to explore its composition, structure, and processes from the Earth's surface to it's deepest interior. Laboratory, field, theoretical, and computational studies are supported. The due date is the target date. If additional time is required, permission would need to be made by the program officer.

EPA National Clean Diesel Funding Assistance Program DUE June 17 EPA’s Office of Transportation and Air Quality is soliciting proposals nationwide for projects that achieve significant reductions in diesel emissions in terms of tons of pollution produced by diesel engines and diesel emissions exposure, particularly from fleets operating in areas designated by the Administrator as poor air quality areas.

Department of Energy—Office of Science—Theoretical Research in Magnetic Fusion Energy Science DUE June 19 The specific areas of interest under this program are:
1. Macroscopic Stability
2. Confinement and Transport
3. Boundary Physics
4. Plasma Heating & Non-inductive Current Drive, and
5. Energetic Particles

NIFA Biodiesel Fuel Education Program DUE June 27 The program will address the need to balance the positive environmental, social, and human health impacts of biodiesel utilization with the increased per gallon cost to the user. Specific indicators or milestones will need to be established to meet written objectives in the RFP.

U.S. Science Support Program associated with the International Ocean Discovery Program DUE June 30 The NSF seeks the services of a qualified provider to facilitate and enhance the participation of the U.S. scientific community in the IODP.

NSF-Sedimentary Geology and Paleobiology Program (SGP) DUE July 17 Supports research in a wide variety of areas in sedimentary geology and paleobiology in order to comprehend the full range of physical, biological, and chemical processes of Earth’s dynamic system.

NSF GEOPRISMS Program DUE August 1 Overarching science topics include 1) Origin and evolution of continental crust; 2) Fluids, magmas and their interactions; 3) Climate-surface-tectonics feedbacks; 3) Geochemical cycles; and 5) Plate boundary deformation and geodynamics. Each of the initiatives has identified primary sites for focused investigations, as well as thematic studies that will complement primary site studies.

NASA ROSES 2014 – Solicitation – DEADLINES Multiple ROSES-2014 is an omnibus NASA Research Announcement. It contains over 50 different proposal opportunities. The document ‘Summary of Solicitation’ describes the common requirements for all ROSES-2014 proposal opportunities. The documents 'Table 2' and 'Table 3' contain the list of all proposal opportunities and their due dates. The document ‘Full ROSES 2014’ contains the Summary of Solicitation, Tables 2 and 3, and the description of all proposal opportunities; bookmarks within the document can help in navigation.

For a more comprehensive list of funding opportunities, visit the HCAS Office of Research Website and link to funding opportunities.