

SPHHP Research Activities Newsletter

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In the News

New Awards



Randolph Carter, Director of Population Health Observatory (PHO) and Professor and Associate Chair of Biostatistics, received a second year renewal as principal investigator on a three-year subcontract from Health Research Inc. for the project entitled *Combating Autism Act MCH Autism Intervention Research Grant*. The PHO will serve as the informatics center for this collaborative project and will provide data management, data analysis and collaborative research services.



Todd Rideout, Assistant Professor of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences, has received a research award from the University of Manitoba, Canada. The project, entitled *Metabolic Health Benefits of Dairy Protein*, will analyze lipids and insulin from human serum samples which were obtained from a clinical study performed at the University of Manitoba.

Congratulations!



Paul Wietig, Core Curriculum Coordinator at SPHHP, will serve as Interim Director of the Teaching and Learning Center (TLC). Paul will serve the TLC in a part-time capacity while the TLC moves forward with a search for a Director following Jason Adsit's departure. In addition to providing one-on-one support for instruction, the TLC collaborates with academic departments and divisions across UB to sponsor workshops, seminars, and peer-to-peer mentoring groups on all aspects of the teaching-learning process.

UB's Annual Disclosure Statements are due November 14, 2011

UB's Investigator Disclosure Policy requires that each year investigators must submit an "Annual Disclosure of Significant Financial Interests and Significant Obligations". The Annual Disclosure for the current year is available on the SPS website at http://www.research.buffalo.edu/forms/spa/financial_disclosure.pdf. The disclosure form must be completed by a SPHHP faculty member who holds a University at Buffalo appointment and who is a principal investigator, co-investigator or who is responsible for the design, conduct, or reporting of University programs, projects, activities or services described in an application or prospective application for external and/or selected internal support, or in an award made to the University without application. Please submit the completed disclosure form to the RAS office.

Grant Clinic

Lessons Learned from NSF Regional Seminar

A Regional National Science Foundation (NSF) Grants Seminar was hosted by the Office of the Vice President for Research at the University at Buffalo on September 22, 2011. Thomas Baerwald, Senior Science Advisor for the Social, Behavioral & Economic Sciences (SBE) and Behavioral and Cognitive Sciences (BCS) Divisions presented two seminars. In the first presentation, he discussed the general context, philosophy and procedures of the NSF with respect to grants. He addressed the different kinds of funding opportunities available and offered strategies that researchers can use to explore which opportunities might be most appropriate for their proposals. In his second presentation, Dr. Baerwald discussed ways that researchers can structure NSF proposals as well as timelines and approaches for writing, evaluating and rewriting proposals. Key points from the seminar are provided below:

General:

- 45,000 competitive proposals are received annually; of those, approximately 20% fall into the funding category.
- Gone are the days of the single investigator proposal. Sponsors are very much interested in interdisciplinary proposals.
- Much of NSF funding goes to support basic research. Basic research focuses on one or a few questions grounded in a broader framework.
- It is advisable to prepare a 1 page prospectus to share with Program Officers several months before a deadline.
- Science, Engineering and Education for Sustainability (SEES) is a major emphasis through 2015. The SEES Mission Statement can be found at: http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=504707
- NSF suggests serving as a panel reviewer as a great way to see which proposals are funded. If you are interested in serving as a panel reviewer, please contact an NSF program officer.

Writing Proposals:

- Try to think like a funder: Sponsors are looking to fund projects that will give them a return on the investment. What is the likelihood of a significant contribution to our general scientific understanding?
- Give yourself plenty of time; hone your skills and correct your defects. This is a competition.
- Read the Guidelines and contact the Program Officer with any questions.
- There is no limit on how many times you can resubmit a proposal. However, NSF often requires applicants to wait a year between each resubmission.

NIH Funding Opportunities: RFA

Request for Applications (RFAs)

RFA-RM-11-007 (DP5)

NIH Director's Early Independence Awards

INTERNAL REVIEW PROCESS: The full proposal deadline is **January 30, 2012**. Due to the limited number of applications, if you or your colleagues are interested in applying, please submit a letter of intent to Dr. Kenneth Tramosch at ovpr.limitedsubmission@research.buffalo.edu by **November 21, 2011**.

UB may submit two proposals for the NIH Director's Early Independence Awards. This FOA solicits applications from institutions/organizations that propose to appoint and support exceptional, early career scientists directly following the completion of their Ph.D. (or equivalent) or M.D. (or equivalent) training into an independent academic research position, thereby omitting the traditional postdoctoral training period from their career path. Complete guidelines can be found at: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-RM-11-007.html>

ELIGIBILITY RESTRICTIONS: At the time of application, the individual either 1) within the preceding twelve months must have received a terminal doctoral degree or completed medical residency or 2) within the following twelve months must complete all the requirements for a doctoral degree or complete a medical residency. In addition, at the time of application the PI must not have held a post-doctoral position for more than 1 year.

(RFAs continued on page 3)

December 2011 Due Dates

RFA-HL-12-037 (R01)

Mechanistic Pathways Linking Psychosocial Stress and Behavior

This FOA solicits applications from institutions and organizations that propose to investigate basic psychological, social, and environmental mechanisms and processes linking psychosocial stressors and behavior. This FOA will facilitate investigation of multiple and potentially bidirectional pathways underlying the behavioral, environmental, and psychosocial link(s) between psychosocial stressors and behaviors that may ultimately impact biological function, health, and disease. Applicants are encouraged to use innovative and integrative designs to elucidate how psychological, social, and psychosocial environmental factors impact the processes by which stressors become coupled with and influenced by behaviors.

Application Due Date: December 19, 2011

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-HL-12-037.html>

January 2012 Due Dates

RFA-RM-11-006 (R01)

NIH Director's Transformative Research Awards

The goal of the NIH Director's Transformative Research Awards initiative is to provide support for collaborative investigative teams or individual scientists who propose transformative research projects, which, if successful, would have a major impact in a broad area of biomedical or behavioral research. To be considered transformative, projects must have the potential to create or overturn fundamental scientific paradigms through the use of novel approaches or to lead to major improvements in health through the development of highly innovative therapies, diagnostic tools, or preventive strategies. Consistent with this focus, applications supported under the Transformative Research Awards initiative will reflect ideas substantially different from mainstream concepts.

Application Due Date: January 12, 2012

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-RM-11-006.html>

RFA-MH-12-130 (R01)

Basic Research on Decision Making: Cognitive, Affective, and Developmental Perspectives

This FOA, issued as part of the NIH Basic Behavioral and Social Sciences Opportunity Network (OppNet), encourages research grant applications that propose to increase understanding of the basic cognitive, affective, motivational, and social processes that underlie decision making across the lifespan. This includes an appreciation of the interactions among the psychological, neurobiological, and behavioral processes in decision making. It also includes consideration of the mediating and/or moderating influences of genetics, physiology, the social environment, and culture.

Application Due Date: January 18, 2012

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-MH-12-130.html>

RFA-AA-12-006 (Phase II) (U01)

Longitudinal Studies on the Impact of Adolescent Drinking on the Adolescent Brain

Based on information from Phase I (RFA-AA-07-006), the practicability of moving forward with a large scale study was demonstrated. Therefore, this FOA, which initiates Phase II, seeks support to conduct a multisite longitudinal study using a cooperative agreement (U01) mechanism to address the following questions: 1) what are the effects of both long and shorter-term child and adolescent alcohol exposure on the developing human brain; 2) what is the effect of timing, dose, and duration of alcohol exposure on brain development; 3) to what extent do these effects resolve or persist; 4) understand how key covariates factor into alcohol's effects on the brain; and 5) potentially identify early neural, cognitive, and affective markers that may predict alcohol abuse and dependence and onset or worsening of mental illness during adolescence and/or adulthood.

Application Due Date: January 18, 2012

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-AA-12-006.html>

February 2012 Due Dates

RFA-AG-12-013 (P30)

Limited Competition: Archiving and Dissemination of Research Data on Aging

The purpose of this FOA is to continue the P30 Center Grant to 1) maintain the existing collections of the National Archive of Computerized Data on Aging and develop it further as a user-friendly data archive to support behavioral and social science research on aging; 2) advise and assist researchers in documentation and archiving of data and metadata; 3) advise and assist researchers on methods of sharing data for secondary analysis while providing adequate protections for confidentiality; and 4) facilitate secondary analysis by providing user support, access to data, and training and consultation.

Application Due Date: February 2, 2012

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-AG-12-013.html>

RFA-RM-11-023 (R01)

Economic Studies Ancillary to Completed or Ongoing Health Care Delivery and Financing Plots, Demonstrations, and Other Experiments

This FOA solicits applications for Research Project grant awards to support health economics research ancillary to completed or ongoing large-scale health care delivery and financing pilots, demonstrations, and other experiments (PDEs) that are intended to reduce health care costs or cost growth while maintaining or improving patient outcomes. This FOA provides support for up to five years of funding. This FOA is a component of the Common Fund initiative on Health Economics for Health Care Reform (<http://nihroadmap.nih.gov/healthconomics>).

Application Due Date: February 8, 2012

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-RM-11-023.html>

RFA-RM-11-024 (R21/R33)

Phased Economic Studies Ancillary to Planned Health Care Delivery and Financing Plots, Demonstrations, and Other Experiments

This FOA solicits applications for Phased Innovation (R21/R33) grant awards to support health economics research conducted alongside planned large-scale health care delivery and financing pilots, demonstrations, and other experiments (PDEs) that are intended to reduce health care costs or cost growth while maintaining or improving patient outcomes. This FOA provides support for up to two years (R21 phase) for research planning activities and feasibility studies, followed by possible transition to up to four years of expanded research support (R33 phase). This FOA requires measurable R21 milestones to be completed prior to the transition to the R33 phase. Projects involving multidisciplinary teams led by a health economist, or with the substantial involvement of a health economist, are encouraged.

Application Due Date: February 8, 2012

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-RM-11-024.html>

RFA-HD-12-206 (R01)

Improving Adherence to Treatment Regimens for HIV-Positive Adolescents and Young Adults

The purpose of this FOA is to stimulate research projects that will develop, implement, and evaluate new or adapted interventions to improve adherence to medical and/or behavioral regimens for HIV-positive adolescents (11-21 years) and young adults (21-24 years). Applicants may investigate individual, family, social, political, and/or contextual factors that influence adherence, and may develop new or refine existing measures of adherence, in the process of developing efficacious or effective adherence interventions.

Application Due Date: February 21, 2012

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-HD-12-206.html>



March 2012 Due Dates

RFA-DK-11-029 (DP3)

Improving Adherence in Pre-teens, Adolescents and Young Adults with Type 1 Diabetes

The goal of this initiative is to support research to develop, refine, and pilot test innovative strategies to improve adherence to medications and medical regimens, including self-management, in pre-teens (ages 10-12), adolescents (ages 13-18) and young adults (ages 19-30) with type 1 diabetes. At the end of the funding period, there should be well-developed and well-characterized intervention/s that have been demonstrated to be safe, feasible to implement, effective, acceptable in the target population, and ready to be tested in a larger efficacy trial. Applications should include multi-disciplinary teams that, at a minimum, include a partnership between a behavioral scientist and a diabetologist. A measure of glycemia must be included as a primary outcome. Secondary outcomes can include other physiologic measures and should include measurement of adherence to the target behavior/s.

Application Due Date: March 3, 2012

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-DK-11-029.html>

RFA-DK-11-025 (R01)

Causes and Consequences of Cystic Fibrosis Related Diabetes

This FOA invites applications for research project grants to study the causes and consequences of Cystic Fibrosis Related Diabetes (CFRD). CFRD is one of the most common complications of Cystic Fibrosis (CF) that occurs in almost half the patients with Cystic Fibrosis as they age. CF patients with CFRD have a higher morbidity and mortality than those who do not develop CFRD. It is not currently known why some patients develop CFRD although some genetic variants have been implicated. The mechanisms for the steeper decline in lung disease in patients with CFRD are also not understood. The NIDDK invites applications that study the etiology of CFRD in humans and animal models, as well as studies to understand the mechanisms for the increased morbidity in patients with CFRD.

Application Due Date: March 20, 2012

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-DK-11-025.html>

Multiple Due Dates

RFA-DC-12-004 (R43/R44)

Improving Access to Hearing Health Care (SBIR)

This funding opportunity solicits Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) grant applications from small business concerns that propose to improve hearing health care outcomes and reduce health disparities through the development and commercialization of improved devices for hearing health care (HHC). For the purposes of this FOA, "hearing health care" is defined as assessment and access to hearing aids and nonmedical treatment, including hearing screening and hearing assessment as well as acquiring an appropriate device and services for the individual's hearing loss and communication needs. Appropriate technologies must have the following basic characteristics: easily affordable, effective, culturally acceptable, and accessible to those who need them.

Application Due Dates: February 22, 2012; June 21, 2012; October 22, 2012; February 22, 2013; June 21, 2013; and October 22, 2013

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-DC-12-004.html>

RFA-DC-12-005 (R41/R42)

Improving Access to Hearing Health Care (STTR)

This FOA solicits Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) grant applications from small business concerns (SBCs) that propose the development and translation of technologies to improve hearing healthcare outcomes. Responsive applications must seek to increase utilization of hearing health care technology by underserved patients and thus reduce health disparities.

Application Due Dates: February 22, 2012, June 21, 2012; October 22, 2012; February 22, 2013; June 21, 2013; and October 22, 2013.

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-DC-12-005.html>



NIH Funding Opportunities: PAR

Program Announcement Reviewed by an Institute (PAR)

PAR 10-133 (R01) and PAR-10-135 (R21)

Understanding and Promoting Health Literacy

Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply

Expiration Date: May 8, 2013

The ultimate goal of this program announcement is to encourage empirical research on health literacy concepts, theory and interventions as these relate to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' public health priorities that are outlined in its Healthy People initiative. Health literacy is defined as the degree to which individuals have the capacity to obtain, process, and understand basic health information and services needed to make appropriate health decisions.

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-10-133.html>

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-10-135.html>

PAR-12-003 (D43)

Limited Competition: Framework Programs for Global Health Innovation

Application Due Date(s): December 15, 2011; December 14, 2012

Expiration Date: December 15, 2012

The purpose of this FOA is to provide support for the development of broadly interdisciplinary training programs in global health directed towards encouraging innovation in products, processes, and policies. Trainees should be at the postdoctoral level or have attained a terminal degree in their fields. Training projects should identify critical health needs in Low and Middle Income Countries (LMICs) that can be addressed through Innovation, and carry out the scientific research necessary to develop, validate, and test their concepts. To increase the translation of research findings into realized health benefits, project design should include considerations of implementation appropriate to low resource settings in LMICs, particularly regarding increased effectiveness, affordability, accessibility, ease of use or delivery, and/or scalability. This FOA emphasizes hands-on, problem-solving, and collaborative approaches and allows U.S. and LMIC trainees to be trained together. By engaging multiple entities within and among institutions, the proposed programs should also build institutional capacity for interdisciplinary training in global health, stimulate new collaborations, and increase the pipeline of researchers from a wide variety of fields who engage in global health research.

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-12-003.html>

NIH Funding Opportunities: PA

Program Announcement (PA)

Last Call:

PA-11-351 (R25)

Short Courses on Mathematical, Statistical, and Computational Tools for Studying Biological Systems

Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply

Expiration Date: January 8, 2015

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-11-351.html>

PA-11-320 (R01) and PA-11-321 (R21)

Single Cell Studies in Aging Research

Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply

Expiration Date: September 8, 2014

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-11-320.html>

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-11-321.html>

PA-11-267 (R01) and PA-11-268 (R21)

Mechanistic Studies of Pain and Alcohol Dependence

Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply

Expiration Date: September 8, 2014

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-11-267.html>

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-11-268.html>

PA-09-099 (R01) and PA-09-098 (R21)

Mechanisms of Alcohol and Nicotine Co-Dependence

Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply

Expiration Date: May 8, 2012

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-09-099.html>

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-09-098.html>

PA-09-122 (R01)

Research on Clinical Decision Making in People with or at risk for Life-Threatening Illness

Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply

Expiration Date: May 8, 2012

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-09-122.html>

PA-09-124 (R21)

Exploratory/Developmental Clinical Research Grants in Obesity

Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply

Expiration Date: May 8, 2012

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-09-124.html>

Funding Opportunities: Foundations

Alzheimer's Association

New Investigator Research Grant (NIRG). The Association provides \$100,000 for up to two years to allow newly independent investigators to develop preliminary or pilot data, to test procedures and to develop hypotheses. Applicants must be within 10 years of receiving their doctoral degree. The intent is to support early-career development that will lay the groundwork for future research grant applications to the NIH, NSF and other funding agencies.

How to Apply: Online at proposalCENTRAL

Deadline to Apply: 5:00pm EST, December 20, 2011 – Mandatory Letter of Intent
5:00pm EST, February 7, 2012 – Application

http://www.alz.org/research/downloads/2012_NIRGD.pdf

Investigator-Initiated Research Grant (IIRG). The Association will fund up to \$240,000 for three years for research responsive to a question or questions relevant to the 2012 areas of focus or a compelling issue in Alzheimer research pertinent to the applicant's special interest or expertise.

(Section II, http://www.alz.org/research/downloads/2012_PA_All.pdf)

How to Apply: Online at proposalCENTRAL

Deadline to Apply: 5:00pm EST, December 20, 2011 – Mandatory Letter of Intent
5:00pm EST, February 7, 2012 – Application

http://www.alz.org/research/downloads/2012_IIRG.pdf

American Federation for Aging Research (AFAR)

AFAR Research Grants. AFAR provides up to \$100,000 for a one- to two-year award to junior faculty to conduct research that will serve as the basis for longer term research efforts. AFAR supports the study of a broad range of biomedical and clinical topics including the role of estrogen in the development of osteoporosis, the genetic factors associated with Alzheimer's disease, the effects of nutrition and exercise on the aging process, and much more.

How to Apply: Guidelines and application packages can be downloaded at AFAR's website. The completed application should be emailed to afarapplication@afar.org as a single PDF package.

Deadline to Apply: December 15, 2011, 5:00 EST.

<http://www.afar.org/research/funding/afar-research-grants>

The Julie Martin Mid-Career Award in Aging Research. AFAR provides two four-year awards of \$500,000 to mid-career scientists who propose new directions of high importance to biological gerontology. Projects investigating age-related diseases, from the point of view of how basic aging processes may lead to these outcomes, and projects concerning mechanisms underlying common geriatric functional disorders are encouraged. The applicant must be an Associate Professor who achieved tenure status after December 1, 2008.

How to Apply: Guidelines and application packages can be downloaded at AFAR's website. The completed application should be emailed to midcareer@afar.org as a single PDF package.

Deadline to Apply: December 15, 2011, 5:00 EST.

<http://www.afar.org/research/funding/midcareer>

American Heart Association (AHA)

Clinical Research Program. The AHA will award \$75,000 annually for two years for research related to cardiovascular disease and stroke prevention or treatment, or to related clinical and public health problems, including multidisciplinary efforts. Proposals are encouraged on provider behavior, patient behavior, behavioral outcomes, risk factor outcomes, disease outcomes, cost benefit analyses, efforts to evaluate outcomes of patient care delivery and patient/provider and/or system compliance and adherence to recommendations, as well as pilot clinical research studies that may provide preliminary data for larger-scale investigation. Also, encouraged are studies using existing databases.

**Effective with the 2012 winter deadlines, each applicant is required to either be an American Heart Association Professional Member or to pay \$100 per application submission.*

Deadline to Apply: January 24, 2012

http://my.americanheart.org/professional/Research/FundingOpportunities/SupportingInformation/Winter-2012---Founders-Affiliate-Clinical-Research-Program_UCM_321909_Article.jsp

(Foundations continued on page 8)

American Heart Association (AHA) con't

Grant-in-Aid. The AHA will award \$66,000 annually for three years for innovative research projects related to cardiovascular function and disease and stroke, or to related clinical, basic science, bioengineering or biotechnology, and public health problems, including multidisciplinary efforts. Proposals are encouraged from all basic disciplines as well as epidemiological, behavioral, community and clinical investigations that bear on cardiovascular and stroke problems.

**Effective with the 2012 winter deadlines, each applicant is required to either be an American Heart Association Professional Member or to pay \$100 per application submission.*

Deadline to Apply: January 24, 2012

http://my.americanheart.org/professional/Research/FundingOpportunities/ForScientists/Winter-2012---Founders-Affiliate-Grant-in-Aid_UCM_321920_Article.jsp

Pfizer Fellowships

2012 Pfizer Fellowship in Public Health. The Fellowship is intended to support research that fosters academic science, knowledge of public health, and collaborative partnerships between accredited schools or programs of public health and federal, state, and local departments of public health. Institutions interested in this fellowship program must submit research proposals for programs or initiatives that involve chronic disease prevention (e.g., smoking cessation), healthcare costs (e.g., economic costs of counterfeit medicines), preventive medicine, and/or public health preparedness. One award of up to \$100,000 will be made.

Deadline to Apply: February 10, 2012

Requests are submitted to Pfizer through a submissions website:

http://www.pfizer.com/research/investigator/investigator_initiated_research.jsp

2012 Pfizer Fellowships in Health Disparities. Institutions interested in this fellowship program must focus their research on the cause for these inequalities and develop solutions to address disparities. Research proposals should be focused on smoking-cessation programs, women's health/gender medicine, and preventive healthcare to address disparities among populations of different races, ethnicities, or age groups, or between low-income versus high-income populations. One award of up to \$100,000 will be made.

Deadline to Apply: February 10, 2012

Requests are submitted to Pfizer through a submissions website:

http://www.pfizer.com/research/investigator/investigator_initiated_research.jsp

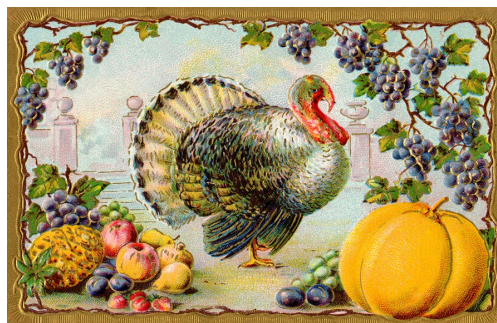
Questions on the programs and/or applications:

The Pfizer MAP Team – (877)-254-6953 or MAPinfo@clinicalconnexion.com



“Laughter is a part of the human survival kit.” – David Nathan

(David Nathan is a British born biographer, journalist, and singer)



HAPPY THANKSGIVING

The RAS Office will be closed Friday, November 25th for the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Please submit your comments/suggestions to jacksont@buffalo.edu or pjsturtz@buffalo.edu, 106 Kimball Tower