

SPHHP Research Activities Newsletter

In the News

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New Awards



Susan Bennett, Clinical Associate Professor of Rehabilitation Science, is principal investigator on a one-year award from Acorda Therapeutics, Inc, entitled *Effects of physical therapy and Dalfampridine on functional mobility and lower extremity strength in non-ambulatory subjects with MS*. The project will examine the effectiveness of Dalfampridine when administered in conjunction with a 12-week physical therapy program for non-ambulatory individuals living with MS.



Nadine Fisher, Clinical Associate Professor of Rehabilitation Science, is principal investigator on a two-year award from Aspens Systems Inc. The project, entitled *Personal Cooling to Mitigate Heat Stress and Heat Exacerbated Symptoms to Enable More Active Lifestyles for Multiple Sclerosis Patient*, will test a cooling vest on individuals with MS. The tests will help determine the amount of cooling that should be delivered to the subjects in order for them to perceive they are cool, reduce fatigue levels and to potentially show a slower rate of rise in core temperature and a faster recovery after exercise.



Peter Horvath, Associate Professor of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences, is principal investigator on a two-year award from the Mushroom Council, entitled *Effect of Vitamin D rich mushrooms on functional performance and quality of life in older men and women*. The project will study the effect of consuming vitamin d rich mushrooms during the winter months in older subjects with a slight Vitamin D deficiency.

Co-investigators from SPHHP include **Harold Burton**, Associate Professor of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences and **Amy Millen**, Assistant Professor of Social and Preventive Medicine.



Christine Oddo, Research Assistant Professor, Center for Assistive Technology, is the recipient of an award from the New York State Commission for the Blind and Visually Handicapped (CBVH). The project, entitled *Pilot Initiative - AT Skills Assessment Measure*, will assist the pilot initiative in assessing skill levels attained by CBVH consumers after AT training has been completed.



(New Awards continued from page 1)



Pavani Ram, Assistant Professor of Social and Preventive Medicine, is principal investigator on two recently awarded grants. The first is a one-year grant from The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, subcontracted through the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research. The project, entitled *Impact Evaluation of cholera vaccine and behaviour change interventions in urban Dhaka*, will examine the effectiveness of intervention with an oral cholera vaccine and the effectiveness of a hand-washing and home water treatment behavior change in reducing diarrhea due to cholera. The second project is an 8.5-month award from UNICEF. This project will provide support for monitoring and evaluating hand-washing promotion programs managed by UNICEF country offices.



Dan Ramsey, Assistant Professor of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences, is co-investigator on a collaborative project with principal investigator Yun Fu, (Assistant Professor of Computer Science and Engineering), entitled *CPS: Medium: Quantitative Visual Sensing of Dynamic Behaviors for Home-Based Progressive Rehabilitation*. This four-year award from the National Science Foundation will examine the engineering (design and control) complexity implications of intelligent orthotic braces to interactively alter functional performance.



David Tritchler, Research Professor of Biostatistics, is principal investigator on a two-year subcontract award from Health Research Incorporated. For the project, entitled *Racial Disparities in Human Endogenous Retrovirus and Breast Cancer*, David will provide statistical genetic analysis and participate in writing reports and manuscripts.

Welcome!

We would like to welcome the following new faculty to SPHHP:

Rachael Hageman Blair PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Biostatistics. Rachel joined the department on August 18th. Her research focuses on methodology development for mathematical modeling and simulation of metabolic and genetic networks.

Jeanne Langan PT, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Rehabilitation Science. Jeanne joined RS on September 1st. Her research interests center on integrating neuroscience research into clinical application with the aim of creating more effective therapeutic interventions.

Kimberley Persons, Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Rehabilitation Science. Kim joined RS on September 1st. Her clinical background and research interests center on adults with developmental disabilities and occupational performance, community based services, community integration, and aging in place.

Grant Clinic

NIH Notices & Reminders

Reminder of Deadline for NIH Loan Repayment Programs (LRPs)

Applications for NIH's LRPs are being accepted online until 8:00pm Eastern time, **November 15, 2011**. The LRPs repay the outstanding student loans of researchers who are or will be conducting nonprofit biomedical or behavioral research. Opportunities are available in five research areas – clinical, pediatric, health disparities, contraception and infertility and clinical research for individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds. Please visit the LRP website at <http://www.lrp.nih.gov> for more information and to access the online application.

Mandating Use of the Commons to Submit No-Cost Extension Notifications

Effective October 1, 2011, NIH is requiring grantees to use the No-Cost Extension feature in the eRA Commons to notify NIH when they exercise their one-time authority to extend, without additional funds, the final budget period of a grant. This feature now allows grantees to request a NCE in one month increments for up to 12 months. NIH will no longer accept these notifications via other communication channels. Please see NIH Notice for additional information: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-11-098.html>

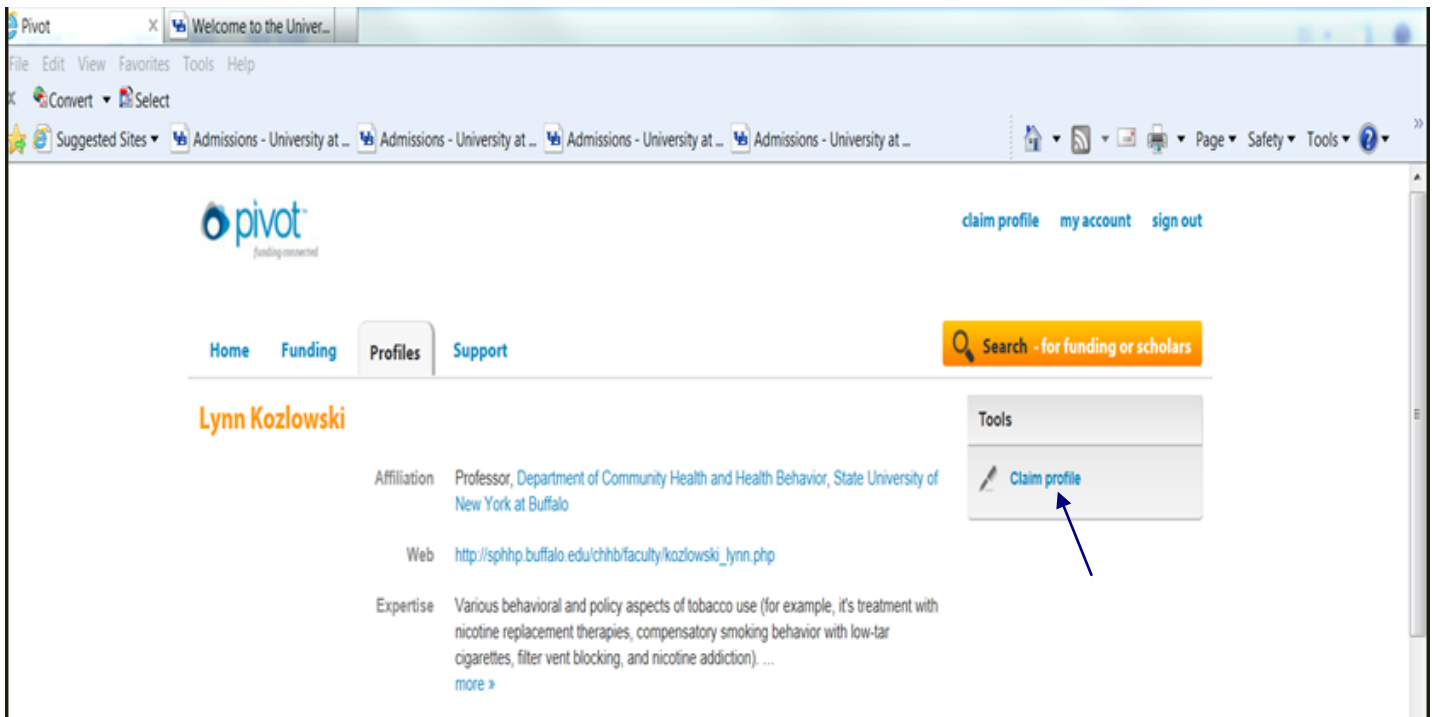
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A New Initiative from Community of Science (COS): COS Pivot—a valuable source of funding opportunities and collaborations

COS has recently combined the COS Scholar Universe and the COS Funding Opportunities into a single upgraded program: the COS Pivot search engine. Using data from your profile, the Pivot search engine will seek out the right research opportunities, funding, and potential collaborators from both within and outside of UB! Pivot will provide you with both local and global connections that can aid in securing new funding and new collaborations and is designed for faculty, staff researchers, and graduate student use.

Since Pivot uses data from your profile to search for possible funding opportunities, the RAS staff will use this search engine going forward. RAS staff requests that all faculty establish their COS profiles by the end of the calendar year. Those of you who have an existing profile with COS need only to log-in with your COS log-in information and **claim** your profile. Once claimed, your profile can be edited and updated. (if you have forgotten your password, click on the “forgot your password link”.) When creating or editing your profile, please note that key words prove valuable in finding just the right funding opportunity. A screen shot of Dean Kozlowski’s profile is provided in the example below. Once claimed, the Dean can update and edit his profile. **Traci and Pam attended the Pivot overview in September and are available to assist you in creating a new profile or visit the website at <http://pivot.cos.com/>**



Should I Contact a Program Officer Before I Apply?

June 29, 2011, NIH Extramural Research Update Blog

Contacting a program officer before applying is recommended as program staff are the primary source of information for scientific, funding and programmatic matters. They can offer advice regarding numerous topics including: an institute/center’s enthusiasm about your research area; the appropriate Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) through which to apply; potential application topics and topics of interest and new scientific directions. If you don’t know who you should contact, the appropriate program officer can be found in section seven of the FOA or by searching the NIH’s websites. Another excellent resource is the RePORTER. You can search for projects similar to yours and see which program officers are assigned to those grants. Your search may actually lead you to other institutes that also provide funding for your area of interest. For the full article, please see:

<http://nexus.od.nih.gov/all/2011/06/29/should-i-contact-a-program-officer-before-i-apply/>

UB Funding Opportunities: Clinical Translational Science Award—RFAs

On behalf of the Buffalo Clinical and Translational Research Center, applications are being accepted for two RFAs to support new projects in clinical and translational sciences.

1. Pilot and Collaborative Translational Clinical Studies

The objective of this project is to provide resources to perform pilot studies to enhance the development of Clinical and Translational research at UB. Support is intended for research projects that 1) allow clinical and translational trainees or researchers to generate preliminary data for submission of a research grant application; 2) seek to improve clinical design, biostatistics, clinical research ethics, informatics, or regulatory pathways; or 3) others as defined by the applicant that will advance clinical and translational research. Applicants can request funding for up to \$50,000 for one year projects. It is expected that two awards will be made this year.

How to Apply: Applications must be submitted as a single pdf to Dr. Kenneth Tramosch, Associate Vice President for Research via email to ovpr.research@research.buffalo.edu

Application Due Date: December 1, 2011, 5:00pm

For further information, please see http://www.research.buffalo.edu/funding_programs/pilot.cfm

2. Novel Clinical and Translational Methodologies Pilot Projects

The objective of this project is to provide resources to develop new methodologies that are needed to perform clinical and translational research. The scope of projects could include new measurement techniques or devices, new translational methodologies, methods for biomarkers or phenotyping, determining cost-effectiveness, new approaches to clinical trial design and analysis of clinical research, clinical informatics for longitudinal studies or meta-analytic approaches to treatment evaluation, predictive toxicology, or ethics research specific to populations. Applicants can request funding for up to \$50,000 for one year projects. It is expected that two awards will be made this year.

How to Apply: Applications must be submitted as a single pdf to Dr. Kenneth Tramosch, Associate Vice President for Research via email to ovpr.research@research.buffalo.edu

Application Due Date: December 1, 2011, 5:00pm

For further information, please see http://www.research.buffalo.edu/funding_programs/novel.cfm

NIH Funding Opportunities: RFA

Request for Applications (RFAs)

November 2011 Due Dates

RFA-CA-11-011 (R01) and RFA-CA-11-012 (R21)

Research Answers to NCIs Provocative Questions

The purpose of this FOA is to support research projects designed to use sound and innovative research strategies to solve specific problems and paradoxes in cancer research identified by the National Cancer Institute (NCI) as the NCIs "Provocative Questions" (PQs). These 24 PQs are not intended to represent the full range of NCI's priorities in cancer research but rather are meant to challenge cancer researchers to think about and elucidate specific problems in key areas of cancer research that are deemed important but have not received sufficient attention. Each research project proposed in response to this FOA must be focused on solving one particular research problem defined by one specific PQ selected from the list of "Provocative Questions." To assist applicants in meeting the deadline, the Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences has assembled background information on the provocative questions project and answers common questions online at http://cancercontrol.cancer.gov/resource_guide dccps.html.

Application Due Date: November 14, 2011

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-CA-11-011.html>

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-CA-11-012.html>

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RFA-RM-11-012 (R01)

Economic Research on Incentives for Efficient Use of Preventive Services

Many different services, interventions, and behaviors contribute to preventing future health problems, either by reducing occurrences (primary prevention) or by reducing the severity of the consequences of health problems once they have occurred (secondary prevention). Preventive interventions may operate through a wide range of medical, social, and individual avenues that influence health behaviors and outcomes. This FOA solicits applications for economic research on the role of incentive arrangements in promoting efficient use of preventive services and interventions, specifically considering both costs and health outcomes. The objective of the research program is to advance general knowledge about how incentives can be structured to improve both health and cost outcomes through more efficient use of preventive services; it is not primarily to advance specific knowledge about any particular preventive intervention or prevention of any particular health condition.

Application Due Date: November 15, 2011

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-RM-11-012.html>

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>

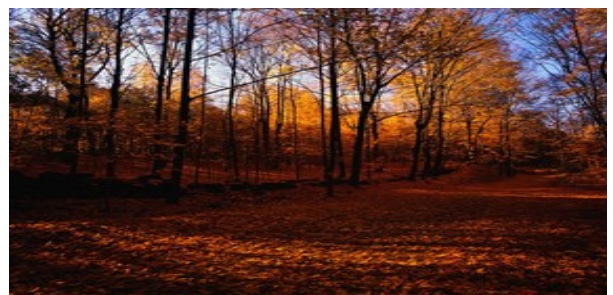
RFA-MH-12-130 (R01)

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>



NIH Funding Opportunities: PAR

Program Announcement Reviewed by an Institute (PAR)

PAR-11-337 (R01) and PAR-11-336 (R21)

Social Neuroscience and Neuroeconomics of Aging

Application Due Date(s): New February 5, 2012; February 5, 2013; February 5, 2014
Resubmissions March 5, 2012; March 5, 2013; March 5, 2014

Expiration Date: May 8, 2014

The National Institute on Aging (NIA) issues this FOA with special review to stimulate interdisciplinary aging-relevant research in the social, affective and economic neurosciences. The NIA invites applications examining social, emotional and economic behaviors of relevance to aging, using approaches that examine mechanisms and processes at both (a) the social, behavioral or psychological (emotional, cognitive, motivational) level, and (b) the neurobiological or genetic level. Applications are encouraged that have an overriding emphasis on economic, social or emotional processes and associated genetic or neurobiological processes. Applications should demonstrate either relevance for aging or for age differences or age-related changes in these processes. Aging-relevant applications can address issues of importance to the well-being and health of either mid-life or older adults, and can include data spanning the entire life course.

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-11-337.html>

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-11-336.html>

PAR-11-346 (R01)

Interventions for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention in Native American Populations

The purpose of this FOA is to develop, adapt, and test the effectiveness of health promotion and disease prevention interventions in Native American (NA) populations. NA populations are exposed to considerable risk factors that significantly increase their likelihood of chronic disease, substance abuse, mental illness, and HIV-infection. The intervention program should be culturally appropriate and promote the adoption of healthy lifestyles, improve behaviors and social conditions and/or improve environmental conditions related to chronic disease, the consumption of tobacco, alcohol and other drugs, mental illness or HIV-infection. The intervention program should be designed so that it could be sustained within the entire community within existing resources, and, if successful, disseminated in other Native American communities.

Application Due Date(s): May 15, 2012; May 15, 2013; May 15, 2014

Expiration Date: May 16, 2014

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-11-346.html>

PAR-10-188 (R01)

Occupational Safety and Health Research

Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply

Expiration Date: May 8, 2013

The purpose of FOA is to develop an understanding of the risks and conditions that are associated with occupational diseases and injuries, to explore methods for reducing risks and for preventing or minimizing exposure to hazardous conditions in the workplace, and to translate significant scientific findings into prevention practices and products that will effectively reduce work-related illnesses and injuries.

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-10-188.html#SectionIV1>

PAR-11-314 (R01) and PAR-11-315 (R21)

Systems Science and Health in the Behavioral and Social Sciences

Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply

Expiration Date: September 8, 2014

This FOA encourages applications that propose to develop basic and applied projects utilizing systems science methodologies relevant to human behavioral and social sciences and health. It is intended to encourage a broader scope of topics to be addressed with systems science methodologies, beyond those encouraged by existing open FOAs.

Research projects applicable to this FOA are those that are either applied or basic in nature (including methodological development), have a human behavioral and/or social science focus, and feature systems science methodologies.

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-11-314.html>

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-11-315.html>

NIH Funding Opportunities: PA

Program Announcement (PAs)

PA-11-311(R01), PA-11-312 (R21) and PA-11-313 (R03)
Drug Abuse Prevention Intervention Research

Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply

Expiration Date: September 8, 2014

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-11-311.html>

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-11-312.html>

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-11-313.html>

PA-11-318 (R01)

**Behavioral and Social Genomics of Aging:
Opportunities in the Health and Retirement Study**

Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply

Expiration Date: September 8, 2014

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-11-318.html>

PA-11-327 (R01), PA-11-329 (R21) and PA-11-328 (R03)
**Healthy Habits: Timing for Developing Sustainable
Healthy Behaviors in Children and Adolescents**

Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply

Expiration Date: September 8, 2014

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-11-327.html>

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-11-329.html>

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-11-328.html>

PA-11-330 (R01), PA-11-332 (R21) and PA-11-331 (R03)
**mHealth Tools to Promote Effective Patient-Provider
Communication, Adherence to Treatment and Self
Management of Chronic Diseases in Underserved
Populations**

Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply

Expiration Date: September 8, 2014

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-11-330.html>

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-11-332.html>

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-11-331.html>

PA-10-027 (R01), PA-10-028 (R21) and PA-10-029 (R03)
Obesity Policy Research: Evaluation and Measures

Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply

Expiration Date: January 8, 2013

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-10-027.html>

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-10-028.html>

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-10-029.html>

PA-09-243 (R01) PA-09-244 (R21)

**Nutrition and Physical Activity Research to Promote
Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Health**

Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply

Expiration Date: September 8, 2012

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-09-243.html>

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-09-244.html>

PA-09-167 (R21) and PA-09-168 (R03)

**Developmental Projects in Complementary
Approaches to Cancer Care and Treatment**

Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply

Expiration Date: May 8, 2012

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-09-167.html>

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-09-168.html>

PA-09-148 (R01) and PA-09-149 (R21)

Studies of Energy Balance and Cancer in Humans

Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply

Expiration Date: May 8, 2012

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-09-148.html>

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-09-149.html>

Funding Opportunities: Foundations

Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

Grand Challenges Explorations Round 8 is now open. Topics of investigation in this funding round include protecting crops from biotic stresses from field to market; exploring nutrition to promote the healthy growth of infants and children; applying synthetic biology to global health challenges; designing new approaches to the optimization of immunization systems; and exploring new solutions in global health priority areas. Awards for Phase I are \$100,000 for one year. Projects have one opportunity to apply for a follow-on Phase II grant of up to \$1,000,000.

How to apply: Applications are accepted online and are limited to 2 pages. Application guidelines can be downloaded at <http://www.grandchallenges.org/Explorations/Pages/ApplicationInstructions.aspx>

Application Due Date: November 17, 2011, 11:30am pst.

(Continued on page 8)

(Foundations continued from page 7)

Deafness Research Foundation

Deafness Research Foundation (DRF) awards research grant awards of up to \$25,000/year to applicants who are dedicated to exploring new avenues of hearing and balance science. Applications will be considered for research directed to investigation of all areas of the auditory and vestibular systems including anatomy, physiology, molecular biology, genetics, pharmacology and pathology. Priority is given to new investigators in the field of hearing and balance and to projects that are likely to open new lines of inquiry.

How to apply: A one page Letter of Intent should be submitted via email. The LOI should include the PI's name, Institution, address, email and phone number; names of key personnel (if applicable); title of research; research area; and a brief description of research. The full application is accepted online.

Application Due Date: Letter of Intent October 31, 2011
Online Application: December 1, 2011

<http://www.drf.org/grant+policy/>

Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation (ALSF)

ALSF evolved from the front yard lemonade stand of cancer patient Alexandra Scott into a national fundraising movement for childhood cancer research. These awards are designed to support the research of investigators who have a specific focus on the epidemiology, early detection or prevention of childhood cancer. A maximum of \$100,000 in direct costs will be awarded annually for up to 2 years. Awardees may apply for an additional two years of funding through the regular grant submission process. A maximum of 4 years (2 cycles) can be awarded per project.

Application Due Date: December 15, 2011

<http://www.alexlemonade.org/files/2012%20EPI%20Guidelines%2061611.pdf>

The Food Allergy & Anaphylaxis Network (FAAN)

While FAAN's prevalence and quality of life studies have taken the lead on understanding the scope of the food allergy problem in the United States, many questions remain such as: which specific proteins in food cause the allergy; what is the physiological impact on children at various stages of life; why is food allergy increasing, and what can be done to halt the trend? FAAN's research grant program focuses on the epidemiology, etiology, treatment and prevention of food allergy and anaphylaxis. The grants are one- to two-year awards, with a maximum of \$150,000 awarded annually.

Application Due Date: Applications will be accepted in January 2012

For further information, please email FAAN's vice president of research at research@foodallergy.org

<http://www.foodallergy.org/section/faans-competitive-research-grant-program>

The Jessie B. Cox Charitable Trust Fund

The Trust is one of the few funders with an interest in the six New England States, including New York, and focuses on three key fields: education, environment and health. In anticipation of the Trust's closing in 2017, these interests have become more focused. In the field of health, the Trust emphasizes improving access to health care, especially low-income or otherwise disadvantaged people through innovative and replicable health care delivery projects and public policy initiatives. In the field of environment, the Trust works to save and protect the ecosystems of New England through habitat conservation. Funding from the Trust is not intended to provide the sole or predominant source of support for the research project. Awards will be considered on the scale of \$50,000 or more per year for the project period.

How to apply: Applicants must submit a brief project description of no more than 2 pages which describe your organization, proposed project, outcomes/benchmarks for success, project budget and dollar request. This should be sent via email to kfyberg@gmafoundations.com. If chosen, you will be contacted to submit a complete funding proposal.

Application Due Date: Project descriptions are accepted on a rolling basis. The committee meets twice per year and all queries will be answered following the spring and fall meetings (May and October/November).

http://www.jbcoxtrust.org/?page_id=28



Happy Halloween

Everything that irritates us about other can lead us to an understanding of ourselves—Carl Jung

(Carl Gustav Jung [1875-1961] was a Swiss psychiatrist, an influential thinker and the founder of Analytical Psychology.

Please submit your comments/suggestions to jackson@buffalo.edu or pjsturtz@buffalo.edu,