

SPHHP Research Activities Newsletter

In the News

New Awards



Nadine Fisher, Clinical Associate Professor of Rehabilitation Science, is Principal Investigator on an award from Coolture, LLC for the project entitled *UB CAT: Testing for Specific Performance-related Parameters in a Cooling Device*. Nadine will test the cooling performance of the Coolture personal cooling vest versus their competition. The testing will be conducted in a controlled environment (temperature and humidity), namely the environmental chamber in UB's Center for Research and Education in Special Environments.



Amy Millen, Assistant Professor of Social and Preventive Medicine, is Principal Investigator on an R01 award from NIH for the project entitled *The Role of Vitamin D in Retinal Diseases in Aging*. Amy will investigate associations between vitamin D status and both diabetic retinopathy and age-related macular degeneration using data from the aging Atherosclerosis Risk in Communities population based, biracial cohort. **Michael LaMonte**, Assistant Professor of Social and Preventive Medicine and **Chris Andrews**, Research Assistant Professor of Biostatistics are Co-Investigators on the grant.



David Tritchler, Research Professor of Biostatistics, received a renewal award as Principal Investigator on a subcontract from Health Research Inc. for the project entitled *SPORE in Endometrial Cancer*. David will provide statistical expertise for all the aims associated with the project, as well as review and participate in the writing of reports and manuscripts.

Congratulations!

Grant Clinic

NEW - Look Inside Four Funded R21 Applications

To see examples of four successful R21 applications and their summary statements, please visit <http://www.niaid.nih.gov/researchfunding/grant/pages/appsamples.aspx>

R21s can serve different purposes for different types of research and career stages and knowing the caveats will help you decide whether an R21 is a good option for you. The R21 is designed to encourage exploratory research which introduces novel scientific ideas, model systems, tools, agents, targets, and technologies that have the potential to substantially advance biomedical research. While the NIH does not require preliminary data for an R21 application, most applications do include it and reviewers tend to expect it.

R21s are most useful for investigators who want to complete a project with a limited scope, for example, a pilot or feasibility study.

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An NIH Official's Observations about How to Improve Grant Applications

On April 12, 2012, Dr. Marsha Lopez, Chief of the Epidemiology Research Branch of the National Institute on Drug Abuse, NIH, visited the SPHHP and presented a talk entitled *On the Path to a Research Career: NIH Funding and Career Opportunities*. Her presentation was geared to new and early-stage researchers (i.e., graduate students, postdocs, nontenured faculty), but included information that is useful to all faculty members who submit applications to NIH. A list of her key observations about grant applications to NIH include:

- Try not to be over ambitious (thinking too big) in the scope of your research.
- Include very specific research questions and describe how the questions will be addressed.
- Understand the limitations of your ideas and/or methods. Make sure to describe how you will handle these limitations and/or why it is important to pursue this research, despite the limitations.
- The methods proposed should be state-of-the-science – shows that you've done your homework.
- Innovation is important.
- Contact program officials (best to use e-mail) to discuss ideas and the specific Institute's interest in your topic. In some cases, it may be useful to provide a 1-2 page summary of key aspects of the application.

Updated RAS Website

The RAS Office has recently updated its website to include additional links to informative webpages that can assist in the grant application process. The site can be accessed at <http://sphhp.buffalo.edu/research/admin/index.php>

- The *For Your Information* page has been updated to include links to the NIH SF424 Grant Guide; the NSF Grant Proposal Guide; and NIH's Center for Scientific Review (CSR). The CSR site can be a valuable tool in determining which study section would be best suited to review your application.
- The *Search for Funding* page now includes links to proposalCENTRAL (an e-grantmaking website shared by many government, non-profit and private grant-making organizations); National Science Foundation, and CDRM eReceipt System (Congressionally Directed medical Research Programs). Links to COS Pivot and NIH RePORTER, also are located on this page.

Assistance with Funding Opportunities from Private Foundations and Corporations

A portion of the UB Foundation's Development Department moved into the 9th, 10th and 11th floors of Kimball Tower. Housed on the 9th Floor is the Corporate and Foundation Relations (CFR) office. RAS staff recently met with Don Elick, Director of Grants Development, to discuss the services that CFR provides.

CFR can assist faculty and administration with:

- Establishing strategic relationships with private foundations and corporations.
- Coordinating a united approach to funders for all university schools and units.
- Providing a critique of proposal.
- Identifying potential funders for SPHHP's fundraising priorities.
- Assisting with navigation of the post-award process with the UB Foundation.

Please contact Traci or Pam in the RAS office if you are interested in pursuing an opportunity with a private foundation or corporation.

SUNY/RF Research Collaboration Fund

SUNY and the Research Foundation for SUNY announced a new grant program designed to build collaborations across the SUNY campuses. This Fund is focused on inter-disciplinary, multi-investigator, multi-campus research projects and pilot studies. A review panel composed of representatives from SUNY campuses will review proposals and select grantees for awards of up to \$50,000 per year, for a maximum of 2 years. If you are interested in applying, please contact Traci or Pam in the RAS office for the application materials. Applications will be accepted via email to sunyrffund@rfsuny.org

Application Due Date(s): July 1 and December 1

NIH Funding Opportunities: Requests for Applications (RFA)

June Due Dates

RFA-MD-12-003 (R01)

NIMHD Social, Behavioral, Health Services, and Policy Research on Minority Health and Health Disparities

The purpose of this FOA is to solicit innovative social, behavioral, health services, and policy research that can directly and demonstrably contribute to the elimination of health disparities. Projects may involve primary data collection or secondary analysis of existing datasets. Projects that examine understudied health conditions; examine the effectiveness of interventions, services, or policies for multiple health disparity populations; and/or directly measure the impact of project activities on levels of health disparities are particularly encouraged.

Application Due Date: June 4, 2012

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-MD-12-003.html>

RFA-MD-12-004 (R01)

NIMHD Basic and Applied Biomedical Research on Minority Health and Health Disparities

This FOA is issued by the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) to solicit innovative grant applications on: (1) Biological and genetic research to explore disease mechanisms or pathways that influence health outcomes in minority and health disparity populations; (2) Clinical and translational research linking basic science discovery with effective treatment or clinical practice.

The overall goal of this initiative is to enhance our understanding of fundamental biological mechanisms involved in disease conditions and develop therapies or interventions that can directly or demonstrably contribute to the elimination of health disparities. Biological, genetic, clinical and translational research projects investigating the etiology, physiology, genetic risk factors, molecular pathways, gene-environmental interactions, pharmacogenomic and personalized medicine in health disparity populations are particularly encouraged.

Application Due Date: June 11, 2012

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

RFA-MD-12-006 (R24)

NIMHD Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR) Initiative in Reducing and Eliminating Health Disparities: Planning Phase

The goal of this FOA is to support partnerships between health disparity communities and researchers to engage in CBPR to plan and implement interventions to reduce health disparities. Community-based participatory research is defined as scientific inquiry conducted in communities and in partnership with researchers. The process of scientific inquiry is such that community members, persons affected by the health condition, or other key stakeholders in the community's health have the opportunity to be full participants in each phase of the research (from conception - design-conduct-analysis-interpretation-conclusions-communication of results). CBPR is characterized by substantial community input in the development of the grant application.

Application Due Date: June 27, 2012

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

RFA-DK-12-004 (P30)

Nutrition Obesity Research Centers

This FOA invites grant applications that propose to establish core centers that are part of an integrated program of nutrition and/or obesity-research. Each proposed center must be organized around central themes that reflect the nutrition and/or obesity research focus of the center members. An existing program of excellence in biomedical basic and clinical research in the areas of nutritional sciences and/or obesity, and related disorders, is required. The research must be in the form of research project grants (R01), program project grants (P01), Resource-Related Research Project Grant (R24), or other peer-reviewed research that is already funded by NIH, other Federal Agencies, or non-federal groups at the time of submission of the Center grant application. It is required that at least fifty percent of the nutritional sciences and obesity or other related disorders research comprising the research base be supported by Federal Agencies.

Application Due Date: June 29, 2012

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

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July Due Dates

RFA-DK-12-006 (R01)

Promoting Organ and Tissue Donation Among Diverse Populations

This FOA issued by the NIDDK invites investigators to apply for a grant to develop hypothesis-driven educational programs to increase the number of both living and deceased donor organs and tissue donated for transplantation from minority and other health disparity populations. This FOA intends to stimulate investigators to develop effective culturally sensitive educational and behavioral interventions to improve the attitudes, beliefs and behaviors towards organ and tissue transplantation, as well as the need for organ transplantation, among minority and other health disparity populations. The grant will provide support for the development and testing of educational and behavioral programs in minority and other health disparity populations to enhance their understanding of the need, risks and benefits of organ and tissue donation, and ultimately to increase the number of minority and other health disparity populations participating in living and deceased organ donation.

Application Due Date: July 3, 2012

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

RFA-HL-12-020 (R43/R44 SBIR)

RFA-HL-12-024 (R41/R42 STTR)

Virtual Reality Technologies for Research and Education in Obesity and Diabetes

The purpose of these FOAs is to encourage the small business research community to submit applications that capitalize on the unique capabilities of Virtual Reality (VR) technologies to teach, motivate, visualize outcomes, and to extend the health care and learning environments for patients with obesity and diabetes. The VR technology proposed should foster desirable eating, physical activity, self-care, and other health-related behaviors necessary for prevention and management of obesity and diabetes. Of highest interest are well-designed multidisciplinary projects drawing on expertise in VR technologies and biomedical behavioral and pedagogical sciences. The overall goal is to develop the potential of Virtual Reality technologies as research tools for behavioral science-oriented studies in diabetes and obesity, and as practical tools for clinical and public health-level prevention and management of obesity and diabetes.

Application Due Date: July 11, 2012

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-HL-12-020.html>

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-HL-12-024.html>

RFA-ES-12-005 (R43/R44 [SBIR])

E-learning for HAZMAT and Emergency Response

This FOA encourages SBIR grant applications from small business concerns that propose to further the development of Advanced Technology Training (ATT) Products for the health and safety training of hazardous materials (HAZMAT) workers, emergency responders, and skilled support personnel. These products would complement the goals and objectives of the Worker Education and Training Program (WETP). The major objective of the NIEHS/WETP is to prevent work related harm by assisting in the training of workers in how best to protect themselves and their communities from exposure to hazardous materials.

Application Due Date: July 27, 2012

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

August Due Dates

RFA-DA-13-007 (R01)

Identifying Health Outcomes Associated with Changes in Use of Illicit Drugs

NIDA is soliciting grant applications to test the hypothesis that reductions in illicit drug use are associated with improved health outcomes in patients. Such studies may focus on identification and or validation of strategies, methods, and tools (including biomarkers) that can assess the salutary consequences resulting from reduced use of a particular illicit drug. These objectives may be achieved either by developing new or validating currently available methodologies that will monitor a health outcome associated with changes in use of a particular illicit drug.

Application Due Date: August 22, 2012

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-DA-13-007.html>

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Multiple Due Dates

RFA-DC-12-004 (R43/R44 [SBIR])

RFA-DC-12-005 (R41/R42 [STTR])

Improving Access to Hearing Health Care

This funding opportunity solicits 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). "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>

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

2013 Due Dates

RFA-HL-13-013 (R01)

Cardiovascular Risk Reduction in Underserved Rural Communities

The overall objective is to build the evidence base and accelerate the implementation and translation of evidence- or practice-based interventions into practice in rural communities. To accomplish this objective, NHLBI invites applications that will plan and execute well-designed controlled trials that maximize the opportunities available in rural communities to reduce cardiovascular disease risk factors. The long-term goal is to foster sustainable interventions and scientific research that will lead to reduced cardiovascular morbidity and mortality in high-risk rural populations.

Application Due Date: January 11, 2013

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-HL-13-013.html>

NIH Funding Opportunities: Program Announcement Reviewed by an Institute (PAR)

PAR-12-182 (S06)

Native American Research Centers for Health (NARCH)

Application Due Date: July 10, 2012

Expiration Date: July 11, 2012

The purpose of the NARCH initiative is to reduce health disparities, enhance partnerships and reduce distrust of research by American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) communities while developing a cadre of AI/AN scientists and health research professionals. Health disparities of AI/ANs are related to a complex set of factors and the paucity of health research within these populations may contribute to the situation. One approach that combats this distrust is to ensure that Tribes and Tribal Organizations are the managing partners in research and training that involves them. To that end, NIH in collaboration with IHS has issued the NARCH FOA in which collaborations between Federally recognized AI/AN Tribes or Tribal organizations and institutions that conduct intensive academic-level biomedical, behavioral and health services research will be supported to conduct research and training in AI/AN communities.

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-12-182.html>

PAR-12-172 (R18)

Translational Research to Improve Obesity and Diabetes Outcomes

Application Due Dates: July 2, 2012, November 1, 2012, March 1, 2013, July 1, 2013, November 1, 2013, March 3, 2014, July 1, 2014, November 3, 2014, March 2, 2015

Expiration Date: March 3, 2015

The NIDDK encourages applications that test practical, sustainable, acceptable, and cost efficient adaptations of efficacious strategies or approaches that prevent and treat diabetes and/or obesity. Research must target the prevention or reversal of obesity, prevention of type 2 diabetes, improved care of type 1 and type 2 diabetes, or the prevention or delay of the complications of these conditions. The approaches tested should have the potential to be widely disseminated to clinical practice, individuals and communities at risk.

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-12-172.html>

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PAR-12-173 (R34)

Planning Grants for Translational Research to Improve Obesity and Diabetes Outcomes

Application Due Date(s): July 2, 2012; November 1, 2012; March 1, 2013; July 1, 2013; November 1, 2013; March 3, 2014, July 1, 2014, November 3, 2014, March 2, 2015

Expiration Date: May 8, 2015

NIDDK and NIMH encourage applications to develop and pilot test practical, sustainable, acceptable, and cost efficient adaptations of efficacious strategies or approaches prevent and treat diabetes and/or obesity. Research must target the prevention or reversal of obesity, prevention of type 2 diabetes, improved care of type 1 and type 2 diabetes, or the prevention or delay of the complications of these conditions. NIMH encourages research focused on people with severe mental illness (SMI), whose risk for obesity and type 2 diabetes is twice that of the general population. The approaches tested should have the potential to be widely disseminated to clinical practice, individuals and communities at risk.

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-12-173.html>

PAR-12-175 (R01); PAR-12-174 (R21); PAR-12-176 (R03)

Multidisciplinary Studies of HIV/AIDS and Aging

Application Due Dates: August 7, 2012, December 7, 2012, April 9, 2013, August 7, 2013, December 6, 2013, April 9, 2014, August 7, 2014, December 9, 2014, April 7, 2015

Expiration Date: April 8, 2015

The goal of this announcement is to invite research grant applications studying HIV infection, HIV-associated conditions, HIV treatment, and/or biobehavioral or social factors associated with HIV/AIDS in the context of aging and/or in older adults. Research approaches of interest include clinical translational, observational, and intervention studies in domestic and international settings.

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-12-175.html>

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-12-174.html>

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-12-174.html>

PAR-12-181 (R21) and PAR-12-180 (R03)

Rapid Assessment Post-Impact of Disaster

Application Due Date: Applications should be submitted within approximately six weeks of the identified disaster event.

Expiration Date: October 4, 2015

The purpose of this FOA is to provide an expedited funding mechanism for research in the aftermath of disasters and mass casualty events. Potential applicants are strongly encouraged to contact NIMH Program Staff before submitting a RAPID application to determine whether or not the proposed work meets the guidelines of this program, whether requested RAPID funding is likely to be available, and whether the idea should be considered for initial submission as a fully developed, non-expedited application via a regular/parent FOA. RAPID grants described in this FOA may be used to facilitate initial research for investigators who intend to follow up with a full research application, using the preliminary time sensitive data from a RAPID grant as the basis for their subsequent application.

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-12-181.html>

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-12-180.html>

PAR-12-183 (U19)

National Institute on Aging Analysis of Alzheimer's Disease Genome Sequencing Project Data

Application Due Date(s): August 7, 2012, then standard dates apply

Expiration Date: September 8, 2013

The NIA invites applications specific to the analysis of whole exome and genome sequencing data provided by the National Human Genome Research Institute Large-Scale Sequencing Program for the Alzheimer's disease research community. The overarching goals of the research are to: (1) identify new genes contributing to increased risk of developing the disease, (2) identify new genes contributing to protection against developing AD, (3) provide insight as to why individuals with known risk factor genes escape from developing AD, and (4) identify potential avenues for therapeutic approaches and prevention of the disease.

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-12-183.html>

NIH Funding Opportunities: Program Announcements (PA)

PA-12-149 (Admin Supp)

Research Supplements to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research

Application Due Date(s): Due dates may vary by awarding IC. (http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/contacts/PA-12-149_contacts.html)

Expiration Date: September 30, 2015

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-12-149.html>

PA-12-161 (R01) and PA-12-162 (R21)

Basic Research on HIV Persistence

Application Due Date(s): Standard due dates

Expiration Date: January 8, 2015

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-12-161.html>

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-12-162.html>

PA-12-150 (Admin Supp)

Research Supplements to Promote Re-Entry into Biomedical and Behavioral Research Careers

Application Due Date(s): Due dates may vary by awarding IC (http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/contacts/PA-12-150_contacts.html)

Expiration Date: September 30, 2015

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-12-150.html>

PA-12-171 (R34)

Pilot and Feasibility Studies in Preparation for Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Trials

Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply

Expiration Date: May 8, 2015

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-12-171.html>

PA-12-153 (R01)

Research to Action: Assessing and Addressing Community Exposures to Environmental Contaminants

Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply

Expiration Date: September 8, 2015

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-12-153.html>

PA-12-177 (R01) and PA-12-178 (R21)

Alcohol Abuse, Sleep Disorders and Circadian Rhythms

Application Due Date(s): Standard due dates

Expiration Date: June 6, 2015

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-12-177.html>

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-12-178.html>

PA-12-157 (R21)

Pilot and Feasibility Clinical Research Grants in Diabetes, and Endocrine and Metabolic Diseases

Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply

Expiration Date: May 8, 2015

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-12-157.html>

PA-12-179 (R21)

Exploratory/Developmental Clinical Research Grants in Obesity

Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply

Expiration Date: May 8, 2015

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-12-179.html>

PA-12-159 (Admin Supp)

Administrative Supplements for Collaborative Science: Opportunities for Existing NIDCR Grants and Cooperative Agreements

Application Due Date(s): June 11, 2012; January 30, 2013; May 30, 2013; January 30, 2014; May 30, 2014

Expiration Date: June 1, 2014

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-12-159.html>



Funding Opportunities: Foundations

American Heart Association

The American Heart Association has issued its Summer 2012 funding announcements. The funding announcements support research which is broadly 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.

Scientist Development Grant (Founders Affiliate)

This award mechanism supports highly promising beginning scientists in their progress towards independence. Applicants should hold a faculty position up to and including the rank of assistant professor. Grants may be funded up to \$77,000 per year for a total of three years.

Application Due Date: July 20, 2012

http://my.americanheart.org/professional/Research/FundingOpportunities/ForScientists/Summer-2012---Founders-Affiliate-Scientist-Development-Grant_UCM_321914_Article.jsp

Grant-in-Aid (Founders Affiliate)

This award mechanism supports investigators who hold a faculty appointment of any rank and are conducting independent research. Annual award amount is \$66,000 for a total of three years.

Application Due Date: July 20, 2012

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

Established Investigator Award (National)

This award mechanism supports mid-career investigators with an established record of accomplishments. Applicants should have current national-level funding as a principal investigator (or co-PI) on an R01 grant or its equivalent. Grants may be funded up to \$80,000 per year for a total of five years.

Application Due Date: July 17, 2012

http://my.americanheart.org/professional/Research/FundingOpportunities/ForScientists/Summer-2012---National-Established-Investigator-Award_UCM_321935_Article.jsp

Innovative Research Grant (National)

The award mechanism supports highly innovative, high-risk, high-reward research that could ultimately lead to critical discoveries or major advancements that will accelerate the field of cardiovascular and stroke research. This program aims to provide pilot or seed funding that should lead to successful competition for additional funding beyond the pilot period. Grants may be funded up to \$75,000 per year for a total of two years.

Application Due Date: July 17, 2012

http://my.americanheart.org/professional/Research/FundingOpportunities/ForScientists/Summer-2012---National-Innovative-Research-Grant_UCM_321936_Article.jsp

Words to Live By...

It is more important to know where you are going than to get there quickly. Do not mistake activity for achievement—Mabel Newcomer, American Economist (1892-1983)

Congratulations to our Graduates!!!



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