

SPHHP Research Activities Newsletter

In the News

Congratulations to the Following Awardees:



Rachel Hageman Blair, Assistant Professor of Biostatistics, received a continuation award from the National Science Foundation for the project entitled *Integrated Bayesian Deterministic and Probabilistic Modeling of Phenotype-Genotype Networks in the Metabolic System*. The research in modeling methodology is designed to overcome existing limitations of current deterministic and causal models and, in turn, more effectively search out novel molecular targeted therapies and their side effects.



David Hostler, Professor and Chair of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences, received three continuation awards from the US Navy Experimental Diving Unit for the projects entitled *IPA for Dan E Warkander*, *IPA for Barbara Shykoff* and *IPA for Keith A. Gault*. Dr. Hostler will oversee research projects that focus on revitalizing manned undersea biomedical research and development for the US Navy.



Xuefeng Ren, Assistant Professor of Epidemiology & Environmental Health, received a continuation award from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences/NIH for the project entitled *Mechanisms and Outcomes of MMAIII Induced Alterations in Histone Acetylation*. The study will continue to examine the molecular mechanisms of arsenic carcinogenesis to facilitate the development of novel strategies to prevent, diagnose or treat arsenic associated diseases, including cancer. SPHHP co-investigators include **Dan Gaile**, Assistant Professor of Biostatistics.

The following SPHHP faculty received funding from UB's Innovative Micro-Programs Accelerating Collaboration in Themes (IMPACT) Program:



Blair Johnson, Assistant Professor of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences, for the project entitled *The Contribution of the Carotid Body Chemoreceptors and Physical Activity to Heat Stress Compensatory Responses in Heart Failure*. The goal of the study is to collect preliminary data for future grant submissions that will examine compensatory responses to heat stress in Congestive Heart Failure patients and determine if exercise-training adaptations improve these responses. SPHHP co-investigators include **David Hostler**, Professor and Chair of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences.



Jeanne Langan, Assistant Professor of Rehabilitation Science, is Co-PI on the project entitled *Portable Measurement Devices to Provide Feedback and Enhance Self-Management in Chronic Stroke Rehabilitation*. The study will examine whether the use of portable measuring systems to track participants' performance in a home exercise program will result in greater compliance and improved motor performance in comparison to traditional written home exercise programs.



Amy Millen, Associate Professor of Epidemiology and Environmental Health, for the project entitled *The Neonatal Microbiome Study: A Pilot Study in Meru County, Kenya*. Hypothesizing that the establishment of the gut microbiome during the neonatal period influences a child's later susceptibility to stunting, the project will determine if the collection and transport of biologic samples for the study of microbiome is feasible, valid and cost-effective. SPHHP co-investigators include **Pavani Ram**, Associate Professor of Epidemiology and Environmental Health, and **Rachel Hageman Blair**, Assistant Professor of Biostatistics.

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Research Honorees:



David Hostler, Professor and Chair of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences
SPHHP Outstanding Senior Researcher of the Year 2014-2015



Heather Orom, Assistant Professor of Community Health and Health Behavior
SPHHP Outstanding Junior Researcher of the Year 2014-2015



Xuefeng Ren, Assistant Professor of Epidemiology & Environmental Health
UB Exceptional Scholar Award for Young Investigators 2015

Grant Clinic

REMINDER – New Biosketch Format Required for Applications Due on/after May 25th

A sample of the new biosketch form can be found at <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/424/index.htm#biosketch>. SciENCv can assist in creating biosketches for multiple federal agencies. The SciENCv [home page](#) offers resources to help get you started, including [support documentation](#).

Request for Information: Soliciting Input into the NIH Science Vision for Health Disparities Research

The NIMHD is exploring fundamental research questions to help shape the process of defining a science vision to guide the development of the science of health disparities research for the next decade. This RFI seeks comments regarding key research areas that might address the complexity of the multiple, interacting factors that often generate and perpetuate health disparities. Responses will be accepted through July 31, 2015 via NIMDHScienceVision@mail.nih.gov. For further information, please see [NOT-MD-15-006](#).

NIH Funding Opportunities: Requests for Applications (RFA)

July Due Dates

RFA-FD-15-031 (U01)

Building Towards Statistically-Based Pharmaceutical Quality Standards

The goal of this project is to generate data and develop a statistical sampling and analysis strategy to aid FDA/CDER policy in drafting data-based guidance in support of the use of appropriate statistical tools and standards. Specifically, the development of standards for statistical methods suitable for lot release which could be used to drive industry towards increased product and process understanding throughout the lifecycle of a product. The project will provide data, sampling and data analysis approaches to inform the agency and the human pharmaceutical industry to advance the development of risk- and science-based standards.

Application Due Date: July 7, 2015

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-FD-15-031.html>

RFA-MD-15-008 (R41/R42)

Technologies for Improving Population Health and Eliminating Health Disparities

This FOA invites eligible United States small business concerns to submit Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) grant applications that propose to develop a product, process or service for commercialization with the aim of reducing disparities in healthcare access and health outcomes. Appropriate technologies should be effective, affordable, culturally acceptable, and deliverable to racial/ethnic minorities, low-income and rural populations.

Application Due Date: July 23, 2015

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-MD-15-008.html>

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RFA-MD-15-009 (R43/R44)

Innovations for Healthy Living – Improving Population Health and Eliminating Health Disparities

This FOA invites eligible United States small business concerns to submit Small Business Innovation Research grant applications that propose to develop a product, process or service for commercialization with the aim of reducing disparities in healthcare access and health outcomes and in preventing disease and improving health. Appropriate technologies should be effective, affordable, culturally acceptable, and deliverable to racial/ethnic minorities, low-income and rural populations.

Application Due Date: July 23, 2015

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-MD-15-009.html>

RFA-HG-14-004 (T32)

Predoctoral Training in Biomedical Big Data Science

Applications are being solicited for graduate training programs in Big Data Science, for the expressed purpose of training the next generation of scientists who will develop computational and quantitative approaches and tools needed by the biomedical research community to work with Big Data in the biomedical sciences.

Application Due Date: July 27, 2015

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-HG-14-004.html>

RFA-DE-16-004 (R01); RFA-DE-16-005 (R21)

Biological and Physiological Effects of E-cigarette Aerosol Mixtures

The purpose of these FOAs is to support research aimed at understanding the biological and physiological effects of aerosol mixtures produced by electronic cigarettes (ECs) on cells, tissues and organs of the oral cavity including oral and periodontal epithelia, gingiva, salivary glands, and tooth. These FOAs will also support research on elucidation of the effects of ECs on oral microbiome. Research would provide essential and necessary information on the biological effects of ECs that would in turn lead to evidence based foundational information for health policy decisions.

Application Due Date: July 25, 2018

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-DE-16-004.html>

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-DE-16-005.html>

RFA-DA-16-001 (R01)

Advancing Exceptional Research on HIV/AIDS and Substance Abuse

This FOA focuses on innovative research projects that have the potential to open new areas of HIV/AIDS research and/or lead to new avenues for prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS among substance abusers.

Application Due Date: July 31, 2015

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-DA-16-001.html>

August Due Dates

RFA-MH-16-200 (R01); RFA-MH-15-205 (R21)

Methodologies to Enhance Understanding of HIV-Associated Social Determinants

These FOAs invite applications that propose to understand social determinants, that is, those social conditions and economic circumstances that influence health. In particular, these FOAs solicit research to better characterize social determinants of health as they relate to HIV infection and disease outcomes in order to identify mutable targets for inclusion in structural interventions.

Application Due Date: August 19, 2015

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-MH-16-200.html>

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-MH-16-205.html>

PAR-15-189 (Si2/R00)

Lasker Clinical Research Scholars Program

The program offers the opportunity for a unique bridge between the NIH intramural and extramural research communities. In the first phase, Lasker scholars will receive appointments for up to 5-7 years as tenure-track investigators within the NIH Intramural Research Program with independent research budgets. In the second phase, successful scholars will receive up to 3 years of NIH support for their research at an extramural research facility; or, the scholar can be considered to remain as an investigator within the intramural program. Eligible applicants include physicians, dentists and nurses (including MD, MD/PhD, DO, DDS, DMD, RN/PhD, or equivalent clinical doctoral degree) who have a professional license to practice clinically in the U.S.

Application Due Date: August 27, 2015

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-15-189.html>

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October Due Dates

RFA-AG-16-013 (R21)

Development of Measures of Fatigability in Older Adults

This FOA invites applications to develop and evaluate measures of fatigability. This FOA is not intended to support the addition of one more instrument to the extensive assortment of existing fatigue measures. Rather, it is intended to substantially advance the science of disability measurement through development of a qualitatively different construct -- fatigability -- by addressing the inherent problem of self-pacing that confounds most measures of fatigue.

Application Due Date: October 1, 2015

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-AG-16-013.html>

January 2016 Due Dates

RFA-MD-15-012 (U01)

Behavioral Interventions to Prevent HIV in Diverse Adolescent Men Who Have Sex with Men

The purpose of this initiative is to test behavioral HIV prevention interventions for diverse populations of adolescent (age 13-18) men who have sex with men. Projects should involve collaborations among researchers, community organizations, healthcare providers, public health organizations, consumer advocacy groups, faith-based organizations, or other relevant stakeholders with expertise in HIV prevention and research in different US population groups.

Application Due Date: January 15, 2016

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-MD-15-012.html>

Multiple Due Dates

RFA-CA-15-008 (R01); RFA-CA-15-009 (R21)

Research Answers to NCI's Provocative Questions (PQs)

These FOAs support research projects designed to solve specific problems and paradoxes in cancer research identified by NCI's updated set of 12 PQs. Each research project proposed in response to these FOAs must be focused on addressing one particular research problem defined by one specific PQ selected from the list.

Application Due Dates: October 29, 2015; June 29, 2016; October 28, 2016

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-CA-15-008.html>

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-CA-15-009.html>

RFA-CA-15-012 (R01); RFA-CA-15-013 (R21)

Provocative Questions in Cancer with an Underlying HIV Infection

The purpose of this FOA is to advance our understanding of the risks, development, progression, diagnosis, and treatment of malignancies observed in individuals with an underlying HIV infection or Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) through research directed at addressing one of six proposed "Provocative Questions" (PQs).

Application Due Dates: August 18, 2015; August 18, 2016

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-CA-15-012.html>

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-CA-15-013.html>

RFA-DA-15-004 (DP1)

NIDA Avant-Garde Award Program for HIV/AIDS and Drug Use Research

The NIDA Avant-Garde award supports innovative, basic research that may lead to improved preventive interventions or therapies; creative, new strategies to prevent disease transmission; novel approaches to improve disease outcomes; and creative approaches to eradicating HIV or improving the lives of those living with HIV.

Application Due Dates: July 29, 2015; July 29, 2016

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-DA-15-004.html>

RFA-DA-15-006 (DP2)

Avenir Award Program for Genetics or Epigenetics of Substance Abuse

The Genetic Avenir Award program supports early stage investigators proposing highly innovative studies that open new areas of research for the genetics or epigenetics of addiction. The award will support those who may lack the preliminary data required for an R01 grant, but who propose high impact research and who show promise of being tomorrow's leaders in the field of genetics or epigenetics of substance abuse.

Application Due Dates: August 18, 2015; August 18, 2016

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-DA-15-006.html>

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RFA-DA-15-007 (DP2)

Avenir Award Program for Research on Substance Abuse and HIV/AIDS

The Avenir Award Program for Research on Substance Abuse and HIV/AIDS will support creative individuals who wish to pursue innovative research at the nexus of substance abuse and HIV/AIDS. The Program supports research approaches for substance using populations with or at risk for HIV/AIDS that may lead to improved preventive interventions, improved therapies and/or long term retention in care, and ultimately, eradication of HIV.

Application Due Dates: November 12, 2015; November 14, 2016

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-DA-15-007.html>

RFA-OD-15-004 (R03)

Tobacco Regulatory Science Small Grant Program for New Investigators

This FOA supports New Investigators in the biomedical, behavioral, and social sciences who are in the early stages of establishing independent careers in tobacco regulatory research. The R03 grant mechanism supports different types of projects including pilot and feasibility studies; secondary analysis of existing data; small, self-contained research projects; development of research methodology; and development of new research technology.

Application Due Dates: August 20, 2015; February 23, 2016; July 20, 2016; February 23, 2017

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-OD-15-004.html>

RFA-DC-15-002 (K22)

NIDCD Research Career Transition Award for Nurturing Clinician-Investigators

The purpose of this FOA is to facilitate and support the early-stage research career development of new and recently appointed clinician faculty members with limited research training and experience. This K22 program is intended to provide them with the knowledge, tools and research experience that will enable them to craft an NIDCD mentored clinician-scientist development (K08/K23) award application that is competitive for funding.

Application Due Dates: October 2, 2015; June 2, 2016; February 2, 2017; October 2, 2017

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-DC-15-002.html>

PAR-15-184 (R25)

Summer Research Education Experience Programs

The over-arching goal of this program is to support educational activities that foster a better understanding of biomedical, behavioral and clinical research and its implications. To accomplish the stated over-arching goal, this FOA will support creative educational activities with a primary focus on Research Experiences for high school, undergraduate and science teachers during the summer academic break.

Application Due Date: March 23, 2016; March 23, 2017; March 23, 2018

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-15-184.html>

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

PAR-15-194 (U44)

NeuroNEXT Small Business Innovation in Clinical Trials Direct to Phase II

This FOA encourages small business applications for exploratory clinical trials of investigational agents (drugs, biologics, surgical therapies or devices) that may contribute to the justification for and provide the data required for designing clinical studies. Diseases chosen for study should be based on the NINDS' strategic plan and clinical research interests (www.ninds.nih.gov/funding/areas/index.htm).

Application Due Dates: August 3, 2015; December 3, 2015; April 4, 2016; August 3, 2016; December 2, 2016

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-15-194.html>

PAR-15-195 (X01)

NeuroNEXT Infrastructure Resource Access

This FOA encourages applications for exploratory clinical trials of investigational agents (drugs, biologics, surgical therapies or devices) that may contribute to the justification for and provide the data required for designing a future trial, for biomarker validation studies, or for proof of mechanism clinical studies. Diseases chosen for study should be based on the NINDS' strategic plan and clinical research interests (www.ninds.nih.gov/funding/areas/index.htm).

Following peer review, NINDS will prioritize and order trials that are given access to the NeuroNEXT infrastructure.

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The NeuroNEXT Clinical Coordinating Center will work with the successful applicant to efficiently implement the proposed study.

Application Due Dates: Accepted by continuous receipt with an expected review cycle six times /year starting October-November 2015.

Expiration Date: November 13, 2017

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-15-195.html>

PAR-15-190 (R21)

T1 Translational Research: Novel Interventions for Prevention and Treatment of Age-related Conditions

This FOA encourages exploratory/developmental research projects to accelerate the pace of development of novel therapeutics involving biologics, pharmacological and non-pharmacological approaches for preventing and treating key health issues affecting the elderly. For the purposes of this FOA, T1 translational research on aging is defined as the application of basic and clinical biomedical findings towards the development of new strategies for prevention and treatment of age-related pathologies.

Application Due Date: Standard dates apply

Expiration Date: September 8, 2018

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-15-190.html>

PAR-15-191 (R21)

T2 Translational Research: Research Leading to New Health Care Practices, Community Programs and Policies Affecting Older Persons

This FOA encourages exploratory/developmental research projects on translational research (T2) directed towards development of health care practices, community programs and policies, including monitoring and quality improvement for pharmacological and non-pharmacological approaches for preventing and treating key health issues affecting the elderly. For the purposes of this FOA, T2 translational research on aging is defined as research to gather information needed to develop or evaluate methods of translating results from clinical studies into everyday clinical practice and health decision making (e.g., adapting an efficacious intervention for application in clinical practice and evaluating its effectiveness in different clinical settings). Application Due Dates: Standard dates apply

Expiration Date: September 8, 2018

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-15-191.html>

NIH Funding Opportunities: Program Announcements (PA)

PA-15-250 (R34); PA-15-251 (R01); PA-15-252 (R03); PA-15-253 (R21)

Health Services and Economic Research on the Prevention and Treatment of Drug, Alcohol, and Tobacco Abuse

Application Due Dates: Standard dates apply

Expiration Date: May 8, 2018

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-15-250.html>

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-15-251.html>

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-15-252.html>

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-15-253.html>

PA-15-256 (R01); PA-15-254 (R21); PA-15-255 (R03)

Human Studies to Evaluate Promising Medications to Treat Alcohol Use Disorder

Application Due Dates: Standard dates apply

Expiration Date: May 8, 2018

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-15-256.html>

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-15-254.html>

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-15-255.html>

“If an egg is broken by outside force, Life ends. If broken by inside force, Life begins. Great things always begin from inside”

Jim Kwik (founder of Kwik Learning and a widely recognized world expert in speed-reading, memory improvement, brain performance and accelerated learning)

