

# SPHHP Research Activities Newsletter

University at Buffalo

February 2017

## In the News

### Congratulations to the Following Awardees!



**Jo Freudenheim**, UB Distinguished Professor and Chair of Epidemiology and Environmental Health, is PI on a new award from the Prevent Cancer Foundation entitled *Effects of Electronic Cigarette Use on the Human Lung*. The study will compare DNA methylation in lung tissue from smokers, never smokers, and e-cig users to examine the biological effects of e-cigarettes.



**Gregory Homish**, Associate Professor of Community Health and Health Behavior, is PI on a continuation award from the National Institute on Drug Abuse/NIH for the project entitled *Substance Use in Reservists: Social and Environmental Influences*. The project will continue to study the complex relations among substance use, stress/trauma (e.g. combat exposure), and family functioning of reserve soldiers.

**Lynn Kozlowski**, Professor of Community Health and Health Behavior, and **John Violanti**, Research Professor of Epidemiology and Environmental Health, are Co-Investigators.



**Marianthi Markatou**, Professor of Biostatistics, is Co-Investigator on a new award from the University of Rochester/NIH with PI Andrew Talal (Medicine) for the project entitled *A Study of Methadone Pharmacokinetics in Patients With and Without Liver Fibrosis, Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) Infection and HCV/HIV Co-Infection*. The project seeks to understand determinants of plasma concentrations of methadone in HIV/HCV co-infected individuals with varying degrees of hepatic impairment. Results will be used to provide evidence-based interventions to improve methadone dosing.



**Ekaterina Noyes**, Professor of Epidemiology and Environmental Health, is PI on a new award from the University of Rochester/NIH for the project entitled *Telemedicine Enhanced Asthma Management through Emergency Department*. Dr. Noyes will provide a cost-effectiveness analysis of the study, whose goals are to improve preventive asthma care for children 4-12 who present to the emergency department with an asthma exacerbation. The project will connect children back to their primary care physician using telemedicine. The goal is to provide preventive care guidelines and reduce asthma-related morbidity.



**Pavani Ram**, Associate Professor of Epidemiology and Environmental Health, is PI on a new award from Innovations for Poverty Action/USAID for the project entitled *Kenya Soapy Water Handwashing Station Study*. The project will study the changes in availability of soap and water at handwashing places and handwashing practices among student in public primary schools in Kisumu County, Kenya, before and after the provision of a redesigned handwashing system combined with behavior change intervention.



**Jennifer Temple**, Associate Professor of Exercise & Nutrition Sciences, is PI on a continuation award from the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases/NIH for the project entitled *Sensitization of the Reinforcing Value of Food as a Predictor of Weight Change in Adolescents*. The project will continue to study weigh-related consequences of sensitization to the reinforcing value of food and identify factors that moderate changes in body weight over time as they relate to the reinforcing value of food.

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## Grant Clinic

### **Reminder: New Policy on Appendices to Grant Applications Now in Effect**

Applications submitted after January 25, 2017 must comply with the new policy regarding acceptable materials included in the appendices ([NOT-OD-16-129](#)). Failure to comply will result in the grant being withdrawn and returned to the applicant without review

### **New Peer Review Videos for Applicants and Reviewers**

NIH's CSR recently posted recordings of their most recent webinar series on peer review (*8 Ways to Successfully Navigate NIH Peer Review and Get a Fellowship Grant*, *8 Ways to Successfully Navigate NIH Peer Review and Get an R01 Grant* and *NIH Peer Review Briefing for Basic Science Applicants and Reviewers*). The videos can be accessed at <https://nexus.od.nih.gov/all/2017/02/03/new-peer-review-videos-for-applicants-and-reviewers/>

### [NOT-HL-17-486](#)

#### **NHLBI Priorities for HIV Research and Funding**

This Notice provides guidelines for assignment of high-, medium-, or low-priority for AIDS-designated funding to research applications. Projects designated low priority cannot be supported by AIDS-designated funds. Only NHLBI research applications that are fully responsive to NIH high- or medium- priority scientific areas (i.e., all project aims address high- or medium HIV/AIDS-relevant research priorities) will be eligible to receive NHLBI AIDS-designated funds. Accordingly, applicants are strongly encouraged to contact [NHLBI AIDS Program staff](#) prior to the submission of their applications for guidance on the NIH HIV/AIDS research priorities.

## NIH Funding Opportunities: Limited Submissions

UB prior approval is required for the following funding opportunities. If you are interested in applying to any of the **limited submissions** listed below, please provide the OVPRED with notification through the [Limited Submissions Mail-box](#) at least 60 days prior to the sponsor's submission deadline before proceeding with an application. The limited submission program is managed by Dr. Kenneth Tramosch on behalf of the OVPRED. He may be contacted at [kmt1@buffalo.edu](mailto:kmt1@buffalo.edu) or by phone at 645-3321 for any questions or advice about the limited submission process.

### [PAR-17-159 \(R01\)](#)

#### **Data Science Research: Personal Health Libraries for Consumers and Patients**

The National Library of Medicine seeks applications for novel informatics and data science approaches that can help individuals gather, manage and use data and information about their personal health. A goal of this program is to advance research and application by patients and the research community through broadly sharing the results via publication, and through open source mechanisms for data or resource sharing. *Only one application per institution is allowed.*

**Application Due Dates:** May 1, 2017; March 19, 2018

### [PAR-17-068 \(T34\)](#)

#### **Maximizing Access to Research Careers Undergraduate – Student Training in Academic Research**

The Program is designed to provide structured training programs to prepare high-achieving, underrepresented students for doctoral programs in biomedical research fields. Programmatic activities should include authentic research experiences, academic enhancements, skills development, and mentoring. *Only one application per institution is allowed.*

**Application Due Dates:** May 24, 2017; May 24, 2018

### [PAR-16-361 \(R25\)](#)

#### **Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement (RISE)**

The over-arching goal of this program is to support educational activities that enhance the diversity of the biomedical, behavioral and clinical research workforce. This FOA will support creative educational activities with a primary focus on research experiences and **courses for skills development**. Applicants should directly address how the set of activities will enhance the diversity of the biomedical, behavioral and clinical research workforce by discussing 1) the rationale underlying the balance of effort and resources dedicated to each activity; 2) how the three activities integrate; and 3) objective indicators that can measure the effectiveness of the program. *Only one application per institution is allowed.*

**Application Due Dates:** May 25, 2017 and May 25, 2018

[PAR-17-051 \(R25\)](#)

**Post Baccalaureate Research Education Program (PREP)**

This FOA will support creative educational activities with a primary focus on Research Experiences *and Courses for Skills Development*. Applications are encouraged from research-intensive institutions that propose to equip recent baccalaureate science graduates from diverse backgrounds underrepresented in biomedical sciences with the necessary knowledge and skills to pursue Ph.D. degrees in these fields. *Only one application per institution is allowed.*

**Application Due Dates:** January 24, 2018; and January 24, 2019

[PAR-17-053 \(R25\)](#)

**Research Education: Initiative for Maximizing Student Development (IMSD) Program**

The over-arching goal of this NIGMS R25 program is to support educational activities that enhance the diversity of the biomedical workforce. To accomplish the stated over-arching goal, this FOA will support creative educational activities with a primary focus on research experiences and courses for skills development. *Only one application per institution is allowed.*

**Application Due Dates:** January 26, 2018; January 28, 2019

[RFA-ES-15-020 \(R01\)](#)

**Outstanding New Environmental Scientist (ONES) Award**

The ONES Award is intended to identify the most talented Early Stage Investigators (ESIs) who intend to make a long-term commitment to research in the Environmental Health Sciences and assist them in launching an innovative research program focused on the understanding of environmental exposure effects on people's health. *Only one application per school or college within a University will be accepted; if interested in applying, please contact R.*

*Lorraine Collins. [lcollins@buffalo.edu](mailto:lcollins@buffalo.edu).*

**Application Due Dates:** February 27, 2018

## NIH Funding Opportunities: Requests for Applications (RFA)

### May Due Dates

[RFA-DA-17-024 \(R01\)](#)

**Optimizing the HIV Care Continuum for Substance Abusing Populations at High-Risk and/or Living with HIV**

This FOA encourages research that examines the optimization of multiple components of the care continuum, such as HIV testing (identification) status, linkage and retention in care, and viral suppression for individuals with HIV for substance abusing populations at high-risk and/or living with HIV. Applications must include an examination beyond patient-level outcomes alone to include provider practices, system or organizational capacities, policies, and protocols; and structural issues including national, state/provincial or local policies that affect access to substance use and/or HIV care.

**Application Due Date:** May 9, 2017

### June Due Dates

[RFA-AG-18-001 \(U24\)](#)

**NIA Research Centers Coordinating Network**

The purpose of this FOA is to support an initial series of activities over a 3-year period to build the foundation for enhanced collaborations across NIA's 6 centers programs. This opportunity will provide resources to build additional infrastructure and establish specific collaborative activities that could include, but are not limited to, information and data exchange, meetings and conferences, pilot studies, research opportunities for beginning investigators, visiting scholar programs, dissemination, and other collaborative efforts. The successful awardee will involve all 6 centers programs.

**Application Due Date:** June 8, 2017

[RFA-HL-18-003 \(R61/R33\)](#)

**Sex Hormone Induced Thromboembolism in Pre-Menopausal Women**

The purpose of this FOA is to support studies to evaluate the effect of sex hormones and sex hormone-based therapies on thrombus formation in pre-menopausal women. The primary objective is to generate research that will elucidate the mechanisms by which female sex hormones and sex hormone-based therapies can increase the risk of venous and arterial thromboembolism in pre-menopausal women.

**Application Due Date:** June 20, 2017

## October Due Dates

### [RFA-DK-16-005 \(R01\)](#)

#### **Identification of Mechanisms Mediating the Effects of Sleep on Diabetes-Related Metabolism in Humans**

This FOA invites applications which propose in-depth metabolic phenotyping in carefully selected clinical populations to determine how changes in sleep (improvements or disruptions) influence diabetes-related metabolism. Applications should systematically test a physiological model with the goal of elucidating possible mediators of the reported effects of sleep on glucose metabolism. Applications that propose therapeutic interventions to improve sleep and determine the consequences on diabetes-related metabolism must have preliminary data demonstrating that the proposed method for improving sleep is actually efficacious.

**Application Due Dates:** October 11, 2017

## Multiple Due Dates

### [RFA-ES-17-002 \(R01\)](#)

#### **NIH Revision Awards for Creating Virtual Consortium for Translational/Transdisciplinary Environmental Research**

This Virtual Consortium Program is expected to initiate research in the development and application of novel approaches for understanding the role of environmental chemicals in the etiology of disease as well as the diagnosis, prevention, and treatment/intervention of harmful exposures, and an understanding of the etiology of diseases and disorders that will impact clinical or public health practice. This initiative will allow investigators to expand the scope of a current NIEHS-funded R01 by developing new research teams creating a virtual consortium to include new perspectives, such as basic mechanistic, clinical, epidemiological, computational, engineering and/or health risk communication approaches.

**Application Due Dates:** March 7, 2017; March 6, 2018; March 6, 2019

### [RFA-HL-18-004 \(R01\)](#)

#### **Integrated Approaches to HIV-Related Heart, Lung, Blood, and Sleep (HLBS) Comorbidities**

This FOA invites applications that propose "systems biology" approaches using clinical samples from HIV-infected patients to elucidate the biological perturbations associated with HIV-related heart, lung, blood, and sleep (HLBS) comorbidities. The ultimate goal is to better understand disease progression, which may help identify new therapeutic targets that pre-empt the onset of HLB diseases and sleep disorders in the HIV population.

**Application Due Dates:** April 25, 2017; December 15, 2017

### [RFA-MH-17-604 \(R61/R33\)](#) - **Development of Psychosocial Therapeutic and Preventive Interventions for Mental Disorders**

### [RFA-MH-17-606 \(R33\)](#) - **Development of Psychosocial Therapeutic and Preventive Interventions for Mental Disorders**

The purpose of these FOAs is to support the efficient pilot testing of novel psychosocial therapeutic and preventive interventions for mental disorders in adults and children, using an experimental therapeutics approach. These FOAs support the development and testing of innovative psychosocial intervention approaches where the target and/or the intervention strategy is novel.

**Application Due Dates:** June 14, 2017; October 17, 2017; February 14, 2018; June 15, 2018; October 15, 2018

### [RFA-MH-17-610 \(Collaborative R01\)](#)

#### **Clinical Trials to Test the Effectiveness of Treatment, Preventive, and Services Interventions**

This FOA supports clinical trials designed to test the therapeutic value of treatment and preventive interventions for which there is already evidence of efficacy, for use in community and practice settings. Applications might include research to evaluate the effectiveness or increase the clinical impact of pharmacologic, somatic, psychosocial (psychotherapeutic, behavioral), device-based, rehabilitative and combination interventions to prevent or treat mental illness.

**Application Due Dates:** June 14, 2017; October 17, 2017; February 14, 2018, June 15, 2018, October 15, 2018

### [RFA-MH-17-612 \(R34\)](#)

#### **Pilot Effectiveness Trials for Treatment, Preventive and Services Interventions**

This FOA encourages pilot research consistent with [NIMH's priorities](#) for: 1) effectiveness research on preventive and therapeutic interventions with previously demonstrated efficacy, for use with broader target populations or for use in community practice settings, and 2) research on the development and preliminary testing of innovative services interventions.

**Application Due Dates:** June 14, 2017; October 17, 2017; February 14, 2018, June 15, 2018, October 15, 2018

[RFA-ES-16-004 \(R24\)](#)

**Maintain and Enrich Resource Infrastructure for Existing Environmental Epidemiology Cohorts**

This FOA solicits grant applications to provide support for the maintenance of existing environmental epidemiology cohorts and their associated biorepositories; for the collection or development of additional measures; to facilitate follow-up of study participants especially during key windows of susceptibility, and to provide a structure to facilitate broader sharing of data and resources with the scientific community. The scope of the application must address a critical research need and strategic interest that aligns with the mission of the NIEHS.

**Application Due Dates:** October 10, 2017; October 10, 2018

[RFA-HL-17-022 \(R21\)](#)

**Maximizing the Scientific Value of the NHLBI Biorepository: Scientific Opportunities for Exploratory Research**

This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) will support meritorious exploratory research relevant to the NHLBI mission (<http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/about/org/mission>) using the existing biospecimen collections that are stored in the NHLBI Biologic Specimen Repository (Biorepository), thereby maximizing the scientific value of the stored collections and providing researchers with an opportunity to generate preliminary data for subsequent research proposals.

**Application Due Dates:** October 17, 2017; February 15, 2018; October 17, 2018; February 15, 2019; October 17, 2019

[RFA-ES-16-005](#)

**Mechanism for Time-Sensitive Research Opportunities in Environmental Health Sciences**

This FOA is intended to support environmental health research in which an unpredictable event provides a limited window of opportunity to collect human biological samples or environmental exposure data. The primary motivation is to understand the consequences of natural and man-made disasters or emerging environmental public health threats in the U.S. and abroad. A distinguishing feature of an appropriate study is a shortened timeframe from submission to award, achieved by more frequent application due dates and expediting peer review, council concurrence and award issuance. The entire cycle is expected to be within 3-4 months.

**Application Due Dates:** Multiple due dates, please see FOA

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

[PAR-17-161 \(R03\)](#)

**NCMRR Early Career Research Award**

The Award is intended to support both basic and clinical research from rehabilitation scientists who are in the early stages of their independent career in rehabilitation research. The research should be focused on one or more of the areas within the mission of NCMRR. The expected outcome from projects funded under this mechanism is the acquisition of necessary preliminary data for a subsequent research project grant (R01) application.

**Application Due Dates:** April 21, 2017, March 30, 2018, March 29, 2019

[PAR-17-156 \(U01\)](#)

**Evaluating the NIDA Standardized Research E-Cigarette in Risk Reduction and Related Studies**

The purpose of this FOA is to accelerate research evaluating electronic cigarettes as a potential means of reducing the risks associated with combustible tobacco use. This goal will be achieved by funding clinical studies that use the newly developed NIDA Standard Research E-cigarette (SREC) to examine potential risks and benefits associated with e-cigarette use in current tobacco smokers. Ultimately, this FOA aims to evaluate whether e-cigarettes can reduce the risks associated with combustible tobacco use and to establish the NIDA SREC as a standard to which other e-cigarettes can be compared.

**Application Due Dates:** April 24, 2017; April 24, 2018; April 24, 2019

[PAR-17-162 \(R33\)](#)

**Innovation Award for Mechanistic Studies to Optimize Mind and Body Interventions in NCCIH High Priority Research Topics**

The purpose of this FOA is to encourage additional research to optimize the biological, neurological, physiological mechanisms or behavioral processes underlying Mind and Body Interventions. Applications submitted can receive up to three years of support to: (1) optimize previously identified mechanisms or processes underlying a Mind and Body Intervention through further modifications to the interventions, (2) study the integration of approaches that may affect the same underlying mechanisms or processes, or (3) further study the relationship between the intervention and the underlying mechanism of action with a relevant target population.

**Application Due Dates:** New - June 1, 2017; February 1, 2018; October 1, 2018; May 31, 2019  
Resubmission - June 20, 2017; February 14, 2018; October 17, 2018; June 14, 2019

[PAR-17-149 \(R61/R33\)](#)

**Phased Innovation Award for Mechanistic Studies to Optimize Mind and Body Interventions in NCCIH High Priority Research Topics**

The purpose of this FOA is to establish a phased research approach to investigate and optimize the mechanisms underlying Mind and Body Interventions and will support two-phased research applications. The first phase, funded by the R61 mechanism, will provide funding for up to two years to investigate the biological, neurological, physiological, and/or mechanisms or behavioral processes underlying a Mind and Body Intervention. The second phase, funded under the R33 mechanism, will provide up to three years of support to: (1) optimize the mechanisms or processes identified in the R61 phase through further modifications to the intervention, (2) study the integration of approaches that may affect the same underlying mechanisms or processes, or (3) further study the relationship between the intervention and the underlying mechanism of action with a relevant target population.

**Application Due Dates:** New - June 1, 2017; February 1, 2018; October 1, 2018; May 31, 2019  
Resubmission - June 20, 2017; February 14, 2018; October 17, 2018; June 14, 2019

[PAR-17-158 \(R03\)](#)

**Secondary Data Analyses to Explore NIMH Research Domain Criteria**

This FOA provides an opportunity for investigators to explore the NIMH's Research Domain Criteria (RDoC) constructs and conceptualizations without investing in new data collection and promotes the development of new collaborative relationships among investigators. The primary goals of this FOA are to expedite the work of assessing the validity of the RDoC constructs and to stimulate new hypotheses and pilot data for future RDoC projects.

Application Due Dates: Standard dates apply  
**Expiration Date:** May 8, 2020

**NIH Funding Opportunities:  
Program Announcements (PA)**

[PA-17-135 \(R01\)](#); [PA-17-132 \(R21\)](#); [PA-17-134 \(R03\)](#)

**Public Policy Effects on Alcohol-, Marijuana-, and Other Substance-Related Behaviors and Outcomes**

Application Due Dates: Standard dates apply  
**Expiration Date:** May 8, 2020

[PA-17-136 \(R01\)](#); [PA-17-137 \(R21\)](#)

**Innovations in Mechanisms and Interventions to Address Mental Health in HIV Prevention and Care Continuum**

Application Due Dates: Standard dates apply  
**Expiration Date:** January 8, 2020

[PA-17-155 \(R01\)](#); [PA-17-157 \(R21\)](#)

**Functional Genetics, Epigenetics, and Non-coding RNAs in Substance Use Disorders**

Application Due Dates: Standard dates apply  
**Expiration Date:** May 8, 2020

**Foundation Funding Opportunities**

**Alzheimer's Association**

[Alzheimer's Association Research Grant](#) aims to fund investigators who are less than 10 years past their doctoral or post residency (MD or DO) or investigators that are new to Alzheimer's and related dementia field of research even if past the 10yrs. The purpose of this program is to provide newly independent investigators with funding that will allow them to develop preliminary or pilot data, to test procedures and to develop hypotheses. This program is a three year (minimum 2 year) award.

**Application Due Dates:**  
March 1, 2017 – Letter of Intent  
April 18, 2017 - Invited Proposal

*“To make a difference in people’s lives through advocacy and supporting research—that’s the kind of privilege that few people will get, and it’s certainly bigger than being in TV every Thursday for half an hour.*

**Michael J. Fox**  
actor, author, producer, activist

