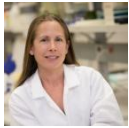


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In the News: Congratulations to the following awardees!!!



Kelly Baker, Associate Professor of Epidemiology and Environmental Health (EEH), is PI on a new award from the Carter Center for the project entitled, *A One Health Exposure Assessment Approach to Identify Spatial-temporal, Behavioral, and Ecological Strategies for the Eradication of Guinea Worm Disease in Dogs and Cats in Ethiopia*. The study aims to elucidate complex interactions among humans, animals, and ecological reservoirs that facilitate GWD transmission. To achieve this, a transdisciplinary approach combining spatial, behavioral, and ecological science will be adopted. Geotracking devices will be employed to map the movements of dogs and cats, followed by a landscape ecology observation of hot spots to assess the presence of larval reservoirs and vectors.



Erin Brunelle, Director, Client Services for the SPHHP's Center for Assistive Technology (CAT), received additional funding for her current award from the NYS Justice Center for the Protection of People with Special Needs for the project entitled, *Technology-Related Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities (TRIAD) Western Region*. TRIAD programs seek to increase awareness of, use, and implementation of assistive technology (AT) and provide information and referrals to improve the function, participation, and independence of individuals of all ages with disabilities.



Saptarshi Chakraborty, Assistant Professor of Biostatistics, is Co-I on a continuation award from the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases/NIH (PI: Chelsie Armbruster, Microbiology and Immunology), for the research project entitled, *The Urothelial Glycosaminoglycan Layer: Composition and Contribution to Pathogen Fitness During Catheter-associated Urinary Tract Infection*. The project continues to determine the contribution of GAGs and microbial GAGases to infection, urosepsis, and mortality.



Lucia Leone, Associate Professor of Community Health and Health Behavior (CHHB), is PI on a new award from Health Research Incorporated for the project entitled, *A Sustainable Nutrition Security Intervention for Low-Income Households*. This project will provide evaluation support and serve as the liaison with the Community Nutrition Partnership/*FreshFix* team on intervention implementation. **Anne Mathiebe**, is Co-I on the project.



Zhongzheng (Jason) Niu, Assistant Professor of Epidemiology and Environmental Health (EEH) is PI, on a new award from the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute/NIH, for the project entitled, *Biological Aging in Early Life: Exploring Developmental and Environmental Predictors of Telomere Length and Impacts on Subclinical Atherosclerosis Development*. This study will examine how early-life factors like growth patterns and exposure to air pollution affect telomere length—a marker of biological aging—from birth to young adulthood. The study will further examine how telomere length can impact measures of subclinical atherosclerosis—the underlying cause of heart attack and stroke. These findings will improve our understanding of how biological age and related disease develop from early life, thus leading to new strategies to enhance long-term health starting from childhood, ultimately helping to lengthen life and reduce illness and disability. **Lili Tian**, Professor of Biostatistics is Co-I on the project.



Vijaya Prakash Krishnan Muthaiah, Assistant Professor of Rehabilitation Science (RS) is lead PI, and **Katarzyna Kordas**, Associate Professor of Epidemiology and Environmental Health (EEH) is MPI on a continuation award from NIOSH/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for the research project entitled, *Hearing Loss by the Synergistic Effect of Chronic Inhalation of Exposure of Manganese Fumes with Occupational Noise Exposure*. Work continues to determine if chronic inhalation of Mn fumes induces hearing loss and if it has a synergistic effect with concurrent occupational noise exposure. **Lili Tian**, Professor of Biostatistics and **Meng Wang**, Associate Professor of Epidemiology and Environmental Health are Co-Is on the project.



Gregory Wilding, Professor of Biostatistics, is Co-I on a continuation award from the National Cancer Institute/NIH (PI: Eunhee Park, School of Nursing) for the project entitled, *AI-Enhanced App-based Intervention for Adolescent E-Cigarette Cessation*. This study continues to create a scalable e-cigarette use cessation intervention using a smartphone application (app), which can be delivered to a large pool of adolescents.



Congratulations to the following SPHHP faculty who were awarded new grants (as PI) in the SPHHP's Spring 2025 Pilot Studies Program:



David Hostler, Professor and Chair of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences (ENS), is PI for the project entitled, *Impact of Xanthines on EMS Skills Performance and Dexterity in Cold Environments*. Dr. Hostler will use the pilot funds to purchase vials/contrasts that are necessary for ultrasound equipment being used to provide preliminary physiological and performance data for an application to the Office of Naval Research/DOD.



Lucia Leone, Associate Professor of Community Health and Health Behavior (CHHB), is PI for the project entitled, *Exploring Program Enhancements to Increase the Usage and Acceptability of a Rural Food is Medicine Program Offered through the New York Health Equity Reform Medicaid 1115 Waiver*. Dr. Leone will use the funds to conduct a pilot study in rural Chautauqua County, with the goal of comparing a 12-week meal kit intervention with participants who meet Medicaid 1115 waiver criteria. The meal kit intervention will be compared to a control (standard food prescription) condition.



Jennifer Temple, Professor of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences (ENS), is PI for the project entitled, *Novel Behavioral Weight Loss Maintenance Intervention for Transitioning off GLP-1 Agonists*. Dr. Temple will use the funds to conduct a pilot RCT of a weight maintenance program among participants ($N = 20$), who are transitioning off GLP-1 Agonists. Participants will be randomized to either a behavioral maintenance program (e.g., healthy eating, physical activity, in-person sessions with a case manager) or a Health Information (e.g., nutrition, physical activity) control condition.



Yi Xiong, Assistant Professor of Biostatistics, is PI for the project entitled, *Multi-task Statistical Learning Approaches for Longitudinal Measurements in Predicting Pain Experience and Opioid Use*. Dr. Xiong will use the pilot funds to conduct methodological biostatistical research on methods for analyzing ecological momentary assessment (EMA) data. The methodology will focus on predicting multiple real-time longitudinal outcomes and addressing missingness in EMA data.



UB's Office of Research Advancement Writing Series

***Space is limited for writing series; some sessions started the last week in August
Please register soon for the remaining sessions***

The Office of Research Advancement (ORA) is facilitating multiple small group, hands-on, writing series this fall, which began during the last week of August. These writing series are intended for faculty who have identified a funding opportunity/solicitation to target and are ready to start drafting the technical documents of their proposal package. We invite you to participate in one that best fits your needs.

NIH R Mechanism Proposal Writing Series

Designed to guide faculty through the development of the technical documents (Specific Aims and Research Strategy) of an NIH proposal package, this series helps participants to craft compelling narratives that effectively communicate the proposed research to reviewers. Two concurrent tracks will run simultaneously for six consecutive weeks to meet the NIH October cycle of submission dates. Participants may choose a session that works best for their schedule.



- **Tuesday Series:** six consecutive in-person sessions held in Suite 114 UB Commons, North Campus, beginning Tuesday, August 26th (12:00 PM – 1:30 PM) and occurring weekly until September 23rd; [click here to register](#)
- **Wednesday Series:** six consecutive virtual sessions beginning Wednesday, August 27th (12 PM – 1:30 PM) and occurring weekly until September 24th; [click here to register](#)

Strengthening Your NIH Resubmission Writing Series

This writing series is designed to help faculty members strengthen their NIH resubmission packages through a structured, hands-on process. Meeting the NIH November resubmission deadline, the writing series will run from seven consecutive weeks.

- **Monday Series:** seven consecutive in person sessions held in Suite 114 UB Commons, North Campus beginning Monday August 25th (12:00PM – 1:30PM) and occur weekly until October 13th; [click here to register](#)

NSF Proposal Writing Series

In this writing group, weekly meetings are dedicated to developing the technical documents (Project Summary and Project Description) of the proposal package to effectively communicate the proposed research to reviewers. This writing series is designed to provide structure to combat the NSF rolling deadline.

- **Wednesday Series:** six consecutive in person sessions held in Suite 114 UB Commons, North Campus beginning Wednesday September 17th (12:00PM – 1:30PM) and occur weekly until October 22nd; [click here to register](#)

Grant Clinic



NIH No Longer Seeks Proposals that Only Involve Animal Models

You may already be aware of new NIH guidance regarding the future use of testing animal models for research. On July 7th, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) announced that the agency will no longer seek proposals for research exclusively involving animal models. Read more [here](#) and [here](#).

Following is a link an article regarding the NIH's initiative. [How Does the NIH Initiative to Prioritize Human-Based Research Affect Research Proposing the Use of Laboratory Animals? | Grants & Funding](#)

Please note the following language taken from the article linked above regarding the initiative:

“These steps should encourage investigators to choose the best models for their research without constraints. To reiterate, NIH will continue to support grants that use laboratory animal models if scientifically appropriate, justifiable, and with appropriate animal welfare oversight. Moreover, if laboratory animals are proposed, scientists must still continue to clearly explain why they are necessary for their research, that the minimal number needed to ensure rigorous and reproducible studies will be used, and why the study cannot be done using another model or approach (see [more here](#)).

The issue is not that NIH will not review animal research, but there will be a need to justify the use of animal models as being more effective versus human models. Ultimately, this could affect funding decisions.

Highlighted Topics: A Centralized and Simple Resource to Learn About Research Areas of Interest to NIH

NIH has announced a new centralized and simplified resource, called [NIH Highlighted Topics](#), that informs the research community about particular areas of science of interest to NIH. Visiting this resource early and often when conceptualizing research ideas will help ensure the scientific community is aware of some of NIH's latest scientific interests. It also aims to help facilitate innovation and discovery through a strong focus on more investigator initiated driven research.



NIH's Highlighted Topics resource represents scientific areas in which the NIH encourages applications. These topics target areas within the NIH mission, including areas that may not be readily associated with the particular funding Institute or Center or may even be a new or emerging area that is not well known. Please note, these are simply topical area descriptions, not funding opportunities. New targeted funding opportunities will only be posted in the Grants.gov portal for discretionary funding opportunities, starting on October 1, 2025 ([NOT-OD-25-143](#)).

NEED to KNOW: New and Upcoming Requirements from Federal Funders

NIH Policy Updates

Effective September 25: The National Institutes of Health (NIH) updated two key policies in a July 17, 2025, notice, which go into effect on Thursday, September 25:

- Appropriate use of AI in NIH applications: NIH will NOT ACCEPT applications that are completely or contain parts substantially developed by AI: "NIH is providing guidance to researchers on the appropriate usage of artificial intelligence (AI) to maintain the fairness and originality of NIH's research application process."
- PIs are limited to SIX applications per calendar year: This limit applies to "new, renewal, resubmission, or revision applications from an individual Principal Investigator/Program Director or Multiple Principal Investigator for all council rounds in a calendar year." Read more [here](#).

Full policy information can be found [here](#)

Questions? Contact SciencePolicy@od.nih.gov

NSF Requirement for Security Training

Effective October 10: New NSF research security assessment, required documentation and security training
NSF requires research security training certifications from proposers and individuals identified as senior/key personnel by the proposer in compliance with the CHIPS and Science Act of 2022 and [National Security Presidential Memorandum 33](#).

ALL NSF proposers, key personnel and awardees are **REQUIRED** to:

- Maintain supporting documentation for all senior and key personnel
- Provide full documentation to NSF for risk assessment
- Complete research security training by Friday, Oct. 10, 2025

For security training: UB is providing Research Security Training through [CITI, located here](#)

UB requires that all covered individuals complete the **Research Security Training (Combined Course)**.

For full policy information, [click here](#)

Policy Notices

[NOT-OD-25-130](#)

Updated Implementation Guidance of NIH Policy on Foreign Subawards for Active Projects

This Guide Notice addresses the implementation of the NIH Policy on Foreign Subawards (See [NOT-OD-25-104](#)) for applications submitted before May 1, 2025, and projects active on or before May 1, 2025. As previously noted in NOT-OD-25-104, NIH must ensure it can transparently and reliably report on each dollar spent on foreign collaborations. The current subaward structure does not allow for consistent reporting and accurate tracking; therefore, NIH will not issue awards to domestic or foreign entities (new, renewal, or non-competing continuation) that include a subaward to a foreign entity. If you are receiving or applying for federal funding, be sure to disclose all foreign interests, including but not limited to:

- Professional affiliation, including employment arrangements and/or positions and scientific appointments with a foreign source or entity (including non-compensated activities like serving on advisory, scientific or other boards);
- Receipt of compensation (income) from a foreign source or entity;
- Foreign grant support;
- Receiving foreign in-kind resources, including visiting scholars, students, supplies, laboratory space, materials, and equipment; and
- Participation in foreign talent programs.



[NOT-OD-25-131](#)**Revision: NIH Policy and Guidelines on the Inclusion of Women and Minorities as Subjects in Clinical Research**

The purpose of this Notice is to inform the research community that NIH is revising the NIH Policy and Guidelines on the Inclusion of Women and Minorities as Subjects in Clinical Research to align with Executive Order 14168 "Defending Women from Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth to the Federal Government." Revisions are primarily focused on promulgating the use of "sex" instead of "sex/gender" and updating race and/or ethnicity information to align with Office of Management and Budget's Statistical Policy Directive No. 15: Standards for Maintaining, Collecting, and Presenting Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity. The revised Policy is now titled, "NIH Policy and Guidelines on the Inclusion of Women and Members of Racial and/or Ethnic Minority Groups in Clinical Research."

The Policy and Guidelines on the Inclusion of Women and Members of Racial and/or Ethnic Minority Groups in Clinical Research will apply to all grants, cooperative agreements, contracts, other transactions, and intramural studies 30 days after publication of this notice. The revised Policy is effective 30 days after the date of publication of this notice (published July 18), at which time it will replace NOT-OD-18-014 and NOT-OD-02-001.

[NOT-OD-25-152](#)**Preview of NIH Common Forms for Biographical Sketches and Current and Pending (Other) Support Coming**

This Guide Notice informs the extramural community that NIH plans to launch preview versions of the NIH Common Forms within Science Experts Network Curriculum Vitae (SciENcv). Users should be able to access these preview versions of the Biographical Sketch and Current and Pending (Other) Support Common Forms and the NIH Biographical Sketch Supplement (along with the corresponding instructions) on or before September 15, 2025.

These preview documents will allow users to save, reopen, and edit the preview forms in the SciENcv module. **However, the download PDF functionality will be disabled, and the form(s) and data entered into the preview versions will be deleted and no longer accessible once the official NIH Common Forms become available for preparation and submission, anticipated November 2025.** These preview forms are an opportunity for users to preview the new system functionality and new instructions. **These are not the final official versions, and NIH is not seeking any feedback or testing from external users.**

The preview documents are not to be used for submissions to NIH. During this preview period, applicants and recipients must continue to use the current NIH [Biosketch](#) (generated either through [SciENcv](#) or NIH Form Library.docx templates) and [Other Support](#) Format Pages for all submissions to NIH until NIH's official implementation of the Common Forms.

General Notices

[NOT-OD-25-151](#)**Review of the Accuracy of Grants Information for Fiscal Year 2025**

With the fiscal year coming to an end effective September 30, 2025, NIH encourages Recipient Organizations to verify the accuracy of their grant assignments to Departments or Components within Organizations of Higher Education in eRA Commons through the Grant Re-assign function. Any corrections to the data must be made by 8:00 PM EDT on Monday, October 6, 2025, to be reflected in NIH annual reports. Please note, only the Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) or Signing Official (SO) have the authority to submit corrections for a recipient organization or investigator. Please click on the link above for more information

NIH Funding Opportunities (PAR)

Miscellaneous

[PAR-25-322](#) – (R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

[PAR-25-323](#) – (R01 Basic Experimental Studies with Human Required)

Stephen I. Katz Early Stage Investigator (ESI) Research Project Grant

This notice is open to a broad range of scientific research relevant to the mission of the participating NIH Institutes and Centers (ICs). Proposed projects must represent a change in research direction for the ESI and should be innovative and



unique. A distinct feature for this NOFO is that applications must not include preliminary data. **Application Due Dates:** multiple dates; see announcement. **Expiration Date:** August 26, 2028.

Requests for Proposals

NIH Loan Repayment Programs (LRP) Application Cycle Opened on September 1, 2025

NIH will begin accepting applications for the Extramural Loan Repayment Program (LRP) on September 1. Awardees can receive up to **\$100,000** in qualified educational debt repayment with a two-year award.

To learn more about eligibility requirements, application dates, and the benefits of receiving an LRP award, be sure to visit the [LRP website](#), and check out the [overview video](#). Please note upcoming events:

- October 7 – LRP Technical Assistance Webinar
- November 6 – LRP Ask Me Anything Session

Please note that the deadline to apply is **November 20, 2025**.

Limited Submission Funding Opportunities

Only one application per institution is allowed for the following FOAs and prior approval from the OVPR is required to be the sole applicant. If interested in applying, please provide the OVPR with notification 60 days prior to the deadline to ovpr.limitedsubmission@research.buffalo.edu before proceeding with the application.

[Limited Submission Funding Opportunities](#)

Prior Research Opportunities can be found on the SPHHP RAS website and by clicking the link below:

[Research Opportunities from Past Newsletters](#)

Words to Live By

“Laughter is the brush that sweeps away the cobwebs of your heart.”

- Mort Walker, Cartoonist, Writer, Artist

For more information on RAS services, visit our website at sphhp.buffalo.edu/ras

