

# SPHHP Research Activities Newsletter

University at Buffalo

September 2018

## In the News

### Congratulations to the Following Awardees!



**Jo Freudenheim**, UB Distinguished Professor and Chair of Epidemiology and Environmental Health, is PI on a continuation award from the National Cancer Institute/NIH for the project entitled, *Interdisciplinary Training in Cancer Epidemiology at UB*. The program provides training and hands-on opportunities for pre-doctoral and post-doctoral fellows to develop research skills in epidemiology, as well as other related disciplines.



**Gregory Homish**, Associate Professor of Community Health and Health Behavior, is PI on a competing renewal (new) from the National Institute on Drug Abuse/NIH for the research project entitled, *Substance Use in Reservists: Social and Environmental Influences*. The longitudinal study will continue to examine the impact of two military experiences, never being deployed and separation from military, on substance use outcomes for both soldiers and their spouses.



**Lucia Leone**, Assistant Professor of Community Health and Health Behavior, is PI on two new awards. The first, from the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo, J. Warren Perry and Charles Donald Perry Memorial Fund, is entitled, *Community-Based Intervention to Increase Exercise Enjoyment & Participation among Women with Obesity*. The project seeks to increase exercise participation in this population by focusing on exercise enjoyment, increasing appreciation of the proximal benefits of physical activity rather than focusing on weight. It also will examine changes to the exercise environment that make it conducive to this population.

The second award, from the Cornell Cooperative Extension, is entitled, *Buffalo Health Corner Store Initiative: Toolkit Development and Training*. Dr. Leone will develop and implement an evidence-based toolkit to assist stores in implementing the Healthy Corner Store Initiative. The toolkit also will provide guides on how to store, price and display produce, set-up store architecture to encourage healthy purchasing, as well as marketing material templates and educational materials for customers.



**Marianthi Markatou**, Professor of Biostatistics is Co-PI on a new award from the Troup Fund of the Kaleida Health Foundation (Co-PI: Andrew Talal, Medicine) for the project entitled, *Liver Center of Western New York*. The research team will utilize the techniques of big data to analyze patterns of liver disease, such as liver cancer and other related diseases that can lead to liver cancer, among specific populations in order to develop better ways to screen and identify patients with chronic liver disease.



**Kimberly Naus**, Director of CAT Client Services, received two new awards. The first, from the New York State Justice Center for the Protection of People with Special Needs, is entitled, *Technology Related Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities (TRAID) Program*. TRAID supports the development of state-wide consumer-responsive technical assistance programs for persons with disabilities.

The second award, from the New York State Office of Children and Family Services, is entitled *Equipment Loan Closet*. The program loans adaptive equipment to legally blind persons for educational and work purposes.

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**Ekaterina Noyes**, Professor of Epidemiology and Environmental Health, is Curriculum Director on a continuation award from the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute/NIH entitled, *UB Clinical Scholar Program in Implementation Science to Achieve Triple Aims* (PIs: John Canty and Ranjit Singh, Medicine). The multidisciplinary clinical research program will continue to train and prepare clinician scientists for academic leadership and independent research careers in dissemination and implementation science related to heart, lung, blood, and sleep disorders with associated risk factors and complexities.



**Gregory Wilding**, Professor and Chair of Biostatistics, is Statistician on both a new award and a continuation award. The new award from the National Institute on Aging/NIH (Kathleen Tornatore, PI: Pharmacy, Medicine) is entitled, *Age and Race Influences on Immunosuppression after Renal Transplant*. The study seeks to improve immunosuppression based upon age, race and sex by providing a bridge from the non-specific clinical monitoring methods currently used to create novel dosing that integrate age, race and sex with cellular and clinical endpoints, pharmacokinetics and pharmacogenomics to attain personalized medicine.

The continuation award, from the National Institute on Deafness & Other Communicative Disorders/NIH (Kristin Tjaden, PI), is entitled, *Therapeutic Approaches to Dysarthria: Acoustic and Perceptual Correlates*. The study will continue to investigate therapeutic techniques for maximizing intelligibility in dysarthria secondary to Parkinson's Disease and Multiple Sclerosis.



**Guan Yu**, Assistant Professor of Biostatistics, is Co-I on a new award from the National Institute of Dental & Craniofacial Research/NIH (Jill Kramer, PI, Oral Biology), for the research project entitled, *Analysis of B Cell Activation by Endogenous Mediators of Inflammation in Sjogrens Syndrome*. The study will examine damage-associated molecular patterns (DAMPs) to provide knowledge related to the role of DAMPs in primary Sjögren's Syndrome and other autoimmune disease that are characterized by DAMP-mediated inflammation, such as systemic lupus and rheumatoid arthritis.



**Christopher Chapman**, PhD Student in Exercise and Nutrition Sciences, received a new fellowship award from the American College of Sports Medicine entitled, *Rehydration timing and body cooling during exercise in the heat: implications on renal dysfunction and injury*. The study will investigate if both staying hydrated with water and not allowing body temperature to rise as quickly are protective against developing acute kidney injury. **Zachary Schlader**, Assistant Professor in Exercise and Nutrition Sciences, serves as faculty sponsor.



**Nicole Vargas**, Postdoctoral Associate in Exercise and Nutrition Sciences, received a new fellowship award from the American College of Sports Medicine entitled, *Thermal Behavior in Multiple Sclerosis – implications for exercise prescription and symptom management*. The study's objective is to identify if thermal behavior during exercise is altered in heat-sensitive MS patients compared to healthy age-matched controls, thus improving our understanding of how heat-sensitive MS patients utilize thermal behavior during exercises. **Zachary Schlader**, Assistant Professor in Exercise and Nutrition Sciences, serves as faculty sponsor.



Congratulations to the following 15 SPHHP faculty who received a UB Buffalo Blue Sky Coin based on their proposal productivity between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2018. Recipients of the \$20,000 **Gold Coin** (which is provided to those who submitted 12 or more proposals, each with at least 20% credit) are: **David Hostler, Katia Noyes, and Zachary Schlader**. Recipients of the \$5,000 **Silver Coin** (which is provided to those who submitted at least 6, but fewer than 12 proposals, each with at least 20% credit) are: **Lorraine Collins, Jo Freudenheim, Gregory Homish, Kasia Kordas, Jeanne Langan, Lucia Leone, Sarahmona Przybyla, Xuefeng Ren, Jennifer Temple, Machiko Tomita, David Tritchler, and John Violanti**.

## Grant Clinic

### Proposal Credit and the UB's Buffalo Blue Sky Coin

The Blue Sky Coin program is part of a new initiative from UB's VPRED. The Program is being implemented "in the hopes of connecting faculty with new research collaborators, expanding the university's research portfolio, and discovering innovative solutions to high-risk / high-reward challenges facing our global communities." The coins are redeemable for funding of new multidisciplinary projects involving at least three Blue Sky recipients (or two recipients plus a "new investigator") who can combine their coins to trigger funding for pilot studies. The resulting collaborative trio (cT) must represent at least two different departments and/or Schools and plan to use the funding on research that is "too complex for a single disciplinary approach". Depending on the combination of coins, pilot funding available to a cT can range from \$10K to \$60K. The current funding cycle runs from September 1, 2018 through August 31, 2020.

For more information about the Blue Sky Coin program use this link: [UB Blue Sky Coin Program](#).

### **CLICK Approval System: Apportioning Credit to Key Personnel**

In the new CLICK approval system, there are three forms of credit (Proposal, Recognition, Financial) related to each investigator who serves as “Key Personnel” on an application. For your participation in an application to contribute to earning a Blue Sky coin, the **proposal credit** that you receive must be at least 20%.

**Proposal Credit** is defined as “Percentage credit that represents the distribution of each person’s overall responsibility for the successful performance of the project.” If you are the PI on a submission, it is typical that you will receive a major proportion of the proposal credit. However, if you are a Co-I or have another role, the apportionment of proposal credit must be negotiated with the PI, whose focus should be the equitable distribution of proposal credit. **Before you approve any submission in CLICK, especially if you are not the PI, please check to make sure that you are receiving proposal credit.** If you do not receive such credit, then contact the PI to make sure that the proposal credit matches your overall responsibility in the project.

Please note that **Financial Credit** is used to attribute credit for research expenditures to each unit (department, School) when an award is split among units. Financial credit typically is used for reporting internal and external to UB.

**Recognition Credit** involves a unit’s intellectual and/or resource contribution to a funded project. It often serves to recognize university-wide centers (e.g., RENEW, CRIA), particularly in cases where such entities do not receive financial credit. However, in many submissions, the amount of Financial Credit and Recognition Credit provided to each of the key personnel on the research team, tends to be the same.

### **The Importance of Selecting the Appropriate IRG**

The Center for Scientific Review has a tool ([the Assisted Referral Tool/ART](#)) to help applicants find an appropriate study section to review their research. After you enter a summary of your application or specific aims, ART will show you both strong and potential matches, and provide you with direct links to descriptions of those study sections and their roster of reviewers. Your query is confidential. No input text from your application or the fingerprint generated during the search will be retained after your query is completed. **Requests for study sections or Institute assignment should be submitted on the optional PHS Assignment Request Form.** Please contact ADR Collins to review options for matching your application to the most appropriate study section.

### **REMINDER - NIH Extramural Repayment Loan Programs (LRPs) Application Period Closes 11/15/18**

The LRP programs are a set of programs established by Congress and designed to recruit and retain highly qualified health professionals into biomedical or biobehavioral research careers. Qualified health professionals who contractually agree to engage in NIH mission-relevant research for at least two years initially, and who agree to engage in such research for an average of at least 20 hours per week based on a 40-hour work week, are invited to apply. The award will repay up to \$35,000 annually of a researcher’s qualified educational debt. Research funding from NIH is not required to participate in the Extramural LRPs. Additional information about each LRP is provided at <https://www.lrp.nih.gov/>.

### **[NOT-OD-18-227](#)**

#### **NIH & AHRQ Announce Upcoming Updates to Application Instructions and Review Criteria for Fellowship Applications**

The purpose of this Notice is to inform the biomedical and health services research communities of planned updates to application instructions and review criteria language for fellowship grant applications submitted for due dates on or after January 25, 2019.

The planned updates focus on the following areas:

- Inclusion reporting
- Protections for human subjects

### **[NOT-OD-18-228](#)**

#### **NIH & AHRQ Announce Upcoming Updates to Application Instructions and Review Criteria for Research Grant Applications**

The purpose of this Notice is to inform the biomedical and health services research communities of planned updates to application instructions and review criteria language for research grant applications submitted for due dates on or after January 25, 2019, and for research and development contract proposals submitted in response to solicitations posted on or after January 25, 2019.

The planned updates include changes to the following areas:

- The rigor of the prior research, formerly Scientific Premise (Note: Please refer to [NOT-OD-16-011](#) for a list of activity codes excluded from the Enhancing Reproducibility policy)
- Inclusion reporting
- Protections for human subjects

[NOT-OD-18-229](#)

## **NIH & AHRQ Announce Upcoming Updates to Application Instructions and Review Criteria for Career Development Award Applications**

The purpose of this Notice is to inform the biomedical and health services research communities of planned updates to application instructions and review criteria language for career development award applications submitted for due dates on or after January 25, 2019.

The planned updates focus on the following areas:

- The rigor of the prior research, formerly Scientific Premise (Note: K02, K05, and K24 career development award activity codes are excluded from the Enhancing Reproducibility policy)
- Inclusion reporting
- Protections for human subjects

## **NIH Seeks Feedback from Researchers Who Conduct Basic Research Involving Humans**

The issue of designating basic human research as “clinic trials” should be of interest to all human researchers. The message below came from the American Psychological Association, but feedback from all disciplines will be helpful to NIH’s decision making:

*The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has taken two steps this summer toward clarifying and possibly revising its recent policy that would include basic research conducted with humans within its definition of clinical trials and impose requirements designed for clinical trials on the registration and reporting of basic research. Scientists should submit their comments to NIH by the deadline of November 12, 2018.*

[Read the full article](#)

[NOT-OD-18-222](#)

## **Clarification: Fixed Amount Award Definition and Implementation for Clinical Trials**

The purpose of this notice is to provide the extramural community with clarification of the definition of fixed amount subawards, specifically regarding their use in clinical trials and other types of human subject studies. In a fixed amount subaward, the total value of the award is negotiated upfront. In a fixed-rate agreement, while there is a negotiated cost per unit, e.g. per patient cost in a clinical trial (or participant in a non-Clinical Trial Human Subjects Study), the total amount of the award may be unknown when the agreement is created. Since this type of agreement is based on a “fixed rate” as opposed to a “fixed amount” prior approval is not required to enter into this type of agreement provided there are no other factors that would require NIH prior approval.

## **Notice of Intent to Publish a Funding Opportunity Announcement**

[NOT-OD-18-027](#)

Reissue of Developing the Therapeutic Potential of the Endocannabinoid System for Pain Treatment (R01, clinical trial optional); anticipated release September 2018

[NOT-AT-18-015](#)

Promoting Research on Music and Health: Phased Innovation Award for Music Interventions (R61/R33 Clinical Trial Optional); anticipated release November 2018

[NOT-NS-18-090](#)

Promoting Research on Music and Health: Fundamentals and Applications (R01 and R21, clinical trials optional); anticipated release November 2018

## **NIH Funding Opportunities: Limited Submissions**

If you are interested in applying to any of the **limited submissions** listed below, please provide the OVPRED with notification through the [Limited Submissions Mailbox](#) 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 Tramposch 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-18-880 \(R35\)](#) – clinical trial not allowed

## **NCI Outstanding Investigator Award (OIA)**

The purpose of this award is to provide long-term support to accomplished investigators with outstanding records of cancer research productivity who propose to conduct exceptional research. The award allows investigators the opportunity to take greater risks, be more adventurous in their lines of inquiry, or take the time to develop new techniques. *The OIA allows an Institution to submit applications nominating established PIs for the award. Please contact Ken Tramposch if you would like to be considered.* **Application Due Date:** November 2, 2018

[RFA-CA-18-018 \(U54\)](#) – clinical trial required

**Prevention of HPV-related Cancers in HIV-infected individuals: United States-Latin American-Caribbean Clinical Trials Network: Partnership Centers**

The purpose of this FOA is to facilitate the design, conduct, and completion of clinical trials for improving prevention of human papillomavirus (HPV)-related cancers in human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)-infected individuals. To serve this goal, the FOA will support a network of international collaborative sites conducting meritorious and appropriately designed prevention clinical trials in the Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) region via a U54 Partnership Centers mechanism. *Only one application per institution is allowed.* **Application Due Date:** November 15, 2018

[RFA-ES-18-002 \(P42\)](#), clinical trial optional

**Superfund Hazardous Substance Research and Training Program**

This program supports problem-based, solution-oriented research Centers that consist of multiple, integrated projects representing both the biomedical and environmental science and engineering disciplines; as well as cores tasked with administrative (which includes research translation), data management and analysis, community engagement, research experience and training coordination, and research support functions. *Only one application per institution is allowed.*

**Application Due Date:** December 19, 2018

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

### October Due Dates

[RFA-LM-19-001 \(G08\)](#) – clinical trial not allowed

**NLM Information Resource Grants to Reduce Health Disparities**

This FOA solicits resource grant applications for projects that will bring useful, usable health information to health disparity populations and their health care providers. Proposed projects should exploit the capabilities of computer and information technology and health sciences libraries to bring health-related information to consumers and their health care providers. **Application Due Date:** October 22, 2018

[RFA-MD-18-007](#) (T37)

**NIMHD Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Training (MHRT) Program**

The Program supports research training activities in minority health and health disparities research for individuals from diverse backgrounds, including groups underrepresented in biomedical, behavioral, clinical and social sciences research, at domestic institutions and/or at specified foreign low and middle income (LMIC) locations. This program is intended to promote both domestic and international training opportunities in a diverse and inclusive environment for eligible undergraduate, post-baccalaureate and graduate students, as well as for eligible residents, fellows and postdoctoral students. **Application Due Date:** October 24, 2018

**Human Health Exposure Analysis Resources** – clinical trial not allowed for all

[RFA-ES-18-010 \(U24\)](#) **Coordinating Center**

[RFA-ES-18-011 \(U2C\)](#) **Targeted Exposure Analysis Laboratories**

[RFA-ES-18-012 \(U2C\)](#) **UnTargeted Exposure Analysis Laboratories**

[RFA-ES-18-013 \(U2C\)](#) **Environmental Exposure Analysis Laboratories**

[RFA-ES-18-014 \(U2C\)](#) **Data Repository, Analysis and Science Center**

The NIEHS is establishing an infrastructure, the Human Health Exposure Analysis Resource (HHEAR) as a continuation of the Children's Health Exposure Analysis Resource (CHEAR). The goal of this consortium is to provide the research community access to laboratory and statistical analyses to add or expand the inclusion of environmental exposures in their research and to make that data publicly available as a means to improve our knowledge of the comprehensive effects of environmental exposures on human health throughout the life course. HHEAR is comprised of three primary components solicited through five FOAs; please visit each FOA for more details.

**Application Due Date:** October 29, 2018

### November Due Dates

[RFA-DA-19-005 \(R61/R33\)](#) – clinical trial required

**Science-Based Quality Measurement and Management Development for Opioid Use Disorder Treatment**

This FOA solicits applications proposing phased research projects, with transition milestones, to develop and rigorously test the effects of strategies to improve opioid treatment quality measures, both on changes in the measures themselves and on patient outcomes. The overall goal is to advance the field of clinical quality measurement and management in opioid use disorder treatment by generating research better aligning quality measurement with quality improvement.

**Application Due Date:** November 7, 2018

## December Due Dates

[RFA-AG-19-023 \(U01\)](#) – clinical trial optional; [RFA-AG-19-022 \(U24\)](#) – clinical trial not allowed

### **Telomeres as Sentinels of Environmental Exposures, Psychosocial Stress, and Disease Susceptibility**

The U01 will support methods comparison studies to serve three main functions: (1) to conduct a joint effort among telomere researchers to determine the relationship between different telomere length (TL) methods, inter-assay variability, and the factors that influence results; (2) to contribute to development of best practice recommendations for assay protocols for TL measurement for different types of studies; and (3) to repurpose existing methods or develop new methods to enhance the use of TL measurement.

The U24 will coordinate activities of the multiple labs supported under U01 awards, and will serve as the central resource for the organization of meetings and other activities of this coordinated program, including support for the methods study, dissemination of its results, and resultant recommendations. **Application Due Date:** December 3, 2018

[RFA-DK-17-024 \(R01\)](#) – clinical trial required

### **Impact of the Use of Glucose Monitoring and Control Technologies on Health Outcomes and Quality of Life in Older Adults with Type 1 Diabetes (T1D)**

This FOA encourages clinical trials testing the clinical efficacy of new technology to improve glucose control, reduce hypoglycemic events and/or improve quality of life in older T1D patients (aged 65 and older).

**Application Due Dates:** December 6, 2018

[RFA-DK-18-002 \(R01\)](#) – clinical trial optional

### **Understanding Skeletal Effects of Type 1 Diabetes**

This FOA invites applications for studies to understand the effects of type 1 diabetes (T1D) on bone mass and quality and/or fracture risk. Researchers may propose investigations in newly recruited subjects or using subjects and/or samples from ongoing clinical studies of individuals with for T1D. **Application Due Date:** December 6, 2018

## January 2019 Due Dates

[RFA-HS-18-002 \(R18\)](#)

### **Screening and Management of Unhealthy Alcohol Use in Primary Care: Dissemination and Implementation of PCOR Evidence**

AHRQ seeks applications to disseminate patient-centered outcomes research findings directly to primary care practices and support practices in implementing PCOR clinical and organizational findings. Applicants must propose a comprehensive plan that uses evidence-based strategies designed to improve the delivery of patient-centered approaches to identifying and managing unhealthy alcohol use among adults, including screening and brief intervention and medication assisted therapy. **Application Due Date:** January 4, 2019

[RFA-CA-18-027 \(R01\)](#); [RFA-CA-18-028 \(R21\)](#) – clinical trial optional

### **Improving Smoking Cessation Interventions among People Living with HIV**

These FOAs provide support for research designed to optimize smoking cessation treatment among people living with HIV (PLWH) in the United States (U.S.). The principal focus of this initiative is on cigarette smoking cessation; however, studies that address dual/poly tobacco product use as part of a cigarette smoking cessation intervention are acceptable.

**Application Due Date:** January 8, 2019

[RFA-CA-19-017 \(U01\)](#) – clinical trial required

### **Approaches to Identify and Care for Individuals with Inherited Cancer Syndromes**

NCI is sponsoring an initiative to improve the current state of early detection, genetic testing, genetic counseling, and knowledge landscape of the mechanisms and biomarkers associated with cancer development. This FOA invites multiple PI applications for projects aimed at identifying best practices to improve case ascertainment and follow-up care of hereditary cancers, with the goal of improving prevention and detection. **Application Due Date:** January 9, 2019

## February Due Dates

[RFA-AG-19-015 \(R24\)](#) – clinical trial not allowed

### **High-Priority Behavioral and Social Research Networks**

This FOA invites applications to provide infrastructure support for advancing development of specific high-priority areas of behavioral and social research of relevance to aging. Network applications are limited to the following areas:

(1) Midlife Reversibility of Biobehavioral Risk Associated with Early Life Adversity, (2) Stress Measurement, (3) Reproducibility in the Social and Behavioral Sciences, (4) Life Course Health Disparities at Older Ages, (5) Genomics of Behavioral and Social Science, (6) Integrating Animal Models to Inform Behavioral and Social Research on Aging, and (7) Rural Aging. **Application Due Date:** February 1, 2019

[RFA-AG-19-016 \(R24\)](#) – clinical trial not allowed

### **High-Priority Behavioral and Social Research Networks in Alzheimer's Disease and Alzheimer's Disease Related Dementias**

This FOA invites applications to provide infrastructure support for advancing development of specific high-priority areas of behavioral and social research of relevance to Alzheimer's disease and Alzheimer's disease related dementias (AD/ADRD). Network applications are limited to the following areas: (1) AD/ADRD care and services research, and (2) the coordination of international studies conducting the Harmonized Cognitive Assessment Protocol.

**Application Due Date:** February 1, 2019

### **Multiple Due Dates**

[RFA-ES-18-009 \(R24\)](#) – clinical trial not allowed

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

This FOA solicits grant applications that propose to: (1) support the maintenance of existing Environmental Epidemiology Cohorts (EECs); and (2) enrich research infrastructure to improve scientific activities and facilitate broader sharing of data and resources with the scientific community. The ultimate goal is to maintain and maximize NIEHS cohort investments within the environmental epidemiology community by supporting the infrastructure needed to prepare for future research opportunities and to promote broader scientific collaborations.

**Application Due Dates:** November 6, 2018; October 10, 2019; October 9, 2020

[RFA-OD-18-005 \(K01\)](#) – clinical trial not allowed; [RFA-OD-18-006 \(K01\)](#) – clinical trial required

### **Mentored Research Scientist Career Development Award in Tobacco Regulatory Research**

These FOAs provide support and protected time (three, four, or five years) for an intensive, supervised career development experience in biomedical, behavioral, and social science research that will inform the development and evaluation of regulations on tobacco product manufacturing, distribution, and marketing and that will lead to research independence. **Application Due Dates:** November 8, 2018, July 19, 2019, November 8, 2019

[RFA-OD-18-007 \(K99/R00\)](#) – clinical trial not allowed; [RFA-OD-18-008 \(K99/R00\)](#) – clinical trial required

### **Pathway to Independence Award in Tobacco Regulatory Research**

The purpose of this award is to increase and maintain a strong cohort of new and talented independent investigators conducting research that will inform the development and evaluation of regulations on tobacco product manufacturing, distribution, and marketing. This program is designed to facilitate a timely transition of outstanding postdoctoral researchers with a research and/or clinical doctorate degree from mentored, postdoctoral research positions to independent, tenure-track or equivalent faculty positions.

**Application Due Dates:** November 8, 2018, July 19, 2019, November 8, 2019

[RFA-ES-18-007 \(R01\)](#) – clinical trial optional

### **Virtual Consortium for Translational/Transdisciplinary Environmental Research (ViCTER)**

The purpose of the updated ViCTER program is to use the R01 mechanism to foster and promote early-stage transdisciplinary collaborations and/or translational research efforts among fundamental (technology and mechanism oriented), clinical (patient-oriented) and population-based researchers in the environmental health field. The ViCTER program is intended to support innovative high-risk, high-reward cross-disciplinary and/or translational research projects that are more difficult to achieve in a typical R01 application. Collaboration among investigators at different institutions through a virtual consortium arrangement are encouraged.

**Application Due Dates:** December 3, 2018; December 2, 2019; December 1, 2020

[RFA-HL-19-025 \(K01\)](#) – clinical trial required; [RFA-HL-19-026 \(K01\)](#) – clinical trial not allowed

### **Mentored Career Development Award to Promote Faculty Diversity in Biomedical Research**

Applications are invited to enhance the pool of highly trained investigators from diverse backgrounds, including those from groups underrepresented in research areas of interest to the NHLBI. These FOAs are targeted toward individuals whose basic, clinical, and translational research interests are grounded in the advanced methods and experimental approaches needed to solve problems related to cardiovascular, pulmonary, and hematologic diseases and sleep disorders in the general and health disparities populations. **Application Due Dates:** February 11, 2019, October 10, 2019, February 11, 2020, October 9, 2020, February 11, 2021

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

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

This FOA will support meritorious exploratory research relevant to the [NHLBI mission](#) using the existing biospecimen collections that are stored in the NHLBI Biologic Specimen Repository, 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:** February 15, 2019; October 17, 2019

[RFA-HL-19-023 \(T32\)](#) – clinical trial not allowed

### **T32 Training Program for Institutions That Promote Diversity**

The NHLBI's T32 Training Program is intended to support training of predoctoral and health professional students and individuals in postdoctoral training institutions with an institutional mission focused on serving health disparity populations not well represented in scientific research, or institutions that have been identified by federal legislation as having an institutional mission focused on these populations, with the potential to develop meritorious training programs in cardiovascular, pulmonary, and hematologic diseases, and sleep disorders. **Application Due Dates:** February 26, 2019; September 4, 2019; February 26, 2020; September 4, 2020; February 26, 2021

[RFA-HL-19-024 \(R25\)](#) – clinical trial not allowed

### **Short-Term Research Education Program to Increase Diversity in Health-Related Research**

The over-arching goal of this program is to support educational activities that enhance the diversity of the biomedical, behavioral and clinical research workforce by providing research experiences and related opportunities that enrich the pool of individuals from nationally underrepresented groups who will be available to compete for research opportunities in the mission areas of importance to NHLBI. This FOA will support creative educational activities with a primary focus on Research Experiences. **Application Due Dates:** February 26, 2019, September 10, 2019, February 26, 2020, September 10, 2020, February 26, 2021

[RFA-HL-19-016 \(R43\)](#) – clinical trial not allowed

### **Technologies for Healthy Independent Living for Heart, Lung, Blood and Sleep Disorders**

This FOA seeks applications for the design and development of technologies to monitor health or deliver care in a real-time, accessible, effective, and minimally obtrusive way for older adults with a chronic heart, lung, blood, or sleep (HLBS) condition. These technologies may be novel sensor or monitoring systems, home-use point-of-care devices, home or mobile therapy or rehabilitation tools, or information systems and should have the goal of fostering healthy and independent living for aging adults with HLBS conditions. **Application Due Dates:** June 10, 2019; June 10, 2020

[RFA-ES-16-005 \(R21\)](#)

### **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 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. The entire cycle is expected to be within 3-4 months. **Application Due Dates:** Multiple due dates, please see FOA.

**Expiration Date:** June 2, 2019

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

[PAR-18-911 \(P20\)](#) – clinical trial not allowed

### **Feasibility Studies to Build Collaborative Partnerships in Cancer Research**

The NCI invites applications for developing collaborative partnership between institutions serving underserved health disparity populations and underrepresented students (ISUPS) and NCI- designated Cancer Centers (or Cancer Centers with highly integrated cancer research programs). A major goal of the program is to provide support for investigators at ISUPS and Cancer Centers to conduct cancer research pilot projects and cancer research education program. The purpose of the pilot projects and education program is to allow awardees to obtain preliminary data that will lead to competitive grant applications for funding by the NIH/NCI and/or other Federal/Non-Federal agencies.

**Application Due Dates:** November 14, 2018; November 13, 2019; November 13, 2020

[PAR-18-894 \(R36\)](#) – clinical trial not allowed

### **Mental Health Research Dissertation Grant to Enhance Workforce Diversity**

The purpose of this FOA is to enhance the diversity of the mental health research workforce by providing dissertation awards in all research areas within the strategic priorities of the NIMH to individuals from groups underrepresented in biomedical, behavioral, clinical and social sciences research. This award supports the completion of the doctoral research project. **Application Due Dates:** December 06, 2018, April 09, 2019, August 06, 2019, December 06, 2019, April 07, 2020, August 06, 2020, December 07, 2020, April 06, 2021

[PAR-18-881 \(K18\)](#) – clinical trial not allowed; [PAR-18-882 \(K18\)](#) – clinical trial required

### **Short-term Mentored Career Enhancement Awards in Mobile and Wireless Health Technology and Data Analytics: Cross-Training at the intersection of Behavioral and Social Sciences and STEM Disciplines**

These FOAs support the development of research capability in mobile and wireless health technology (e.g., wearable devices, mobile applications, electronic health records, data analytics). Special emphasis will be given to independent behavioral and social sciences investigators who seek to train in a STEM discipline (e.g., big data analysis, computational modeling, engineering, computer science, and mathematics) or to STEM scientists who wish to train in a behavioral and social science discipline. **Application Due Dates:** July 12, 2019; July 12, 2020



[PAR-18-893 \(R01\)](#); [PAR-18-892 \(R21\)](#) – clinical trial optional

### **Physical Activity and Weight Control Interventions Among Cancer Survivors: Effects on Biomarkers of Prognosis and Survival**

These FOAs encourage transdisciplinary and translational research that will identify the specific biological or biobehavioral pathways through which physical activity and/or weight control (either weight loss or avoidance of weight gain) may affect cancer prognosis and survival. **Application Due Dates:** Standard dates apply

[PAR-18-896 \(R01\)](#) – clinical trial optional

### **NLM Research Grants in Biomedical Informatics and Data Science**

An application to NLM's research grant program should focus on a well-defined research problem and propose a rigorous research design, based on preliminary studies, which will result in innovations that advance what is known in the field of informatics or data science and have the capacity to improve human health. NLM will consider supporting projects that have a focus in a clinical or disease domain when the informatics or data science approach is novel, and will benefit findings in the domain. **Application Due Dates:** Standard dates apply

## **NIH Funding Opportunities: Program Announcements with Set-Aside Funds (PAS)**

[PAS-18-915 \(R01\)](#) – clinical trial optional

### **HIV/AIDS High Priority Drug Abuse Research**

NIH has recently announced the [HIV/AIDS research priorities](#) for the next three to five years. The goal of this FOA is to stimulate high priority research relevant to drug misuse and HIV/AIDS. Central to the NIH high priority areas of research are principles such as engaging people at risk into screening and preventive services as well as linking and re-linking people living with HIV (PLWH) into care with the goal of achieving durable viral suppression and addressing HIV comorbidities. Basic and clinical research that moves the field toward a cure and development of vaccines are high priority areas of research. **Application Due Dates:** Standard dates apply

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

The following program announcements have standard due dates, unless otherwise noted.

[PA-18-902 \(R01\)](#) – clinical trial optional

### **Advancing Translational and Clinical Probiotic/Prebiotic and Human Microbiome Research**

Expiration Date: September 8, 2021

[PA-18-917 \(R01\)](#) – clinical trial optional

### **Developing the Therapeutic Potential of the Endocannabinoid System for Pain Treatment**

Expiration Date: September 8, 2021

[PA-18-903 \(R21\)](#) – clinical trial optional

### **Pilot and Feasibility Clinical and Translational Research Studies in Digestive Diseases and Nutrition**

Expiration Date: September 8, 2021

### **Dues Dates Other than Standard**

### **[PA-18-906 \(Admin Supp\)](#) – clinical trial not allowed Research Supplements to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research**

Application Due Date: Varies by awarding institute; see

[Table of IC-Specific Information, Requirements and Staff Contacts](#) for more detail

[PA-18-916 \(R03\)](#) – clinical trial optional

### **AIDS-Science Track Award for Research Transition**

Expiration Date: September 8, 2021

## **Funding Opportunities: Department of Defense**

[W81XWH-18-BCRP-BTA12-2](#)

### **Breast Cancer Research Program (BCRP)**

The BCRP challenges the scientific community to design research that will address the urgency of ending breast cancer. Specifically, the BCRP seeks to accelerate high-impact research with clinical relevance, encourage innovation and stimulate creativity, and facilitate productive collaborations. Applicants are strongly urged to read and consider The [Breast Cancer Landscape](#) before preparing their applications. Level I provides \$375,000 for a single PI or \$600,000 if applying under the Partnering PI option for high-risk/high reward research that is in the earliest stages of idea development. Level II provides up to \$750,000 for single PI and \$1M under the Partnering PI option for research that is already supported by preliminary data and has potential to make significant advancements toward clinical translation. The maximum period of performance for both levels is 3 years.

**Application Due Dates:** Pre-Application - November 1, 2018; Application – November 15, 2018

## Funding Opportunities: Foundations

### American Cancer Society

#### [RFA: The Role of Health Policy and Health Insurance in Improving Access to and Performance of Cancer Prevention, Early Detection, and Treatment Services](#)

The ACA is interesting in supporting rapid learning research to study the effects of health policy changes on patients, providers, and health systems. This includes but is not limited to: 1) Facilitators and barriers to care; 2) Unintended consequences; 3) Differential experiences and outcomes of patients seeking or receiving care; 4) Best practice models for quality care; and 5) Economic Impact. Research should focus on the changes in national, state, and/or local policy and the response to these changes by healthcare systems, insurers, payers, communities, practices, and patients. **Application Due Date:** October 15, 2018

#### [RFA: Pilot and Exploratory Projects in Palliative Care of Cancer Patients and Their Families](#)

This RFA will provide funding for investigators to perform pilot and exploratory research studies with the purpose of testing interventions, developing research methodologies, or exploring novel areas of research in palliative care for cancer patients and their families. A condition of funding is a clearly defined plan as to how the investigator will use the results of the project to develop larger, extramurally funded research projects. Awards are 1-2 years in duration and may not exceed \$60,000/year. **Application Due Date:** October 15, 2018

[Research Scholar Grants](#) supports investigator-initiated projects across the cancer research consortium. Independent investigators within the first 6 years of faculty appointment are eligible to apply. Awards are up to \$165,000 direct costs/year for up to 4 years. **Application Due Date:** October 15, 2018

### Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

The Gates Foundation is inviting proposals for the latest round of [Grand Challenges Explorations](#). Applicants can be at any experience level; in any discipline; and from any organization, including colleges and universities, government laboratories, research institutions, non-profit organizations, and for-profit companies. Applications are two pages and no preliminary data is required. Initial grants will be US \$100,000 each, and successful projects are eligible to receive follow-on funding of up to US \$1 million. Applications will be accepted on the following topics:

- Increasing Demand for Vaccination Services;
- New Approaches for Manufacturing Gut Microbial Biotherapeutics;
- Innovation for WASH in Urban Settings;
- New Approaches for Strategic Prioritization of Agricultural Development Policies;
- Tools and Technologies for Broad-Scale Pest and Disease Surveillance of Crop Plants in Low-Income Countries;
- Innovations Driving Programmatic Performance for Immunization: Service Experience and Data Use + Measurement

**Application Due Date:** November 14, 2018, 11:30am PST

### Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

[Evidence for Action \(E4A\): Investigator-Initiated Research to Build a Culture of Health](#) supports rigorously designed quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods research that yields convincing findings regarding the population health, well-being, and equity impacts of specific policies, programs and partnerships. The Foundation is especially interested in research examining the health impacts of programmatic or policy interventions that address factors outside the domain of health care services or public health practice. Awards are up to 3 years; there is no explicit range of award amounts, applicants should request the amount of funding needed to complete the project.

**Application Due Date:** Applications are accepted on a rolling basis

#### [Health Policy Fellows](#)

The Program provides the opportunity for mid-career health professionals and/or behavioral/social scientists with an interest in health and health care policy to participate in the policy process at the federal level and use that leadership experience to improve health, health care, and health policy. Up to six awards of up to \$165,000 each will be made in 2019. Fellowship funds of up to \$104,000 may be used for the residential stay (not to exceed the fellow's salary prior to entering the program) from September 1, 2019, through August 31, 2020.

**Application Due Date:** November 7, 2018

## Whitehall Foundation

[The Whitehall Foundation](#) assists scholarly research in the life sciences and its policy is to assist those applicants who are not heavily supported by federal agencies or other foundations. The Foundation is currently interested in basic research in neurobiology, defined as follows: *Invertebrate and vertebrate (excluding clinical) neurobiology, specifically investigations of neural mechanisms involved in sensory, motor, and other complex functions of the whole organism as these relate to behavior. The overall goal should be to better understand behavioral output or brain mechanisms of behavior.* Research Grants provide \$30,000 - \$75,000/year for up to three years. The Grants-in-Aid program is designed for Assistant Professors who are experiencing difficulty in competing for research funds. This program will provide up to \$30,000 for one year. Applicants must be an Assistant Professor (or higher) and considered an independent investigator.

**Application Due Dates:** Letter of Intent - October 1, 2018; Invited Application – February 15

### Funding Opportunities: Fellowships

#### American Cancer Society Postdoctoral Fellowships

Researchers who have received a doctoral degree may apply for initial funding to start training for an independent career in cancer research (including basic, preclinical, clinical, cancer control, psychosocial, behavioral, epidemiology, health services and health policy research). Awards may be for 3 years with progressive stipends of \$48,000, \$50,000 and \$52,000/year, plus a \$4,000/year fellowship allowance. For more information, click [here](#).

**Application Due Date:** October 15, 2018

#### Harvard T.H. Chan Yerby Postdoctoral Program

This program works to increase the diversity of individuals who pursue academic careers in public health. Working closely with accomplished faculty mentors, Yerby Fellows gain experience and skills in areas critical to success in an academic environment, with emphasis on research, publications, and grant writing. For more information, click [here](#).

**Application Due Date:** November 9, 2018

#### Global Health Equity Scholars (GHES) Fellowship Program

The GHES offers a global health mentored experience for postdoctoral fellows, advanced PhD and professional school students. This Fogarty funded program provides 12-month research training fellowship opportunities at partner research institutions in low and middle income countries. For more information, click [here](#).

**Application Due Date:** November 15, 2018

#### National Science Foundation Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences (SBE) Postdoctoral Research Fellowships

The goal of this program is to promote fundamental research in the SBE sciences; enhance the participation of underrepresented groups in science and engineering; provide an opportunity for independence and advanced training under the direction of a sponsor; and encourage doctoral-level scientists (who are not yet in full-time positions) to take advantage of the two-year Fellowship to prepare for scientific careers in academia, industry or private sector, and government. The SBE supports research in a broad range of disciplines and interdisciplinary areas through its [Behavioral and Cognitive Sciences Division](#); [Social and Economic Sciences Division](#); and the [Office of Multidisciplinary Activities](#). Candidates are encouraged to visit these webpages to get detailed information of the research fields/themes/topics supported. For more information, click [here](#).

**Application Due Date:** November 20, 2018

