

Office for Research &amp; Graduate Education

## Research News

### Forming Interdisciplinary Research Teams

*Gary Pierzynski, Associate Dean for Research & Graduate Education*

A recent invitation from the Sustainability Institute (SI) to propose topic ideas for exploratory research groups (ERGs) prompted the idea for this message. The general concept is how do faculty get involved with interdisciplinary research teams, ranging from when they are new at OSU to those who have been here a while and are looking to engage with new teams. The ERGs approach will pull together faculty groups interested in general topic areas to facilitate discussions and exchange of ideas that enhance interdisciplinary research. This approach is similar to others including the recent President's Research Excellence seed funding program, the Growing Research Opportunities (GRO) Academy and Ideation Workshops from the Office of Research, the STEAM Factory, and even the networking that occurs at scientific meetings and seminars. Occasionally, such groups are pulled together with a specific funding opportunity in mind, but often these groups gather just to stimulate and exchange ideas without knowing the immediate impact. I strongly encourage all faculty to participate in a mix of such activities in order to remain current, stimulate their own creativity, and to take advantage of opportunities that may arise. Louis Pasteur is credited with the quote "chance favors the prepared mind", which is a perfect fit here. I recognize that it is easy to give such activities a low priority as the immediate benefit is not apparent. Following the literature is also essential, but of course the papers that you read today were years in the making, and you likely would have heard about the ideas and perhaps some data much sooner if you had networked and participated in these exploratory groups. With the rapid pace of science, a few years is an eternity!

Occasionally groups will gather with a specific goal of responding to a request for proposals. Generally, these groups start out with more people than end up on the submitted proposal, unless specific expertise needs are identified, in which case additional people may join. It is useful to examine how the "sorting" process works as the final list of scientists is determined. Some people may drop out because they don't feel their expertise is needed or they don't have the time to commit to the project. Some people may be left behind because they don't produce quality materials or can't be relied upon to meet critical deadlines. Perhaps no one steps forward to be the leader. Finances play a role as well. Consider just the possible demands for the personnel category of a proposal budget: graduate students, post-docs, staff, off-duty pay, and/or release time for even a few people can quickly inflate a budget beyond reason. Being an effective team player with realistic expectations increases your chances of being on the submitted proposal if that is your goal.

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### Exploratory Research Groups (ERGs)

Exploratory Research Groups (ERGs) are designed to support early-stage, exploratory research and creative expression on a range of faculty-determined topics. The Sustainability Institute (SI), in collaboration with other units and programs on campus, aims to support researchers from across the university in growing collaborative, interdisciplinary teams focused on sustainability or resilience topics. The overall intent of ERGs are to: (1) Help build connections and community across researchers with similar interests. (2) Support and grow ongoing interactions of interdisciplinary groups faculty and researchers that may also include students or external partners. (3) Provide a means for faculty or research staff that are new to the university to meet their community of similarly interested scholars. (4) Grow the capacity of interdisciplinary teams to compete for larger grants and awards. (5) Provide opportunities for mentorship, leadership and professional development for junior faculty and researchers. The initiative will launch with a call for ideas from faculty and researchers.

## ERGs Call for Ideas Survey

Any researcher with PI status at Ohio State may suggest ideas regarding sustainability or resilience topics and we will use these ideas to create an initial portfolio of ERGs. Ideas related to one or more of the following themes are especially encouraged: Climate Change, Healthy Air, Land and Water, Race and Sustainability, Smart and Resilient Communities, Sustainability and Environmental Arts and Humanities, Sustainable Energy. We are also looking for individuals to lead or co-lead an ERG. As part of the survey, please indicate if you would be willing to help provide leadership to an ERG on any of the topics you proposed. [Submit Your Ideas](#) If you experience any difficulties with the survey or have questions about ERGs, contact [Tim Jaquet](#).

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## Funding Opportunities

As funding opportunities are announced we will compile a full list of opportunities on our website. The web page will be updated periodically as new opportunities are discovered.

### Environmental Research & Education Foundation

The EREF Board of Directors has set an initiative to ensure research funded reflects EREF's long-term strategic plan to address all areas of integrated solid waste management, with a strong focus towards research that increased sustainable solid waste management practices.

**Deadline: May 1, 2021**

### Food and Agriculture Service Learning Program

The program's goal is to increase the capacity for food, garden, and nutrition education in host organizations such as school cafeterias and classrooms, while fostering higher levels of community engagement between farms and school systems by bringing together stakeholders from distinct parts of the food system.

**Deadline: May 3, 2021**

### Columbus Foundation – Targeted Funds: Green Funds

To enhance the quality of life in central Ohio by supporting responsible use of natural resources and ensuring their availability for future generations.

**Deadline: May 7, 2021**

[View All Funding Opportunities](#)

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## News

### Controlled Substances in Research Training - Now Available Online

The University requires that all employees (faculty, staff, and students) that have access to controlled substances complete an annual training. The training has been moved into a virtual environment in BuckeyeLearn. We ask that you watch this short 30-minute video in the next 30 days, so we can continue to be compliant with the federal regulations and university policy. Instructions:

- Go to BuckeyeLearn - [go.osu.edu/buckeyelearn](https://go.osu.edu/buckeyelearn)
- Search for "Controlled Substances in Research".
- Once the training is complete, you will need to manually mark it as completed before it will register on your transcript (and by marking it complete, you will not continue to receive reminder emails.)
- After the training is complete, please visit <https://research.cfaes.ohio-state.edu/resources/research-compliance/controlled-substances> to review the resource material referred to in the video and familiarize yourself with the CFAES controlled substances program.



## NSF Sessions Recording Now Available

The Zoom video from the NSF informative session that was held on March 2, 2021 is now available for viewing. The recording features Dr. Steve Ellis, NSF Program Director in the Division of Biological Infrastructure (BIO/DBI) and Dr. Dan Marena, NSF Program Director for Integrative Research in Biology (IntBIO) and Postdoctoral Research Fellowships in Biology (PRFB) as they provide an overview of NSF, the history/structure, funding mechanisms and opportunities, and tips for success. You can view the presentation, here: <https://osu.box.com/s/lceevs4nplqfhmyzghf7iopfp5zpleww>. Additionally, we have shared the [NSF overview guidance document](#) to help you navigate their programs. To view other educational resources offered by the CFAES Office for Research & Graduate Education, please visit our [website](#).

## Updated research misconduct policy effective March 1

The Office of Research Compliance has issued an updated research misconduct policy effective March 1, 2021. The updated policy ensures that the university's processes for handling allegations of research misconduct are compliant with federal regulations and emerging best practices while protecting the integrity and reputation of the university and its scholars from false or unproven allegations of research misconduct. The policy applies to all individuals involved with research activities at Ohio State. [View Full Policy](#)

## Let's Celebrate!

The CFAES Office for Research & Graduate Education is pleased to announce the first Celebration of Research Week, starting today, April 5, and running throughout the rest of the week (April 5-9). In coordination with the CFAES Annual Research Conference, the first Annual Celebration of Research week will be an opportunity to revel in the many successes of the CFAES research community. Throughout the week we will be sharing stories on CFAES research and hosting several events including:

- **2021 Virtual Poster Competition Q&A Sessions** the virtual poster competition site is live! This year, we have an incredible 131 entries to display. The Q&A sessions will supplement the poster website where you will be able to view the work of our talented researchers, beginning tomorrow. We encourage you to sign up and attend one or more Q&A sessions to support our researchers. [Sign Up for a Session](#) | [View the Full Schedule](#)
- **A panel session moderated by Dr. Luis Canas** focused on finding collaborators and developing a quality research team, panelists: Dr. Douglas Jackson-Smith, Dr. Enrico Bonello, and Dr. Barbara Kowalczyk. [Register Now](#)
- **The Annual Research Conference Awards Ceremony** will showcase several CFAES researchers who have been awarded for making outstanding contributions in their respective areas. [Register Now](#)
- **A LIVE Conversation with Dr. Rattan Lal**, 2020 World Food Prize Laureate, where participants will have an opportunity to hear Dr. Lal's story and ask him questions regarding his career and research.



Make plans to stop by and see us on campus during to pick up a goodie bag. On Monday, April 5, you will find us on the CFAES Wooster Campus in the NEW Wooster Science Building lobby and on the CFAES Columbus Campus we will be located in the Agricultural Administration building lobby by the library from 11AM-2PM, while supplies last. View the full [agenda](#) and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) to stay in the loop on all things CFAES Research.

If you require an accommodation, please contact Amy Glaze at [glaze.41@osu.edu](mailto:glaze.41@osu.edu). Requests made 10 days prior to the event will generally allow us to provide seamless access, but the university will make every effort to meet requests made after this date.

## Cooperation between CFAES & Universidad del Valle de Guatemala

The Universidad del Valle de Guatemala (UVG) in Guatemala City, Guatemala and OSU's College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences have signed a five-year, renewable Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). [Read More](#)

## Round two of the GRO Ideation Workshops selected

Four interdisciplinary team projects (2 are CFAES related!) have been selected to receive support through the second round of Ohio State's Growing Research Opportunities (GRO) Ideation Workshops. These workshops are designed to help teams hone their research ideas and develop strategies and action steps to pursue external funding within 12 to 24 months. These workshops fit into the GRO initiative's larger goals to foster intellectually diverse, collaborative research across academic domains, catalyze new scholarly pursuits for our faculty, and help generate compelling, external funding proposals. [Learn More](#)

## Annual Conflict of Interest Disclosure Period Opening in April

In order to promote transparency and to comply with federal regulations, Ohio State researchers are required to complete an annual conflict of interest disclosure. OSU anticipates formally launching the conflict of disclosure process the week of April 19.

## NIFA AFRI Webinars

Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) is the nation's leading competitive grants program for the food and agricultural sciences. NIFA conducted a webinar series March 1-4, 2021 to provide an overview of opportunities for AFRI New Investigators and discuss program areas covered under [Agriculture and Food Research Initiative](#). The recorded webinars can be viewed [here](#).

Need to find a NIFA National Program Leaders (NPL) to ask a question about a developing research idea? A list of programs and contacts can be found [here](#).

## Human Subject Review Process

How does the Human Subject Review process work at OSU? Check out this [infographic](#) outlining the process.

## Follow This Plan and You'll Never Miss a Proposal Deadline

Last minute and same-day proposal submissions do not allow enough lead time to conduct a proper review of proposals and can jeopardize the ability to meet a sponsor's deadline. This additional time for review is compounded during a deadline day when multiple proposals require the same level of attention. If a proposal is received last minute or same day investigators and department administrators are at risk of creating a late or rejected proposal. Please consider that there may be differences with each sponsor's late submission policy and many sponsors are no longer sympathetic to circumstances that lead to late proposal submissions. In most cases, if the system's time stamped deadline is not met, the proposal will be rejected and not considered for potential funding. [Get The Details](#)

## 15th Annual International Scholar Research Exposition Now Online

Supported by the Office of Research and the Office of International Affairs, the International Scholar Research Exposition showcases some of the world-class research undertaken by the more than 800 international visiting scholars at The Ohio State University. This year, the exposition will take place online through short videos. Current international J-1 visiting scholars at OSU were invited to submit research summaries and 10 finalists from 8 different countries were asked to create research impact videos. The videos are available on [YouTube](#). View all 10 finalists along with their research summaries, [here](#). A special congratulations goes to the 3 CFAES finalists: Erick Martinez, Entomology; Ronald Meléndrez-Alvarez, Food Science and Technology; and Xinghua Shao, School of Environment and Natural Resources.

## Registration for Pelotonia 2021 is open!

Join co-captains Kayla Arnold and Gary Pierzynski on the CFAES Sustains Life Pelotonia team to raise funds for cancer research at OSU. Kayla has volunteered for Pelotonia for (going on) 8 years and Gary has set a goal to complete his first century ride (100 miles) this year to help the cause. Join in on the fun this year! This year, the event will take place from August 6-8, 2021. You can participate as a rider, a volunteer, contribute directly in support of a rider, or fundraise as a challenger (previously called virtual rider). Have questions? Read the [online FAQ](#) or contact [Kayla Arnold.1065](#). You can also read more about Team Buckeye online. [Check It Out](#)





## Workday Tip Sheet

Create or Amend a Supplier Contract for an OSP Subaward (aka. Setting up a subaward). The process replaces the PR-003A form that was completed prior to Workday. [Check It Out](#)

## New Technologies for Ag Extension Year 3 Project Acceleration Webinar

On April 6, learn how teams can apply to be selected projects in Year 3 of the USDA-NIFA New Technologies for Ag Extension (NTAE) award. NTAE teams and projects are selected to align with the USDA & ECOP Strategic Plans, and are early stage and have high potential for impact. All Land Grant Universities can apply regardless of membership in the Extension Foundation. Current and past NTAE projects are on the Extension Foundation website at [extension.org/ntae](http://extension.org/ntae). The Webinar will feature our Catalysts who serve as mentors, a couple of NTAE projects, and share how to get into the application process to be a Year 3 NTAE Project. [Register Now](#)

## Ohio Ethics Law

This two-hour case study based workshop covers the major requirements of the Ohio Ethics Law which applies to all faculty and staff. This workshop is led by ethics experts from Academic Affairs, Medical Center Compliance, and University Compliance and Integrity. CarmenZoom links will be provided to attendees the day before each session. [Register Now](#)

## NIH Early Career Reviewer Program Webinar

NIH's Center for Scientific Review is hosting a webinar on NIH Grants 101 and the Early Career Reviewer (ECR) Program, Wednesday, April 14, 2021, at 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time. The webinar will provide useful insights into the submission and peer review processes, and include information about the ECR Program. [Register Now](#)

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## Recent Awards - CFAES R&GE Graduate Internal Grants Program

### Doctoral

**Victoria Abou-Ghalioum – SENR, Advisors: Kristi Lekies, SENR; Jeremy Bruskotter, SENR; Kerry Ard, SENR:** Examining Race and Place: Centering Social Justice in the Mainstream Environmental Movement

**Aishwarya Badiger – FST, Advisors: Dennis Heldman, FST; Christopher Simons, FST:** Redefining milk shelf-life by establishing a volatile threshold based on consumer perception of milk spoilage: A food waste reduction approach

**Jordan Hartman – HCS, Advisor: Jessica Cooperstone, HCS:** Are steroidal glycoalkaloids imparting bitterness in tomato?

**Harper McMinn-Sauder – ENT, Advisor: Reed Johnson, ENT:** Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) land as a nectar resource supporting honey bees in the Ohio agroecosystem

**James Radl – ENT, Advisor: Sarah Short, ENT:** Microbiome Specificity between Endemic and Widespread Aedes Mosquitoes

**Shahabeddin Rezaei – HS, Advisor: Richard Bruno, Human Nutrition:** Determining Bioavailability of  $\hat{1}^3$ -tocopherol with An Egg/Plant-Based Food Pairing

**Kelsey Ryan-Simkins – SENR, Advisor: Kerry Ard, SENR:** Connecting the dots: An investigation of how motivations influence urban agriculture practices and outcomes in Ohio

**Abigail Sommer – FST, Advisor: Yael Vodovotz, FST:** Development of EPA- and DHA-fortified plant milks for use in clinical studies

### Masters

**Paige Doklovic – AS, Advisors: Mike Cressman, AS; Steven Moeller, AS; Frederick Michel, FAFE:** Optimization of Poultry Mortality Composting through Particle Size Reduction and Carbon Amendment

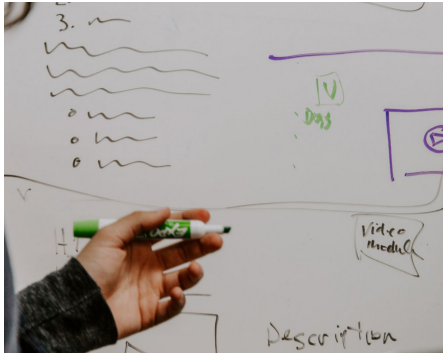
**Alden Sipersteint – ENT, Advisor: Megan Meuti, ENT:** Characterizing seasonal changes in mosquito abundance

# Educational Opportunities

## When Disciplines Collide: Pulling Back the Curtain on an Interdisciplinary Team

This webinar will teach you more about the nitty gritty of interdisciplinary collaborations. 4/7 | 3-4 p.m.

[Learn More](#)



## Introduction to the Heilmeier Catechism

This presentation will be an overview of these questions, originally used to evaluate proposed research at DARPA, which can be employed to develop more competitive proposals 4/8 | 1-1:30 p.m.

[Learn More](#)

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## Upcoming Events

**April 13**

9:30-10:30 a.m.

### Human Subjects Research and Grants

Dig into the types of human subjects research, protocol screening/review process, and PI responsibilities.

**April 20**

12:30-2:30 p.m.

### Corporate Research Engagement 101

Learn what industry partners value from academia and how academia benefits from industry-sponsored research

**April 27**

1:30-3:00 p.m.

### Managing Sponsored Programs Awards

Learn effective project management by understanding the electronic tools available and regular monitoring activities



**THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**

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