



Research News

June 2022

Funding Opportunities

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

Food Waste Challenge

The Foundation for Food & Agriculture Research (FFAR), in collaboration with The Kroger Co. Zero Hunger | Zero Waste Foundation, is launching the Food Waste Challenge to develop an original, innovative methodology for regularly occurring quantitative measurement of food waste generated in US households that stakeholders across the food system can use.

Deadline: July 13, 2022

NIH Science Education Partnership Award (SEPA)

The NIH Research Education Program (R25) supports research education activities in the mission areas of the NIH. The overarching goal of this R25 program is to support educational activities that complement and/or enhance the training of a workforce to meet the nation’s biomedical, behavioral and clinical research needs.

Deadline: July 13, 2022

[View All Funding Opportunities](#)



Dr. Brady Campbell | ANSCI

Inside the Issue

- CEARC will put CFAES on the cutting edge of research, but the facility represents just a portion of the of controlled environment ag (CEA)
- R&GE's David Mackie has collected a plethora of resources relating to Sponsored Project Funded Travel at OSU
- Details on requesting Off-Duty Pay, PI Status as an Extension Professional, & Preliminary Project Numbers for New Sponsored Awards
- Introducing, the Office for Research & Graduate Education's Grant Development Support Unit. Get to know us and request our services, today!

Controlled Environment Agriculture

Gary Pierzynski, Associate Dean for Research & Graduate Education



Construction of the new Controlled Environment Agriculture Research Complex (CEARC) is proceeding rapidly with plans for opening the facility late this summer. The CEARC will put us on the cutting edge of research, although the facility represents just a portion of the overall topic of controlled environment agriculture (CEA). CEA can range from simple hoop houses that extend the outdoor growing season to greenhouses to “indoor farming” without natural sunlight to our involvement with growing plants in low gravity environments aboard a space station in low earth orbit. I am pleased that our research and Extension efforts cover this entire spectrum.

It is interesting how CEA is already influencing marketing and consumer behavior. Salad greens produced with indoor farming methods may not be treated with any pesticides, not even those allowed under the rules of certified organic production systems, and perhaps allowing for a claim of being “better than organic”. Many people do not utilize curbside pickup or home delivery of groceries because they want to select their own fruits and vegetables. To address this, efforts are underway to identify desirable flavor profiles in fruits and vegetables and then breed such crops for desirable flavor and for consistent quality when grown using indoor farming methods. Companies such as 80 Acres have consistency well under control for salad greens with a variety of selections at the grocery store.

I recently tasted a strawberry from a variety bred for flavor and consistency and found the flavor better than the strawberries I had picked out myself at the grocery store, but not as good as the strawberries I purchased at my local Farmers Market. The vendor at the Farmers Market is a CFAES graduate and received impeccable training, so no surprise here! Will such developments convince me to order my groceries online? Maybe someday, but for now I am going to get everything I can at the Farmers Market and enjoy seeing how the evidence of our efforts can be found in many places.

[Learn More About CEARC](#)



Spotlight

New Office of Sponsored Programs Link Tree

The Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP) web pages have been updated. Please see the link below and add a bookmark to this helpful link tree from a Post award Teams folder, courtesy of Amy Raubenolt.

[Visit Page](#)

USDA Strategic Plan for FY 2022-2026

This a must read for those seeking to map their research capacities to the future research funding landscape at USDA. This is a timely report given that major USDA/NIFA funding opportunities have due dates over the next several months.

[Read More](#)

Better Research through Better Mentoring – Part 1

By participating in this workshop faculty will develop and/or enhance their mentoring skills and receive resources and materials to support effective mentoring of graduate students and postdoctoral trainees.

[Learn More](#)

New & Newsworthy



Meet the Grant Development Support Unit (GDSU)

Research and graduate studies are inextricably linked, which is why our office has personnel monitoring the many pieces that keep our research engine going. Our office is organized around three important functions: Pre-Award Administration, Post-Award Administration, and Graduate Education. We provide proposal research and development, financial guidance, administrative oversight, and other research administration support services to faculty, staff, and students who pursue and receive grant and contract awards.

We help CFAES pursue grants to enhance teaching, research and public service. Listed below are some of the services available in our office:

- Prospect Research - provide assistance in searching for potential external funding opportunities
- Proposal Development - offer support with narrative development, proofreading and editing of proposals
- Budget Preparation - help with budget development and guidance on funding agency and university budget requirements
- Proposal Submission - obtain university approval and electronically package proposals for submissions to funding agency
- Post Award Activities - oversee fiscal and administrative compliance with awards, contracts and other grant requirements; provide information, analysis, financial advice and other professional services; and support the institution's cost-recovery goals
- We have offices on both the Wooster and Columbus campuses. Please stop by or contact us to see how we can help you!

[Meet the Team](#)

[Request Services](#)

Revised AFRI Foundational RFP & Schedule

The recent release of the revised RFP led to some timeline changes and solicitations are now due as soon as 8/11 with the latest deadline being 11/17. Those dates are not far off, and a well-crafted submission does not happen overnight. GDSU is available to assist with your questions and submissions, so reach out soon to request our services. Please visit the R&GE website and click the red “Request Services” button. We look forward to hearing from you!

[View RFP](#)



DARPA Forward at Ohio State

On 10/4-5, 2022, OSU will host a Regional DARPA workshop at the Ohio Union. The event is expected to attract a mix of 300-500 industry and academic participants and will feature portfolio briefs, technical discussion panels, and lightning talks from across DARPA's technical offices (Biological Technologies, Defense Sciences, Information Innovation, Microsystems Technology, Strategic Technology, and Tactical Technology), and networking opportunities.

[Learn More](#)



Sponsored Project Funded Travel

General Guidelines for Sponsored Project Funded Travel

Travel costs expensed against OSP awards/grants must be pre-approved and justified with business purpose description consistent with sponsor regulations. University travel policy must always be adhered to, and sponsored project agreements contain specific guidelines pertaining to the eligibility for advance payment or reimbursement of all expenditures, including travel. Travelers are cautioned to validate what expenditures are permitted on specific sponsored projects. The OSP Travel Office and the sponsored program officer are available for consultation as needed.

Workday Job Aid – How to Travel

Note: To request authorization for business travel. A spend authorization (SA#) must be created in Workday for each unique business trip. The Spend Authorization must be in an "Approved" status before travel expenses are incurred and before travel departure.

[View Job Aid](#)

Air Travel Requirements

- Airfare must be purchased through the [designated travel agency](#), and the purchase identified as Office of Sponsored Programs funded.
- Reservations must be booked as coach or economy fare, unless unavailable at the time of the required travel.
 - A memo of explanation is required with any deviation from economy fare.
 - Travelers must comply with the **Fly America Act** requiring travelers to use:
 - a U.S. flag air carrier (an airline owned by an American company); or
 - a foreign carrier that operates under a U.S. flag air carrier code-sharing agreement and **identifies the U.S. flag air carrier’s designator code and flight number**.
 - This requirement applies only to tickets purchased using federally sponsored funds. If university funds are being used and there is question if they are federal in nature, contact your cost center manager.

Per Diem for Personal Meals and Incidentals

- Per diem allowances for meals and incidentals are paid after completion of the trip and are based upon per diem rates that vary by city location. These rates include personal meals and incidental expenses (e.g., baggage carriers, housekeeping, porters, service tips).
- Travelers may be paid at 100% of the per diem allowance for the applicable city location. In general, the per diem allowance for the first and last days of travel is up to 75% of the full per diem rate. Based on specific travel needs, the per diem allowance for the first and last days of travel can be adjusted using the applicable meal percentage (25% breakfast, 25% lunch, 50% dinner) at the unit’s discretion.
 - Travelers may be reimbursed for less than the per diem allowance and need to identify which meals were purchased.
 - The per diem allowance is authorized for in-state (with overnight) or out-of-state (45 miles or more from the traveler’s residence or headquarters) travel.
 - Full per diem allowances while on travel status will not be paid if a meal is served on the plane, included in a conference registration fee, provided by the hotel as part of the lodging rate, or replaced by a legitimate business meal. The allowance must be adjusted by deducting the appropriate meal percentage (25% breakfast, 25% lunch, 50% dinner) from the full per diem allowance for the applicable city location.

Extended Travel P Card and Cash Advances

In the event the business travel will be for an extended period or traveling will cause an undue hardship for staff or students, a cash advance can be requested or the traveler can obtain a GET(group/extended travel) Card. For extended travel with multiple reservations, the GET Card would be most appropriate and cash advances are most suited for a single stay. Accommodations can be reserved in advance by either the GET Card, pre-payment through Corporate Travel Planners (CTP) or by the traveler when they receive their cash advance.

Group/Extended Travel (GET) PCard

- Issued in PCardholder name
- Limits: \$2,500/transaction and \$7,500/cycle (adjustable to trip needs)
- Contingent upon 2 or more travelers or for an individual’s travel that spans 7 or more consecutive days

PCard Info

Cash Advances

- Cash advances can be requested and are processed and approved in Workday. Supporting documentation must be attached to the expense report by the traveler or unit.
- Cash advances must not be used to front payments for travel expenses for employees (e.g., individual airfare) that are accommodated by other university procurement methods.
- A cash advance may be issued to a traveler when the following circumstances would cause undue financial hardship as determined by the unit:
 - **Ohio State student traveling on behalf of the university** – 100% of the total estimated cost, including airfare, can be advanced.
 - **Ohio State faculty or staff leading students** – 100% of the total estimated cost minus costs covered by other university methods can be advanced.
 - **Ohio State faculty and staff traveling internationally** – 80% of the total estimated cost minus the costs covered by other university methods can be advanced.
- Expenses associated with a cash advance must be documented by itemized receipts or equivalent documentation and must be reconciled and substantiated within 30 days of completion of the trip by the traveler.
- Any cash in excess of the approved reimbursable expenses must be returned to the appropriate unit account or sponsored project within 30 days of completion of the trip by the traveler.



Airbnb

Due to how Airbnb works with accounts and payments, the university is unable to complete any pre-payments from OSU sources. Travelers are generally advised against utilizing Airbnb because of varying cancellation policies depending on the property, however these expenses can be allowable and reimbursed to the traveler with appropriate documentation.

Travelers will be required to document all those sharing the stay and their business purposes (if they differ), and to keep in mind the pricing of the Airbnb rental as compared to traditional hotels.

Split Funding between Multiple Sources

The process for documenting travel involving a combination of university and sponsor funding and/or between two different sponsored grants in Workday is done with the “Itemization” feature while creating an expense report. The full process is described in the Administrative Resource Center (ARC).

Visit the ARC

Helpful Links

- OSU Travel Office: <https://busfin.osu.edu/buy-schedule-travel/travel>
- Foreign Federal Per Diem Rates: https://aoprals.state.gov/web920/per_diem.asp
- OSU Travel Policy: <https://busfin.osu.edu/document/travel-policy-211-pdf>
- Federal Domestic Per Diem Rates: <https://www.gsa.gov/travel/plan-book/per-diem-rates>
- Administrative Resource Center: https://admin.resources.osu.edu/workday?check_logged_in=1
- OSP/Grant Services Service Center (GSSC) Travel – Jared Heeter: heeter.7@osu.edu/614-292-2126



Deep-Dives & Details

Research Development & Grant Writing News

We invite you to access the current issue of Research Development and Grant Writing News. The Enterprise for Research, Innovation, and Knowledge | Research Development Office provides access to this subscription-based newsletter for the entire campus community.

Highlights Include:

- What does a successful ERC proposal look like?
- Planning your NSF Career Education Component
- DOEnergy Funding Directions 2023
- How a good website can help faculty win grants!

Read Now

CFAES Sponsored Program Officers

Curious about who to contact in the Office of Sponsored Programs? Check out our list of SPOs, their areas of expertise, and their contact info.

Name.#	Department/Unit
Stephanie Harrier.4	AS, CFAH, ENT, ACEL, PP
Zoe Legato.2	FST, AEDE, ATI
Anna Shadley.5	SENR, South Centers, Admin., Center for Lake Erie Research
Cheryl Sowash.10 (Interim)	OSU Extension
Michael Volkman.9	FABE, HCS
Michael Adkins.121	Industry SPO for FST &FABE
Kelsey Sigrist.22	Industry SPO for all other CFAES departments

View Website

Requesting Off-Duty Pay (ODP)

Off Duty Pay is a term used to describe compensation that takes place outside of the "on duty" period, such as over the summer or during breaks, paid through an OSP grant/award. This applies to 9/12 faculty appointments.

What documentation do I need to request Off Duty Pay?

To be completed by the faculty member:

- Scope of Work including expected deliverables and the sponsor-approved budget/narrative for the sponsored project
- Off Duty Pay Calculator with amounts and funding to confirm payment falls within regulations
- A Completed [ODP Request Form](#)
- **Once these items are completed, along with the attachments, send the forms to either your Cost Center Manager (CCM) or HRC (Human Resources Consultant)**
- They will route these documents through DocuSign for the appropriate signature

Who can answer my questions regarding Off Duty Pay?

Please contact your department cost center manager for assistance with calculations or guidelines.

Resources

Requesting PI Status: Extension Professionals

We are [encouraging our Extension colleagues](#) to proactively apply for PI status – it’s helpful to have PI status BEFORE you apply for and receive extramural funding. If you are not sure if you have PI status, you can verify online via your [Office of Research Profile](#) (On the left hand column, scroll to “PI Eligibility” - will note “Eligible” or “Ineligible”)

Below are the three key items needed - also described in more detail in the [Extension Handbook](#) online.

- 1.) up-to-date curriculum vitae (CV) (this can be as simple as an up-to-date resume if you have yet to compile a CV)
evidence that the mandatory CITI training has been completed (go to the [Human Subjects Protection Site](#) if you can’t readily find the documentation)
- 2.) a short sentence describing what you hope to study as PI – you can be as specific or general as needed
- 3.) These three items can be forwarded to Dr. Greg Davis.1081 for review.

Requesting a Preliminary Project Number for a New Sponsored Award

A PI can request with Chair approval (signature) that a preliminary project number be set up by the Sponsored Program Officer in the PI Portal. This allows for spending on the award, prior to the final sponsored agreement being received from the sponsor. In the event the anticipated sponsored agreement is not received, or sponsor payment is insufficient to cover expenditures incurred against this OSP project account, any unrecovered or unallowable expenditures will be transferred to department. Complete the OGC-005 form for and forward to your Sponsored Program Officer if you are interested in having a preliminary project established. OGC-005 FORM More Information is available on the Office of Research website.

View Form

Eight more projects received Accelerator Award funding

The Accelerator Awards program is designed to accelerate the advancement of cutting-edge Ohio State innovations from the university into the marketplace. The program provides grants of up to \$150,000 per project to support external validation and de-risking activities. The purpose of the funding is to demonstrate the commercial viability of a technology and enable a license to an Ohio based startup-company at the conclusion of the project. The funding is provided by The Ohio State University, with matching funds from the Ohio Third Frontier Technology Validation and Startup Fund (TVSF).

- **Yael Vodovotz - FST**, Overcoming challenges to commercialization of a bio based, biodegradable rubbery bioplastic: A need for an industrially produced prototype
- **Judit Puskas - FABE**, “BUCKEYE” COVID Mask

Read More

Recent Awards

- **Xia Ye - Plant Path, Richard Dick - SENR, Gary Gao - South Centers Piketon, Rattan Lal - SENR, \$750,000:** Impacts of agricultural systems on the dynamics and functions of soil and tomato-associated microbiome and productivity, NIFA
- **Chris Winslow, Kristin Fussell - Center for Lake Erie Research, \$5,000,000:** Ohio Department of Higher Education harmful algal bloom research initiative 2022-2023), Ohio Department of Higher Education
- **R. Khandakar Islam, Arif Rahman - South Centers Piketon, \$242,120:** Development of a holistic photocatalytic approach for controlling agriculturally-induced algal blooms and associated cyanotoxins from lakes and reservoirs, Central State University,
- **Peter Piermarini - Entomology, Xiaolin Cheng - Pharmacy, Liva Romuald Rokotondraibe - Pharmacy, \$648,358:** Developing botanical-derived chemical tools for controlling mosquito vectors, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases,
- **Ryan Winston, Andrew Tirpak - FABE, \$144,717:** Investigating basin retrofits to improve water quality and reduce streambank erosion, OH Water Dev Authority,
- **Jeremy Bruskotter - SENR, \$108,821:** An assessment of public support for cougar restoration, Northeast Wilderness Trust,
- **Steven Lyon - SENR, Vinayak Shedekar - FABE, \$199,681:** Assessing efficacy of automated drainage water management as an environment infrastructure investment on Ohio's farms, OH Water Dev Authority

Events & Opportunities

June 14 3:00-4:00 PM	June 22 4:00-5:00 PM	June 23 1:00-2:30 PM
<div>NIFA-Hosted Live AFRI FAQ Session</div> <div></div> <div>All about the AFRI Rapid Response to Extreme Weather Events Across Food & Ag Systems (A1712) program area</div> <div>Register</div>	<div>Freeman Hrabowski Scholars Program</div> <div></div> <div>A program supporting outstanding early career faculty with a desire to advance DEI in science</div> <div>Register</div>	<div>Inclusive And Equitable Hiring Practices</div> <div></div> <div>This 90-minute program provides an overview of best practices for recruiting a diverse candidate pool</div> <div>Register</div>