

Office for Research &amp; Graduate Education

## Research News

### Update: The Status of Research in CFAES

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

I hope this message finds you and your families well, and your research activities in recovery mode. Since the pandemic continues to affect us in many ways, I will continue to provide updates via this monthly message. We are currently in Stage 4 of the research reopening process (<https://research.osu.edu/news-events/coronavirus-and-your-research-program/staged-approach-to-returning-to-on-campus-research/>) with Stage 5 set to begin on August 3, although we continue at 25% density instead of the planned increases due to the prevalence of COVID-19 infections in Ohio. The need for requesting exemptions for field, greenhouse, and animal research continues (<https://cfaes.osu.edu/faculty-staff-resources/return-offices-and-campuses>) as does the need for department chairs to coordinate activities for Stages 3-5. The staff for the offices of Research and Graduate Education, including the Grant Development Support Unit, in both Columbus and Wooster will continue telework into the fall semester to help reduce the number of people in our buildings. Please feel free to call, email, or use our website to ask questions or request services (<https://research.cfaes.ohio-state.edu>).

In the past month we have had some challenges that affect our international graduate students, those currently present and those planning to come to OSU, although at this writing it appears things have worked out. The uncertainty, however, has a chilling effect that will take some time to overcome. On the positive side, hopefully you have had some extra time to work on that backlog of writing assignments and perhaps flesh out some of your research ideas for a proposal. It is not too early to think about how the COVID crisis has identified future research needs in preparation for some potential funding opportunities. There's no telling what will happen with the economy, but during the recession of 2007-2009 some research funding opportunities actually increased, and some of the COVID relief bills being considered in Washington do provide new funding for research. Overall, we are experiencing many challenges in our research programs and we will get past this as we have many times in the past. Thank you for your efforts.

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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.

#### RADx-rad Initiative

RADx-rad aims to support new, non-traditional approaches that address current gaps in COVID-19 testing or new or non-traditional applications of existing approaches to enhance usability, accessibility, or accuracy.

**Deadline: Various through September 2020**

#### North Central Region Sustainable Agriculture (NCR-SARE) Program

A competitive grant program for projects that explore and promote environmentally sound, profitable, and socially responsible food and/or fiber systems with a strong outreach component and significant farmer/rancher or other end-user involvement component.

**Deadline: October 8, 2020**

[View All Funding Opportunities](#)

# News

## Updated F&A Rate Agreement

### What are fringe rates?

In addition to non-cash benefits that employees receive, they also receive fringe benefits which include health plan expenses, pension plan expenses and workman's compensation expenses, among others. Typically, fringe rates are calculated as a percentage of the salary paid to an employee and is based on his/her job classification.

### Why are they important?

When budgeting for personnel on federal grants, OSU is permitted to charge a federally negotiated rate to cover these fringe benefits. Each year, OSU negotiates new fringe rates with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. These rates are used to calculate costs for grants, contracts, and other agreements through the Office of Sponsored Programs. [Learn More](#)

### Updated fringe rates for Sponsored Projects budgeting, FY 2021

Beginning in July, the following rates will be used:

Type of Appointment	FY21
Faculty (9 & 12 month appointments/direct and release time)	23.4%
Faculty specials (Off Duty Pay, Faculty Group Practice and overload)	13.9%
A&P staff, including post doctoral researchers (direct and release–no wages)	31.5%
Classified civil service	31.5%
Specials and type 3 wages – staff, non-enrolled students	13.9%
Pre and post doctoral fellows and trainees, graduate and undergraduate students	11.5%
Undergraduate fellows and trainees	0.0%
Tuition and fees for GAs, trainees and fellows	Actual In-State Amount

## The CFAES Return to Offices and Campuses webpage

The CFAES Return to Offices and Campuses webpage is a central location to find college-specific guidance, links to university resources, and key contacts for support. The webpage has been updated and will continue to be updated as new guidance is released. Please bookmark and visit the page frequently for information and further updates. [View Now](#)

## CFAES Town Hall and Additional Student Welcome Events

A college town hall will be held for all CFAES faculty, staff and student employees on Wednesday, August 12 from 2-3:30 p.m. The agenda will include updates from Vice President and Dean Kress and her cabinet including time for Q&A. Please [submit questions](#) for the Q&A portion by close of business Friday, August 7 using the link below. [Zoom Link](#) Password: 546706

## NSF Award Terms and Conditions Have Been Revised

All of the terms and conditions have been updated to include a new article which establishes a post-award disclosure requirement for undisclosed current support and in-kind contribution information. Each set of terms and conditions is accompanied by a summary of changes made to that document. The revised terms and conditions will apply to all new NSF awards and funding amendments to existing NSF awards made on or after October 5, 2020, except for the SBIR/STTR-I and SBIR/STTR-II CA-FATC which will become effective July 6, 2020. [Read More](#)

## Office of Sponsored Programs, Updated Sponsored Research Officers (SPO's) July 2020

Department	SPO	Email
ACEL	Stephanie Harrier	harrier.4@osu.edu
AEDE	Bette Hartschuh	hartschuh.6@osu.edu
AS	Bette Hartschuh	hartschuh.6@osu.edu
ATI	Josh Gates	gates.346@osu.edu
ENT	Stephanie Harrier	harrier.4@osu.edu
Extension	Katie Groeniger	groeniger.10@osu.edu
FABE	Katie Groeniger	groeniger.10@osu.edu
FAHRP	Stephanie Harrier	harrier.4@osu.edu
FST	Bette Hartschuh	hartschuh.6@osu.edu
HCS	Bette Hartschuh	hartschuh.6@osu.edu
OARDC Admin.	Josh Gates	gates.346@osu.edu
Piketon	Josh Gates	gates.346@osu.edu
Plant Path	Stephanie Harrier	harrier.4@osu.edu
SENR	Josh Gates	gates.346@osu.edu
All Business and Industry Contracts (All departments)	Michael Adkins	adkins.121@osu.edu

## Useful Flexibilities for Animal Care and Use Programs to Comply with the PHS Policy During the COVID-19 Pandemic

These flexibilities are meant to assure personnel safety and animal welfare while enabling research personnel to prioritize and preserve research efforts. Some of these can be useful in reducing administrative burden, too.. [Read More](#)

## Ohio Grants Partnership

The Office of Budget and Management established and announced the Ohio Grants Partnership to better support local government partners during the COVID-19 pandemic and into the future. The federal supplemental funding of various programs related to coronavirus response and relief created the ideal opportunity to institute this unique grants partnership office. [Learn More](#)

## New National Science Foundation (NSF) Guidance

The NSF has made updates to the following guidance on their website:

- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on NSF's Implementation of OMB Memorandum M-20-26 [View](#)
- FAQs on Current & Pending Support [View](#)
- NSF-approved Formats for the Biographical Sketch website [View](#)

Updated guidance includes clarifications on professional appointments, research endeavors, principal investigators working outside the U.S. for an extended period of time, and reporting on in-kind support and outside consulting activities. Please direct any questions to [policy@nsf.gov](mailto:policy@nsf.gov).

## Academic Analytics

Academic Analytics is a subscription-based database that enables Ohio State's departments to obtain discipline-level comparisons of faculty research productivity. If you would like to be credentialed to access Academic Analytics data, please [contact](#) Sheila Craft-Morgan. [Learn More](#)

## Recent Awards

**Nicole Debose – Extension, \$98,721:** Early intervention nutrition services, OH Dept of Developmental Disabilities

**Benjamin Enger – Animal Science, \$650,000:** PARTNERSHIP: Impact of intramammary infection (IMI) on the developing bovine mammary gland, National Institute of Food & Agriculture

**Aradhya Gourapura – FAHRP, \$21,140:** Nanoparticle based vaccines and reagents, Kazakh National Agrarian University, Kazakhstan

**Michelle Jones – HCS, \$199,953:** Evaluating the influence of beneficial microbes on crop quality in the nursery and greenhouse industry, USDA Agricultural Res Service

**Scott Kenney, Qihong Wang, Linda Saif– FAHRP, \$625,000:** PARTNERSHIP: Functional genomics approach in livestock to delineate host factors critical for emerging virus replication, National Institute of Food & Agriculture

**Megan Meuti Nicol – Entomology, Matthias Klein – FST, \$528,140:** Collaborative proposal: The circadian clock's control of seasonal dormancy in mosquitos, National Science Foundation

**Luis Rodriguez-Saona – FST, \$55,692:** Rapid and non-invasive approach for real time quality testing of tomato paste and early identification of microbial spoilage, California League of Food Producers

**Clay Sneller – HCS, \$261,570:** Improving SRWW resistance to FHB using traditional and molecular breeding, USDA Agricultural Res Service

**Sandra Velleman – Animal Science, \$149,931:** Turkey breast muscle development: The biological response to thermal challenge in production birds, Michigan State University

### OSU Office of Research COVID-19 Awards

**Tom Worley – Piketon, \$362,000:** (COVID19) Small Business Development Center (SBDC) Cares Act emergency funding, OH Development Services Agency

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## New & Newsworthy

### Wooster Entomology's New Home

New 60,000 sq ft science building opening this fall!

[Read More](#)



**New "All About Grants" Podcast**  
Invention reporting and patent protections for grantees

[Learn More](#)

# Make your proposal stand out! Contact us today for a Red Team Review

Creating a proposal can be a daunting task, filled with specific acronyms and jargon. Drafting a robust and thorough narrative is a crucial factor to ensure your proposal stands out from the rest, giving you a competitive edge over other proposals.

Color-coded team proposal reviews help to ensure a compliant, compelling proposal response by providing constructive, unbiased feedback to improve overall proposal quality and competitiveness with the goal of getting you funded! We work with your team and involve expert reviewers who can objectively look at your proposal and raise points that members of the proposal team may miss. Reviews are major milestones during proposal development and are an excellent opportunity to make continuous improvements. A Red Team Review will give you a competitive edge during the funder's panel review process, with the goal of getting your proposal moved into the "FUND" category.

A color-coded team proposal review is not about finding what is wrong; it is about giving you that competitive edge to make the proposal successful! In addition, the Grant Development Support Unit (GDSU) offers blue, pink, and gold level reviews (more information can be found here).

This service was added approximately 1-year ago. Since then, 13 reviews have been conducted – 5 Red Team Reviews and 8 Gold Reviews! Interested in learning more? Contact [Shannon Hollis](#) to get started.

## Upcoming Events

**August 12-September 30**

12:30–1:00 p.m.

### Staying Calm and Well in the Midst of the COVID-19 Storm Part II

7-week series designed to help our community cope with and stay well during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**August 12-September 30**

9:00–noon

### Online Computer Courses

Increase your knowledge by learning practical skills that you will use every day. Courses include: Excel (various levels), PowerPoint (various levels), and Access.

**August 11**

2:00–4:00 p.m.

### The Second Pandemic: Understanding and Challenging the Rise in Anti-Asian Racism

Addressing different types of bias against the Asian and Asian American communities during COVID-19



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