

Office for Research &amp; Graduate Education

## Research News

### Enhancing our Research Enterprise

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

The much-awaited report, U.S. Agricultural Innovation Strategy: A Directional Vision for Research from the USDA was released in January ([Agriculture Innovation Agenda | USDA](#)). An extensive input gathering process was utilized to generate data for the report and informational sessions will continue into 2021. I encourage you to read the report and explore the dashboard on the web site. Four major themes were identified: genome design; digital and automation; prescriptive interventions; and systems-based farm and forest management. Within the categories of crops, forestry, beef and range, and dairy there are sections presenting aspirational goals addressing production, production capability, and market expansion and diversity. The overall goal is to increase agricultural production by 40 percent while decreasing the environmental footprint by half by 2050, and an emphasis on engaging the innovation ecosystem.

So why is such a report important for CFAES? There are many reasons but two primary ones. The first is that we need to ensure we are contributing to the innovation agenda for the benefit of our stakeholders in Ohio. That is clearly the case as every unit within CFAES is contributing in one fashion or another. The second primary reason is that such reports are the blueprints for future funding opportunities so we need to begin thinking about what ideas we would want to develop into formal proposals when those opportunities occur. Proposals that align with the innovation strategy will likely be viewed more favorably than those that do not. As has been mentioned in this space before, anticipating and preparing for future funding opportunities, before they are announced, greatly improves your chances for success. We tend to be deadline driven, but this is one case where advance preparation can have significant benefits. Also, note that the four major themes lend themselves to interdisciplinary efforts and applications of the entire continuum of basic to applied research, both of which are significant strengths of CFAES. Keep up the good work!

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### Off-Duty Pay Resources Page

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. Many of our faculty with a 9/12 month appointment are eligible to request off duty pay as part of the grant budgeting process. Please visit this resource page as you begin to develop your budgets for proposals to ensure you remain compliant with university and college requirements. Make sure to contact the Office for Research & Graduate Education if you have any questions or would like assistance with the process. [View the Page](#) | [Contact Us](#)

### New! Growing Research Opportunities (GRO) Academy

The Office of Research invites self-nominations from all colleges to a new leadership development program: the Growing Research Opportunities (GRO) Academy. This program will equip faculty with skills needed to lead complex, interdisciplinary collaborations in pursuit of external funding. The GRO Academy is part of a developing set of multi-faceted programs designed to foster intellectually diverse, collaborative research across academic domains, catalyze new scholarly pursuits, and help generate compelling future funding proposals. The GRO Academy includes eight, 90-minute sessions and is primarily aimed at mid-career faculty, although tenured/tenure track faculty of any rank may self-nominate. [Learn More](#)

# 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.

## Organic Transitions Program (ORG)

The goal of ORG is to support research, extension and higher ed. programs to improve the competitiveness of organic livestock and crop producers, as well as those who are adopting organic practices.

**Deadline: March 15, 2021**

## Research and Implementation Grant Program

The OSU Institute for Teaching and Learning (UITL) is requesting proposals for projects that advance implementation and/or research of instructional best practices in Ohio State courses and make contributions to the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SOTL) or Discipline-based Education Research (DBER)

**Deadline: February 28, 2021**

## AFRI Foundational and Applied Science Program

The AFRI Foundational and Applied Science Program supports grants in six AFRI priority areas to advance knowledge in both fundamental and applied sciences important to agriculture. The six priority areas are: Plant Health and Production and Plant Products; Animal Health and Production and Animal Products; Food Safety, Nutrition, and Health; Bioenergy, Natural Resources, and Environment; Agriculture Systems and Technology; and Agriculture Economics and Rural Communities.

**Deadline: Various (See RFP)**

[View All Funding Opportunities](#)

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## News

### Register for the CFAES Annual Research Conference

The CFAES Annual Research Conference will take place on Thursday, April 8, 2021 (virtually) beginning at 12:30 pm and concluding at 2 pm. The agenda will consist of a question and answer session with Dr. Rattan Lal, 2020 World Food Prize Laureate, announcements of the research award winners, an update on the CFAES research enterprise, and the annual poster competition for graduate and undergraduate students.

[Register Now](#)



### 2021 Hemp Growing Season

The Ohio Department of Agriculture has announced that the **2021 Hemp Growing Season** Application process is now open through April 9, 2021. CFAES has a procedure for new and continuing research, that can be found [here](#). Contact [Lori Kaser.37@osu.edu](mailto:Lori.Kaser.37@osu.edu) with any questions.

### Check Out NIH's New COVID-19 Research Website

NIH announced that the new NIH COVID-19 website launched in Mid-January. The site provides a central location for trusted, up-to-date, accurate information about NIH research and our strategic role in COVID-19 research. The site complements information made available on our [COVID-19: Information for NIH Applicants and Recipients of NIH Funding](#) webpage.

The new site includes information about key programs such as the [Accelerating COVID-19 Therapeutic Interventions and Vaccines public-private partnership](#) and the [Rapid Acceleration of Diagnostics](#) initiative to develop state-of-the-science diagnostic tests for COVID-19. Users are also able to search information on funded research by state, institution, Congressional district, and more. [Take Me There](#)

## Upcoming NIFA Events

Stay informed with NIFA programs and activities by visiting the online event calendar. Learn more by clicking on the program topic. [View Calendar](#)

## Research Development and Grant Writing News

The latest edition of Research Development and Grant Writing News is now available. Access the January 2021 issue of Research Development & Grant Writing News, see <https://go.osu.edu/grantwritingnews>.

In this issue:

- Expanding Your List of Potential Agency Funders – Discover ways to broaden your funding horizons and how to move to a new funder.
- New Year’s Resolutions for Preparing Your NSF CAREER proposal – With the new year, it’s time to get serious about your NSF CAREER proposal. View 11 resolutions that will help CAREER PIs produce a strong proposal as painlessly as possible.
- The Tentative (Maybe/Maybe Not) Proposal – It’s important to be strategic when considering whether to pursue a funding opportunity. How to make the “go/no go” decision. An Idea is Not a Plan; A Strategy is Not a Project – A common mistake in proposals is the failure to describe what you will actually do if funded. Learn how to avoid that trap.

[Read It Now](#)

## New F&A Rate Agreement Received

The university has just completed negotiations with DHHS on a new 4-year F&A rate agreement. The agreement, dated November 27, 2020, establishes the rates shown below. New rates go into effect on 7/1/2021 and will apply through the end of FY24, and then continue to be used after that date until a new rate agreement is established.

These new rates should be applied to new or competing continuation proposals.

ACTIVITY	ON-CAMPUS	OFF-CAMPUS*
Research	57.5%	26%
Instruction	52%	26%
Other Sponsored Activities	32%	26%

\*Off-campus rate applies to those projects (a scope of work or activity with a separate budget and accounting) for which 50% or more of the salary and wages are incurred in facilities not owned and controlled by the University and for which rent is allocated as a direct cost to the project. [Learn More](#)

## Advanced BioSYSTEMS Workshop - Growing the Bioeconomy in

**Uncertain Times** February 12, 2021 | 9 am - 12 noon (ET) | Virtual (via Zoom)

<b>KEYNOTE ADDRESS</b> <i>Developments in Bio-based Materials Markets</i> Doris de Guzman   Tecnon OrbiChem/Green Chemicals Blog <i>Targeting Solutions for Components of the Bioeconomy</i> Ajay Shah   Ohio State University	<b>BREAKOUT SESSIONS   Concurrent Facilitator-Led Discussions</b> <u>Breakout 1:</u> Biobased products and fuel Facilitated by: Denny Hall, Ohio State University <u>Breakout 2:</u> BioSystems logistics from crops to market Facilitated by: Jill Adelsberger, Cargill <u>Breakout 3:</u> Policy and governance Facilitated by: Alexa Combelic, American Soybean Association
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Click [here](#) for breakout discussion session and registration details. Click [here](#) for online registration

## Research Update

January is an ideal time to provide an update on extramural funding as it marks the completion of the first half of the fiscal year (FY21), and we can assess our progress. In addition, we have been working on organizing extramural funding metrics going back five years to look at trends. Some key metrics are described below followed by the data for the first six months of FY21, all of FY20, or the previous five fiscal years.

- **Number of proposals submitted:** Represents basic activity by faculty to secure funding and presents the number of proposals submitted for a given time period. For each reporting unit, this metric will be proportional to the number of faculty actively writing proposals and the availability of funding opportunities.
- **New awards:** The sum of the total funds requested across all approved grants for a given time period even though those funds may be spent over several years. This reflects the relative success faculty have in attracting new funding for that reporting period. This metric is proportional to the number and quality of the proposals submitted, the average amount requested per proposal, and the success rate for the programs providing the funding.
- **Extramural funding expenditures:** The sum of all spending from grants within a time period, usually a year, regardless of when the grants were first received. This is a less variable metric than new awards as it is a better measure of sustained activity over time.

We can also examine each of these metrics by reporting unit or normalize to faculty research appointments as funded by the Agricultural Experiment Station (i.e., per faculty research full time equivalent (FTE)) to look at trends. Comparison across departments is not usually valid for a number of reasons including funding opportunities that vary by discipline and faculty teaching loads.

The number of proposals submitted, and the funds requested with those proposals, during the first half of FY21 (July 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020) were down slightly compared to the same period of FY20. However, new awards during this same period were up substantially, increasing to \$27.4M from \$21.5M. Overall, FY21 is on track to be a successful year.

Looking at five-year trends, research expenditures have been increasing for CFAES. Eight of the reporting units show an upward trend while four units have been steady and one showing a decline. Overall, the number of proposals submitted and new awards for CFAES have also been increasing. Graduate enrollment has generally been stable. Intellectual property metrics such as licensing revenue and invention disclosures are increasing with the number of active start-up companies and new patents awarded remaining level. The Department of Agricultural Communication, Education, and Leadership and the Department of Agricultural, Economic and Development Economics both had banner years for new awards in FY20 and are on very positive upward trends with a relatively small contingent of faculty funded by the experiment station. The top five reporting units for extramural funding expenditures per research FTE averaged over the past five years, in decreasing order, are Food, Agricultural, and Biological Engineering; Plant Pathology; Food Animal Health Research Program; Food Science and Technology, and Entomology, ranging from \$518,000/FTE to \$293,000/FTE.

### OSP Extramural Funding Expenditures by Reporting Group

Reporting Group	FY2020	5-Year Average	Trend
ACEL	\$336,646	\$146,970	↑
AEDE	\$1,214,594	\$1,146,139	↔
Animal Science	\$1,092,64	\$1,253,608	↔
ATI	\$935,426	\$890,731	↑
ENT	\$1,988,146	\$1,862,536	↔
FABE	\$4,633,929	\$3,610,029	↑
FAHRP (now CFAH)	\$2,682,705	\$2,925,382	↓
FST	\$2,745,613	\$1,932,990	↑
HCS	\$4,924,716	\$4,395,676	↑
OSU Extension	\$11,987,440	\$10,999,578	↑
Piketon	\$1,715,222	\$1,389,034	↑
Plant Pathology	\$5,684,620	\$3,843,379	↑
SENR	\$4,033,498	\$4,178,185	↔
Other	\$1,199,764	\$2,346,877	n/a
Totals	\$45,164,961	\$41,750,314	↑

## Recent Awards

**Leah Bevis – AEDE, \$42,461:** Standardizing and cleaning LSMS-ISA datasets to analyze food consumption, production, and sales patterns, International Food Policy Research Institute

**Brent Sohngen – AEDE, \$32,968:** Analysis and economic modeling of clean air issues, RTI

**Jiyoung Lee – FST, \$50,000:** Monitoring, predicting, and controlling harmful algal blooms by buoy ultrasonic technology in a range of lakes in southwest Florida, Florida Gulf Coast University

**Amy Stone – Lucas County EXT, \$17,625:** Spotted lanternfly (*Lycorma delicatula*), The Ohio cooperative spotted lanternfly action team, OH Grape Industries Committee

**Kelley Tilmon – ENT, \$500,000:** Soybean entomology research and extension in the north central region, North Central Soybean Research Program

**Leah McHale – HCS, \$50,000:** Discover sources, genes, and develop new varieties and germplasm with improved meal protein and amino acids (OH), USDA Agricultural Research Service

**Eric Richer – Fulton County EXT, Glen Arnold – EXT, \$82,004:** Improving phosphorus placement by composting solid manure, Great Lakes Commission

**Christine Sprunger – SENR, \$35,000:** Nematode quantification in Ohio soybean fields, Ohio Soybean Council

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## New & Newsworthy

### New! Grants Shared Services Center (GSSC)

This new office combines the former OSP Purchasing, AP, and Travel departments

[Check it Out](#)



### Addressing Equity and Inclusion in Your Research Mentoring

Learn how to acknowledge conscious and unconscious assumptions, privilege, stereotype threat, and biases

[Register](#)



## Upcoming Events

**February 1**

5:30 p.m.

### Ohio State COVID-19 Town Hall

An opportunity for the community to ask questions about COVID-19 generally and the vaccine specifically

**February 4**

9:00–10:30 a.m.

### Effective Learner Engagement

Learn strategies that combat lack of engagement on your zoom calls

**February 10**

1:00–3:00 p.m.

### Appointing People on Sponsored Programs

Learn about common types of faculty, graduate student, post doc, and staff appointments

**February 18**

4:00 p.m.

### State of the University Address

President Kristina M. Johnson cordially invites you to the 2021 State of the University Address

**February 25**

1:00–2:30 p.m.

### Purchasing on Sponsored Programs

Differences and similarities of purchasing on sponsored programs vs. general funds, basic rules and regulations



**THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**

Research & Graduate Ed.



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