Office for Research & Graduate Education

Research News

Update: The Status of Research in CFAES

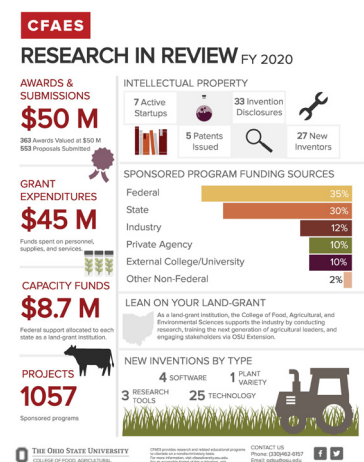*Gary Pierzynski, Associate Dean for Research & Graduate Education*

The COVID pandemic continues and I wanted to offer miscellaneous thoughts on the topic as we continue to work under unusual conditions. The Office of Research has been examining the question as to whether our gradual increase in research activities over the summer resulted in any increases in COVID cases on the Columbus campus. While this was not a properly designed epidemiological study, the data suggest that there is no relationship. Of course, it is good to know that increasing research activities did not cause any apparent harm, it may also be useful if the pandemic worsens in that we may not need to shut down research to the extent we did back in March and April. I again thank everyone for being diligent about taking the necessary health and safety precautions that undoubtedly contributed to this successful outcome.

Since the influence of the pandemic on our daily activities on our campuses will extend into the spring semester, it is not too early to be thinking about what we have learned from this experience and how it might shape our future. The shift to online instruction has many ramifications. For CFAES, could this put us in a position to recruit new graduate students to our Wooster campus without the need to spend a year on the Columbus campus taking courses? The limiting factor will always be courses offered by other colleges, but we will be exploring this issue. In a more general sense, as the availability of online courses and even entire degree programs has increased, do we make it worthwhile for our students to have a physical presence on our campuses? I think that we do but the pandemic will certainly have our current and prospective students thinking about this, and we need to ensure that we are responsive to their needs and make it worth their time and investment to be present.

We should also be thinking about future research topics as influenced by the pandemic. Naturally, we will be working on the virus itself, and CFAES has already obtained funding for such work. In addition, I anticipate research opportunities related to the resilience of our food system under crisis conditions. Finally, the pandemic brings into focus the question regarding just how our research supports the food system and natural resource base both in the immediate sense as well as over longer time frames. Are we doing the best that we can and what do we need to ensure research continues in times of crisis? Thank you again for all that you do to support the CFAES research enterprise.

The CFAES FY20 Research in Review Infographic is Now Available!

CFAES R&GE has released the FY20 Research in Review Infographic. The Research in Review highlights CFAES research expenditures, submissions, awards, and projects taking place over the course of the past fiscal year. The infographic has been released annually since 2017 as a summation of the accomplishments of the researchers working in our college. View Infographic

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.

Rebuild, Renew, Reshape to Study COVID-19 Recovery

The new Rebuild, Renew, Reshape initiative at Ohio State will support interdisciplinary research on the sustainability, resilience and justice dimensions of the COVID-19 recovery.
Deadline: October 14, 2020

CFAES R&GE Internal Grants Program

The R&GE Internal Grants Program (IGP) RFP for fiscal year 2021 is open. Investigators choosing to submit a proposal must select from one of the following tracks: (1) New Researcher Incentive Program (2) Immediate Needs Program (3) Intellectual Property Accelerator Program.
Deadline: October 14, 2020

NIFA Releases Projected FY21 RFA Publication Timeline

NIFA released the Projected RFA Publication Timeline for fiscal year (FY) 2021 for non-AFRI competitive programs. These are target timelines only and are subject to change until the RFAs are published in Grants.gov. The current list applies to new RFAs, continuations, directed and multi-year solicitations. Bookmark this list and check back often for updates as target dates draw near. A new notification will signal when AFRI RFAs are added to the schedule. View Timeline

View All Funding Opportunities

News

ORRP Office Hours Return

The Office of Responsible Research Practices (ORRP) has resumed human subjects research office hours consultations for faculty, students and staff. Appointments for medical or social and behavioral research are currently offered on Thursdays from 1-3 p.m. Requests for 30-minute Zoom appointments can be scheduled via the Research Commons website. Contact Sandra Meadows for more info. Visit Website

Research Amid COVID-19

The Office of Research and ORRP continue to support human subjects projects with the goal of protecting research participants, researchers and the larger Ohio State community from risk of infection with COVID-19, as well as ensuring ongoing access to research that may provide essential support and care to participants. Be sure to consult the guidance document Research Recovery Plan for Staged Reopening, and a webpage with many helpful resources. If after reviewing this information and working through your college you have additional questions, please direct emails to research@osu.edu.
View Document | Visit Website | Ask a Question

Buckeye Box Retirement
Buckeye box will be retired in June of 2021. **Learn More**

Updates to Buck-IRB

ORRP continues to work with Office of Research Information Systems staff to create new features and improve the Buck-IRB submission experience. Features currently in development include the following: (1) application revisions to help reduce the number of incomplete items, (2) integration of a document management system, (3) creation of an IRB reviewer module, (4) development of administrative tools for ORRP staff, (5) expanding shared department and college level reporting, (5) integration with Workday.

Export Control Policy Guidance

Is your research subject to Export Control? You may want to review these 2 videos that provide information about export controls at a high level: (1) https://osr.osu.edu/training/ (2) https://youtu.be/1y_8PgeqKc8. The full export control policy can be found at: https://osr.osu.edu/regulations/.

NSF-approved Format Updates

Effective October 5, 2020, the NSF will begin enforcing the PAPPG (NSF 20-1) requirement to use NSF-approved formats for the preparation of the Biographical Sketch and Current and Pending Support proposal documents. The NSF-approved formats are SciENcv: Science Experts Network Curriculum Vitae and an NSF fillable PDF. To learn more about the NSF-approved formats for Biographical Sketch and Current and Pending Support, please view the NSF PAPPG (NSF 20-1) webinar and NSF-Approved Formats for the Biographical Sketch & Current and Pending Support Sections of NSF Proposals webinar.

SciENcv

The SciENcv tool integrates with ORCID, enabling users to populate the Biographical Sketch by importing data directly from ORCID records rather than having to manually enter all the required information, helping to reduce administrative burden. Additionally, SciENcv allows users to grant access to delegates to assist with maintaining and updating data. SciENcv offers users a dynamic and more customized PDF. Users with fewer Current and Pending Support entries may elect to use SciENcv to generate their Current and Pending Support PDF document, since SciENcv will produce a PDF without any blank pages. Conversely, the Current and Pending Support fillable PDF will always be 15 pages regardless of how much data is included. Learn More | Visit Website

EERE Program Information Center—Coming November 2

The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (EERE) is launching a new website that will replace eXCHANGE for EERE funding opportunity announcements and application submissions. Beginning 11/2/20, organizations interested in responding to EERE opportunities will use the EERE Program Information Center to view open opportunities and submit applications. Applicants will continue to use eXCHANGE for all EERE opportunities published prior to 11/2, all EERE merit reviewer activities, and announcements published by DOE's Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs or DOE's Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E). Get the Details

EmPOWERment NSF Research Traineeship Program Fellowship Opportunities

EmPOWERment, which offers interdisciplinary training in energy-system modeling, data science, energy policy, business, and energy technologies to the next generation of innovative leaders in sustainable energy, is accepting applications for the 2021-2022 academic year from current and prospective Ohio State Ph.D. students who have an interest in sustainable energy. Prospective and first-year PhD students who are accepted into EmPOWERment also will be considered for a highly prestigious and competitive one-year fellowship opportunity funded by NSF that provides full funding to help support the trainee's PhD studies and participation in the program. Learn More | Attend an Information Session

Workday Update

Over the course of the summer, there was a significant slowdown in the direction of the Grants Management component of Workday. The current version of the PI Portal will be maintained while the Grant Management dashboard is introduced to PI's. The dashboard for grants managers is currently under development. The Workday Enterprise Team is pulling together a timeline for the late October – February window that will entail communications, presentations and lab experiences. Concepts will be introduced in late fall, hands-on help provided after the go-live date. Further information regarding what to expect next will be available in the next few weeks.

Recent Awards

Kerry Ard – SENR, $73,938: Why neighborhoods matter: A causal mediation analysis of contextual effects on child academic achievement, University of Chicago

Michael Betz – EHE, Ken Martin – OSU Extension, Andrew Wapner – COPH, David Julian – EHE $533,226: Preventing opioid misuse and abuse in rural Ohio through enhanced family and community education and training, Substance Abuse & Mental Health Servs Admin

Matt Davies – SENR: Can Novel Technologies Promote Social and Ecological Resilience to Novel Disturbances in a Changing Arctic Climate?, Battelle Endowment

Emmanuel Hatzakis – Animal Science, $10,000: Development of metabolomic and genomic database to differentiate geographical origins and cultivar, Univ of California – Davis

Margaret Kalcic – FABE, $56,000: Davidson fellowship: Building a user-oriented management tool to assess hydrology and water quality and facilitate climate change adaptation in Old Woman Creek, Nat Oceanic & Atmospheric Admin

Ken Martin – OSU Estension, Michael Betz – EHE, Andrew Wapner – COPH, $392,844: Family and community education to prevent opioid misuse and abuse, National Institute of Food & Agriculture

Robert Scharff – EHE $503,234: Sustainable, systems-based solutions for ensuring low-moisture food safety, Michigan State University

Diane (Dee Dee) Snyder – ATI, $358,109: Ohio State ATI program excel, trio student support services, US Department of Education
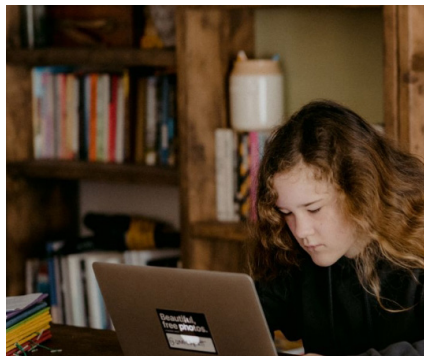
Robyn Wilson – SENR, $107,274: Accelerating adoption of nutrient management through farmer-led outreach and education, The Nature Conservancy

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New & Newsworthy

Introducing *Controverted Issues*
New educational blog for all things Human Subjects at OSU

Check it Out

Scientific Journals Vanishing
84 online, open access science journals have disappeared

Read More

Changes to Limited Submission Proposal Opportunities Process

The Research Development Office (RDO) has changed how it handles limited submission proposals. In the past, we identified and distributed all limited opportunities via the Office of Research's Research Funding and Awards application. However, only a small number of these opportunities were competed. To streamline and make time for more productive activities, we will now only list those opportunities that are typically competed or where Ohio State prefers one very competitive proposal for strategic reasons. See the Full Process

Call for Nominations for University-Wide Awards

Distinguished Scholar Award
Sponsor: Office of Research
Deadline: 10/26/20, 5 p.m.

Distinguished Staff Award
Sponsor: Office of Human Resources
Opens: 12/20. Deadline: 1/15/21, 5 p.m.

Distinguished Service Award
Sponsor: Office of Advancement
Deadline: Rolling

Distinguished University Professor
Sponsor: Office of Academic Affairs
Deadline: 2/1/21

Distinguished Diversity Enhancement Award
Sponsor: Senate Diversity Committee and Human Resources
Opens: 12/20. Deadline: 1/15/21, 5 p.m.

Upcoming Events

October 13 9:00–10:30 a.m.	**Contract Negotiation** Discussing the contract negotiation process for sponsored programs, focusing on the similarities and differences between federal and industry awards
October 27 1:30–3:00 p.m.	**An Overview of Compliance Issues in Sponsored Programs** Time & effort certification, common missteps in program management, and recognizing/handling red flags
November 17 9:00–11:00 a.m.	**FDA-regulated Research: Myth vs. Reality Part 2: Medical Devices** Research involving medical devices and the special considerations associated with obtaining IRB approval