



RESEARCH, ECONOMIC ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH UPDATE

May 5, 2020

Greetings,

Welcome to the first [Office of Research, Economic Engagement and Outreach](#) Update. Now seems an ideal time to launch a formal, regular communication highlighting UNH's research, engagement and innovation news, events, and opportunities. We hope that through this format, you are able to quickly link to more information about items that interest you.

I'd like to thank everyone who attended our Virtual Town Hall earlier this month. A recording of the session, including my presentation on when and how we'll restart our research enterprise and summer field work, is [here](#). Please join us May 13 at 2pm for another town hall, where I will provide an update on our plans; register and submit your questions [here](#).

When I arrived at UNH in early February, I had no idea that one of my first official communications to you would be directing you to ramp down research. The past months have been difficult and stressful for everyone, and I have certainly had my own struggles. When I get discouraged, I try to focus on the great work that all of you are doing, and inevitably, my spirits rise. Thank you for your commitment to public impact research, extension and engagement.

Please know that we are here for you, that we care, and that we want to help — so reach out.

Sincerely,

Marian

COVID-Related News

It's business as (almost) usual: All OSVPREEO units are operational, primarily remotely, during the coronavirus shutdown. Up-to-date COVID-19 guidance for the research community is [here](#). General UNH COVID-19 updates and resources are [here](#).

COVID-19-related funding opportunities and resources particularly suited to UNH can be found [here](#). Information is updated daily, so check back frequently! Please send any new opportunities or resources that you find to [Lynnette Hentges](#).

We are gathering information on **UNH research community efforts and interests related to COVID-19**. Our goal is to collate information; identify resources to support research activities; connect individuals with complementary interests; and explore additional support to help advance your research and its impact. If you have any existing or potential COVID-19-related research/outreach/scholarship activity, please contact [Maria Emanuel](#).

The [University Instrumentation Center](#) is now accessible with proper authorization for research deemed essential. We are offering limited access to instrumentation as well as providing testing services of provided samples on a case-by-case basis. Contact [Shawn Banker](#) for more information.

Working at home or remotely can create some unique challenges when it comes to maintaining a good, neutral, ergonomic posture. The [Office of Environmental Health and Safety](#) has developed **ergonomic tips** to setting up your home/remote work area.

The [Animal Resources Office \(ARO\)](#) is working on campus in the ARO facilities. To minimize contact, however, individuals seeking **veterinary advice** for vertebrate animals used in research or instruction should email [Dean Elder](#) or [Linnea Morley](#).

Since mid-March, UNH researchers have been required to move any face-to-face data collection activities involving human subjects to methods that instead utilize technology to facilitate remote data collection (e.g., Zoom interviews, Qualtrics surveys). Researchers should **confirm with the IRB** whether such data collection changes, delays in research interventions, or other revisions to previously approved protocols will require approval. Guidance for requesting modifications are [here](#). Contact [Melissa McGee](#) or [Sue Jalbert](#) with questions or concerns about modifying your approved IRB protocol.

Most agencies and sponsors defer to institutional policy regarding **compensating personnel during extraordinary and extenuating events**. Current University Policy and Guidance allows for personnel to continue to be charged to sponsored projects regardless of whether they are contributing to the progress of a sponsored award. Principal investigators must keep track of who is working and who is not working while being paid on a sponsored award. [Sponsored Programs](#) will be providing a tracking mechanism and instructions within the next week.

Updates and Announcements

Current limited submission programs (LSP) [deadlines](#) identifies programs with near-term deadlines where sponsors have limited the number of proposals an institution may submit. It is updated at the beginning of each month, accompanied by an email to our research community.

The **FY21 CoRE proposal and award timeline has been [adjusted](#)** to allow researchers to balance the uncertainties currently facing our research community and so many others. The deadline for FY21 CoRE Proposals is now Friday, June 5, 2020 by 5pm. Awards are expected to start on September 1, 2020. Find more information on the funding opportunities and apply [here](#).

[Sponsored Programs Administration](#) and [Research Integrity Services](#) have launched **[online training to provide guidance for principal investigators](#)**. The two-module training outlines responsibilities for principal investigators, who are entrusted by the university to manage external funds to conduct research; it's strongly recommended for principal investigators but will benefit all members of the research community.

[Cayuse](#) has been selected as USNH's **new research administration software platform**. Developed by research administration professionals, Cayuse provides a fully integrated proposal, award, compliance and animal facilities solution that streamlines sponsored project life cycle management from proposal to award to closeout. Look for updates as we begin the implementation of this software.

[NSF](#) has released information regarding the **Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide ([NSF 20-1](#))**. They intend to partner with the NIH to use Science Experts Network Curriculum Vitae ([SciENCv](#)) as an approved format for Biographical Sketch and Current and Pending Support for proposal submissions. These required formats go into effect for proposals with due dates on or after June 1, 2020. Investigators who do not choose to use SciENCv must use the NSF approved templates which can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

In addition, the NSF has confirmed that **current and pending support** must be provided for the proposed project, for ongoing projects, and for any proposals currently under consideration from whatever source, irrespective of whether such support is provided through the proposing organization or is provided directly to the individual. For example, federal, state, local, foreign, public or private foundations, non-profit organizations, industrial or other commercial organizations or internal funds allocated toward specific projects.

The **[quarterly certification period](#)** for the months of January, February and March 2020 is now open. The eForm Certification System is the official record to document PI confirmation of project expenditures.

To document the fulfillment of the principal investigator's grant obligations to the federal sponsor, the PI should complete the **[closeout certification](#)** form. The closeout certification process is automatically initiated through Banner.

The University Instrumentation Center (UIC) has made a multitude of online, **self-paced training videos** available on its [website](#), covering many of the instruments within the UIC, image processing techniques and other topics. We will be continuing to add to this with hands-on UIC training videos to further our ability to provide remote training.

Identifying and highlighting **publications that utilized the UIC instrumentation** or staff during research is important; it supports future proposals by highlighting the value of past acquisitions and resources. Please contact us if you've published work using UIC instruments or staff so we can add it to [this page](#). We are also introducing new, more specific instructions and text to ensure proper acknowledgement of grants and funding sources for all UIC instruments. This will be available soon on our website.

Review a recent memo about the university's [Financial Conflicts of Interest in Research](#) program.

The [Research Computing Center](#), now reporting to the UNH and USNH chief information officer, remains committed to supporting the university's research enterprise. RCC reports that the CRAY high-performance computing cluster — an NSF major research instrumentation award to assistant professor of physics Francois Foucart — arrived recently and is scheduled to be installed in the 1 Leavitt Lane data center in early May.

Good News

Congratulations to Serita Frey, professor of soil microbial ecology, on her selection as an [Ecological Society of America Fellow](#), and to Jiadong Zang, assistant professor of physics and material science, for receiving the [Young Scientist Prize](#) from the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics. NASA and NOAA selected a team of UNH and Southwest Research Institute researchers to design and build a [magnetometer to improve space weather modeling](#). Professor of physics Roy Torbert is principal investigator on the \$6 million award. Michael Leese, assistant professor of history, received a [National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Stipend award](#). NASA selected a proposal from professor of physics Mark McConnell for a [\\$500,000 mission concept grant](#) to study gamma ray bursts. Read about all the ways UNH is researching and responding to the [coronavirus pandemic](#). See more UNH research news [here](#), and contact [Beth Potier](#) with your own news to share.

[Calendar of Research-Related Events](#)

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