RESEARCH, ECONOMIC ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH UPDATE

September 16, 2020

Effort Certification

The deadline for completing FY20 effort certification is October 9. Effort certification is an important financial compliance requirement. Certified effort reports provide auditable documentation to confirm that UNH personnel did, in fact, commit the level of effort described in a proposal as awarded to the university. We appreciate your support in ensuring that we meet 100% compliance with this important milestone. An effort training refresher is here; direct any questions to your BSC, Susan Zipkin or Gretchen Losee.

COVID-Related Funding
Wondering what COVID-19 research the federal agencies have been funding? Explore these lists:

- USDA-NIFA: AFRI SBIR (more to be announced in October)
- NSF RAPID: COVID Information Commons
- NIH: All COVID-19 research grant funding

NSF continues to adjust deadline dates to accommodate the pandemic. A continuously updated list of changes to NSF program deadlines can be found here. Updates from NSF and other sponsors are posted on COVID-19 Funding Opportunities, Research Priorities, and Resources and Quick Guide - Resources Supporting COVID-19 Research.

Explore Your Idea’s Potential with Virtual I-Corps Training

UNHInnovation is hosting a virtual version of the highly successful UNH I-Corps training this fall. This accelerated three-week program will leverage remote tools to support online learning and collaboration as teams engage in entrepreneurial training to explore the commercial potential of their ideas. Faculty, staff, graduate students and undergraduates are welcome to apply. Virtual training sessions begin October 14; application deadline is September 24. Learn more and apply here.

Building an Anti-Racist Research Lab

Asmeret Asefaw Berhe, professor of soil biogeochemistry at the University of California– Merced, discusses her research career and recent publication “Ten Simple Rules for Building an Anti-Racist Research Lab” September 23, noon – 1pm, on Zoom. A link to register for the event, sponsored by the UNH Advisory Board for Underrepresented Grad Students, is here. Contact Natalie Kashi for more information.

New at the University Instrumentation Center

The UIC is in full swing to support your research and teaching activities, providing training to students and access to all of our instruments. All UIC lab spaces are operational and available for use, following UIC COVID guidelines.

We are happy to announce the addition of another high-quality analytical instrument to the UIC made possible by support from NH BioMade. The new Olympus Confocal OLS5000 laser confocal microscope precisely measures shape and surface roughness at the submicron level very quickly. Check it out on the Olympus website (it’s so new, we don’t have it up on our site yet!) and sign up for training through the UIC today.

Grant Management Tips and Reminders

On June 18 OMB issued M-20-26, a memo that extended the ability to continue to charge non-productive time on federal awards with two major limitations: 1) it must be consistent with institutional policies to fund all salaries and, 2) all other available university funds must have been exhausted. Effective June 17, 2020, only charges for grant-related productive work can be charged to federal awards. All charges for idle time MUST be retroactively removed.
back through June 17 and cannot resume until the employee is able to perform work that benefits the award.

USNH’s new e-procurement system, UShop, has officially begun implementation across campus, starting with the successful launch of phase one in Enterprise Technology and Services, the e-procurement pilot group. A second implementation phase beginning in October will likely include COLSA, EOS and chemistry. Remaining departments and colleges will be staggered in waves through the rest of the fiscal year.

Sponsored programs would like to remind everyone of the following training opportunities for new and seasoned researchers and administrators:

- **Principal Investigator Training**
- **Level-Up Micro-credentialing for Research Administrators**

The first mandatory Quarterly Expense Certification period is fast approaching. This is a reminder that principal investigators and BSC representatives should be meeting to [review quarterly expenditures](#). As UNH continues to have a variety of work schedules both on campus and at home, it’s more important than ever to ensure that this review is completed.

**AGU Climate Change Virtual Advocacy Days**

The American Geophysical Union is offering an opportunity to join other scientists during Earth Science Week (October 11-17) for a virtual advocacy event to raise awareness of the role science plays in addressing the climate crisis and why climate change is an important issue for your community. Live training sessions will be offered 6-8 October to help prepare you. [Register here by Wednesday, September 23](#) to participate in any of the activities. You do not need to be a current AGU member to participate. Contact NRESS Ph.D. candidate [Clarice Perryman](#), an AGU Voices for Science Advocate, for help organizing meetings with the New Hampshire congressional offices to discuss climate change impacts and climate resiliency.

**Cayuse IRB Overview Sessions**

The Office of Research, Economic Engagement and Outreach is implementing a comprehensive grants management and research compliance cloud-based software called Cayuse. One module (Cayuse IRB) is for managing protocols submitted to the UNH Institutional Review Board (IRB) for research involving human subjects. With Cayuse IRB, researchers will be able to streamline IRB submissions and have online access to their IRB protocol records.

The IRB will implement Cayuse IRB in mid-November (the specific date will be announced in the coming weeks). In preparation, the IRB staff are holding training sessions via Zoom during the month of October where they will introduce researchers to the software, walk them through the features and screens, and answer questions. Researchers need to pre-register for sessions and the Zoom link will be sent to them the day before the session. Information about the sessions are available [here](#). While researchers may find the training helpful in getting familiar with the new platform, attending a session is not a prerequisite to submitting an IRB protocol in the
system. Please contact the IRB staff (Melissa McGee, Susan Jalbert, or Julie Simpson) with questions about Cayuse IRB or the overview sessions.

**Good News**

Read about UNH’s new [COVID-19 test lab](#) and how it’s working to keep [our campus and community safe](#). A [new NIH grant](#) aims to develop an effective workforce for New Hampshire’s expanding regenerative medicine and biotechnology industries. Kabria Baumgartner, associate professor of English and American studies, is COLA’s [inaugural faculty fellow](#) for equity and inclusion. With a new NASA grant, researchers Amy Keesee and Christopher Mouikis will study the [geomagnetic storms](#) that cause the Northern Lights. NRESS Ph.D. candidate Tamara Marcus cofounded the [Advocates for Social Justice](#) in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, around the goals of the Black Lives Matter movement. Please send research news — high-impact results, new grants, awards and more — to Beth Potier.