



University of New Hampshire

Office of the Senior Vice Provost for Research,
Economic Engagement and Outreach



RESEARCH, ECONOMIC ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH UPDATE

December 21, 2020

Greetings,

Before we head into winter break and say farewell (with glee!) to 2020, I want to take a moment to thank each of you for the part you played in making this year extraordinary. You adapted, you pivoted, you tested, you took on new responsibilities, you stepped up in ways we never could have imagined a year ago.

You all had a role in helping UNH notch some significant successes despite the challenges of COVID-19:

- We stood up a CLIA-certified COVID-19 testing lab, ran more than 300,000 tests, and kept our campus open to students for an in-person learning and living experience.
- We closed FY20 with a record-breaking \$129 million in competitive research grants and contracts.
- Many faculty members were honored with awards and fellowships for their scholarship.

As I write this, the first COVID vaccines are arriving in New Hampshire and getting into the arms of some of our most critical health care workers, promising a much brighter year ahead. Before we scatter for what I hope is a restful break, I want you all to know how proud I am of you and this remarkable UNH community. I hope you share my pride.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Laboratory Closure Guidelines

Planning to shut down your laboratory to work remotely? Do you want to plan ahead in case campus access is restricted? Guidelines are available from the Office of Environmental Health and Safety that describe steps to safely shut down laboratories with hazardous chemicals, infectious substances or radioactive materials during periods of inactivity. Questions? Contact Andy Glode, 603-534-9872, or Maureen Rashidifard, 603-312-2500.

USHOP

USNH's new e-procurement system, USHOP, is live! USHOP is a major milestone in the university's plan to modernize USNH's purchasing process. In addition to eliminating a majority of the paper and steps it takes to purchase goods and services, the system automates approvals, simplifies order tracking and—unlike the P-card—is not limited to \$3,500 purchases. USHOP will also provide the university critical data on campus-wide purchases for the first time. USHOP houses University-approved vendors curated with faculty/staff input and by examining prior purchasing trends. In addition to comprehensive training, USNH Procurement Services offers support and real-time assistance. Expect to receive information from the USHOP team on your unit's implementation in the coming weeks.

Monitoring Lab Functions

Do you have confidence that your laboratory refrigerators and freezers are maintaining the correct temperature? Will you know if an equipment failure occurs or a freezer door is left open and the cabinet warms up? Does your laboratory experience environmental conditions (excess temperature, humidity) that require continuous tracking to ensure accurate regulation and results?

The University Instrumentation Center can help by installing Monnit Monitoring in your laboratories. This system

employs a WiFi, ethernet or cellular sensor to track a nearly endless list of parameters and alert you to unexpected and emergent events via email and text message before it's too late. Monnit is currently used to monitor more than 70 freezers, refrigerators, incubators and other equipment in the UNH COVID-19 Testing Lab, the Veterinary Diagnostics Lab and in many research buildings on campus.

The UIC will procure and set up the sensor and notifications and provide the instrument owner with access to the cloud-based monitoring system for a minimal one-time fee. Contact Shawn Banker to discuss your application needs.

COVID-19 Funding Resources

Agencies continue to update their guidance and responses to the COVID-19 pandemic:

- NIH: Extended Guidance on Applicants Preparing Applications During the COVID-19 Pandemic
- NASA Science Mission Directorate: E.10 SMD call for COVID Augmentations and Funded Extensions
- NSF Division of Ocean Sciences (OCE): COVID-19 response and guidance update from NSF/OCE
- NSF Division of Earth Sciences (EAR): Message from the NSF Division of Earth Sciences to the research community

Many agencies are including COVID-19-related topics or priorities in the 2021 versions of their regular programs. Be sure to be on the lookout for them!

More Funding Resources

The December 2020 issue of Research Development & Grant Writing News is here. Each newsletter is copyrighted and available through our UNH subscription to UNH employees only.

IACUC Meetings

The [UNH Institutional Animal Care & Use Committee \(IACUC\)](#) has set its spring semester meeting schedule, which is available [here](#). For questions about the IACUC or the meeting schedule, please contact [Sue Jalbert](#) or [Julie Simpson](#) in Research Integrity Services.

IRB Meetings

The [UNH Institutional Review Board for the Protection of Human Subjects in Research \(IRB\)](#) has set its spring semester meeting schedule, which is available [here](#). For questions about the IRB or the meeting schedule, please contact [Melissa McGee](#), [Sue Jalbert](#) or [Julie Simpson](#) in Research Integrity Services.

NH BioMade Seed Funding

The New Hampshire Center for Multiscale Modeling and Manufacturing of Biomaterials (NH BioMade) has released a request for proposals for its 2021 Research Seed Funding Opportunity. Up to \$50,000 is available to conduct pilot projects or collaborations with industry and up to \$5,000 is available for the use of equipment at the UNH Instrumentation Center. Deadlines: Jan. 4, 2021, for letters of intent; Jan. 18 for applications.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Communicate Your Scholarship

The 2021 UNH Research Communications Academy opens Jan. 13 at 1 p.m. with Communicating With News Media, an always-popular session featuring a panel of news media experts, including reporters and [UNH media relations](#) specialists, on how to make any news interview a positive experience in communicating your scholarship. The 2021 RCA, which runs through the spring semester, will be entirely virtual via Zoom, and sessions are free and open to all faculty, graduate students and research-related staff. Registration is now open for sessions that will help you communicate to news media and policymakers, prepare better proposals and posters, and harness the power of social media.

Research & Large Center Development Programs

- [NIH Overview and Updates: Jan. 13, 2-3:30 p.m.](#)
- [NSF CAREER Program Overview: Jan. 15, 1-2:30 p.m.](#)
- [PUSH USDA - Optimizing Your Project's Chances for Funding by the USDA: Jan. 21, 1-3 p.m.](#)

New England National Lab Day Webinar Series

Registration is [open](#) for the next [New England National Lab Day webinar](#), on Thursday, Jan. 21, focusing on opportunities to understand nuclear physics at the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) National Laboratories. UNH researchers can join representatives from various DOE national labs to share insights for accessing DOE's world-class scientific facilities and partnering to address society's most pressing energy, environmental and national security challenges.

New Undergraduate Course

INCO 490A: Undergraduate students interested in conducting research or those already conducting research will explore individual, professional, institutional and social issues related to the ethical conduct of research and scholarship. Students will use case studies as well as share their research interests and experience to investigate topics including data management, authorship, mentorship, human subjects, use of vertebrate animals, and scientific integrity. Completion of this course and accompanying modules fulfill part of the National Science Foundation ([NSF](#))

[Responsible Conduct of Research \(RCR\) training mandate](#) and/or the [United States Department of Agriculture \(USDA\)](#) National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA). 2 Credits. Grades earned are Cr/F. In-person course offered Wednesdays from 10:10 a.m.-12 p.m. in New Hampshire Hall G10 from February 1, 2021-March 19, 2021.

February 2021 Ethical and Responsible Conduct of Research Training

Registration is open for the February 2021 [ethical and responsible conduct of research \(RCR\) training](#). The training involves completion of [online RCR instructional modules](#) and participation in a Zoom seminar Friday, Feb. 26, 2021, 1-4 p.m. Participants must [register for the training](#) by Thursday, Feb. 18 and must complete the online modules prior to the seminar.

The training, primarily directed at postdoctoral researchers, graduate students and undergraduate students, but open to all faculty and staff, fulfills RCR training required by the [National Science Foundation](#) and the [United States Department of Agriculture National Institute of Food and Agriculture](#). New Ph.D. students who are required to attend RCR training in spring 2021 should NOT register for this training; they must register for the [RCR training session in March](#) to which they have been assigned. Contact [Julie Simpson](#) with questions.

GOOD NEWS

Chanda Prescod-Weinstein, assistant professor of physics and core faculty in women's and gender studies, is on Nature magazine's [Nature's 10](#) list of people who had a role in some of the most significant moments in science in 2020. For the second year, professor of sociology David Finkelhor, director of the Crimes against Children Research Center, is on Clarivate's [Highly Cited Researchers](#) list. Alumna Cyndee Gruden '91, '93G is the [new dean](#) of the College of Engineering and Physical Sciences. The National Association of County Agricultural Agents recognizes Extension staff George Hamilton, Emma Erler, Carl Majewski, Heather Bryant and Mary Saucier Choate with [2020 awards](#). With an NSF grant, researchers from the Earth Systems Research Center in EOS will coordinate [ice core drilling](#) in Antarctica. Sensors built by students in CEPS Innovation Scholars program are helping residents and planners in Hampton, N.H., [manage coastal flooding](#) and sea level rise. UNHInnovation's 2020 Annual Report is available [here](#), and the fall UNH Magazine is [here](#). Please send research news — high-impact results, new grants, awards and more — to [Beth Potier](#).

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