Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, Campus Center, Room H-313C, Tele. ext. 3215

The Strategic Plan's Unspoken Summer Challenge

As the academic year draws to a close, what would you think of taking on a grant-seeking challenge? Goals of our College's 2018-2023 Strategic Plan set visions for faculty and visions for students that seem to suggest the effort would be most welcomed.

In my job with the Office of Research & Sponsored Programs (ORSP), I am particularly driven by Goal 4 of the Strategic Plan calling for efforts to strengthen our institution's effectiveness, "*to provide a strong foundation from which to achieve the other three Strategic Goals.*" I am especially mindful of the Plan's appeal to raise our campus profile. This may be where faculty research project grants matter most to a college. Beyond the immediate and tangible rewards that can accrue to the successful research project grant applicant (including summer salary, increased professional travel opportunities, and so on), many other benefits will be imparted upon the successful researcher's academic department, the College, our students, and even our alumni, when you think about the elevation of an institution's public profile.

Please let me know if there is a grant program of interest to you contained within these pages or if you would like to pursue some other grant opportunity this summer. I believe you will find the ORSP both anxious and well qualified to assist.

- Tom Murphy   (ext. 3215, murphyt@oldwestbury.edu)

Advancing Diversity in Aging Research through Undergraduate Education
National Institute on Aging, National Institutes of Health
URL: https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-17-290.html
Application due dates: May 25, 2019; September 25, 2019; and January 25, 2020.

Through what is known as its "R25" award mechanism, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) supports research education activities in the mission areas of the NIH. The over-arching goal of this National Institute on Aging (NIA) program is to support educational activities that enhance the diversity of the biomedical, behavioral and clinical research workforce in aging. NIA is seeking applications that offer (1) structured research experiences, (2) tailored learning opportunities, (3) an emphasis on explaining the relevance of aging and of the science of aging to students' lives, and (4) opportunities to engage fellow students with an interest in science in order to develop a cadre of graduates who will go on to research careers allowing them to diversify the research workforce on aging, enrich the questions asked, and expand the scope of interventions developed from the research. The means to achieve this end may include structured research experiences, science clubs, or other targeted activities. Direct Costs of up to $350,000/year may be awarded. Project periods are limited to five years.

Science Education Partnership Award (SEPA), National Institutes of Health
URL: https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-17-339.html
Application due date: July 9, 2019.

This program is administered through the National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS) and encourages the development of innovative educational activities for pre-kindergarten to grade 12, pre-service and in-service teachers and students from underserved communities with a focus on Courses for Skills Development, Research Experiences, Mentoring Activities, Curriculum or Methods Development and Outreach. The Program Director/Principal Investigator must be actively engaged in research and/or teaching in an area related to the mission of National Institutes of Health. For efforts involving multiple PDs/PIs, applicants should describe the complementary and integrated expertise of those involved and governance appropriate for the planned project. Prospective applicants are strongly encouraged to consult with the SEPA Scientific/Research officer, Tony Beck, PhD (301-435-0805, beckl@mail.nih.gov) concerning the appropriateness of the intended project for SEPA program objectives and the priorities of the NIGMS.

Research Funding Program, National Endowment for Financial Education
URL: https://www.nefe.org/research/research-funding/default.aspx
Letter of Intent Due Date: June 4, 2019

The National Endowment for Financial Education (NEFE) provides financial education and practical information to people at all financial stages, believing that regardless of background or income level more financially informed individuals are better able to

take control of their circumstances, improve their quality of life, and ensure a more stable future for themselves and their families. NEFE's Research Funding Program exists to better understand and meet the changing financial education needs of Americans. Grants are awarded to projects with actionable outcomes that are directly relevant to the financial well-being of the public and broadly applicable to a variety of U.S. households or individuals. To be eligible for funding from NEFE, the principal researcher must have a terminal degree in a discipline applicable to the research and must be affiliated with a U.S. nonprofit college, university or research organization. Prospective grant applicants should submit a Letter of Inquiry (LOI) by June 4 for a November funding decision. More can be learned about the NEFE's funding interests by reviewing descriptions of several presently funded projects published at https://www.nefe.org/research/research-projects/ongoing-research/default.aspx.

Higher Education and Scholarship in the Humanities: The Liberal Arts College Program
The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation
URL: https://mellon.org/programs/higher-education-and-scholarship-humanities/liberal-arts-colleges/
Proposal due dates: See below concerning a required initial letter of inquiry.

The Liberal Arts College sector of the Mellon Foundation's Higher Education and Scholarship in the Humanities program helps institutions respond to the demographic, economic, technological, and competitive challenges facing higher education. In light of the pressures associated with national concerns such as access, diversity, degree completion, cost, career paths, and productivity, this program emphasizes measures that address faculty development, curricular renewal, pedagogical innovation, and undergraduate research in the humanities. New areas as well as strengthened emphases include programs that: strengthen the faculty's pedagogical and scholarly development; renew and diversify the professorial ranks; develop students' critical, analytical, and creative capacities through the use of digital technologies, including blended learning; embed interdisciplinary, comparative, and cross-cultural perspectives into the curriculum; and, integrate study abroad, internships, community-based learning, and civic engagement into students' educational experiences. Inquiries concerning a proposed grant should be made through the Foundation's grantee portal, Fluxx (https://mellon.fluxx.io). If Mellon officials determine that the proposed grant fits within the Foundation's priorities, the prospective grant applicant will be invited to submit an official, complete proposal through the portal.

☆ **Facilitating Research at Primarily Undergraduate Institutions: Research in Undergraduate Institutions (RUI) and Research Opportunity Awards (ROA)**   Due date: See note below.
URL: https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2014/nsf14579/nsf14579.htm
Deadlines vary by program and proposals must meet program-specific requirements to be considered for review. Prospective applicants should contact cognizant program officers for guidance. See https://www.nsf.gov/crssprgm/rui_roa/contacts.jsp.

☆ **Research Experiences for Undergraduates**   Due date: August 28, 2019.
URL: https://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5517&from=fund
Supports active research participation by undergraduate students in any of the areas of research funded by the NSF. REU projects involve students in ongoing research programs or in research projects specifically designed for the REU program.

Chemistry   Submission window dates: September 1 - 30, 2019 for: Chemical Catalysis; Chemical Structure, Dynamics and Mechanisms; Chemical Theory, Models and Computational Methods; and Chemical Synthesis. October 1 - 31, 2019 for Chemical Measurement and Imaging; Chemistry of Life Processes; Environmental Chemical Sciences; and Macromolecular, Supramolecular and Nanochemistry.   2019 Program Solicitation URL: https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2019/nsf19577/nsf19577.pdf.

Biological Sciences   Proposals accepted year round.
Division of Molecular and Cellular Biosciences   URL: https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2018/nsf18585/nsf18585.pdf
Division of Environmental Biology   URL: https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2018/nsf18587/nsf18587.pdf
Division of Integrative Organismal Systems   URL: https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2018/nsf18586/nsf18586.pdf

Math   Due dates: Vary by disciplinary program. URL: https://www.nsf.gov/funding/programs.jsp?org=DMS

Computer Science   Due dates: Vary by disciplinary program. URL: https://www.nsf.gov/funding/programs.jsp?org=CISE

Education and Human Resources   Due dates: Vary. URL: https://www.nsf.gov/funding/programs.jsp?org=EHR
Reminder: Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program   Due date: August 27, 2019.
URL: https://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5733

NSF Programs in the Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences

Developmental Sciences Program Due date: July 15, 2019.
URL: https://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=8671&org=SBE&from=home
Supports basic research that increases our understanding of cognitive, linguistic, social, cultural, and biological processes related to human development across the lifespan.

Sociology Program Due date: August 15, 2019.
URL: https://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5369&org=SBE&from=home
Supports basic research on all forms of human social organization -- societies, institutions, groups and demography -- and processes of individual and institutional change. Encourages theoretically focused empirical investigations aimed at improving the explanation of fundamental social processes.

Political Science Program Due date: August 15, 2019.
https://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5418&org=SBE&from=home
Supports scientific research that advances knowledge and understanding of citizenship, government, and politics. Includes, but not limited to, American government/politics, comparative government/politics, international relations and political institutions.

Law and Social Sciences Program Due date: August 1, 2019.
https://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=504727&org=SBE&from=home
Supporting social scientific studies of law and law-like systems of rules. The Program is inherently interdisciplinary and multi-methodological. Successful proposals describe research that advances scientific theory and understanding of the connections between law or legal processes and human behavior.

Social Psychology Program Due date: July 15, 2019.
URL: https://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5712&org=SBE&from=home
Supports basic research on human social behavior, including cultural differences and development over the life span. Attitude formation and change, social cognition, personality processes, interpersonal relations and group processes, the self, emotion, social comparison and social influence, and the psychophysiological and neurophysiological bases of social behavior.

Science of Learning Program Due date: July 10, 2019.
URL: https://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5567&org=SBE&from=home
Supports research addressing learning in a wide range of domains at one or more levels of analysis including molecular/cellular mechanisms; brain systems; cognitive affective and behavioral processes; and social/cultural influences. The program supports a variety of methods, e.g., experiments, field studies, surveys, secondary-data analyses, and modeling.

Decision, Risk and Management Sciences Program Due date: August 19, 2019.
URL: https://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5423&org=SBE&from=home
Supports scientific research directed at increasing the understanding and effectiveness of decision making by individuals, groups, organizations, and society.

Economics Program Due date: August 19, 2019.
URL: https://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5437&org=SBE&from=home
Supports research designed to improve the understanding of the processes and institutions of the U.S. economy and of the world system of which it is a part.

Perception, Action & Cognition Program Due date: August 1, 2019.
URL: https://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5686&org=SBE&from=home
Supports theoretically motivated research on a wide-range of topic areas related to typical human behavior with particular focus on perceptual, motor, and cognitive processes and their interactions. Central research topics for consideration by the program include (but are not limited to) vision, audition, haptics, attention, memory, written and spoken language, spatial cognition, motor control, categorization, reasoning, and concept formation.

Science of Organizations Program Due date: September 3, 2019.
URL: https://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=504696&org=SBE&from=home
Supports basic research that yields a scientific evidence base for improving the design and emergence, development and deployment, and management and ultimate effectiveness of organizations of all kinds -- private and public, established and entrepreneurial, designed and emergent, formal and informal, profit and nonprofit.

Science, Technology and Society Program Due date: August 5, 2019.
URL: https://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5324
Supports research on a broad spectrum of topics including interdisciplinary studies of ethics, equity, governance, and policy issues that are closely related to STEM disciplines, including medical science.

Attention: Prospective AREA (R15) Applicants

AREA
Due date: June 25, 2019

To all faculty who are considering submitting an AREA Grant proposal to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) on June 25, 2019:

The Office of Research and Sponsored Programs (ORSP) is here to help you, in ways

beyond the routine expectations of sponsored programs offices. Of course, we can handle the completion of agency forms and construction of a budget. In addition, yes, we will provide the requisite eligibility letter for NIH, upload this and other documents into ASSIST. We will register those not yet established in eRA Commons - all this, and more. However, we believe we can add value to your application in a number of ways that might not have occurred to you. Here are a few examples:

• A search of currently funded awards. Program officers and proposal reviewers are pleased to see and hear from applicants with a demonstrated knowledge of the agency's recent funding – scientists and scholars who are aware of what is current with the agency. With that in mind, can we help you by mining the NIH awards database for grant funding on topics similar to yours?

• Study Section Assignment. Can we work with you to identify the most appropriate Study Section for your grant proposal? While applicants are not required to provide a Study Section recommendation, NIH officials consistently urge us to do so.

• Edit. Can we read and conduct a layperson's edit of your proposal in an effort to assure your writing is clear? *That is important!*

• Is there an aspect of your proposal that needs to be strengthened, perhaps the addition of a paid consultant or access to certain types of facilities? By conducting a more thorough review of project abstracts (see bullet point one, above), we can attempt to locate appropriate resources (equipment or personnel) and make initial inquiries/contacts.

Now here's the thing – to assist in these ways, we, too, will need time! So, if any of these ideas sound potentially useful to you, please do not delay in contacting us! In the meantime, following is a list of online items of possible immediate interest to AREA applicants. Please do not disregard the two YouTube videos; a 50-minute investment in viewing today might relieve you of some stress and save you much time in coming weeks.

AVAILABLE FROM THE NIH: TWO MODEL "AREA" PROPOSALS AND ASSOCIATED SUMMARY STATEMENTS

• Artem Domashevskiy, Ph.D. (John Jay College of Criminal Justice)

"Development of a Novel Inhibitor of Ricin: A Potential Therapeutic Lead against Deadly Shiga and Related Toxins"
Proposal: https://www.niaid.nih.gov/sites/default/files/R15-Artem-Domashevskiy-Application.pdf
Summary Statement: https://www.niaid.nih.gov/sites/default/files/R15-Artem-Domashevskiy-Summary-Statement.pdf

• Rahul Raghavan, Ph.D. (Portland State University)

"Elucidating the evolution of Coxiella to uncover critical metabolic pathways" (2017-2020)
Proposal: https://www.niaid.nih.gov/sites/default/files/R15-Rahul-Raghavan-Application.pdf
Summary Statement: https://www.niaid.nih.gov/sites/default/files/R15-Rahul-Raghavan-Summary-Statement.pdf

MAKE CERTAIN TO USE THE CORRECT/CURRENT FUNDING OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT

Changes were made to the AREA program as recently as this past fall; consequently, a Funding Opportunity Announcement you may have downloaded a year ago is now outdated. For the most part, with very few exceptions, Old Westbury applicants should use the FOA titled, "Academic Research Enhancement Award for Undergraduate-Focused Institutions (R15 - Clinical Trial Not Allowed)" (PAR-18-717) available at https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-18-714.html

▶ YouTube
• "NIH Tips for Grant Applicants" (< 5 min.) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lAOGtr0pM6Q
• "R15/AREA Grants: Navigating NIH Peer Review" (< 45 min.) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nZ21RaAEvek

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*The **Office of Research and Sponsored Programs** serves the College at Old Westbury in the dual roles of promoting grant-supported scholarly activity and assisting in the administration and management of sponsored programs. Consequently, the Office reports to both the **Office of Academic Affairs** and the **Division of Business & Finance**.*

Thomas O. Murphy
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