

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

In the news...

Old Westbury Receives \$2-Million Grant from U.S. Department of Education

Our congratulations go out to Barbara Hillery and Cristina Notaro, Dean and Assistant Dean of the School of Arts & Sciences, for their leadership in developing a grant proposal just funded by the U.S. Department of Education. The award of over \$2-million is titled *Ensuring Student Success* and provides support in pursuit of three primary goals: (1) Increase student support services for student achievement and success; (2) Increase faculty pedagogical development opportunities, and (3) Increase retention and graduation rates.

2019-20 Faculty Development Grants Program (FDG)

In an October 8 memo addressed to all Full Time Faculty and Librarians, Provost Patrick O'Sullivan announced plans for the 2019-20 Faculty Development Grants Program (FDG). Funded by the Office of Academic Affairs, FDG grants provide awards of up to \$3,000 each for research and scholarly endeavors, with awards of up to \$5,000 available for collaborations among full time Old Westbury faculty. The program announcement and interactive PDF forms can be accessed from www.oldwestbury.edu/research; look for, and double click, the FDG links under "Funding Opportunities." The deadline for submission of FDG proposals is Friday, November 15.

SUNY Releases Statement on Foreign Disclosure and Export Controls

Last month, the Office of the Chancellor, in response to a Resolution adopted by the SUNY Board of Trustees, released a Statement on Foreign Disclosure and Export Controls. The Statement serves to address concerns regarding possible inappropriate influence by some foreign entities over federally funded research and follows expressions of concern expressed by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) on July 10 and the National Science Foundation (NSF) on July 11. Both agencies have long-standing requirements concerning the disclosure of possible conflicts of interest to the inclusion of foreign interests. Links to each of these three statements are provided below. In issuing their respective statements, NIH and NSF each maintain that the current announcements are, in fact, reminders and do not represent changes in policy.

SUNY Chancellor: <https://www.oldwestbury.edu/sites/default/files/documents/research/ExportControl.pdf>

National Institutes of Health: <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-19-114.html>

National Science Foundation: https://www.nsf.gov/news/news_summ.jsp?cntn_id=298852&org=NSF&from=news

Funding Opportunities...

Division of Environmental Biology (DEB), National Science Foundation

The National Science Foundation's Division of Environmental Biology (DEB) will soon issue a new Program Announcement, NSF # 20-502 (not yet available as our newsletter went to print). The DEB supports research and training on evolutionary and ecological processes acting at the level of populations, species, communities, and ecosystems. DEB encourages research that elucidates fundamental principles that identify and explain the unity and diversity of life and its interactions with the environment over space and time. Research may incorporate field, laboratory, or collection-based approaches; observational or manipulative studies; synthesis activities; phylogenetic discovery projects; or theoretical approaches involving analytical, statistical, or computational modeling. A preliminary announcement appearing at GRANTS.GOV indicates that applications will be accepted year round, with funding ranges of \$5,000 - \$5,000,000.

Ethical and Responsible Research, National Science Foundation

URL: https://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=nsf19609

Application due date: February 24, 2020.

Ethical and Responsible Research (ER2) funds research projects that identify factors that are effective in the formation of ethical STEM researchers. ER2 solicits proposals for research that explores matters like: What constitutes responsible conduct for research (RCR)? Which cultural and institutional contexts promote ethical STEM research and practice and why? What practices contribute to the establishment and maintenance of ethical cultures and how can these practices be transferred to and integrated into other research and learning settings? The program announcement suggests that factors one might consider include: honor codes, professional ethics codes and licensing requirements, an ethic of service and/or service learning, life-long learning requirements, curricula or memberships in organizations that stress responsible conduct for research, institutions that serve under-represented groups, institutions where academic and research integrity are cultivated at multiple levels, institutions that cultivate ethics across the curriculum, or programs that promote group work, or do not grade. Only one proposal may be submitted by an eligible organization; for this reason, interested parties should contact Tom Murphy (murphyt@oldwestbury.edu) before the start of the College's winter break.

Academic Research Enhancement Awards - AREA (R15) Grants, National Institutes of Health

URL: <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-18-714.html>

Due dates: October 25, 2019; February 25, and June 25, 2020.

Academic Research Enhancement Awards, providing biomedical/behavioral research investigators with up to \$300,000 (Direct Costs) over the course of one-to-three years, were created to address three important goals: (1) provide support for meritorious research at undergraduate-focused institutions; (2) strengthen the research environment at these institutions; and (3) give undergraduate students an opportunity to gain significant biomedical/behavioral research experience through active involvement in the research. In recent years, the agency has released several new "R15" announcements modifying the program somewhat, however, the stated purposes of this original grant program and articulated, today, in Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) # 18-714, remain unchanged.

The AREA grant competition is not open to major research universities like our neighbors, Stony Brook, Columbia, or NYU; so faculty from predominantly undergraduate institutions, like ours, compete on a more level playing field seeking funding. However, with regard to our neighbor institutions – investigators from these or other research universities may play a role in your grant-supported project as paid consultants or through the issue of a limited subcontract. Please contact the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs if you feel you might be interested in the challenge of developing an AREA grant proposal.

Support for Data Science Research through the AREA Program Announced by NIH Last March

Modern biomedical research is becoming increasingly quantitative and reliant on computational methods, with growing use of large and complex datasets to address biomedical research questions and advance human health. In March 2019, NIH released its [Strategic Plan for Data Science](#) that highlighted the need for the next generation of researchers to be equipped with the skills of this interdisciplinary field and in March issuing FOA # NOT-GM-19-021, accessible at <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-GM-19-021.html>.

Reminders to prospective NIH AREA applicants:

- Register in eRA Commons and ASSIST through the Office of Research & Sponsored Programs.
- Use the appropriate Funding Opportunity Announcement. In the vast majority of cases, this will be PAR-18-714 "R15 - Clinical Trial Not Allowed" (versus PAR-19-133 "Clinical Trial Required").
- ORSP will obtain the requisite Letter of Support (assurance of institutional eligibility), signed by Provost O'Sullivan.
- Complete the tutorial and disclosure form concerning Conflicts of Interest, required by the NIH prior to proposal submission.
- Questions? Contact Tom Murphy at extension 3215 or via e-mail at murphyt@oldwestbury.edu. Better yet, let us meet.

Reminder... Items that appeared in previous issues of this newsletter.

Research Grants (Standard and Young Investigator awards), American Foundation for Suicide Prevention

URL: <https://afsp.org/our-work/research/grant-information/> Application due date: November 15, 2019.

Special Initiatives Research Project Grants, Russell Sage Foundation

Social, Political and Economic Inequality; Behavioral Economics; Future of Work; and, Decision Making and Human Behavior in Context.

URL: <https://www.russellsage.org/special-initiatives>. Letter of Inquiry Deadline: November 26, 2019.

Research Grants Program, National Endowment for Financial Education (NEFE)

URL: <https://www.nefe.org/research/default.aspx> Application due date: December 3, 2019.

Research Coordination Networks in Undergraduate Biology Education, National Science Foundation

URL: <https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2018/nsf18510/nsf18510.pdf>. Application due date: January 21, 2020.

Summer Seminars and Institutes for Higher Education Faculty, National Endowment for the Humanities

URL: <https://www.neh.gov/grants/education/summer-seminars-and-institutes-higher-education-faculty>.

Optional Draft due: January 2, 2020. Application due date: February 13, 2020.

Summer Seminars and Institutes for K-12 Educators, National Endowment for the Humanities

URL: <https://www.neh.gov/grants/education/summer-seminars-and-institutes-k-12-educators>.

Optional Draft due: January 2, 2020. Application due date: February 13, 2020.

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
Director, Office of Research
and Sponsored Programs

Dr. Patrick O'Sullivan
Provost and Senior Vice President
for Academic Affairs

Arthur H. Angst, Jr.
Research Foundation Campus Operations Manager
Associate Vice President, Business Compliance

Len L. Davis
Senior Vice President of Business & Finance
Chief Financial Officer