No Cost Extension Request Form

A No Cost Extension (NCE) request form has been developed to be used when requesting an extension to a sponsored project’s/program’s award. The purpose of the form is so that OSP can collect as much information as possible to effectively submit an extension request to the sponsor on behalf of the PI/PD.

Subject to the sponsored award terms and conditions, if no additional funds are necessary to complete a sponsored project/program during the proposed extension period, a no cost extension may be requested from the sponsor. PIs/PDs seeking a no cost extension should notify OSP at least 45-60 days (or other advanced period as required by the sponsor) prior to the project/program expiration date.

The NCE Request Form is available on the OSP website.>>

Revisions to the Routing and PI Assurance Form

OSP has revised the Routing and PI Assurance Form. The revisions include additional questions to the form. A summary of the additional questions are below:

#7. Indicate the type of research/program to be conducted:

- Basic
- Applied
- Developmental

Purpose: American University participates in the annual National Science Foundation Higher Education Research and Development (HERD) Survey, which collects data on all research and development activities at higher education institutions. The survey categorizes research and development activities into three categories: basic, applied and developmental. The PI will now be able to indicate which category their proposed research/program falls under. (A definition for each of the above research types can be viewed within the form.)

#12. If applicable, indicate where the funding opportunity per the project/program that you are applying was obtained:

- InfoEd
- SciVal
- Foundation Center
- OSP Newsletter
- OSP Staff
- Provost
- Office
- Other: ________________

Purpose: This question aims to help assess the benefits of the funding databases that we currently are subscribed to as well as the OSP Monthly newsletter.
#13. Will the proposed sponsored project/program take place in any of the following?

**Purpose:** This question asks to specify the AU building location where the proposed on-campus research/project will take place. This is required in order to comply with institutional reporting requirements. *(You will be able to select from a list of AU building locations from within the form)*

The revised Routing and PI Assurance Form can be accessed on the [OSP website >>](#).

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**Award Announcement—Caroline Cooper, School of Public Affairs**

The Office of Sponsored Programs is proud to announce the following award.

**PI:** Caroline S. Cooper, Justice Programs Office, School of Public Affairs  
**Award Name:** Adult Drug Court Technical Assistance  
**Sponsor:** Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs  
**Award Amount:** $2,400,000

**Summary of Project:** Funding will permit the School of Public Affairs (SPA) Justice Programs Office (JPO) to continue research, training and technical assistance services to state courts developing adult drug courts as well as veterans court, and mental health court programs. The project will also permit the JPO to undertake a major new initiative focusing on promoting judicial leadership for the purpose of developing and sustaining these programs. It will also allow for the collaboration of numerous public health and community agencies that need to be involved.

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**Faculty Grant Writing Workshop—Provost Office**

This grant writing workshop, offered in both the Spring and Fall semesters, focuses on the fundamentals of proposal writing, targeting funding opportunities and enhancing proposal writing skills.

Presented by Dr. Ralph Pollack, AVP for Research at UMBC

- November 11, 2013, 9:00—5:00pm

In addition, 1-on-1 sessions can be scheduled for November 12 and November 13 for individual faculty members who attended the Spring 2013 workshop and who feel they would benefit from a follow-up meeting with Dr. Ralph Pollack.

*For more information about the workshop, click here >>*

For faculty that are interested in attending the workshop and/or the 1-on-1 sessions should contact Anita Brown no later than October 1, 2013.

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**Center on Health Risk and Society—NIH Seminar**

Susan Newcomer, Ph.D., Program Officer from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD), will be joining the Center on Health Risk and Society to discuss research practices, how to understand the research priorities of various NIH institutes, and her ideas on how to write an NIH grant.

**Leaping the Hurdles and Navigating the Maze: Getting Research Funding from the NICHD**

- October 2, 2013  
- 2:30—4:00pm, Battelle Tompkins T30  
- No RSVP required

The Center on Health Risk and Society holds weekly seminars that feature a combination of works in progress sessions and general talks by local and outside speakers.
Teaching Assistant/Research Assistant Orientations

The Office of Graduate Studies and Research recently sponsored six orientation training sessions for incoming and continuing Teaching Assistants (TA) and Research Assistants (RA) at the beginning of the Fall 2013 semester. These sessions were held on August 27-29, September 3-4, and September 7, 2013. Dr. Martyn Oliver, Professional Lecturer in Philosophy and Religion helped facilitate each session. The topics discussed included academic integrity, graduate student rights and responsibilities, campus resources, and grading and working with a faculty mentor.

The University Library also provided support by training attendees in Blackboard for teachers. Overall, the orientation series was widely praised as more than 90 students attended all six sessions. Most of the students that attended the comprehensive sessions rated it among the best orientations provided by American University. Therefore, a similar orientation series will be conducted and offered next Fall 2014 for incoming teaching and research assistants.

Jonathan Tubman, Dean of Graduate Studies and Vice Provost for Research, stated “This is a value-added enhancement activity that we wanted to offer the academic units to support their instructional activities. We wanted to improve the experience of TAs at American University and those of the undergraduates with whom they work.”
Upcoming Information Sessions & Training Schedule

Funding Search Information Sessions

OSP has created a series of information sessions for those interested in independently searching for funding opportunities. The sessions will provide training on how to use our current funding search databases, and will assist faculty and staff in developing user profiles to receive direct funding opportunities related to their research interests.

⇒ **Next Sessions:**
  - General Overview: October 3, 2013, 10:30-12:00pm, Butler Board Room
  - Unit/School Oriented (SPEX): October 29, 2013, 10:00-12:00pm, 4200 Wisconsin Ave 3rd floor conference room

[View more information about the Funding Search Information sessions and how to register here >>]

Research Administration Certification (RAC) Program

RAC is a comprehensive training and certification program designed to assist AU departmental and school/college level staff with research administration and management responsibilities. This 8-session program provides pertinent information to enable participants to effectively manage sponsored awards.

⇒ **Next Session:** Session 2—Proposal Related Issues (Pre-Award)
  - October 10, 2013, 10:00-12:00pm, Butler Board Room

[View more information about RAC and how to register here >>]

Cayuse

Cayuse 424 is a fast, easy-to-use web application created specifically to simplify the creation, review, approval, and electronic submission of grant proposals.

⇒ **Next Session:** October 16, 2013, 2:00-4:00pm, Anderson Lower Level (South Side)

[View more information about Cayuse and how to register here >>]

Grant Administration Roundtable (GAR) Sessions

OSP and Grants and Contracts Accounting (GCA) would like to invite you to the next GAR session where they will be discussing the following topics:

- AU’s new negotiated indirect cost rate agreement (NICRA) agreement rates (indirect cost and fringe benefit rates)
- PSA Consultant Agreement Modification Template
- No Cost Extension (NCE) Request Form
- Revised Routing and PI Assurance Form
- Revised Project Brief

⇒ **Next Session:** October 23, 2013, 2:00-3:30pm, Butler Board Room

[View more information about GAR and how to register here >>]
Each month, OSP Monthly highlights a specific American University faculty/staff member for their contributions in providing cutting-edge research or research related program that serves to create and advance knowledge, enrich the resources of our educational community while answering and accelerating challenging issues we face today. This month, we are featuring Kathleen De Cicco-Skinner, Assistant Professor in the Department of Biology.

Q&A with Kathleen De Cicco-Skinner

Q: Please tell us about what your research interests are:
Kathleen: My laboratory investigates several different aspects of cancer development and progression, including the molecular basis of skin cancer, the role of fat in the progression of multiple myeloma, and the interplay between cancer cells and cells that live in the nearby tumor microenvironment.

Q: In your own words, what is the main purpose/importance of your research?
Kathleen: Over the course of a lifetime, half of all men and one third of all women will develop some form of cancer. Although great strides have been made in the identification and treatment of cancer over the last several decades, it remains a devastating disease for millions of people.

Q: Currently, what type of research are you primarily focused on?
Kathleen: We know that cells living in the vicinity of the cancer cell—in its tumor microenvironment influence the cancer cell, resulting in a quicker replication time or higher degree of invasion. If we can learn more about the communication that occurs between these cell types, we can work more effectively to block these signals. Therefore, we are looking at how a cancerous cell communicated with other cell types that reside near it, including bone, fat and immune cells.

Q: What are some of the ways to learn and find out about your research?
Kathleen: Aside from the Department of Biology website, my publications can be found through Pubmed or Google Scholar.

Q: What inspired you to enter your field of research initially?
Kathleen: Having lost both a brother and father to cancer, I sought to understand more about the molecular basis of cancer. Delineating key genes and signaling pathways that, when disrupted, produce cancer is instrumental to the design and development of improved cancer therapeutics.

Q: How long have you been at American University?
Kathleen: I have been at AU for ten years and there is no place I would rather be. The students are engaged, creative and talented. Being at a mid-sized university with smaller class sizes affords me an opportunity to get to know students on a personal as well as professional level, and lets me provide many students each year with an opportunity to gain research experience.
Subcontractors vs. Consultants (Vendors)—How to Tell Them Apart

CHARACTERISTICS OF A SUBCONTRACTOR
- Synonymous with subawardee, subgrantee, etc.
- Subcontractor's goods or services are specifically tailored in response to the project, not provided commercially
- Subcontractor's program/project director is generally a collaborator; may even be designated as a Co-Investigator in the proposal
- Subcontractor is part of the development and execution of the work performed by prime/grantee
- Makes programmatic decisions
- Has performance measured against the goals/objectives of the project

CHARACTERISTICS OF A CONSULTANT (VENDOR)
- Provides the goods or services within normal business operations
- Provides similar goods or services to many different purchasers
- Operates in a competitive environment
- Provides goods or services that are ancillary to the operation of the research project; and
- Are not subject to monitoring or reporting requirements of the prime award
- A company or an individual who is clearly a bona fide consultant (expert advisor) who pursues this line of business for him/herself
- Are paid for their time at a daily or hourly fixed rate
- A consultant is considered a "work for hire" thus all intellectual property and copyrightable information is generally assigned to the prime/grantee recipient (i.e. American University)

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN A SUBCONTRACTOR AND A CONSULTANT (VENDOR)?
- Allowability of subcontractor generally requires prior approval of the sponsor
- Inclusion of a subcontractor affects the calculation of F & A costs
- Consultants (vendors) are subject to open-bid requirements or requires sole source documentation
- Federal monitoring requirements are applicable only to subcontractors

For questions regarding how to distinguish between a subcontractor and consultant (vendor), please contact the Office of Sponsored Programs.
Once the funding opportunities and deadlines are determined, create schedules and task lists for each opportunity. The schedule shouldn’t be finite, allowing for tweaking. For example, don’t have the end date as the actual deadline day, but have the deadline set for a week prior to allow for unforeseen problems.

Read the grant guidance thoroughly. In general, at least a couple of reviews of the guidance are needed. The guidance should provide a sense of the tone and structure of the grant narrative.

Keep track of the technical assistance provided. Technical assistance seminars are becoming more popular with federal agencies, as are online grant tutorials.

Make sure the grant narrative is written in an “online-friendly” manner. Some formatting style may be stripped from the document once it is posted online, including bullets, italics and quotation marks. Either change these once posted, or use other methods (hyphens, parentheses or all caps) from the beginning.

In spelling out the need for the proposal, provide as much supporting evidence on the problem to be solved as possible. Use timely statistics, case studies, testimony and other measurable data. Do not use outdated statistics.

In the grant narrative, clearly spell out goals and deliverables. This is best accomplished with lists, with supporting paragraphs spelling out how each of the goals and deliverables will be accomplished.

Assume the grant reviewers know nothing about your organization. Don’t confuse them with jargon. Explain things completely.

Once a draft narrative for a grant application is finished, contact the grant official for the targeted program (unless otherwise told not to) to see if they will take a look. Be ready to provide a synopsis over the phone, because, while they generally won’t review the proposal for you, they will listen to the synopsis and provide guidance.

Know your budget. It should be realistic and give credibility to the entire proposal. Online submission systems generally provide space to provide additional information on the expenditure (i.e. budget justification). You should provide as much information on the line item as possible.

As a final step prior to submission, have a fresh set of eyes take a look at the grant application. Ideally this would be someone on staff who has some knowledge of the subject matter.

(Courtesy of ‘The Grant seeker’s Checklist—CD Publications, 2013)
FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture—Postdoctoral Fellowship
Offering a two-year postdoctoral fellowship in any area of early American studies, to begin July 1, 2014. A principal criterion for selection is that the candidate’s dissertation or other manuscript have significant potential as a distinguished, book-length contribution to scholarship. The Institute’s scope encompasses the history and cultures of North America’s indigenous and immigrant peoples during the colonial, Revolutionary, and early national periods of the U.S. and the related histories of Canada, the Caribbean, Latin America, the British Isles, Europe, and Africa, from the sixteenth century to approximately 1820.
Deadline: October 28, 2013

Louisville Institute—Sabbatical Grants for Researchers
This program aims at identifying and supporting ecclesiastically engaged academics and intellectually astute pastoral and religious leaders whose scholarly research can contribute to the vitality of Christianity in North America. The program supports year-long sabbatical research projects that advance religious and theological scholarship in ways that also address practical issues concerning Christian faith and life, pastoral leadership and/or religious institutions.
Deadline: November 1, 2013

American Council of Learned Societies—Robert H.N. Ho Family Foundation/ACLS Program in Buddhist Studies
The American Council of Learned Societies announces a new initiative supporting research and teaching in Buddhist studies funded by a $1.9 million grant from The Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation. Working with the Foundation, ACLS will offer an articulated set of fellowship and grant competitions that will expand the understanding and interpretation of Buddhist thought in scholarship and society, strengthen international networks of Buddhist studies, and increase the visibility of innovative currents in those studies.
Deadline: November 5, 2013

National Endowment for the Arts—Research: Art Works
Research into the value and impact of the arts is a core function of the National Endowment for the Arts. Through accurate, relevant, and timely analyses and reports, the NEA elucidates the factors, conditions, and characteristics of the U.S. arts ecosystem and the impact of the arts on other domains of American life. To advance this work further, the NEA welcomes grant applications for projects seeking to use novel research questions and/or techniques to analyze high-quality datasets containing arts variables. The NEA encourages applicants from diverse research fields (e.g., sociology, economics, anthropology) and diverse areas of expertise, including, but not limited to, health, education, and urban and regional planning. Although applicants must be nonprofit organizations, they may partner with for-profit entities, and/or use commercial and/or administrative datasets.
Deadline: November 5, 2013

University of Arizona Center for Creative Photography—Ansel Adams Research Fellowship
This program is designed to promote and support research in the Center’s photograph, archive and library collections. Our goal is to promote new knowledge about photography, photographic history and photographic theory.
Deadline: November 15, 2013

U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum—Fellowship Competition
The Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies awards fellowships on a competitive basis to support significant research and writing about the Holocaust. We welcome proposals from scholars in all relevant academic disciplines, including history, political science, literature, Jewish studies, philosophy, religion, sociology, anthropology, comparative genocide studies, law, and others.
Deadline: November 30, 2013

Tel Aviv University—Dan David Prize
The Dan David Prize is an international prize that recognizes and encourages innovative and interdisciplinary research that cuts across traditional boundaries and paradigms. It aims to foster universal values of excellence, creativity, justice, democracy and progress and to promote the scientific, technological and humanistic achievements that advance and improve our world.
Deadline: November 30, 2013 (Call for Nominations)

French American Cultural Exchange—The French American Fund for Contemporary Art
Offering financial support in the form of grants to American nonprofit institutions organizing exhibitions, installations, or projects by living French artists (or artists being influential for a younger generation). Qualifying exhibitions may be in the fields of painting, drawing, installation, sculpture, architecture and design, as well as video art.
Deadline: Autumn 2013
Kellogg Institute Visiting Fellowships—Exploring Democracy and Human Development
The Kellogg Institute for International Studies seeks both accomplished and promising scholars who conduct international research on democracy and human development, as relevant to contemporary societies around the world. Visiting fellowships afford the time to move research projects forward in an interdisciplinary, intellectually stimulating environment, share findings, and develop linkages with renowned US and international scholars.
Deadline: November 1, 2013

Motor Neurone Disease Association—Biomedical Research Project Grants
The objectives of the MND Association research funding programme are to support research aimed at understanding the causes of MND, elucidating disease mechanisms and facilitating the translation of therapeutic strategies from the laboratory to the clinic. The essential purpose of the grant is to support a single project, i.e. a piece of work designed to answer a single question or a small group of related questions.
Deadline: November 1, 2013

NASA—Outer Planets Research
The Outer Planets Research (OPR) program supports diverse scientific investigations that contribute to the understanding of the outer Solar System, including the giant planets, their satellites, and smaller solid bodies including comets, asteroids, and Kuiper Belt objects. The program includes both data analysis from NASA missions and fundamental research. The objectives of the OPR program include: Enhancing the scientific return from the New Horizons, Cassini, Galileo, Voyager, and Pioneer missions by continuing the analysis of their respective data sets through broadened scientific participation; Improving our understanding of the evolution of the outer Solar System, including the giant planets, their satellites, and other small bodies; and defining the dynamical processes operating in the outer Solar System.
Deadline: November 1, 2013

Luce (Henry) Foundation—Luce Scholars Program
The Luce Scholars Program is a nationally competitive fellowship program. It was launched by the Henry Luce Foundation in 1974 to enhance the understanding of Asia among potential leaders in American society. The program provides stipends, language training, and individualized professional placement in Asia for 15-18 Luce Scholars each year, and welcomes applications from college seniors, graduate students, and young professionals in a variety of fields who have had limited exposure to Asia.
Deadline: November 1, 2013

Warren Alpert Foundation—Warren Alpert Prize
The Foundation supports innovative individuals and organizations dedicated to understanding and curing disease through groundbreaking research, scholarship and service. The goal is to recognize contributions to humanity and breakthroughs in the understanding and curing of major diseases. Each Fall, the Foundation hosts a signature symposium at which some of the world’s foremost physician-scientists and researchers receive one of the most prestigious awards in biomedicine.
Deadline: November 1, 2013

Parkinson Disease Foundation—International Research Grants Program
The International Research Grants Program (IRGP) is designed to promote innovative research that has a high potential to significantly advance the knowledge of Parkinson's disease (PD), but little likelihood of securing funding through more traditional sources. By supporting novel, “high risk/high reward” research, the goal of the IRGP is to enable investigators to demonstrate the feasibility of their ideas while generating preliminary data necessary for the support of future funding.
Deadline: November 5, 2013 (Letter of Intent)

Psychology Beyond Borders—Mission Awards
Psychology Beyond Borders is seeking project proposals for the 2014 PBB Mission Awards. PBB is an international non-profit organization committed to international leadership in psychosocial preparedness, prevention and response in the face of disasters, armed conflict and terrorism. PBB has identified a number of specific focus areas requiring significant support to advance this mission, and to support research and service projects that fit into these areas.
Deadline: November 8, 2013
Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation—Innovation Awards
Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation (ALSF) is committed to creating opportunities for new and innovative research into treatments and cures for childhood cancers. Innovation grants are designed as seed funding for mid-career researchers with a novel approach to pediatric cancer scientific investigation. This may often represent a change in research direction and/or an innovative new idea that moves away from an investigator’s prior research. ALSF will grant Innovation Awards supporting research proposals to be carried out by investigators who are already established, have a track record of peer-reviewed publications and evidence of successfully competing for substantial extramural funding in other areas.
Deadline: November 11, 2013 (Letters of Intent)

National Science Foundation—Mathematical Biology
The mathematical biology program supports research in areas of applied and computational mathematics with relevance to the biological sciences. Successful proposals are mathematically innovative and address challenging problems of interest to members of the biological community. Projects may include development of mathematical concepts and tools traditionally seen in other disciplinary programs within the Division of Mathematical Sciences, e.g. topology, probability, statistics, and computation, etc.
Deadline: November 15, 2013

Organic Farming Research Foundation—Education and Outreach Grants Program
Intended to fund development of educational activities and materials that are pertinent to organic agricultural production and/or marketing, and are aimed at organic producers and/or those considering making the transition to organic certification. OFRF will also accept proposals to fund activities that promote information sharing among organic agricultural researchers and organic farmers and ranchers.
Deadline: November 15, 2013

American Foundation for Suicide Prevention—Grants
Supporting studies that aim to increase understanding of the causes of suicide and factors related to suicide risk or to test treatments and other interventions designed to prevent suicide. A suicide outcome measure must be included. Investigators from all academic disciplines are eligible to apply, and both basic science and applied research projects will be considered, providing the study has an essential focus on suicide or suicide prevention.
Deadline: November 15, 2013

Burroughs Welcome Fund—Innovation in Regulatory Science Awards
Providing up to $500,000 over five years to academic investigators who are addressing research questions that will lead to innovation in regulatory science, with ultimate translation of those results into improving the regulatory process. These awards are intended to provide support for academic researchers developing new methodologies or innovative approaches in regulatory science that will ultimately inform the regulatory decisions the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and others make.
Deadline: November 18, 2013

National Park Service—Preservation Technology and Training Grants
The Preservation Technology and Training Grants program provides funding for innovative research, training, and publications that develop new technologies or adapt existing technologies to preserve cultural resources. NCPTT funds projects within several overlapping disciplinary areas. These include: Archeology, architecture, collections management, engineering, historic landscapes, materials conservation.
Deadline: November 19, 2013

National Science Foundation—Physics at the Information Frontier
Includes support for data-enabled science, community research networks, and new computational infrastructure, as well as for next-generation computing. It focuses on cyber-infrastructure for the disciplines supported by the Physics Division while encouraging broader impacts on other disciplines. Disciplines within the purview of the Physics Division include: atomic, molecular, optical, plasma, elementary particle, nuclear particle, astrophysics, gravitational and biological physics.
Deadline: November 29, 2013

World Health Organization—IARC Fellowships for Cancer Research
The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) is offering an Expertise Transfer Fellowship to enable an established investigator to spend normally from six to twelve months in an appropriate host institute in a low/medium resource country in order to transfer knowledge and expertise in a research area relevant for the host country and related to the Agency’s programmes. Major areas of activity include understanding cancer, developing strategies for cancer prevention and elucidating the underlying mechanisms of carcinogenesis through studies of molecular and cell biology.
Deadline: November 30, 2013
FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

National Institutes of Health
NIH Funding Opportunities—Grants & Funding Page
(Search by keywords to narrow down your search to locate funding opportunities)

Education

American Educational Research Association—AERA Minority Dissertation Fellowship in Education Research
In 1991, the Council of the American Educational Research Association (AERA) established the AERA Minority Dissertation Fellowship in Education Research to provide support for doctoral dissertation research. The purposes of the program are to advance education research by outstanding minority graduate students and to improve the quality and diversity of university faculties. This program offers doctoral fellowships to enhance the competitiveness of outstanding minority scholars for academic appointments at major research universities. It supports fellows conducting education research and provides mentoring and guidance toward the completion of their doctoral studies.
Deadline: November 1, 2013

National Academy of Education—Spencer Postdoctoral Fellowships
The National Academy of Education/Spencer Postdoctoral Fellowship Program supports early career scholars working in critical areas of education research. This nonresidential postdoctoral fellowship funds proposals that make significant scholarly contributions to the field of education. The program also develops the careers of its recipients through professional development activities involving National Academy of Education members.
Deadline: November 1, 2013

Digital Media and Learning Competition—Research Competition: Research Grants
Research funds are intended to support the gathering and writing up of findings on novel and effective ways of assessing learning practices, especially learning facilitated by digital media.
Deadline: November 28, 2013

General

Federal Contracts
Federal Business Funding Opportunities
(Search by keywords to narrow down your search to locate funding opportunities)
Encourage those who are not on the newsletter subscription list to join!
Subscribe by sending an email with your name and academic/business unit to
Newsletter-L@listserv.american.edu

Here is some of what to expect in next month’s OSP Monthly:
- OSP Spotlight with Monika Konaklieva, Associate Professor, Department of Chemistry
- Post-Submission Considerations: A Checklist
- The Pros and Cons of Public and Private Sources of Funding

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