Welcome from the OSP Director

Dear AU Colleagues,

Welcome to the May issue of The Sponsored Research Monthly. As in previous issues, you will find a substantive article, funding opportunities by academic unit, awards booked, and other important updates. While summer is upon us, there is much to do on the sponsored research front, including the move of OSP and GCA to the Spring Valley Building. More information on that soon.

If anyone is interested in writing a research administration article for the newsletter, please let Akidah Felder know of your interest. We prefer articles that are practical, so that research administrators can do their jobs with quality and efficiency. OSP welcomes a new staff member into the pre-award area, Femi Adedoyin. Femi came to AU from Lincoln University in Pennsylvania, where she was their pre-award officer. She's an attorney by training, which some of you may know has been a trend in research administration for the past decade. Welcome, Femi!

Congratulations are also in order for the ten (10) graduates of the RAC program this spring. The field of research administration is constantly changing, and it is very important that all AU research administrators remain highly knowledgeable. Congratulations, everyone! I wish you and yours a wonderful summer. And don't forget, the next GAR meeting is set for June 23rd, location to be announced soon.

Kind regards,

Jim Casey
OSP Welcomes A New Staff Member:
Ms. Femi Adedoyin, Grant & Contract Manager

Olufemi Adedoyin joined OSP in April 2016 as a Grant and Contract Manager. Prior to joining AU's OSP, Olufemi worked in the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs (ORSP) at Lincoln University of Pennsylvania. Olufemi Adedoyin has a J.D. from the Syracuse University College of Law, an M.A. in International Relations from the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs (Syracuse University), and an M.P.A. and B.A. in English and Anthropology from the University of Delaware. She is also admitted to the New York State Bar and is a member of the New York State Bar Association.

2016 RAC GRADUATING CLASS

Denitrice Scott *
Samuel Alarif *
David Baratta
Hayley Kanlyn
Matt Bourdon
Ashley Alexander *
Cristina Corvo
Stephen Petix *
Karla Alfaro *
Royal Gethers

* Contingent upon indicated outstanding quiz submission
Whenever I tell a friend I work for the Office of Sponsored Programs, the subsequent response that I receive is often a quizzical look followed by a question (for those external to academia it is often a common one), “the office of what?” To simplify, I work in partnership with Scholars, Administrators and Project Directors. Our common goal is to execute the core administrative functions that make funded work possible over the long term. The sponsored research that is conducted at American University is both exciting and impactful. As an institution, we are preparing for the growth to come and readying for an increased need to secure diverse sources of funding. The encouraging aspect during this transition is that we have successes.

For example, mathematics professor Jeffrey Adler led the acquisition of a National Science Foundation (NSF) grant to facilitate major research with academic institutions around the world. The total grant awarded for the group of institutions was $1.2 million, with AU earning the largest percentage of the subaward with over $500,000 being granted. Other distinguished faculty who collaborated to make this grant possible were AU math professors Jeffrey Hakim and Joshua Lansky, as well as several mathematicians from other domestic and international institutions, including MIT, the University of Michigan, Purdue University, and the College of William and Mary.

Modeling a Funded Scholar

As the communications manager, I am often afforded the opportunity to witness, via data and my outreach efforts, how the funded innovators of our community do what they do (a.k.a the secrets of the funded scholars). Over the years, I have noted a few common traits among them; it is my belief that these traits provide the edge in terms of securing progressively competitive private and federal sources of funding. Funded scholars are typically either master delegators leading a trusted support team and/or self-motivated. Such scholars leverage their research skills beyond their fields of interest and apply the five Ws (Who, What, When, Where & Why) to the art of sourcing funding. I have also noticed that each scholar remains in a posture of openness and interest as it relates to proactively locating promising opportunities throughout the duration of their careers. How can you do the same? My advice is to employ the five Ws:
Who: When seeking funding opportunities, define the key sponsors in your industry. Use AU databases to research who has obtained funding in your area beyond our University community. Please note that AU’s databases enable you to view scholar profiles of industry leaders at Universities across the country and internationally.

What: Can you define your research or direct service project in key words and phrases in the search engine optimization (SEO) sense? Can you define your research in a variety of ways beyond your personal description, ways sourced from sponsor websites and RFPs? If not, create a list of phrases and words that accomplish this task and leverage their use in your next search.

When: Do you have a list of opportunities organized by sponsor deadline and complimentary alerts in your work calendar? Listing standard and limited submission external competitions that are relevant to your work while maintaining a proposal template and/or boilerplate language (that can be customized at various points of the academic year) creates an efficient workflow, lessens your administrative labor and investment of application preparation time.

Where: Do you have a clear sense of where funding for your industry is found? Some of our colleges, certain types programs and all research areas have a pattern in terms of sourcing funding. In some instances there are international, federal, and private sources but in others it is a mix of two or one of those possibilities. Secondly, do you know where to look in order to gauge what the typical funding amount per PI is for your sector? In some fields, millions of dollars are available while an award at the $100,000 level is a tantamount achievement in other fields.

Why: Have you considered the long-term reasoning that supports why your group of sponsors is funding your work? Understanding the funding priorities of external organizations enables you to craft pitches and letters of inquiry that are tailored to both your needs and their desired core area of impact beyond the current grant cycle. Understanding the “why” is fundamental to relationship development with both the organization and program officers.
Funding Sources to Master

If you are a new investigator, you may not be aware that American University offers a robust suite of funding sourcing databases. Beyond your core industry and research specific knowledge, mastering the use of these tools enables you to be among the first tier of academics positioned to apply. The university also offers several support webinar based resources in addition to the sites listed below. These resources are available and accessible to anyone on campus that has an AU ID and a WIFI connection.

The Resources

GRANT FORWARD

GrantForward uses specialized data-crawling technology to constantly update our extensive database of sponsors and funding opportunities, allowing thousands of grant opportunities to be gathered from over 9,000 US Sponsors. Every grant opportunity is thoroughly analyzed and then verified by our team of specialists to ensure accuracy. Grant Forward, formerly IRIS, is a pre-award funding search with administration console. Grant Forward focuses on improving the inventory of foundation, federal and other funding sources while providing an intuitive, powerful search and flexible management experience.

PIVOT COS
http://pivot.cos.com/funding_main

Locating and securing research funding is becoming increasingly competitive, as funding opportunities are limited and the number of researchers vying for those dollars continues to grow. Gain a competitive edge when identifying funding opportunities with ProQuest Pivot, a web-based discovery and workflow tool that combines a comprehensive source of global funding opportunities with the largest collection of scholar profiles into one intuitive solution. With Pivot, researchers, faculty and research administrators can easily explore new avenues for funding, view funding opportunities uniquely matched to their scholar profile, collaborate with colleagues and manage the results of the process to build a funding strategy that supports both immediate and long-term funding needs.
Go from search results to funding with FDO’s Workspace, a cloud-based prospect manager. After you perform your searches with FDO, use the new assessment tool in Workspace to decide which grantmakers to pursue and to manage the prospecting process. In one convenient dashboard, set up project folders to stay organized, track grants, manage contacts and tasks, and build your institutional memory. With the time you save, build relationships with funders!

Features include:

- **Assessment Tool:** Guides you through step-by-step evaluation to see if a funder is a good match for your project
- **Dashboard:** View a snapshot of your current foundation fundraising and prospecting work with information on upcoming tasks, recent notes, and communications
- **Grant Overview:** See all details related to a grant request including a description of the grant, the associated project, financial information, and any additional information
- **Prospect Overview:** See your comprehensive history with a funder, including current and historical grant requests, amounts awarded, associated projects, communication and contacts, and notes
- **Tasks:** Manage any items needed to secure a grant; assign tasks, manage deadlines, track progress, and write comments
- **Prospect List:** See your overall funding history including total grants awarded and open grant requests for each prospect
- **Address Book:** Manage your relationships with funders by accessing their contact information and tracking your communication history
- **Projects:** Manage funding by viewing all grant requests, prospects, contacts, and notes associated with a project
- **Notes:** Manage notes related to a grant request and link all communications by contact

**FOUNDATION GRANTS TO INDIVIDUALS ONLINE**

For access contact Afelder@american.edu

Generally speaking foundations do not provide grants to individuals; grantmakers provide support to individuals for:

- Arts and cultural support
- Educational support
- General welfare
- Research and professional support.

The database contains information about more than 80,000 foundations, of which approximately 2,700 provide grants to individuals.
The Grants.gov program management office was established, in 2002, as a part of the President's Management Agenda. Managed by the Department of Health and Human Services, Grants.gov is an E-Government initiative operating under the governance of the Office of Management and Budget. Under the President's Management Agenda, the office was chartered to deliver a system that provides a centralized location for grant seekers to find and apply for federal funding opportunities. Today, the Grants.gov system houses information on over 1,000 grant programs and vets grant applications for federal grant-making agencies.

DID YOU NOTICE OUR UPDATES?

OSP has made a few changes to our website. Please visit the links below for details.

- Policies & Guidelines
- Export Controls
- Institutional Position Statement
American University – Office of Sponsored Programs – April Awards Overview

In April 2016 (FY 2016), the Office of Sponsored Programs recorded the following grants for American University researchers.

**College of Arts and Sciences - Mathematics & Statistics**

**PI:** Jeffrey Hakim  
**Title:** Support for US Participants at CIRM Representation Theory Conference  
**Sponsor:** National Science Foundation  
**Award:** $40,000.00

**School of Communication - Dean’s Office**

**PI:** Lindsay Grace  
**Title:** ABM Game Project Phase 2  
**Sponsor:** National Institutes of Health  
**Award:** $9,723.00

**School of International Service - Global Environmental Policy**

**PI:** Simon Nicholson  
**Title:** Second Meeting of the International Governance of Climate Engineering Working Group  
**Sponsor:** Good Ventures Foundation  
**Award:** $76,234.00

**Washington College of Law - Academy on Human Rights & Humanitarian Law**

**PI:** Claudia Martin  
**Title:** Building Legal Capacity in Cuba  
**Sponsor:** National Endowment for Democracy  
**Funding Source:** U.S. Department of State  
**Award:** $99,516.00

**Washington College of Law - Dean’s Office**

**PI:** Jasmeet Sidhu-Kaur  
**Title:** The Squire Patton Boggs Foundation Public Policy Fellowship - 2015  
**Sponsor:** The Squire Patton Boggs Foundation  
**Award:** $5,000.00
Funding Opportunities Organized by School/Department

Note: Please note that these offerings are a sampling of what is available via our search funding tools and serve as examples for you to consider. If you have not attended a “search funding tool” training session, we encourage you to do so. Performing an individualized search, tailored to your unit or specific research interests will provide the most exhaustive means of locating resources. Please contact Afelder@american.edu with any questions related to our search funding tools.

College of Arts and Sciences

JDRF Career Development Grants

JDRF fosters the development and productivity of the best and the brightest established independent researchers who will bridge the gap between the bench and bedside. The primary purpose of the Career Development Award is to attract qualified and promising scientists early in their faculty careers and to give them the opportunity to establish themselves in areas that reflect the JDRF research emphasis areas. In the five-year term of the award, awardees will focus their research efforts on a subject directly related to JDRF mission goals and research priorities, and position themselves to work at the leading edge of type 1 diabetes research. These awards are designed to assist exceptionally promising investigators. Although JDRF is especially interested in fostering careers in clinical investigation, Career Development Awards may emphasize either basic or clinical topics. Career Development Award research may be conducted at foreign and domestic, for-profit and nonprofit, and public and private organizations – such as universities, colleges, hospitals, laboratories, units of state and local governments, and eligible agencies of the federal government.

Deadline: July 27th
Kogod School of Business

**Small Business Network of the Americas (SBNA) Partnership Program**
The United States Department of State’s Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs (WHA) announces a Notification of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) to support the Small Business Network of the Americas (SBNA) Partnership Program. Subject to availability of funds, WHA intends to issue an award to not exceed $2,970,297 in FY 2015 Economic Support Funds (ESF) for a project period up to three (3) years in which $1,970,297 will support Central America participants and $1,000,000 may be available to other Western Hemisphere countries outside of Central America. The $1,970,297 is attributed to the U.S. Strategy for Engagement in Central America, “the Strategy,” and the grantee will need to able to track and account for the results attributed to this ESF. The anticipated start date for this activity is September 2016 and WHA intends to support one award as a result of this NOFO. WHA invites U.S.-based non-profit/non-governmental organizations (NGOs) having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS; and) U.S.-based institutions of higher education to submit proposals.

**Deadline: June 24**

**LIMITED SUBMISSION:** [Service-Disabled Entrepreneurship Development Training Program (SDVETP)](https://www.sba.gov/sites/default/files/resources_articles/SDVETP_Announcement.pdf) is a training grant available for up to six grant awardees (minimum award of $50,000, maximum award of $150,000) with the purpose of supporting organizations that currently deliver entrepreneurship training program(s) to service-disabled veteran entrepreneurs who aspire to be small business owners or currently own a small business. For more information about this grant opportunity, please reference this program announcement.

**Deadline June 19**

**The Low Income Taxpayer Clinic (LITC) program** is a matching grant program that provides Federal funds to organizations so they in turn can provide LITC services to taxpayers who are low income or who speak English as a second language (ESL). Clinics participating in the LITC program provide: Representation for individuals in disputes with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), including audits, appeals, collection matters, and federal tax litigation. LITCs can also help taxpayers respond to IRS notices and correct account problems; Education about taxpayer rights and responsibilities; and Advocacy on behalf of low income and ESL taxpayers. LITC services are free or low cost for eligible taxpayers. LITCs are independent from the IRS but receive some of their funding from the IRS through the LITC grant program. Each clinic determines whether prospective clients meet income guidelines and other criteria before agreeing to represent them.

**Deadline June 20**
School of Communication

OUR TOWN: Projects that Build Knowledge About Creative Placemaking
This area of Our Town funding is to build and disseminate creative placemaking knowledge more broadly. These projects can be carried out by arts service or design service organizations, and/or other national or regional membership, policy, or university-based organizations that provide technical assistance to those doing place-based work, to expand the knowledge base about creative placemaking to their members and the field. These projects should expand the capacity of artists and arts organizations to be more effective at executing creative placemaking projects, and to work more effectively with economic and community development practitioners, and vice versa, to improve the livability of the communities and create opportunities for all.

Deadline Sept 12

National Endowment of the Humanities: Media Production Grants
Production Grants support film, television, and radio projects for general audiences that encourage active engagement with humanities ideas in creative and appealing ways. All projects must be grounded in humanities scholarship in disciplines such as history, art history, film studies, literature, drama, religious studies, philosophy, or anthropology. Projects must also demonstrate an approach that is thoughtful, balanced, and analytical (rather than celebratory). The approach to the subject matter must go beyond the mere presentation of factual information to explore its larger significance and stimulate critical thinking. NEH is a national funding agency, so the projects we support must demonstrate the potential to attract a broad general audience.

Deadline: August 10

Beyond Borders: A Workshop on Filmmaking Across the Punjab Region Department of State U.S. Mission to India

The Public Affairs Section of the North India Office at the U.S. Embassy New Delhi seeks proposals for a project entitled “Beyond Borders: A Workshop on Filmmaking Across the Punjab Region.” The grantee will bring together a total of thirty participants, fifteen each from India and Pakistan from the greater Punjab region on both sides of the border, to work together on conceptualizing, writing, and producing short films. The thirty participants will travel together to the United States for a three-week filmmaking workshop, led by the grantee. The participants will be between the ages 22-30 with an interest in filmmaking and storytelling, but no formal prior training is required. The participants will work in pairs or small groups, ideally including participants from both India and Pakistan, to produce short three-five minute narrative (fiction) films over the course of the seminar.

Deadline: June 21
Note: Please note that these offerings are a sampling of what is available via our search funding tools and serve as examples for you to consider. If you have not attended a “search funding tool” training session, we encourage you to do so. Performing an individualized search, tailored to your unit or specific research interests will provide the most exhaustive means of locating resources. Please contact Afelder@american.edu with any questions related to our search funding tools.

School of International Service

LIMITED SUBMISSION: Professional and Cultural Exchange Programs - International Visitor Leadership Program

The Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Professional and Cultural Exchanges, Office of International Visitors (ECA/PE/V) at the United States Department of State (DOS), announces an open competition for the FY 2017 International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP) Collaborative Services. The IVLP is the U.S. Department of State’s premier professional exchange program. It seeks to build mutual understanding between the United States and other nations through carefully designed short-term visits to the United States for current and emerging foreign leaders. These visits reflect the International Visitors’ professional interests and support the foreign policy goals of the United States. Applicants may submit only one proposal under this competition. If multiple proposals are received from the same applicant, all submissions will be declared ineligible and receive no further consideration in the review process. The International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP) seeks to increase mutual understanding between the United States and foreign publics through carefully designed professional programs that support U.S. foreign policy objectives. The goal of the IVLP is to provide firsthand knowledge about U.S. society, culture, and politics, while cultivating lasting relationships and to help strengthen U.S. engagement with countries around the world.

Deadline: July 11

Development Innovation Ventures (DIV) USAID

Development Innovation Ventures (DIV) supports the piloting and rigorous testing of innovative approaches to solving international development problems and supports transitioning innovations with evidence of impact and cost effectiveness to scale. DIV’s aim is to create a portfolio of innovations that improves lives for millions of the poor around the world, especially individuals in poverty or extreme poverty, and other vulnerable groups. DIV funds innovation that targets USAID’s Mission Statement. Innovations could include new technologies, new ways of delivering and/or financing goods and services, more cost-effective adaptations of existing solutions, new ways to increase uptake of existing proven solutions, or policy innovations based on insights from behavioral economics. The more funding requested, the more confidence DIV will need in the evidence base underpinning the innovation. This includes gathering appropriate evidence of impact and/or commercial viability at each stage and for each type of scale path.

Deadline: November 1
Funding Opportunities Organized by School/Department

Note: Please note that these offerings are a sampling of what is available via our search funding tools and serve as examples for you to consider. If you have not attended a “search funding tool” training session, we encourage you to do so. Performing an individualized search, tailored to your unit or specific research interests will provide the most exhaustive means of locating resources. Please contact Afelder@american.edu with any questions related to our search funding tools.

Academic Capacity Development Program/Returning Scholars Fellowship Program

Higher education reform efforts are often impeded by a number of factors, including: a lack of funding, ineffective education policies, poor planning and management, reliance on traditional curricula that emphasize passive rather than active learning, and limited flexibility in career choices. The goal of the Academic Capacity Development Program (ACDP) is to help breakdown these obstacles by focusing on both educational institutions and individual scholars and helping to build local, regional, and global academic networks. The Returning Scholars Fellowship Program invites applications from junior faculty who are at the beginning of their academic careers and seek university positions in their home country after studying abroad.

Deadline: June 30

School of Public Affairs

Havana Large Grants Opportunity Department of State—DOS2016HAVANA2

The U.S. Embassy to Cuba Public Affairs Section (PAS) of the U.S. Department of State is pleased to announce that limited funding is available through the U.S. Embassy to Cuba Public Affairs Large Grants Program to support activities that promote U.S.-Cuba bilateral relations in the following three priority areas: 1) Increase entrepreneurship and economic opportunities, especially among youth and underserved communities; 2) Institutional linkages between academic or nonprofit organizations to enhance bilateral partnerships through the promotion of education, the access and use of technology, sports, and partnerships across the Americas. 3) Promote cultural exchange and enhance understanding of our shared history, traditions, and values through innovative means. Eligibility is limited to those who qualify to receive U.S. grants, and have the ability to develop and implement their proposed programs in Cuba. The U.S. Embassy in Cuba and the Department of State encourage organizations that have not previously received international program funding from the U.S. Government to apply under this announcement.

Deadline: August 15
Funding Opportunities Organized by School/Department

Note: Please note that these offerings are a sampling of what is available via our search funding tools and serve as examples for you to consider. If you have not attended a “search funding tool” training session, we encourage you to do so. Performing an individualized search, tailored to your unit or specific research interests will provide the most exhaustive means of locating resources. Please contact Afelder@american.edu with any questions related to our search funding tools.

School of Public Affairs

Regional Media Training Department of State U.S mission to Estonia

The U.S. Embassy Tallinn Public Affairs Section (PAS) of the U.S. Department of State seeks proposals for programs to train local camera operators on: producing videos for live inserts from studio and from open air events, producing videos for talk shows in studio, video- interview techniques for camera, learning the key techniques, creative approaches and organizational skills involved in camera operation, coordinating work of multiple cameras at the same time and improving video quality with lighting system. The program should include the use of American trainers at the local studio for about a week, including local-language interpreter; and a week to ten days training session in the United States at a learning-studio. The number of students would be up to five operators. Preferred time for the U.S. training part would be July or August when the production team is on leave.

Deadline: June 26

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) - Technical Assistance and Support for Improved Protection of Drinking Water Sources

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is soliciting applications from eligible applicants for technical assistance and support that will enhance communication and coordination between the EPA and the states1 to protect drinking water sources. The technical assistance and support should develop and expand the capability of state and tribal Underground Injection Control (UIC) programs (Classes I-VI) and state and tribal Source Water Protection programs to protect drinking water sources. Funds awarded under this announcement may be used by recipients to promote non-federal participation in meetings that improve the ability to protect drinking water sources and to support the travel expenses of non-federal personnel to attend appropriate meetings.

Deadline: July 15
Washington College of Law

**OJJDP FY 2016 Studies Program on Trauma and Justice-Involved Youth**

OJJDP is seeking applications for funding under its fiscal year (FY) 2016 Studies Program on Trauma and Justice-Involved Youth. This program will support original research; design expansions to current research; and/or secondary analysis of existing data to provide objective, independent knowledge about (1) the developmental pathways of youth from violence exposure and trauma to justice involvement; (2) the implications of justice involvement on possible retraumatization; and (3) the development of culturally appropriate, evidence-based trauma-informed practices. OJJDP is particularly interested in proposals that seek to investigate the experiences of youth whose justice system involvement is often understudied, specifically youth who are Hispanic/Latino, American Indian/Alaska Native, LGBTQI, and girls.

**Deadline: June 23**

**Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO): Strengthening Democracy in Sri Lanka and Maldives**

The U.S. Embassy welcomes grant applications for programs that address key development issues in Sri Lanka and Maldives to strengthen democratic institutions, promote ethnic/religious reconciliation and gender equality, provide sustainable economic growth through entrepreneurship and job skills training, foster media freedoms and promote transparency, strengthen environmental protection, and/or address transnational problems. Grant proposals will be accepted in three primary categories based on funding levels. Successful proposals will impact one of the issues highlighted above. In evaluating proposals, emphasis will be placed on the size of the budget, experience of the grantee on implementing programs, and diversity of audiences affected by the program. Grant Priority Areas:

1. Youth Development: support youth education and professional development, including skills training; entrepreneurship and leadership training; and science, technology, engineering, math and arts projects.
2. Education: promote teacher training and English language learning
3. Women’s Empowerment: support projects that address gender equality and economic and professional development.
4. Reconciliation: support mutual understanding and trust through cultural, educational and creative programs, e.g. sports diplomacy
5. Freedom of Expression and Media Freedom: enhance training to support professional and technical abilities for journalists and professional associations, including programs on ethics, social media, graphical design and investigative journalism.

**Deadline: October 1**
Encourage those who are not on the newsletter subscription list to join!
To receive OSP Monthly, please send an email to listserv@listserv.american.edu with the following information in the body:

- Subscribe
- Newsletter-L
- First and Last Name

REMINDER

- Do you have an “OSP Spotlight on Research” interview suggestion?
- Do you need to scheduled a “One on One” refresher session for one of our search funding tool databases? Grant Forward, Pivot COS or The Foundation Directory Online (Professional version)?

If you need assistance with any of the above items, please contact OSP’s Communications Manager, Ms. Akidah Felder via e-mail Afelder@american.edu

What to expect in next month’s OSP Monthly:

- Funding Opportunities
- Staffing Updates
- Our next GAR will be held on June 23

Contact Information

Office of Sponsored Programs
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osp@american.edu
www.american.edu/provost/osp/index.cfm