Office of the Vice President for Research

E-Newsletter
Spring 2020

Letter from the Vice President for Research

Few of us have ever witnessed as much disruption in universities as we have over the past six weeks. The coronavirus pandemic has transformed our teaching, our research, and the very manner in which we communicate with our students and colleagues. Yet the speed with which we've adapted demonstrates the enormous capacity within our university community to meet challenges. Nowhere is this more true than in our research. Numerous studies relating to the coronavirus and possible treatment strategies were started practically overnight, with human subject studies receiving approvals in record time. We've seen engineers and scientists devising innovative solutions for ventilator shortages and PPE needed for critical health care. And University Hospital expanded its capacity and brought its world-class health care to serve critically ill COVID patients. If there is anything that is gratifying during this pandemic it is to see how the nation—indeed, the world—turned to science and medicine in a time of crisis. But as researchers, we recognize potential threats to our research infrastructure and our personnel without adequate funding. The cessation of normal research operations, not only at Stony Brook, but at all research universities, has severely impacted principal investigators whose grants are being depleted at a time when research progress has been impaired. Impacts are also felt by graduate students, postdocs, and early-career faculty whose career paths are

being disrupted. As Congress considers how to help the country back to some kind of normal, we are all hoping they recognize the critical role of research universities in facing the current crisis, and the next one. OVPR has been working closely with the Office of Government Relations and with external organizations to advocate not only for supplemental funding to offset the immediate impact on grants but to direct attention to those areas where additional funding is needed to build critical research infrastructure.

One of the most-discussed topics at the virtual Research Town Hall meeting on April 15th was the importance of preparing now for restarting research activities (see meeting summary here). To that end, I have formed a Task Force that will develop a structured plan for a phased return to research. Our goal is to be ready for restarting activities once we get the green light from the Governor's Office and University leadership. More information will be provided to investigators by mid-May.

Before COVID-19 became the new focus, much of our attention had been centered on foreign influences and security of scientific IP. It's easy to understand how this has taken a back seat to the current pandemic, but we should not forget that awareness of foreign influences and disclosures of foreign connections are and will continue to be a part of our new research landscape. It now seems long ago that we learned about the Harvard University Chair of Chemistry being indicted for failure to disclose foreign interests and remunerations. I want to remind you that the University has revised Policy P209, which addresses conflicts of interest and conflicts of commitment. Notably, the revised policy requires annual disclosures from nearly all faculty, not just those conducting sponsored research or human subject studies. Shortly, most of you will be receiving a reminder to file your disclosure within the month of May—Stony Brook's annual disclosure period. As in previous years, disclosures are submitted through the myResearch portal.

Finally, let me remind investigators that OVPR staff, although working remotely, are providing nearly all services with only occasional delays. They can be reached by email or telephone to answer questions or provide assistance. I am also pleased to mention that OVPR has partnered with the Institute for Engineering Driven Medicine to sponsor a

COVID-19 Seed Grant program. This new program, along with the OVPR Seed Grant program, is intended to help investigators in obtaining external funding.

As always, I look forward to hearing any comments or suggestions you may have. Stay safe during these challenging times.

Rich Reeder
Vice President for Research

Sheila Routh wins the 2019 Chancellor's Award

We are delighted to inform the research community that our very own Sheila Routh, Director of Grants Management, was selected by SUNY Chancellor Kristina Johnson to receive the 2019 Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Professional Service. This award is reserved for those few, select professionals that consistently demonstrate exceptional performance within and beyond their positions. Sheila exemplifies outstanding leadership, commitment, and service to Stony Brook and its research mission. Sheila was formally honored at the Annual University Awards Dinner this past fall.

News from Research-IT
DoIT Information System (Research)

MyResearch Updates:
We are pleased to announce the myResearch Safety module went live on December 16th after working closely with our partners in the Office of Research Compliance. This module ensures high quality, compliant committee reviews for Biohazard Safety and Stem Cell Research protocols.

Currently, our team is working closely with the Office of Research Compliance in implementing the required annual changes to the Conflict Of Interest module to support new disclosure requirements.

We are also in the middle of working on IACUC, the final module. We anticipate delivery of this between late summer and early fall of this year. Upon completion our team will shift their focus to feature improvements and maintenance.

New Team Member:
We are pleased to welcome our newest team member, John Hanges, who joined us in December. John handles our IT service requests, publishing and RF Security administration. He has been instrumental in providing the needed support in successfully moving us to a remote work model. With 20 years of experience in IT operations support at large organizations such as Estee Lauder and Northwell health we are in good hands.

News from OSP and OGM
Office of Sponsored Programs and Office of Grants Management

Until further notice, OSP and OGM staff are working remotely to support our University's sponsored activities and maintain continuity in sponsored activity. Although there may be some delays to processing time or communications, our offices will continue to provide the standard support and services to the best of our abilities, and manage most of our business electronically while working on solutions for communication with constituents or for activities currently managed on paper. Staff are reachable during normal business hours (8:30am-5pm) via email and can set-up meetings via phone or other virtual platforms. Please continue to work with your OSP Specialist and/or OGM Award Analyst for proposal submissions, award processing and establishment, post award expenditures, and reporting requirements, both financial and technical.

Most importantly, follow our Covid-19 website for sponsor and institutional updates related to sponsored research activities. We will update information as it becomes available regarding deadlines, extensions, award guidance. As of now you can find up-to-date information on NSF extended deadlines, NIH plans and spending flexibilities and several FAQs or updates from other sponsors.

If you have any specific concerns, or are encountering a problem, please feel free to reach out to the OSP and/or OGM Directors,
Alina.Stroia@stonybrook.edu (OSP), Sheila.Routh@stonybrook.edu (OGM).
Please rest assured that our offices remain committed to our community remaining safe while providing the services needed to continue supporting sponsored activities.

COGR Resources

As an ongoing response to COVID-19's Impact to Federal Awards, COGR has developed a number of resources to help navigate the evolving landscape of this public health emergency.

NSCOGR Resources:

-COGR's Frequently Asked Questions Regarding COVID-19's Impact on Federal Awards (Version 2.1) (3/31/20) has been revised to include updates to agency guidance.
-A FAQ Addendum with new FAQs that have been developed from questions from the membership which will be updated weekly as additional information becomes available.
-A Federal Agency Guidance Matrix with several major grant-making agencies that will be updated weekly as additional guidance becomes available. The information is current as of 3/31. We have also attached the Matrix in a locked Excel format for your reference.

What's next?
Webinars. In addition to the above resources, COGR is planning several webinars in the next couple of months to cover topics that will include COVID-19 Response Case Studies, salary charges and other costing considerations, legislative efforts, ramping up and ramping down, etc. We will announce registration information to the Listserv and on the COGR Website.

Want More Information?

Please visit COGR's Institutional and Agency Responses to COVID-19 and Additional Resources page for a list of federal agency guidance released to date, links to institutional COVID-19 policies, and other helpful resources.

Research.gov Expanded Separately Submitted Collaborative

Proposals from Multiple Organizations Now Available

Effective March 30, 2020, the research community can prepare and submit separately submitted collaborative proposals from multiple organizations in Research.gov. Proposers can now prepare Full, Research proposals in Research.gov that are:

1) Single submissions from one organization (available since April 2018)
2) Single submission collaborative proposals with subawards (available since June 2019)
3) Separately submitted collaborative proposals from multiple organizations

What's New for Separately Submitted Collaborative Proposals?

Proposal Preparation: Proposers can select a separately submitted collaborative proposal as an option in the Proposal Creation Wizard and identify themselves as part of a lead or non-lead organization.

Linking: The lead organization can initiate a request to link proposals with non-lead organizations. However, all proposals in the collaboration must be prepared and submitted in Research.gov and cannot be a mix of Research.gov and FastLane proposals.

New "Submission Pending" Status: The Research.gov submission process for separately submitted collaborative proposals is different than the submission process in FastLane.

- A new Research.gov "Submission Pending" status informs the organization that their proposal submission is pending in a queue until all linked lead and non-lead proposals in the collaboration attain "Submission Pending" status and can be submitted to NSF as a set.

-Separately submitted collaborative proposals with a "Submission Pending" status can be edited, but the Authorized Organizational Representative (AOR) must resubmit the edited proposal to return it to a "Submission Pending" status.

-A Proposal File Update (PFU) is not required to edit the proposal at the "Submission Pending" stage. However, a PFU could be utilized after the entire collaborative set is submitted to NSF and a proposal ID number for each separately submitted collaborative proposal is generated.

Submit Proposal Wizard: The AOR Submission Wizard screen will display the lead and non-lead organization information.

Other Related Changes:

-**Postdoctoral Mentoring Plan:** A Postdoctoral Mentoring Plan is only required when funds for postdoctoral scholars are requested on the budget. A proposal compliance error will block proposal submission if there is a mentoring plan but no requested funds.

-**Print Concatenate:** This functionality is available for lead and non-lead proposals.

-**New Automated Compliance Error/Warning Messages and Business Rules for Separately Submitted Collaborative Proposals:** Compliance checks triggering an error will prohibit proposal submission to NSF, whereas checks triggering a warning will allow proposal submission to NSF.

-**Delete In-progress Proposals:** Proposers can delete their in-progress separately submitted collaborative proposals.

-Redesigned Research.gov "About" Page with New and Updated FAQs: Check out our redesigned [Research.gov About Proposal Preparation and Submission webpage](#) with links to new and updated Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) organized by topic.

What's Ahead?

We are also happy to share that NSF is currently developing the following capabilities in Research.gov:

- Other Authorized User (OAU) role changes (see Research.gov advisory currently posted)
- Support for Single Copy Documents
- Submission of Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Phase I and Phase II proposals
- -Submission of Rapid Response Research (RAPID), Early-concept Grants for Exploratory Research (EAGER), and Research Advanced by Interdisciplinary Science and Engineering (RAISE) proposals

Stay tuned for additional information about these developments in the coming months!

[Now Available: NSF-approved Biographical Sketch and Current and Pending Support Formats and Recently Recorded Webinars on the Topic](#)

[New PAPPG Effective on Proposals Submitted on or Due, and Awards Made, on or Due after June 1, 2020](#)

NIH UPDATES

[FY 2020 Salary Limitation for Grants and Cooperative Agreements](#)

The Office of Personnel Management has recently released new salary levels for the Executive Pay Scale. Effective January 5, 2020, the salary limitation for Executive Level II is $197,300.

[NIH Moving Ahead with FORMS-F Grant Application Form Update](#)

[FY 2020 Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA) Stipends, Tuition/Fees, and Other Budgetary Levels](#)

Looking for the latest on Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA) stipend levels, tuition/fees, and training related expenses? Check out NOT-OD-20-070 for full details.

OSP Staff Updates

We are happy to announce that Sabrina Cerezo joined the Office of Sponsored Programs on January 13, 2020 as the new Assistant Director for Grants. In this position, Sabrina will facilitate and manage pre-award aspects of grants administration, will provide leadership of the OSP grants team and work internally as well as with the campus research community in the coordination and implementation of new grants related administrative resources.

Sabrina brings significant experience to our institution, most recently as Director of the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs at Brooklyn College, in addition to being a project director and legislative associate with The College Board in Albany, NY.

We are very pleased to have Sabrina in our team. She will directly manage a selected departmental portfolio, however please feel free to connect with her regarding any grant administration related matters at 2-9840 or sabrina.cerezo@stonybrook.edu

myResearch News

Grants Training Schedule for 2020

The schedule for myResearch Grants training sessions has been posted on our website. Users are encouraged to sign up and attend one of the training sessions at a convenient time in order to prepare for future submissions. Click here to register. Until normal campus operations resume, training classes will be offered via Zoom. Registrants will be contacted by an OSP Specialist prior to the training class with the Zoom meeting information.

New Functionality in myResearch Grants/Awards Pertaining to Deliverables

Starting this spring, a new functionality has been activated in myResearch Grants pertaining to technical/progress reporting. On newly established awards, PIs will receive system generated notifications to submit reports based on the schedule dictated by sponsors. The notifications will be sent 60 days, 30 days prior to the due date of the

reports, on the due date, and 30 or 45 days after, depending on the response and action. Instructions on how to access an award, upload and submit a report through myResearch can be accessed here. Note that NIH and NSF reports submitted through sponsor portals don't have to be uploaded in myResearch. Confirmation of the submission will be sufficient in those cases. For any questions, please contact your OSP Specialist.

Subrecipient Invoices
OGM Sponsored Award Analysts will continue to process incoming subrecipient invoices electronically. This procedure includes a request of concurrence from Award PI by way of a response to the email with attached invoice. Federal compliance requires that approval to pay subrecipients must contain the certification that will be included in email to PI. All payments must be supported by PI approval, and cannot be approval from a delegate. Any questions regarding invoices should be directed to the SAA that forwards approval request to the Principal Investigator.

Electronic Record of Authorized Signatory ERAS
Project Principal Investigators are Account Directors within the ERAS system, and as such are responsible for the assignment of all delegations and authorities within this self-service tool. Project PI/ Account Directors should log into ERAS and can search for all Projects where they are named, and once choosing the Research Foundation Project number in question, assign the delegations as outlined in the linked FAQ's.

This process is intended to be managed by the responsible Project/Account Manager. Questions regarding this process should be directed to sheila.routh@stonybrook.edu.

News from Procurement
New Instance of Wolfmart

With the objective of continuous improvement, Stony Brook University is currently in the process of updating WolfMart to a new SUNY-shared instance. The "new WolfMart" will go-live at the start of the new FY 20/21, with a slightly different look and feel to the Purchase Requisition and Purchase Order layouts. The approval workflow and routing will remain unchanged.

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A detailed description of the WolfMart changes and additional information on the go-live date will be sent out soon. For more information or to request in-person training, please click here.

Click here to view Purchasing guidelines, as it relates to remote work during COVID-19.

To view the Procurement website: https://www.stonybrook.edu/procurement/

Click here to view the Travel & Expense website, which links to multiple COVID-19 travel reimbursement guidelines.

To read Procurement's Central Services Announcement announcement click here

News from OTLIR
Office of Technology Licensing and Industry Relations

Two Stony Brook Faculty Named 2019 National Academy of Inventors Fellows

Israel Kleinberg, DDS, PhD, DSc, Distinguished Professor and Stanislaus S. Wong, PhD, Distinguished Professor, Department of Chemistry, have been selected as Fellows by the National Academy of Inventors (NAI) — the highest professional distinction accorded solely to academic inventors. Read more

SuperClean Glass has won a PowerBridgeNY Ignition Grant

A Stony Brook University start-up, **SuperClean Glass,** has won a $50,000 PowerBridgeNY Ignition Grant which can be applied to business start-up costs.

The company will use the funding to commercialize its patent-pending, self-cleaning technology that removes dust from solar panels and regains up to 95% of lost energy.

Read more

Akai Kaeru

A Stony Brook University start-up, Akai Kaeru, executed an exclusive license agreement with The Research Foundation for the State University of New York to commercialize an interactive visualization software called the Data Concept Map which allows a user to view important multivariate data relationships simultaneously to assist with decision making.

MicroRid Technologies Inc. has received Peer Reviewed Medical Research Program (PRMRP) Technology/Therapeutic Development Award

MicroRid Technologies Inc. has received a five year, $4 million, Peer Reviewed Medical Research Program (PRMRP) Technology/Therapeutic Development Award, which is administered by the Department of Defense office of Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRP). Read more

Codagenix Inc. has closed a $20M Series B investment round

Codagenix Inc., a startup launched by SBU assistant research professor Steffan Mueller and Farmingdale State College biology professor J. Robert Coleman, has closed a $20M Series B investment round. The funding will allow the synthetic biology company, which is a resident of Broadhollow Bioscience Park, to bring its respiratory virus and influenza vaccines closer to the marketplace, move its oncology program into Phase I clinical trials, and launch two new vaccine development programs targeting neglected public health challenges. Read more

After Successful Seed, Qunnect Set For Ludicrous Speed

Marking another quantum leap for cybersecure long-distance communications, a high-tech Stony Brook University startup has completed a key financing round. Read more

Center for Integrated Electric Energy Systems (CIEES)

A NY Center for Advanced Technology (CAT) funded by NYSTAR, **Center for Integrated Electric Energy Systems (CIEES)**, is supporting industry-academia projects with NY companies, addressing technologies ranging from synthetic fuels to additive

manufacturing and energy storage. All of these activities shared one common goal: realizing our vision of Long Island as the 'Valley' of renewable energy and smart grid. [Read more](#)

"Attracting and Collaborating with Industry Partners" Panel Discussion

On February 5, 2020, the Office of Technology Licensing and Industry Relations, in partnership with the Stony Brook Chapter of the National Academy of Inventors, held a panel discussion "Attracting and Collaborating with Industry Partners," featuring seasoned SBU faculty entrepreneurs and technology developers, and moderated by Peter Donnelly, Associate VP for Technology Partnerships. The panelists offered insight into their successful collaborations with industry partners including ways to attract and nurture these important relationships for the long term.

We will be hosting future events to help grow and mentor the Stony Brook University innovation community.

<u>Digital Signature Requirements</u>

Your New Technology and Reagent Disclosures are important to us! Once you submit your disclosure through the Inventor Portal, all SBU inventors will receive an email requesting their digital signature. The digital signatures of all SBU inventors are imperative to the disclosure process. Please be sure to electronically sign your disclosures when prompted by email. OTLIR cannot move forward in the evaluation process without all required signatures. Please email sbu_ntd@stonybrook.edu or call 631-632-9009, if you have any questions or need assistance. We are here to help!

<u>Research Reagent Disclosure Initiative:</u>
OTLIR is introducing a technology disclosure initiative specifically designed for disclosing research reagents. The goal of this initiative is to license research reagent material developed here at Stony Brook University.

Similar to the "New Technology Disclosure" form, the "Research Reagent Disclosure" form is used to capture information pertaining to a technology you developed in your lab, however, the requested information is focused on research reagents.

Value:

Research reagents are often just as valuable commercially as they are scientifically. Sharing of research tools allows research to advance quicker while being performed more effectively with reduced funding requirements. For example, your reagent may facilitate other researchers' work, validate their results, or allow them to further their research without investing the same time, effort, and resources that you have already contributed to science. Research reagents can be non-exclusively or exclusively licensed to reagent companies, cell banks, and commercial end-users like biotech and pharmaceutical companies. Any revenue generated under a license will be distributed according to the SUNY IP policy. Research Reagent Disclosures and licenses do not limit the researcher's ability to distribute their research reagents to academic colleagues and collaborators under a Materials Transfer Agreement (MTA).

Importance of Research Reagent Disclosure:

 The Research Reagent Disclosure form several important purposes including providing the information needed to:

● Maintain a legal record of your research reagent discovery

● Establish record of intellectual contribution, and/or inventorship (if applicable)

● Assess its potential market value

● Report any commercially applicable discoveries to granting sponsors (i.e., NIH)

● Meet granting agencies dissemination requirements

Examples of Research Reagents:

• Non-commercially available cell lines (e.g. stem cells, primary cell lines, genetically modified cell lines

• Animal models and transgenic animals

• Genomic or cDNA libraries

• Combinatorial chemistry libraries

• Assays

• Enzymes, Enzyme Inhibitors/Modulators

• Labels/Couplings Signaling Chemicals

• Monoclonal and Polyclonal antibodies

• Plasmids

• Virus/Vectors/Bacteria

• Imaging Agents/Dyes

- Plant materials

- Compounds/Molecules

- Proteins/Peptides

- Matrices/Substrates

- Probes

- Lab equipment

If you have any questions or if you are unsure if you have a research reagent, please contact:

Harrison Seidner (Harrison.Seidner@stonybrook.edu) or Marcus Coleman (Marcus.Coleman@stonybrook.edu)

Changes to the Campus Royalty Distribution: Increased Lab Share
The royalty distribution policy has been updated to increase the lab share for royalty earned from license agreements entered into after January 1st, 2020. The new lab share cap is $250,000.   The policy can be found here.

News from ORC
Office of Research Compliance
Guidance for Researchers Conducting Human Subject Research
To find out more about the Guidance for Researchers Conducting Human Subject Research, please click here.
Annual Disclosure Certifications
May is Annual Disclosure Certification month! SBU's Disclosure of External Interests & Commitments Policy (P209) requires that salaried faculty, researchers and executive/senior leadership disclose their external interests and commitments. Watch for an email from myResearch COI on May 1st for a link to submit your Annual Disclosure Certification.
Responsible Conduct of Research Training for NSF Awards
NSF requires that all postdocs and students (collectively "trainees") receiving support from a NSF award be trained in the responsible conduct of research (RCR). At a minimum these trainees must complete the most appropriate RCR course offered by the CITI program upon appointment to an award. CITI training is accessible to anyone on campus - simply login through the institution using your NetID and password.
Training Requirements
Just a reminder that you should regularly check the training requirements for your research area. Keep in mind that training is required in order to conduct research in various areas. This is a good time to get that training completed.
If training lapses, the individual should complete the training as soon as possible. An initial or continuing review application that is submitted with expired training will be held until the training is completed.
In order to assist you in determining the training requirements for your research activity, a training cart is available at https://research.stonybrook.edu/training-table.
You may also visit each area's training web page for information on that area's training requirements.

News from OPD
Office of Proposal Development
COVID-19 Funding Opportunities
The Office of Proposal Development is actively curating a list of recently released funding opportunities for research related to COVID-19 on our Website. Click here and bookmark it for future reference. This list is also mailed every Monday to the Deans Chairs and Center/Institute Directors, with new opportunities highlighted in yellow.

Searching for funding opportunities using PIVOT by ProQuest
We subscribe to the PIVOT by ProQuest database which searches for public, private and international funding opportunities by keyword. To request a PIVOT demonstration, please email OPD_OVPR@stonybrook.edu.

NSF CAREER Award Series
The Office of Proposal Development presents the NSF CAREER Award Series. This series will cover "soup to nuts" to develop NSF CAREER applications including

informative workshops featuring past awardees, proposal development support and 1:1 OPD appointments. Our series will include various workshops including a Writing Workshop with former NSF Program Director Dr. Susan Brennan, Professor of Psychology.

NSF CAREER Award Kickoff Workshop
Wednesday, May 6, 1:00pm-2:00pm
Zoom Event

Click here to register for the CAREER Kickoff Workshop and to sign up for Future Workshops & Services by May 1, 2020. You will receive a Zoom link with your confirmation.

Limited Competitions
A number of sponsors, both private and federal, restrict the number of individuals or applications that may be submitted by an institution. The Office of Proposal Development handles the entire limited competition process for the University by disseminating information about the funding opportunity, determining whether or not an internal competition will be necessary, and managing the pre-application and review process. Candidates for limited submission programs are chosen based on the results of an internal faculty review panel.

Announcements are made by the OPD_OVPR email to Chairs, Deans and Center Directors for onward transmission to their respective faculty. To view all the open competitions, click here.
You can also join our OPD Google Group to receive all OPD messages directly.

Proposal Development Services
As a reminder, OPD is operational and available to provide support on COVID-19 proposals. Please submit your request for proposal development assistance by clicking here.

Join our OPD Listserv
To be added to our Google Group and receive emails on future funding opportunities, workshops and other announcements, please follow the following instructions:

Sign into your Google Account at www.stonybrook.edu/mycloud
Select Groups from the upper right corner grid
Click on My groups
Search for 'OPD Announcements'
Click on 'Apply for Membership'