

## Office of Sponsored Projects

### e-Funding Alert

November 2011

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#### Free Webinar: Being a Scholar, Researcher, and Grant Writer!

Sponsored by the InfoReady Corporation, Dr. David Stone, Associate Vice President for Research at Northern Illinois University, will provide a FREE Webinar titled, "How to Better Position Yourself as a Scholar, Researcher, and Grant Writer." If you are interested in attending, please register at your earliest convenience, as spots will fill quickly. A complete description of the Webinar and a link to register for the session are provided below.

**Dr. David Stone, Associate Vice President for Research at Northern Illinois University**, has written two articles for the Chronicle of Higher Education, "Becoming a Successful Principal Investigator" and "How Your Grant Compares." These articles introduce the concept of positioning, the idea that there are many things that a faculty member needs to do before he or she considers writing a grant that will heavily determine whether that grant is funded. For this webinar, Dr. Stone will discuss positioning in greater detail, take questions on how you might best position yourself, and discuss the importance of collaborative tools in facilitating better positioning.

**Date: Thursday, December 1, 2011**

**Time: 1:00 - 2:00 PM CST**

**Cost: FREE!**

## [Register Now!](#)

### **Contacting a Program Officer *Before* Submitting Your Proposal**

***Intimidating task? Yes. Essential step for success? Absolutely.***

If you are planning to submit a funding proposal to the National Science Foundation (NSF), National Institutes of Health (NIH), or other major federal agency, you should consider contacting a program officer in advance of your submission to discuss the applicability of your project to current funding goals. Engaging in conversations with the program officers prior to submission can help you as you frame the scope of your project and determine the current division/directorate/institute to which you should submit your proposal, both of which are essential steps to obtaining an award.

How do you prepare to contact a program officer? First, review the solicitation for the program in which you are interested and make sure you understand it well. Then, prepare a brief (1-2 paragraphs) overview of your project, including your specific aims and a statement of overall significance. Find the e-mail address of the program officer—it should be listed in the program solicitation—and send the overview to him/her, with the explanation that you are requesting assistance with determining if the officer's program is a good fit for your project.

Most program officers are glad to provide feedback—remember, most of them have been faculty/researchers in the recent past, and they know the challenges associated with getting proposals funded. Some will even schedule a phone call to discuss your project in greater detail. At some agencies, such as the NSF, program officers are involved in making funding decisions, so establishing a relationship and making a good first impression can be helpful in obtaining funding.

**Note:** In certain cases with certain agencies, contact with program staff is not allowed after a certain point in the submission cycle. If you are not sure whether you are submitting a proposal under such a competition, please check the request for applications or call the Sponsored Projects office prior to initiating contact.

For more information on communicating with program officers, contact the Office of Sponsored Projects at [osp@angelo.edu](mailto:osp@angelo.edu) or (325) 942-2530.

### **Upcoming Funding Opportunities**

#### **American Educational Research Association (AERA)**

##### *Research Grants*

**Submission deadline:** December 9, 2011

**Overview:** With support from the National Science Foundation (NSF), the AERA Grants Program announces its Research Grants competition. The program seeks to stimulate research on U.S. education issues using data from the large-scale, national and international data sets supported by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), NSF, and other federal agencies, and to increase the number of education researchers using these data sets. The program supports research projects that are quantitative in nature, include the analysis of existing data from NCES, NSF or other federal agencies, and have U.S. education policy relevance.

**For more information visit this Web page:**

[http://www.aera.net/grantsprogram/res\\_training/res\\_grants/RGFly.html](http://www.aera.net/grantsprogram/res_training/res_grants/RGFly.html)

### **American Historical Association**

*Albert J. Beveridge Grant for Research in the History of the Western Hemisphere*

**Submission deadline:** February 15, 2011

**Overview:** The Association is pleased to announce the availability of modest grants to support research in the history of the Western hemisphere (United States, Canada, and Latin America). The funds for this program come from the earnings of the Albert J. Beveridge Memorial Fund. **Only members of the Association are eligible.** The grants are intended to further research in progress and may be used for travel to a library or archive, for microfilms, photographs, or photocopying—a list of purposes that is meant to be merely illustrative, not exhaustive (other expenses, such as child care, can be included). Preference will be given to those with specific research needs, such as the completion of a project or completion of a discrete segment thereof. Preference will be given to Ph.D. candidates and junior scholars.

**For more information visit this Web page:** <http://www.historians.org/prizes/BeveridgeGrantInfo.htm>

### **American Political Science Association**

*Small Research Grant Program*

**Submission deadline:** February 3, 2012

**Overview:** The APSA Small Research Grant Program supports research in all fields of political science. The intent of these grants is to support the research and further the careers of political scientists who are not employed at Ph.D.-granting departments in the field. A small number of these grants are awarded annually by the Council on the basis of a peer-review process. Individual grants may not exceed \$2,500 and are not renewable. Applicants must be APSA members at the time of application and when the funds are dispersed.

**For more information visit this Web page:** [http://www.apsanet.org/content\\_9222.cfm](http://www.apsanet.org/content_9222.cfm)

### **Association for Institutional Research (AIR)**

*AIR Research Grants*

**Submission deadline:** January 6, 2012

**Overview:** With support from the National Science Foundation, the National Center for Education Statistics, and the National Postsecondary Education Cooperative, the Association for Institutional Research operates two grant programs that support research on a wide range of issues of critical importance to U.S. higher education. The program has two separate purposes: 1) NSF and NCES support grants aim to increase the number of researchers using national datasets and demonstrate the contribution that these datasets make to the national base of knowledge on higher education policy, theory, and practice, and 2) The NPEC funding supports grants that increase the understanding and knowledge of a specific issue area identified by NPEC. This year, the focus will be “Exploring Postsecondary Non-Degree Programs.”

**For more information visit this Web page:** <http://www.airweb.org/?page=1626>

### **Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center**

*Research Fellowships in the Humanities*

**Submission deadline:** February 1, 2012

**Overview:** The Harry Ransom Center annually awards over 50 fellowships to support projects that require substantial on-site use of its collections. The fellowships support research in all areas of the

humanities, including literature, photography, film, art, the performing arts, music, and cultural history. Applicants must demonstrate the necessity of substantial on-site use of the Center's collections. **For more information visit this Web page:** <http://www.hrc.utexas.edu/research/fellowships/>

## **International Research and Exchanges Board**

### *Short-Term Travel Grants (STG)*

**Submission deadline:** February 1, 2012

**Overview:** Scholars interested in STG can apply to conduct research in up to two countries for up to eight weeks. As part of the STG fellowship, participants are provided with visa assistance, international roundtrip transportation, a monthly allowance for housing and living expenses, and emergency evacuation insurance. Eligible countries of research focus are: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Kosovo, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Poland, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan.

**For more information visit this Web page:** <http://www.irex.org/project/short-term-travel-grants-stg>

## **National Education Association Foundation**

### *Learning and Leadership Grants*

**Submission deadlines:** February 1, June 1, and October 15, 2012

**Overview:** Our *Learning & Leadership* grants support public school teachers, public education support professionals, and/or faculty and staff in public institutions of higher education for one of the following two purposes: 1) Grants to individuals fund participation in high-quality professional development experiences, such as summer institutes or action research; or 2) Grants to groups fund collegial study, including study groups, action research, lesson study, or mentoring experiences for faculty or staff new to an assignment.

**For more information visit this Web page:** <http://www.neafoundation.org/pages/educators/grant-programs/learning-and-leadership/>

### *Student Achievement Grants*

**Submission deadlines:** February 1, June 1, and October 15, 2012

**Overview:** The NEA Foundation provides grants to improve the academic achievement of students in U.S. public schools and public higher education institutions in any subject area(s). The proposed work should engage students in critical thinking and problem solving that deepen their knowledge of standards-based subject matter. The work should also improve students' habits of inquiry, self-directed learning, and critical reflection. Proposals for work resulting in low-income and minority student success with honors, advanced placement, or other challenging curricula are particularly encouraged.

**For more information visit this Web page:** <http://www.neafoundation.org/pages/educators/grant-programs/student-achievement-grants/>

## **National Institutes of Health**

### *Academic Research Enhancement Award (Parent R15)*

**Submission deadlines:** Standard R15 deadlines apply; see announcement for details

**Overview:** The purpose of the Academic Research Enhancement Award (AREA) program is to stimulate research in educational institutions that provide baccalaureate or advanced degrees for a significant number of the Nation's research scientists, but that have not been major recipients of NIH support. AREA grants create opportunities for scientists and institutions, otherwise unlikely to participate extensively in NIH research programs, to contribute to the Nation's biomedical and behavioral research effort. AREA grants are intended to support small-scale research projects proposed by faculty members of eligible,

domestic institutions, to expose students to meritorious research projects, and to strengthen the research environment of the applicant institution.

**For more information visit this Web page:** <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-12-006.html>

*Implications of the Economic Downturn for Health, Wealth, and Work at Older Ages (R01)*

**Submission deadlines:** Standard R01 deadlines apply; see announcement for details

**Overview:** This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) invites research on the implications of exogenous shocks, such as those produced by the recent economic downturn, for health, economic circumstances, and planning throughout the life-cycle. The recent financial crisis emphasizes that there is much to learn, and scientific research is needed to address many of the questions, concerns, and implications that have arisen.

**For more information visit this Web page:** <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-12-009.html>

**For more information about finding other funding opportunities, please visit the Research & Grants Channel under the “My Courses” tab in RamPort.**

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