

FUNDAMENTALS

Office of Research Development



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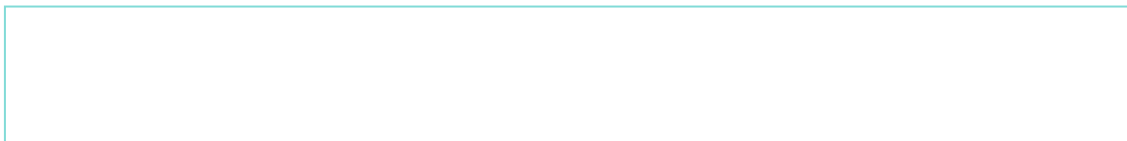
UNC's Office of Research Development's FUNDAMENTALS provides researchers with updates related to extramural funding, on-campus research development and other timely information in support of Carolina's research enterprise.

Call for Proposals: University Research Council

The University Research Council (URC) provides small research and publication grants for junior faculty and less well-funded investigators.

- **URC Research Grants** (up to \$7,500) support the scientific, scholarly, or artistic efforts of junior faculty.
- **URC Publication Grants** (up to \$5,000) support publishing scientific, scholarly, or artistic works (no textbooks).

Applications for Fall 2017 Publication Grants and Spring 2018 Research Grants are due by **5:00 p.m. on Monday, October 30, 2017**. For additional information, [please visit the URC web page](#), or contact Gail Whitfield, URC Administrator (Office of Research Development), at URCinfo@unc.edu.





CAROLINA WOMEN'S CENTER

THE CENTER FOR GENDER EQUITY

Carolina Women's Center Accepting Applications for the Faculty Scholars Program

The program awards three grants of \$10,000 each to support scholarly or creative research related to the CWC's mission of furthering gender equity.

Proposals are welcome from **all full-time faculty** (fixed-term, tenured, or tenure-track) and from **part-time faculty with at least a .5FTE appointment**, regardless of gender identity or expression. Applicants should have a *minimum* of three years of service by the start of the grant in any department, center, or school of the University. Applicants must have an endorsement from their chair, director, or dean that describes how the project will contribute to the applicant's career development.

Applications are due Friday, March 23 by 5pm. More information and application materials are available from the [CWC's website](#). Clare Counihan, the program coordinator for faculty and staff, can answer questions.

NIH Gathering Feedback on Women's Health

NIH has asked the community of women's health researchers and practitioners for feedback to guide the "Trans-NIH Strategic Plan for Research on Women's Health" that is currently underway. The UNC Center for Women's Health Research and ORD are leading a coordinated effort to gather campus feedback to ensure this message is delivered to NIH's policy makers.

Please visit <http://orwhrfi.web.unc.edu/> to learn about how you can impact the future of women's health research policy.



Pivot Phase Out Set for October 31, 2017

[Pivot](#) funding database will phase out on **October 31, 2017**. The Office of Research Development has introduced [SPIN Plus](#) as a replacement. SPIN contains over 40,000 funding opportunities from more than 10,000 federal and non-federal sponsors.

Pivot users should review any saved search preferences in Pivot, set up similar settings in SPIN, and download or print any saved opportunities from Pivot. Pivot does not support exporting search preferences, either to SPIN directly or as a downloadable file.

SPIN is available across campus. ORD encourages all UNC users to register a SPIN profile. [Click here for more information](#) about SPIN, including steps to register a profile.

UNC-CH receives Research Opportunities Initiative (ROI) grants from the NC General Assembly

UNC Winners:

Alexander Tropsha, *Data Science: Infohub for Rare Diseases*. Partnering institutions: North Carolina Central University, North Carolina State University, the University of North Carolina at Pembroke. This project will leverage recent developments in the state's strategic areas of data science and rare diseases to create a data hub that will improve the understanding of diseases and accelerate the development of novel therapies.

Jinsong Huang, *Center of Hybrid Materials Enabled Electronic Technology*. Partnering institutions: North Carolina Central University, NC State, the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. This project will capture the unprecedented opportunity brought by the revolutionary discovery of a new class of hybrid perovskite materials - a type of low-cost, efficient solar cell. The project could potentially result in innovations in clean energy, imaging, and radiation sensing. The team's goal is to establish a center for these technologies that will accelerate the commercialization process of the technologies developed and have a major impact on the state's economy.

The ROI provides targeted funding for innovative and potentially game-changing research projects. Funded by a \$3 million annual appropriation from the General Assembly, UNC ROI supports research projects in six areas that can support economic development across the state and accepts proposals from any of the 17 institutions of the UNC system.

[Click here to read more](#)



UNC Research Spotlight: **NASA funded lake level monitoring project**

Principal Investigator [Tamlin Pavelsky](#), UNC Department of Geological Sciences, and staff members Grant Parkins and Sarah Yelton at the [UNC Institute for the Environment](#) developed and tested a system for citizen scientists to monitor water levels in 11 lakes in Eastern North Carolina, USA and, in collaboration with researchers at Tennessee Tech, to easily report those measurements to the project team. They combine these citizen measurements with NASA satellite measurements of lake area to track variations in lake water storage over time. Since May 2017, more than 50 volunteers have submitted hundreds of lake level measurements via text message, website, and manual data sheets. All data can be viewed, and new measurements contributed, at <http://lakelevel.org>. The pilot project is **funded by the NASA Citizen Science for Earth Systems Program**, and the team will submit a proposal for expansion to other areas of the U.S. and beyond in early 2018.

For more information see this video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pQiwdkOYnMo&feature=youtu.be>

UNC Research Resources:

Office of Corporate and Foundation Relations & Industry Relations

The Office of Corporate and Foundation Relations & Industry Relations represents the academic priorities of the University through its strategic cultivation, solicitation and stewardship of corporations, foundations and industries at the local, regional, national and international level, with the objective of maximizing their investment in UNC Chapel-Hill.

The office aids key stakeholders interested in pursuing funding opportunities from private funders. Furthermore, support is available to review and offer suggestions for narrative,

budget and other proposal items, as well as well facilitate institutional support when required and assist with submission of progress reports and other stewardship items.

The Industry Relations team within the office advances corporate partnerships and advises faculty on interactions with industry. This team develops corporate engagement strategies including sponsored research, gift and in-kind contributions, intellectual property management and technology licensing.

For more information about CFR and their services, please contact their office at cfr@unc.edu or (919) 962-9600.

Limited Submission Opportunities

[National Science Foundation Major Research Instrumentation \(MRI\)](#)

UNC Internal Deadline: Tuesday, October 17, 2017 at 5:00pm

The Major Research Instrumentation Program (MRI) serves to increase access to shared scientific and engineering instruments for research and research training, and seeks to improve the quality and expand the scope of research and research training in science and engineering, by providing organizations with opportunities to acquire instrumentation that supports the research and research training goals of the organization. [Click to view the UNC internal call.](#)

[Rita Allen Foundation Scholars Program](#)

UNC Internal Deadline: Monday, October 23, 2017, at 5:00pm

The Rita Allen Foundation Scholars program funds basic biomedical research in the fields of cancer, immunology and neuroscience. Rita Allen Foundation Scholars are distinguished by their bold approaches to basic scientific questions that address problems of global concern, as well as their potential for learning, leadership and collaboration. [Click to view the UNC internal call.](#)

[Brain Research Foundation 2018 Fay/Frank Seed Grant](#)

UNC Internal Deadline: To Be Announced

Brain Research Foundation's Annual Seed Grant Program provides start-up monies for new research projects in the field of neuroscience that will likely lead to extramural funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) or other outside funding sources. The objective of the Seed Grant Program is to support new and innovative projects, especially those of junior faculty, who are working in new research directions.

Call for Applications:
RTI University Scholars



Program

RTI University Scholars Program provides support—half of each Scholar’s salary and fringe—for distinguished academic researchers to spend leave time at RTI, actively collaborating with RTI experts.



The program’s goal is to **foster collaboration and catalyze opportunities for externally funded, joint projects in the future.** [Information for Applicants](#)

2018–2019 Priority Areas

- Data science
- Education and workforce development
- Environment and resource management
- Food, nutrition, and agriculture
- Global health

Website: www.rti.org/scholars

W. M. KECK FOUNDATION

W. M. Keck Foundation Research Program

The **W.M. Keck Foundation’s Research Program** application cycle has begun. The Office of Corporate and Foundation Relations (CFR) and the Office of Research Development are officially soliciting one-page concept papers ahead of Keck's pre-application counseling window, which will run January 1 – February 15, 2018. To be considered for this cycle, please submit concept papers to Denise Lindley, limited_submissions@unc.edu, by **December 1, 2017**. To view the internal call, visit our Limited Submissions calendar or [this link](#).

To help researchers develop concept papers, a **Keck grantwriting workshop** will be held **October 25, 2017, 12:30pm - 2:00pm** (location TBD). If you are interested in the workshop, email limited_submissions@unc.edu for more information or to make your reservation.

NSF Growing Convergence Research

The NSF has a growing emphasis on Convergence. There are many related terms when you considered teams of

faculty from different disciplines, such as, interdisciplinary, multidisciplinary, team science, collaborative research, and trans-disciplinary.

Different organizations define these terms differently. It is important to know how your funding agency defines terms relevant to your research.



NSF identifies convergence with two primary characteristics:

1. ***Deep integration across disciplines.*** As disciplines interact, the knowledge, theories, methods, data, research communities and languages are increasingly intermingled or integrated. On occasion, new disciplines form from sustained integration across disciplines. Through this deep integration, new frameworks and paradigms are created that enable new solutions. While it is not a specific objective of NSF's efforts to promote convergence, new disciplines sometimes emerge from such sustained interactions across disciplines.
2. ***Driven by a specific and compelling problem.*** Convergent research is generally inspired by the need to address a specific challenge or opportunity, whether it arises from deep scientific questions or pressing societal needs.

To see more on the NSF and Convergence Research,

- See the [Dear Colleague Letter: Growing Convergence Research at NSF](#)
- And the News Release and Video: [NSF issues first Convergence awards, addressing societal challenges through scientific collaboration](#)

NSF Learning Community: Broader Impacts **TIBBS 2017 Science Policy Series**

UNC [Training Initiatives in Biomedical and Biological Sciences](#) (TIBBS) and [Science Policy Advocacy Group](#) (SPAG) are presenting a series of [Science Policy](#) workshops and seminars geared toward graduate students, postdoctoral researchers, research trainees including new faculty researchers. Upcoming workshops include Communicating with Congress and Writing a White Paper (Thursday, October 12), and How to Write a Blog Post (Thursday, November 2). The Science Policy Series may help Broader Impacts by strengthening necessary communication skills for wider audiences or by giving additional insights to the researcher's trainees. [Visit the Science Policy Series calendar](#) for more information.

Call for Nominations: Science Foundation Ireland's St. Patrick's Day Science Medal

The Chief Scientific Adviser to the Government of Ireland and Director General of Ireland's National Foundation for Research, Science Foundation Ireland has extended an invitation to join them in recognizing and celebrating the achievements of senior scientists and engineers with Irish heritage. [St. Patrick's Day Science Medals](#) are awarded by the Taoiseach (Ireland's Prime Minister) in Washington D.C. during the official St. Patrick's Day Program in March each year.

The nominee must be an Irish scientist who, at the time of the nomination, is **living and working in the USA**. The nominee should be an outstanding academic researcher and recognised as one of the field-leaders in their discipline; should hold or have held a full professorial position, or equivalent, at a major US research university; and should have contributed to academic and/or industrial development in Ireland.

Nominations are due **Monday, October 16, 2017, by 5:00pm** to Denise Lindley, Office of Research Development, [Limited Submissions@unc.edu](mailto:Limited_Submissions@unc.edu).

Visit our website: research.unc.edu/ord

View limited submissions: research.unc.edu/ord/limited-submissions/

Read past newsletters: <http://go.unc.edu/Gb8k3>

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