COVID-19 Office of Research Update and Federal Granting Agency Information

Dated: March 17

Dear Faculty,

We would like to update you on the operations in the Office of Research and the Research Foundation to help keep the research activities running smoothly despite the challenges caused by COVID-19. The main change is that most of us will be working remotely. Nevertheless, we are striving for business as usual and do not anticipate major impact on our services from the remote working environments.

SJSU Research Foundation

The Research Foundation will be routing and submitting grant proposals as normal. If you have any questions, please contact the [Office of Sponsored Programs](mailto:).  

Office of Research

- The Office of Research will be handling RSCA competitions and submissions as normal. For other RSCA aspects, please continue to contact us via email. For those who received a Central RSCA Grant award for 2019-2020, we will work with you and your college in case you need to re-budget or extend the award period.
- You can continue to submit human subject protocols to [irb@sjsu.edu](mailto:) for review and approval. Note that researchers must switch to remote data collection (after the IRB has approved their modification request) or postpone their studies, regardless of their previous IRB approval. We ask faculty to ensure that students under their supervision are told to cease any in-person contact with study participants. Studies such as usability studies or those that involve exercise or biometric measurements will likely need to be put on hold. For those submitting protocols or overseeing student submissions, please be aware that no in-person interactions will be approved during the current time frame. Continue using [irb@sjsu.edu](mailto:) to address protocol and modification submissions, or for any questions.
- Research Development will continue gearing up its capacity to work one-on-one (via Zoom) with faculty on specific proposals. One new Research Development Specialist will start working (remotely) in late March and will be available to support faculty in the colleges of
Humanities & The Arts, Health and Human Sciences, and Social Sciences beginning in early April. We are in the process of reviewing applications for two additional research development specialists for the College of Engineering, and the colleges of Science and Education.

Questions? Please send an email to one of the following:

- **pamela.stacks@sjsu.edu** for RSCA matters.
- **irb@sjsu.edu** for Human subject protocol reviews.
- **raymond.harbert@sjsu.edu** for Student Research Competition & Undergraduate Research Grant matters.
- **julia.gaudinski@sjsu.edu** for University Grants Academy or support on specific proposal narrative, searching for funding for a specific program or research idea.

**Federal Agency Information**
Below is a list of COVID-19 related guidance from the main federal granting agencies. Some have provided updates on submission processes and/or funding opportunities. NSF provides travel or conference guidance – see FAQ section. In addition, NSF and NIH are indicating new possibilities dealing with coronavirus research opportunities.

Note that even federal agency guidelines are evolving.

**National Science Foundation (NSF)**

- **NSF Coronavirus Information**
- **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) About the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) for National Science Foundation (NSF) Proposers and Awardees**
- **Dear Colleague Letter on the Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19)**(funding opportunity)
- **Dear Colleague Letter: Provisioning Advanced Cyberinfrastructure to Further Research on the Coronavirus Disease 2019 COVID-19**(funding opportunity)

**National Institutes of Health (NIH):**

- **General COVID-19 Information Page**
- **NIH late application policy due to COVID-19**
Department of Health and Human Services (HH&S)

Portal for the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) medical countermeasures task force – A webpage for the submission of market research packages and meeting requests from interested stakeholders (funding opportunity).

National Endowment for the Arts

- General Statement
- FAQs (addresses applications)

Department of Education

Federal Student Aid – A webpage to address concerns expressed by higher education leaders regarding how they should comply with Title IV, Higher Education Act (HEA) policies for students whose activities are impacted by COVID-19.

Other Agencies

See COVID-19 responses below, which at the time of this email do not address grant/contract-related issues

- National Endowment for the Humanities
- U.S. Department of Agriculture
- U.S. Department of Commerce
- U.S. Department of Defense
- U.S. Department of Education
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Department of Energy
- U.S. Department of Labor
- U.S. Department of State

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