NHPRC ANNOUNCES NEW PRESERVATION GRANT COMPETITIONS

National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) recently opened competition for four of its six grant programs. Colleges and universities are eligible to apply directly for three of the four programs:

- Digital Dissemination of Archival Collections
- Literacy and Engagement with Historical Records
- Publishing Historical Records in Documentary Editions

The fourth program—State Government Electronic Records grants (which preserves state electronic records) is only open to state archives (or their designated agents), however opportunities may exist for collaboration with colleges and universities. Applications for each of the above programs are due October 8, 2015. For detailed information, visit the National Historical Publications and Records Commission website.

Scientific Communication Tools and Resources for Investigators

The National Science Foundation (NSF) has assembled a multimedia toolkit to support principal investigators’ scientific communications. The resource contains statements on “the importance and benefits of science communication, suggestions for communicating effectively, the ideal communication process, and descriptions of all of NSF’s communication channels.”

The toolkit also provides access to data that can be used to build on existing awards or to prepare applications for new NSF funding. Videos on the lifecycle of an NSF grant proposal, the merit review process, and perspectives on conveying broader impacts (which, along with intellectual merit, comprise the review criteria for NSF applications) are also available for use by awardees, applicants, and research administrators conducting campus outreach to increase understanding of NSF funding and capacity to compete for specific funding opportunities. For more information, visit the NSF and Congress Toolkit website.

Applicant Responsibilities in Maintaining the Integrity of the NIH Peer Review

In a recent Extramural Nexus Rock Talk post, Dr. Richard Nakamura, director of the NIH Center for Scientific Review, discusses the responsibilities of everyone involved in the peer review process. NIH has established strict guidelines “to provide a venue for fair competition and preserve the integrity of the peer review process.” It is critically important for all participants in the process—principal investigators (PI), officials of applicant institutions, reviewers, as well as scientific review officers (SROs) to uphold these standards. Dr. Nakamura emphasizes that during the review process, applicants or principal investigators must not:

- Attempt to influence the outcome of the review—the SRO is the only official contact to the review process,
- Provide new information or data on the application directly to reviewers. If necessary to send post-submission materials, contact the SRO and follow NIH policies,
- Contact reviewers to get scores or critiques.

If it is determined that peer review standards have been violated NIH can defer or withdraw the application. Depending on the severity of
the circumstances, NIH may take further administrative actions including but not limited to notifying the PI's institution regarding the incident. To read more, see Extramural Nexus Rock Talk June 18, 2015.

**NIH Common Fund Launches Physical Activity Research Program**
Funding opportunity announcements for the new Molecular Transducers of Physical Activity in Humans program are expected later this year. The program, is the largest targeted NIH investment of funds into the mechanisms of how physical activity improves health and prevents disease, this program aims to catalogue extensively the biological molecules that are affected by physical activity in people, identify some of the key molecules that underlie the systemic effects of physical activity, and characterize the functions of these key molecules. This program is supported by the NIH Common Fund and is managed by a transagency Working Group representing multiple NIH Institutes and Centers. For more program information, please visit the NIH News and Events website.

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**Revised Timeline for Final Reports Required for NIH Grant Closeout**
In the Interim Grant General Conditions released on February 5, 2015, NIH announced that for projects ending on or after October 1, 2014, recipients must submit a Final Federal Financial Report (FFR), Final Progress Report (FPR), and Final Invention Statement and Certification (FIS) within 120 calendar days of the end of the period of performance. NIH will apply this policy change to all projects with a period of performance end date on or after October 1, 2014. For any grants with a period of performance (project period) end date prior to October 1, 2014, the reporting deadline will be 90 days from the project period end date.

The revised timeline for submission of final reports is not yet reflected in the link for the final FFR for a grant in eRA Commons or in the “grants pending closeout” search by institution in Commons Quick Queries. NIH expects to have the correct due date for submissions in eRA systems no later than July 17, 2015. For complete details, refer to the NIH website Notice Number: NOT-OD-15-111.

**The Monthly Grant Application Deadlines Report**
The monthly Grant Application Deadlines report shows funding opportunities that have been identified as relevant to SJSU research and sent through the SJSU Research Foundation Funding Alert System with corresponding grant application deadlines. This report is updated monthly and covers a six-month period. To view the current report, visit the SJSU Research Foundation website.

**Fellowships and Scholarships**
The SJSU Research Foundation receives notification of fellowship and scholarship opportunities for faculty and students. Highlights this month include:

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<th>Program</th>
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<td>Kluge Fellowships</td>
<td>The Library of Congress</td>
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<td>Internship Program</td>
<td>American Institute for Economic Research</td>
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<td>Core Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program</td>
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<td>Open Society Fellowship</td>
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<td>AHRQ Individual Awards for Postdoctoral Fellows (F32) National Research Service Awards (NRSA)</td>
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