New Awards

Jennifer Temple, assistant professor of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences, is principal investigator on a $1.5 million award from NIH. Her 5-year study entitled Gender Differences in Responses to Caffeine in Children and Adolescents will expand upon the findings of her previous study, which demonstrated that caffeine has effects on physiological, mood and energy intake in adolescents and that boys appear to be more sensitive to the effects than girls. Her current study will investigate the mechanisms underlying these gender differences in response to caffeine and, perhaps, other drugs.

Lina Mu, assistant professor of Social and Preventive Medicine, is principal investigator on a 3-year grant from NIH entitled Biological Response to Air Quality Change in Beijing pre-, mid and post-Olympics. This $1.3 million award will examine the effects of air pollution on the Chinese population, focusing on the changes in air quality pre, during and post the 2008 Olympics. Other UB faculty who will be working with Lina are Matthew Bonner, Richard Browne, Kate Rittenhouse-Olson, and Lili Tian. For further information, please see http://www.buffalo.edu/ubreporter/2011_04_07/pollution_olympics

Don Rowe, director of Office of Public Health Practice and Public Health Liaison, will oversee UB’s $1.2 million portion of a $3.24 million award from the federal Health Resources and Services Administration. The 5-year collaborative grant with Albany School of Public Health will help launch the Empire State Public Health Training Center, designed to enhance training opportunities for New York State’s public health workforce. Training programs will include webinars, online courses, workshops, seminars and other programs. Other objectives include annual assessments of the training needs and assets of the state’s public health workforce, developing collaborative projects involving faculty, students and public health agencies across the state and strengthening field placements for public health students. For additional information, please see: http://www.buffalo.edu/news/12371

Newsworthy Publications

Lynn Kozlowski, Dean, School of Public Health and Health Professions, Marc Kiviniemi, assistant professor of Community Health and Health Behavior, and Pavani Ram, assistant professor of Social and Preventive Medicine, are authors of a recent Viewpoint article published in Public Health Reports. The article, entitled Easier Said Than Done: Behavioral Conflicts in Following Social-Distancing Recommendations for Influenza Prevention, presents results from the study of the 2009 commencement ceremony of UB’s School of Public Health and Health Professions. Given the potential for spreading the H1N1 virus, graduates were told prior to the presentation of diplomas that an optional doff of the cap would be an acceptable sign of respect instead of a handshake. Instead of following the recommendation, all 200 graduates shook hands without apparent hesitation, illustrating that social pressures may make such recommendations moot. For additional information, please see the UB Reporter: http://www.buffalo.edu/ubreporter/2011_03_24/handshaking
Andrea Licht, doctoral candidate of Social and Preventive Medicine, is first author of a UB-led study which analyzed the tobacco industry’s claim that efforts to ban tobacco advertising within a 1,000-foot buffer zone near schools would constitute a total ban on tobacco advertising in urban areas and therefore, be unconstitutional under the First Amendment. Results from the collaborative study with UB, Roswell Park Cancer Institute and the Erie-Niagara Tobacco-Free Coalition discounted that claim, an important finding because as Andrea explains, “since availability, accessibility and the perception that smoking is normal are all associated with higher youth-smoking rates, it is likely that advertising bans near schools may serve to reduce youth smoking initiation.” SPHHP faculty co-authors include K. Michael Cummings, professor of Social and Preventive Medicine and Andrew Hyland, research associate professor of Social and Preventive Medicine. For additional information, please see the UB Reporter and the Buffalo News:
http://www.buffalo.edu/ubreporter/2011_03_10/schools_tobacco_ads
http://www.buffalonews.com/life/health-parenting/article378556.ece

In its 50th anniversary year since the executive order was signed, a group of return volunteers from across the University recently reflected on their experiences while serving in the Peace Corp. John Stone, clinical associate professor of Rehabilitation Sciences and director of CIRRIE, was so inspired by the philosophy of the Peace Corp that he joined in 1967. Working alongside farmers in southern India from 1967-1969, John surveyed fields, laying them out for rice cultivation, and performed agricultural work with seeds and fertilizers. To read more about John’s story, as well as others, please see the UB Reporter:
http://www.buffalo.edu/ubreporter/2011_03_31/peace_corps

NIH Notices

Registration Open for Upcoming NIH Grants Seminars
2011 NIH Regional Seminars on Program Funding and Grants Administration are scheduled to be held in Scottsdale, AZ (April 27-29) and Ft. Lauderdale, FL (June 22-24). Information will be provided on such topics as NIH peer review process, grant writing for success, pre-award and post-award issues, compliance, how to interact electronically with NIH, and how to map your career with NIH. In addition, there will be opportunities to meet and discuss grant issues with approximately 35 HHS and NIH officials. For further information on the seminars, including links to register for the event, please see http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-11-061.html

RFP Notice: Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act National Longitudinal Study
NIDA plans on issuing a solicitation seeking qualified businesses with the capacity to conduct a large national longitudinal cohort study and establish a regulatory-science framework to monitor the behavioral and health impacts of provisions in the 2009 Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act (FSPTCA). A solicitation will be released through the Federal Business Opportunities website (https://www.fbo.gov/). The RFP will be released on or about April 5, 2011 and proposals will be due approximately 45 days thereafter. For further information, please see http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-DA-11-026.html

Re-Issuance of Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Awards (NRSA)
The NIH has re-issued the Institutional Research Training Grants (Parent T32) and Short-Term Institutional Research Training Grants (Parent T35). The re-issued FOAs do not change the overall objectives of these programs, nor do they modify current NRSA policies, rules and regulations. See the specific announcements under NIH Funding in this newsletter. http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-11-060.html
New Investigators - NIH Change in Review Cycle for Initial R01 Applications

In order to give New Investigators who wish to use the consecutive review cycle option more time to prepare their resubmission (A1) applications, NIH is changing the schedule for release of summary statements. The recurring Study Sections for the Center for Scientific Review (CSR) and the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) will meet on a schedule to allow an earlier release of summary statements. This cycle will begin for initial R01 applications submitted for the June 5, 2011 due date. The new timetable is:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Due date for New R01 Applications</th>
<th>Study Section Meeting Window</th>
<th>Summary Statement Release</th>
<th>Due Date for Next Round Resubmission</th>
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<tr>
<td>February 5</td>
<td>May/June/July</td>
<td>July 10</td>
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<td>June 5</td>
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NIH Seeks Your Feedback on Adoption of Animal Care Guide

NIH is seeking public comments on (1) its adoption of the 8th edition of the Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals as a basis for evaluation of institutional programs receiving or proposing to receive Public Health Service support for activities involving animals and (2) if NIH decides to adopt the 8th edition of the Guide, NIH’s proposed implementation plan which would require that institutions complete at least one semiannual program and facility evaluation using the 8th edition of the Guide as a basis for evaluation by March 31, 2012. The 8th edition of the Guide can be viewed at http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12910.

Deadline for Comments: April 24, 2011, 11:59pm
Comments should be entered at: http://grants.nih.gov/grants/olaw/2011guidecomments/add.htm

NIH Peer Review Revealed

The Center for Scientific Review has produced a series of videos to give you an inside look at how scientists review NIH grant applications for scientific and technical merit. The videos were created to help new and established applicants find insights to improve applications and increase their chances of receiving a more positive review. The videos can be viewed at: http://cms.csr.nih.gov/ResourcesforApplicants/InsidetheNIHGrantReviewProcessVideo.htm

Free Text Analysis Software Available

Through the end of 2011, UB holds a license for the use of Texifter software, thus allowing its use free-of-charge for all UB researchers. According to its website (http://www.texifter.com/), “Texifter improves efficiency by streamlining the process of sorting large amounts of unstructured text. Texifter offers off-the-shelf enterprise class business applications specifically developed to meet the complex needs of researchers and federal rule writers. Texifter utilizes SAAS & cloud-based solutions for topic modeling, duplicate detection, and other information retrieval tasks involving users in an active learning loop.” In order to access the software, visit http://discovertext.com/enterprise/license/buffalo and enter your UB email address. The enterprise license agreement number will be emailed to you, which you will need to enter when establishing your user account (http://discovertext.com/registration.aspx).

NIH Funding Opportunities: RFAs

RFAs (Requests for Applications)

RFA-HL-12-011 (R01)

Development and Testing of a Case Finding Methodology in COPD

The National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) invites applicants to submit grant applications for a research project to design and test practical tools for identifying individuals at high risk for COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease) and exacerbations of COPD. We anticipate that these tools will consist of a questionnaire regarding risk factors and symptoms combined with a simple physiological measure such as peak expiratory airflow.

Application Due Date(s): July 11, 2011

RFA HS-11-005 (P01)
Research Centers for Excellence in Clinical Preventive Services
This FOA solicits Research Program Project Grant (P01) applications from applicant organizations to become a Research Center for Excellence in Clinical Preventive Services with a focus on one of three programmatic areas: (1) patient safety; (2) health equity; or (3) health care system implementation. AHRQ is providing this support for research center grants to foster innovative, synergistic, and targeted research on clinical preventive services. These Centers will complement the efforts of other Federal investments in prevention and public health by focusing on the role of the formal health care system, and primary care in particular, in improving the health of all Americans, in increasing the effectiveness, safety, and efficiency of the health care system, and in improving patient experience, through the implementation of evidence-based clinical preventive services. The goal of this initiative is to support high quality, multidisciplinary programs of innovative research that will move forward the nation’s emerging National Prevention Strategy.

Application Due Date(s): May 23, 2011

RFA HS-11-004 (U19)
Centers for Education and Research on Therapeutics (CERTs)
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) seeks U19 Research Program Cooperative Agreement applications for CERTs Research Centers (RCs) that propose a body of work addressing a minimum of three of the five programmatic interest areas: (1) comparative effectiveness, (2) patient safety, (3) tool development, enhancement, and/or validation, (4) health care system interventions, and (5) translation of research findings into practice or policy. These interest areas represent overarching interests of AHRQ, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), and other stakeholders in therapeutics research and education. The proposed work of a CERTs RC is required to fall within a Center-proposed theme that unifies 3 to 5 major projects proposed by the RC to be conducted over the 5 year period of the grant; project partnerships with individuals and/or organizations engaged in relevant aspects of clinical care or its financing are highly encouraged.

Application Due Date(s): May 18, 2011
http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/RFAs/RFA-HS-11-004.html#SectionIV

PAR-11-169 (U34)
NIAMS Clinical Trial Planning Cooperative Agreement

Expiration Date: March 2, 2014
The NIAMS is committed to identifying effective approaches to address the burden of arthritis and musculoskeletal and skin diseases and disorders. Improving health through the generation of high quality data from well-designed and executed clinical trials is a high priority for the NIAMS. A clinical trial is defined by NIH as “a prospective biomedical or behavioral research study of human subjects that is designed to answer specific questions about biomedical or behavioral interventions (drugs, treatments, devices, or new ways of using known drugs, treatments, or devices). Clinical trials are used to determine whether new biomedical or behavioral interventions are safe, efficacious, and effective. Behavioral human subjects research involving an intervention to modify behavior (diet, physical activity, cognitive therapy, etc.) fits this definition of a clinical trial.”

PAR-11-156 (U01)
Basic Cancer Research in Cancer Health Disparities
Application Due Date(s): June 23, 2011 and November 23, 2011
Expiration Date: November 24, 2011
Through this FOA, the Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities (CRCHD) and the Division of Cancer Biology (DCB), and the Division of Cancer Prevention (DCP), at the National Cancer Institute (NCI), invite cooperative agreement research (U01) grant applications from investigators interested in conducting basic research studies into the biological causes and mechanisms of cancer health disparities. These awards will support innovative mechanistic studies that investigate biological/genetic bases of cancer health disparities, including basic research in prevention studies in populations with cancer disparities. This FOA is also designed to aid and facilitate the growth of a nationwide cohort of scientists with a high level of basic research expertise in cancer health disparities research who can develop resources and tools, such as biospecimens, cell lines and methods that are necessary to conduct basic research in cancer health disparities.

PAR-11-167 (UM1)
Core Infrastructure and Methodological Research for Cancer Epidemiology Cohorts
Expiration Date: November 9, 2013
This FOA, issued by the National Cancer Institute (NCI), invites grant applications to provide targeted infrastructure support for the core functions of Cancer Epidemiology Cohorts (CECs) and methodological research. This infrastructure can support existing or new CECs. This FOA will support core functions for CECs currently funded through other grant mechanisms by the Epidemiology and Genetics Program (EGRP) and other components of the Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences (DCCPS) at the NCI.

PAR-09-102 (K22)
NHLBI Career Transition Award
Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply
Expiration Date: May 8, 2012
The purpose of the NHLBI Career Transition Award program is to provide highly qualified postdoctoral fellows with an opportunity to receive mentored research experience in the NHLBI Division of Intramural Research and then to provide them with bridge funding to facilitate the transition of their research programs as new investigators at extramural institutions. To achieve these objectives, the NHLBI Career Transition Award will support two phases of research: an intramural phase (two years) and an extramural phase (three years), for a total of five years of combined support. Transition from the intramural phase of support to the extramural phase is not automatic. Approval of the transition will be based on the success of the awardees research program as determined by an NHLBI progress review, which will include an evaluation of a research plan to be carried out at the extramural institution.

PAR-11-170 (R01) and PAR-11-171 (R21)
Role of Environmental Chemical Exposures in the Development of Obesity, Type 2 Diabetes and Metabolic Syndrome
Application Due Date(s): May 23, 2011, May 23, 2012, May 23, 2013
Expiration Date: May 24, 2013
This FOA, issued by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), encourages grant applications to understand the role of environmental chemical exposures in the development of obesity, type 2 diabetes and/or metabolic syndrome. Applications must link an environmental exposure to the increased incidence of weight gain, type 2 diabetes and aspects of metabolic syndrome in animal models or human studies. While any exposure window is acceptable it is anticipated that the most sensitive time for exposures to affect the disease outcomes will be during development e.g., in utero and/or neonatal or early childhood. For human studies developmental exposures (in utero and early childhood) should be linked to early biomarkers of disease onset. Animal studies should focus on identifying new environmental chemicals that alter weight gain, insulin sensitivity and glucose tolerance and altered lipid metabolism indicative of obesity, type 2 diabetes and/or metabolic syndrome.
PA (Program Announcements)

PA-11-184 (T32) and PA-11-185 (T35)
Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA) Institutional Research Training Grants and Short-Term Institutional Research Training Grants
Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply
Expiration Date: May 8, 2014

PA-11-138 (R01) and PA-11-140 (R21)
Economics of Retirement
Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply
Expiration Date: May 8, 2014

PA-11-147 (U01)
Advanced Neural Prosthetics Research and Development
Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply
Expiration Date: January 8, 2012

PA-11-160 (R01) and PA-11-161 (R21)
Enhancing Tumoricidal Activity of Natural Killer (NK) Cells by Dietary Components for Cancer Prevention
Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply
Expiration Date: May 8, 2014

PA-11-162 (R01), PA-11-163 (R21) and PA-11-164 (R03)
The Effect of Racial and Ethnic Discrimination/Bias on Health Care Delivery
Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply
Expiration Date: May 8, 2014

PA-11-180 (R01), PA-11-182 (R21), and PA-11-181 (R03)
Research on Ethical Issues in Biomedical, Social and Behavioral Research
Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply
Expiration Date: May 8, 2014

PA-08-253 (R01)
Unique Interactions Between Tobacco Use and HIV/AIDS
Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply
Expiration Date: January 8, 2012

PA-11-165 (R01) and PA-11-166 (R21)
Nutrition and Diet in the Causation, Prevention, and Management of Heart Failure
Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply
Expiration Date: May 8, 2014

PA-08-188 (R01)
Integrating Biobehavioral and Sociocultural Research to Prevent HIV Transmission and Infection
Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply
Expiration Date: May 8, 2011
http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-08-188.html

PA-08-166 (R01)
Dissemination, Implementation, and Operational Research for HIV Prevention Interventions
Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply
Expiration Date: May 8, 2011
http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-08-166.html

PA-09-122 (R01)
Research on Clinical Decision Making in People with or at Risk for Life-Threatening Illness
Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply
Expiration Date: May 8, 2012

PA-10-100 (R01)
Alcohol Use Disorders: Treatment, Services Research, and Recovery
Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply
Expiration Date: May 8, 2013
http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-10-100.html

PA-10-241 (R01) and PA-10-239 (R21)
Nutrition and Alcohol-Related Health Outcomes
Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply
Expiration Date: September 8, 2013
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
Grand Challenges Explorations Round 7
Explorations is an accelerated grant initiative with short two-page applications and no preliminary data required. The grant program is open to anyone from any discipline, from student to tenured professor, and from any organization. Anyone with a bold idea that shows great promise can apply. Applications are submitted online, and winning grants are chosen approximately 4 months from the submission deadline. Initial grants of $100,000 are awarded two times a year. Successful projects have the opportunity to receive a follow-on grant of up to $1 million, and could eventually evolve into a Grand Challenges project.

Round 7 Topics include:
- The Poliovirus Endgame: Create Ways to Accelerate, Sustain and Monitor Eradication
- Create the Next Generation of Sanitation Technologies
- Create Low-Cost Cell Phone Based Solutions for Improved Uptake and Coverage of Childhood Vaccinations
- Design New Approaches to Cure HIV Infection
- Explore Nutrition for Healthy Growth of Infants and Children
- Apply Synthetic Biology to Global Health Challenges

Deadline to Apply: May 19, 2011 (11:30am Pacific Time)
For further information, please visit: http://www.grandchallenges.org/Explorations/Pages/ApplicationInstructions.aspx

UB Faculty Internationalization Fund

Please be advised that applications to the Faculty Internationalization Fund are currently being accepted. The fund supports UB faculty travel for the purpose of developing and directing a faculty-led study abroad program for UB students at a partner institution overseas; developing a sustainable research collaboration with a counterpart(s) at a partner institution; and developing a new UB course-or enhancing an existing UB course-with international content and perspectives in cooperation with an institutional partner.
Deadline for the current application cycle: May 1, 2011.
For additional details and the application form, please go to:
http://wings.buffalo.edu/ntled/Faculty_Internationalization_Fund_web.pdf

Words to Live by:
“Criticism is something we can avoid easily by saying nothing, doing nothing, and being nothing” - Aristotle

Please submit your comments/suggestions to Traci Jackson, jacksont@buffalo.edu or Pam Sturtz, pjsturtz@buffalo.edu, 106 Kimball Tower