In the News

Jo Freudenheim, UB Distinguished Professor and Chair of Social and Preventive Medicine, received a renewal award from Ohio State University for the project entitled Risk Factors for miRNA Expression and Differentiation in Normal Breast Tissues. The study will investigate miRNA expression in breast tissues from 200 healthy women to determine the association of miRNA profiles and individual miRNA with breast cancer risks and identify a group of 20-30 individual miRNAs that are most strongly associated with the risk factors.

Gregory Homish, Assistant Professor of Community Health and Health Behavior, is co-investigator on a 5-year continuation grant from NIDA with principal investigator Rina Eiden (RIA) for the project entitled Prenatal and Environmental Tobacco Smoke (ETS) Exposure: Effects on Child Regulation. The longitudinal study will continue to investigate the impact of prenatal exposure to cigarettes on the development of self-regulation in children of pregnant smokers up to school age.

Michael LaMonte, Assistant Professor of Social and Preventive Medicine, received a renewal award from Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center for the project entitled Objective Physical Activity and Cardiovascular Health in Women Aged 80 and Older. Dr. LaMonte will obtain objective measures of physical activity and relate those measures to the incidence of cardiovascular disease endpoints and other outcomes relevant to older postmenopausal women.

Michael Noe, Associate Dean for Community Relations and Clinical Affairs, is project director on a 3-year Public Health Traineeship Grant Program from the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration. The program provides funding to graduate students pursuing a course of study in a public health field in which there is a severe shortage (e.g., Biostatistics, Epidemiology, Environmental Health & Toxicology). Matthew Bonner, Associate Professor of Social and Preventive Medicine, Pavani Ram, Assistant Professor of Social and Preventive Medicine, and Lili Tian, Associate Professor of Biostatistics, are co-directors.

Heather Orom, Assistant Professor of Community Health and Health Behavior, received a renewal award from Health Research Inc. for the project entitled Race, Prostate Cancer Treatment, and Treatment Decision Difficulty and Regret. Dr. Orom will be responsible for overseeing data collection and management, as well as primary responsibility for two aims of the project, the foci of which are identifying why African American men are disproportionately less likely to receive clinically appropriate prostate cancer care and to experience more decision-making difficulty and regret. Gregory Homish, Assistant Professor of Community Health and Health Behavior, is co-investigator.

Machiko Tomita, Clinical Associate Professor of Rehabilitation Science, is principal investigator on a 2-year grant from NIH for the project entitled Virtual Group-Exercise at Home in Older Adults at Risk of Falling. The study will test the feasibility and effectiveness of a group exercise at home program utilizing the internet and videoconferencing technology. SPHHP co-investigators on the study include Nadine Fisher, Clinical Associate Professor of Rehabilitation Science, Terry Mashtare, Research Assistant Professor of Biostatistics, and Dan Ramsey, Assistant Professor of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences.
New Awards, con’t

**John Violanti**, Research Professor of Social and Preventive Medicine, is principal investigator on a 4-year award from the National Institute Occupational Safety & Health for the project entitled *Stressors and Microvascular Subclinical CVD in Police Officers*. The study will investigate cross-sectional associations between occupational stressor and promising biomarkers that may reflect adverse microvascular changes, as well as the potential role of inflammation, insulin resistance, and serum vitamin D levels in microvascular subclinical CVD. **Amy Millen**, Assistant Professor of Social and Preventive Medicine, is co-investigator.

**Gregory Wilding**, Associate Professor of Biostatistics, received two renewal awards from Health Research Inc. for the projects entitled *RPCI CCSG Biostatistics Resource* and *Prostate Cancer: Transition to Androgen Independence – Core B (Immunoanalysis & Tumor Management)*. Dr. Wilding will oversee the RPCI center which provides statistical design and analysis support; statistical programming and database development; protocol development; statistical and bioinformatics software development and statistical training and education. Co-investigators on the RPCI CCSG Biostatistics Resource grant include **Alan Hutson**, Chair and Professor of Biostatistics, **Jeffrey Miecznikowski**, Assistant Professor of Biostatistics, and **Lili Tian**, Associate Professor of Biostatistics.

**Jihnhee Yu**, Associate Professor of Biostatistics, is co-investigator on a 4-year grant from NIH with principal investigator Stephen Rudin (Radiology) for the project entitled *Micro-Radiographic for Neurovascular Interventions*. The study will seek to improve patient care in the practice of image guided neurovascular diagnosis and interventions by improving detector system technology with minimal increased radiation effective dose.

**SPHHP Faculty in UB Reporter**

**Heather Ochs-Balcom**, Assistant Professor of Social and Preventive Medicine, received a 2011-2012 UB Young Investigator Award. The Young Investigator Award is presented to untenured researchers whose work has garnered universal acclaim or been completed under the auspices of a prestigious fellowship grant. Dr. Ochs-Balcom will be honored as part of the Celebration of Faculty and Staff Excellence to be held on October 3rd at 3:30pm in the Drama Theater in the Center of the Arts. Further information can be found at: [http://www.buffalo.edu/ubreporter/2012_08_09/exceptional_scholars](http://www.buffalo.edu/ubreporter/2012_08_09/exceptional_scholars).

**John Violanti**, Research Professor of Social and Preventive Medicine, is lead author of an article in press in a special issue of the *International Journal of Emergency Mental Health*. John’s research, funded by NIOSH, studied the association between occupational stress and psychological and health outcomes among 464 police officers from the Buffalo Police Department. The research revealed connections between the daily stressors of police work and obesity, suicide, sleeplessness and cancer, as well as general health disparities between police officers and the general population. SPHHP co-investigators on the study include **Jean Wactawski-Wende**, Professor of Social and Preventive Medicine, and **Joan Dorn**, Professor Emeritus of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences. Further information on John’s study can be found at: [http://www.buffalo.edu/ubreporter/2012_07_12/police_stress](http://www.buffalo.edu/ubreporter/2012_07_12/police_stress).

**Dale Fish**, Senior Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs and Associate Professor of Rehabilitation Science, has taught Gross Anatomy for 25 years. Held over eight weeks during the summer, the course is a unique opportunity for SPHHP undergraduates in exercise science, pre-physical therapy and occupational therapy majors to take a human dissection course. While the entire body is covered during the course, the main focus is on the elements that are most important for exercise science, PT and OT students – primarily the musculoskeletal system. Students spend up to 20 hours per week in the dissection lab, as well as 60 to 90 minutes each day attending a lecture. The full article, including a slideshow, can be found at: [http://www.buffalo.edu/ubreporter/2012_07_12/gross_anatomy](http://www.buffalo.edu/ubreporter/2012_07_12/gross_anatomy)

Congratulations!!!
New Financial Conflict of Interest (FCOI) Guidelines

Many SPHHP faculty already have received the email from the Vice President for Research and Economic Development regarding the new requirements for the FCOI. As stated on FCOI cover page, the Policy requires each Public Health Service (PHS) funded investigator to submit a Disclosure Statement to his/her cognizant dean or vice president, preferably on or before August 17, 2012.

To implement this policy, UB has revised the annual FCOI form for 2012-2013. This form has to be completed by all faculty researchers, regardless of the source(s) from which they receive funding. Completed UB FCOI forms should be submitted to ADR Collins or dropped off at the RAS Office.

In addition to the completion of the new FCOI form, investigators are required to complete FCOI CITI training modules. This training is required to be completed prior to any new grant-related activities effective August 25, 2012. This includes proposal submissions, new awards, renewals, no cost extensions, and so on. The link to the CITI training instructions and modules is provided below:
http://www.research.buffalo.edu/compliance/training/

Additional information and a link to the required FCOI form for UB can be found at the RAS website.

IRBNet – an electronic IRB Submission Tool for UB

Over the next few months, researchers with active IRB protocols will be contacted by IRB staff regarding registration for a new suite of tools, IRBNet, which will streamline the protocol submission and IRB review processes. Manual and paper-based procedures will be reduced, with submission and reviews now done electronically. The tools also include web-based protocol sharing and collaboration, automatic notifications, integrated training and credential management, and important audit capabilities including electronic revision histories, electronic signatures and event tracking.

Reminder - eRA Commons “LikeThis” Tool Will Help Find the Appropriate NIH Institute or Study Section

"LikeThis" is available as a link in eRA Commons once logged into the system. After the PI has entered scientific text from a grant application (data remains confidential), the tool will pull up similar grants which have been funded. The listed grants will include the name of the NIH funding Institute as well as list the study section where these were reviewed. PIs also can access their previously funded or unfunded grants from the ‘My Applications’ tab in LikeThis to find similar, funded grants.

NIH Notices

Pre-Application Meeting for RFA-DA-13-003: Tobacco Centers of Regulatory Science for Research Relevant to the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act
Date: August 23, 2012, 3:00-4:30pm EST.
The webinar is intended to explain the goals and objectives of this initiative and answer questions from prospective applicants. Information, including instructions on how to join the webinar, can be found at:

Notice of Intent to Publish a FOA for Pilot Intervention and Services Research Grants (R34)
The purpose of this notice is to inform potential applicants that the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) and the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) intend to reissue FOA PAR-09-173 - Pilot Intervention and Services Research Grants (R34), which will expire on September 8, 2012. The FOA, which will use the NIH Clinical Trial Planning Grant (R34) award mechanism, is expected to be published in September 2012 with an expected receipt date in October 2012. For further information, please see NIH notice:

(Continued on page 4)
Extramural Loan Repayment Programs
The overall purpose of the extramural LRP is the recruitment and retention of highly qualified health professionals as research investigators to careers in research. The NIH invites qualified health professionals who contractually agree to engage in NIH mission-relevant research for at least two years, and who agree to engage in such research for at least 20 hours per week based on a 40-hour work week, to apply for participation in the extramural LRP. Extramural LRP applications will be accepted annually from September 1 through November 15, 8:00 p.m. EST. Applications must be submitted electronically using the NIH Loan Repayment Program Website. Detailed information about each LRP is provided at the website: http://www.lrp.nih.gov/about_the_programs/index.aspx.

Announcement of a new USAID-NIH initiative to help end preventable child deaths in developing countries: “Partnerships for Enhanced Engagement in Research (PEER) Health”
This Notice is to inform the NIH global health community of a call for proposals for a USAID-NIH jointly sponsored program. The purpose of this initiative is to focus on research-to-practice barriers related to child survival interventions and intends to focus research efforts on the "last mile of treatment" in child health. The initiative coincides with USAID's newly launched “call to action” to end preventable child deaths. In addition, the USAID Indonesia mission will support awards in implementation research in neonatal survival, tuberculosis, and emerging infectious diseases. Applicants must be based at an academic or government-managed research or health care institution in an eligible country, and either be engaged with or plan to collaborate with an NIH-funded investigator. Eligible countries include 33 selected low or lower middle income countries on the PEER health eligible country list, or additional lower middle income countries with matching funds from within the country. For further information, please see NIH notice: http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-TW-12-016.html

Participation of NICHD in PA-12-061, Maternal Nutrition and Pre-pregnancy Obesity: Effects on Mothers, Infants and Children (R01)
This Notice is to inform applicants that the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) has joined the National Institute of Nursing Research to participate in funding opportunity announcement, PA-12-061, entitled “Maternal Nutrition and Pre-pregnancy Obesity: Effects on Mothers, Infants and Children (R01)” effective immediately.

Clarification of Time Limit on NIH Resubmission Applications
Since the NIH policy on resubmission applications was issued, CSR and OER have received numerous questions concerning its implementation. NIH policy allows a 37 month window for resubmissions (A1 applications) following the submission of a New, Renewal, or Revision application (A0 application). After 37 months, NIH views a submission as a new application, regardless of whether an unsuccessful resubmission (A1) was submitted during the 37 month time period. The policy was implemented to stimulate new research directions for projects that were not successful initially and may have become outdated over the course of several years. For further information, please see NIH notice: http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-12-128.html

NIH Funding Opportunities: Requests for Applications (RFAs)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>October Due Dates</th>
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<td>RFA-AG-13-005 (R03)</td>
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**Comparative Physiological Studies of Aging**
The purpose of this FOA is to stimulate comparative approaches toward understanding the molecular pathways contributing to differences in aging rates, lifespan and healthspan in vertebrate species.  
**Application Due Date:** October 19, 2012  

| RFA-AG-13-004 (R03) |
**Secondary Analyses and Archiving of Social and Behavioral Datasets in Aging**
The purpose of this FOA is to solicit one-year R03 applications for (1) secondary analysis of data on aging in the areas of psychology, behavioral genetics, economics, demography or (2) archiving and dissemination of data sets.  
**Application Due Date:** October 19, 2012  
RFA-RM-12-015 (DP1)

2013 NIH Director's Pioneer Award Program
The NIH Director's Pioneer Award supports individual scientists of exceptional creativity who propose pioneering and possibly transforming approaches to addressing major biomedical or behavioral challenges that have the potential to produce an unusually high impact on a broad area of biomedical or behavioral research. To be considered pioneering, the proposed research must reflect substantially different scientific directions from those already being pursued in the investigator's research program or elsewhere.

Application Due Date: October 9, 2012

RFA-RM-12-016 (DP2)

2013 NIH Director's New Innovator Award Program
The NIH Director's New Innovator Award addresses two important goals: stimulating highly innovative research and supporting promising new investigators. New investigators may have exceptionally innovative research ideas, but not the preliminary data required to fare well in the traditional NIH peer review system. As part of NIH's commitment to increasing opportunities for new scientists, it has created the NIH Director's New Innovator Award to support exceptionally creative new investigators who propose highly innovative research projects that have the potential for unusually high impact.

Application Due Date: October 17, 2012

November Due Dates

RFA-DA-13-003 (P50)

Tobacco Centers of Regulatory Science for Research Relevant to the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act
This FOA invites applications for Tobacco Centers of Regulatory Science (TCORS). The program objective is to conduct multidisciplinary research that will inform tobacco product regulation and address the research priorities related to the regulatory authority of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Center for Tobacco Products (CTP). Projects resulting from this FOA are expected to serve the FDA by generating relevant findings and data needed to inform the regulation of the manufacture, distribution, and marketing of tobacco products to protect public health.

Application Due Date: November 14, 2012

RFA-RM-12-019 (R01)

Development and Application of Systems Approach for Analyzing Impact of Genomic Variation on Tissue Transcriptomes
This FOA invites applications for R01 awards for statistical analysis of Genotype-Tissue Expression (GTEx) data. The goal of the GTEx program is to develop a data and sample resource to study the relationship between genetic variation and gene expression across multiple human reference tissues. By 2016 the GTEx program is expected to include genetic variation information from approximately 900 post-mortem donors and gene expression measurements from over 20,000 tissues. GTEx will represent a large, rich, and unique resource. This FOA is to develop and apply statistical methods and systems approaches to make maximal use of this data.

Application Due Date: November 21, 2012

Multiple Due Dates

RFA-DC-12-004 (R43/R44 (SBIR)
RFA-DC-12-005 (R41/R42 STTR)

Improving Access to Hearing Health Care
This funding opportunity solicits grant applications from small business concerns that propose to improve hearing health care outcomes and reduce health disparities through the development and commercialization of improved devices for hearing health care (HHC). “Hearing health care” is defined as assessment and access to hearing aids and nonmedical treatment, including hearing screening and hearing assessment as well as acquiring an appropriate device and services for the individual's hearing loss and communication needs. Appropriate technologies must have the following basic characteristics: easily affordable, effective, culturally acceptable, and accessible to those who need them.

http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-DC-12-005.html
2013 Due Dates

RFA-HL-13-013 (R01)
Cardiovascular Risk Reduction in Underserved Rural Communities
The overall objective is to build the evidence base and accelerate the implementation and translation of evidence- or practice-based interventions into practice in rural communities. To accomplish this objective, NHLBI invites applications that will plan and execute well-designed controlled trials that maximize the opportunities available in rural communities to reduce cardiovascular disease risk factors. The long-term goal is to foster sustainable interventions and scientific research that will lead to reduced cardiovascular morbidity and mortality in high-risk rural populations.
Application Due Date: January 11, 2013

NIH Funding Opportunities: Program Announcement Reviewed by an Institute (PAR)

PAR-12-245 (K12)
Institutional Research and Academic Career Development Awards (IRACDA)
Application Due Date: September 24, 2012
This FOA encourages applications from research-intensive institutions (RIIs) that propose to develop a diverse pool of highly trained biomedical and behavioral scientists who have the necessary knowledge and skills to pursue research and teaching careers in academia, and to strengthen the overall teaching and research opportunities at partner institutions which, for the purposes of this FOA, are institutions that have a historical mission and a demonstrated commitment to the training and encouragement of, and assistance to students from groups underrepresented in the biomedical and behavioral research enterprise of the nation. The primary goals of the IRACDA program are to (1) develop a group of highly trained biomedical and behavioral scientists who have the necessary knowledge and skills to pursue research and teaching careers in academia; and (2) strengthen the overall teaching opportunities at partner institutions, with the expectation that it would further foster the development of the next generation of a diverse pool of scientists who are available to address the NIH’s biomedical and behavioral research needs.

PAR-12-257 (R01)
Time-Sensitive Obesity Policy and Program Evaluation
This announcement establishes an accelerated review/award process to support time-sensitive research to evaluate a new policy or program expected to influence obesity related behaviors (e.g., dietary intake, physical activity, or sedentary behavior) and/or weight outcomes in an effort to prevent or reduce obesity. This FOA is intended to support research where opportunities for empirical study are, by their very nature, only available through expedited review and funding. All applications to this FOA must demonstrate that the evaluation of an obesity related policy and/or program offers an uncommon and scientifically compelling research opportunity that will only be available if the research is initiated with minimum delay. For these reasons, applications in response to this time-sensitive FOA are eligible for only one submission.

PAR-12-228 (R01); PAR-12-229 (R21)
Physical Activity and Weight Control Interventions among Cancer Survivors: Effects on Biomarkers of Prognosis and Survival
Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply
Expiration Date: September 5, 2015
This FOA encourages transdisciplinary and translational research that will identify specific biological or biobehavioral...
pathways through which physical activity and/or weight control (either weight loss or avoidance of weight gain) may affect cancer prognosis and survival. Research applications must test the effects of physical activity or weight control or both interventions on biomarkers of cancer prognosis among cancer survivors identified by previous animal or observational research, which may include but are not limited to intervention-induced changes in sex hormones, insulin or insulin-like growth factors or their binding proteins, insulin resistance, glucose metabolism, leptin and other adipokines, immunologic or inflammatory factors, oxidative stress and DNA damage or repair capacity, angiogenesis, or prostaglandins.

http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-12-228.html

PAR-12-200 (R03)
NIOSH Small Research Program

PAR-12-252 (R21)
NIOSH Exploratory/Developmental Grant Program
Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply
Expiration Date: September 8, 2015
The purpose of the grant programs is to develop an understanding of the risks and conditions associated with occupational diseases and injuries, to explore methods for reducing risks and for preventing or minimizing exposure to hazardous conditions in the workplace, and to translate significant scientific findings into prevention practices and products that will effectively reduce work-related illnesses and injuries.

PAR-12-251 (R03)
Behavioral Science Track Award for Rapid Transition (B/START)
Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply
Expiration Date: September 8, 2015
The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), through the issuance of this FOA, seeks to facilitate the entry of beginning investigators into drug addiction research by inviting proposals that address behavioral processes and mechanisms. NIDA invites newly independent investigators to submit applications for small scale, innovative pilot projects related to NIDA's behavioral sciences mission. A B/START award is intended to enable an investigator to gather preliminary data to support the submission of a subsequent research project grant (e.g., R01).

NIH Funding Opportunities: Program Announcements (PA)

PA-12-208 (R01); PA-12-209 (R21)
Functions of Skeletal Muscle beyond Contraction
Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply
Expiration Date: September 8, 2015

PA-12-255 (R01); PA-12-254 (R21); PA-12-253 (R03)
Estimating the Economic Costs of Alzheimers Disease and Related Dementias
Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply
Expiration Date: September 8, 2015

PA-12-256 (R36)
AHRQ Grants for Health Services Research Dissertation Program
Application Due Date(s): February 1, May 1, August 1, and November 1 annually, beginning November 1, 2012
Expiration Date: August 2, 2015

PA-12-227 (R01); PA-12-225 (R21); PA-12-226 (R03)
Fatigability, Activity Limitations, and Bioenergetics in Aging
Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply
Expiration Date: September 8, 2015

PA-12-261 (F32)
AHRQ Individual Awards for Postdoctoral Fellows National Research Service Awards (NRSA)
Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply
Expiration Date: December 9, 2015
Funding Opportunities: Foundations

Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI)

PCORI will award $120 million this year for innovative projects that effectively incorporate patients and stakeholders in research teams and address the areas of focus of PCORI’s National Priorities for Research and Research Agenda. Successful applicants must have research teams with patients, caregivers, and practicing clinicians actively engaged through the process, from generating research questions to conducting research and using the results to understand and address patient needs. PCORI will grant awards under the following announcements:

- **Assessment of Prevention, Diagnosis, and Treatment options** – for projects that address critical decisions that patients, their caregivers and clinicians face with too little information
- **Improving Healthcare Systems** – for projects that address critical decisions that face health care systems, the patients and caregivers who rely on them, and the clinicians who work with them
- **Communication and Dissemination** – for projects that address critical elements in the communication and dissemination process among patients, their caregivers and clinicians
- **Addressing Disparities** – for projects that will inform the choice of strategies to eliminate the disparities

A letter of intent is required to submit an application. Awards are limited to a maximum of $500,000/year in direct costs.

**Application Due Dates:**
- Cycle 2
  - LOI: October 15, 2012
  - Application: November 30, 2012
- Cycle 3
  - LOI: February 15, 2013
  - Application: March 31, 2013

[http://www.pcori.org/funding-opportunities/funding-announcements/](http://www.pcori.org/funding-opportunities/funding-announcements/)

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Changes in Health Financing and Organization (HCFO)

HCFO supports research, policy analysis and evaluation projects that provide policy leaders timely information on health care policy, financing and organization issues. Supported projects include: (1) examining significant issues and interventions related to health care financing and organization and their effects on health care costs, quality and access; and (2) exploring or testing major new ways to finance and organize health care that have the potential to improve access to more affordable and higher quality health services. Grants will be awarded in two categories: small grants for projects requiring $100,000 or less and projected to take up to 12 months or less; large grants for projects requiring more than $100,000 and/or projected to take longer than 12 months.

**Application Due Date(s):** Grants are awarded on a rolling basis; proposals may be submitted at any time.


“"If all of our misfortunes were laid in one common heap whence everyone must take an equal portion, most people would be contented to take their own and depart.”

—Socrates

First Day of Classes
August 27th

Please submit your comments/suggestions to jacksonl@buffalo.edu or pjsturtz@buffalo.edu, 106 Kimball Tower