Office of Research and Sponsored Programs

Funding Notice

News & Announcements

Office of Research Solicits Concept Papers – Due June 2, 2014. UL Lafayette has contracted with McAllister and Quinn, a consulting firm that has a grant writing team made up of more than 100 experienced professionals who have extensive backgrounds in the federal government and each have specific areas of expertise—all have written successful grants throughout their careers. Through this engagement, McAllister and Quinn will assist the University in developing and writing a handful of large scale, multidisciplinary proposals in areas of strategic importance. As a first step, we had a productive series of meetings with Andy Quinn of McAllister & Quinn on Monday, December 2nd and Tuesday, December 3rd 2013. During that meeting, in addition to introducing the firm, explaining their services, and meeting UL Lafayette faculty and staff, Andy described a two-page “concept paper” process that will enable an interested faculty or staff member to present an idea (or ideas) for consideration as a project to be submitted as a grant proposal to an external funding agency with full grant writing support of their firm. At this time, the Office of Research is soliciting Concept Papers from all interested faculty and staff. After review of the Concept Papers submitted, McAllister and Quinn will provide four to eight federal and/or foundation grants or contract recommendations for the University to receive full grant writing support through this engagement. For those Concept Papers not selected, McAllister and Quinn will provide suggestions regarding possible grant programs that we can pursue separately. The suggested format for the Concept Paper can be found at http://vpresearch.louisiana.edu/sites/research/files/NEH_Summer_Stipend-Internal_Letter_of_Intent-2014.docx. If you are interested in participating in this process, please complete the attached form and submit via email to me at rwl@louisiana.edu by June 2, 2014. Whether you attended the December sessions or not, you can still present a Concept Paper. Also, if you have more than one project that you think would be of interest, feel free to submit more than one Concept Paper. Remember that we are looking for large scale, multidisciplinary projects to leverage the expertise of McAllister and Quinn most effectively through this engagement. Should you have any questions about this process, feel free to contact Ruth Landry at rwl@louisiana.edu or 2-5811.

Funding Opportunities of the Week

Arts & Humanities

National Endowment for the Humanities: NEH Summer Stipends Program. Program supports individuals pursuing advanced research that is of value to humanities scholars, general audiences, or both. Recipients usually produce articles, monographs, books, digital materials, archaeological site reports, translations, editions, or other scholarly resources. Summer Stipends support full-time work on a humanities project for a period of two months. Due: 9/30/14. Institutional limit applies. UL Lafayette can nominate 2 individuals for the program. Individuals interested in being nominated should submit a one page Letter of Intent to Ruth Landry at orsp@louisiana.edu no later than July 25, 2014. Template LOI can be found at Link: http://vpresearch.louisiana.edu/sites/research/files/NEH_Summer_Stipend-Internal_Letter_of_Intent-2014.docx.
Spencer (W.L.S.) Foundation: Grants Program. The Foundation funds initiatives that embrace and encourage creativity and risk taking. The Foundation likes the leverage that arises from seed grants, challenge grants, and matching grants. We fund the educational activities, publications, and outreach associated with innovative art and/or contemporary art exhibitions, especially those focusing on contemporary Asian Art. We are interested in projects that encourage knowledge about art and culture, foster international understanding, and are supported by academic scholarship. Due: The foundation requires new grant applicants to complete an online Letter of Intent (LOI) to determine whether a full proposal will be invited for consideration. Letters of inquiry are reviewed on a rolling basis; there are no deadlines. Link: http://www.pfs-llc.net/foundations/the-w-l-s-spencer-foundation/grantseekers

Education, Health, Social Science, & Service

Marshall (Douglas B., Jr.) Family Foundation: Grants Program. The sponsor provides funding support to eligible institutions for education and research projects on all levels. They also fund projects that contribute to the evidence base on what works to improve educational outcomes, including: applied research; development of new monitoring and evaluation methodologies; and measurement of educational outcomes at a large (national or state--wide) scale. Due: N/A. Link: http://www.dbmj.org/grant_guidelines.htm

Sloan (Alfred P.) Foundation: Economic Performance and Quality of Life. The Alfred P. Sloan Foundation believes that a theory-based, empirically-tested understanding of the U.S. economy is essential to improving the American quality of life. The Foundation funds grants for high-quality original research that promise to broaden that understanding or use it to improve American institutions. Grants in the Economic Performance and Quality of Life program have expanded our knowledge of how particular industries function, encouraged better communication and cooperation between citizens and their local governments, and focused scholarly and public attention on the issues and challenges faced by contemporary working families. Due: N/A. Link: http://www.sloan.org/major-program-areas/economic-performance-and-quality-of-life/

Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation/ACF/DHHS: Secondary Analyses of Strengthening Families Datasets. The Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation (OPRE), within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Administration for Children and Families (ACF), intends to award up to six cooperative agreements under the Secondary Analyses of Strengthening Families Data sets Grants funding opportunity announcement (FOA) to support rigorous, policy-relevant research secondary data analysis of the Building Strong Families (BSF), Supporting Healthy Marriage (SHM), and Community Healthy Marriage Initiative (CHMI) datasets. Successful applicants will demonstrate a familiarity with the proposed data for their analysis and an adequate understanding of the variables, sampling, methodology, etc. used to construct the dataset necessary for completion of the work proposed in the application. Proposed research should address topics relevant to strengthening families to improve the lives of children and parents and promote economic stability. Topics of interest include, but may not be limited to, mediators of relationship education programs, the measurement of relationship education and fatherhood with low-income families, or father involvement in low-income families. Due: 06/16/2014; 07/16/2014. Link: http://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants/open/foa/view/HHS-2014-ACF-OPRE-PD-0802

Sociological Initiatives Foundation: Call for Concept Proposals: Action Research Projects. The Sociological Initiatives Foundation is dedicated to the belief that research and action are intrinsically inseparable. The Foundation invites concept proposals for projects that link an explicit research design to a concrete social action strategy. Projects should also have clear social change goals. Due: 08/15/2014. Link: http://www.sifoundation.org/10-2/
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention/Department of Justice: Investigator-Initiated Research on Risk Assessment. Through this program, the sponsor seeks applications for research studies on the implementation and impact of risk assessment in the juvenile justice system. Understanding how risk assessments can be used to promote diversion and community-based alternatives, when appropriate, is of particular interest to OJJDP. Due: 06/30/2014.

National Institute for Health Care Management Research and Educational Foundation: NIHCM Foundation Research Grants. The National Institute for Health Care Management Research and Educational Foundation is accepting Letters of Inquiry from research projects with great potential to inform improvements to the U.S. healthcare system. Through its research grants program, the foundation will award a total of up to $250,000 to support investigator-initiated research related to reducing health spending in the U.S., enhancing the quality of health care, and/or expanding access to health insurance and healthcare services. Projects must advance existing knowledge in the areas of healthcare financing, delivery, management, and/or policy. Individual researchers and all types of organizations and institutions, including both nonprofit and for-profit entities, are eligible to apply. Due: Letters of Inquiry must be received no later than 07/14/2014. Upon review, selected applicants will be invited to submit full applications in September.
Link: http://www.nihcm.org/grants/research-grants

Sloan (Alfred P.) Foundation: Select National Issues – Energy. Grant making in this small interdisciplinary program looks for unique opportunities to expand our understanding of the economic, technological, organizational, regulatory, national security, and environmental consequences of energy production and consumption. Due: N/A.
Link: http://www.sloan.org/major-program-areas/select-national-issues/energy/?rnekpkxhdlfhr

National Institute for Health Care Management Research and Educational Foundation: 2014-2015 Funding Cycle. The National Institute for Health Care Management Research and Educational Foundation is accepting Letters of Inquiry from research projects with great potential to inform improvements to the U.S. healthcare system. Through its research grants program, the foundation will award a total of up to $250,000 to support investigator-initiated research related to reducing health spending in the U.S., enhancing the quality of health care, and/or expanding access to health insurance and healthcare services. Projects must advance existing knowledge in the areas of healthcare financing, delivery, management, and/or policy. Individual researchers and all types of organizations and institutions, including both nonprofit and for-profit entities, are eligible to apply. Due: Letters of Inquiry must be received no later than 07/14/2014. Upon review, selected applicants will be invited to submit full applications in September.
Link: http://www.nihcm.org/grants

Fahs-Beck Fund for Research and Experimentation: Faculty/Post-Doctoral Research Grant Program. The Fahs-Beck Fund for Research and Experimentation is accepting applications for support of behavioral and psychological research studies based in the United States or Canada. Through its Faculty/Post-Doctoral Fellows program, the fund will award grants of up to $20,000 in support of efforts to develop, refine, evaluate, or disseminate strategies to prevent or ameliorate major social, psychological, behavioral, or public health problems affecting children, adults, couples, families, or communities. In addition, the fund will consider studies that have the potential for adding significantly to knowledge about such problems. Projects must focus on the United States or Canada or on a comparison between the U.S. or Canada and one or more other countries. Due: 11/01/2014. Link: http://www.fahsbeckfund.org/pdf_files/Faculty-Post-Doc_Guidelines.pdf

Emerald Group Publishing: Emerald/CLADEA Latin American Management Research Fund Award. The sponsor is offering an award of #2,000 for a Latin American research project in the field of management. Due: 07/01/2014.
Link: http://www.emeraldgrouppublishing.com/research/awards/latin_man.htm?PHPSESSID=7ppiuuvyj73pq8oq2sn448uig1
Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics

Golden Field Office/Department of Energy: **Clean Energy Supply Chain and Manufacturing Competitiveness Analysis for Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Technologies.** The Department of Energy’s Golden Field Office is requesting applications to: 1) carry out outreach-type activities to facilitate the development and expansion of the domestic supply chain of components and systems necessary for the manufacturing and scale-up of hydrogen and fuel cell systems in the United States and 2) conduct a global hydrogen and fuel cell manufacturing competitiveness analysis aimed at understanding the key drivers of U.S. competitiveness and to prioritize strategic investments to strengthen American competitiveness in domestic and global markets of hydrogen and fuel cell components and systems. These activities will support the FCTO’s mission to enable the widespread commercialization of a portfolio of hydrogen and fuel cell technologies through applied research, technology development and demonstration, and diverse efforts to overcome institutional and market challenges. FCTO is also working to reduce institutional and market barriers that may impede the commercialization of hydrogen fuel cell technologies. Due: 05/30/2014; 06/30/2014. Link [https://eere-exchange.energy.gov/#FoaId428150a1-c915-45c7-895d-994aab16e205](https://eere-exchange.energy.gov/#FoaId428150a1-c915-45c7-895d-994aab16e205)

National Science Foundation: **Collections in Support of Biological Research (CSBR).** The Collections in Support of Biological Research (CSBR) Program provides funds: 1) for improvements to secure, improve, and organize collections that are significant to the NSF BIO-funded research community; 2) to secure collections-related data for sustained, accurate, and efficient accessibility of the collection to the biological research community; and 3) to transfer collection ownership responsibilities. The CSBR program provides for enhancements that secure and improve existing collections, result in accessible digitized specimen-related data, and develop better methods for specimen curation and collection management. Requests should demonstrate a clear and urgent need to secure the collection, and the proposed activities should address that need. Biological collections supported include established living stock/culture collections, vouchered non-living natural history collections, and jointly-curated ancillary collections such as preserved tissues and DNA libraries. Due: 08/11/2014. Link [http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2014/nsf14564/nsf14564.htm?WT.mc_id=USNSF_25&WT.mc_ev=click](http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2014/nsf14564/nsf14564.htm?WT.mc_id=USNSF_25&WT.mc_ev=click)

National Science Foundation: **Environmental Engineering.** The goal of the Environmental Engineering program is to encourage transformative research which applies scientific and engineering principles to avoid or minimize solid, liquid, and gaseous discharges, resulting from human activity, in land, inland and coastal waters, and air, while promoting resource and energy conservation and recovery. The program also fosters cutting-edge scientific research for identifying, evaluating, and monitoring the waste assimilative capacity of the natural environment and for removing or reducing contaminants from polluted air, water, and soils. Major areas of interest and activity in the program include: 1) Enhancing the availability of high quality water supplies: Develop innovative biological, chemical and physical treatment processes to meet the growing demand for water; investigate processes that remove and degrade contaminants, remediate contaminated soil and groundwater, and convert wastewaters into water suitable for reuse; investigate environmental engineering aspects of urban watersheds, reservoirs, estuaries and storm water management; investigate biogeochemical and transport processes driving water quality in the aquatic and subsurface environment; and 2) Fate and transport of contaminants of emerging concern in air, water, and soils: Investigate the fate, transport and remediation of potentially harmful contaminants and their by-products. Due: 10/30/2014. Link [http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=501029](http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=501029)

National Geographic Society: **Committee for Research and Exploration Grant.** The National Geographic Society awards grants for scientific field research and exploration through its Committee for Research and Exploration. All proposed projects must have both a geographical dimension and relevance to other scientific fields and be of broad scientific interest. Due: N/A. Link [http://www.nationalgeographic.com/explorers/grants-programs/cre-application/](http://www.nationalgeographic.com/explorers/grants-programs/cre-application/).
**National Science Foundation: Environmental Sustainability.** The goal of the Environmental Sustainability program is to promote sustainable engineered systems that support human well-being and that are also compatible with sustaining natural (environmental) systems. These systems provide ecological services vital for human survival. Research efforts supported by the program typically consider long time horizons and may incorporate contributions from the social sciences and ethics. The program supports engineering research that seeks to balance society’s need to provide ecological protection and maintain stable economic conditions. There are four principal general research areas that are supported: 1) Industrial Ecology: Topics of interest in Industrial Ecology include advancements in modeling such as life cycle assessment, materials flow analysis, input/output economic models, and novel metrics for measuring sustainable systems; 2) Green Engineering: Research is encouraged to advance the sustainability of manufacturing processes, green buildings, and infrastructure; 3) Ecological Engineering: Topics should focus on the engineering aspects of restoring ecological function to natural systems; and 4) Earth Systems Engineering: Earth Systems Engineering considers aspects of large scale engineering research that involve mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions, adaptation to climate change, and other global scale concerns. Due: 10/30/2014. Link: [http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=501027](http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=501027)

**National Science Foundation: Energy for Sustainability.** The goal of the Energy for Sustainability program is to support fundamental engineering research and education that will enable innovative processes for the sustainable production of electricity and transportation fuels. Processes for sustainable energy production must be environmentally benign, reduce greenhouse gas production, and utilize renewable resources. Current topics of interest in sustainable energy technologies are: 1) Biomass Conversion, Biofuels & Bioenergy: Fundamental research on innovative approaches that lead to the intensification of biofuel and bioenergy processes is an emphasis area of this program; 2) Photovoltaic Solar Energy: Fundamental research on innovative processes for the fabrication and theory-based characterization of future PV devices is an emphasis area of this program. Specific areas of interest include, but are not limited to: nano-enabled PV devices containing nanostructured semiconductors, plasmonic materials, photonic structures, or conducting polymers; earth-abundant and environmentally benign materials for photovoltaic devices; photocatalytic or photoelectrochemical processes for the splitting of water into H2 gas, or for the reduction of CO2 to liquid or gaseous fuels; 3) Advanced Batteries for Transportation and Renewable Energy Storage: Radically new battery systems or breakthroughs based on existing systems can move the US more rapidly toward a more sustainable transportation future. The focus is on high-energy density and high-power density batteries suitable for transportation and renewable energy storage applications. Advanced systems such as lithium-air, sodium-ion, as well as lithium-ion electrochemical energy storage are appropriate. Work on commercially available systems such as lead-acid and nickel-metal hydride batteries will not be considered by this program. Due: 10/30/2014. Link: [http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=501026](http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=501026)

**National Science Foundation: Computer and Information Science and Engineering (CISE) Research Initiation Initiative (CRII).** With the goal of encouraging research independence immediately upon obtaining one's first academic position after receipt of the PhD, the Directorate for Computer and Information Science and Engineering (CISE) will award grants to initiate the course of one’s independent research. Understanding the critical role of establishing that independence early in one’s career, it is expected that funds will be used to support untenured faculty or research scientists (or equivalent) in their first two years in an academic position after the PhD. One may not yet have received any other grants in their career, it is expected that these funds will allow the new CISE Research Initiation Initiative PI to support one or more graduate students for up to two years. Due: 09/24/2014. Link: [http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2014/nsf14562/nsf14562.htm?WT.mc_id=USNSF_25&WT.mc_ev=click](http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2014/nsf14562/nsf14562.htm?WT.mc_id=USNSF_25&WT.mc_ev=click)