
Updates from the HHS OOR

1 message

Esther Leerkes <emleerke@uncg.edu>
To: hhs-faculty-l@uncg.edu, hhs-staff-l@uncg.edu

Tue, Aug 17, 2021 at 4:21 PM

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the 2021-2022 academic year! I hope summer offered a somewhat refreshing change of pace. The following topics are covered in this email:

- 1. Status of the School Regarding External Submissions and Awards (please note, these data were shared at the convocation)**
- 2. Internal Funding Available this Year (attachment)**
- 3. HHS RAC Membership**
- 4. Updates: HHS OOR Equity Audit**
- 5. Updates: Effective PI Initiative**
- 6. Cayuse-related updates (introduction to a planned forthcoming email)**
- 7. Keep Researching UNCG - current status and reminders**
- 8. Plans for the coming year (seeking volunteers)**
- 9. Upcoming due dates/events**

Best,

Esther

1. Status of the School Regarding External Submissions and Awards (please note, these data were shared at the convocation)

This year, our colleagues brought in \$10.2 million in funding. As a result, HHS remains the lead academic unit in external funding on campus. This is our 3rd consecutive year breaking the \$10 million mark. We are the only academic unit to have done so across multiple years! KUDOS!

Further, only 10 academic departments campus-wide brought in more than a million dollars last fiscal year; 4 of the 10 are from HHS!

- Public Health Education, \$1.0 million
- Kinesiology, \$1.3 million
- Social Work, \$1.8 million
- Human Development and Family Studies, \$4.9 million

HDFS remains the academic department that brought in the most external funding.

External submissions remained high, nearly as high as the prior year. Given the incredible stressors faced by faculty over the last 1.5 years, this is a tremendous success. Thank you to each and every person who submitted an application!

2. Internal Funding Available this Year (attachment)

As noted at the convocation, the university and HHS will continue to offer internal research funding for faculty research as in years past. When considered in the context of overall budget cuts, this reflects a tremendous commitment to research on the part of our administrators. I am grateful for this. Please see the attached for a complete list of all internal competitions that have been announced so far. The list includes due dates and links to further information where possible. We will include reminders of rapidly approaching deadlines in the OOR update emails as in the past. Please note, we list the opportunities on the HHS OOR Website, under the tab internal funding.

3. HHS RAC Membership

The HHS Research Advisory Committee (RAC) members advise me about a number of matters including the use of resources, research policies, and researcher needs. They also review internal grant applications and serve as the

selection committee for HHS Research Excellence Awards. In the event of conflicts, I sometimes invite ad hoc reviewers (please see our Conflict of Interest Policy). The committee currently consists of six faculty from HHS departments, named below. Membership is at my invitation and in consultation with department chairs. I strive to have representation from varied fields of study and research traditions (e.g., quantitative, qualitative, basic/bench, applied/community engaged), but workload factors in to who is able to serve as does the likelihood of having frequent conflicts (e.g., pre-tenure faculty apply for more internal funding than mid and later career faculty). I suspect the purpose and composition of the RAC will be re-considered based on preliminary results from the HHS OOR Equity Audit and look forward to further discussions about this. Thus, I opted not to fill currently empty seats with new members this year. In the meantime, please be sure to share your ideas, questions and concerns with current RAC members or me.

RAC Member, Dept

Ben Hickerson, CTR
Lucia Mendez, CSD
Catherine Scott-Little, HDFFS
Lenka Shriver, NTR
Amanda Tanner, PHE
Laurie Wideman, KIN

4. Updates: HHS OOR Equity Audit

As a reminder, the goals of the Equity Audit are:

1. To determine if there are racial/ethnic, and/or gender inequities in the financial and other support provided by the HHS OOR to HHS faculty to successfully engage in research.
2. To begin to identify factors that may contribute to any such inequities.

The project remains on track. Data collection was ongoing in the spring/summer, and we anticipate having results in hand and ready to share early in the fall. Thanks to all who participated, and please stay tuned for future emails about next steps.

5. Updates: Effective PI Initiative

Many faculty have shared that managing funded projects can be burdensome and that additional supports/tools and strategies would be useful. We have been collecting resources for some time, and this summer we hired two GRAs to create a Canvas course to house the materials. Thanks to all in HHS who shared documents with us and participated in zoom video interviews this summer! We are screening/editing the content now and hope to share the final product in September. Our goal will be to continuously enhance the content.

6. Cayuse-related updates

You may recall that Cayuse is the new research-related platform that has replaced IRBIS and RAMSeS and will also facilitate documenting conflicts of interest. There are 3 modules:

- Cayuse Human Ethics (IRB submissions, modifications, and closures)
- Cayuse SP (Sponsored Programs) (for routing/certifying external applications, storing award information)
- Cayuse Outside Interests (for proposal specific and annual conflict disclosures).

This involves a lot of details--so please be on the lookout for a second email specific to this topic that will have the subject header Cayuse-related updates. That email will include links to needed sites and documents, some instructions, and some advice about best practices.

7. Keep Researching UNCG - current status and reminders

Please refer to <https://keepresearching.uncg.edu/> for current information about COVID-related research restrictions/protections. The most recent changes were announced in June and involved replacing Ramp Up Plans with Risk Mitigation Plans. Anyone currently conducting research under a previously approved Ramp Up Plan may continue to do so. Anyone proposing to engage in new research or wishing to modify procedures that were approved in a prior Ramp Up Plan must submit using the Risk Mitigation Plan. Clearly this remains an evolving situation. We must maintain our vigilance in keeping faculty, staff, students, and participants safe and ensure we are abiding by all current policies. The Keep Researching site is the best place to seek current information. When substantial changes are made, we are typically alerted by email. If anyone has specific questions or concerns about this, please reach out.

8. Plans for the coming year (seeking volunteers)

I have set 2 major goals for the coming year. The first is to identify resources/create a plan to support a core group of faculty to become experts in the NIH F31 Predoctoral Fellowship mechanism(s). The long-term goal of this effort is to see

an increase in F31 submissions from and awards to HHS students which should help offset relatively stagnant sources of stipend and tuition support for graduate students. It should also enhance faculty grant writing skills and support faculty scholarship in the long run. Ideally lessons learned from this endeavor will generalize to other sponsors and mechanisms as well. If you have a possible interest in serving in this initial core group, ideally because you have a student interested in applying for an F31 in the next 2 years, use the below google form to express this interest. Doing so is not a firm commitment at this time, rather just an interest in possibly serving.

The second goal is to begin to identify resources/create a plan to support faculty efforts to seek foundation funding to support community engaged and other types of research. If you would like to be involved in this effort (e.g., sharing ideas/resources, clarifying the needs/barriers, etc), use the below google form to express this interest.

Google interest form related to the above. Please so so by next Monday, August 23.

8. Upcoming research-related deadlines and events

Deadlines:

- o **Community-Engaged Pathways and Partnerships (P2) Grant** applications are due by **Oct 1, 2021 at 5 pm**. Up to \$16,000 to support teams in efforts to strengthen collective approaches to community-engaged scholarship.
- o **New and Regular Faculty Research Award** applications are due on **October 1, 2021 at 5 pm**. Up to \$5,000 for individual investigator awards and up to \$10,000 for collaborative projects from January 2022 through June 2023. All full-time faculty eligible. New = first 3 years of appointment; Regular otherwise.
- o **Undergraduate Research and Creativity Award (URCA)** Funds help faculty and students partner in meaningful projects in their discipline/field of study. Support can be used for material expenses and/or related travel, or can be used to provide a stipend for the students. Students can earn up to \$3,000 (annually) for their work. Faculty can request up to \$500 in support of the project.

Applications due:

- For Spring 2022 – **October 3, 2021**

Events and workshops:

- o Center for Women's Health and Wellness (CWHW)
 - Open House – **August 27, 3:30-5:00pm, 219** Stone Building
 - Inaugural CWHW Speaker Series featuring guest speaker, Dr. Karen Mustain **October 14-15** (further details forthcoming)
- o Community-Engaged Pathways and Partnerships (P2) Information Sessions
 - **Thursday, August 12, 12-1 pm** (Virtual – use login info below)
 - **Wednesday, August 25, 12-1 pm** (Virtual – use login info below)

Let them know you will be attending by completing this [RSVP form](#)

[Zoom Link](#) (for both sessions) Meeting ID: 613 665 3990. Passcode: 102080

- o New and Regular Faculty Research Awards Workshops – information sessions for these awards
 - [Tuesday, August 24, 1-2:30 pm](#) (Virtual)
 - [Friday, August 27, 1-2:30 pm](#) (In-Person)
- o Qualtrics
 - Intro to Online Surveys Using Qualtrics
 - [Tuesday, August 24, 2-3:45 pm](#) (Virtual)
 - [Wednesday, Sept. 15, 1-2:45 pm](#) (Virtual)
 - [Monday, October 4, 2-3:45 pm](#) (Virtual)
 - [Friday, November 5, 9-10:45 am](#) (Virtual)
 - Intermediate Qualtrics
 - [Tuesday, August 31, 1-3:45 pm](#) (Virtual)

- [Wednesday, September 22, 1-2:45 pm](#) (Virtual)
- [Friday, November 12, 9-10:45 am](#) (Virtual)
- SPSS
 - [Thursday, August 26, 9:30-11:15 am](#) (Virtual)
 - [Wednesday, October 6, 3-4:45 pm](#) (Virtual)
- SAS
 - [Thursday, September 9, 9:30-11:15 am](#) (Virtual)

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 **2021-2022 Internal Funding & Trainings, Info & Due Dates.docx**
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