

NEWS

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**RCA
UPDATE**

NOVEMBER 2024

NEWS



NDSU rolls to fifth year of record annual research expenditures

Institution ranks in top 100 of country's public research institutions

North Dakota State University reached a new all-time high mark for research, leading all North Dakota higher education institutions in terms of overall research expenditures. According to the National Science Foundation's Higher Education Research and Development (HERD) Survey, released Nov. 25, 2024, NDSU reached a new milestone with \$190.3 million in research expenditures for the most recent fiscal year (FY23), surpassing previous marks of \$174.9 million in FY22 and \$164 million in FY21.

This year's \$190.3 million total marks the fifth straight year of record-breaking expenditures for the institution, placing NDSU among the top 100 public research universities in the country. For FY23, NDSU ranks 97 out of 420 public institutions.

[read more](#)

NDSU

RESEARCH FOUNDATION

NDSU Research Foundation helps inventions get to market

North Dakota State University faculty and staff are involved in research that not only impacts the world today, but will for decades into the future. Discoveries in

areas such as food, energy and water security, cybersecurity, computer science, life sciences and entrepreneurship have solidified NDSU's reputation as one of only 146 Carnegie Institutions of Higher Education R1 research institutions in the nation.

The NDSU Research Foundation (NDSURF), established in 1989, helps in furthering research from NDSU faculty and staff. The NDSU Research Foundation is an independent, not-for-profit organization that facilitates the NDSU transfer of scientific discoveries, technologies, products and processes to market.

[read more](#)



NDSU RCA team's technical expertise aides research efforts at United Tribes Technical College

Fred Haring of the NDSU Materials Characterization, Analysis and Fabrication (MCAF) core provided his technical expertise to United Tribes Technical College in operation and maintenance of their research equipment.

[read more](#)



Saulsbury named RCA business and program manager

Kirstin Saulsbury has accepted the position of RCA Business and Program Manager, effective Dec. 1, 2024. Kirstin has served as a project coordinator at NDSU since May 2022, splitting her time between the Civil, Construction and Environmental Engineering department and RCA.

[read more](#)



RCA Research Support Grants help researchers pursue innovative solutions

RCA has provided funds to NDSU researchers in the form of research support grants (RSG). These grants, which are from RCA appropriated funds, support ideas that pursue innovative solutions to impactful research questions that fit within the parameters of NDSU's strategic priorities and the North Dakota Science and Technology plan.

Total RSG funds issued from the NDSU RCA totaled \$36,908 with 16 different individuals receiving funding.

[read more](#)



RCA delivers funds for equipment repair

RCA has appropriated funds available to provide matches to researchers needing equipment repair. The program is for research-related equipment repair only, and researchers are eligible to receive one award (for one piece of equipment) per fiscal year. For departmental/unit requests priority was given to equipment utilized by multiple researchers.

Total Equipment Repair Match (ERM) funds issued for FY24 was \$66,152. The funding plays a key role in ensuring equipment centered around research at NDSU is working effectively.

[read more](#)

BY THE NUMBERS

5 years

Consecutive years that
NDSU has achieved
record breaking
research expenditures

97th of 420

NDSU ranking among all
public universities in
FY23 HERD survey

ACTIVE RCA INTERNAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

 [RCA Conference Support](#)

Application Deadline: Rolling

The RCA Conference Development Support award is intended to help cover up to \$3,000 in expenses for hosting and developing a regional conference that brings recognition to NDSU faculty. This support can include funding for:

- event room and event reservation costs
- food and meals served during the conference
- materials to be used in support of the event (i.e., flyers, pens, paper, registration booth items, etc.)

Applications will be processed in the order received, and awards will be made until all funds are allocated. The conference must be completed by **Friday, May 30, 2025**.

[More information about all RCA funding opportunities](#)

LIMITED SUBMISSION
NSF 24-528, EPSCoR Research Infrastructure Improvement:
EPSCoR Research Fellows

Through this program (formerly EPSCoR Track-4 program), NSF EPSCoR Research Fellows funding provides awards to build research capacity in institutions, transform the career trajectories of investigators, and further develop their individual research potential through collaborations with investigators from the nation's premier private, governmental, or academic research institutions and/or centers. The fellowship provides opportunities to establish strong collaborations through extended or periodic collaborative visits to a selected host site. Through collaborative research activities with the host site, Fellows will be able to learn new techniques, develop new collaborations, advance existing partnerships, benefit from access to unique equipment and facilities, and/or shift their research toward potentially transformative new directions. The experiences gained through the fellowships are intended to have lasting impacts that will enhance the Fellows' research trajectories well beyond the award period. The benefits to the Fellows are also expected to improve the research capacity of their

institutions and jurisdictions more broadly. Focus areas should be consistent with the current **National Science Foundation Strategic Plan**.

Award and Eligibility Information:

- Anticipated number of awards: Up to 50
- Anticipated funding amount: \$12,000,000
- Funding per award:
 - Up to \$300,000 Total funds can be requested for an award period of 24 months
- Up to 4 proposals per institution can be submitted to NSF

[Complete program solicitation](#)

KEY DATES

- Internal Date to Notify RCA of Intent to Submit: Wednesday, Dec. 11, 2024 by 5 pm
- Internal Date to Submit RCA Pre-proposal (if needed): Jan., 21, 2025 by 5 pm
- Application Date for Full Proposal to NSF: April. 8, 2025 by 5 pm

E-MAIL NOTIFICATIONS TO: ndsu.researchdev@ndsu.edu

Limited submission grant programs are those that indicate a limit on the number of proposals that may be submitted by an institution for a particular deadline. A selection process becomes necessary if more applicants express interest in applying than NDSU is allowed to submit to the grant program.

LIMITED SUBMISSION
NIH, Basic Instrumentation Grant (BIG) Program
(S10 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

Program Summary:

The **BIG Program** supports acquisitions of scientific instruments that are justified by investigators' needs to pursue their scientific projects in basic, translational, or clinical fields. The program requires that three Major Users with NIH-funded research projects demonstrate significant need for the requested instrument. Once the requirement of three Major Users with NIH research funding has been met, additional users may be included. It is expected that the instrument, by augmenting institutional research capabilities, will invigorate current research, contribute to opportunities for novel research projects, stimulate new collaborations, and increase overall research competitiveness.

The **BIG Program** provides funds to purchase a single piece of new, costly, specialized, commercially available instrument or an integrated instrumentation system. An integrated instrumentation system is one in which the components, when used in conjunction with one another, perform a function that no single component can provide. The components must be dedicated to the system and not used independently. Types of instruments supported include, but are not limited to, basic cell sorters, confocal microscopes, ultramicrotomes, gel imagers, or computer systems. Applications for standalone computer systems (supercomputers, computer clusters, and data storage systems) will only be considered if the system is solely dedicated to biomedical research. All instruments, integrated systems, and computer systems must be dedicated to research only.

[Complete program solicitation](#)

KEY DATES

- Internal Date to Notify RCA of Intent to Submit: Dec. 16, 2025 by 5 pm
- Internal Date to Submit RCA Pre-proposal: Jan. 27, 2025 by 5 pm

- Application Date for Full Proposal to NIH: June. 2, 2025 by 5pm

E-MAIL NOTIFICATIONS TO: ndsu.researchdev@ndsu.edu

Limited submission grant programs are those that indicate a limit on the number of proposals that may be submitted by an institution for a particular deadline. A selection process becomes necessary if more applicants express interest in applying than NDSU is allowed to submit to the grant program.

LIMITED SUBMISSION

Faculty Development in geoSpace Science (FDSS)

Program Summary:

The Geospace Section of the NSF Division of Atmospheric and Geospace Sciences (AGS) offers funding for the creation of new tenure-track faculty positions within the disciplines that comprise the AGS Geospace programs to ensure their vitality at U.S. universities and colleges. The aim of the Faculty Development in geoSpace Science (FDSS) is to integrate topics in geospace science including solar and space physics and space weather research into natural sciences or engineering or related departments at U.S. institutions of higher education (IHE). FDSS also stimulates the development of undergraduate or graduate programs or curricula capable of training the next generation of leaders in geospace science. Geospace science is interdisciplinary in nature and FDSS awardees will be expected to establish partnerships within multiple parts of the IHE. NSF funding will support the salary, benefits and training of the newly recruited tenure-track FDSS faculty member for a duration of up to five years with a total award amount not to exceed \$1,500,000.

Growing diversity in the geospace science workforce and institutions is a community priority, yet relatively few geospace science research and training opportunities are available at minority-serving institutions (MSIs) and emerging research institutions (ERIs). One of NSF's priorities is to improve representation in the scientific enterprise. FDSS aims to bolster long-term investments in geospace science at a broad range of

U.S. IHEs, including MSIs and ERIs. This solicitation offers a track for all qualified U.S. IHEs and additionally, a separate track for proposal submissions from MSIs and ERIs.

[Complete program solicitation](#)

KEY DATES

- Internal Date to Notify RCA: first to notify
- Application Date for Full Proposal: March 3, 2025

E-MAIL NOTIFICATIONS TO: ndsu.researchdev@ndsu.edu

Limited submission grant programs are those that indicate a limit on the number of proposals that may be submitted by an institution for a particular deadline. A selection process becomes necessary if more applicants express interest in applying than NDSU is allowed to submit to the grant program.

Call for Proposals: Gunlogson Fund

The Institute for Regional Studies solicits proposals for funds of up to \$5,000 from the Gunlogson Endowment to support research and creative activity related to the fund's purposes. Up to three awards are made each year.

Purposes

The purposes of this fund include:

- Supporting the archives and publications (NDSU Press) of the Institute for Regional Studies
- Advancing general university outreach through Institute-related activities

- Enhancing NDSU's land-grant mission through projects that preserve the cultural history of the region

While projects that meet any of these three purposes will be considered, preference is given to projects that plan to use the archives of the Institute for Regional Studies and/or publish with the NDSU Press. Funds are jointly awarded by the NDSU Libraries and the College of Arts and Sciences.

Eligibility

Any scholar working with Institute archival materials, doing work related to the region's cultural history, and/or proposing to publish with the NDSU Press is eligible to apply for funding. Such a scholar includes but is not limited to tenure-track and tenured faculty, visiting scholars, professors of practice, and graduate students.

Proposal Components

Proposals should include:

1. A cover page with the project's title and contact information for each applicant. The proposal's title and page numbers should be included on each page.
2. An abstract of no more than 150 words summarizing the narrative, the work plan, and the budget.
3. A narrative of up to 1000 words outlining:
 - The research question(s) or project focus
 - The project's place in contemporary scholarly conversations
 - How the project's objectives align with the Gunlogson fund's purposes, including how the Institute's archival materials may inform the research or creative work, how the project aligns with NDSU Press's mission, and/or how the project might contribute to the Institute's archival collections
 - Methods that will shape the project
4. A work plan of no more than 350 words, including:
 - A timeline for completion of the proposed work (starting January 15 and concluding by December 15)
 - A plan for disseminating the proposed work, with preference given to projects that would be submitted to the NDSU Press for possible publication
 - A plan for using these funds to seed external research funding (as applicable)

5. A budget and budget rationale of no more than one page. If you plan to include a graduate student stipend in your budget, please consult with Jenna Reno regarding GA compensation policies.

Submission

- Proposals are due **Monday, December 16**.
- Proposals should be submitted via email to jessica.jung@ndsu.edu.

Evaluation

Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- The project's potential to effectively use and publicize the Institute's collection, with a preference for projects that the Institute might publish
- The project's potential to extend scholarship in its field(s)
- The appropriateness of proposed research methods to answer the project's central question(s)
- The strength of the budget and budget rationale (detailed budget with clear justification for each item)
- The committee may consider the project's potential for receiving external funding from other identified source(s)

Grant recipients may be invited to present their research as part of the Libraries' Speaker Series.

FUNDING AGENCY ANNOUNCEMENTS



The Fall 2024 NSF Virtual Grants Conference is open for registration.

The U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF) will host the semi-annual event from **Dec. 9 – 12, 2024**. This is an excellent opportunity to gain insights into NSF's current issues, policies and procedures, and specific funding opportunities.

There is no cost to register and attend.

[Learn more and register](#)



The U.S. National Science Foundation invites you to join an **Innovation Corps (I-Corps™)** Teams webinar on **Thursday, Dec. 5, 2024, 11:00am - Noon CST** to learn more about the program.

During the webinar, there will be a brief presentation followed by time for questions.

[Learn more and register](#)



National Institute of Food and Agriculture
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

**Reviewing and Evaluating Transdisciplinary and Engaged Research
Projects: Perspectives from Funding Programs**

December 11, 2024 @ 12:00pm

As more research funding agencies begin to support the use of transdisciplinary and engaged research practices in their programs, to help generate tangible, positive societal impacts, we can take advantage of opportunities to learn from programs that have been early adopters of these modes of research. The increased emphasis on engagement throughout the research process is helping to shine a light on the importance of partnerships, relationships, and trust in moving research into practice and policy. Yet identifying these intangible characteristics in proposals and project reports is not always a straightforward process.

In this webinar, we will hear from program leaders who have been soliciting, reviewing, funding, and evaluating transdisciplinary and engaged research for several years. They will share what they have learned about crafting requests for proposals to encourage the inclusion of transdisciplinary research practices, how their programs review and rate proposals, and the criteria and tools they use to evaluate the outcomes of individual projects and the impacts of their programs.

Speakers:

- Aparna Bamzai-Dodson, US Geological Survey NC CASC
- Maeghan Brass, University of Michigan Water Center
- Charlotte Hudson, Pew Charitable Trusts
- Molly Hunter, Joint Fire Science Program

Moderator:

- Alison M. Meadow, University of Arizona, Office of Societal Impact

[Learn more and register](#)



MINERVA RESEARCH INITIATIVE

SUPPORTING SOCIAL SCIENCE FOR A SAFER WORLD

Lewis-Burke Associates recently shared information about the FY2025 Minerva Research Initiative, which brings together universities, research institutions, and individual scholars to broaden the understanding of social, cultural, behavioral, and political forces that shape U.S. strategic interests across the world.

The Department of Defense will utilize this increased understanding to improve its ability to address future challenges and build bridges between the Department and the social science community.

Minerva's topics of interest align closely with and support the Biden Administration's national security priorities, and each proposal should be submitted to only one topic area, even if there is an overlap with another.

[Read more](#)

The [Owl in the Olive Tree](#) is Minerva's blog, aimed at sharing social scientific contributions that advance the understanding of the social, cultural, political, economic, and environmental dynamics of security.

Each post highlights a key insight from a Minerva-funded researcher's published work.



NAIRR Pilot National Artificial Intelligence
Research Resource Pilot

National Artificial Intelligence Research Resource (NAIRR) Pilot

Friday, Dec. 6 from 1-2 p.m., Zoom

The North Dakota State University Center for Computationally Assisted Science and Technology (CCAST) and the University of North Dakota Computational Research Center (CRC) are co-hosting a webinar on the National Artificial Intelligence Research Resource (NAIRR) Pilot.

NAIRR is a national infrastructure concept that connects researchers and educators in the United States to computational, data, software, model and user support resources to power AI innovation and discoveries.

Katie Antypas, director of the NSF Office of Advanced CyberInfrastructure, will highlight opportunities to utilize NAIRR Pilot resources and to apply for funding through NAIRR Pilot Expansion. The event is open to faculty, staff and students at all institutions in the state of North Dakota.

The event will be available via [Zoom](#).



National Institutes of Health

Reminder: NIH FORMS-I Grant Application Forms and instructions must be used for due dates on or after January 25, 2025

Applicants must use FORMS-I application packages for due dates on or after January 25, 2025 and must use FORMS-H application packages for due dates on or before January 24, 2025 (see [NOT-OD-24-086](#) for details).

Applicants are encouraged to submit early to allow time to work through any unforeseen issues. Also, applicants are encouraged to use the contact information below to address questions and challenges.

Additional Updates:

- FORMS-I Grant Application Instructions will be posted on the [How to Apply - Application Guide](#) page in November 2024. All significant changes to form instructions will be listed in Section G.120 Significant Changes.
- FORMS-I application packages are currently being posted to all active Notices of Funding Opportunities (NOFOs). NIH expects to complete this process by December 2024, with all application forms packages posted 30 calendar days or more prior to receipt dates.

- See [High-level Summary of Form Changes in FORMS-I Application Packages](#) for a full list of known form changes. These changes will be implemented with application form packages identified with a Competition ID of "FORMS-I" and associated application guide instructions.
- All FORMS-H application forms packages will be updated with a close date of January 24, 2025.

NOTE: Application due dates remain unchanged. Applicants must refer to the NOFO for key date information.

For a transition period, both FORMS-H and FORMS-I application packages will be active simultaneously. Applicants must choose the appropriate application package for their due date when presented with both FORMS-H and FORMS-I application packages on the same NOFO.

[Read additional information](#)

RCA EVENTS AND TRAINING

Important dates related to internal programs of interest to NDSU faculty researchers can be found on the [Faculty Development Calendar](#).



EXPLORING NSF CAREER AWARDS

Get advice from our panel of NSF Career awardees, an NSF Program Officer and members of RCA.



Ying Huang
Welch Faculty Fellow Professor
NDSU CCEE



Mohi Quadir
Associate Professor
NDSU Coatings &
Polymeric Materials



Britt Heindinger
Associate Professor
NDSU Biology



Sylvio May
Chair & Professor
NDSU Physics

MONDAY, DEC. 02
12:00PM-1:00PM
MEADOWLARK, NDSU MEMORIAL UNION + ZOOM

NDSU RESEARCH AND
CREATIVE ACTIVITY

December 2, 12:00pm - 1:00pm
Meadowlark, Memorial Union + Zoom

North Dakota State University faculty members are invited to a panel of NDSU National Science Foundation (NSF) Career awardees, an NSF Program Officer rotator, and members of the RCA team to discuss the process of applying for an NSF Career Award.

The panel will also discuss the NDSU Spring NSF Career Award Bootcamp which starts in January, 2025.

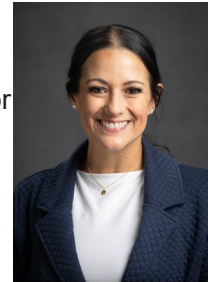
[Registration is required](#)

Research Compliance in the Union

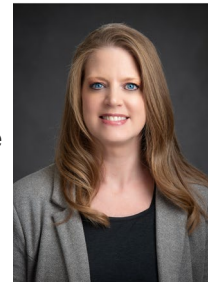
Join IACUC and IBC administrator Tania Molden and IRB administrator Andrea Ludwig every second Thursday between 11:30am-1:00pm at their information sessions in the NDSU Memorial Union.

It's an opportunity for anyone involved in research with human subjects, animals, or biosafety materials to get answers to any question, receive guidance on research compliance, and to have a chat with Tania and Andrea.

No appointments necessary - just stop by, connect, and confirm you're on the right path with your research and protocols.



Ludwig



Molden

LEWIS-BURKE

ASSOCIATES LLC

NDSU Webinar with Lewis-Burke Associates: Federal Policy and the New Administration

January 22, 12:00pm - 1:00pm, Zoom

Lewis-Burke Associates, LLC is a federal government relations firm covering both Congress and the federal agencies that works with NDSU to anticipate policy and priority changes that will impact research and education. In addition to working with members of Congress to shape legislation to support research and higher education, Lewis-Burke tracks federal rulemaking, implementation, and leadership to position NDSU for success.

In anticipation of the new Presidential Administration and makeup of Congress, Christina Laridaen and Otto Katt will give a presentation for NDSU faculty and staff and answer questions focused on higher education policies that may be considered in the coming years and its impacts on students, research, technology transfer, and workforce development.

Christina Laridaen [Principal] focuses on agriculture, environment, conservation, and resilience topics, and is well-versed in the research, education, and extension policy within USDA NIFA, ARS, and NRCS. She supports Lewis-Burke clients by providing in depth information about actions in Congress and at federal agencies and strategizing new initiatives and positioning for success.

Otto Katt [Principal and Chair, Talent and Workforce Development Practice] focuses on issues related to workforce and education policy, immigration, economic development, research, and tax policy. He provides strategic guidance on legislative, administrative, and regulatory issues at the Department of Education (ED) and Department of Labor (DOL), in addition to other federal agencies.

[Registration is required](#)

RCA ANNOUNCEMENTS

USDA-NIFA Amendment Delays

RCA Sponsored Programs (SPA) recently received notification from USDA-NIFA that award amendments are being delayed pending an update to their standard terms and conditions.

This may impact your request for a rebudget, no cost extension, or personnel change.

An estimated completion date has not been provided and requests are still being submitted so they may be processed as soon as the update has been completed.

If you have any additional questions, contact the SPA team (ndsu.research@ndsu.edu or 1-8045).

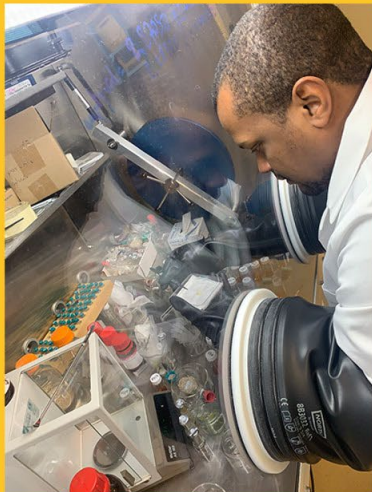


Your support of the
**TRANSFORMATIVE
RESEARCH LEADERS FUND**
will give our researchers
time to fully develop their
skills and practice their craft



NDSU | RESEARCH AND CREATIVE ACTIVITY

GIVING DAY
NDSU



Your support of the
**UNDERGRADUATE
RESEARCH FUND**
will enrich the
academic experience
of NDSU undergraduate
researchers



NDSU | RESEARCH AND CREATIVE ACTIVITY



The Office of Research and Creative Activity (RCA) sends emails to NDSU faculty and staff to provide current information on various topics including funding opportunities, grant program changes, research resources, deadlines, notices, and training.

You are receiving this notification through the NDSU official employee listserv or sub-list. This listserv refreshes every 24 hour period.

North Dakota State University does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, disability, gender expression/identity, genetic information, marital status, national origin, public assistance status, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or status as a U.S. veteran.

Direct inquiries to: Equal Opportunity Specialist, Old Main 201, 701-231-7708 or Title IX/ADA Coordinator, Old Main 102, 701-231-6409.

We collectively acknowledge that we gather at NDSU, a land grant institution, on the traditional lands of the Oceti Sakowin (Dakota, Lakota, Nakoda) and Anishinaabe Peoples in addition to many diverse Indigenous Peoples still connected to these lands. We honor with gratitude Mother Earth and the Indigenous Peoples who

have walked with her throughout generations. We will continue to learn how to live in unity with Mother Earth and build strong, mutually beneficial, trusting relationships with Indigenous Peoples of our region.