

# NJIT Research Newsletter

Issue: ORN-2016-044

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**NJIT Research Newsletter** includes recent awards, and announcements of research related seminars, webinars, national and federal research news related to research funding, and **Grant Opportunity Alerts**. The Newsletter is posted on the NJIT Research Website <http://www.njit.edu/research/>. **This Newsletter features a new section on “Recent Patents”.**

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## NJIT Office of Research Event Calendar Save the Date

### **NJIT Information Session: Savvy Researcher: Create and Manage Your Online Scholarly Presence**

**When:** December 7, 2016, 2:30 pm

**Where:** Van Houten Library Training Room 1050

**Brief Description:** A professional online presence allows scholars to increase the visibility of their publications, to identify new colleagues, readers and potential collaborators worldwide, to increase the reach and impact of their work. Don't leave your online presence to chance. Learn to create and manage your online identity on multiple platforms, such as Google Scholar, ResearchGate, SCOPUS, Twitter, ORCID, Academia.edu. Get help moving citations between databases, Endnote, and the Faculty Database, Activity Insight

**Drop in - or register by email:** [scharf@njit.edu](mailto:scharf@njit.edu)

### **Undergraduate Student Seed Grants Workshop:**

**When:** December 8, 2016; 2.00 PM – 6.00 PM

**Where:** Campus Center Ballroom A

**Brief Description:** Undergraduate students will be presenting their Phase-1 and Phase-2 Student Seed Grants before the URI External Advisory Board. This is a privileged communication event under the confidential presentation and discussion.

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## **Grant Opportunity Alerts**

Keywords and Areas Included in the Grant Opportunity Alert Section Below

**NSF:** Cyberinfrastructure for Emerging Science and Engineering Research (CESER); Cybersecurity Innovation for Cyberinfrastructure (CICI); Computer Science for All (CS for All: RPP); Cyberlearning and Future Learning Technologies

**NIH:** BRAIN Initiative: Targeted BRAIN Circuits Projects - TargetedBCP (R01) (R21) and (U01); BRAIN Initiative: Research Opportunities Using Invasive Neural Recording and Stimulating Technologies in the Human Brain (U01); Leveraging Existing Cohort Studies to Clarify Risk and Protective Factors for Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias (R01); Exploratory Research for Technology Development (R21)

**Department of Defense/US Army/DARPA/ONR:** Long Range Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) for Navy and Marine Corps Science and Technology

**Department of Energy:** Buildings Energy Efficiency Frontiers & Innovation Technologies (BENEFIT) – 2017; Fuel Cells Technologies Office Annual Funding Opportunity Announcement;

**NASA:** ROSES 2016: Advanced Information Systems Technology

**National Endowment of Humanities:** Public Scholar Program; Public Humanities Projects

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## **Recent Research Grant and Contract Awards**

Congratulations to faculty and staff on receiving research grant and contract awards!

**PI:** Bipin Ranjendran (PI)

**Department:** Electrical and Computer Engineering

**Grant/Contract Project Title:** Non-von-Neumann Cognitive Hardware with Emerging NVMs Featuring On-Chip Learning

**Funding Agency:** Semiconductor Research Corporation

**Duration:** 12/01/16-11/30/19

**PI:** Murat Guvendiren (PI)

**Department:** Chemical, Biological and Pharmaceutical Engineering

**Grant/Contract Project Title:** New Polymeric Biomaterial Inks for 3-D Printing

**Funding Agency:** NSF

**Duration:** 10/27/16-07/31/19

**PI:** Nugehalli Ravindra (PI)

**Department:** Physics

**Grant/Contract Project Title:** Modeling/Experimental Evaluation of the Effect of Surface Damage on Texturing of Diamond Wire Sawn Silicon Wafers and Verification of Precipitate Dissolution by Flash Annealing

**Funding Agency:** USDOE/NREL

**Duration:** 09/21/15-04/30/17

**PI:** Bipin Ranjendran (PI)

**Department:** Center for Natural Resources Development and Protection

**Grant/Contract Project Title:** Non-von-Neumann Cognitive Hardware with Emerging NVMs Featuring On-Chip Learning

**Funding Agency:** Langan Engineering

**Duration:** 12/01/16-11/30/19

## **Agency Announcements and In the News...**

(National and Federal News Related to Research Funding and Grant Opportunities)

**Congress: House approves the 21st Century Cures Act, sending landmark bill to Senate:** After three years of debate, countless hearings, and pleas from patient advocates, lawmakers on Tuesday approved legislation to speed new medicines to market and to authorize an additional \$4.8 billion in spending for medical research. The landmark legislation provides \$4.8 billion for the three signature Obama administration research programs over the next 10 years: Vice President Joe Biden's [cancer moonshot](#), the [BRAIN Initiative](#), and the [Precision Medicine Initiative](#). It would also give states \$1 billion to fight the opioid crisis, and deliver an additional \$500 million to the FDA. More information on the website [https://www.statnews.com/2016/11/30/21st-century-cures-act-house/?utm\\_content=buffer3ecac&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_source=twitter.com&utm\\_campaign=buffer](https://www.statnews.com/2016/11/30/21st-century-cures-act-house/?utm_content=buffer3ecac&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter.com&utm_campaign=buffer)

**NIH Strategic Plan:** The NIH Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research has published a [strategic plan](#) that details scientific priorities and research priorities for 2017-2021. The highest priority recommended in the plan is to promote transformative breakthroughs by integrating basic behavioral and social sciences research with advances in neuroscience, genetics, and other emerging fields which are beginning to elucidate the complex dynamic mechanisms that shape the brain, behavior, and environment. The plan also recommends an enhancement in research infrastructure particularly establishing common data protocols, and measurement metrics. Finally the plan urges greater integration of behavioral and social science research into actual interventions in practice.. More information with full report on: <https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/new-strategic-direction-behavioral-social-sciences-research-nih>

**NSF: \$76 Million For Cybersecurity:** The National Science Foundation's Secure and Trustworthy Cyberspace (SaTC) program is spreading that sum among 241 projects across 36 states and 129 institutions, touching "on all aspects of the field." Three big projects, funded at \$3 million each, are: Living in the Internet of Things (Indiana University and University of Washington); Verifiable Hardware: Chips that Prove their Own Correctness (University of Virginia, New York University, University of California, San Diego, Yale University, and CUNY City College); and Computing Over Distributed Sensitive Data (Harvard University, University of Buffalo).

**Congress: National Defense Authorization Act For Fiscal Year 2017:** The compromise National Defense Authorization bill that emerged from a conference led by Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.) and Mac Thornberry (R-Tex.) "is expected to easily pass the Senate, heading to President Barack Obama's desk for signature with what could be veto-proof majorities in both chambers," CQ reports. The measure passed the House Friday 375-34. Here are highlights from the [conference report](#):

- **Manufacturing engineering education grants:** Awards can be made to industry, not-for-profit institutions, institutions of higher education, or to consortia of such institutions for "multidisciplinary instruction that encompasses the total manufacturing engineering enterprise" including "classroom activities, laboratory activities, thesis projects, individual or team projects, internships, cooperative work-study programs, and interactions with industrial facilities, consortia, or . . . other activities and organizations in the United States and foreign countries . . ."
- Permanent authorization of the **Rapid Innovation Program**.

More Information about the Act is on website:  
<http://docs.house.gov/billsthisweek/20161128/CRPT-114HRPT-S2943.pdf>

**L’Oreal Fellowship Program for Women Post-Docs:** The L’Oréal USA For Women In Science fellowship program awards five post-doctoral women scientists annually with grants of \$60,000 each. Applicants are selected from a variety of fields, including the life and physical/material sciences, technology (including computer science), engineering, and mathematics. Applications will open on November 28, 2016 and are due by February 3, 2017. The application and more information about the L’Oréal USA For Women in Science program can be found at [www.lorealusa.com/forwomeninscience](http://www.lorealusa.com/forwomeninscience).

**National Science Foundation: Dear Colleague Letter: Advanced Manufacturing Research to Address Basic Research Enabling Innovation at Manufacturing USA Institutes:** The National Science Foundation (NSF) is announcing interest in research proposals to address critical fundamental research needs in advanced manufacturing, especially proposals that will enable innovations in one or more of the Manufacturing USA institutes' focus areas and leverage the facilities, infrastructure and member companies of an institute.

Since 2001, close to six million manufacturing jobs have been lost in the United States, compelling the development of a robust innovation policy as outlined in the Administration’s *A National Strategic Plan for Advanced Manufacturing*.<sup>1</sup> One fundamental and far-reaching development is Manufacturing USA (formerly the National Network for Manufacturing Innovation), intended to secure advantage in advanced manufacturing, with particular emphasis on domestic manufacturing. A key component of Manufacturing USA is the creation of public-private partnerships to accelerate investment in and deployment of advanced manufacturing technologies. The Manufacturing USA Institutes have been established in topic areas that exemplify the challenging and high-tech world of advanced manufacturing, from the use of 3D printing to the production of flexible electronics. The National Science Foundation is part of the multi-agency team that has guided the formation of Manufacturing USA and continues its support through this Dear Colleague Letter (DCL).

Basic research in advanced manufacturing forms the foundation for many breakthrough technologies and innovations with significant economic and societal impact. This DCL encourages proposals that address critical fundamental research needs in advanced manufacturing in one or more of the Manufacturing USA institutes' focus areas. The resulting knowledge can, in turn, enable new technologies that feed into the innovation pipelines of one or more of the Manufacturing USA Institutes. Proposals that include a collaboration with an Institute and leverage the facilities, infrastructure and member companies of that Institute are particularly encouraged. A summary of the Institute focus areas can be found at <https://www.manufacturing.gov/nnmi-institutes/>

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## **Webinar and Events**

**Event: NSF Webinar: Introduction to I-Corps Teams**

**When: December 6, 2016 2.00 PM – 4.00 PM**

**Website:** [https://www.nsf.gov/events/event\\_summ.jsp?cntn\\_id=189701&org=NSF](https://www.nsf.gov/events/event_summ.jsp?cntn_id=189701&org=NSF)

**Brief Description:** Curious about the NSF I-Corps program? Join this monthly introductory webinar to learn more about I-Corps Teams and how they contribute to the innovation ecosystem. During the webinar, I-Corps program directors will answer questions about I-Corps and provide updated information about I-Corps contacts, the [curriculum](#), important dates and other aspects of

I-Corps. The I-Corps curriculum provides real-world, hands-on, immersive learning about what it takes to successfully transfer knowledge into products and processes that benefit society.

**Event: NSF Webinar: National Robotics Initiative 2.0 Webinar**

**When: December 6, 2016 2.00 PM – 3.00 PM**

**Website:** [https://www.nsf.gov/events/event\\_summ.jsp?cntn\\_id=190510&org=NSF](https://www.nsf.gov/events/event_summ.jsp?cntn_id=190510&org=NSF)

**Brief Description:** The goal of the National Robotics Initiative (NRI) is to support fundamental research that will accelerate the development and use of robots in the United States that work beside or cooperatively with people. The original NRI program focused on innovative robotics research that emphasized the realization of collaborative robots (co-robots) working in symbiotic relationships with human partners. The NRI-2.0 program significantly extends this theme to focus on issues of **scalability**: how teams of multiple robots and multiple humans can interact and collaborate effectively; how robots can be designed to facilitate achievement of a variety of tasks in a variety of environments, with minimal modification to the hardware and software; how robots can learn to perform more effectively and efficiently, using large pools of information from the cloud, other robots, and other people; and how the design of the robots' hardware and software can facilitate large-scale, reliable operation. In addition, the program supports innovative approaches to establish and infuse robotics into educational curricula, advance the robotics workforce through education pathways, and explore the social, behavioral, and economic implications of our future with ubiquitous collaborative robots. Collaboration between academic, industry, non-profit, and other organizations is encouraged to establish better linkages between fundamental science and engineering and technology development, deployment and use. Well-justified international collaborations that add significant value to the proposed research and education activities will also be considered. The NRI-2.0 program is supported by multiple agencies of the federal government including the National Science Foundation (NSF), the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), and the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD). **Please register at:**

<https://nsf.webex.com/nsf/j.php?RGID=rd6eca87df1969175215a0adecd25b514> by 11:59pm EST on Monday December 5, 2016.

**Event: 2016 NRT (NSF Research Traineeship) Program Information Webinar**

**When: November 9, 2015 1:00 AM to December 9, 2016 11:45 PM**

**Website:** [http://www.nsf.gov/events/event\\_summ.jsp?cntn\\_id=134466&org=NSF](http://www.nsf.gov/events/event_summ.jsp?cntn_id=134466&org=NSF)

**Brief Description:** The NSF Research Traineeship program (NRT) prerecorded informational videos to provide an overview of the NRT program and describe the key similarities and differences of the two tracks. The aim of these webinars was to give potential principal investigators information on program announcement [16-503](#) by emphasizing several key features and requirements of each track.

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## Grant Opportunities

### National Science Foundation

**Grant Program: Cyberinfrastructure for Emerging Science and Engineering Research (CESER)**

**Agency: National Science Foundation NSF PD 17-7684**

**RFP Website:**

[https://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\\_summ.jsp?pims\\_id=505385&org=NSF&sel\\_org=NSF&from=fund](https://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=505385&org=NSF&sel_org=NSF&from=fund)

**Brief Description:** The overall goal of the Cyberinfrastructure for Emerging Science and Engineering Research (CESER) program is to foster the development of innovative cyberinfrastructure (CI) technologies and new means of leveraging existing CI resources to catalyze emerging areas of potentially transformative science and engineering research, including NSF priority areas, national strategic initiatives, and international collaborative research.

The CESER Program replaces the Strategic Technologies for Cyberinfrastructure (STCI) program. STCI's focus on supporting opportunities to advance technology across the CI ecosystem is incorporated into CESER with a new emphasis on enabling emerging science and engineering research areas.

A key programmatic objective of CESER is to support early-stage efforts by collaborative teams of domain scientists and cyberinfrastructure developers/implementers to identify and address cyberinfrastructure needs in new research areas through the development and deployment of pilot, experimental, and innovative hardware or software systems or other unique cyberinfrastructure activities that enable new pathways to discovery.

Another program objective is to encourage holistic, systematic, and multidisciplinary CI approaches to address new opportunities to enable science and engineering research. Projects that integrate multiple cyberinfrastructure disciplines – such as computing, data infrastructure, software, workflow systems, and networking - to address an emerging scientific challenge are particularly welcomed. CESER will also support projects that aim to expand the spectrum of research disciplines that, and users who, engage and contribute to a dynamic and enduring national research cyberinfrastructure ecosystem.

Activities proposed to this program should not be appropriate for funding by any other current programs/solicitations, and should be able to demonstrate the potential to evolve into innovative, scalable, highly useful and usable cyberinfrastructure.

Eligible projects and unique activities should address a clearly identified and described scientific rationale, explain and support the potential for transformative impacts on science or engineering research, research training, education or broader impacts, and provide a convincing explanation of why the project is not suitable for other NSF programs or solicitations.

CESER variously employs existing NSF funding mechanisms to accomplish the program's goals such as support for EARly-concept Grants for Exploratory Research (EAGER), Conferences (workshops), Research Coordination Networks (RCNs), and targeted solicitations. Program interests and funding opportunities will be communicated to the NSF community via Dear Colleague Letters and program solicitations.

Before developing a proposal intended for this program, investigators are **strongly encouraged** to discuss their ideas with the cognizant program officer associated with the CESER program to ensure that CESER is the appropriate venue for the proposal. For general information about how to submit such proposals, please see the *NSF Proposal and Award Policies and Procedures Guide* ([https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/policydocs/pappg17\\_1/nsf17\\_1.pdf](https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/policydocs/pappg17_1/nsf17_1.pdf)).

**Awards:** Standard Grants.

**Letter of Intent:** Not Required

**Full Proposal Submission Due Date:** Anytime

**Contacts:**

- William L. Miller (CISE/ACI) [wlmiller@nsf.gov](mailto:wlmiller@nsf.gov) (703) 292-7886

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**Grant Program: Cybersecurity Innovation for Cyberinfrastructure (CICI)**

**Agency: National Science Foundation NSF 17-528**

**RFP Website:**

[https://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\\_summ.jsp?pims\\_id=505159&org=NSF&sel\\_org=NSF&from=fund](https://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=505159&org=NSF&sel_org=NSF&from=fund)

**Brief Description:** Advancements in data-driven scientific research depend on trustworthy and reliable cyberinfrastructure. Researchers rely on a variety of networked technologies and software tools to achieve their scientific goals. These may include local or remote instruments, wireless sensors, software programs, operating systems, database servers, high-performance computing, large-scale storage, and other critical infrastructure connected by high-speed networking. This complex, distributed, interconnected global cyberinfrastructure ecosystem presents unique cybersecurity challenges. NSF-funded scientific instruments, sensors and equipment are specialized, highly-visible assets that present attractive targets for both unintentional errors and malicious activity; untrustworthy software or a loss of integrity of the data collected by a scientific instrument may mean corrupt, skewed or incomplete results. Furthermore, often data-driven research, e.g., in the medical field or in the social sciences, requires access to private information, and exposure of such data may cause financial, reputational and/or other damage. Therefore, an increasing area of focus for NSF is the development and deployment of hardware and software technologies and techniques to protect research cyberinfrastructure across every stage of the scientific workflow. Full RFP NSF 17-528 will be published soon.

**Awards:** Standard Grants. Anticipated funding amount: \$7,500,000 in FY17.

**Full Proposal Submission Due Date:** May 1, 2017

**Contacts:**

- Anita Nikolich [anikolic@nsf.gov](mailto:anikolic@nsf.gov) (703) 292-4551
  - Kevin Thompson [kthomps@nsf.gov](mailto:kthomps@nsf.gov) (703)-292-4220
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**Grant Program: Computer Science for All (CS for All: RPP)**

**Agency: National Science Foundation NSF 17-525**

**RFP Website:** <https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2017/nsf17525/nsf17525.htm>

**Brief Description:** This program aims to provide *all* U.S. students the opportunity to participate in computer science (CS) and computational thinking (CT) education in their schools at the K-12 levels. With this solicitation, the National Science Foundation (NSF) focuses on researcher-practitioner partnerships (RPPs) that foster the research and development needed to bring CS/CT to all schools. Specifically, this solicitation aims to provide high school teachers with the preparation, professional development (PD) and ongoing support that they need to teach rigorous computer science courses, and K-8 teachers with the instructional materials and preparation they need to integrate CS/CT into their teaching.

**Awards:** Standard Grants. Anticipated funding amount: \$20,000,000

**Letter of Intent:** Not Required

**Full Proposal Submission Due Date:** February 28, 2017

**Contacts:**

- Janice Cuny, Program Director, CISE/OAD, telephone: (703) 292-8900, email: [jcuny@nsf.gov](mailto:jcuny@nsf.gov)
  - Karen King, Program Director, EHR/DRL, telephone: (703) 292-5124, email: [kking@nsf.gov](mailto:kking@nsf.gov)
  - Arlene M. de Strulle, Program Director, EHR/DRL, telephone: (703) 292-8620, email: [adestrul@nsf.gov](mailto:adestrul@nsf.gov)
  - David L. Haury, Program Director, EHR/DRL, telephone: (703) 292-8614, email: [dhaury@nsf.gov](mailto:dhaury@nsf.gov)
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**Grant Program: Cyberlearning and Future Learning Technologies (Cyberlearning)**

**Agency: National Science Foundation NSF 17-520**

**RFP Website:** <https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2017/nsf17520/nsf17520.htm>

**Brief Description:** The purpose of the *Cyberlearning and Future Learning Technologies* program is to integrate opportunities offered by emerging technologies with advances in what is known about how people learn to advance three interconnected thrusts:

- **Cyber innovation:** Developing next-generation cyberlearning approaches through high-risk, high-reward advances in computer and information science and engineering;
- **Learning innovation:** Inventing and improving next-generation genres (types) of learning technologies, identifying new means of using technology for fostering and assessing learning, and proposing new ways of integrating learning technologies with each other and into learning environments to foster and assess learning; and
- **Advancing understanding of how people learn in technology-rich learning environments:** Enhancing understanding of how people learn and how to better foster and assess learning, especially in technology-rich learning environments that offer new opportunities for learning and through data collection and computational modeling of learners and groups of learners that can be done only in such environments.

The intention of this program is to advance technologies that specifically focus on the experiences of learners; innovations that simply focus on making teaching easier will not be funded. Proposals that focus on teachers or facilitators as learners are invited; the aim in these proposals should be to help teachers and facilitators capitalize on the affordances of technology and fundamental knowledge about how people learn to make the learning experiences of learners more effective.

Proposals are expected to address all three of the program's thrusts. Of particular interest are technological advances that (1) foster deep understanding of content coordinated with masterful learning of practices and skills; (2) draw in and encourage learning among populations not served well by current educational practices; and/or (3) provide new ways of assessing understanding, engagement, and capabilities of learners. It is expected that research funded by this program will shed light on how technology can enable new forms of educational practice. This program does not support proposals that aim simply to implement and evaluate a particular software application or technology in support of a specific course.

**Awards:** Standard Grants. Anticipated funding amount: \$6,000,000 in FY17.

**Letter of Intent:** Not Required

**Full Proposal Submission Due Date:** February 10, 2017

**Contacts:**

- Tatiana Korelsky, co-lead CISE, Program Officer, CISE/IIS, telephone: (703)292-8930, email: [tkorelsk@nsf.gov](mailto:tkorelsk@nsf.gov)
- Amy L. Baylor, co-lead EHR, Program Officer, EHR/DRL, telephone: (703) 292-5126, email: [abaylor@nsf.gov](mailto:abaylor@nsf.gov)
- William Bainbridge, Program Officer, CISE/IIS, telephone: (703)292-7470, email: [wbainbri@nsf.gov](mailto:wbainbri@nsf.gov)

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**National Institutes of Health**

**Grant Program: BRAIN Initiative: Targeted BRAIN Circuits Projects - TargetedBCP (R01) (R21) and (U01)**

**Agency: National Institutes of Health**

**BRAIN Initiative: Targeted BRAIN Circuits Projects - TargetedBCP (R01) RFA-NS-17-014**

**[RFA-NS-17-015, R21 Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant](#)**

**[RFA-NS-17-018, U19 Research Program – Cooperative Agreements](#)**

**RFP Website:** <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-NS-17-014.html>

**Brief Description:** The primary goal of this FOA is to solicit research projects using innovative, methodologically-integrated approaches to understand how circuit activity gives rise to mental experience and behavior. The activity of neural circuits is the substrate of cognitive processes such as perception, attention, reasoning, intention, decision-making, and emotion. These internal activities are translated into patterns of activation that support simple motor behaviors, as well as more complex behaviors such as navigation and communication. Dysfunction of these large systems of neurons due to disease, injury, or developmental anomaly is the basis of neural and mental disorders. A mission of the NIH BRAIN Initiative is to understand how large scale neural systems contribute to cognitive and neurological function in both health and disease.

Targeted Brain Circuit Project R01 awards will support an individual laboratory or a small multi-PD/PI group. Supported projects will reflect the NIH BRAIN Initiative interests in the application of cutting-edge methodologies in the service of understanding brain circuit function at cellular and sub-second levels of resolution in ethologically relevant behaviors. Applications should offer specific, feasible research goals as endpoints within a 5-year term.

The proposed studies should relate to at least one of the seven major topic areas of the BRAIN 2025 report:

1. Discovering diversity: Identify and provide experimental access to the different cell types to determine their roles in the context of circuit function.
2. Maps at multiple scales: Generate structural and functional circuit diagrams that can span resolution from synapses to the whole brain.
3. The brain in action: Produce a dynamic picture of the functioning brain by developing and applying improved methods for large-scale monitoring of neural activity.
4. Demonstrating causality: Link brain activity to behavior with precise interventional tools that change neural circuit dynamics.
5. Identifying fundamental principles: Produce conceptual foundations about circuit dynamics and functional connectivity for understanding the biological basis of mental processes through development of new theoretical and data analysis tools.
6. Advancing human neuroscience: Develop innovative technologies to understand brain circuits and ensembles of circuits that inform understanding of the human brain and mechanisms for treating its disorders.
7. From BRAIN Initiative to the brain: Integrate new technological and conceptual approaches produced in Goals #1-6 to discover how dynamic patterns of neural activity are transformed into cognition, emotion, perception, and action in health and disease.

**Research Objectives**

Applicants should seek to demonstrate how new and unprecedented experimental capabilities can be used to transform the general understanding of neural information processing within the context of specific systems or circuits. The list below includes representative, but not exhaustive, examples of topics that could be considered responsive to this FOA.

- Innovative approaches to understand network coding of sensory information in response to naturalistic inputs and perceptual contexts.
- New paradigms to assess motor coding during quantifiable behaviors in real or virtual environments.
- Novel approaches to understand neural circuitry associated with diverse social behaviors.
- Dynamic changes in functional circuit connectivity underlying the brain's ability to store information and to learn new behaviors.

- Distributed circuits that contribute to the coordination of motivational states and reward behavior.
- New approaches to capture and assess information processing across brain regions during memory consolidation, memory retrieval, spatial/relational processing, attention, or planning.
- Approaches to assess distributed representations and the information processing underlying advanced mental processes such as decision making, numerical cognition, reasoning, and metacognition.
- Empirical and analytical approaches to understand how behavioral states are emergent properties of the interaction of neurons, circuits, and networks.
- Research to advance principles of circuit function and neural systems in the central nervous system that regulate homeostasis, including biorhythms, and the balance of temperature, respiratory, energy and metabolic functions.

**Awards:** Application budgets are not limited but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project.

**Letter of Intent:** 30 days prior to the application due date

**Deadline:** March 8, 2017, by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization. All [types of non-AIDS applications](#) allowed for this funding opportunity announcement are due on this date.

Applicants are encouraged to apply early to allow adequate time to make any corrections to errors found in the application during the submission process by the due date.

**Grant Program: BRAIN Initiative: Research Opportunities Using Invasive Neural Recording and Stimulating Technologies in the Human Brain (U01)**

**Agency: National Institutes of Health RFA-NS-17-019**

**RFP Website:** <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-NS-17-019.html>

**Brief Description:** Investigations within the human brain offer revolutionary, but challenging, opportunities for experimental investigation of how the brain senses, thinks, perceives, remembers, plans, registers emotions, activates movements and makes decisions. Invasive surgical procedures provide the unique ability to record and stimulate neurons within precisely localized brain structures in humans. However, human studies using invasive technology are often constrained by a limited number of patients and resources available to implement complex experimental protocols and are rarely aggregated in a manner that addresses research questions with appropriate statistical power. Therefore, this FOA seeks applications to assemble integrated, multi-disciplinary teams to develop exploratory and directed research efforts to overcome these fundamental barriers. Projects should investigate high-impact questions in human neuroscience and the biological basis of disorders of the human nervous system. In the case of early-stage exploratory studies, designs should be offered to turn early-stage, range-finding data into mechanistic models and hypotheses, including validation of biological presumptions. More advanced stages of study should propose prospective testing and validation of explicit or model-driven hypotheses. Research designs can be offered as pilot projects, exploratory research or specific research aims, and for building teams and data that will later compete for continued funding under new or ongoing FOAs of the BRAIN Initiative or other programs.

Projects should engage multidisciplinary teams consisting of clinicians, scientists, device engineers, data/computational scientists, regulatory specialists, and/or ethics specialists. Teams may be assembled within a single institution, but because of the likelihood of a limited number of patients at any single research center, integration of research teams across sites is strongly encouraged.

In the interest of iterative models of discovery, limited support for complementary animal studies may be allowed if they validate or inform these empirical studies of human physiology. Applicants are expected to employ approaches guided by specified theoretical constructs, and are encouraged to employ quantitative, mechanistic models where appropriate. We anticipate that implantable devices for most of these applications will rely on existing technology sufficiently advanced for an IRB Non-Significant Risk designation, or an FDA IDE without needing significant additional pre-clinical testing on the device. We also anticipate that newly IDE-approved devices may become available over the course of these awards. NIH BRAIN is supporting new device development and regulatory approval through other NIH BRAIN initiatives, including the availability of template Memoranda of Agreements (MOUs), Confidential Disclosure Agreements (CDAs) and Collaborative Research Agreements (CRAs) with various private and commercial device providers that may facilitate awardees to adopt novel technologies to fit their needs (see <http://braininitiative.nih.gov/> for up to date information and NIH Scientific/Research contacts). Where appropriate, applicants are encouraged to anticipate potential and alternative plans for adopting newly available technologies. Further, use of the cooperative agreement mechanism will allow awardees to negotiate the incorporation of new technologies by working through NIH Program staff in collaboration with technology providers.

### **Activities Supported**

The list below includes representative, but not exhaustive, examples of activities that could be considered responsive to this FOA. Applications may:

- span exploratory and pilot studies, to statistically powered research investigations.
- integrate non-invasive technologies to image and/or perturb the nervous system for use in conjunction with the invasive implants in order to cross spatial and temporal scales.
- seek to acquire approvals necessary for multi-modal techniques used in combination.
- offer planning and range-finding empirical designs when they are used to develop testable theories and hypotheses as a launch point for further studies with statistically-powered hypothesis testing.
- offer the combination of quantitative psychophysics and behavioral assays in combination with brain recording or stimulating that tests mechanistic hypotheses.
- utilize approved, chronic implants, (e.g., DBS implants; FDA-approved indwelling electrodes) to address mechanistic hypotheses about brain function, plasticity, etc.

### **Topics supported**

The list below includes representative, but not exhaustive, examples of topics that could be considered responsive to this FOA.

- Investigative studies for understanding the neurobiology of cognitive functions specially advanced in humans.
- Approaches to understanding network coding of sensory information.
- Paradigms to assess motor coding during complex behaviors.
- Approaches to understand neural circuitry associated with diverse social behaviors.
- Changes in circuit functions underlying the brain's ability to store information and to learn new behaviors (plasticity).
- New approaches to capture and assess information processing across brain regions during memory consolidation, memory retrieval, spatial/relational processing, attention, or planning.
- Assessment of distributed representations and information processing underlying advanced mental processes such as language, decision making, numerical cognition, reasoning, and metacognition.
- Investigation of distributed circuits that contribute to the coordination of motivational states and reward behavior.

- Empirical and analytical approaches to understand how behavioral states are emergent properties of the interaction of neurons, circuits, and networks.

The following are non-responsive for this program:

- Studies designed primarily to develop or improve disease/disorder therapeutics or devices.
- Studies for which the primary goal is to achieve regulatory approval of neurotechnology (see <http://braininitiative.nih.gov/> for other BRAIN FOAs supporting this activity, and the NIH bioengineering grant program <http://www.ninds.nih.gov/research/bioengineering/index.htm>) or the peripheral nervous system (see NIH SPARC <http://commonfund.nih.gov/sparc/index>)
- Imaging approaches not coupled with intra-cranial recording or stimulating
- Implementing rehabilitation therapies
- Definitive clinical trials of therapeutic devices, such as a traditional feasibility study and/or pivotal trial (see <http://www.fda.gov/downloads/MedicalDevices/DeviceRegulationandGuidance/GuidanceDocuments/UCM279103.pdf> for the definition of an early feasibility study, feasibility study and pivotal trial)
- Projects focused on augmentation of neural function in healthy individuals.

**Awards:** Application budgets are not limited but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project.

**Letter of Intent:** January 1, 2017

**Deadline:** February 1, 2017, by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization. All [types of non-AIDS applications](#) allowed for this funding opportunity announcement are due on this date.

Applicants are encouraged to apply early to allow adequate time to make any corrections to errors found in the application during the submission process by the due date..

## **Grant Program: Leveraging Existing Cohort Studies to Clarify Risk and Protective Factors for Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Dementias (R01)**

**Agency:** National Institutes of Health PAR-17-054

**RFP Website:** <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-17-054.html>

**Brief Description:** Many putative risk and protective factors for AD/ADRD have been previously identified. Assigning risk to specific factors, however, has been difficult because many of them are correlated with each other and difficult to disentangle. Although new statistical techniques can help elucidate the potential causal pathways given enough data, progress has been hampered by the relatively small sample sizes in single longitudinal cohorts. Reasons for reduced statistical power include the relatively low prevalence of dementia or risk factors in individual studies, and the lack of consistency in measurement between studies. Moreover, interactions that could be very informative about disease processes may be difficult or impossible to detect due to modest sample sizes. Because NIH already supports many cohorts with relevant measures, we can improve our understanding of the risk and protective factors for AD/ADRD by leveraging those resources. In some situations, combined cohorts could also serve as a pool of well-characterized and properly consented participants for advanced genetic and genomic studies as well as clinical trials.

This FOA encourages combined cohorts (or consortia) to use and/or harmonize existing data, to collect data on new variables not present in all cohorts, to add new participants, or to link participants to administrative data. By “existing cohorts” we mean groups of participants on whom substantial longitudinal data have already been collected. By “leveraging” we mean engaging in any activities that will improve statistical power of the combined cohorts. Approaches

that could elucidate the etiology of AD/ADRD or cognitive resilience are especially encouraged (e.g., “-omics” based approaches).

**Awards:** Application budgets are not limited but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project.

**Letter of Intent:** Not required

**Deadline:** [Standard dates](#) apply, by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization. All [types of non-AIDS applications](#) allowed for this funding opportunity announcement are due on these dates.

Applicants are encouraged to apply early to allow adequate time to make any corrections to errors found in the application during the submission process by the due date.

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## **Grant Program: Exploratory Research for Technology Development (R21)**

**Agency:** National Institutes of Health PAR-17-046

**RFP Website:** <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-17-046.html>

**Brief Description:** For the purpose of this FOA, technology refers to tools that enable research. This includes laboratory instruments and other devices, algorithms and software, chemical reagents and processes by which biomedically related molecules are produced and modified, and the manipulation of biological systems to produce or become research tools. This FOA calls for exploratory technology development predicated on a broad need or challenge in biomedical research that can be described explicitly. This need should be beyond the ability of the current technology development regime to meet. It should be clear that something fundamentally different is needed. The proposed technology should have the potential to address basic biomedical research needs or technical problems that occur broadly across multiple systems or diseases. Specific examples may be cited. Exploratory research into technologies specific to only one disease or system are not appropriate for this FOA.

*No Preliminary Data:* Availability of preliminary data is an indication that the proposed project has advanced beyond the exploratory stage defined by this program, and will make the application unsuitable for this funding opportunity. Consideration should be given to submitting such projects to the companion R01 program ([PAR-17-045](#)).

*High-Risk Exploratory Research:* Applications through this FOA for exploratory research projects may propose a single specific solution to a broadly stated biomedical research need, with the goal of determining the feasibility of that approach. Alternatively, a proposed project may take a broader approach that will explore several possible solutions, leading to an improved understanding of the best technical avenues to pursue in order to create a new capability. This less directed approach may lead to a better understanding of the relative merits or likelihood of success of multiple potential approaches to be pursued in developing a technology.

This program will support proof-of-principle research leading to advances in technology. Because new ideas are essential to this process, the projects will entail a high degree of risk or novelty, which will be offset by a correspondingly high potential impact. However, the possible impact is unlikely to be immediate. Substantial additional development of the technology after completion of the project is likely to be necessary. The program will recognize and reward high risk approaches with the potential for significant impact.

*No Biological Aims:* Biomedical relevance is an essential element of NIH research. However, the exploratory stage of technology development should not include immediate short-term application of nascent technologies to challenging biomedical research questions because an insistence on explicit linkage to a specific research problem and the immediate demonstration of an immature technology’s effectiveness in that context can distort the technology development process. It can also diminish focus on development of genuinely innovative technology in favor of

incremental improvements to existing technologies. In the early stages of technology development, insistence on biomedical applications is counterproductive. Therefore, in this program, application to specific biomedical questions in the timeframe of the proposed project is considered beyond the scope of the program, and should not be included.

*Milestones:* A milestone is a defined event, achievement, or important stage that is used to indicate the progress of a project. Milestones should be descriptive of what will be done and when it will be completed.

**Awards:** Application budgets are not limited but need to reflect the actual needs of the proposed project.

**Letter of Intent:** Not Required

**Deadline:** [Standard dates](#) apply, by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization. All [types of non-AIDS applications](#) allowed for this funding opportunity announcement are due on these dates. Applicants are encouraged to apply early to allow adequate time to make any corrections to errors found in the application during the submission process by the due date.

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## **Department of Defense/US Army/DARPA/ONR**

### **Grant Program: Long Range Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) for Navy and Marine Corps Science and Technology**

**Agency:** Office of Naval Research ONR BAA N00014-17-S-B001

**Website:** <http://www.onr.navy.mil/~media/Files/Funding-Announcements/BAA/2017/N00014-17-S-B001.ashx>

**Brief Description:** The ONR seeks a broad range of proposals for augmenting existing or developing innovative solutions that directly maintain, or cultivate a diverse, world-class STEM workforce in order to maintain the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps' technological superiority. The goal of any proposed effort must provide solutions that will establish and maintain pathways of diverse U.S. citizens who are interested in uniformed or civilian DoN (or Navy and Marine Corps) STEM workforce opportunities. As the capacity of the DoN Science and Technology (S&T) workforce is interconnected with the basic research enterprise and STEM education system, ONR recognizes the necessity to support efforts that can jointly improve STEM student outcomes and align with Naval S&T current and future workforce needs. This announcement explicitly encourages projects that improve the capacity of education systems and communities to create impactful STEM educational experiences for students including active learning approaches and incorporating 21st century skills. Projects must aim to increase student engagement in STEM and persistence of students in STEM degrees, while improving student technical capacity. ONR encourages proposals to utilize current STEM educational research for informing project design and advancing our understanding of how and why students choose STEM careers and opportunities of naval relevance. While this announcement is relevant for any stage of the STEM educational system, funding efforts will be targeted primarily toward the future and current DoN (naval) STEM workforce in High School, all categories of Post-Secondary institutions, the STEM research enterprise, and efforts that enhance the current naval STEM workforce and its mission readiness.

**Awards:** Various

**Full Proposal Deadline:**

Grant proposals submitted Use this start date  
October 1 through December 31, 2016 March 1, 2017  
January 1 through March 31, 2017 July 1, 2017

April 1 through June 30, 2017 September 1, 2017  
July 1 through September 30, 2017 January 1, 2018

**Contact Information:**

Further information may be found at

(<http://www.onr.navy.mil/ScienceTechnology/Departments/Code-30/All-Programs/C4.aspx> ).

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**Department of Energy**

**Grant Program: Buildings Energy Efficiency Frontiers & Innovation Technologies (BENEFIT) – 2017**

**Agency: Department of Energy DE-FOA-0001632**

**Website:** <https://eere-exchange.energy.gov/default.aspx#FoaId8e546c7c-c277-4c71-aae3-f62e15a95aef>

**Brief Description:** The Emerging Technologies (ET) Program of the Building Technologies Office (BTO) supports applied research and development (R&D) for technologies and systems that contribute to reductions in building energy consumption. In the United States, the ET Program has the broad aim of supporting the development of cost-effective technologies that can reduce aggregate building energy use intensity by 30% by 2020, and 45% by 2030, relative to the consumption of 2010 energy-efficient technologies. The ET Program strives to meet this goal by researching and developing cost-effective, energy-efficient technologies to be introduced into the marketplace. A portion of the ET budget provides support for the Department of Energy (DOE) national laboratories in five areas: solid-state lighting, heating, ventilation, air-conditioning, and refrigeration (HVAC&R) (includes water heating and appliances), sensors & controls, windows & envelope, and modeling & tools. The remaining budget is distributed through competitive solicitations, including Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOAs) like this one, to allow all interested parties (corporations, universities, non-profits, as well as the national labs) to innovate advanced technologies that lead to reduced primary energy consumption in buildings.

In prior years, the BENEFIT FOA consisted of two sections (Innovations: early-stage; Frontiers: later-stage, roadmap-driven) to complement the core funding provided by the program ([1], [2], [3], below). This FOA consists of four topic areas within these two sections (e.g., “Innovations” and “Frontiers”), as well as a new third “Scale-up” section for pre-commercial prototype development. Two targeted “Frontiers” topics are focused on Advanced HVAC&R and Miscellaneous Electric Loads (MELs), and two open topics are focused on early-stage R&D applications (“Innovations”) and pre-commercial prototype development and scale-up (“Scale-up”), respectively. This pursuit of early-stage (Innovations), as well as later-stage (Scale-up) investments in the open topics will provide balance to the BTO R&D portfolio and targeted technology topic and program areas.

**Awards:** Up to \$3,000,000; Anticipated Funding: \$19,500,000

**Letter of Intent:** Applicants that experience issues with submissions PRIOR to the FOA Deadline: In the event that an Applicant experiences technical difficulties with a submission, the Applicant should contact the eXCHANGE helpdesk for assistance ([exchangehelp@hq.doe.gov](mailto:exchangehelp@hq.doe.gov)). The eXCHANGE helpdesk and/or the EERE eXCHANGE System Administrators ([eXCHANGE@ee.doe.gov](mailto:eXCHANGE@ee.doe.gov)) will assist the Applicant in resolving all issues.

**Full Proposal Deadline:** Mar 08, 2017 Submission Deadline for Full Application: 03/08/2017 at 5:00pm ET

**Informational Webinar: Informational Webinar:** The Informational Webinar mentioned in the FOA will be held on December 6, 2016 at 3:00 PM ET Eastern Standard Time. Please click or copy and paste this link in your browser for registration: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5505829044318937859>

**Contact Information:**

- [EERE-ExchangeSupport@hq.doe.gov](mailto:EERE-ExchangeSupport@hq.doe.gov)

For technical issues related to the EERE Exchange website.

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**Grant Program: Fuel Cells Technologies Office Annual Funding Opportunity Announcement****Agency: Department of Energy DE-FOA-0001647****Website:** <https://eere-exchange.energy.gov/default.aspx#Foaldf5ced284-2764-4570-977a-a9187a8e7be7>

**Brief Description:** This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is for the research and development of low-cost hydrogen production, onboard hydrogen storage, and proton exchange membrane fuel cells to advance the widespread commercialization of fuel cell electric vehicles. Selected projects will leverage national lab consortia launched under DOE's Energy Materials Network (EMN) this past year, in support of DOE's materials research and advanced manufacturing priorities. The fuel cells market is growing rapidly, and has seen an annual growth rate of 30% every year since 2010 as well as \$2 billion annual revenue in 2014. Light duty vehicles are an emerging application for fuel cells that already enable 95% lower petroleum consumption per mile than conventional internal combustion engine vehicles. Applicants to this funding opportunity announcement (FOA) will collaborate with national lab consortia launched within the EMN. The EMN consortia have been established to make unique, world-class capabilities at the national laboratories more accessible to industry, facilitating collaborations that will expedite the development and manufacturing of advanced materials for commercial markets. The FOA topics include:

- Topic 1: PGM-free Catalyst and Electrode R&D – this topic will leverage the Electrocatalysis Consortium (ElectroCat) to accelerate the development of catalysts made without platinum group metals (PGM-free) for use in fuel cells for transportation.
- Topic 2: Advanced Water Splitting Materials – this topic will leverage the HydroGEN Consortium to accelerate the development of advanced water splitting materials for hydrogen production, with an initial focus on advanced electrolytic, photoelectrochemical, and solar thermochemical pathways.
- Topic 3: Hydrogen Storage Materials Discovery – this topic will leverage the Hydrogen Materials—Advanced Research Consortium (HyMARC) to address unsolved scientific challenges in the development of viable solid-state materials for hydrogen storage onboard fuel cell electric vehicles (FCEVs).
- Topic 4: Precursor Development for Low-Cost, High-Strength Carbon Fiber for Use in Composite Overwrapped Pressure Vessel Applications – this topic will aim to reduce the cost of onboard hydrogen storage necessary for FCEVs. Applicants for this topic will be encouraged to collaborate with LightMAT, a consortium launched by the DOE Vehicle Technologies Office to enable light-weighting of vehicles through the development of high-strength steels and carbon fiber. The full FOA is posted on the EERE Exchange website at <https://eere-exchange.energy.gov>. To apply to this FOA, Applicants must register with and submit application materials through EERE Exchange, EERE's online application portal. Information on where to submit questions regarding the content of the announcement and where to submit questions regarding submission of applications is found in the full FOA posted on the EERE Exchange website. The Exchange system enforces hard deadlines for Concept Paper and Full Application submissions. The APPLY and SUBMIT buttons automatically disable at the defined submission deadlines. The intention of this design is to consistently enforce a standard deadline for all applicants. Applicants that experience issues with submissions PRIOR to the FOA Deadline: In the event that an Applicant experiences technical difficulties with a submission PRIOR to the deadline, the Applicant should contact the eXCHANGE helpdesk for assistance (EERE&#8208;ExchangeSupport@hq.doe.gov). The eXCHANGE helpdesk &/or the EERE

Exchange System Administrators (Exchange@ee.doe.gov ) will assist the Applicant in resolving all issues.

**Awards:** Various

**Concept Paper Deadline:** December 20, 2016; 5:00pm ET

**Full Proposal Deadline:** February 21, 2017; 5:00pm ET

**Contact Information:**

- [EERE-ExchangeSupport@hq.doe.gov](mailto:EERE-ExchangeSupport@hq.doe.gov)

For technical issues related to the EERE Exchange website.

- [FY17FCTOofficewidefoa@ee.doe.gov](mailto:FY17FCTOofficewidefoa@ee.doe.gov)

For questions regarding the content of this FOA.

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## **NASA**

**Grant Program: ROSES 2016: Advanced Information Systems Technology**

**Agency: NASA NNH16ZDA001N-AIST**

**Website:**

<https://nspires.nasaprs.com/external/solicitations/summary.do?method=init&solId={FFB54233-DF18-5F45-939D-2569C4C5B2EE}&path=init>

**Brief Description:** The Earth is a vast, complex, dynamic, interconnected system. Information systems technologies play an essential role in our ability to understand, to forecast, and to predict the Earth system's behavior through the generation, management, and scientific exploitation of the very large amounts of data and information from space-, airborne-, and ground-based sensors, as well as model output. Advances in information systems impact all Earth Science focus areas:

- Atmospheric Composition
- Earth Surface and Interior
- Climate Variability and Change
- Water and Energy Cycle
- Carbon Cycle & Ecosystems
- Weather

The Earth Science Technology Office (ESTO) manages the early development of advanced technologies and applications that are needed for cost-effective NASA Earth Science Division (ESD) missions. ESTO plays a major role in shaping Earth science research and application programs of the future. These important technology investments enable promising scientific and engineering concepts to be explored. ESTO ensures its technology programs create an effective balance of investments by coordinating across missions and science focus areas to define technology needs of NASA's Earth Science Division.

The goals of the Advanced Information Systems Technology (AIST) program are to identify, develop, and demonstrate advanced information system technologies that:

- Reduce the risk, cost, size, and development time for Earth science space-based, airborne, and ground-based information systems,
- Increase the accessibility and utility of science data, and
- Enable new observations and information products. The AIST is focused on maturing technology projects early in the Technology Readiness Level (TRL) cycle (2 to 4) and to mature the technologies (typically TRL 6) for potential infusion into the appropriate science, applications, and mission communities

**Awards:** Available amount: \$12,500,000

**Letter of Intent:** December 21, 2016

**Full Proposal Deadline:** February 16, 2017

**Contact:** Michael Little Earth Science Technology Office Science Mission Directorate NASA Headquarters Washington, DC 20546-0001 E-mail: [Michael.M.Little@nasa.gov](mailto:Michael.M.Little@nasa.gov)

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## **National Endowment of Humanities**

### **Grant Program: Public Scholar Program**

**Agency:** National Endowment of Humanities

**Website:** <https://www.neh.gov/grants/research/public-scholar-program>

**Brief Description:** The Public Scholar Program supports well-researched books in the humanities intended to reach a broad readership. Although humanities scholarship can be specialized, the humanities also strive to engage broad audiences in exploring subjects of general interest. They seek to deepen our understanding of the human condition as well as current conditions and contemporary problems. The Public Scholar Program aims to encourage scholarship that will be of broad interest and have lasting impact. Such scholarship might present a narrative history, tell the stories of important individuals, analyze significant texts, provide a synthesis of ideas, revive interest in a neglected subject, or examine the latest thinking on a topic. Books supported by this program must be grounded in humanities research and scholarship. They must address significant humanities themes likely to be of broad interest and must be written in a readily accessible style. Making use of primary and/or secondary sources, they should open up important and appealing subjects for a wide audience. The challenge is to make sense of a significant topic in a way that will appeal to general readers. Applications to write books directed primarily to scholars are not appropriate for this program.

By establishing the Public Scholar Program, NEH entered a long-term commitment to encourage scholarship in the humanities for general audiences. The program is open to both individuals affiliated with scholarly institutions and independent scholars or researchers. Projects may be at any stage of development.

**Awards:** The Public Scholar Program supports continuous work over a period of six to twelve months. Awards may be held part time or full time (or part time for some months and full time for other months). Successful applicants receive a stipend of \$4,200 per full-time month. The maximum stipend is \$50,400 for a twelve-month period. Awards will be reduced to reflect the smaller time commitment when recipients work part time or for less than twelve months. Recipients must work at least half-time on their projects for the entire period of the grant. No grant may exceed twelve months. Recipients who work full-time on their projects must forgo other major activities, including teaching. Applicants should request award periods that suit their schedules and the needs of their projects. Requesting an award period shorter than twelve months will not improve an applicant's chance of receiving an award.

**Proposal Deadline:** February 1, 2017

**Contact:** Division of Public Programs National Endowment for the Humanities 400 Seventh Street, SW Washington, DC 20506 202-606-8269 [publicpgms@neh.gov](mailto:publicpgms@neh.gov) [publicpgms@neh.gov](http://publicpgms@neh.gov)

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### **Grant Program: Public Humanities Projects**

**Agency:** National Endowment of Humanities

**Website:** <https://www.neh.gov/grants/public/public-humanities-projects>

**Brief Description:** Public Humanities Projects grants support projects that bring the ideas and insights of the humanities to life for general audiences. Projects must engage humanities scholarship to analyze significant themes in disciplines such as history, literature, ethics, and art,

or to address challenging issues in contemporary life. NEH encourages projects that involve members of the public in collaboration with humanities scholars or that invite contributions from the community in the development and delivery of humanities programming. This grant program supports a variety of forms of audience engagement. Applications should follow the parameters set out below for one of the following three formats:

- **Community Conversations:** This format supports one- to three-year-long series of community-wide public discussions in which diverse residents creatively address community challenges, guided by the perspectives of the humanities.
- **Exhibitions:** This format supports permanent exhibitions that will be on view for at least three years, or travelling exhibitions that will be available to public audiences in at least two venues in the United States (including the originating location).
- **Historic Places:** This format supports the interpretation of historic sites, houses, neighborhoods, and regions, which might include living history presentations, guided tours, exhibitions, and public programs. NEH encourages projects that explore humanities ideas through multiple formats. Proposed projects may include complementary components that deepen an audience's understanding of a subject: for example, a museum exhibition might be accompanied by a website, mobile app, or discussion programs. Your application must identify one primary format for your project and follow the application instructions for that format.

**Awards:** Applicants may also request a combination of outright and federal matching funds. For example, if an applicant is requesting \$40,000 in NEH funds, and the applicant includes in its cost sharing \$5,000 from an eligible third-party donor, the applicant should request \$5,000 in federal matching funds. The balance of the NEH request (\$35,000) would then be for outright funds. NEH may offer funding at a different level than that requested. In some instances, NEH may offer federal matching funds only, or it may offer a combination of federal matching and outright funds in response to a request for outright funds.

**Proposal Deadline:** January 11, 2017

**Contact:** Division of Public Programs National Endowment for the Humanities 400 Seventh Street, SW Washington, DC 20506 202-606-8269 [publicpgms@neh.gov](mailto:publicpgms@neh.gov) [publicpgms@neh.gov](http://publicpgms@neh.gov)

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