Current Issues: Pandemic Relief Funding

The American Rescue Plan Act

On March 11, the American Rescue Plan (ARP) was signed into law. The $1.9 trillion act will provide a third round of Higher Education Emergency Relief Funding (HEERF) to colleges and universities across the country. Carleton will disburse at least half of its portion to students as emergency financial aid grants, as required by the act.

The ARP also provides supplemental funding for several federal grant-makers. The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) will receive $135 million to support humanities organizations and programming, while the National Science Foundation (NSF) will receive $600 million to fund new and existing research grants, scholarships, fellowships, and more.

We plan to send opportunities in these and other areas to faculty and staff who we know have relevant projects, but we also welcome ideas and are eager to discuss projects with you!

Are you eligible for sabbatical in 2022-2023?

Contact Charlotte Whited (cwhited@carleton.edu) to explore external funding opportunities.

NEH Fellowship Webinar

Interested in applying for an NEH Fellowship? Fellowships last for six to twelve months, during which time recipients conduct advanced humanities research or produce a publication from previous research. Prospective applicants may be interested in watching a webinar a webinar, co-hosted by the Grants Office, that featured former awardees (including Prof. Asuka Sango), or the NEH’s own informational session. Applications are due Wednesday, April 14.

Humanities Workshop Opportunity

Grinnell College is hosting a free workshop for liberal arts faculty from June 7-10. “The Humanities in Action: The Future of the Humanities at Liberal Arts Colleges” will feature a variety of panels, workshops, lectures, and small-group discussions focused on curricular and pedagogical change in the humanities, arts, and humanistic social sciences. Interested individuals should apply online by Wednesday, March 31.
Become a Reviewer

Serving as a reviewer provides valuable insight into a funder’s review process and priorities.

**NEH Panelist**

Learn more about [NEH’s Application Review Process](#), including expectations and requirements for peer reviewers. If you would like to participate on an NEH peer review panel, [sign up here](#).

**NIH Reviewer**

NIH welcomes researchers to serve on peer review groups. Explore the [For Reviewers](#) page, and read the recent [blog post](#) “[CSR’s Commitment to Advancing Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in Peer Review](#).”

**NSF Reviewer**

Check out the NSF’s [Merit Review](#) site to better understand the process. [To become a reviewer](#), email the program officer(s) that best fits your area of expertise.

Key Changes

**NIH BioSketch and Other Support Documents**

In an effort to support collaboration between federal research agencies, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) released changes to the Biographical Sketch and Other Support documents on March 12, 2021. The updated forms will be required for applications and Research Performance Progress Reports (RPPR) with due dates on or after May 25, 2021. See [NOT-OD-21-073](#) for more.

**NSF PAPPG**

The National Science Foundation (NSF) will release the revised Proposal & Award Policies Procedures Guide (PAPPG) this spring, with an effective date of October. ([See the draft here](#)) Until the new version becomes effective, applicants are to use [PAPPG NSF 20-1](#).

Compliance Corner

**Reporting on Foreign Involvements**

Most federal funders now require reporting on any foreign involvement or financial support, including involvements revealed in response to questions within reports and on supporting documents. The campus handbook has been updated to reflect increased government regulation in foreign influence in research.

**NIH**: See [Protecting U.S. Biomedical Intellectual Innovation](#) for more information and public notice [NOT-OD-19-114](#) for details on reporting foreign involvements.

**NSF**: See [Research Performance Progress Report (RPPR) Screenshots and Instructions](#) and [About Project Reports](#) for more details on reporting foreign involvement.
UPCOMING FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

INTERNAL OPPORTUNITIES

See the DoC Internal Grants page for details, and talk with Charlotte to help develop your application and find alignment with external grants.

- **Broom Public Scholarship Project Grants**: small grants to support completion and dissemination of public scholarship projects
- **Carleton Arts & Technology (CArtT) Grants**: foster integration of arts and technology; applications are now accepted on a rolling deadline
- **Humanistic Dimensions of AI**: grants to support curricular development activities that focus on problems and opportunities presented by the expansion of artificial intelligence and internet technologies
- **Incubator Grants**: facilitate opportunities for pedagogical and curricular exploration and experimentation
- **Lilly Bayard Fund**: supports research and study to implement academic project that expand the classroom and experience-based offerings inspired by First Peoples’ culture and history
- **Public Works Projects**: refer to the Proposal Checklist and the Call for Proposals page
- **Puzak Fund for Experiential Learning and Community Engagement**: supports projects that engage in learning outside of the classroom

EXTERNAL OPPORTUNITIES

See the Grant Opportunities page for details and additional opportunities, and talk with Charlotte or Christopher who can help develop your application and find alignment with upcoming opportunities.

- **MOHE Intervention for College Attendance Grant Program**: intent to submit due Friday, April 9; full proposal due Friday, April 23; for projects that actively support and provide significant opportunities for underserved students to ensure they have resources, skills, and guidance to enter and succeed in college; duration 2 years; maximum award of $120,000 ($60,000 per year). Refer also to the Request for Proposals.
- **NEH Fellowship**: due Wednesday, April 14; for individuals to conduct advanced humanities research to produce a publication; duration 6-12 months; maximum award of $60,000 ($5,000 per month). Refer also to the NEH Proposal Specifics page.
- **NEH Humanities Initiatives**: due Thursday, May 20; to strengthen the teaching and study of the humanities by developing or enhancing programs, resources, or courses; duration 1-3 years; maximum award $150,000.

**NIH**

**R15 Academic Research Enhancement Award (AREA)**: due annually 2/25, 6/25, 10/25 for faculty and undergraduate researchers in the biomedical and behavioral sciences at educational institutions that haven’t been major recipients of NIH support; duration up to 3 years; maximum of $300,000 in direct costs. Search NIH Funding Opportunities and Notices.

**NSF Improving Undergraduate STEM Education (IUSE)**: to promote Engaged Student Learning (ESL) and Institutional and Community Transformation (ICT)

- **Engaged Student Learning (ESL)**: to support the development and testing of curricular innovations and practices to improve learning and retention; Level 1 (up to $300,000 for up to 3 years) due annually 2/2, 8/3; Level 2 ($300,001-$600,000 for up to 3 years) and Level 3 ($600,001-$2 million for up to 5 years) due annually 12/7
- **Institutional and Community Transformation (ICT)**: to implement and sustain highly-effective STEM teaching and learning; Capacity Building ($150,000-$300,000 for up to 2 years) and Level 1 (up to $300,000 for up to 3 years) due annually 2/2, 8/3; Level 2 ($300,001-$2 million for up to 5 years) due annually 12/7

**NSF CAREER**: due Monday July 26, for early-career faculty who wish to serve in a leadership capacity to integrate education and research; duration 5 years; minimum award of $400,000. Refer to the Grants Office’s NSF Proposal Specifics page and the NSF’s CAREER FAQs. Utilize NSF’s Find Funding page to search opportunities by title, research area, upcoming due dates, and more.
In January, Carleton received funds from the U.S. Department of Education as part of the HEERF II program within the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA). These funds will provide financial support to students through direct grants (disbursed in February) and an application (available through the Dean of Students Office). The remainder of the funds will be used to relieve pandemic-related expenses incurred by the college. Read more.

Julie Neiworth

Julie Neiworth, Laurence McKinley Gould Professor of Natural Sciences and Psychology was awarded her fifth NIH grant (AREA 2R15AG051940-02) involving undergraduate collaborators in February. Prof. Neiworth and her student assistants will continue to study cognitive declines in aging primates, adding immune response measures to monitor signs of neurogenesis in aging tamarins. Read more.

Noboru Tomonari

Noboru Tomonari, Professor of Japanese and Chair of Asian Languages and Literature, received a grant from the Japan Foundation, Los Angeles to purchase Japanese-language teaching materials. Prof. Tomonari noted that these materials, which are now available, “will provide valuable learning and course development opportunities for students and instructors.” Read more.

Asuka Sango

Asuka Sango, Associate Professor of Religion and Director of Asian Studies, organized two transdisciplinary workshops with support from the Japan Foundation, New York. Held in January and February, the online workshops featured presentations by professors, independent researchers, and curators from Japan, Europe, and North America. Read more.

Jake Morton

Jake Morton, Assistant Professor of Classics, was awarded a Loeb Classical Library Foundation Fellowship for the 2021-2022 academic year. The grant will support work on his upcoming monograph, “The First Roman Invasion of Greece: Where they went, who they were, and why it matters.” Prof. Morton will employ novel methodology to study this period of Mediterranean history. Read more.