

MAY 2024

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## UPCOMING TRAINING AND EVENTS

For more updates, follow us on [Twitter/X](#), [Facebook](#) and [Threads](#).

**FRIDAY, MAY 10 | 12 P.M.**

### IMPORTANCE OF MINORITY-SERVING INSTITUTIONS

This discussion will delve into the significance of minority-serving institutions (MSIs) by exploring their historical context, purposes, societal impact, and importance to the educational landscape. By examining the evolution of MSIs, their unique contributions, challenges, and the current sociopolitical climate, participants will gain a comprehensive understanding of the necessity and relevance of MSIs today. This workshop is open to any UTA faculty, staff, or students interested in understanding more about MSIs. Please [RSVP](#) for additional meeting information and/or to be included in our lunch order. Contact [elissa.williams@uta.edu](mailto:elissa.williams@uta.edu) if you have any issues.

**TUESDAY, MAY 14 | 1 P.M.**

### JOIN DRA TEAMS MEETING

Join the Teams channel for Departmental Research Administrators (DRAs) and get the latest information from each other and pre- and postaward in the Office of Grant and Contract Services (OGCS). The group meets virtually every other month to discuss best practices and brings in UTA subject matter experts to answer your questions. Email [Elissa.Williams@uta.edu](mailto:Elissa.Williams@uta.edu) to be added to the Teams channel for DRAs.

**MONDAY AND TUESDAY, MAY 20-21 | 8 A.M.**

### GRANT DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) and the Agricultural Research Service (ARS) will be hosting a one-and-a-half-day virtual and in-person Grant Development and Grant Management Training held in UTA's beautiful SEIR building! Presentations include information on accessing funding information, understanding the requests for applications, funding opportunities,

understanding award terms and conditions, understanding the REEport reporting tool, and partnership opportunities with ARS. [Register now](#).

FRIDAY, JUNE 14 | 12 P.M.

## NSF PAPPG UPDATE 2024 AND SCIENCE OVERVIEW

For the first 30 minutes of this session, we will discuss changes from the National Science Foundation (NSF) that will be effective May 20 with the release of the PAPPG 24-1. These changes will be effective for proposals due on or after that date. The second half of this session will be a refresher on the use of [SciENCv](#) for biosketches and the Current and Pending Support. This workshop is open to any UTA faculty, staff, or students interested in the NSF. Please [RSVP](#) for additional meeting information and/or to be included in our lunch order. Contact [elissa.williams@uta.edu](mailto:elissa.williams@uta.edu) if you have any issues.

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## Join the Manufacturing Collaboration Group

A collaboration group has been started to help UTA researchers involved in manufacturing pursue large externally funded research programs. A Teams channel has been created for any UTA faculty researchers interested collaborative manufacturing research grants. Additionally, a [survey](#) has been prepared to characterize the strengths, skills, and interests in the UTA manufacturing research community. Survey responses are due Wednesday, May 1. For questions, contact [Rob Taylor](#), [Eileen Clements](#), or [Paul Davidson](#).

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## Revisions to NIH Biosafety Guidelines

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has revised its [NIH Guidelines](#) to specify biosafety practices for research involving gene drive modified organisms (GDMOs) in contained research settings. These revisions include:

- Specifying the minimum containment requirement for research involving GDMOs.
- Articulating considerations for risk assessment and additional responsibilities for institutional biosafety committees (IBCs) and biosafety officers.

To assist IBCs, biosafety professionals, and investigators with implementation of these changes, OSP has developed a [reference document](#) to help ensure the safe and responsible conduct of research involving GDMOs in contained research settings.

## NSF Proposal Policy Update

NSF issued a revised [Proposal and Award Policies and Procedures Guide \(PAPPG\) \(NSF24-1\)](#) on Jan. 22 that will go into effect for proposals with deadlines on or after Monday, May 20. A full summary of all changes can be found at <https://new.nsf.gov/policies/pappg/24-1/summary-changes>. The most significant changes that affect proposal submission are:

- **Involvement of Foreign Organizations:** Chapter I.E.2(c) provides updated guidance for inclusion of a foreign organization (subaward) or foreign individual (consultant) in a proposal budget. The justification must be included in the project description section of the proposal and the box for “Funding of a Foreign Organization or Foreign Individual” must be checked on the cover sheet. Guidance for information to be included in the justification can be found at <https://new.nsf.gov/policies/pappg/24-1/ch-1-pre-submission#ch1E2c>.
- **Biographical Sketch:** The biosketch no longer has a page limitation and implements the [Common Disclosure form](#), which also removes the Synergistic Activities section. The Biographical Sketch will still be created in [SciENcv](#) only, which will produce an NSF-compliant version.
- **Synergistic Activities:** Synergistic activities that used to be included as part of the biosketch have been moved to a separate document. Everyone identified as senior/key personnel must include a **one-page document** with up to five distinct examples that demonstrate the broader impact of the individual’s professional and scholarly activities that focus on the creation, integration, and transfer of knowledge.
- **Current and Pending Support:** The updated guidance implements the [Common Disclosure form](#). The Current and Pending Support form will continue to be created in [SciENcv](#) only, which will produce an NSF-compliant version.
- **Mentoring Plan:** The mentoring plan has been expanded and requires a plan for both **graduate students** and postdoctoral researchers supported on a project. The page limit for a mentoring plan is still one page.
- **Proposal Font, Spacing, and Margin Requirements:** This section has been updated to allow for submission of proposal documents in landscape format.

Reach out to [preaward@uta.edu](mailto:preaward@uta.edu) for clarification on how this affects your proposals due after May 20, and join us in June when we discuss [NSF PAPPG Update 2024 and SciENcv Overview](#).

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## NSF Workshop for STEM Education

The [NSF Workshop for Directorate for STEM Education CAREER Applicants](#) will be held virtually May 15 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The workshop is intended to provide guidance and mentorship to prospective CAREER applicants to the NSF Directorate for STEM Education. It will serve as an opportunity for participants to gain a better understanding of the program—including eligibility requirements, the application process, and outcomes of past CAREER awardees—and for participants to interact with other applicants, former awardees, and NSF program officers.

## NSF Spring Conference in Philadelphia

[NSF Spring Conference 2024](#) will be held June 3-5 in Philadelphia. Key officials representing each NSF program directorate, administrative offices, Office of the General Counsel, and Office of the Inspector General will participate. The conference is designed for new faculty, researchers, educators, and administrators who want to gain insight into a wide range of important and timely issues at NSF, such as the state of current funding, the proposal and award process, and current and recently updated policies and procedures. In-person and virtual options are available.

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## New Staff Member in Office of Regulatory Services

This month, we welcome Kelly Handy to Regulatory Services. Kelly will assist with coordination of all programs in the office, including IRB, IACUC, IBC, RCOI, and Export Control. She can be reached at 817-272-2848 or by [e-mail](#).

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## Sign Up for Research Listservs

Make sure you're receiving updates on research-related activities, including limited funding opportunities, by signing up for the [Research Listserv](#). You must be logged in to the UTA VPN using a University device to subscribe.

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## Tech-Enhanced Shoe Reduces Diabetic Foot Ulcer Risk

UTA researchers have developed new shoe insole technology that helps reduce the risk of diabetic foot ulcers, a dangerous open sore that can lead to hospitalization and leg, foot, or toe amputations, reported [Medical Xpress](#) and [Investing.com](#). The [news release](#) derived from a [peer-reviewed article](#).

## Ancient Predictions Surrounding Eclipses

Kim Breuer, associate professor of instruction in the Department of History, [spoke with CBS 11](#) about the ancient celestial maps in the UTA's Special Collections Library. Breuer also [had her Conversation article](#) on solar eclipses and how ancient societies interpreted them published in [Astronomy.com](#), [Scientific American](#), and [Discover Magazine](#).

Do you have research news that should be promoted to the media? Contact [Katherine Egan Bennett](#), assistant director of research communications, to see how Media Relations can help [raise awareness of your research](#). Some grant funders may like to see these stories as signs of the impact of your research on the community.



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