

1. Norman Hackerman Advanced Research Program (NHARP) (updated from last month)

The purpose of this email is to inform sponsored projects offices and others interested in the program about several forthcoming changes to the 2011 Norman Hackerman Advanced Research Program (NHARP). NHARP funding was significantly reduced from \$16 million to \$1,000,000 for the 2012-2013 biennium. The following changes have been reviewed and are recommended by the Board's Strategic Policy and Planning Committee and will be considered by the Board at their July 28 meeting:

- Only "Early Career Investigators" may submit a proposal. •Definition of "early career" *is a non-tenured, tenure track faculty member or a research professional (not including post-doctoral students, research assistants/associates, or instructors) from an eligible institution who has been employed at the institution in that capacity for not less than two years and not more than five years, as of the pre-proposal submission date.*

Targeted research areas are:

1. Molecular Biology, Cellular Biology, and Genetics (excluding cancer-related research)
 2. Materials Science/Nanoscience
- Maximum award of \$80,000 for the two-year grant period
 - Principal investigators are limited to one submission
 - Only single investigator, single institution proposals may be submitted
 - Notice of intent and pre-proposal are required for each submission

The notice of intent format is available on our website at:

<http://www.theccb.state.tx.us/NHARP/>

NOTICE OF INTENT DEADLINE: September 1, 2011, 5:00 PM C.D.T.

PRE-PROPOSAL DEADLINE: September 15, 2011, 5:00 PM C.D.T.

PROPOSAL DEADLINE: December 15, 2011, 5:00 PM C.S.T.A full version of the request for applications (RFA) can be found at <http://www.theccb.state.tx.us/NHARP/>. Link directly to the RFA at: <http://www.theccb.state.tx.us/NHARP/RFA/>.

2. NSF Partnerships for International Research and Education (PIRE)

PIRE supports international activities across all NSF supported disciplines. The primary goal of PIRE is to support high quality projects in which advances in research and education could not occur without international collaboration. PIRE seeks to catalyze a higher level of international engagement in the U.S. science and engineering community.

<http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2011/nsf11564/nsf11564.htm>

Internal competition **deadline September 8, 2011** (see attached document for details)
NSF deadline pre-proposals Oct 19, 2011

3. Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Grant Opportunities

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation is now accepting grant proposals for Round 8 of Grand Challenges Explorations, an initiative to encourage innovative and unconventional global health and development solutions. Applicants can be at any experience level; in any discipline; and from any organization, including colleges and universities, government laboratories, research institutions, non-profit organizations and for profit companies.

Grant proposals are being accepted online until November 17, 2011 on the following topics:

- Protect Crop Plants from Biotic Stresses From Field to Market
- Design new approaches to optimize immunization systems

- Explore New Solutions in Global Health Priority Areas
- Explore Nutrition for Healthy Growth of Infants and Children
- Apply Synthetic Biology to Global Health Challenges
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Initial grants will be US \$100,000 each, and projects showing promise will have the opportunity to receive additional funding of up to US \$1 million. Full descriptions of the new topics and application instructions are available at: www.grandchallenges.org/r8_gce

4. NIH Pioneer and New Innovator Awards

The NIH expects to make at least seven Pioneer Awards and at least 33 New Innovator Awards in summer 2012, depending on the quality of applications and the availability of funds. To continue its strong record of diversity in these programs, the NIH especially encourages women and members of groups that are underrepresented in NIH research to apply.

Pioneer Awards

Up to \$2.5 million in direct costs over 5 years is provided.

Scientists at any career stage are eligible.

Applications are due October 7, 2011.

For instructions and additional information, see Funding RFA-RM11004

(<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-RM-11-004.html>);

<http://commonfund.nih.gov/pioneer>.

Questions may be sent to pioneer@nih.gov.

New Innovator Awards

Up to \$1.5 million in direct costs over 5 years is provided.

Early career stage investigators (ESI) (i.e., those who have not received an NIH R01 or similar grant and are within 10 years of completing their terminal research degree or medical residency) are eligible. **Applications are due**

October 14, 2011. For instructions and additional information, see Funding Opportunity Announcement RFA-RM-11-005 (<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-RM-11-005.html>) and <http://commonfund.nih.gov/newinnovator> Questions may be sent to newinnovator@nih.gov.

5. Woodrow Wilson Fellowships

The Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars aims to unite the world of ideas to the world of policy by supporting pre-eminent scholarship and linking that scholarship to issues of concern to officials in Washington. Information and online application materials are available at

www.wilsoncenter.org/fellowship application
Deadline October 1, 2011

6. NSF Regional Grants Conference, October 17 – 18, 2011, Austin, Texas

The first [National Science Foundation](http://www.nsf.gov) Regional Grants Conference of fiscal year 2012, will be hosted by The University of Texas at Austin on October 17-18, 2011. Key officials representing each NSF program directorate, administrative office, the NSF Office of International Science & Engineering, Office of General Counsel, and Office of the Inspector General will participate in this two-day conference. The conference is considered a must, particularly for new faculty, researchers, educators and administrators who want to gain insight into a wide range of important and timely issues at NSF including: the state of current funding; the proposal and award process; and current and recently updated policies and procedures.