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DREXEL UNIVERSITY
Office of
Research

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SPARK Innovation Competition

SPARK is a 24-hour, think-tank style competition to solve real-world problems alongside professional engineers, scientists and industry representatives. Hosted by Drexel's Institute for Energy and the Environment, Villanova University, Temple University and national engineering company O'Brien & Gere, this event invites students to develop solutions that meet industry needs. The competition is open to all Drexel, Villanova and Temple undergraduate and graduate students of all disciplines interested in creating solutions to energy, water and environmental issues. Working in multi-disciplinary teams, students will have the chance to win \$3,000 in total cash prizes, develop a solution that may actually be implemented, and network with industry and government representatives. Participating companies include DuPont, IKEA and Merck. Space is limited, and the selection process is competitive. This year's competition will be held at Temple University on Thursday evening (Nov. 9) and all day Friday (Nov. 10). The deadline to apply is Sunday, Oct. 29, 2017. For more information and to apply visit the SPARK Innovation Competition webpage. [READ MORE >](#)



News & Announcements

New Review Criteria for NIH Clinical Trials

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) is using a multi-faceted approach to strengthen policies across the life cycle of a clinical trial. These actions include the implementation of new and more rigorous review criteria for evaluating clinical trial applications. New questions related to significance, investigators, innovation, approach, environment and study timeline will be added to the existing review questions and will be effective for all clinical trial applications for research project grants and cooperative agreements that are submitted for funding consideration for due dates on or after Jan. 25, 2018.

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Don't Think Your Research is a Clinical Trial?

Many investigators will be surprised to know that the mechanistic human studies they have been doing for years may now fall under the NIH definition of clinical trials. The NIH clinical trial definition is very broad, and it may not be the same definition used by other organizations, including your own institution. After Jan. 25, 2018, applications containing an NIH-defined clinical trial of any size or complexity can only be submitted through one of the new NIH funding opportunity announcements that require or allow clinical trials. Additional human subjects information will be required, and that information may be different from what you have submitted with earlier applications.

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Call for Public Comment on Laboratory Research Results

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine are soliciting public comments to help inform the deliberations of a new consensus study committee. The committee is tasked with reviewing the current evidence base and practices related to the return of individual research results generated in laboratories that perform tests on human biospecimens, and with providing recommendations on the ethical, social, operational and regulatory aspects of the return of these results. The study task covers a broad range of research from preclinical, basic biomedical sciences to clinical sciences and will consider the variety of disciplines therein including, but not limited to, oncology, proteomics, pharmacokinetics, gynecology, genetics and genomics, toxicology, microbiome research, and others. For more information and to submit written comments, click to visit the study's website.

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New Tool to Find a CSR Study Section

Curious about where your application might be reviewed, and want to have a look at those study sections and their rosters to see if you have a preference for review in one group over another? The new online Assisted Referral Tool (ART) will make a potential match between the science in your application and an appropriate Center for Scientific Review (CSR) study section(s). After you enter your application summary or specific aims, ART will show you both strong and potential matches, and provide you with direct links to descriptions of those study sections and their rosters of reviewers. Your query is confidential. No input text from your application or the fingerprint generated during the search will be retained after your query is completed.

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Medical Students Seek Research Opportunities

Many medical students are interested in participating in research during their academic years. Faculty members who are willing to sponsor medical student research are invited to submit project information into a centralized database where Drexel medical students can search for opportunities. If you have a potential project, complete our brief survey and provide a description of your project. For more information, contact Marie Hartman (mh37@drexel.edu) in the College of Medicine Office of Student Affairs & Career Advising.

[COMPLETE THE SURVEY >](#)

NIH Certificates of Confidentiality

Effective Oct. 1, 2017, certificates of confidentiality (CoC) will issue automatically for applicable NIH awards as part of the award terms and conditions. NIH will not determine applicability; that determination is now the responsibility of the awardee institution and investigators. Also, NIH will no longer provide a paper certificate. The award itself may be used as confirmation that CoC protections are in place. The policy applies to research commenced or ongoing on or after Dec. 13, 2016. The NIH CoC website has now been updated and includes updated consent language and FAQs.

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Funding Opportunity Resources

Spotlighted External Funding Opportunities

Army Research Laboratory BAA: Basic and Applied Scientific Research
 Pragmatic Clinical Studies to Evaluate Patient-Centered Outcomes
 NIH SIREN Neurologic Clinical Trials
 Long Range BAA for Navy and Marine Corps Science and Technology

Extramural Funding

University Libraries >

Internal Funding and Limited Submissions

Drexel University Funding Portal >

Meet Our Staff

Becky Morey

Systems Analyst, Office of Research

Becky has worked in the Office of Research since April 2017 providing support and training for various research-related systems that are used across the University, including Coeus, Grants.gov Workspace and Clinical Conductor, and she will soon will be instrumental in the implementation and support of the Coeus/eRA replacement software. Becky studied Business Management at the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs, and worked in operations at Opportunity Finance Network, a local Philadelphia nonprofit, for over five years before coming to Drexel. She is excited to work at an institution that makes huge strides in so many different areas, especially health and medicine, and she says that it is fulfilling to know that Drexel's research can ultimately help improve the quality of life for so many people.



Events & Education

Please join us for our Fall 2017 workshop series covering a wide range of Research Administration topics. Upcoming sessions include:

- October 31** Export Controls: Traveling Internationally
- November 2** Coeus Lite
- November 8** Sponsored Research Agreements: Basic Components, Key Issues
- November 9** Final Invoices, Final Financial Reports and Closeouts
- November 14** Internal and Limited Submission Funding Opportunities
- November 16** Clinical Research Services
- November 21** Introduction to Research Data Management
- November 30** QA/QI in Animal Use Research
- December 6** Workspace for Federal Proposal Submissions
- December 7** Final Rule: Human Subjects

Locations vary and seats are limited, so sign up through Career Pathway today.

[CAREER PATHWAY >](#)

Submit your Suggestions

We want to hear from you! Please send feedback and events, articles, and news suggestions for inclusion in this publication to [Stacia Levy](#).

Office of Research | 1505 Race Street | Philadelphia, PA 19102 | drexel.edu/research

This message sent to Drexel Announcement Mail was approved by Aleister J. Saunders, PhD, Senior Vice Provost for Research.