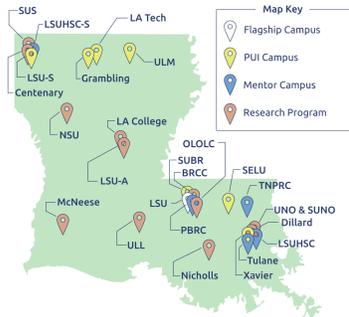**News, Opportunities and Deadlines for Sep. 2017**

LBRN Competition for Research Projects

The purpose of this release is to solicit Letters of Intent for new project proposals to be funded by the LBRN. The RFAs for each funding programs listed here can be accessed using the clicking on the respective title. The expected start date for these projects is **May 1, 2018**. The selection and distribution of these projects by the Steering Committee will be based on the quality of the proposal and the needs of the LBRN program. Proposed projects should be consistent with the program's focal research areas. All interested researchers are encouraged to contact Dr. Ramesh Subramanian ramji@lsu.edu prior to submitting a proposal to ensure that the proposed research is eligible for inclusion in this program. The letter of intent should be submitted using the LBRN-InfoReady-Review online form (use the links below) no later than 4:30 pm on September 11, 2017. **Only those applicants who submit the LOI will be able to submit a proposal**.

RFAs (click on title to download proposal information)

1. Letter of Intent for LBRN Full Projects 2018-2021
2. Letter of Intent for LBRN Pilot Projects 2018-2019
3. Letter of Intent for LBRN Shared Instrumentation 2018-2019
4. Letter of Intent for LBRN Startup Projects 2018-2020
5. Letter of Intent for LBRN Translational Projects 2018-2019

2018 LBRN Annual Meeting

We are happy to announce that the 2018 LBRN Annual Meeting will be held at the

LSU Health Sciences Center in Shreveport.

Please see below for additional information.

- What: **2018 LBRN Annual Meeting**
- When: **January 26 – 28, 2018**
- Where: **LSU Health Shreveport**

Additional information will be updated in the next LBRN Newsletter and webpage. Please mark these dates on your calendar.

LSU Computational Biology Seminar Series for Undergraduates

Sponsored by **the LSU College of Science**, **the Department of Biological Sciences**, **the Center for Computation & Technology** and **the Louisiana Biomedical Research Network**

Title : Disease, Trees, and Cannibalism: Insect Host-Pathogen Interactions

Date: September 20, 2017 - 5:00 PM

Location: Life Sciences Building Annex A101

Abstract:

The use of mechanistic models to describe the spread of a disease through a susceptible population has a long and storied history in epidemiology and ecology. Here, I will explore the ways in which disease works its way through a population using an easily manipulated insect host-pathogen system. Computationally, I take advantage of a variety of tools that allow me to compare experimental and observational data with mathematical models to determine what factors either limit or enhance disease spread. While disease rules the day in these systems, plant/food resource quality and cannibalism add considerable wrinkles to the dynamics.

Dr. Bret Elderd is an Associate Professor in the Department of Biological Sciences at LSU. He uses a variety of computational tools to ask questions about disease ecology and population dynamics. Prior to working at LSU, Dr. Elderd conducted research in the wilds of Michigan, Mediterrean Islands of Italy, Sierra Nevada mountains of California, and the Llanos of Venezuela. Those experiences along with a healthy dose of math and statistics shapes how he thinks about ecological and evolutionary processes.

Upcoming CompBio Seminar Series...

NIH Extramural Nexus (NIH/OD)

National Institutes of Health
Office of Extramural Research

- **Important News for Applicants Using Downloadable Forms Packages**

Do you submit using downloadable forms packages? If so, be sure to read an important message from the NIH eSubmission Items of Interest listserv: "Grants.gov to Retire Legacy PDF Application Packages at end of 2017".

In brief, of the four application submission options currently available to NIH applicants, the option to use legacy PDF application packages will retire at the end of this year. Those who normally use these offline PDF packages will need to choose another submission method.

Read the Items of Interest article for more details!

- **Reminder to Review Accuracy of Your Institution's Grant Award Data before October 9**

Now that we are in the closing stretch of the fiscal year, we remind research institution officials to review whether your awarded grants are accurately assigned to the correct department/school within eRA Commons. This ensures that the grants are reported correctly in tools like RePORT for year-end reporting, and displayed under the right division/school in eRA Commons. On October 9, data for the government's fiscal year will be frozen, and cannot subsequently be changed in our year end reports, so we encourage you to review your information now and avoid the end-of-fiscal-year rush.

Signing Officials at institutions of higher education can make corrections and update the reassignment of a grant to the correct division/department directly in eRA Commons (see steps to Reassign Grant). Once the data is updated in eRA Commons, it appears immediately on the eRA Commons *Status* screen as well as on the *Reassign Grants* screen. Updated data will be reflected in RePORT, when the data is refreshed weekly.

- **Small Businesses Gather in Milwaukee for 19th Annual HHS SBIR/STTR Conference on Federal Research Funding**

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is pleased to present the **2017 Annual SBIR/STTR Conference: In The Heartland of BioHealth Innovation.**

The National Institutes of Health (NIH), Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Administration for Community Living (ACL), and the Office of Inspector General (OIG) will be present to demonstrate and discuss research funding opportunities with interested entrepreneurs and innovators.

The **Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR)** or **Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs** are federal sources of support for U.S.-based small businesses developing life science technology to enhance health and life for all people. This year's conference will be hosted by our partner, **the Clinical & Translational Science Institute of Southeast Wisconsin at the Medical College of Wisconsin**, in **Milwaukee, WI** from **November 7 – 9, 2017**.

A draft of the agenda and registration information is now available online. Save on registration with early bird rates though September 28, 2017.

- **NIH's Certificates of Confidentiality Policy Enhances Confidentiality of Participants Enrolled in Clinical Research Studies**

A few months ago we blogged about our plan to release an updated Certificate of Confidentiality (CoC) policy. Today, we are pleased to announce that we have published the new policy (NOT-OD-17-109), which will go into effect on October 1, 2017. The new policy both enhances the privacy protections of individuals participating in NIH funded research studies and eliminates the need for NIH funded investigators to apply for a CoC.

To help protect the privacy of research participants, NIH has for many years issued CoCs, upon request, to researchers collecting sensitive information about research participants. The CoCs protect researchers and institutions from being compelled to disclose information in response to legal demands that would identify their research subjects. Section 2012 of the 21st Century Cures Act authorized new provisions

governing the authority of HHS to protect the privacy of research subjects. The new policy implements the new CoC statutory requirements.

Under the new policy, as of October 1, 2017, NIH funded researchers will no longer have to request a CoC, nor will they receive an actual certificate. The CoC will be issued automatically to NIH funded grants, cooperative agreements, contracts and intramural research projects research funded wholly or in part by the NIH that collects or uses identifiable, sensitive information. Compliance with the requirements of the law will become a term and condition of award. All research that was commenced or ongoing on or after December 13, 2016 and is within the scope of this policy is issued a Certificate through this policy.

LBRN Steering Committee Meeting

The Steering Committee Meeting is for each PUI campus to present their bi-annual report to the cores and address any institutional needs.

Information

- Date: **Thursday, September 28, 2017**
- Time: **12:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**
- Location: **2027 Digital Media Center(DMC), Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803**
- Conference Room number : **DMC 1034**

Planning Your Scientific Journey

An online innovative course on "*Planning your Scientific Journey*" is being offered by iBiology Courses, an online learning system, developed with support from NIGMS' IPERT program.

Please check details at: https://courses.ibiology.org/courses/course-v1:iBiology+iBio1+2017_2/about

The course starts on October 2, 2017 and ends November 13, 2017.

LA CaTS Center Pilot Grants Program

Prevention, care & research of chronic diseases in the underserved population

- Seeking research applications to support highly innovative projects aimed at preparing major publications and grant applications to compete for extramural funding (e.g. NIH, DOD, or Foundations)
- Should address biological, epidemiological or clinical issues related to specific diseases that have a high prevalence among the population of Louisiana, including, but not limited to, obesity, diabetes, cancer, cardiovascular disease, and HIV/AIDS

- Each award may be up to $50,000/year in total costs for one year. A second year of support may be offered, but is not guaranteed

More Information

RAPID Call for R&D Project Proposal

Call for Proposals

- Leaders of the Rapid Advancement in Process Intensification Deployment (RAPID) Manufacturing Institute -- are calling for stakeholders in industry, academia, and government laboratories to submit proposals for early-stage research and development projects that apply process intensification and modular chemical processing to solve industrial challenges.
- The collaborative projects will apply these technologies and principles to reduce costs in energy-intensive manufacturing sectors including chemicals, oil and gas, pulp and paper-making, and other industries.
- The call for proposals extends until **September 18, 2017**. Proposals must align with one or more of the six RAPID focus areas: **chemical and commodity processing; renewable feedstock processes; natural gas upgrading; modeling and simulation; process intensification fundamentals; or modular manufacturing**.

More Information

LSU HPC Training

HPC@LSU I Training I Weekly

The schedule for the Fall 2017 HPC Training is available at http://www.hpc.lsu.edu/training/tutorials.php.

Our first HPC training will be held on Tuesday, September 13 at 9:00 AM in 307 Frey Computing Service Center and broadcast through WebEx for remote users.

Note that all HPC trainings will start at 9:00AM.

Wednesday, September 13, 2017: HPC User Environment 2, Job Management with PBS

This training provides an overview of the HPC/LONI general account and allocation policies, hardware and software environments, queuing system, compiling programs, writing submit scripts, running and monitoring jobs on HPC systems.

This training is the ***mandatory*** second day training event for all HPC/LONI new users held on September 6 and September 13.

Prerequisite: Familiarity with Linux/Unix commands and editors

Next HPC Training:

Wednesday, September 20, 2017: Basic Shell Scripting

For anyone who works in a Linux/Unix environment, a working knowledge of shell scripting is essential and will boost their efficiency and productivity tremendously. For this tutorial, we will focus on bash as it is one of the most popular shells. This tutorial will include topics such as creating simple bash scripts, flow control, command line arguments, regex, grep, awk and sed. This is a practical tutorial, so we will provide examples and/or hands-on exercises for most of the covered materials.

Prerequisites: LONI or LSU HPC account, Familiarity with Linux/Unix, Editors such as vi or emacs, SSH client such as Putty/MobaXterm for Windows

Please visit http://www.hpc.lsu.edu/training/tutorials.php for more details and register using the link provided.

Users who plan on joining remotely will be provided with a WebEx Link in their registration confirmation email. Please see the system requirements at https://grok.lsu.edu/Categories.aspx?parentCategoryId=3381.