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News, Opportunities and Deadlines for November 2020

Happy Thanksgiving!

Everyone Can Make Thanksgiving Safer

Wear a mask

- Wear a mask with two or more layers to help protect yourself and others from COVID-19.
- Wear the mask over your nose and mouth and secure it under your chin.
- Make sure the mask fits snugly against the sides of your face.

Stay at least 6 feet away from others who do not live with you

- Remember that people without symptoms may be able to spread COVID-19 or

flu.
- Keeping 6 feet (about 2 arm lengths) from others is especially important for people who are at higher risk of getting very sick.

Wash your hands

- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Keep hand sanitizer with you and use it when you are unable to wash your hands.
- Use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.

Save the Date

LBRN is pleased to invite you to the 19th LBRN Virtual Annual Meeting at 22 & 23, January 2021.

Watch the LBRN Website & Social Media for Event information and registration.

We look forward to connecting with you for the 19th Annual Meeting!

PUI Campus Student Highlights

LBRN Student awarded Honors Student of the Year - Tyler Tran, Southeastern Louisiana University

Tyler Tran is a Junior from Slidell pursuing a B.S in Biology concentrating in Integrative Biology and a minor in chemistry.

He has served as secretary and vice-president of Delta Omega Alpha pre-

professional society, Treasurer of the Biology Undergraduate Society, Ambassador for the Southeastern Honors Program, and as a member of the Honors Student Association.

Tyler earned Sophomore Honors Distinction, was an Honors Freshman of the Year Finalist, and a Southeastern Male Freshman of the Year nominee.

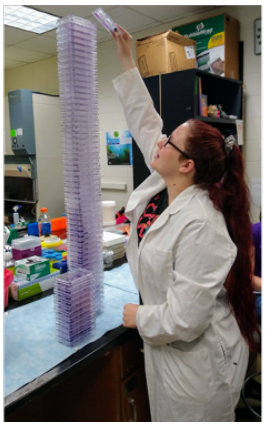
Tyler works as a research assistant in Dr. April Wright's Paleontology Lab which he has represented at multiple conferences including: Southern Regional Honors Council, Louisiana Biomedical Research Network, Louisiana Biomedical Research Network Annual Computational Biology conference, Southeastern's Scholars Showcase, and the National Evolution conference.

On the weekend Tyler is a medical scribe at Ochsner Northshore Emergency Department. Tyler's volunteer work focuses on speaking with high school students and underprivileged educational communities about pursuing careers in the health fields. In his spare time Tyler enjoys cooking, playing video games with friends and family, and watching cartoons.

Tyler's plans include gaining entrance into medical school and pursuing a career as an emergency medicine physician or pediatrician.

http://www.southeastern.edu/acad_research/programs/honors/student-resources/recognitions/sp2020/student-year/index.html

LBRN Student became a Ph.D.
- Samantha K. Murphy, LSU Health Shreveport



Samantha K. Murphy fulfilled the requirements for the Doctor of Philosophy Degree in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology at LSU Health Shreveport on

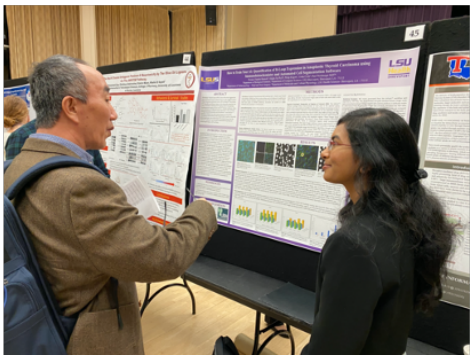
September 18, 2020. Her Dissertation is titled “Rotavirus NSP1 inhibition of the interferon response by localization to the nucleus and disruption of PML nuclear bodies,” in the lab of Dr. Michelle M. Arnold. Rotavirus causes severe, watery diarrhea in young children and infants and promotes the spread in the intestinal tract by encoding the interferon (IFN) antagonist, nonstructural protein 1 (NSP1). NSP1 degrades key signaling proteins in the cytoplasm to inhibit the IFN response. Samantha has discovered that NSP1 localizes to the nucleus during infection and disrupts promyelocytic leukemia bodies (PML bodies). PML bodies are known to play a role in the interferon response, so it is possible NSP1 can control the IFN in the nucleus through disruption of PML bodies.

Samantha was very active during her graduate student years, serving as Vice President of the Public Relations for the student organization Science Matters at LSU Health Shreveport, and presenting talks at different venues, including the 38th Annual Meeting of the American Society for Virology in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Among other awards she received “Best Talk” at the LSU Health Shreveport Graduate Research day in April, 2019, and the Charles S. McClesky Award for Outstanding Talk in Virology at the American Society for Microbiology South Center Branch Meeting at the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson, Mississippi.

Samantha received her B.S. and M.S. in Biological Sciences, Molecular and Cellular Concentration in 2013 (Cum Laude) and 2015, respectively, at LSUS. Samantha was an excellent student and worked as a lab manager and as a graduate and undergraduate teaching and research assistant for several investigators, including Dr. Tara Williams-Hart on her LBRN project “Assessment of the Molecular Target of Fusarochromanone and its Analogues.”

LBRN Student LSUS Senior Places First in National Competition During UTHealth CPRIT Program

- Prerana Ramesh, LSU Shreveport



LSU Shreveport senior Prerana Ramesh placed first in the Virtual Poster Presentation Competition in the 2020 UTHealth CPRIT Summer Undergraduate Fellowship Program. Ramesh also claimed a finalist title in the 90-Second Elevator Speech Competition.

The Cellular and Molecular Biology major's submission focused on standardizing the eligibility criteria for unstructured breast cancer clinical trials using a knowledge graph. This model is designed to effectively match eligible patients to specific breast cancer clinical trials.

"It's a privilege to have opportunities to engage in cancer research projects as an undergraduate student," Ramesh said. "I am truly grateful for the tremendous encouragement I have received from my peers and professors throughout my undergraduate career."

LSUS Professor, Dr. Urska Cvek, encouraged Ramesh to apply for the CPRIT Fellowship after observing her dedication to success.

"Prerana is a diligent student who has already accomplished a great deal during her first few years at LSUS," Dr. Cvek said. "I saw the potential, drive and enthusiasm in her the first time I met her, and it has been wonderful for me as one of her mentors to guide her to the national level."

The win in Houston wasn't the first taste of victory for Ramesh. She won the Undergraduate Poster Presentation Competition in the LSUS Annual Regional Student Scholars Forum in both 2019 and 2020. Ramesh will graduate in December 2020 with career aspirations in translational medicine, which involves integrating research with medical care.

"I'm excited and honored to have won first place in both the CPRIT Summer Undergraduate Fellowship and LSUS Student Scholars' Forum poster presentation competitions," Ramesh said. "It was an amazing experience to present my research during both of these events, and I'm happy that I could make my mentors proud as well."

Full Article Reference: https://www.lsus.edu/news-and-events/lsus-senior-places-first-in-national-competition-during-uthealth-cprit-program

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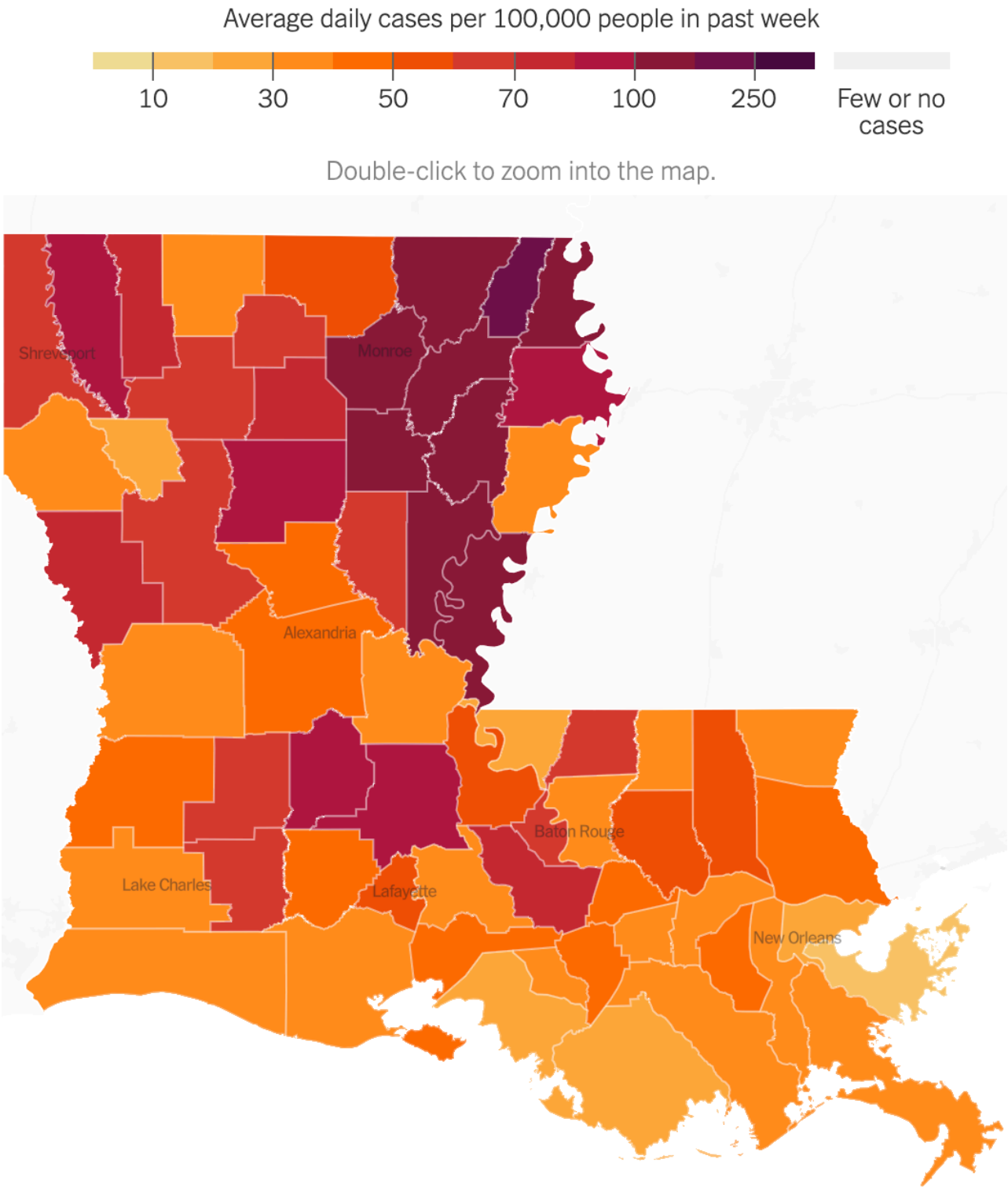
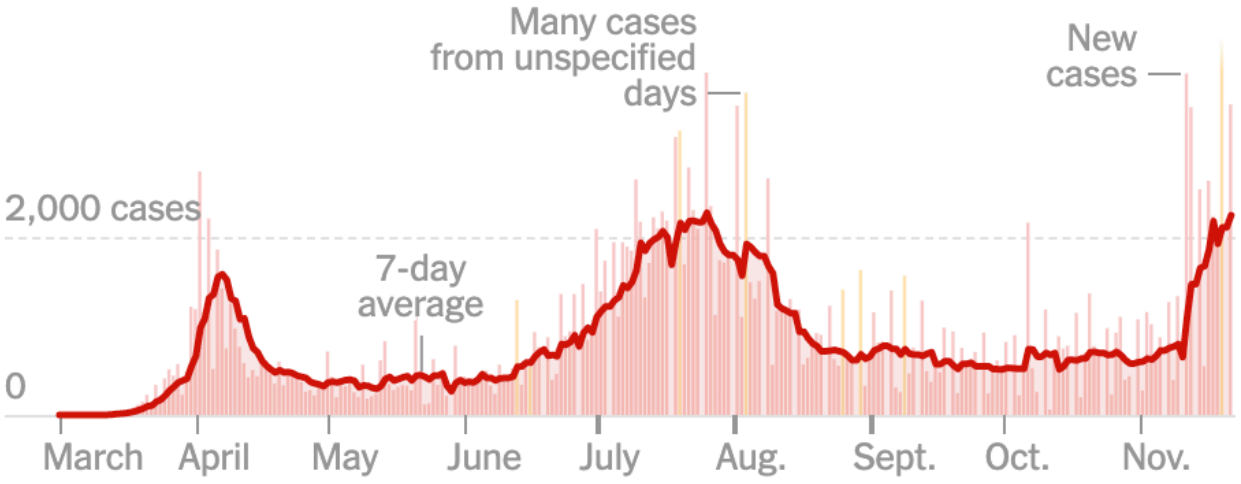
Louisiana Coronavirus (COVID-19) Information

The following information was provided by The New York Times Interactive Coronavirus website.

Average daily cases per 100,000 in Louisiana



Daily reported new cases



	TOTAL REPORTED	ON NOV. 22	14-DAY CHANGE
Cases	220,192	3,483	+198%
Deaths	6,260	27	+16%
Hospitalized		967	+46%

We want to remind everyone to continue practicing safety with regards to prevention of spreading and contracting the COVID-19 virus.

We remind everyone of the information provided here on our website: LBRN COVID-19.

The National Research Mentoring Network

NRMN
Mentoring to Diversify the Biomedical Workforce

NRMN Line-Up

December 3: Western New Mexico University Career Fair

- NRMN Virtual Exhibitor Booth on December 3 from 12-2p CTS

December 10: 8th Annual San Antonio Postdoctoral Research Forum (SAPRF)

- Jamboor Vishwanatha, PhD will present on Thursday, December 10 from 3:30-5p CST
- NRMN will have a virtual booth on Thursday, December 10 from 12-1p CST

December 10 & 12: Understanding Interventions

- Toufeeq Ahmed, PhD will present a poster

January 27, 2021: Association for Psychological Science

- Katie Stinson, MLIS will present on Wednesday, January 27 from 1-2p CST

NRMN Webinars

NRMN's How to Leverage the NRMN Network Webinar Series

- Next Webinar: December 14 at 11a CST
- New installment every 3rd Monday of the month at 11a CST
- Register in advance: https://unthsc.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_n1z5j_WDR2q0tvJF7HSvnw
- Webinars posted to NRMN's YouTube Channel

NIH Extramural Nexus (NIH/OD)

• NIH Challenges Academia to Share Strategies to Strengthen Gender Diversity

Has your school made an important contribution to helping women become leaders in their field? Maybe your department made noticeable strides recently in diversifying the gender and race or ethnicity of its workforce? What about your institution's response to reversing the "backward slide" experienced by women in biomedicine because of COVID-19?

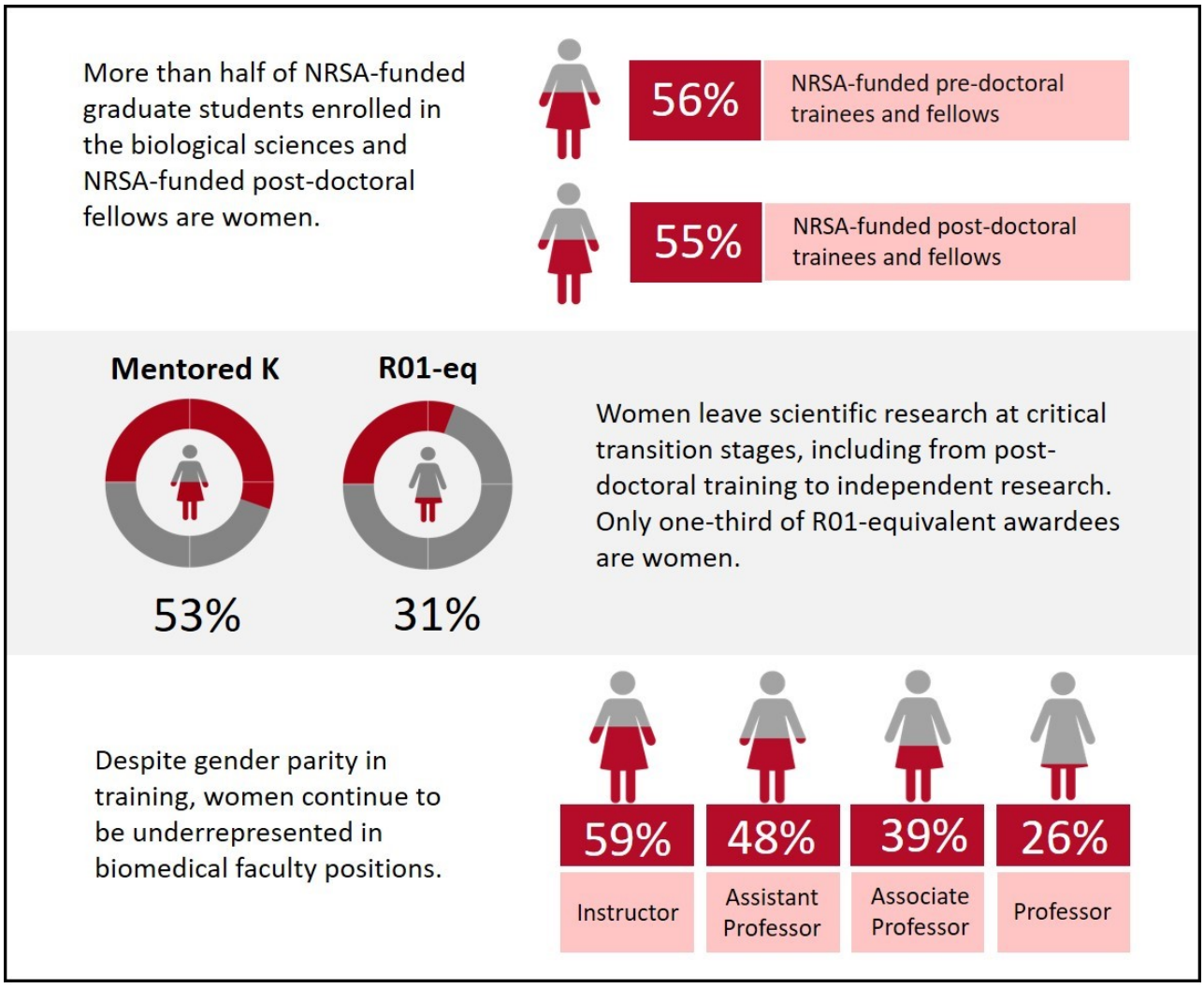
Well, tell us about it! Your institution could improve leadership prospects for women in science—and win a prize.

On behalf of the NIH Working Group on Women in Biomedical Careers, the NIH Office of Research on Women's Health has launched a new challenge competition to promote the advancement of women in leadership roles in academia. It is called the NIH Prize for Enhancing Faculty Gender Diversity in Biomedical and Behavioral Science. Dr. Janine Clayton, Director of the Office of Research on Women's Health, described the competition as one that will recognize institutions that have successfully and systemically addressed gender diversity and equity issues among faculty members in biomedical and behavioral sciences (see her full post here.)

NIH has a long-standing commitment to supporting a diverse biomedical workforce (see our latest statement at NOT-OD-20-031.) As part of this commitment, we encourage institutions to consider women for faculty-level, diversity-targeted programs to address faculty recruitment, appointment, retention or advancement. Modest improvements have been seen in the representation of women in the biomedical research pipeline, but underrepresentation of women at advanced and senior faculty career levels remains a persistent issue. More details can be found in this NIH analysis and in these data from the National Science Foundation (see Table

9-23).

Let's take a look further. My colleagues within the OER's Division of Biomedical Research Workforce recently examined gender differences across the NIH-supported biomedical research pipeline (Figure 1). Using data from the NIH Data Book report #170, we see that more than half of pre- and post-doctoral trainees supported on National Research Service Awards (NRSAs) were women in fiscal year 2019 (top panel). This proportion also holds steady for mentored career development (K) awards, as seen in the middle panel. The gender gap is increased at the point of transition from K award to R01-equivalent grants. Only a third of R01-equivalent grants have women serving as principal investigators (See NIH Data Book report #172.)



Source: NIH IMPAC II Database and Association of American Medical Colleges, as of December 2019

Reviewing public data analyzed by the Association of Medical Colleges, women are underrepresented at the level of assistant professor (47 percent), associate

professor (39 percent), and full professor (26 percent) (Figure 1, bottom). Among full-time women faculty, the proportion of women from an underrepresented in medicine race or ethnicity group was 12% in 2009 and 13% in 2018 (see this data report). To some extent, the lack of women in senior-level positions could be attributed to the "leaky pipeline" and other factors, such as women constituting a smaller percentage of the biomedical research trainee pool for years. However, the underrepresentation of women in senior-level faculty positions is not simply due to a pipeline problem.

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- ## Welcome the New RePORT and RePORTER Tools!

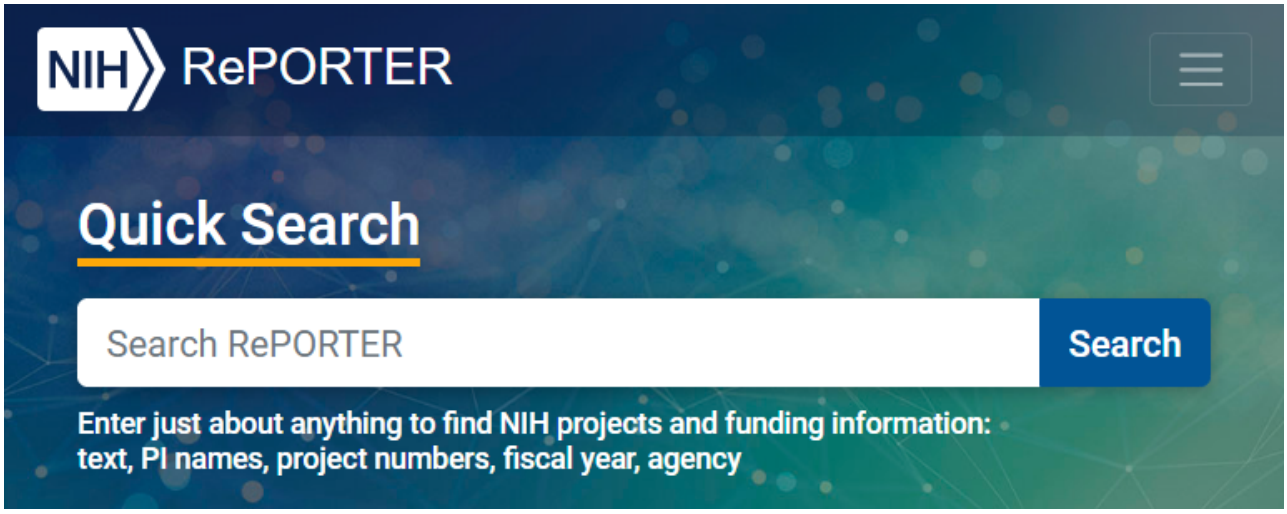
Ten years ago, NIH launched the RePORT (Research Portfolio Online Reporting Tools) website to serve as a one-stop shop for reports, data, and analyses of NIH research activities. Well, drum roll please, a new and modernized RePORT site as well as a faster and easier to use NIH RePORTER have now arrived.

The updated RePORT site strives to meet the needs of today's users based on feedback received over the years. It is easier, simpler, and quicker to access the same information you have come to rely upon. Right from the homepage, for instance, you can jump into data with interactive charts that connect out to NIH Data Book, RePORTER, and other resources.

And, that's not all! NIH RePORTER has many new features too. Let's take a closer look at some of them.

Quick Search

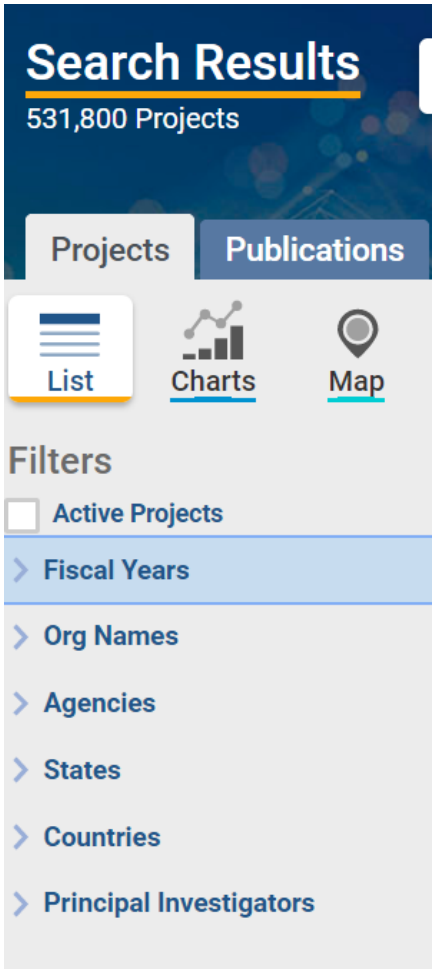
More than two-thirds of the searches on RePORTER look for a single investigator, institution, or grant number. Recognizing this, we moved from a crowded search form to a more inviting single search box that brings relevant results. Designed around the most frequently searched items, the quick search box automatically queries across multiple fields (Figure 1), returning relevant results for common queries. For those who still prefer RePORTER's original precise search approach, it too will still be around (see below).



You can enter information like the research area, a name of an investigator, or the specific organization, and the system will match it with projects in RePORTER. The projects matching your query will be sorted by relevance, with those best matching your query shown at the top of the page. As with other popular search engines, you can refine your search by adjusting your terms directly on the page or by using the sidebar search filters (Figure 2 and below). The Active filter will show the projects that are currently ongoing.

Filterable results

Most screens in RePORTER will now offer filters that allow results to be refined without having to re-run the search (Figure 2). For instance, when searching for an organization or investigator name, you can make sure you are matching exactly the person you intended. Simply expand the filters on the left side of the search results page to focus the results to those projects of interest.



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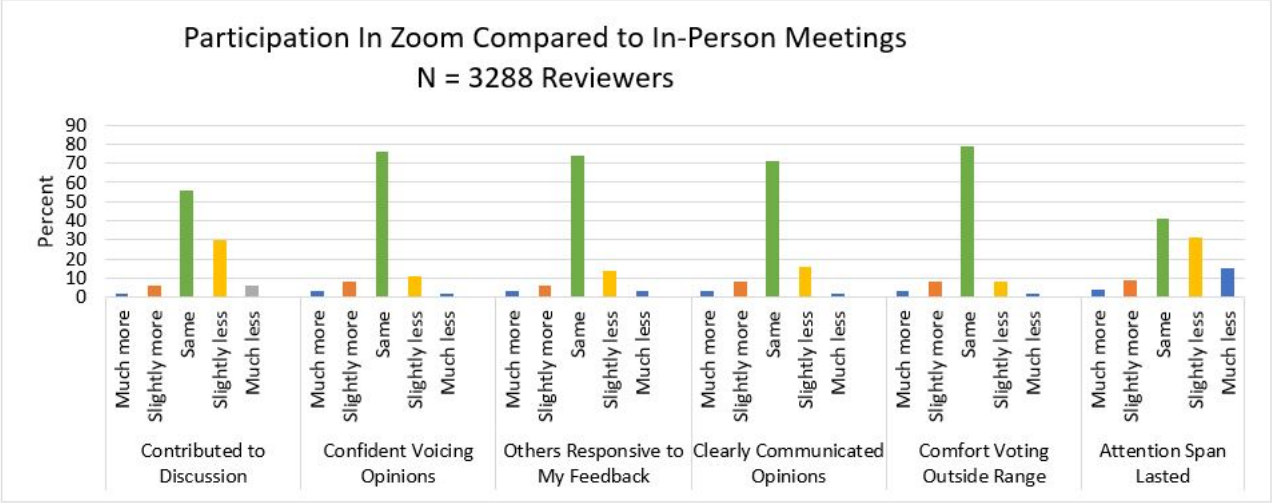
Should We Keep Meeting This Way?

How will study sections meet in the future? NIH peer review depends on robust meetings where groups of scientists, through vigorous discussion, identify the applications of highest merit. For the last 75 years, until last March, nearly all chartered review committee meetings were held in-person. Today, in response to the pandemic, 90% of all CSR review meetings are run as video (“Zoom”) meetings. CSR is taking steps now so that when all options are back on the table, we can make informed choices about how best to convene review meetings.

Last round we obtained survey responses from 3,000 NIH reviewers, ratings by scientific review officers (SRO) of 230 review meetings, compiled quantitative data comparing in-person versus Zoom instances of over 275 meetings, analyzed rosters from those meetings, and also surveyed our support staff.

The data give no indication that the forced switch to Zoom has introduced major

problems. Quality of review is our number one priority; 60% of reviewers and 85% of SROs say that overall quality has remained the same. By a large margin, reviewers report feeling equally able to speak and be heard in Zoom meetings compared to in-person meetings (see Figure). Reviewers, SROs, and support staff generally report the platform is easy to use, meetings are easy to manage, and technical problems are no more common or difficult to resolve than for in-person meetings.



However, some of the survey results give us pause. Despite favorable ratings of Zoom meetings, reviewers and SROs prefer in-person meetings by very similar margins (43% to 31% for reviewers; 44% to 36% for SROs). Zoom meetings tend to run longer and the increased duration may explain some of that preference. Comparing Zoom to in-person, almost half of reviewers reported diminished attention, 51% perceived lower engagement, 30% contributed less, and 36% rated discussions as worse. In addition, many reviewers commented that they missed the social aspects of in-person meetings, the chances to network, to build collaborations, and to enjoy the comradery that in-person meetings foster.

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- ## “All About Grants” Podcast – Alternatives to Animals

Your experimental designs are coming into focus. Sample sizes…power analyses… and treatment conditions, oh my! And, all throughout, perhaps laboratory animals are needed. But, are they? Can you actually replace them and still rigorously test the

hypothesis? If not, maybe the protocol can be refined in such a way to reduce their overall numbers, while still ensuring their humane care and use?

Considering alternatives to animals in your application is the topic of our next NIH All About Grants podcast. Drs. Neera Gopee with the NIH Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare and Christine Livingston with the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences join us for this conversation (MP3 / Transcript). We will go into the 3Rs (replace, refine, and reduce), helpful resources for relevant policies, what's needed for the vertebrate animal section, role for IACUCs and peer review, as well as organoids, *in silico* models, and other alternatives…oh my again!

On a related note, keep an eye out for recommendations coming from the Advisory Committee to the NIH Director working group on Enhancing Rigor, Transparency, and Translatability in Animal Research this December. Part of their charge is validating alternative models to animal research as well as considering benefits and burdens of registering animal studies. Their recommendations will also encompass public feedback in response to a Request for Information (NOT-OD-20-130) released this summer (see this NIH Open Mike blog post for more).

- ## NIH Releases New Policy for Data Management and Sharing

Guest post by Carrie Wolinetz, Ph.D., NIH Associate Director for Science Policy, originally released on the Under the Poliscope blog

Today, nearly twenty years after the publication of the Final NIH Statement on Sharing Research Data in 2003, we have released a Final NIH Policy for Data Management and Sharing. This represents the agency's continued commitment to share and make broadly available the results of publicly funded biomedical research. We hope it will be a critical step in moving towards a culture change, in which data management and sharing is seen as integral to the conduct of research. Responsible data management and sharing is good for science; it maximizes availability of data to the best and brightest minds, underlies reproducibility, honors the participation of human participants by ensuring their data is both protected and fully utilized, and provides an element of transparency to ensure public trust and accountability.

This policy has been years in the making and has benefited enormously from feedback and input from stakeholders throughout the process. We are grateful to all those who took the time to comment on Request for Information, the Draft policy, or to participate in workshops or Tribal consultations. That thoughtful feedback has helped shape the Final policy, which we believe strikes a balance between reasonable expectations for data sharing and flexibility to allow for a diversity of data types and circumstances. How we incorporated public comments and decision points that led to the Final policy are detailed in the Preamble to the DMS policy.

The Final policy applies to all research funded or conducted by NIH that results in the generation of scientific data. The Final Policy has two main requirements (1) the submission of a Data Management and Sharing Plan (Plan); and (2) compliance with the approved Plan. We are asking for Plans at the time of submission of the application, because we believe planning and budgeting for data management and sharing needs to occur hand in hand with planning the research itself. NIH recognizes that science evolves throughout the research process, which is why we have built in the ability to update DMS Plans, but at the end of the day, we are expecting investigators and institutions to be accountable to the Plans they have laid out for themselves.

I strongly suspect we will hear both from those who think we should have gone farther and required that all data resulting from NIH-funded research be shared, regardless of extenuating factors, and those who think we have gone too far in requiring all applicants to develop a Plan. Which perhaps means we've gotten it just right! For some investigators and disciplines, who have been at the forefront of data sharing, this will be very familiar; for others, this will be new territory. Anticipating that variation in readiness, and in recognition of the cultural change we are trying to seed, there is a two-year implementation period. This time will be spent developing the information, support, and tools that the biomedical enterprise will need to comply with this new policy. NIH has already provided additional supplementary information – on (1) elements of a data management and sharing plan; (2) allowable costs; and (3) selecting a data repository – in concert with the policy release.

As NIH Director Francis Collins notes in his Director's Statement today, the novel coronavirus pandemic has highlighted the importance of making research data broadly accessible. But even as the world struggles with this acute global crisis, it is important to note that we are at an extraordinary time in biomedical science, where new technologies, data science, and understanding of fundamental biology are converging to accelerate the pace of discovery and medical advancement. The Final

NIH Policy for Data Management and Sharing builds on those exciting opportunities, and we look forward to working with our stakeholders to fulfill its vision.

The National Association of IDeA Principal Investigators

NAIPI
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF IDeA PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS

The National Association of IDeA Principal Investigators (NAIPI) is the collective voice of all of us in the IDeA community.

Dr. Gus K. Kousoulas, the LBRN PI, will serve NAIPI as a president for 3 years.

NAIPI aims to protect and promote the IDeA programs. It fosters interactions, promotes resource sharing, enhances the national visibility of the INBREs, COBREs, and CTRs, develops consensus on priorities, identifies and disseminates best practices, identifies opportunities and develops strategies.

NAIPI's mission is to protect and promote the INBRE, COBRE, and CTR programs within the IDeA states. NAIPI provides leadership and communication across the IDeA community. As a Principal Investigator, Project Coordinator, Project Investigator, or Project Leader on an NIH IDeA award or an award co-funded by

IDeA, you are a member of NAIPI.

The NAIPI represents you and the interest of your state in biomedical research education and infrastructure building. Our goals are to become stronger by:

- Sharing best practices
- Connecting researchers to facilities, collaborations, and colleagues
- Collecting and highlighting our IDeA successes
- Developing a consensus on priorities important to the IDeA community
- Identifying opportunities within the IDeA community

In addition to NAIPI members, this site helps the lay public, state and federal legislators, higher education administrators, and business communities learn about health-related research and education in their state, region, and across the nation.

Nationwide Voucher Program

Purpose: The IDeA National Resource for Quantitative Proteomics provides subsidized access to sophisticated proteomics services for investigators performing biomedical research within the mission of NIGMS (http://idearesourceproteomics.org/). In addition to providing cost effective access to a variety of proteomics services, the resource supports a competitive voucher program that provides fully subsidized access at no cost to the user. The goal of the voucher program is to provide pilot scale data to investigators that will create new hypotheses, support publications, and support on-going research studies within the

mission of NIGMS. This voucher program supports discovery proteomics workflows limited to 10 sample Tandem Mass Tag (TMT) or 20 sample data independent acquisition (DIA) quantitative proteomic platforms. For example, a 10-plex TMT could be 5 biological replicates of a control verses 5 biological replicates of a treated cell line, while a 20 sample DIA could be 10 control vs 10 experimental tissue/plasma samples. Interested applicants may contact the resource prior to applying to discuss the proposed sample analysis and determine eligibility for the voucher program.

Voucher application due dates: 5:00pm on October 15, February 15, June 15. Earliest start date: November 1, March 1, July 1. Anticipated number of awards: 100 annually

Award budget: Fee-free voucher for 10-plex TMT (>7,000 proteins) or 20 sample DIA Award Period: Samples must be submitted within 4 months from award date

Eligibility: One awarded voucher per laboratory Principal Investigator per year. Priority will be given to researchers funded by NIGMS, funded through the NIGMS-IDeA Program, and early-stage/new investigators working within the mission of NIGMS. Only one submission per laboratory Principal Investigator per due date.

Pre-submission consultation: Interested applicants may contact the resource at IDeAproteomics@uams.edu to discuss the proposed sample analysis and determine voucher eligibility.

Content and form of application submission: Applications are limited to 2 pages (11pt font, single spaced, 0.5 inch margins) and should include the following sections: Project Overview (outlining the specific research question), Preliminary Studies (providing example data to support the proposed proteomics analysis), Quality Control Data (provide evidence of sample quality such as a gel image, verification of 50 micrograms of protein or 25 microliters of plasma/serum, and details on sample homogenization including buffer components), and Data Utilization (discussing how the proteomics data will be used to support work within the scope of NIGMS). An optional pre-submission consultation may be used to determine whether TMT or DIA proteomics would be most appropriate for the study. Applications are to be submitted as a PDF file at https://is.gd/IDeAVoucher.

Other documents for submission: Principal Investigator NIH Biosketch and NIH

Other Support documents.

Other requirements: For eligibility, recipients will be required to participate in pre- and post-award surveys.

Contacts: For general questions, contact IDeAproteomics@uams.edu. For administrative questions, contact Ms. Sonet Weed (SWeed@uams.edu)

CFA for Short Term Core Projects

Molecular Cell Biology Research Resources Core (**MCBRC**) and Bioinformatics, Biostatistics, and Computational Biology Core (**BBCC**) are calling for proposals to carry out short term projects in collaboration with the Cores. All LBRN researchers can submit a proposal for a defined project that can be carried out in collaboration with the Core facilities listed in the attached Call for Proposals (CFP) on a competitive basis. Each selected project will be allocated $1,500 to fully or partially offset Core expenses. Please contact your LBRN Steering Committee Member.

LONI HPC Allocation for LBRN

To support the LBRN / BBC Core community on LONI HPC systems, we have renewed our high-performance computing allocation for 2020/2021.

This can be utilized in lieu of individual investigators having to apply for and acquire their own allocations to access the HPC resources. If any of your campus members need access to high performance computing, please have them interface with Dr. Nayong Kim.

NIH LBRN Acknowledgement

So that we can most effectively communicate the scope and results of our funding support, we would like to know when you are planning news announcements about IDeA awards or program activities and achievements…

When you produce such material, please be sure to identify the IDeA program, not just the INBRE, COBRE or sub-program, and to provide context about the program's goals along the lines of:

The University of _____ has received $XXX from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to support an Institutional Development Award (IDeA) Center of Biomedical Research Excellence. The IDeA program builds research capacities in states that historically have had low levels of NIH funding by supporting basic, clinical and translational research; faculty development; and infrastructure improvements.

In journal articles, news releases, or other materials about your program's activities or achievements, please use funding acknowledgement language such as:

Research reported in this {publication, release} was supported by an Institutional Development Award (IDeA) from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences of the National Institutes of Health under grant number 5 P20 GM103424-18 and 3 P20 GM103424-15S1.

• In journal articles, oral or poster presentations, news releases, news and feature articles, interviews with reporters and other communications, acknowledge the IDeA program's full or partial support of the research. The citation in scientific publications should use the following format:

Research reported in this publication was supported by an Institutional Development Award (IDeA) from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences of the National Institutes of Health under grant number P20GM12345.

• If you wish to acknowledge NIH/NIGMS funding on your Web site or other communication product, you may use wording such as:

Funded by an Institutional Development Award (IDeA) from the National Institutes of Health.

or

*Funded by the LBRN (*2P20GM103424-19) *an Institutional Development Award (IDeA) from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences of the National Institutes of Health.*

Please do not use the NIH or NIGMS logo to acknowledge funding, as these logos are only to be used for material produced by NIH and its components.
