

## NOTES FROM NANCY

I am pleased to announce a new internal funding mechanism, *Funds to Promote Grants Excellence*. The goal is to support activities that will strengthen Loyola's grant expertise and success. Activities that may be supported through this program and corresponding funding amounts include:

- \$500 stipend for a faculty member who serves on a federal review panel,
- \$200 for an external reviewer with subject matter expertise for review of a draft of a Loyola faculty member's grant proposal, or
- \$50 to cover the cost of a round-trip visit to meet with a program officer from a federal agency in Washington, D.C.

For details, visit the ORSP website at [www.loyola.edu/internalfunding](http://www.loyola.edu/internalfunding) or contact me.

To take advantage of these funds, interested faculty members should email me at [ndufau@loyola.edu](mailto:ndufau@loyola.edu), providing a brief explanation of the planned grant-related activity prior to taking part in the activities.

Best wishes for a Happy Thanksgiving!

Nancy Dufau  
Director

## Becoming a Peer Reviewer

One of the best ways to enhance your odds of securing external funding is to serve as a peer reviewer. While peer reviewers provide a necessary service to agencies and the scholarly community, they also gain first-hand knowledge about what makes for a successful proposal. Peer reviewers have a unique opportunity to learn about the latest research in their discipline, as well as to meet and form relationships with colleagues and program officers who manage programs related to their fields of interest. Federal agencies regularly solicit peer reviewers. Travel expenses are covered and

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## CONGRATULATIONS TO RECENT AWARDEES

**Jeffrey Witt**

**Vatican Film Library Mellon Fellowship**  
*Robert Holcot: A Great Medieval Thinker*

**Zachary Hitchens and Mary Beth Mudric**  
**Transforming Youth Recovery**

*Early Stage Collegiate Recovery Grant*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**NSF Day in Baltimore**

**Maryland Science Center**

**December 8, 2014**

**7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.**

The ORSP is able to support attendance on a first come, first served basis. Contact Julie Ryder at [orsp@loyola.edu](mailto:orsp@loyola.edu).

For more information, visit: [http://www.nsf.gov/events/event\\_summ.jsp?cntn\\_id=133134&org=NSF](http://www.nsf.gov/events/event_summ.jsp?cntn_id=133134&org=NSF)

## Calling All Scientists

The Army Research Laboratory is hosting an open house on December 9 & 10, 2014. The goal is to introduce the STEM community to their research scientists and opportunities for collaboration in their labs.

For more information, see: [http://www.arl.army.mil/open-campustm\\_source=Units&utm\\_campaign=dfaad86022FI-](http://www.arl.army.mil/open-campustm_source=Units&utm_campaign=dfaad86022FI-)

## REMINDERS

Summer Research Grant, Mid-Career Summer Grant, Kolvenbach Summer Research Grant, and Kolvenbach Fellows applications are due January 16, 2015 by 5 p.m.

### What Are Funders Thinking About?

At a recent conference of the Independent Colleges Office, federal funders shared important insights about what's on their mind. Below are several that can be particularly helpful to faculty members who are applying for external funding, especially for educational projects.

1. *Disruption is a good thing.* Rather than a tweak here and there, funders are interested in projects that make major changes and have major impact. Strategies should be evaluated rigorously so that successful ones can be replicated and unsuccessful ones abandoned or reworked.
2. *Active learning strategies are a proven disruption* that should be integrated into the classroom. While disciplinary knowledge is critical to student learning, the science of learning offers important insights that should inform pedagogical projects.
3. *Strategies to ensure successful outcomes for underrepresented groups are critical.* Active learning can play an important role as it has been demonstrated to close the achievement gap by 50% for minority students. Full engagement of these students is critical to our shared future.
4. *Reworking of intro courses is critical to student engagement*, particularly in the sciences. It should be no surprise that this reworking should include the use of active learning strategies. Several agencies commented on the importance of this not only to engage majors, but also to effectively educate all college students (and future voters) about the nature of science. A corollary to this is an interest in the proliferation of research experiences for first- and second-year students as a means to hook students on science.
5. *Collaboration can be key.* While single investigator projects will continue to be funded, current advances in science often require a team-based approach. Identifying collaborators and working with other types of institutions can be an important advantage.
6. *Liberal arts focused institutions are more competitive than they think when it comes to grants.* For example, the NSF's Major Research Instrumentation program awarded 25% of the applications received from predominantly undergraduate institutions, which is almost identical to the 26% success rate for PhD-granting institutions.

### Becoming a Peer Reviewer *(continued from page 1)*

some agencies even offer an honorarium. To encourage this further, the ORSP is offering an additional stipend (see front page). Below is information on becoming a peer reviewer for several agencies that are often of interest to Loyola faculty members. If you are interested in reviewing for another agency contact the ORSP for details on how to proceed.

- **NEH**  
To sign up to be a reviewer, visit The Panelist/Reviewer Information System (PRISM) database at: <https://securegrants.neh.gov/prism/>. For more information about the review process please visit: <http://www.neh.gov/grants/application-process>.
- **NIH**  
Potential reviewers should send a biosketch and 1-2 sentences describing their area(s) of expertise to the Enhancing Peer Review mailbox at [ReviewerVolunteer@mail.nih.gov](mailto:ReviewerVolunteer@mail.nih.gov). For more information, visit: [http://grants.nih.gov/grants/peer/becoming\\_peer\\_reviewer.htm](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/peer/becoming_peer_reviewer.htm).
- **NSF**  
To become a reviewer, send an email including your area of expertise, contact information, and a 2-page CV to the Program Officer(s) in your area of expertise. To identify a Program Officer visit: [www.nsf.gov](http://www.nsf.gov). At the top of the home page click, "Quick Links." The "About NSF" column provides a Staff Directory that can be browsed by Organization.

# FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

## **William T. Grant Foundation Research Grants**

Funds high-quality research to understand and improve the everyday settings of youth ages 5 to 25 in the U.S. Settings may include classrooms, schools, youth-serving organizations, neighborhoods, or other environments in which youth interact with peers, family members, and other adults.

Research focus areas include reducing inequality, understanding the use of research evidence, connecting research, policy, and practice, or other initiatives funded by the foundation in the past.

### **Letters of inquiry due:**

**January 6, 2015, May 5, 2015, and August 4, 2015**

[www.wtgrantfoundation.org/funding\\_opportunities](http://www.wtgrantfoundation.org/funding_opportunities)

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## **The National Academies National Research Council Research Associate Programs**

Summer Faculty Awards are available for scientists and engineers at all career stages and are 8-14 weeks, renewable for up to 3 successive summers. Research is conducted at a participating agency in collaboration with an advisor who is a member of the senior professional staff at the laboratory. Research Advisors provide guidance, advice, and support.

### **Review Cycles:**

While the NRC holds four competitions each year, some sponsors limit applications to certain deadlines:

- National Energy Technology Laboratory & National Institute of Standards and Technology  
**February, May, August, and November 1**
- Naval Research Laboratory  
**February, May, and August 1**

[www.nationalacademies.org/rap](http://www.nationalacademies.org/rap)

## **Open Society Institute**

### **Baltimore Community Fellows**

Seeks dynamic activists and social entrepreneurs interested in implementing projects that address problems in underserved communities in Baltimore City. The awards offer \$60,000 over 18 months and are open to all disciplines. Individuals from underserved communities and people of color are strongly encouraged to apply. Initiatives must take place in Baltimore City.

### **Due March 3, 2015 (expected)**

<http://www.opensocietyfoundations.org/grants/baltimore-community-fellowships>

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## **Google Faculty Research Awards**

Encourages novel research in developing new technologies in Engineering, Computer Science, and related fields. Most awards range from \$40,000 to \$70,000, with a maximum request of \$150,000.

### **Next submission deadline: April 15, 2015**

[http://research.google.com/university/relations/research\\_awards.html](http://research.google.com/university/relations/research_awards.html)

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## **NEH Summer Seminars and Institutes**

Supports faculty development programs in the humanities that aim to extend and deepen knowledge of the humanities by focusing on significant topics and texts, contribute to the intellectual vitality and professional development of participants, build communities of inquiry and provide models of civility and excellent scholarship and teaching, and link teaching and research in the humanities. Programs may target faculty members or teachers.

Seminar awards: \$75k to \$150k for 12 months

Institute awards: \$90k to \$200k for 15 months

### **Due February 24, 2015**

<http://www.neh.gov/grants/education/summer-seminars-and-institutes>

# FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

## **American Antiquarian Society (AAS)**

At least three fellowships will be awarded for periods extending from 4 to 12 months. Funds come from the National Endowment for the Humanities. AAS-NEH fellows are expected to be in regular and continuous residence at the Society in Worcester, Massachusetts. Fellows may hold other major fellowships or grants during fellowship tenure.

**Due: January 15, 2014**

<http://www.americanantiquarian.org/nehfellowship.htm>

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## **Comcast: Tech Research & Development Fund**

Offers funding for researchers that is of interest to Comcast and the research community. Topics include open source development, data analysis, and cloud computing. Grant awards up to \$150,000.

**Proposals accepted on a rolling basis.**

<http://techfund.comcast.com/>

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## **Society for College and University Planning (SCUP) 2015 Fellowship Program**

Targets higher education “emerging leaders” who are interested in acquiring good planning skills to advance their careers. Must be 45 years of age or younger.

**Due: December 19, 2014**

<http://www.scup.org/page/resources/giving/fellows>

## **NSF: Sociology Program**

The program encourages research aimed at improving the explanation of fundamental social processes and basic research studying all forms of human social organizations with a theoretical emphasis.

**Due: January 15 and August 15 annually**

[http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\\_summ.jsp?pims\\_id=5369](http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5369)

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## **Vermont Studio Center**

Hosts 50 artists and writers each month who participate in 4 to 12 week independent studio residencies. Applications also accepted for fellowships.

Residency applications accepted on a rolling basis.

Annual Fellowship Deadlines:

February 15th, June 15th, October 1st

<http://www.vermontstudiocenter.org/apply>

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## **National Endowment for the Arts**

### **Literature Fellowships**

Offers \$25,000 grants to published creative writers, enabling them to set aside time for writing, research, travel, and general career advancement.

The program operates on a two-year cycle with fellowships in prose and poetry available in alternating years. **For FY 2015 fellowships in poetry are available.**

<http://arts.gov/grants-individuals/creative-writing-fellowships#sthash.aZlGzDm2.dpuf><http://arts.gov/grants-individuals/creative-writing-fellowships>

## **CONTACT US**

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