

September, 2008

Greetings AHS Faculty and friends of CHAD,

I hope that the beginning of the term is going well for you. Here is some information, including announcements, funding opportunities, and conference and training events that may be of interest to you:

## **Upcoming Conferences and Training Opportunities**

1) **NSF Regional Grants Conference.** Hosted by the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, this event will be held October 20 and 21 in Omaha, Nebraska. This is the first NSF regional conference to be held in fiscal 2009.

This conference will help new faculty, researchers and administrators who want to gain insight into a wide range of current issues at NSF including the state of current funding; new and current policies and procedures; and pertinent administrative issues. NSF program officers representing each NSF directorate will be on hand to provide up-to-date information about specific funding opportunities and answer questions.

Highlights include:

- New programs and initiatives
- Future directions and strategies for national science policy
- Proposal preparation
- NSF's merit review process
- Cross-disciplinary and special interest programs
- Conflict of interest policies
- Breakout sessions by discipline

For more information, go to (703) 465-5736 [nsf\\_regional@nsf.gov](mailto:nsf_regional@nsf.gov) (for registration questions); or to (703) 292-8243 [policy@nsf.gov](mailto:policy@nsf.gov) (for program questions).

2) **Society of Public Health Educators (SOPHE) and American Public Health Association (APHA) conferences to be held in October.**

Two leading public health organizations, SOPHE and APHA, will hold their annual conferences back to back in San Diego this October.

The SOPHE conference, titled "Catching the Wave: Changing the Tides of Health Education and Health Promotion" will be held October 23 – 25. The conference will focus on four sub-themes:

- “Health Without Borders or Disparities,” including programs, policies and projects that address international/cross cultural health, culture and cultural competency, migrant health, community health workers;
- “Creating the Change You Want to See in the World,” including social determinants of health and community leadership;
- “Health Across the Lifespan,” including healthy aging and creating a healthy environment for reduced risks across generations; and
- “The Shifting Sands of the Health Promotion Landscape,” including the latest developments in using media and technology for enhanced health communications and health literacy.

The APHA conference, titled Public Health Without Borders will be held October 25 – 29. The conference will address current and emerging health science, policy, and practice issues in an effort to prevent disease and promote health.

To learn more about these events go to <http://www.apha.org/meetings/> (for the APHA conference) or to <http://www.sophe.org/> (for the SOPHE conference).

### **3) Inclusive Fitness Conference to be held in Chicago, October 15-18**

This conference will be held in conjunction with Club Industry 2008 at the McCormick Center in Chicago, Illinois, October 15 – 18. The goal of the conference is to help fitness and wellness practitioners create and execute a plan of action to make their facilities accessible to all. Presentations will be on a wide variety of topics, including fitness techniques, exercise science, recreation, sports, assistive technology, programming, health promotion, evidence-based practice, wellness, and more.

For more information on the Inclusive Fitness Conference, contact the National Center on Physical Activity and Disability (NCPAD) at 800-900-8086 or [ncpad@uic.edu](mailto:ncpad@uic.edu). For more information on Club Industry 2008, go to <http://clubindustryshow.com/> or call (800) 559-0620. Attendees to the Inclusive Fitness Conference can download a discounted registration form for Club Industry at <http://www.ncpad.org/get/misc/NCPADDdiscregfm.pdf>.

### **4) KaBOOM to sponsor webinar series on play and play spaces**

KaBOOM!, a national non-profit organization devoted to establishing play spaces within walking distance of every child in America, is hosting a series of free webinars:

- Play and Children’s Health: The Value of Playgrounds: Mon., Sept. 15, 2008 (3:30-4:30 p.m. EST)
- Almost There! Getting Ready for Your Build Day! Tues., Sept. 16, 2008 (2:30- 3:30 p.m. EST)

- An Introduction to the Community Build Road Map: Thu., Sept. 25, 2008 (2:00-3:00 p.m. EST)
- Making Your Build Day Green: Oct. 1, 2008 (3:00-4:00 p.m. EST)
- Safety, Surfacing, and Vendors...Oh My! Oct. 14, 2008 (3-4 p.m. EST)
- Becoming a KaBOOM! Community Partner: Thu., Oct. 23, 2008 (2:00-3:00 p.m. EST)

Those unable to participate in the live sessions can listen to recordings at KaBOOM's website.

For more information, or to sign up go to <http://kaboom.org/webinars>

### **Reminder: Presentation proposals sought for NIH Dissemination conference**

NIH is requesting presentation proposals for the 2nd Annual NIH conference on the Science of Dissemination and Implementation: Building research capacity to bridge the gap from science to service.

The goal of this conference is for the research community to exchange ideas, explore contemporary topics and identify concepts, methods and strategies to build research and organizational capacity for dissemination and implementation science. Applicants are encouraged to submit proposals for Think Tanks and abstracts for oral presentations/panels, and posters.

Proposals are due September 26, 2008.

For more information including a PDF version of the Call for proposals, go to <http://conferences.thehillgroup.com/obssr/di2008/index.html>

The conference will be held January 28 and 29, 2009, at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Campus in Bethesda, Maryland

### **New toolkit on universal design for learning now available**

The US Office of Special Education recently released a new toolkit that explains how universal design can be applied to teaching and assessing students.

To access the toolkit go to <http://www.disabilityinfo.gov/digov-public/public/DisplayPage.do?parentFolderId=107>.

### **New National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) Strategic Plan released**

The NIMH released their updated strategic plan in 2008. In the plan, NIMH identified four overarching Strategic Objectives:

- Promote Discovery in the Brain and Behavioral Sciences to Fuel Research on the Causes of Mental Disorders
- Chart Mental Illness Trajectories to Determine When, Where and How to Intervene
- Develop New and Better Interventions that Incorporate the Diverse Needs and Circumstances of People with Mental Illnesses
- Strengthen the Public Health Impact of NIMH-Supported Research

To view the plan in its entirety, go to <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/about/strategic-planning-reports/index.shtml>

To learn more about NIMH's research areas go to:  
<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/research-funding/index.shtml>

## **New FOAs from NIH**

These Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOA) have been released by the NIH within the last month:

### ***Translating Basic Behavioral and Social Science Discoveries into Interventions to Reduce Obesity: Centers for Behavioral Intervention Development (U01) (RFA-HL-08-013)***

This FOA solicits cooperative agreement (U01) applications from institutions/organizations that propose to translate findings from basic research on human behavior into more effective clinical, community, and population interventions to reduce obesity and improve obesity-related behaviors. This FOA will support Centers for Behavioral Intervention Development (CBIDs) in which interdisciplinary teams of basic and applied behavioral and social science researchers develop and refine novel interventions based on basic research findings to reduce obesity and alter obesity-related health behaviors (e.g., diet, physical activity).

#### Key Dates

- Earliest date applications may be submitted: September 5, 2008
- Letters of Intent Receipt Date: Not Applicable
- Application Due Dates: Standard dates apply, please see <http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/funding/submissionschedule.htm>

- Expiration Date: September 8, 2011

For more info: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-HL-08-013.html>

***Impact of Health Communication Strategies on Dietary Behaviors (R01 and R21) (PA-08-239)***

This FOA encourages applications for research projects focused on the development and implementation of effective communication strategies related to diet and health. Specifically, this FOA is designed to promote interdisciplinary research, conducted at multiple levels (e.g., individual, community/environment, and policy) and across diverse populations, to evaluate effective communication approaches for changing dietary behaviors.

*Key Dates*

- Letters of Intent Receipt Date: December 16, 2008
- Application Due Dates: January 13, 2009
- Expiration Date: January 14, 2009

For more info: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-08-239.html>

***Roadmap Transformative R01 Program (R01) (RFA-RM-08-029)***

As part of the NIH Roadmap for Biomedical Research, the National Institutes of Health invites transformative Research Project Grant (R01) applications from institutions/organizations proposing exceptionally innovative, high risk, original and/or unconventional research with the potential to create new or challenge existing scientific paradigms. Projects must clearly demonstrate potential to produce a major impact in a broad area of biomedical or behavioral research.

Projects in any area of NIH interest that meet the transformative criteria above are encouraged and will be considered responsive to this FOA. Areas of highlighted need that have been identified through an NIH strategic planning process include:

- Understanding and Facilitating Human Behavior Change
- Complex 3-Dimensional Tissue Models
- Functional Variation in Mitochondria in Disease
- Transitions from Acute to Chronic Pain
- Formulation of Novel Protein Capture Reagents
- Providing an Evidence Base for Pharmacogenomics

*Key Dates*

- Release/Posted Date: September 9, 2008
- Earliest date applications may be submitted: December 29, 2008
- Letters of Intent Receipt Date(s): December 29, 2008

- Application due dates: January 29, 2009
- Expiration Date: January 30, 2009

For more info: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-RM-08-029.html>

***Functioning of People with Mental Disorders (R01) PA-08-255***  
(reissue of PA-07-210)

The purpose of this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA), issued by the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), is the application of biobehavioral science methods and approaches to: a) develop and refine definitions and measures of function, disability, and daily participation relevant to those with mental disorders; b) understand the ecological mechanisms, independent of symptom severity, that contribute to functioning and disability in this population; and c) develop and test novel interventions that specifically and directly target functional capacity and performance deficits of this population. Emphasis will be on the application of basic behavioral processes (e.g., cognition, affect, knowledge, attitudes, motivation, learning, decision-making, interpersonal processes), and environmental parameters (e.g., social support, structural adaptations, community involvement) that influence functional outcome.

Key Dates:

- Release/Posted Date: August 26, 2008
- Earliest date applications may be submitted: September 5, 2008
- Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply, please see <http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/funding/submissionschedule.htm>
- Expiration Date: September 8, 2011

For more info: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-08-255.html>

***Aging Research Dissertation Awards to Increase Diversity (R36) (PAR-08-250)*** (reissue of PAR-06-117)

The National Institute on Aging (NIA) announces the reissuance of a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) that provides dissertation awards (R36) in all areas of research within NIA's mandate to increase diversity of the research workforce on research on aging and aging-related health conditions. These awards are available to qualified pre-doctoral students in accredited research doctoral programs in the United States.

Key dates:

- Release/Posted Date: August 25, 2008
- (Earliest date an application may be submitted: September 16, 2008
- Letters of Intent Receipt Date(s): Not applicable
- Application Due Date(s): Standard dates apply, please see <http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/funding/submissionschedule.htm>

- Expiration Date: January 8, 2011

For more info: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-08-250.html>

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Please feel free to contact me if you have questions about any of these items.

Best regards,

*-Michele*

Michele Guerra, MS, CHES  
Research Program Coordinator  
The Center on Health, Aging and Disability  
(217) 333-4965  
(217) 333-4995  
mguerra@illinois.edu  
<http://www.chad.uiuc.edu/>