NSF Chemistry Office Hour

Today’s Topic: Funding opportunities and questions on current awards related to the COVID-19 pandemic

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Acting Division Director: Dr. Carol Bessel
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COVID-19 Response: A Multi-layered Issue

Please consult with and abide by your institution’s policies! NSF does not control:

- State level stay-at-home orders
- Research lab closures
- Campus, dormitory or other facility or program closures

For any budgetary issues, please consult with your SRO.
NSF Official COVID-19 Guidance

- NSF is continually updating guidance and response. For the most up to date information go to: https://www.nsf.gov/news/special_reports/coronavirus/

- NSF Implementation of OMB Memorandum M-20-17/M-20-20

- FAQs About COVID-19 for NSF Proposers and Awardees, for SBIR/STTR grantees, for REU/RET/IRES sites, for panelists, etc.

- Funding opportunities on COVID-19 and FAQs.
NSF is business as usual

• We are still running panels (virtual) and processing proposals (remotely); PDs are available if you have questions; (do we want to say this?)

• New grants are continuously awarded to support our research community;

• We are in conversations with ACS and the community to collect information about the COVID-19 impacts.

Recently awarded CHE grants

Iterative Cap3 Cross Coupling for Natural Product Total Synthesis
Award Number: 1955838; Principal Investigator: Mark Bisho

CAS: Catalytic Stereoselective Fragment Coupling
Award Number: 1955058; Principal Investigator: Smith

RIU: Sillylopxypyrone-Based 5+2 CycloadDITION
Award Number: 1954586; Principal Investigator: T...

New Approaches to Stereospecific Allyl Transfer in Metal-Catalyzed Reactions: Synthetic and Mechanistic Investigations
Award Number: 1954472; Principal Investigator: Mark Bisho; Co-Principal Investigator: Organization:CUW City College/NSF Organization:

Exploring N-Alkoxysilazole Cyclizations in Synthesis
Award Number: 1954352; Principal Investigator: Sean Kerwin; Co-Principal Investigator; Organization:Texas State University - San Marcos;

Towards Absolute Asymmetric Synthesis
Award Number: 1954262; Principal Investigator: Toshihiko Yoon; Co-Principal Investigator; Organization:University of Wisconsin-Madison/NSF

Total Synthesis of Complex Terpene Natural Products
Award Number: 19541319; Principal Investigator: Seth Herzon; Co-Principal Investigator; Organization:Yale University/NSF Organization:CHE

Building quaternary structure in home proteins
Award Number: 1953956; Principal Investigator: Juliette Lecomte; Co-Principal Investigator; Organization:Johns Hopkins University/NSF Or;
FAQs:

Personnel Support: -- the questions here (and on the next slide) will show up one by one on clicks, so you can answer them as you go. Would you like to have answers provided or maybe just talk about them instead of putting the answers in writing?

• As a faculty member, I have budgeted 1 mon of my summer salary on my grant. If we are still in lab hibernation over the summer, will I be allowed to charge the grant my salary?

• We are starting to generate summer contracts for graduate research assistants and postdocs. If our labs remain in hibernation through the summer, should we be putting people on our grants if we will not be making any real lab progress?

• There will be no summer research this year and the undergrads in my group are in limbo. Can I support them on my grant?

• I have a GRFP student in my lab, but she can’t really make progress on her project. Will she be at risk for losing funding?
FAQs cont.:

Research Proposal/Grant Management:

• How will NSF-CHE consider progress on my project if my lab is hibernated for effectively 5-6 months (March – August)? Will I lose funding in my next year’s allotment if I can’t make progress?

• Because of covid-19, I was unable to carry out any outreach activities I proposed in my new grant. How will this affect my annual report review, and in the long run, my renewal application?

• We have 2 papers that have been conditionally accepted but for a few “clean up” experiments that need to be run. My lab is hibernating and may be still in July, so I can’t have these papers formally “accepted.” These would have been part of my annual report. Will I be penalized for not making progress for not having these papers accepted?

• I just received reviewers’ comments on my Career proposal that ask for more preliminary data but I can’t have students work on them, probably not for a while. How will this affect my resubmission this July?

• Because of covid-19, our incoming new grad class is much smaller this year and I may have difficulty recruiting new students to the group. The research progress may be slower than I hoped, and I may need to request a no-cost extension for additional time. Will an NCE record affect my future submission’s fundability or the grant budget?

• We applied and received international supplement early this year to support a student to spend 3 months this summer in a collaborator’s lab. The trip has to be cancelled and probably won’t happen before my grant ends. Can I rebudget the supplement fund or it should be returned?
FAQs cont.:

REU Site Guidance – do you still want to talk about it or Melissa’s previous meeting with her PIs has sufficiently addressed the issues and you don’t plan to mention it here anymore?
FAQs cont.:

COVID-19 RAPID DCL -- leave it to Shing and Colby?

Do you plan to talk about other funding opportunities this time?
We are here to listen and to help..


• Please feel free to reach out to your Program Directors: https://www.nsf.gov/div/index.jsp?div=CHE for staff emails

• Biweekly Office Hour: next meeting time and topic?