



# RESEARCH UPDATE

A WEEKLY COMMUNICATION FROM THE OFFICE OF RESEARCH & SPONSORED PROGRAMS

VOLUME 1: NUMBER 12  
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## GENERAL INFORMATION

- **Message from the Assistant Dean**

Maintaining active research programs and opportunities for students to engage in faculty driven research experiences during a pandemic continue to present daily challenges for our research community. The pandemic has forced us to move away from traditional research practices centered on bustling laboratories filled with investigators to creative scholarly research endeavors characterized by limited access, social distancing, online seminars, and virtual conferences. I have been impressed with what you have accomplished in recent months and commend everyone for your ongoing research efforts. In recent weeks, our office has received numerous questions from faculty and students on a variety of topics. While we have responded individually to your queries, I thought it would be helpful to address some of the more commonly asked questions in this edition of Research Update. I hope this helps to inform and encourage everyone to think creatively as we continue to advance the College Research Mission of *“supporting the College faculty and students in their efforts to advance knowledge by creating an atmosphere of inquiry and discovery that inspires excellence in creative scholarship and medical practice.”* Thank you for finding ways to keep research going during a pandemic and know that your work is greatly appreciated.

### Recently Asked Questions:

1. Will there be Summer Research Experiences for Medical Students in 2021?  
*Yes, the Summer Research Experience is currently being planned and will commence on June 2, 2021 and end with Medical Student Research Day on July 16, 2021. Students may begin applying for the program on December 4, 2020.*
2. Will faculty project funding be available for the 2021 Summer Research Experience?  
*Yes, funding for new projects is available. Faculty with ongoing projects and residual funds from last year who wish to recruit students for the 2021 Summer Research Experience should contact Dr. Ontiveros.*
3. What are the plans for reopening the BioScience Research Laboratory (BSRL) to all researchers?  
*Access to the BSRL has been limited to faculty since Spring 2020 to allow work to continue during the pandemic in accordance with NM Public Health guidelines. Our original plans of beginning to phase in student access during the semester have been delayed by the Governor's current orders. We continue to monitor State guidance and will expand laboratory occupancy as allowed. To assist faculty with research activities, Dr. Woods and Ms. Martinez are developing a plan for expanding laboratory support services for faculty with active projects in order to facilitate continued research activities during the pandemic.*
4. When will face-to-face human subjects research resume?  
*Face-to-face human subjects research was suspended last Spring for safety of subjects and researchers. The IRB is presently reviewing plans submitted by principal investigators to resume research activities in ways that minimize risks to research subjects and researchers. Risks and benefits of resuming research will be considered by the IRB on a case-by-case basis. The IRB will be notifying investigators as soon as they complete the review process.*
5. Will the Human Physiology Laboratory (HPL) be reopening?  
*Plans for reopening the HPL will depend on the IRB review of protocols accessing the laboratory. Any project approved to resume activity will be subject to COVID-safe practices, including limited capacity, PPE requirements, and enhanced sanitation procedures for equipment and facilities. Investigators accessing the facility should anticipate changes that may involve fewer researchers and subjects in the building as well as increased time between subjects.*
6. Is the Computer Laboratory open?  
*Yes, researchers may access the equipment in the computer laboratory which includes the imaging microscope. Due to current State guidelines the number of people in the Computer Lab is limited.*
7. Are student travel funds available this year?  
*Travel to professional meetings is contingent on State and College guidelines. Funds are available to cover registration to virtual professional meetings for students who are the presenting authors at these events.*

8. Are funds available from the Research Office to support publication costs?  
*We do not have funds in the Research Office budget for publication charges. The Research Advisory Council discussed this matter at our last meeting as part of the FY-22 budget planning process. The RAC did not believe that centralized funding of publication costs should be a function of the Research Office and is recommending that individual academic departments include a request for support for faculty publications in their departmental budgets.*
9. Will the Distinguished Researcher Seminar Series be online in the Spring?  
*Yes, we will continue in the online seminar format through the Spring semester. We are optimistic that the Fall 2021 series will be held on campus.*

Email: [Joseph N. Benoit, Ph.D.](mailto:Joseph.N.Benoit@Ph.D.)

- **Summer Research Experience Faculty Project Deadline Extended:**
  - The deadline for faculty to submit projects and be eligible for funding for the 2021 Summer Research Experience has been extended to Sunday November 15, 2020. If you are reluctant to launch a laboratory project, consider a survey-based study, a meta-analysis, an interview-based project, an oral history project or an epidemiologic/public health study. Our students are outstanding collaborators and will benefit from your mentorship!
- **Distinguished Researcher Seminar Series (November 13, 2020 @ 12:00 p.m.) [Access the Seminar](#)**
  - The next Distinguished Researcher Seminar Series is scheduled for November 13<sup>th</sup> at noon and will feature Drs. Robert and Elizabeth Bjork, Department of Psychology, University of California, Los Angeles. Their research focuses on retention of learned information. The talk is open to all faculty, staff and students.
    - *“Does What Cognitive Scientists Have Found in the Laboratory Transfer to the Real World of Teaching and Learning?”*

*Hosted by Department of Physiology & Pathology*

- **AACOM Accepting Abstracts**
  - Educating Leaders 2021, the AACOM Virtual Conference, is now open for abstracts!
    - This year, we'll be accepting two types of abstracts: **Research** and **Novel Approach**. You can learn more about the two types of submissions, along with a list of abstract topics and a comprehensive submission guide on the [Educating Leaders website](#).
    - As an abstract submitter, your work will be accessible on-demand to all registered attendees. In addition, selected presentations will be broadcasted during the live-stream portion of the conference. Awards will also be given for the best research posters.
    - If you have any questions about this year's abstract submission process, please reach out to Lynn Bragan at (301) 968-4186 or [lbragan@aacom.org](mailto:lbragan@aacom.org).
- **NMBio: Virtual Lunch & Learn (November 12: 12:00 p.m.)**
  - The New Mexico Biotechnology & Biomedical Association is hosting a free virtual meeting on November 12 at noon. The session, “Hope for the Future: CAR-T, will feature Michele Sharr, Director of Global Research & Development, Clinical Scientist, Bristol-Myers Squibb Company. [Registration Information](#) There is no fee for this this event.

## MEDICAL STUDENT RESEARCH

- **Call for Faculty Summer Research Experience Projects**
  - The application deadline for the 2021 Medical Student Summer Research Experience has been extended to **Sunday November 15**. Included below are links to the program website and a direct link to the [Application Form](#). Please take the time to review program information and submit potential projects according to the directions found within the Application Form.
  - Faculty that would like to utilize our services to recruit students this application cycle for projects that were submitted last year, please contact me so that I may add your abstract(s) to the available projects list. Please note that we are not able to provide any additional funding as these projects were awarded last year. If interested, please contact me soon since the student application opens on **December 4, 2020**.
  - [Medical Student Summer Research Experience Website](#)

- **AOA Research Training Grants**
  - We are about a month away from the opening date for the [AOA Research Training Grants](#) for medical students. The application cycle will open on December 15, 2020 and close on February 15, 2021. These training grants provide up to \$5,000 in funding for medical students and aim to promote the osteopathic approach to care through AOA-funded research.
- **Student Research Support Fund**
  - In support of Burrell College medical student research and creative scholarship endeavors, the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs (ORSP) is pleased to announce the new 2020-2021 Student Research Support Fund and invites student researchers to submit an application. This funding opportunity provides Burrell College medical students with limited funds to support their research and creative scholarship. Applications are available on the [program website](#).

S.J. Ontiveros, Ph.D.

## RESEARCH LABORATORIES

- **Research Laboratory Access**
  - The Research Laboratories are still operating at a reduced occupancy with social distancing measures in place. Please contact Dr. Woods or Kalli Martinez if you have any questions about Research Laboratory access.  
Email: [M. Woods, Ph.D.](mailto:M.Woods@bcomnm.org) and [K. Martinez](mailto:K.Martinez@bcomnm.org)
- **NMSU Discussing New COVID-19 Mask Research with Burrell College**
  - NMSU researchers have approached our Research Laboratories about a possible collaboration on new face covering technology.
    - [NMSU professors developing face covering](#) that removes 97% of airborne particles
- **New Equipment will Expand Laboratory Capabilities**
  - The Burrell College Research Laboratories are expanding laboratory technical capability in support of Faculty and Student research. The Research Labs have purchased a Bio-Rad Bio-Plex 200 Multiplex Immunoassay System. The Bio-Plex 200 is capable of supporting highly multiplexed quantification of over 450 biologically relevant targets: assays for inflammation, disease, cancer, cell signaling and growth, apoptosis, toxicity, and more in a single 12.5 uL sample. Learn more about the [Bio-Plex and associated assays](#).

## DATES AND DEADLINES

- Institutional Review Board (IRB) – November 20, 2020, 12:00 – 1:30 p.m.
  - The deadline for receipt of materials for review is November 9, 2020.
    - Email: [IRB@bcomnm.org](mailto:IRB@bcomnm.org)
- Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) – November 4, 2020, 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.
  - Email: [Research@bcomnm.org](mailto:Research@bcomnm.org)
- Research Advisory Council (RAC) – November 20, 2020, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
- Faculty Summer Research Experience Proposals
  - Deadline for submission of projects: November 15, 2020 . [Online Submission Form](#)
    - Contact: [S.J. Ontiveros, Ph.D.](mailto:S.J.Ontiveros@bcomnm.org)
- [Distinguished Researcher Seminar Series](#)
  - November 13, 2020: 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.
    - [Does What Cognitive Scientists Have Found in the Laboratory Transfer to the Real World of Teaching and Learning?](#)
      - Robert Bjork, Ph.D. and Elizabeth Bjork, Ph.D., UCLA Department of Psychology.
        - *Hosted by the Department of Physiology & Pathology*

## POLICY & REGULATORY UPDATE

- **Burrell College New or Updated Policies and Procedures**
  - The Biosafety Manual has been updated after undergoing IBC review and is available on the Burrell College website. A minor modification has been made to the Blood-borne Pathogen Exposure Control Plan and we are still finalizing an SOP to inform the process by which Burrell Investigators can document Hepatitis B vaccination.
    - [Biological Safety Manual](#)
    - [Bloodborne Pathogen Exposure Control Plan](#)
  - This new SOP details the use of electronic gift cards for payments to research participants.
    - [RSP.017](#), "Payments to Research Participants"
- **Human Research Protection**
  - [AHRQ Guide Notice on Exception to the Use of the Single IRB Review Requirements During the Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) Public Health Emergency](#)

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES and NOTICES

- Guidance on new proposal submission and related information is available in MS Teams and on the Research Office Website. Please submit a completed [Proposal Transmittal Routing Request](#) in advance of the deadline. Allow five (5) business days for institutional review and signatures.
- [NIH Weekly Funding Opportunities and Notices](#) – November 6, 2020
- American Osteopathic Association
  - [AOA Research Grants](#) for DOs, MDs, and PhDs
  - [Research Opportunities](#) for resident physicians, fellows and osteopathic medical students
- [Wells Fargo Philanthropic Services](#) (Search for Opportunities)
- [New Mexico SBIR/STTR Innovation Summit](#): *Learn more about federal funding and resources, at Arrowhead Center's NM FAST virtual New Mexico SBIR/STTR Innovation Summit on December 9<sup>th</sup>. Federal program managers, defense representatives, experts, and local organizations who have a vested interest in driving innovation through the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs will be on hand to walk you through the process.*
- [Experimental Biology 2021](#) will be held April 27-30, 2021 as a virtual meeting.
- [AACOM Educating Leaders 2021](#) will be held April 20-22 as a virtual event.

## CLINICAL TRIALS INFORMATION

- **Clinical Trials Information**
  - [TrialSite News](#) is a digital media resource dedicated to transparent and open coverage of clinical research trial sites around the globe.

## INFORMATION FOR AUTHORS

- [Call for COVID-19 Research Papers](#): The JAOA editors invite researchers to share information and data about their experiences with COVID-19 with the osteopathic community.
- Are you interested in publishing a literature review? The Journal of the American Osteopathic Association has created a video that provides tips for putting together a quality [Systematic Literature Review](#)

## RECENT AND FORTHCOMING SCHOLARLY WORK BY BURRELL COLLEGE RESEARCHERS

*(Please email us with your news and we will add it to future Updates.)*

- Vadhan JD, Gilderman GS, Fuentes I (October 21, 2020) Congenital Right Coronary Artery Fistula Causing an Aortic Steal: A Rare Anatomic Abnormality and a Review of the Literature. [Cureus 12\(10\): e11084. doi: 10.7759/cureus.11084](#)
- Kania AM, Weiler KN (OMS-III), Kurian AP (OMS-III), Opena ML (OMS-III), Orellana JL (OMS-III), and Stauss HM. Activation of the Cholinergic Anti-inflammatory Reflex by Occipitoatlantal Decompression and Transcutaneous Auricular Vagus Nerve Stimulation. JAOA, in-press, 2020.