Highlighted Funding Opportunity

DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 28, 2022

HHMI’s Freeman Hrabowski Scholars Program offers $8.6M potential support and 10 years potential appointment per scholar

The Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) recently announced a new program to support outstanding early career faculty who are committed to advancing equity, diversity, and inclusion.

The Freeman Hrabowski Scholars Program will fund up to 30 Scholars in 2023 and every other year thereafter. Eligible research areas include all basic biomedical science disciplines, as well as plant biology, evolutionary biology, biophysics, chemical biology, biomedical engineering, and computational biology. Applications will be rigorously reviewed by scientific experts and experts in diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Freeman Hrabowski Scholars will be employed by HHMI and will maintain an academic appointment and lab at their research institutions.

The appointment is a five-year term as an HHMI lab head, renewable for an additional five-year term following a successful progress evaluation. Scholars will receive generous and flexible support from HHMI, including full salary and benefits, a research budget of approximately $2 million over the first five years, and eligibility to participate in HHMI capital equipment purchasing programs.

Complete details available here.
Grant Spotlight

NAEd/Spencer Postdoctoral Fellowship

Dr. Alexander Hyres, assistant professor in the Department of Education, Culture, and Society, was recently awarded a 2022 National Academy of Education (NAEd)/Spencer Postdoctoral Fellowship. This prestigious and highly competitive fellowship will support Dr. Hyres’ second book project, “Educating in a Burning House: Black Teachers and the Desegregation of Schools, Colleges, and Universities in the South, 1960-2001.” This project will examine the contours of Black teachers’ desegregation of schools, colleges, and universities in the upper and lower South: Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia. Not only does the project focus on the first decades of school desegregation in the 1960s and 1970s, but it also highlights the change over time as school desegregation reached its apex before the resegregation of schools took hold in the 1980s, 1990s, and 2000s. This history will help illuminate how Black teachers navigated school desegregation, as well as the multiple and nuanced factors, beyond the Brown v. Board of Education decision, leading to the disproportionate lack of Black teachers in the South now.

The NAEd/Spencer Postdoctoral Fellowship Program provides $70,000 to 25 early career scholars to advance critical areas of educational scholarship and provide professional development opportunities (including mentorship from NAEd members and other senior scholars). Fellowships are non-residential and all disciplines are eligible.

Applications for the 2023 cycle will open July 2022. More information about the NAEd/Spencer Postdoctoral Fellowship Program can be found here.

REDI seeks to recognize externally-funded research, whether the funding comes from grants, fellowships, supplements, or other types of awards. If you have received extramural funding for equity, diversity, and inclusion and would like to share the good news with the U research community, please let us know!
Funding Opportunities

NIH Educational Hub for Enhancing Diversity in Computational Genomics and Data Science (U24 Clinical Trials Not Allowed)
Amount: $8,100,000 total costs
Deadline: July 27, 2022
This initiative aims to enhance the diversity of individuals who have access to educational and research opportunities in computational genomics and data science.

NPS FY2022 Historic Preservation Fund- History of Equal Rights- Preservation Grants
Amount: $750,000 award ceiling
Deadline: September 14, 2022
This program aims to preserve sites related to the struggle of all American's to achieve equal rights.

NIH Stakeholder Engagement Innovation Center for Advancing Health Equity in Type 2 Diabetes Research (U2C - Clinical Trial Not Allowed)
Amount: $1,900,000 direct costs per year up to five years
Deadline: October 26, 2022
The purpose of this initiative is to establish a novel national Stakeholder Engagement Innovation Center for advancing equity in type 2 diabetes research.

NSF Geoscience Opportunities for Leadership in Diversity (GOLD-EN)
Amount: according to scope
Deadline: October 28, 2022, and April 28, 2023 (Target Dates)
This program seeks to support proposals focused on professional development and capacity building to enhance diversity, equity, and inclusion within the geosciences.

FOR MORE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES:

- **Website:** Unlearning Racism in Geoscience (URGE) is a learning community that develops and shares resources to advance anti-racist policies. The URGE website includes an extensive collection of readings, videos, and other resources.

- **Toolkit:** The open-access Bridging the Research Gap: A Toolkit on Inclusive Research and Development Practices (2020) by Katelyn C. Jones provides practical guidance for how to do inclusive research, including worksheets to help implement inclusive R&D practices.

- **Website:** Racial Equity Tools provides tools, research, tips, curricula, and ideas to support those working to advance racial equity. For example, they curate a glossary of racial equity terms with source citations.
Institutional Changemakers

The Office of Research Participant Advocacy

The state of Utah has language diversity and a language barrier.

129 DISTINCT LANGUAGES SPOKEN

22% OF RESIDENTS SPEAK A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH AT HOME

Removing this language barrier can build trust and connect participants from diverse backgrounds with researchers...

When attempting to connect with our community to help bring diversity in research, language can be a barrier. In Utah, there are 129 distinct languages spoken and 22% of residents speak a language other than English at home. Reducing the language barrier not only builds trust but also connects potential participants with researchers.

The Office of Research Participation Advocacy (RPA) continues its dedication to advancing diversity in research at the University of Utah. Thanks to the RPA’s Research Impact Series, the office has:

- Translated research consent forms into 38 different languages
- Developed 13 audio recordings to date for those with low literacy in their native language or visual impairments
- Provided translation services to almost 312 research projects since 2019.

“To address the lack of diversity in research, we have to start by removing barriers to access,” said Sadie Gabler, director of the RPA. “By eliminating the language barrier, we can engage in meaningful communication with members of our community that speak a language other than English. From there, we can start to build trust and strengthen relationships.”

For more information on the RPA and how it is bridging the gap between our non-English community members and researchers, go to the website here.
**Researcher Profile**

**Dr. Kola Okuyemi** epitomizes the physician-scientist model: he is a board-certified family medicine physician specializing in acute and chronic diseases and providing comprehensive care for patients of all ages—and he is an active researcher who has been continuously funded by NIH for more than two decades. His research aims “to improve the health of underserved populations and eliminate health disparities using pharmacological and culturally tailored interventions.” He is currently researching use of faith-based approaches to address tobacco use among immigrant and refugee populations from Sub-Saharan African and Middle Eastern backgrounds. In another project, Dr Okuyemi is using community-based participatory (CBPR) approaches for evaluating culturally-tailored interventions to address disparities in cervical cancer screening among underserved populations in the US and Sub-Saharan Africa.

"My research aims to improve the health of underserved populations and eliminate health disparities using pharmacological and culturally tailored interventions."

— **DR. KOLA OKUYEMI**

Dr. Okuyemi has a national reputation for leadership and scholarship on equity, diversity, and inclusion. He co-led the establishment of the NIH-funded National Research Mentoring Network (NRMN). The NRMN is a nationwide network committed to evidence-based and innovative approaches to culturally responsive mentorship, networking, and collaboration to support the career success of biomedical researchers from historically underrepresented groups. He has been PI or MPI of several other major NIH grants supporting training and professional development of early investigators from underrepresented groups, including “Utah Advanced Course on Mentoring, Leadership, and Cancer-Related Health Disparities” and “Enhanced Grant Writing Coaching Intervention for a Diverse Biomedical Workforce.”

Dr. Okuyemi is professor and chair of the Department of Family and Preventive Medicine, where he holds the George D. Cross, MD, and Esther M. Cross, MD, Presidential Endowed Chair in Family and Preventive Medicine. He is also the Executive Director of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion and Associate Leader of Cancer Training and Career Enhancement (CRCERA) at the Huntsman Cancer Institute. He has more than 150 peer-reviewed publications and numerous accolades, including the 2018 Leadership in Inclusive Excellence Award from the University of Utah; the 2021 Hames Research Award and the 2021 Lynn and Joan Carmichael Recognition Award for Outstanding Leadership, both from the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine (STFM).

Dr. Okuyemi has a medical degree from the University of Ilorin, Nigeria, and a master’s degree in public health from the University of Kansas. Prior to joining the U in 2017, he held faculty and administrative positions at the University of Kansas and University of Minnesota, including as the inaugural Endowed Chair in Health Equity at the latter.
Events

**JULY 20**

ANTI-BLACKNESS & RESEARCH IN HIGHER EDUCATION
11:30 am - 12:30 am (virtual event)
Register here

In this session, Meligha Garfield (director, Black Cultural Center) will discuss anti-Blackness in higher education and how that impacts academic research, as well as about some of the research and resources on campus for combating anti-Blackness.

**AUGUST 16**

EDI PARTNERS QUARTERLY MEETING
9:00 am - 10:30 am (virtual event)
Register here

Aligning with the platform of One U Thriving, the goal of these quarterly meetings is to draw connections between the colleges, units, and divisions’ diversity, equity, and inclusion strategies.

**DON’T FORGET**

Applications for Community Based Research Grants are due Friday, July 1st, 2022. Full application requirements are HERE.

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THE OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH IS COMMITTED TO ENHANCING EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION IN RESEARCH AND THE U CAMPUS COMMUNITY

For more information: research.utah.edu/edi

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ADDITIONAL GRANT PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT IS AVAILABLE FOR MULTI-INVESTIGATOR TEAMS & INSTITUTIONAL PRIORITIES

Contact Dr. Mercedes Ward
Office of the Vice President for Research

SUPPORT FOR:
- Identifying Potential Collaborators
- Grant-Required Self-Study, Community-Engagement & Stakeholder Dialogues
- Information Management
- Team Communication
- Developing Institutional Change & Social Impact Strategies
- Collaborating with Pre-Award and Grants & Contracts Officers
- Organizing and Leading Grant Development Events
- and More