

Research Brief

Message from the Senior Associate Dean for Research

Dear Colleagues,

I hope that you have all been staying cool and enjoying these last days before the start of the academic year.

With fall around the corner, GWSPH has just released something to help inspire inquiry: the 2023 Fall Research Innovation Awards (RIA). This is an excellent opportunity for PI's to receive financial support for creative, innovative projects, aimed at receiving extramural funding. For this specific round of awards, the focus is on two main themes: laboratory-based or basic-science public health research; and development or application of a novel biomarker, new technology, or digital innovation for improving population health in the United States or globally. Please spread this announcement and encourage your fellow researchers to start working on their applications - the due date for submissions is October 15. Remember, it's not just about recognition and support; it's about the collective progress we can make by joining forces and pushing the boundaries of knowledge and innovation. You can read more about the Fall 2023 RIA release in the announcements below. Questions and final applications should be sent to GWSPHResearch@gwu.edu.

Adnan Hyder, MD MPH PhD
Senior Associate Dean for Research
Professor of Global Health
Milken Institute School of Public Health

 **Research Project Highlight** 



Dr. Matthew Barberio

Dr. Barberio is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences. He joined the Milken Institute School of Public Health as a Professorial Lecturer in the Spring of 2014 and transitioned to a tenure-track Assistant Professor position in July of 2018. His research efforts are concentrated on the molecular physiology metabolic syndrome and obesity, and associated comorbidities, that result in peripheral tissue (e.g. adipose tissue and skeletal muscle) dysfunction. Further, he is interested in how lifestyle interventions (nutrition, weight-loss surgery, pharmacological, and physical activity) can prevent or reverse these changes. Dr. Barberio's laboratory utilizes a translational approach that includes combining human intervention studies with molecular and cell culture experiments. His ongoing projects include:

- Molecular mechanisms of improved HDL function following exercise
- Metabolic Flexibility in the development of fat mass in young adults
- Metabolic Flexibility and the metabolomic response to feeding: The role of adipose tissue metabolic function in metabolic flexibility
- Molecular methods for maternal nutrition: Single-blinded, stratified, multiple ascending dose trial to assess pharmacokinetics and identify optimal dose of vitamin B12 in pregnancy in Tanzania

We are proud of our Research!



Funding Opportunities



Fall 2023 Research Innovation Awards (RIA)

Due Date: October 15, 2023

The Milken Institute School of Public Health (SPH) Research Innovation Awards aim to encourage innovation and creativity in public health research and support research initiatives aimed at generating extramural grant funding. **Faculty who have a primary appointment in GWSPH and may serve as Principal Investigators are eligible to apply for this award.**

For this specific round of Innovation Awards, the applications must include consideration or a focus on one or both of the following two themes: **Laboratory-based or basic-science public health research; and/or Development or application of a novel biomarker, new technology, or digital innovation for improving population health in the United States or globally.** Funding under this mechanism may be awarded for one or two years, and cannot exceed a total of **\$25,000 per year (up to a total of \$50,000 total for two years)**. Decisions of awards will be shared with applicants by **December 15, 2023**.

It is anticipated that work will start by **January 15, 2024**. Questions and final applications should be sent to GWSPHResearch@gwu.edu. See the full announcement [here](#) or visit <https://publichealth.gwu.edu/research/pre-award-unit> for more details.



FULBRIGHT

**Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program:
Hidden Gems in Europe and Eurasia**

Application Deadline: September 15, 2023

Fulbright U.S. Scholar Awards give opportunities to U.S. citizens to teach, research and carry out professional projects around the world. Its 2024-2025 competition is now open for applications. Over 400 awards are available to applicants, many of which are not widely known. Fulbright wishes to highlight opportunities open in Europe and Eurasia:

- Albania: Climate Change – Education and Advocacy**
- Austria: Fulbright-Natural History Museum Vienna Visiting Researcher**
- France: Fulbright-IMéRA-Aix-Marseille Université Award in Migration Studies**
- Croatia: All Discipline**
- Cyprus: All Disciplines**
- Czech Republic: Fulbright Distinguished Scholar in Economics at CERGE-EI, Charles University, Czech Academy of Sciences**
- Finland/Iceland: Fulbright Iceland-National Science Foundation Arctic Security Award to Iceland and Finland**
- Georgia: All Disciplines and Opportunities in STEM**
- Hungary: All available awards**
- Italy: Fulbright Early Career Research Lectureship at the Department of Civil, Environmental and Mechanical Engineering at the University of Trento**
- Montenegro: All Disciplines**
- Slovak Republic: All Disciplines**
- Spain: Energy Production at the Universidad de la Laguna**
- United Kingdom: Fulbright-British Library Eccles Centre Scholar Award (North American Studies)**

These are just a few of the many opportunities available for this application cycle. For a full list, visit <https://fulbrightscholars.org/awards/search>.



Fulbright-Fogarty Fellowships in Public Health

Upcoming Application Deadline: October 10, 2023

The Fogarty International Center is partnering with the Fulbright Program, the flagship international educational exchange program sponsored by the U.S. government, to promote the expansion of research in public health and clinical research in resource-limited settings for medical and graduate students. The program is designed for candidates who are currently enrolled in medical school or in a graduate-level program and who are interested in global health. The basic requirements and process for applying for the Fulbright-Fogarty Program are the same as for any Fulbright U.S. Student Study/Research Grant. For the 2024-2025 academic year, Fulbright-Fogarty Fellowship placements will be available in **Vietnam, Ethiopia, Ghana, Malawi, Uganda, Nepal, Jamaica, and Peru**. For application details and categories, visit the [Fulbright website](#).



NSF: Solicitation for Predictive Intelligence for Pandemic Prevention Phase II Centers Program

LOI Deadline: August 25, 2023

Full Proposals Due: December 8, 2023

The National Science Foundation (NSF) has released a solicitation for the Predictive Intelligence for Pandemic Prevention Phase II (PIPP Phase II Centers Program). The PIPP program covers fundamental research and development (R&D) activities focused on grand challenges in prediction and prevention related to infectious disease pandemics. The PIPP Phase II Centers Program will

establish a network of Centers that support interdisciplinary teams working to accelerate grand challenge R&D activities with the overall goal to “transform society’s ability to forecast the likelihood of pandemic-scale events, detect outbreaks early, and respond efficiently.” This solicitation builds on the PIPP Phase I Development awards, funded in summer 2022.

NSF plans to support between four and seven centers funded at **\$15 million to \$18 million** each over **seven years** focused on the following four themes: **Pre-emergence, Data, AI/ML and Design, The Host as the Universe, and Human Systems.**

See the full announcement [here](#), or visit the [NSF website](#).

NSF: FY24 Major Research Instrumentation (MRI) Program

Internal Competition Deadline: September 12, 2023 1pm ET

FY24: Deadline is November 15, 2023 (Submission window is 10/16/2023 – 11/15/2023)

The goal of the National Science Foundation (NSF) Major Research Instrumentation (MRI) Program is to increase access to shared-use/multi-user instrumentation for scientific and engineering research and research training. MRI is intended to be a capacity-building program that builds research capabilities across diverse institution types (institutions of higher education and not-for-profit scientific/engineering research organizations). MRI advances the National interest by providing U.S. organizations with instrumentation that opens new opportunities to advance the frontiers in science and engineering research and research training. An MRI proposal may request up to **\$1.4 million** for acquisition of a multi-user commercially available research/research training instrument and up to **\$4 million** for development of a research instrument with new capabilities.

Applicants must upload all required documents for the **internal competition** (competition form and CV) as a single pdf file through the OVPR InfoReady Limited Competition Portal by **September 12, 2023 @ 1:00PM ET**. Each organization may submit in “Tracks”.

Read more about the internal competition guidelines [here](#). See the flier To learn more about **specific tracks**, submission windows, and requirements, view the full announcement [here](#).

If you have questions, please contact: reshelp@gwu.edu.



Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H) Open-Office Broad Agency Announcement (BAA)

The Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H) seeks to "make pivotal investments in breakthrough technologies and broadly applicable platforms, capabilities, resources, and solutions with the potential to transform important areas of medicine and health that cannot readily be accomplished through traditional research or commercial activity". ARPA-H opened its first Agency-wide Open Broad Agency Announcement (Open BAA), seeking funding proposals for research aiming to improve health outcomes across patient populations, communities, diseases, and health conditions. The BAA calls for proposals to outline breakthrough research and technological advancements.

Proposals should investigate unconventional approaches, and challenge accepted assumptions to enable leaps forward in science, technology, systems, or related capabilities. ARPA-H also encourages concepts to advance the objectives of President Biden’s Cancer Moonshot, as well as more disease-agnostic approaches.

The open BAA is available [here](#), and will require an initial submission of a white paper. ARPA-H will then closely review the white papers on a rolling basis (4 to 6 weeks) and invite teams to apply for a full proposal.

Are you planning on submitting a proposal for funding consideration from an outside sponsor (e.g., NIH, DOD, RWJ, etc.)?

As soon as you identify the funder and funding mechanism, contact Pod 2 by submitting an “**intent to submit**” form.

A sponsored research administrator (SRA) from Pod 2 will be assigned and will reach to you to set up a kickoff meeting to go over logistics, establish timeline deadlines, and gather more information about the proposed project.

Please be mindful that the Pod requests **at least 10 business days** to process a proposal **on top of the 5 business days required by OSP**.

[Intent to Submit Form](#)

Monthly Deadlines

[August Deadlines](#)

[Continuous Deadlines](#)

Lectures & Events



Privacy Training and Events

The GW Office of Privacy will be hosting trainings, workshops, and events throughout the summer to educate the GW community on how to be in compliance with privacy standards. On **August 17, 2023 11:10 am-12:10pm**, they will be hosting a **Virtual FERPA Workshop**. Learn FERPA basics and explore requirements for the protection of student records, when those records may be shared, and the applicable exceptions to the FERPA requirement for consent. Faculty and staff are welcome!

[Registration and More From GW Privacy](#)

ORAU STEM Accelerator Listening Sessions

When: August 15th 2:00 pm EST & August 17th 2:00 pm EST

The Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU) STEM Accelerator (OSA) recently announced their national initiative focused on advancing STEM education and workforce development. OSA will be formally launched in August 2023. Their vision is to be the nation's leading catalyst for advancing STEM education through transformative and innovative approaches that strengthen the national economy, technological leadership, national security, and quality of life. On **August 15th and 17th**, the ORAU will be holding virtual listening sessions open to ORAU University Consortium members, which will be instrumental in shaping and driving OSA's success. Both sessions will cover the same information. The results of these virtual sessions will be used to drive deeper conversations and partnership alignment leading up to the 2024 Annual Council Meeting on Redefining the Next Generation STEM Enterprise to be held on March 4-5.

[Register Here](#)



TODAY: UIDP Webinar: Insights for Researchers

When: TODAY August 9 1-2pm EST

This webinar focuses on empowering faculty, postdoctoral researchers, and staff scientists with the knowledge and tools to initiate and nurture successful partnerships with industry stakeholders. Topics such as industry and government funding, campus support and resources, and pitching ideas to industry funders will be covered.

[Register Here](#)

Research Resources

Milken Institute School of Public Health

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

Metabolism & Exercise Testing Laboratory

The Department of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences offers fee-based research testing services for the GW community and the greater Washington DC metro region through the Metabolism & Exercise Testing Laboratory. The overarching goal of the laboratory facility is to provide researchers and practitioners access to comprehensive testing and research resources to facilitate evidence-informed

decisions regarding health, human performance, and behavior change. Their compilation of assessment services include body composition, resting and exercise metabolism, aerobic fitness, and muscular strength. The lab is conveniently located on the Foggy Bottom campus in the Milken Institute School of Public Health facility at 950 New Hampshire Avenue, NW. Please refer to the website bodycomposition.gwu.edu or contact the laboratory directly (bodycomposition@gwu.edu) for all inquiries, questions, and additional information.



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