

NEWS

ENGINEERING RESEARCH
ADMINISTRATION



AUBURN
UNIVERSITY

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College of Engineering

January 17, 2024

Vol. 2 No. 1

Announcements

Welcome Back!

We hope you had a restful winter break and happy holidays! We look forward to continuing excellent research in 2024. ERAD is here to help all faculty, staff, and graduate students involved in research achieve their funding goals. Please contact us at erad@auburn.edu for assistance or visit [our website!](#)

2024 Spring Faculty Colloquium Dates

Yesterday was the first faculty colloquium of the year. Please continue to join us this spring on the 3rd Floor Grand Hall in Brown-Kopel from 12:00pm-1:00pm to hear a variety of speakers.

- Wednesday, January 31
 - Tuesday, March 12
 - Wednesday, March 27
 - Wednesday, April 10
 - Wednesday, April 24
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Funding Opportunities

Science and Technology Studies

Due February 2, 2024

National Science Foundation

Areas of interest: interdisciplinary

This program supports proposals that investigate the conceptual, historical, and social contexts of STEM theory and practice--more specifically in interdisciplinary studies of ethics, equity, governance and policy issues.

Read more about the program [here](#).

Freeman Fellowship

Due February 10, 2024

American Society of Civil Engineers

Areas of interest: graduate students, civil engineering, hydraulic engineering

The ASCE Freeman Fellowship, awarded to graduate civil engineering students for tuition, research, and living expenses, is intended to further the education of deserving students in hydraulic engineering. At the time of application, the student must be a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers of any standing.

Read more [here](#).

NSF Notice: Use of generative AI in merit review process



As of December 14, 2023, NSF has issued a notice informing reviewers and proposers of the guidelines for the use of generative AI in the merit review process:

- Reviewers are prohibited from uploading any content from proposals, review information, and related records to non-approved generative AI tools.
- Proposers are encouraged to indicate in the project description the extent to which, if any, generative AI technology was used and how it was used to develop their proposal.

NSF reminds reviewers that allowing generative AI access to proposal information through the open internet infringes on the confidentiality and integrity principles of the agency's merit review process. Use of this technology could increase the exposure of scientific ideas, non-public data and personal information that come from proposals, review information and related records in the merit review and proposal writing stages. The technology could also use ideas from any uploaded text to train its dataset for future users. However, NSF reports that reviewers may share publicly available information with current generation generative AI tools as this does not violate confidentiality agreements.

As NSF examines how generative AI is used in proposal preparation, the agency first seeks to understand how it is used by the community to minimize administrative requirements and build appropriate processes and resources for the merit review process. Further guidelines may come in the future. NSF reminds proposers that they are responsible for the accuracy and authenticity of their proposal submission, and that the source and accuracy of information provided by generative AI technology can be uncertain, which can lend doubt to the authenticity of authorship. The 2025 PAPPG will be updated to reflect this notice.

Read more about this notice on [NSF's website](#).

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