

# NEWS

ENGINEERING RESEARCH  
ADMINISTRATION



AUBURN  
UNIVERSITY

Samuel Ginn  
College of Engineering

**June 5, 2024**

Vol. 2 No. 10

---

## Announcements

### PSFS Pivot Drop-In Consultation Clinic at Foy Hall

**Thursday, June 13, 2024**

12:00pm-4:00pm

Collaboration Corner at 205 Foy Hall

Proposal Services and Faculty Support (PSFS) is hosting a Pivot Drop-In Consultation Clinic at Collaboration Corner in Foy Hall. Create or hone your account and get tips for finding funding matches. Drop in any time between 12:00pm-4:00pm, and make sure to bring your laptop!

---

## Funding Opportunities

### NEI Research for Low Vision and Blindness Accessibility Tools

National Institutes of Health

**Letter of Intent Due** July 12, 2024

**Areas of interest:** ergonomics, human factors, computer science, wearable designs, artificial intelligence/machine learning

The National Eye Institute seeks to eliminate vision loss and improve quality of life for people who are blind or require vision rehabilitation through vision research. This funding opportunity seeks proposals that harness advances in technology development to innovate accessibility tools for individuals with visual impairment. Projects must include investigative teams with transdisciplinary expertise, plans driven to serve the goals and needs of the user, and a clearly articulated dissemination plan for the resultant tool.

Specific areas of research interest include:

- Integrate 3D-motion sensing software engineering to design mobile app wayfinding solutions,
- Enhance keyboard versatility and accessibility via newly engineered materials, wearable designs, or voice-powered technology,
- Apply AI/ML to advance screen reader technology, optimize object recognition, etc.,
- Incorporate multisensory displays in virtual reality systems to convey visual information,
- and more.

## The Marconi Prize

The Marconi Society

**Nominations Due** June 28, 2024

The Marconi Prize is awarded to established scientists who have created and scaled our connected world. Nominees are recognized for their impacts on widely-used technology, the scientific importance of their work, their entrepreneurial contributions, and the applicability of their work to social and humanitarian efforts.

The Marconi Prize is awarded based on the candidate's contributions in the following areas:

- The significance of the impact of the nominee's work on widely-used technology.
- The scientific importance of the nominee's work in setting the stage for, influencing, and advancing the field beyond the nominee's own achievements.
- The nominee's contributions to innovation and entrepreneurship by introducing completely new ideas, methods, or technologies. These may include forming, leading, or advising organizations, mentoring students on moving ideas from research to implementation, or fostering new industries/enabling scale implementation.
- The social and humanitarian impact of the nominee's contributions to the design, development, and/or deployment of new communication technologies or communications public policies that promote social development and/or inclusiveness.

**All candidates must be nominated by a colleague.** Find information to nominate a fellow at the [Marconi Society's nomination website](#).

---

## Best Practices

### Participant Support Costs

- **What are participant support costs?**

These are the direct costs for items such as stipends or subsistence allowances, travel allowances, and registration fees paid to or on behalf of **participants or trainees** (but not employees) in connection with conferences or training projects. These costs are meant to defray costs of participation and must be aligned with sponsor regulations and guidance.
- **Who are participants?**
  - Individuals participating in a training opportunity (workshop, conference, seminar)
  - Students participating in NSF REU programs
  - Teachers participating in NSF RET Programs
  - NOT employees (participants do not perform work or service and do not provide deliverables, but do complete programmatic activities like training)
- **What are allowable participant support costs?**
  - Stipend (set amount of money paid to participant)
  - Subsistence allowance (housing per diem, etc.)
  - Travel cost as outlined in the program solicitation
  - Other costs in support of the participant's involvement (as approved by sponsor and consistent with cost principles)
- **What costs are NOT participant support costs?**
  - Costs for PI or project staff, such as wages, salary, fringe or travel
  - Costs for consultant or trainer providing services to project or program
  - Costs for a guest speaker or lecturer

- Conference/workshop support costs such as facility rental, catering, supplies, media equipment rental
- Costs for collaborators
- Human subject payments for participating in a research project

*These costs should be included in the primary project instead.*

- **Prior approval is NOT required when:**
  - Reallocating funds **within** the participant support costs subcategories of
    - Stipend, travel, subsistence allowance, other already specified
  - Reallocating funds **to** participants support costs category
    - Assuming these are already included in the award
- **Prior approval IS required when:**
  - To reallocate participant support funds **out** of the participant support cost category and into the award's other budget categories
  - To reallocate funding to the participant support cost category of "other" if proposed costs not already specified in sponsor-approved budget

---

[Manage](#) your preferences | [Opt Out](#) using TrueRemove™

Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.

View this email [online](#).

1301 Shelby Center | Auburn , AL 36849 US

This email was sent to .

*To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.*

emma®

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.