

NEWS

ENGINEERING RESEARCH
ADMINISTRATION



AUBURN
UNIVERSITY

Samuel Ginn
College of Engineering

July 31, 2024

Vol. 2 No. 14

Announcements

IRB Module Launch

The Auburn University Institutional Review Board (IRB) Module will launch in Endeavor on **August 1, 2024**. Resources will be available for the campus community on the [IRB website](#), a new [IRB Endeavor Canvas page](#), and through on-campus training opportunities. If your department or college would like to schedule an Endeavor IRB workshop, please contact the office at irbadmin@auburn.edu.

Faculty may access the system via the [AU Access portal](#) or by visiting endeavor.auburn.edu.

Compass: Free NIH-Funded Leadership and Mentoring Program for Early-Career Biomedical Researchers

Application Deadline: August 12, 2024

Fall Cohort Duration: September 9, 2024 - November 17, 2024

[Apply online here.](#)

Junior faculty and postdocs in the biomedical sciences are invited to participate in Compass, a **10-week virtual learning program** designed to teach key communication, leadership, and management skills.

Compass scholars will learn from experienced mentors, engage in team-based peer mentoring, build a personalized lab manual, and acquire practical tools to use in their lab. There is currently **no cost** to participate.

The program will feature:

- **10 weeks** of foundational training and mentoring (**4-hour weekly commitment**)
- **6 months** of mentoring and community engagement (**1-hour monthly commitment**)

See the [Compass website](#) for more information.

Hanover GLC Modules for Grant Development

Hanover Research Grants Learning Center

Hanover Research Grants Learning Center (GLC) offers faculty enrollees the unique opportunity to receive targeted training through their on-demand grant development training portal. AU Faculty now have access to a variety of new modules on grant seeking, development, and revision, in addition to NIH and NSF-CAREER modules.

Contact [Christine Cline](#) for registration information.

Funding Opportunities

Engineering Design and Systems Engineering (EDSE)

Division of Civil, Mechanical and Manufacturing Innovation (CMMI), Directorate for Engineering (ENG), National Science Foundation (NSF)

Full proposals accepted anytime

Areas of Interest: Engineering Design, Systems Engineering, Mechanical Engineering

The Engineering Design and Systems Engineering (EDSE) program supports fundamental research on the design of engineered artifacts, including products, platforms, organizations, devices, processes, materials, and systems. Proposals that support well-defined collaborations of experts and embrace the multidisciplinary nature of design are encouraged. The program focuses on subjecting rigorous scientific inquiry on design as a system, the artifacts created, the methods used to create, and the environment where this occurs.

The EDSE program supports fundamental contributions in areas that include, but are not limited to, design representation, optimization, validation, cognition, and collaboration; mechanism design; robotics and intelligent system design; immersive design; design in under-resourced communities; and design at extreme scales and in extreme environments.

Read more about this funding opportunity [here](#).

Foundational Research in Robotics (FRR)

National Science Foundation (NSF)

Full proposals accepted anytime

Areas of Interest: Robotics

The Foundational Research in Robotics (FRR) program supports research on robotic systems that exhibit significant levels of physical complexity and computational capability. FRR focuses on foundational advances in robotics, and proposals are encouraged across the full range of fundamental engineering and computer science research challenges arising in robotics.

Proposals should clearly respond to the following questions:

- Is there a robot?
- Will a robot gain a new or significantly improved capability?
- Is robotics essential to the intellectual merit of the proposal?

Projects that are not directly contributing to the science of robotics should NOT be submitted to the FRR program and may align better with other existing programs at NSF.

Read more about this funding opportunity [here](#).

Funding Strategies

How to Proceed after a Rejected Proposal

While no one wants to think about facing a rejected proposal, the reality is many researchers will—or have had to. In this position, it is hard to know if a proposal should be revised, substantially rewritten, or cast aside and begun anew. When figuring out next steps, it is important to identify *why* the proposal was rejected. Some reasons may include:

1. Poor integration, structure, and content organization
2. Lack of specificity
3. Incompatibility with funding agency priorities
4. Unclear research goals and objectives

While it is tempting to resubmit a proposal with only minor revisions, this likely won't fix the root problems. Below are some practical tips to keep in mind when revising a rejected proposal:

- **Review panels are subject to change.** A revised proposal may not be reviewed by the same panel that declined the original proposal. Therefore, only addressing concerns from the original panel will not ensure success with your second submission.
- **Prior reviews are not guaranteed to be the same as future reviews.** A new review panel may have conflicting perspectives about what is considered a fundable project under the program guidelines. Likewise, depending on the timeline for resubmission, important research developments could be made and must be accounted for during the review.
- **Resubmissions often take place in a timeframe of six months to a year, NOT a few days or weeks.** Programs like NSF that accept proposals at any time may have guidelines stating the ineligibility of declined proposals for resubmission for a specified period of time.
- **Declined proposals that receive funding on the second or third resubmission are often the result of a fresh start.** PIs who successfully resubmit often do so by casting aside their failed attempt and revamping their organization, logic structure, research rationale, and/or narrative integration.

Read more about how to proceed with research after proposal rejection on page 34-35 [here](#).

Adapted from the June 2024 edition of the Research Development & Grant Writing Newsletter

[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.