

NEWS

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Announcements

Hanover Research Webinar

Strategies for Successful Interdisciplinary Collaborations
Tuesday, May 29, 2025, 11:00 am CT (Zoom)

Collaborators and stakeholders play a key role in the success of a grant application, as they can provide the expertise, support, and resources necessary to carry out your project.

This webinar session will review profiles of various key collaborators in the grant development process, highlighting their unique contributions and offering practical strategies to engage with them.

Register for the Zoom link [here](#).

Funding Opportunities

University Day 2025

Doolittle Institute

Proposals Due: May 14, 2025, 3:00 pm CT

Award Amount: \$75,000 – \$100,000

Areas of interest: bioprincipic systems, sensors, processing, control, materials, weapon autonomy, control autonomy

Doolittle Institute (DI), on behalf of the US Air Force Research Laboratory Munitions Directorate (AFRL/RW), is seeking proposals from US universities for a funding opportunity aimed at establishing new academic research partnerships.

Submitted proposals should correlate to one of the following research areas:

- **Bioprincipic Systems (Sensors, Processing, Control, and Materials)**
- **Weapon Autonomy and Control Technology Research**

Selected universities will be invited to pitch their proposals during the virtual pitch day on **June 23, 2025**.

Mark Miller ('84 and '85 Aerospace Engineering), Senior Vice President for Missile and Aviation Systems at Leidos/Dynetics, has offered to provide background information and assistance to faculty members interested in this opportunity. To connect with him, please email the [ERAD office](#).

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

Cyber-Physical Systems (CPS)

National Science Foundation

Small & Medium Project Proposals Due: May 31, 2025, 5:00 pm CT

Award Amount: \$600,000 – \$1,200,000 for up to 3 years

Areas of interest: data analytics, AI/Machine learning, networks/IoT, cybersecurity

Cyber-physical systems (CPS) are engineered systems that rely on the integration of computation and physical components—and they are transforming the way people interact with information. New CPS are driving innovation in a wide range of fields, including agriculture, aeronautics, civil infrastructure, energy, environmental quality, manufacturing, and transportation.

The CPS program supports foundational research to engineer these complex CPS, focusing on areas such as control, data analytics, and machine learning (including real-time learning for control), autonomy, design, IoT, human-in/on-the-loop interaction, networking, privacy, real-time systems, safety, security, and verification.

Small projects (\$600,000 for up to three years) support innovative ideas with potential for impact. PIs are encouraged to include plans—or begin preparing to include plans—for broadening participation activities in their proposals.

Medium projects (\$600,001 – \$1,200,000 for up to three years) are suited to multidisciplinary efforts with integrated goals. These require an approved BPC/BPE plan by the time of award, and PIs are encouraged to include 1–3 page descriptions of their planned BPC activities under the "Supplementary Documents" section in their submissions.

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

C4ISR, Information Operations, Cyberspace Operations and Information Technology System Research, Cryogenics & Quantum

Department of Defense, Naval Information Warfare Center (NIWC) Pacific

Proposals Due: June 9, 2025, 6:00 pm CT

Areas of interest: cybersecurity, communication systems, control systems

NIWC Pacific is soliciting proposals for research in areas related to the advancement of Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (C4ISR) capabilities, enabling technologies for Information Operations and Cyberspace Operations, and Information Technology systems.

Topics of interest include the following:

1. General C4ISR
2. Command and Control
3. Communications
4. Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance
5. Unmanned Vehicles
6. Information Operations/Cyberspace Operations

7. Ubiquitous Communications and Computing Environment
8. Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Research
9. Advanced Power and Energy Production and Efficient Use
10. Cryogenics & Quantum

View the full announcement under the "Related Documents" tab on [Grants.gov](https://grants.gov).

Student Spotlights

NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program Recipients

Engineering Research Administration congratulates **Robin Weaver** and **Parker Megginson** on receiving the prestigious National Science Foundation's Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP) award. The five-year fellowship provides three years of financial support, including a \$37,000 annual stipend. We are incredibly proud of their accomplishments and look forward to following their future research pursuits. Learn more about their work below.

Robin Weaver



Robin Weaver, a 2024 alumna and current graduate student in aerospace engineering, is conducting research focused on understanding bistable structures—materials that can rest in two distinct, stable positions. According to Weaver, these structures have potential applications in impact protection, such as in lunar landing gear and the interior design of football helmets, but they require vastly different bistable designs. Her research aims to apply foundational theory related to planar bistable structures by tessellating these designs into sheets, which could then be shaped to fit over complex, curved surfaces.

Parker Megginson



Parker Megginson, a senior in the Honors College majoring in computer engineering, is researching the effects of space radiation on the microscopic components of advanced electronics, including transistors and memory devices used in modern computers. He explains that radiation exposure in space increases the risk of errors or possible system failures. Parker plans to continue this research in graduate school while pursuing a degree in electrical and computer engineering.

Content adapted from the Auburn University Honors College. Access the full article [here](#).

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