### Research Acceleration and Strategic Initiatives

**Research Funding and Support**

**A weekly update on funding opportunities, workshops, and other support services.**

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**In this Issue – 30 March 2021** (links do not work on mobile)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RASI Workshops and Support Services:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• 2021 NSERC Grants Workshop: Discovery Grant and RTI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• CFI JELF Information Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• CFI Innovation Fund – Test Your Concept</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Internal Research Programs:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Internal Travel Grants: Internal Call for Proposals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• SSHRC Partnership Development Grant Pilot Program: Call for Applications</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cross Disciplinary and Institutional Opportunities and Updates:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• AGE-WELL Emerging Entrepreneur Award in Technology and Aging</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health Sciences Opportunities and Updates:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• SHRF’s Research Connections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Fighting Blindness Canada’s 2021 Research Grant Competition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• INOVAIT Lecture Series in IGT &amp; AI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• CIHR Access Newsletter</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Visit the [OVPR Grants Calendar](#) for up to date deadlines and events.
Learn more about RASI services online.

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**RASI Workshops and Support Services**

**2021 NSERC Grants Workshop: Discovery Grant and RTI**
The Office of the Vice-President Research and University NSERC Leader cordially invite you to attend the NSERC Discovery Grant and Research Tools and Instrument Grant Workshop.

**Workshop Highlights**
- Specific strategies relevant to the merit indicators;
- Top tips and advice from:
  - Research Facilitators on CCV, HQP, Budget, Equity, Diversity and Inclusivity (EDI) considerations, successful RTI applications and Internal Review;
  - Experienced NSERC Evaluation Group members regarding successful applications;
- WebEx Breakout sessions to facilitate discussions on any Evaluation Group-specific considerations.

**Date:** 6 May 2021  
**Time:** 1:00pm-3:30 pm  
**Register:** Online  
*(A WebEx Meeting link will be shared with all registrants shortly after the RSVP deadline)*  
**RSVP Deadline:** 26 April 2021

More information on the workshop can be found on this [poster](#).

*Questions can be sent to Manisha Jalla, Research Programs Coordinator, at grants.workshop@usask.ca.*

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**CFI JELF Information Session**

The Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) [John R. Evans Leaders Fund (JELF)](#) is a program to provide institutions the opportunity to acquire infrastructure for leading research faculty to undertake cutting-edge research. USask has been provided a JELF institutional envelope from which project leaders can request up to 40% of the eligible project costs. USask regularly participates in the February and October JELF submissions to the CFI.

Potential applicants, co-applicants, research facilitators and technical staff are invited to attend. This session has been targeted for those interested in the **October 2021** submission group.

The session will:
- Introduce you to the resource people and units so you have the tools to construct a strong proposal.
- Provide guidelines for the CFI JELF ask ($125,000 is appropriate for most JELF proposals; not to exceed 40% of the total eligible project costs).
- Discuss common eligibility questions and outline known risks to proposals.
- Outline the internal review process and timelines.

**Information Session**  
**Date:** 31 March 2021  
**Time:** 1:00-2:30pm  
**Register:** Online

For more information, please contact Sandra.stone@usask.ca.
CFI Innovation Fund Test Your Concept

The CFI-IF program supports transformative infrastructure projects which advance and shape the Canadian research landscape. The USask institutional envelope for the IF competition is expected to be between $15M and $20M. Due to the competitive nature of this program, USask is using an excellence-based approach to select projects for submission through an internal Expression of Interest.

RASI is excited to announce upcoming Test Your Concept sessions as a way to best support your preparation of an EOI submission. These highly recommended sessions are designed to give you constructive feedback from faculty experts on how to enhance your proposal.

To sign up for a Test Your Concept session either at the end of April or beginning of May, please contact rasi.support@usask.ca by 9 April 2021. When doing so, please provide a working title, disciplines, and basics of infrastructure you require.

Internal Travel Grants: Internal Call for Proposals

As part of the University of Saskatchewan International Blueprint for Action 2025 (link), the International Office announces the 2021 International Travel Grants: Internal Call for Proposals.

There are four funding programs:

1. **Global Ambassador Program (Incoming)** – supports incoming international experts and faculty to the USask aligned with USask’s existing or emerging areas of strength - valued up to $5,000.
2. **Global Ambassador Program (Outgoing)** – supports faculty and staff to travel to international universities and/or facilities aligned with USask’s existing or emerging areas of strength - valued up to $5,000.
3. **Internationalization Fund** – supports faculty and staff to increase the ability and confidence to initiate, build and support international and intercultural engagement and activities - valued up to $2,500.
4. **International Travel Fund** – supports faculty and staff to participate in international partnership and capacity building toward the university’s collective global citizenship and international community service engagement – valued up to $2,500.

Please note: Due to COVID-19 and current travel restrictions this is a special stream of travel grants that will support in-person travel and virtual activities for international partnership development, or a combination thereof. It is recommended to propose projects that begin with virtual activity while travel restrictions are currently still in place. In the near future, if travel resumes and safe to do so, in-person travel is encouraged.

*Extended* Application Deadline: 23 April 2021 by 4:00 pm CST

Please send application form and required supporting documents in a single pdf file with the fund name in the subject line to: international.office@usask.ca prior to the deadline.

All internal International Funding Opportunities are posted on the International Office webpage: https://internationaloffice.usask.ca/internal-funding.php
Please contact Le Li or Megan Fillatre at international.office@usask.ca with any questions about these funding opportunities.

**SSHRC Partnership Development Grant Pilot Program: Call for Applications**

Research Acceleration and Strategic Initiatives invites applications from those interested in participating in our [SSHRC Partnership Development Grant (PDG) Pilot Program](#). SSHRC’s PDGs assist researchers in building partnerships and are a key tool for fostering community-engaged research, establishing national and international collaborations, and engaging in research with Indigenous communities.

The pilot program will support a cohort of up to five faculty members who are each planning to apply for a PDG. The cohort will be supported by leading SSHRC scholars and members of the RASI office and run for approximately 18 months. Participants in the pilot will receive:

- Up to $20,000 in Spring 2021 to support partnership development activities.
- Peer-support and expert feedback over the ~18-month grant development period. Participants will meet as a group once every two to three months and work together to support one another throughout the application process.
- Up to $10k in matching funds, if the application is successful.

**Application Deadline:** 21 May 2021  
**Application Form:** [Online](#)

Please submit the application form to rasi.support@usask.ca. If you have any questions about your application, please contact Sara Mueller, Senior Research Specialist in RASI, at sara.mueller@usask.ca.

**AGE-WELL Emerging Entrepreneur Award**

The AGE-WELL Emerging Entrepreneur Award supports the development of emerging entrepreneurs to create and grow an innovative start-up with potential social and economic impact in Canada. The innovation must address one of AGE-WELL’s 8 Challenge Areas to shape the future of technology and aging research in Canada.

This $25,000 award is designed to give a new entrepreneur the financial resources to focus on making their ideas viable and rapidly deployable in service to our stakeholders.

For more information and how to apply, see [here](#).

Please share this AGE-WELL Award opportunity with your networks!

**Eligibility**

- Students, post-doctoral fellows, or have graduated/completed a post-doctoral fellowship within the last three years.
• Be over the age of 18 and residents of Canada.
• Be able to commit 20+ hours per week towards developing or scaling their business.

Important Dates
Applications Open: 29 March, 2021
Completed Applications Due: 30 April 2021

For application questions, please contact training@agewell-nce.ca.

Research Connections
Please be advised that the deadline for the 2020-21 Research Connections funding opportunity has been extended.

2021-22 Research Connections
Application Extended Deadline: 30 April 2021
Funding Start Date: May 31
Watch the Information Webinar >

Program Purpose: supports short-term, targeted, human health research knowledge mobilization (KMb) initiatives taking place in, and having a practical application for, Saskatchewan knowledge users.

Funding Available and Duration: Up to (CORRECTION) $7,500 in matching funding for up to one year.

New this year: Only activities will qualify for funding. There is no funding available for the events stream as in past years. Full program details available in the Application Package on our Opportunities page.

For questions related the this funding opportunity, please contact Chelsea Cunningham at ccunningham@shrf.ca.

Fighting Blindness Canada’s 2021 Research Grant Competition
The goal of the 2021 Research Grant Competition is to fund research that advances Fighting Blindness Canada’s mission to accelerate the development and availability of treatments and cures for blinding eye diseases. The program allows applications from all areas of vision research.

The program is open to independent investigators and/or research teams with a principal investigator from a Canadian institution and provides a budget of up to $100,000 a year for up to two years.

Learn More and Apply!

Deadlines
Letter of intent: 29 April 2021, 5pm (EST)
Full application: 22 July 2021, 5pm (EST)
Contact Details
Larissa Moniz, PhD
Director, Research and Mission Programs
research@fightingblindness.ca

INOVAIT Lecture Series in IGT & AI
INOVAIT is pleased to announce the launch of its flagship educational program in image-guided therapy and artificial intelligence.

The series consists of 7 online-based lectures that address the role of big data analytics in the field of image-guided therapy and the integration of artificial intelligence data handling into IGT technologies. The curriculum would be very helpful for students, entrepreneurs, innovators and scientists who are looking to gain introductory level knowledge about artificial intelligence and its relevance to image-guided therapy product development and commercialization.

This highly customized online curriculum is delivered by thought leaders and subject matter experts in the IGT and AI space. Attendance is free but registration is required. Learn more and register here!

CIHR Access Newsletter
The 29 March 2021 CIHR Access Newsletter is now available online.

Featured Funding Opportunities Include:
• Operating Grant: Emerging COVID-19 Research Gaps and Priorities Funding Opportunity
• Team Grant: Indirect Socio-Economic Burden of Inherited Diseases

Pre-announcements
• Pre-announcement: Healthy Cities Implementation Science Team Grants

View these opportunities in the CIHR Funding Opportunity Database.

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