Notices from December 06, 2016 to December 08, 2016

This publication synopsizes funding opportunities, rules and regulations, comment requests, and meetings information from Grants.gov, Federal Register, and Federal Business Opportunities for colleges and universities that are eligible to be lead applicants or serve as partners.

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**ARTS / HUMANITIES / INTERNATIONAL**

**FUNDING OPPORTUNITY:**
FY 2017 National Security Language Initiative for Youth

**FON:**
ECA-ECAPEC-17-010

**AGENCY:**
Department of State (State), Bureau Of Educational and Cultural Affairs

**ITEM:**
Notice seeking applications to increase the number of American youth (ages 15 to 18) who learn critical foreign languages in support of the U.S. foreign policy goals of increasing national security, promoting U.S. competitiveness, building mutual understanding, and involving the robust participation of youth.

**ACTION:**
Applications are due February 6, 2017. Approximately $8.9 million is available to support one award.
LINKS:

CONTACT:
Carol Radomski, 202/632-9354. Email: RadomskiCA@state.gov (mailto:RadomskiCA@state.gov)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY:
Promoting the Human Rights of Persons with Albinism in Tanzania

FON:
DRLA-DRLAQM-17-041

AGENCY:
Department of State (State), Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor (DRL)

ITEM:
Notice seeking applications for programs intended to increase respect for human rights and to combat structural forms of stigma, discrimination, and violence that impacts persons with albinism in Tanzania.

ACTION:
Applications due January 20, 2017. Approximately $350,000 is available to support one to two awards.

LINKS:

CONTACT:
Travis Benaiges, Email: BenaigesTC@state.gov (mailto:BenaigesTC@state.gov)

EDUCATION / ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY:
BJA FY 17 Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Program (BCJI)

FON:
BJA-2017-11263

AGENCY:
Department of Justice (Justice)

ITEM:
Notice seeking applications for projects to reduce crime and improve community safety as part of a comprehensive strategy to advance neighborhood revitalization goals.

ACTION:
Applications are due February 2, 2017. Approximately $700,000 is available to support 14 awards.

LINKS:

CONTACT:
Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline, 800/518-4726. Email: support@grants.gov (mailto:support@grants.gov)
FUNDING OPPORTUNITY:
BJA FY 17 Smart Policing Initiative

FON:
BJA-2017-11403

AGENCY:
Department of Justice (Justice)

ITEM:
Notice seeking applications to support state, local, and tribal jurisdictions' implementation and evaluation of unique approaches to chronic crime problems, emerging crime problems, or barriers to police agencies' ability to address such problems.

ACTION:
Applications are due January 26, 2017. Approximately $5 million is available to support up to eight awards.

LINKS:

CONTACT:
National Criminal Justice Reference Service Response Center, 800/851-3420. Email: grants@ncjrs.gov (mailto:grants@ncjrs.gov)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY:
BJA FY 17 Smart Prosecution Initiative

FON:
BJA-2017-11222

AGENCY:
Department of Justice (Justice)

ITEM:
Notice seeking applications to explore new solutions to public safety concerns, as well as internal operations and organizational structure, while employing research partners at the problem definition stage through assessment of strategies and solutions. Partnerships are encouraged.

ACTION:
Applications are due January 26, 2017. Approximately $1.275 million is available to support up to three awards.

LINKS:

CONTACT:
National Criminal Justice Reference Service Response Center, 800/851–3420. Email: grants@ncjrs.gov (mailto:grants@ncjrs.gov)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY:
BJA FY 17 Technology Innovation for Public Safety (TIPS)
FON:
BJA-2017-11547

AGENCY:
Department of Justice (Justice)

ITEM:
Notice seeking applications to enable strategic information sharing across crime-fighting agencies and with identified partnerships to address specific local or regional crime problems. Applicants are encouraged to propose comprehensive plans that include coordination among multiple stakeholder agencies, shared investment and use of technology services or regional planning as appropriate. Institutions of higher education can be subgrantees.

ACTION:
Applications are due February 7, 2017. Approximately $4 million is available to support up to five awards.

LINKS:

CONTACT:
National Criminal Justice Reference Service Response Center, 800/851-3420. Email: grants@ncjrs.gov (mailto:grants@ncjrs.gov)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY:
BJA FY 17 The Smart Prosecution Initiative Training and Technical Assistance Program

FON:
BJA-2017-11200

AGENCY:
Department of Justice (Justice), Bureau of Justice Assistance

ITEM:
Notice seeking applications to deliver, nationwide, a wide range of training and technical assistance services to agencies participating in Smart Prosecution. These services include, but are not limited to, training sessions and educational sessions developed and conducted by relevant subject matter experts, onsite or remote guidance on problem analysis, solution development, data analysis, prosecution theory, evaluation methodology, and other matters relevant to the purposes of the Smart Prosecution Program.

ACTION:
Applications are due January 26, 2017. Approximately $750,000 is available to support one award.

LINKS:

CONTACT:
National Criminal Justice Reference Service Response Center, 800/851-3420. Email: grants@ncjrs.gov (mailto:grants@ncjrs.gov)
FUNDING OPPORTUNITY:
Coastal Program - Great Lakes Restoration Initiative

FON:
F17AS00046

AGENCY:
Department of the Interior (Interior), Fish and Wildlife Service

ITEM:
Notice seeking applications supporting Coastal Program – Great Lakes Restoration Initiative. Projects must advance the mission, promote biological diversity, and be based upon sound scientific biological principles. Cost sharing is encouraged.

ACTION:
Applications are due April 5, 2017. Approximately $600,000 is available to support 12 awards.

LINKS:

CONTACT:
Christie Deloria, 906/226-1240. Email: christie_deloria@fws.gov

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY:
Firearm and Bow Hunter Safety and Education Program (Section 10 Hunter Education Grant Program)

FON:
F17AS00047

AGENCY:
Department of the Interior (Interior), Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)

ITEM:
Notice seeking applications to enhance; programs for hunter education, hunter development, and firearm and archery safety; interstate coordination of hunter-education and firearm- and archery-range programs; programs for education, safety, or development of bow hunters and archers; construction and development of firearm and archery ranges; and to update safety features of firearm and archery ranges.

ACTION:
Applications are due August 31, 2017.

LINKS:

CONTACT:
Christina Milloy, 703/862-5761. Email: Christina_Milloy@fws.gov

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY:
OJJDP FY 17 Community Level Youth Violence Prevention Research and Evaluation Program

FON:
OJJDP-2017-10946
AGENCY:
Department of Justice (Justice)

ITEM:
Notice seeking applications to promote efficient and effective community-level adoption and sustainability of research-tested youth violence prevention and control strategies. The goal of this research and evaluation program is to generate knowledge and tools with practical implications for efforts to prevent and reduce youth violence and exposure to violence at the community level.

ACTION:
Applications are due February 7, 2017. Approximately $1 million is available to support up to two awards.

LINKS:

CONTACT:
Response Center, 800/851–3420. Email: grants@ncjrs.gov (mailto:grants@ncjrs.gov)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY:
Organic Transitions

FON:
USDA-NIFA-ICGP-006173

AGENCY:
United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA)

ITEM:
Notice seeking applications to support the development and implementation of research, extension, and higher education programs to improve the competitiveness of organic livestock and crop producers, as well as those who are adopting organic practices.

ACTION:
Applications are due March 9, 2017. Approximately $3.8 million is available.

LINKS:

CONTACT:
Mathieu Ngouajio, 202/401-4895. Email: mngouajio@nifa.usda.gov (mailto:mngouajio@nifa.usda.gov)

NOTICE:
Solicitation of Nominations for Members of the USDA Grain Inspection Advisory Committee

AGENCY:
United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)

ITEM:
Notice soliciting nominations for the Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) Advisory Committee.
ACTION:
Nomination materials are due January 20, 2017.

LINKS:
Federal Register (https://www.federalregister.gov/d/2016-29229)

CONTACT:
Terri Henry, 22/25-8281. Email: Terri.L.Henry@usda.gov (mailto:Terri.L.Henry@usda.gov)

HEALTH

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY:
Autism Transitions Research Project (ATRP)

FON:
HRSA-17-097

AGENCY:
Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

ITEM:
Notice seeking applications to support research designed to advance the evidence base regarding factors associated with healthy life (physical, social, mental health, and educational/occupational) outcomes among adolescents and young adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder who are transitioning to adulthood.

ACTION:
Applications are due February 13, 2017. Approximately $500,000 is available to support one award.

LINKS:

CONTACT:
Robin Harwood, 301/443-3888. Email: rharwood@hrsa.gov (mailto:rharwood@hrsa.gov)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY:
Innovative Programs to Enhance Research Training (IPERT) (R25)

FON:
PAR-17-070

AGENCY:
National Institutes of Health (NIH), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) , National Institute of General Medical Sciences

ITEM:
Notice seeking applications for creative educational activities with a primary focus on Courses for Skills Development, Mentoring Activities, and Outreach that complement and/or enhance the research training of a workforce to meet the nations biomedical, behavioral and clinical research needs.

ACTION:
Requested letters of intent are due 30 days prior to application deadline. Applications due February 7, 2017, January 23, 2018, and January 23, 2019.
LINKS:

CONTACT:
Michael Sesma, 301/594-3900. Email: msesma@nigms.nih.gov

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY:
Leveraging Electronic Health Records for Alcohol Services Research (R21/R33)
FON:
PAR-17-071

AGENCY:
National Institutes of Health (NIH), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

ITEM:
Notice seeking low-cost, pragmatic research applications that leverage electronic clinical records to conduct studies that address novel health services questions about the treatment of alcohol use disorders in routine clinical care settings.

ACTION:
Applications are due February 16; June 16; October 16 through May 8, 2020.

LINKS:

CONTACT:
Lori Ducharme, 301/451-8507. Email: Lori.Ducharme@nih.gov

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY:
Maximizing Access to Research Careers Undergraduate - Student Training in Academic Research (MARC U-STAR) (T34)
FON:
PAR-17-068

AGENCY:
National Institutes of Health (NIH), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), National Institute of General Medical Sciences

ITEM:
Notice seeking applications supporting MARC Undergraduate Student Training in Academic Research (U-STAR) program.

ACTION:
Applications are due April 24, 2017. The number of awards and award amounts are contingent upon applications received.

Limited Submission:
One application per institution is allowed.
FUNDING OPPORTUNITY:
Mechanisms of Cancer Drug Resistance and Sensitivity (U54)
FON:
RFA-CA-17-009
AGENCY:
National Institutes of Health (NIH), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), National Cancer Institute
ITEM:
Notice seeking applications to create a network of Drug Resistance and Sensitivity Centers to develop innovative strategies to study mechanisms of tumor resistance or sensitivity to anticancer therapy. It is hoped that such studies will permit future efforts to identify and exploit these phenomena in clinical settings.
ACTION:
Optional letters of intent are due 30 days prior to the application due date. Applications are due March 3, 2017. Approximately $6.25 million is available to support up to five awards.
LINKS:
CONTACT:
L. Austin Doyle, 240/276-6565. Email: doylela@mail.nih.gov (mailto:doylela@mail.nih.gov)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY:
Miner Safety and Health Training Program-Western United States (U60)
FON:
RFA-OH-17-006
AGENCY:
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)
ITEM:
Notice seeking applications for cooperative agreements to support the development of training and education programs to enhance the quality and availability of health and safety training for mine workers in the Western United States.
ACTION:
Applications are due February 14, 2017. Approximately $1.2 million is available to support three awards.

LINKS:
CONTACT:
Sailaja Koduri, 301/594-3900. Email: koduris@mail.nih.gov (mailto:koduris@mail.nih.gov)
FUNDING OPPORTUNITY:
Natural Experiments of Policy and Built Environment Impact on Diabetes Risk

FON:
RFA-DP-17-003

AGENCY:
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

ITEM:
Notice seeking applications to either support a 5-year multi-center research network of innovative, non-health system-based, natural experiments approaches to alter the diabetogenic characteristics of US communities OR to operate a Central Coordinating Center (CCC) to provide organizational, logistic, and communication support to enhance the efficiency, productivity, and impact of the Natural Experiments research centers that are funded as part of the former component.

ACTION:
Applications are due February 13, 2017. Approximately $15 million is available to support five awards.

LINKS:

CONTACT:
Natalie Darling, Email: ndh6@cdc.gov (mailto:ndh6@cdc.gov)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY:
NCI Transition Career Development Award to Promote Diversity (K22)

FON:
PAR-17-069

AGENCY:
National Institutes of Health (NIH), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), National Cancer Institute

ITEM:
Notice seeking applications supporting NCI Career Transition Award to Promote Diversity program to assist a postdoctoral fellow's transition to positions of assistant professor or equivalent and initiate a successful biomedical career as an independent research scientist.

ACTION:
Applications are due annually on February 12, June 12, and October 12. The amount available and the number of awards are contingent upon NIH appropriations.

LINKS:
CONTACT:
Abigail Soyombo, 240/276-6553. Email: abigail.soyombo@nih.gov (mailto:abigail.soyombo@nih.gov)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY:
Optimizing the HIV Care Continuum for Substance Abusing Populations at High-Risk and/or Living with HIV (R01)
FON:
RFA-DA-17-024
AGENCY:
National Institutes of Health (NIH), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), National Institute on Drug Abuse
ITEM:
Notice seeking applications supporting research that examines multiple components of the care continuum, such as HIV testing (identification) status, linkage and retention in care, and viral suppression for individuals with HIV for substance abusing populations at high-risk and/or living with HIV.
ACTION:
Optional letters of intent are due April 8, 2017. Applications are due May 9, 2017. Approximately $4 million is available to support up to five awards.
LINKS:
CONTACT:
Shoshana Kahana, 301/443-2261. Email: kahanas@mail.nih.gov (mailto:kahanas@mail.nih.gov)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY:
PDX Data Commons and Coordinating Center (PDCCC) for the PDX Development and Trial Centers Research Network (PDXNet) (U24)
FON:
RFA-CA-17-004
AGENCY:
National Institutes of Health (NIH), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), National Cancer Institute
ITEM:
Notice seeking applications to establish a PDXNet Data Commons and Coordinating Center (PDCCC). PDCCC will interact with and coordinate with the PDX (Patient-Derived Xenograft) Development and Trial Centers Research Network (PDXNet) comprised of four PDX Development and Trial Centers (PDTCs, to be supported by companion FOA, RFA-CA-17-003) in a collaborative network.
ACTION:
Optional letters of intent are due February 2, 2017. Applications are due March 3, 2017. Approximately $650,000 is available to support one award.
Limited Submission:
Institution may submit only one application

LINKS:

CONTACT:
Jeffrey Moscow, 240/276-6101. Email: jeffrey.moscow@nih.gov

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY:
PDX Development and Trial Centers (PDTCs) (U54)

FON:
RFA-CA-17-003

AGENCY:
National Institutes of Health (NIH), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), National Cancer Institute

ITEM:
Notice seeking applications for PDX (patient-derived xenografts) Development and Trial Centers (PDTCs) to serve as the laboratory research units of the PDX Development and Trial Centers Research Network (PDXNet). The PDXNet is a NCI program established to coordinate collaborative, large-scale development and pre-clinical testing of targeted therapeutic agents in patient-derived models to advance the vision of cancer precision medicine.

ACTION:
Optional letters of intent are due February 2, 2017. Applications are due March 3, 2017. Approximately $5 million is available to support four awards.

LINKS:

CONTACT:
Jeffrey Moscow, 240/276-6565. Email: jeffrey.moscow@nih.gov

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY:
Primary Care Medicine and Dentistry Clinician Educator Career Development Award

FON:
HRSA-17-072

AGENCY:
Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

ITEM:
Notice seeking applications to strengthen the primary care workforce by training and supporting physicians, physician assistants, dentists, and dental hygienists who plan to teach in the primary care fields.
ACTION:
Applications are due February 13, 2017. Approximately $4 million is available to support up to 20 awards.

LINKS:

CONTACT:
Anthony Anyanwu, 301/443-8437. Email: aanyanwu@hrsa.gov (mailto:aanyanwu@hrsa.gov)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY:
Revision Applications for U.S-South Africa Program for Collaborative Biomedical Research, R01 and U01

FON:
RFA-AI-16-082 (R01); RFA-AI-16-083 (U01)

AGENCY:
National Institutes of Health (NIH), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Multiple Institutes

ITEM:
Notice seeking applications to enhance the pool of investigators in South Africa who are from underrepresented backgrounds in the country's workforce and who are engaged in collaborative research activities in the areas of tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS biomedical and behavioral science, and HIV-related co-morbidities, including malignancies.

ACTION:
Optional letters of intent are due February 28, 2017. Applications are due March 28, 2017.

LINKS:

CONTACT:
Brian Remortel, 240/292-4816 (NIH). Email: Brian.Remortel@nih.gov (mailto:Brian.Remortel@nih.gov)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY:
The NCI Predoctoral to Postdoctoral Fellow Transition Award (F99/K00)

FON:
RFA-CA-17-014

AGENCY:
National Institutes of Health (NIH), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), National Cancer Institute

ITEM:
Notice seeking applications to encourage and retain outstanding graduate students who have demonstrated potential and interest in pursuing careers as independent cancer researchers.

ACTION:
Optional letters of intent are due January 18, 2017. Applications are due February 18, 2017. Approximately $1.5 million is available to support up to 36 awards.

LINKS:

CONTACT:
Michele McGuirl, 240/276-5421. Email: mcguirlma@mail.nih.gov

MEETING:
National Institute on Aging; Notice of Meeting

AGENCY:
National Institutes of Health (NIH), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

ITEM:
Notice announcing a meeting of National Advisory Council on Aging. The meeting will cover reports from the task force on minority aging research, working group on program, and program highlights.

ACTION:
The meeting will be held January 18, 2017 from 8:00 am to 1:15 pm ET at Building 31, C Wing 6th Floor Conference Room 10, 9000 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD.

LINKS:
Federal Register (https://www.federalregister.gov/d/2016-29139)

CONTACT:
Robin Barr, 301/496-9322. Email: barrr@nia.nih.gov

SCIENCE / TECHNOLOGY / ENGINEERING / MATH

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY:
14th Annual P3 Awards: A National Student Design Competition for Sustainability Focusing on People, Prosperity and the Planet

FON:
EPA-G2017-P3-Q3; EPA-G2017-P3-Q2; EPA-G2017-P3-Q1

AGENCY:
Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

ITEM:
Notice seeking applications for EPA's P3 award program proposing research, develop, and design solutions to real world challenges involving sustainability. Research areas are energy, built environment, materials and chemicals, and water.

ACTION:
Applications are due February 3, 2017. Approximately $900,000 is available to support 32 awards.

LINKS:
energy-efficient computing: from devices to architectures

funding opportunity:
funding opportunity:
energy-efficient computing: from devices to architectures

fon:
17-531

agency:
national science foundation (nsf)

item:
notice seeking proposals to maximize the potential for successfully identifying and implementing revolutionary solutions to break through the bottleneck of energy-constrained computational performance. programmers, system architects, circuit designers, chip processing engineers, material scientists, and computational chemists must all explore these new paths together to co-design an optimal solution path.

action:
proposals are due march 7, 2017. approximately $6 million is available to support up to eight awards.

links:

contact:
sankar basu, 703/292-7843. email: sabasu@nsf.gov (mailto:sabasu@nsf.gov)

funding opportunity:
facsimile appearance to create energy savings (faces)

fon:
de-foa-0001714

agency:
department of energy (energy)

item:
notice seeking applications to develop advanced information technologies which will dramatically reduce the need to travel for the purpose of communication, thereby reducing travel-related energy consumption and its associated greenhouse gas emissions, as well as increasing the efficiency of energy use and improving economic security.

action:
concept papers are due january 17, 2017. approximately $9.5 million is available.
LINKS:

CONTACT:
Email: ARPA-ECO@hq.doe.gov (mailto:ARPA-ECO@hq.doe.gov)

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FUNDING OPPORTUNITY:
Innovations at the Nexus of Food, Energy and Water Systems (INFEWS)

FON: 17-530

AGENCY: National Science Foundation (NSF), Multipe Directorates

ITEM: Notice seeking applications supporting INFEWS system modeling; visualization and decision support for cyber-human-physical systems; and research to enable innovative system solutions.

ACTION: Applications are due March 6, 2017. Approximately $40 million is available to support up to 30 awards.

LINKS:

CONTACT: See solicitation for list of appropriate contact.

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FUNDING OPPORTUNITY:
Limited Competition: Revision Application for the Human Islet Research Network Coordinating Center (U01)

FON: RFA-DK-17-501

AGENCY: National Institutes of Health (NIH), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

ITEM: Notice seeking applications to support additional pilot projects that will seed new and innovative research collaborations, and that will expand the development of novel shared resources required by Human Islet Research Network Coordinating Center (HIRN-CC) investigators and the community. NIDDK uses the cooperative agreement funding mechanism supporting the HIRN-CC for a variety of projects requiring significant input from and oversight by NIDDK program staff.

ACTION: Optional letters of intent are due February 15, 2017. Applications are due March 15, 2017. Approximately $5 million is available to support one award.

Limited Submission: Only one application per institution is allowed.
FUNDING OPPORTUNITY:
NIST Public Safety Innovation Accelerator Program
FON:
2017-NIST-PSIAP-01
AGENCY:
National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), Department of Commerce (Commerce)
ITEM:
Notice seeking applications for activities to accelerate research, development, production, and testing of key broadband technologies and capabilities for first responders.
ACTION:
Applications are due February 28, 2017. Approximately $30 million is available.
LINKS:
CONTACT:
Christopher Hunton, 301/975-5718. Email: grants@nist.gov (mailto:grants@nist.gov)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY:
Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) Program: SURF operating on the Boulder, Colorado campus (SURF Boulder) and the Gaithersburg, Maryland campus (SURF Gaithersburg)
FON:
2017-NIST-SURF-01
AGENCY:
National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), Department of Commerce (Commerce)
ITEM:
Notice seeking applications for the SURF program that provides an opportunity for the NIST laboratories to encourage outstanding undergraduate students to pursue careers in science and engineering. The objective of the SURF Program is to build a mutually beneficial relationship among the student, the academic institution, and NIST.
ACTION:
Applications are due February 15, 2017. Approximately $1.8 million is available.
LINKS:
CONTACT:
Brandi Toliver, 301/975-2371. Email: brandi.toliver@nist.gov (mailto:brandi.toliver@nist.gov)
MEETING:
Federal Advisory Committee Act; Communications Security, Reliability, and Interoperability Council

AGENCY:
Federal Communications Commission (FCC)

ITEM:
Notice announcing a meeting of the Communications Security, Reliability, and Interoperability Council.

ACTION:
The meeting will be held on December 21, 2016 from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm ET at Room TW-C305 (Commission Meeting Room), 445 12th Street SW., Washington, DC.

LINKS:
Federal Register (https://www.federalregister.gov/d/2016-29158)

CONTACT:
Jeffery Goldthorp, 202/418-1916. Email: jeffery.goldthorp@fcc.gov

NOTICE:
Framework for a Federal Strategic Plan for Soil Science

AGENCY:
Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP)

ITEM:
Notice seeking comments on the Soil Science Interagency Working Group (SSIWG) to develop a framework for a federal strategic plan for soil science.

ACTION:
Comments will be accepted through January 10, 2017.

LINKS:
Federal Register (https://www.federalregister.gov/d/2016-29187)

CONTACT:
Parker Liautaud, 202/881-7564. Email: pliautaud@ostp.eop.gov

NOTICE:
National Advisory Committee on Microbiological Criteria for Foods

AGENCY:
United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Food Safety and Inspection Service

ITEM:
Notice soliciting nominations for membership on the National Advisory Committee on Microbiological Criteria for Foods. There are 15 vacancies; members serve a two-year term, renewable for two consecutive terms. Nominees with scientific expertise in the fields of microbiology, epidemiology, food technology (food, clinical, and predictive), toxicology, risk assessment, infectious disease, biostatistics, and other related sciences are sought.

ACTION:
Materials are due January 6, 2017 via instructions in the notice.

LINKS:

CONTACT:
Karen Thomas-Sharp, 202/690-6620. Email: karen.thomas-sharp@fsis.usda.gov (mailto:karen.thomas-sharp@fsis.usda.gov).

NOTICE:
National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Centennial Challenges Program - Sample Return Robot Virtual Challenge Request for Information (RFI)

FON:
NNM17ZZP002L

AGENCY:
National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

ITEM:
Notice announcing request for information to gather feedback on the competition being considered, the prize amounts and distribution structure; to determine the interest level in potentially competing in this challenge; and gather feedback on the competition rules.

ACTION:
Response are due January 20, 2017.

LINKS:
FBO (https://www.fbo.gov/notices/971f87d8e2028c938f94851729a38442)

CONTACT:
Melinda E Swenson, 256/544-0381. Email: melinda.e.swenson@nasa.gov (mailto:melinda.e.swenson@nasa.gov)

NOTICE:
National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Centennial Challenges Program Life Detection Challenge Request For Information (RFI)

FON:
NNM17ZZPOO1L

AGENCY:
National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), Space Technology Mission Directorate

ITEM:
Notice seeking input on a life detection challenge proposed to start in 2017. The challenge focuses on building and demonstrating a scientific instrument capable of detecting evidence of Earth-type life in a small (10 mL) liquid sample provided to the instrument. This RFI seeks: (1) to gather feedback on the competition being considered, including the challenge goal, prize amounts, and competition structure
(including parameters and evaluation criteria); (2) to determine the interest level in potentially competing in this challenge; and (3) to determine the interest level in administering the challenge (as an allied organization).

ACTION:
Comments are due by January 27, 2017 via email per directions in notice.

LINKS:
FBO (https://www.fbo.gov/?s=opportunity&mode=form&id=816f28a096b0afa5db189264e7e95b96&tab=core&cview=0)

CONTACT:
Melinda Swenson, 256/544-0381. Email: melinda.e.swenson@nasa.gov
(mailto:melinda.e.swenson@nasa.gov)

This information was compiled and edited by Ken McDonald with assistance from the GRC Staff.