

THE RESEARCH REVIEW

A Monthly Newsletter by The Office of Research Administration

NEWS

Pre-Award Services

- Dogwood Health Trust
- National Science Foundation
- ECMC Foundation

Post-Award Services

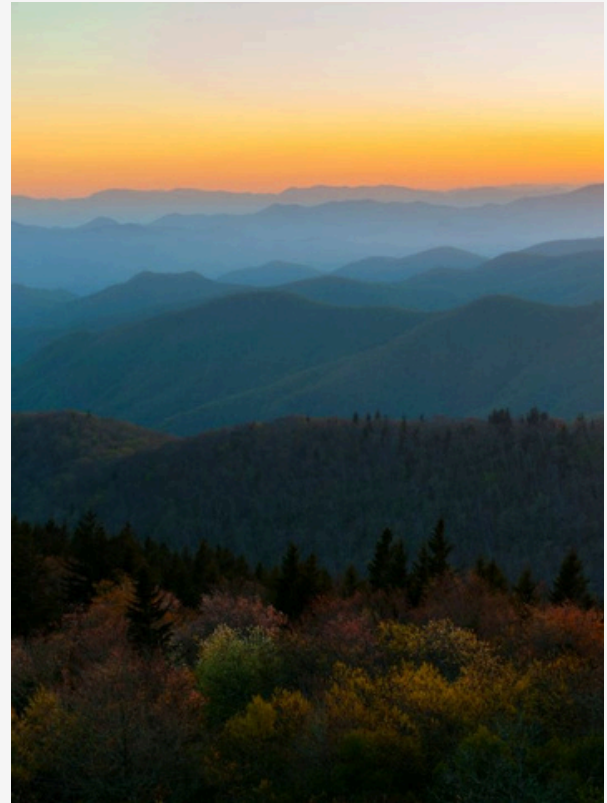
- Year End Roll Up Guidance for Sponsored Projects
- Submitting Post Award Requests

Compliance

- Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) Academy
- Research Security Training
- Post-Approval Monitoring (PAM) Audits

Student Research

- RASC brings students, faculty, alumni together in scholarship celebration
- 29 WCU undergraduate students present at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research



RESTORING THROUGH RESEARCH

In the days after Hurricane Helene devastated Western North Carolina, first responders and volunteers rushed to help their neighbors. Checking in on loved ones, restoring electricity to homes and businesses, and conducting search and rescue missions already looked like a daunting uphill battle.

[READ MORE...](#)

Research Data Dive

[View the Data of WCU's Research Pursuits](#)



Office of Research
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PRE-AWARD SERVICES NEWS

Dogwood Health Trust

Dogwood Health Trust will release two new [Request for Proposals](#) (RFPs) in May 2025. Submission requirements and proposal package elements are not yet available, but if limited submissions are required, ORA will coordinate a white paper process to select the institutional representative. Contact the ORA to discuss your project idea and its alignment with callout goals and start preparing your project idea in anticipation of a short proposal development period.

National Science Foundation: Humans, Disasters, and the Built Environment

Proposals are accepted anytime.

The NSF HDBE program supports fundamental research on the interaction between human activities and the built environment in the context of natural hazards and disasters. It seeks interdisciplinary proposals that advance theories, methods, and data across diverse fields such as engineering, social sciences, natural sciences, and computing.

Researchers are encouraged to email a one-page project summary to the HDBE Program Officer before submitting a full proposal.

[Learn More](#)

ECMC Foundation: Transforming Postsecondary Education

Proposals are accepted anytime.

The ECMC Foundation equips institutions and organizations to better serve learners and evolve the postsecondary ecosystem to deliver improved college completion outcomes for all students.

Funding Priorities:

- Removing Barriers to Postsecondary Completion
- Building Organizational Capacity
- Transforming the Postsecondary Ecosystem

[Learn More](#)

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POST-AWARD NEWS

Year End Roll Up Guidance for Sponsored Projects

As Fiscal Year 2024–2025 (FY 25) comes to an end, we want to remind you of some important processes and deadlines. These processes & deadlines apply to all sponsored projects regardless of the end date. ORA must work in conjunction with rollup procedures and spending restrictions announced by the University.

Timeline and Processes:

April – May 2025:

- Review bi-weekly fund reviews provided in email
- Ensure Personnel Action Forms (PAFs) for summer 2025 extra compensation have been signed in Adobe Sign (PAFs deadline for summer extra compensation is due May 2, 2025. Check your email for an Adobe Sign)

May – June 2025:

- Review bi-weekly fund reviews provided in email
- Ensure Personnel Action Forms (PAFs) for summer 2025 extra compensation have been signed in Adobe Sign
- Anticipate the need to process invoices, contracted services, supply purchases, etc. are made in advance of the purchasing deadlines listed below

June 2025:

- **June 10th, 2025:** WCU Purchasing deadlines for PCards and Catamart
- **June 13th, 2025:** Post Award deadline to submit FY 25 recodes, invoices, check requests, & travel reimbursements for approval
- **June 20th, 2025:** All invoices, check requests, and travel reimbursements are submitted and paid.

Submit any needed requests to the **Post-Award Action Form** (includes budget revisions, recodes, check requests, etc.) to be processed in this FY.

continued on next page...

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POST-AWARD NEWS

Submitting Post Award Requests

The **Post-Award Action Form** is active and ready for use. Please submit prior action requests to the [Post-Award Action Form](#)

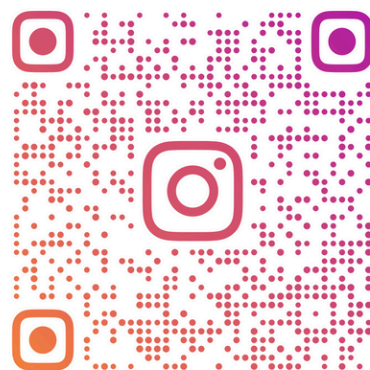
- **Why Use the New Form?** Simplifies submitting post award action requests. It is faster than email!
- **Enhanced Efficiency:** Ensures prompt and accurate management of all requests.
- **Convenient Access:** Link to the new form is available on the [Research Cat website](#) and in our email signatures
- **What to Submit:** Budget revisions/adjustments, No Cost Extensions (NCE), Check Requests (includes reimbursements, IC paperwork, honoraria), Change in PI/Scope, and Fund Review Requests
- **How to Submit:** Find it in our email signature or visit the [Research Cat website](#) and click the Post Award Action button.

For questions, please contact Benjamin Peters (bpeters@wcu.edu) and Cameron Lopez (clopez@wcu.edu).

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COMPLIANCE NEWS

Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) Academy

Coulter Faculty Commons (CFC) is hosting a year-long Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) Academy. The Research Compliance Office will be presenting a session on IRB guidance.

Upcoming Events:

- **May 2025:** 2-day intensive SoTL Project Design Institute.
- **Fall 2025:** SoTL Learn & Write Collaborative.

For questions, contact [April Tallant](#), [Scott Seagle](#), [Chad Hallyburton](#), or [Darby Harris](#)

Research Security Training

NSF will require Research Security training for all NSF-funded researchers effective **May 2025**.

- Included in the 2025 Proposal & Award Policies & Procedures Guide (PAPPG)
- Training Provider: citiprogram.org
- For questions, contact [Mallory Ball](#)

Post-Approval Monitoring (PAM) Audits

The Office of Research Administration's Research Compliance unit will soon begin conducting Post-Approval Monitoring (PAM) audits of non-exempt IRB studies.

- The audits will be conducted on a random selection of studies.
- Notification: If your study is selected for monitoring, a member of the Research Compliance unit will reach out to you directly to schedule the monitoring visit.
- For questions, contact IRB@wcu.edu

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STUDENT RESEARCH NEWS

RASC brings students, faculty, alumni together in scholarship celebration

The 2025 Research and Scholarship Conference at Western Carolina University took place March 19 and 20, where students, faculty, and the community came together to celebrate the academic endeavors of participants.

The first morning of RASC began at the AK Hinds University Center, where the undergraduate and graduate oral presentations took place. Walking into the history session and sitting among the presenters and supportive friends, attendees could hear students deliver a fifteen-minute lecture before a faculty moderator opened the floor to questions. Attendees could step in and out of sessions in psychology, English, social sciences, technology, science, and real-world research.

The day continued when the Ramsey Arena transformed from the spacious home of WCU Athletics to an intimate space for David Joy's keynote address. Black curtains enclosed a few sections of the stands where, on the stage on the arena floor, Joy delivered, "A Mountain Knotted Together: Researching and Capturing the Inseparability of Place." Joy's address centered around his book, "Those We Thought We Knew," in which WCU relocated Mt. Zion A.M.E. Church and its graves to construct Robertson Residence Hall.

Read the full story on [WCU Stories: Research and Discovery](#)

29 WCU undergraduate students present at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research

In early April, 29 WCU undergraduate students traveled to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to present their research at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR). At NCUR, nearly 4,000 undergraduate students from all fields and disciplines come together every year to present their research through oral presentations, posters, performances, and visual arts.

Congratulations to this year's WCU presenters!: Allem Rojas, Allison Thackery, Amaranth Schmoyer, Angela Vidal, Annabelle Pentland, Ariel Colón-Rodríguez, Ashley Oglesby, Ben Griffith, Christopher Ginn, Ella Whitehead, Gabriella Loredó Marquez, Grace Pavel, Hardin Kennedy, John Crain, Joshua Madison, Kaitlyn Wingnean, Lauren Koster, Madelyn Gregory, Minami Imamura, Mykah Green, Natalie Woolwine, Omar De Jesus-Gomez, Rynn Oleszczuk, Sara Rusi, Sayumi De Silva, Taleigh Verrault, Taylor Kissiah, Thomas Bolick, and Tryston Weiss.

Stay tuned for an upcoming article that will feature more information about these students' experiences and research!