



RELEASE: Thursday, July 1, 2026

Lobos,

We have a few updates and new resources for you as we head into a long weekend, celebrating our country's 250th birthday.

Federal Funding Agency Updates

National Institutes of Health (NIH):

- NIH issued a request for information to solicit public input on the outline for a proposed policy that would limit the number of research project grants an individual could simultaneously serve on as a principal investigator or multi-principal investigator. The full Request for Information (RFI) can be found [here](#).
- NIH has also launched a new office to advance human-based research and reduce animal use. The new [Office of Research Innovation, Validation, and Application \(ORIVA\)](#) will coordinate NIH-wide efforts to develop, validate, and scale New Approach Methodologies (NAMs) and serve as a hub for interagency coordination and regulatory translation.
- NIH released an RFI on [Measuring and Rewarding Scientific Impact](#). Responses are due by Aug 19.

Department of Energy (DOE)

- A recent court ruling overturned DOE's decision to terminate \$82.1M in clean energy grants. You can read more about the decision [here](#).
- DOE recently released the finalized [Fusion Science and Technology Roadmap](#), which seeks to create a united effort to expand energy technology through the development and commercialization of fusion energy. The roadmap intends to support advanced research, high-performance computing, and artificial intelligence.

National Science Foundation (NSF)

- Members of Congress have recently [pushed back](#) on action being taken by NSF to "descope" the longstanding [Ocean Observatories Initiative](#).

National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)

- After a [judicial ruling](#) that the termination of 1,400 awards was unconstitutional, NEH is now working to return those grants to recipients. UNM had several terminated NEH awards, which we are working with the PIs to reinstate.

Recent Research News

- *Nature* recently published [an article](#) with an analysis of new considerations related to federal agency review of NIH grants, including delays on renewals for previously funding projects and various hurdles that researchers have faced in seeking new funding from NIH.



- In a legislative hearing last week, research integrity was in the spotlight, with federal investigators from various funding agencies testifying on the use of the False Claims Act (and its whistleblower provisions) to combat fraud in research grants. You can read more about the hearing [here](#).

LAST CALL - We Need Your Input on OMB Proposed Changes

In our last communication, we encouraged researchers to provide comments on the proposed [OMB changes](#). Thank you to everyone who submitted comments.

We are now reviewing that feedback and working to develop a coordinated response in collaboration with UNM leadership and our Government and Community Relations Office. Now, we need you to share **any specific examples of where the proposed changes will directly impact you and/or the communities you work with in your research efforts. Evidence-based comments** that demonstrate practical impacts on research, research operations, administration, costs, and institutional capacity will be most effective.

Please respond with your specific examples by July 8 using [this link](#).

We hope you are having a productive and restorative summer.

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