AGENDA

1. Intro to Lewis-Burke
2. Relevant Federal Agency Snapshots
3. Agency Engagement
4. Questions
ABOUT LEWIS-BURKE

- Founded in 1992; located in Washington, DC
- Around 30 policy experts with range of expertise/backgrounds allow multi-layered issue teams with deep expertise in agencies and scientific/higher education areas
- Support federal relations activities to develop and implement federal strategies to pursue, shape, and create new sources of funding to increase and diversify research portfolio
- Able to engage on multiple levels:
  - Individual faculty (including early career faculty)
  - Teams of faculty
  - Associate Deans for Research
  - Deans and Center Directors
  - University leadership and campus-wide priorities/activities
Funding Outlook: In FY 2021, NSF was funded at $8.5 billion, a 2.5% increase over FY 2020. Draft congressional NSF reauthorization bill calls for expansion of social sciences to all cross-platform NSF programs.

Social and Behavioral Science Directorate:
• Must expand foundational knowledge and push boundaries of the field but enhanced focus on broader impacts
• Primarily split between Behavioral and Cognitive Sciences (BCS) and Social and Economic Sciences (SES)
• Programs of interest for this group include: Sociology; Developmental Sciences; Accountable Institutions and Behavior; Law & Science; and more.
• Fund several research and doctoral dissertation research grant opportunities

Emerging Priorities:
• SBE repositioned over the last year to focus on emerging areas, new national priorities, broaden stakeholders
• Programs of interest: Build and Broaden – MSI partnership program and Strengthening American Infrastructure (both likely to increase greatly)
• Future priorities include: scaling research on disparities; Predictive Intelligence for Pandemic Prevention (PIPP); Collaborations between social and computer sciences
NSF Environmental Research and Education (ERE) Directorate
• Report coming out soon on Environmental and Human Health Research Priorities – could lead to funding opportunities.
• Will likely be an ongoing priority for NSF awards under other Directorates like SBE.

DOJ Update
• Skinny Budget info:
  • “Supports Environmental Justice. To ensure equal treatment and protection of all people under environmental policy and law, the discretionary request provides $5 million for the Environmental and Natural Resources Division to tackle environmental justice issues and $39 million for the Bureau of Prisons to repair aging facilities and infrastructure in a manner that improves conditions of confinement and enhances environmental sustainability.”
  • Could lead to more research opportunities associated with this in future years.

EPA
• Recent COVID relief package included funding for environmental justice grants and other activities that identify and address disproportionate environmental or public health harms and risks.
• Not much extramural research but could change.
• Background and resources are here.
Funding Outlook: Mitigating health inequities, addressing social determinants of health, and improving environmental health are top priorities for the Biden Administration, likely resulting in new funding to support these efforts.

- Xavier Becerra confirmed HHS Secretary
- Key HHS-Wide Priorities under Biden Administration
  - Mitigating COVID-19
  - Eliminating Health Inequities
  - Addressing Social Determinants of Health
  - Combatting Opioid Epidemic and Substance Use Disorders
  - Strengthening ACA
  - Maternal and Infant Mortality
  - Environmental Health
- Moonshot-like Endeavors
- Advanced Research Projects Agency (ARPA-H)
- Suggested agencies to focus on OMH, CDC, SAMHSA, and NIH
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (HHS)

Funding Outlook: Mitigating health inequities, addressing social determinants of health, and improving environmental health are top priorities for the Biden Administration, likely resulting in new funding to support these efforts.

Office of Minority Health (OMH)
- NEW Health Equity Task Force
- Justice and Health Grants: **Re-Entry Community Linkages (RE-LINK) Program**: improve health outcomes for minority and/or disadvantaged re-entrants, ages 18-26, in transition from jail to their communities

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- CDC Division of Violence Prevention: partnership opportunities to promote effective violence prevention and control practices
- Competitive Grants: **Social Determinants of Health Pilot Program**: Develop Social Determinants Accelerator State Plans that would identify target populations to benefit from implementation of the plan; and identify non-governmental public health organizations and community organizations to participate in the development.
  - Received $3 million in FY 21 and the President's Budget Request included $153 million for FY 22
  - President's budget also provided $100 million for CDC and DOJ to establish a Community-Based Violence Intervention initiative

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)
- Behavioral health and criminal justice grants: **Law Enforcement and Behavioral Health Partnership for Early Diversion**
- **Offender Reentry Program**: expand SUD treatment and recovery to early offenders/ex-offenders

National Institutes of Health (NIH):
- **UNITE**: Trans-NIH Initiative on addressing health inequities and structural racism
- **JCOIN**: Supports study approaches to increase high-quality care for people with OUD in justice settings
Funding Outlook: NEH received a 3 percent increase for FY 2021, up to $167.5 million. Follows years of modest increases, despite Administration push to eliminate the agency

• Awaiting new NEH Chair and new initiatives
• NEH divided into several divisions: Research Programs, Preservation and Access, Education Programs, Federal/State Partnerships, Public Programs, and Digital Humanities
• Continued focus on Standing Together Initiative to promote an understanding of the experience of war
• “A More Perfect Union” initiative (250th anniversary of American independence); Civics has bipartisan interest
• Projects must be in the humanities or combined with the humanities
• Significant portion of funds set aside for state humanities councils, which should also have grant opportunities

Programs of Interest for this group:
• Collaborative Research - funding for two or more collaborating scholars to engage in humanities research - publications, conferences, international collaborations, digital projects
• Public Humanities programs - humanities for general audiences through in-person programming, (exhibitions, historic places, and humanities discussions)
• Humanities Connections – design/creation of undergraduate programming combing humanities plus other fields/disciplines
• Infrastructure and Capacity-Building Challenge Grants (matching program) – for capital assets, equipment, and digital infrastructure
Funding Outlook: NEA received a 3 percent increase for FY 2021, up to $167.5 million. Follows years of modest increases, despite Administration push to eliminate the agency.

- Awaiting new NEA Chair and new priorities
- Grants for Organizations and for Individuals
- Recently updated grant programming names with similar focus:
  - Grants for Arts Projects: flagship program, funding for various creative disciplines (previously Art Works)
  - Research Grants in the Arts: investigate value/impact of arts (previously Research: Art Works)
  - Significant portion of budget set aside for state and regional arts organizations

Programs of Interest for this group:
- **Challenge America** – matching (cost share) grants to small organizations to extend arts to underserved populations
- **Grants for Arts Projects** – matching (cost share) grants to organizations in support of “public engagement with, and access to, various forms of art across the nation, the creation of excellent art, learning in the arts at all stages of life, and the integration of the arts into the fabric of community life.”
  - Applications by artistic discipline, including Arts Education and Literary Arts
- **NEA Research Labs** – transdisciplinary research focused on the arts +X, such as health/wellness/learning
  - Should serve as a hub of excellence
ENGAGING FEDERAL AGENCY STAFF
HOW TO ENGAGE WITH FEDERAL AGENCY STAFF

Review the programs of the officials with whom you will be meeting and other relevant funding opportunities at their agencies

- As you review program descriptions and past solicitations, note places of potential fit to your areas of interest so you can ask specific questions
- Make contact via email, summarize your research aims and how it fits into program officer’s portfolio or solicitation
- Provide relevant information e.g. previous grant applications

Prepare a one-page description of your research that may be left behind with the program staff, or sent ahead if that has been requested

- Research descriptions should be consistent with areas of interest of the targeted agency program staff.
- Include your contact information

Speak to more senior investigators who are funded already

- Ask about their experiences and insight into the agencies and programs

Prepare questions to ask in the meetings and ensure you complete any follow-up
QUESTIONS?

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