What is NSHE?
System Sponsored Programs and EPSCoR

To promote the opportunities and collaborations within science, research, education, and technology for NSHE institutions in Nevada

- Housed within the Chancellor’s office in System administration
- Charged with administrative and financial regulations and compliance requirements that govern grants and contracts for EPSCoR and other statewide programs
- Facilitate statewide and system-wide collaborations
- Promote research administration infrastructure improvement throughout NSHE

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Continued Services

- Currently manage approximately $28 million/year in sponsored projects
- Administration for EPSCoR
- Administration of special projects match
- Interact with the Research Affairs Council
- Liaison with EPSCoR Coalition
- Capitol Hill visits

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What is EPSCoR?

Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research

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National EPSCoR Programs

Congressional Mandate in 1979

- National Science Foundation (NSF)
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
- Department of Energy (DOE)
- Department of Defense (DOD)
- United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)
- National Institutes of Health (NIH) – Institutional Development Award (IDeA)

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The Purpose of EPSCoR

- Stimulate R&D capacity and competitiveness in EPSCoR jurisdictions
- Advance and broaden participation in science & engineering
- Utilize statewide participation
- Catalyze key research themes
- Activate collaborations among academic, government, and private sector stakeholders

<0.75% of NSF's funding
Nevada = 0.24%
California = 14%

25 states + 3 jurisdictions
Hold 20% of U.S. academics
Receive 10% of federal research dollars
EPSCoR/IDeA Impacts

Ensuring the benefits of scientific research in all states

**Bolstering**
NATIONAL RESEARCH COMMUNITY

Employing the expertise, experience, and efforts of all states to advance innovation and the quality of life

**Building**
STATES’ PARTICIPATION
INTegrating 25 states and 3 territories more fully into federal research opportunities and benefits

Guaranteeing that all states and regions benefit from the U.S. research investment

**Benefiting**
INDIVIDUALS AND COMMUNITIES

Training our students for high-paying jobs in today’s “high tech” workforce.

Bringing science and engineering solutions to state and local issues.

Enhancing knowledge and research potential of our world-class faculty and graduate students.

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**Nevada EPSCoR Funding Since 1985**

Return on investment from past projects = $157,364,615

- NSF
- NASA
- DOE
- DOD

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NV EPSCoR Office Roles

- A Research Administrator is assigned to each proposal/award/project.
- The RA works collaboratively with the Project Director/Principal Investigator.
- RA is an integral part of the management team.

Research Administrator Functions

Proposal Phase

- Prepare solicitation and schedule review panel
- Organize planning meetings and setting timelines
- Budget
  - Preparation of proposal budget sheets and budget narrative
  - Work with institution Sponsored Programs/Business Offices
- Supporting documentation
  - Gathers all supporting documentation (facilities, biosketches, etc.)
- Load all proposal documents
- Authorized Official to submit proposals
Research Administrator Functions

Pre-Award

- Work with PD/PI to answer any questions from Sponsor
- Review and approve terms and conditions
- Ensure compliance documents are in order (IACUC, human subjects)
- Negotiate any changes with the Sponsor

Implementation

- Organize implementation meetings
- Set up NSHE accounts
- Complete subawards for the partner institutions
- Ensure independent contractor agreements are in place (external evaluator, other vendors)
Research Administrator Functions

Life of the Award

- Organize regular leadership team meetings
- Manage incoming funds (if awarded incrementally)
- Approve all invoices from subawardees
- Monitor all spending on subawards
- Manage annual report process
  - PD/PI leads the narrative development
  - RA leads data collection
  - Ensures all standard and specific terms & conditions are met
- Attend required meetings with Sponsor
- Work with external evaluator as required
- Work with Communications Specialist to market the project (websites, social media, news stories)

Research Administrator Functions

Close Out

- Monitor spending on all subawards
- Ensure subawards are closed
- Work with post award on final financial reporting
- Organize final report
- Ensure compliance documents are completed
NV EPSCoR Office
Research Administrators

Michele Casella
NSF EPSCoR Track 3
EOD on NSF EPSCoR Track 1 & 2

Marcie Jackson
NSF EPSCoR
Track 1 and Track 2

Alice Ward
NASA EPSCoR
RID and CAN

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Location

5550 W. Flamingo Road, Ste A2
Las Vegas, NV 89103
W. Flamingo/Lindell

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Nevada EPSCoR Advisory Committee

Provides guidance to Nevada’s EPSCoR Programs by:

- Supporting development of science, technology and education in Nevada
- Connecting STEM advancements to NV workforce and economic development
- Advising State EPSCoR Director on strategic directions for sustained health and growth of NV EPSCoR programs
- Ensuring NV EPSCoR programs are aligned with the NV S&T and Governor’s economic development plans
- Facilitating linkages of NV EPSCoR programs with legislators, businesses, committees, associations

Support – Connect – Advise – Link
Nevada EPSCoR Advisory Committee

Consists of up to 15 members, with representatives from:

- Nevada State Department of Education with STEM/GEAR UP/P-20 background
- Private sector entity related to NV EPSCoR’s technology and/or research focus
- Academia: 1 each from DRI, UNR, and UNLV in the following positions and/or expertise: Provost; government relations; or economic development/technology transfer
- Nevada Governor’s Office of Economic Development (GOED)
- Nevada Legislature
- Aerospace/defense sector (private or federal)
- Business information technology sector
- Business, entrepreneurship and technology sector
- Nevada EPSCoR Director as ex officio member

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Nevada EPSCoR Advisory Committee

- Heidi Gansert, University of Nevada, Reno, Chair
- Mike Skaggs, Governor’s Office of Economic Development, Vice Chair
- Dave Archer, Nevada’s Center for Entrepreneurship and Technology
- Greg Bortolin, Desert Research Institute
- Lori Botelho, Nevada Department of Education
- Rob Nielsen, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
- Greg Ihde, URS Corporation
- Joyce Woodhouse, State Senator District 5
- John White, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
- Missy Young, Switch Communications
- TBD, Renewable Energy focus
- *Ex officio, Gayle Dana, NV EPSCoR
- *Administrative, Lori Brazfield, NV EPSCoR

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EPSCoR Activities
Education, Outreach, and Diversity

Broadening Participation

Priorities:
- Increase participation of women and underrepresented minorities in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM)
- Coordinate resources to help faculty, staff, and students create a more welcoming environment with sustainable support systems for success of all participants in STEM disciplines
- Foster collaborations in order to leverage and sustain EOD programs and events
  - Internal and external engagement
Current EOD Efforts

- Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP)
  - Current solicitation available
    http://epscorspo.nevada.edu/solicitations-2/
- Field trip and laboratory experiences
  - Nexus Solar Labs
  - Green Power Kits
  - CI Days (UNLV/UNR)
  - Science Careers Investigation Program
- Student application writing workshops
- STEM Mentor assistance
  (http://epscorspo.nevada.edu/mentors.html)
- Nevada STEM Pipeline (www.nvstempipeline.org)

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Current EOD Efforts

Faculty workshops/trainings

- NSHE-CUR Institute for Broadening Participation in Undergraduate Research (Sept. 2014)
- New Faculty Training (June 2015)

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Current EPSCoR Programs

Nevada EPSCoR Project Directors

Dr. Gayle Dana (DRI) - NSF EPSCoR Project Director & Nevada State EPSCoR Director

Dr. Stephen Lepp (UNLV) - NASA EPSCoR and Space Grant Consortium Project Director (Interim)

Dr. Oliver Hemmers (UNLV) - DOE EPSCoR

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NSF EPSCoR Awards

- **Research Infrastructure Improvement**
  Supports physical, human, and cyber infrastructure improvements in research areas that will improve future R&D competitiveness of the jurisdiction

- **Co-Funding**
  Enables awards to grant applications that have been recommended for an award by another NSF office, yet denied funding due to budget constraints

- **Workshops & Outreach**
  Supports multi-jurisdictional workshops on themes of regional and national importance and travel by NSF Program Officers to jurisdictions to provide information on NSF programs and policies

Current NSF EPSCoR Awards

- Three Research Infrastructure Improvement (RII) awards started in 2013
  - Track-1
  - Track-2
  - Track-3
Western Consortium for Watershed Analysis, Visualization, and Exploration (Track-2)

Gayle Dana (DRI), Fred Harris (UNR), Sajjad Ahmad (UNLV), Lynn Fenstermaker (DRI)

- 3 years (2013-2016)
- $2M
- Advance watershed science, workforce development, and education with cyberinfrastructure (CI)-enabled discovery and innovation

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Cyber-Learning Activities to Scaffold STEM Practices
(Track-3)

PG Schrader (UNLV) and MaryKay Orgill (Co-PI, UNLV)

- 3 years (2013-2016)
- $749,700
- Cyber-learning methodologies/trainings for teachers to enhance STEM learning opportunities and achievement for underrepresented minorities and rural students

USDA EPSCoR Opportunities in Agriculture, Food, and Environmental Sciences

- NIFA-AFRI* Strengthening Grants and Pre- and Post-Doctoral Fellowship Grants
- Offered each funding cycle
- 10%** of AFRI funds go to EPSCoR jurisdictions
- Sign up for NIFA’s Newsletter
  - E-mail Judy Rude jrude@nifa.usda.gov
  - In body of message, type: subscribe NIFA Update

*National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) – Agricultural and Food Research Initiative (AFRI)
**May go up to 15% if FY 15 bill passes
Current USDA NIFA-AFRI Awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>PIs</th>
<th>Inst.</th>
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<td>Sustainable rural development using the area sector analysis process</td>
<td>$490,486</td>
<td>2014-2017</td>
<td>T Harris</td>
<td>UNR</td>
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<td>Mountain pine beetle pheromone production</td>
<td>$364,697</td>
<td>2014-2017</td>
<td>C Tig, GA Blomquist, KA Schlauch</td>
<td>UNR</td>
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<td>Pretreatment of secondary agricultural residues &amp; forest biomass by non Cl ionic liquids – co-solvent mixtures for biofuel production</td>
<td>$79,000</td>
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<td>JG Lynam</td>
<td>UNR</td>
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<td>Water quality implications of unique transformation processes of synthetic steroids used as agricultural pharmaceuticals</td>
<td>$496,000</td>
<td>2013-2016</td>
<td>E Kolodziej</td>
<td>UNR</td>
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<td>New treatments for american foulbrood: using microbe’s biology against it</td>
<td>$333,276</td>
<td>2011–2015</td>
<td>MM Elekonich, PS Amy, EV Abel-Santos, HJ Wing</td>
<td>UNLV</td>
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<td>All 4 Kids: Resiliency in an obesogenic environment</td>
<td>$1,100,000</td>
<td>2010-2015</td>
<td>MJ Sigman-Grant, A Lindsay, T Byington</td>
<td>Coop Ext</td>
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<td>Integrating markets and non-market benefits to value ecological change in agroecosystems</td>
<td>$489,760</td>
<td>2010-2015</td>
<td>K Rollins, M Kobayashi, M Taylor, T Stringham</td>
<td>UNR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Current NASA EPSCoR Awards

- Three Cooperative Agreement Notice (CAN) Awards ($2.25M + $1.1M match)
  - Topic specific addressing high-priority NASA research and technology needs

- One Research Infrastructure Development (RID) Award ($375K federal + $375K match)
  - Enables states to build and strengthen relationships with NASA researchers
Current NASA EPSCoR Awards

Building Capacity in Interdisciplinary Snow Sciences for a Changing World
(Daniel Obrist, DRI)
3 years (2014-2017)
$750,000 federal + $375,000 match

Advanced Electroactive Polymer Sensors and Actuators for Aerospace Robotic Applications
(Kwang Kim, UNLV)
3 years (2013-2016)
$750,000 federal + $375,000 match

Advanced Computer Vision, Robotics, and Visualization Algorithms for Improving Planetary Exploration and Understanding
(George Bebis, UNR)
3 years (2009-2015)
$750,000 federal + $375,000 match

DOE EPSCoR New Opportunities

- DOE Implementation Program
- Three years
- Up to $2.5M per year
- 20% program office support
Proposal Process for EPSCoR Programs

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EPSCoR Proposal Process

- Statewide solicitation for white papers or pre-proposals with defined focus
  - Focus areas are defined by Agency or strategically selected by NSHE leadership (RAC, Project Director and NVEAC) which aligns to the state Science and Technology Plan

- Pre-Proposals/white papers are submitted from researchers to NSHE SPO/EPSCoR

- Proposal packets then are compiled and sent out for external review
  - External reviewers are independent peers outside of Nevada and content expert

- The reviews are then compiled and presented to the RAC with a summary and recommendations
  - The RAC then approves the pre-proposal(s) that will move forward for the State submission to the Agency

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EPSCoR Proposal Process

- The NSHE Project Director then appoints proposal development team(s) to work on the proposal.
- The NSHE Project Director assembles the full proposal with the assistance of the EPSCoR staff.
- If time allows, the proposal will be sent out for another external review and technical writing assistance may be obtained.
- Final proposal is submitted to the agency by the Nevada EPSCoR office.

NSF Proposal Process

**Track-1**
- Summer 2016 LOI/RPF/submission of pre-proposals
- Fall 2016 Pre-proposal review
- Winter 2016 Pre-proposal(s) selected
- Winter-Summer 2017 Full proposal development
- August 2017 Submit Proposal
- June 2018 Award made

**Track-2**
- Internal Pre-proposal competition
- Full proposal development will require extensive coordination with partner jurisdiction(s)
**NSF RII Track-1 Formal Process**

National Science Foundation

- Proposals Received: 6-8 wks
- Panel Review: 2 wks
- Contact PDs: 6-8 wks
- Directors Review Board: 2-3 wks
- PD Informed of Decision: 4 wks
- POs Finalize Rec.: 30 days
- DGA Award

Total time for review process for a successful proposal is approximately 6 months.

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**USDA Proposal Process**

- PI submits directly to the NIFA-AFRI program, following institutional policies
- Does not go through the EPSCoR office – only institutional submission
- Multiple submissions allowed
- Have to be an EPSCoR jurisdiction to be eligible

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NASA Proposal Process

**CAN – 6 month timeline**

- **Fall 2014** Release of RFP for pre proposals
  - LOI due
- **Winter 2014** Pre proposals due to NSHE
  - Proposals sent out for external review
- **Early 2015** NASA CAN released
  - Proposals reviewed, summary sent to RAC
  - RAC recommends – proposal team determined
  - Full proposal development
- **Spring 2015** Submit Proposal
  - Award made

**RID – 2 month timeline**

- **Fall 2014** Project Director develops the statewide narrative and submits
  - Internal solicitations are posted throughout the project period (3 years) for multiple RID focused projects
  - RFP posted
  - Proposals are submitted per RFP
  - Review of proposals
  - Internal awards made

**DOE Proposal Process**

**NSHE - Annual Solicitation - **Currently redrafting process**

This is a draft process**

- **Fall 2014** Release of RFP for pre proposals
- **Winter 2014** Pre proposals to be reviewed by RAC
  - Determination by RAC for teams/collaborations, if applicable
  - Full proposal development of selected pre proposals
- **Early 2015** Proposal(s) sent out for external reviews
  - Summary and reviews sent to RAC
  - Determination of final proposal to move forward
- **Spring 2015** DOE announces FOA
  - Finalize and submit proposal
  - Award made

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