

# NCSA Faculty Fellows 2021 Kick off Presentation

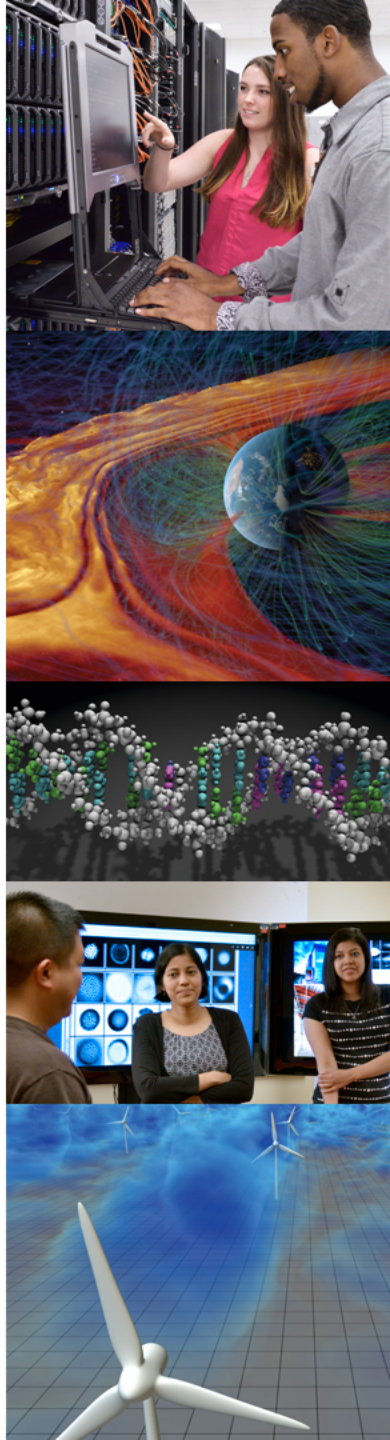
February 26, 2021

Presenters: Amanda Lombardo, Donna  
Cox, and Olena Kindratenko

**I** ILLINOIS

NCSA | National Center for  
Supercomputing Applications

# Introduction of NCSA



# NCSA Strategic Plan

- NCSA Mission:

NCSA leads and supports partnerships around campus, the nation, and the world by leveraging and further developing our expertise, and experience, and innovation in digitally-enabled scholarship to solve the most scientifically and societally important and challenging problems.

-> A deeper and integrative connection to the Illinois campus with faculty, postdocs and students.

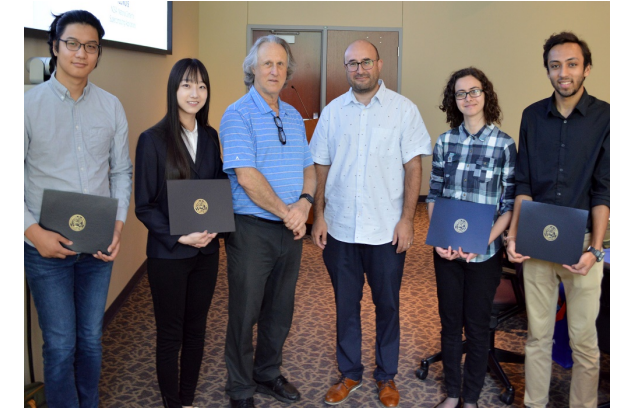
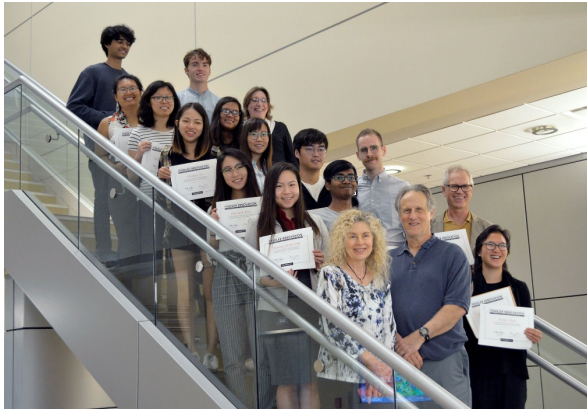


# NCSA Research & Education

- Research and Education is within the Engagement Directorate and is led by Donna J. Cox
- Establishing new organization and continuing the mission of connecting with Faculty, staff, and students on campus
- Pursue external funding opportunities through NCSA



# Fiddler Innovation Endowment Award



The Fiddler Innovation Undergraduate Award is part of an endowment from Jerry Fiddler and Melissa Alden to the University of Illinois in support to the Emerging Digital Research and Education in Arts Media (eDream) Institute, which is based at the National Center for Supercomputing Applications.

49 undergraduate, graduate, and NCSA faculty affiliates awarded 2018-2020

**FIDDLER INNOVATION ENDOWMENT**

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# Fiddler Innovation Endowment Award

- Opportunity for additional support from the Fiddler Innovation Endowment Award to selected Faculty Fellow awardees
- To further and augment Fellows' research projects
- Additional \$10K post-award per project
- Determined in spring 2022, based on a review process and research project progress

# NCSA Education

- 130+ faculty affiliates
- 10 postdoctoral scholars with a postdoc program
- Graduate and undergraduate students
  - SPIN program: NCSA undergraduates internship program
    - SPIN students are eligible for Fiddler Awards
  - NCSA International Research Internship
  - Cyberinfrastructure Professional Intern Program (CIP)
  - REU program opportunities
  - Contact: [Olena Kindratenko](#)



# Student Program - SPIN

- NCSA's Students Pushing INnovation (SPIN) internship program launched in 2012
- Program activities:
  - Academic year or Summer session
  - Paid internships: \$12.50 per hour
  - Research, professional development, and social events
  - U of I undergraduates; international students can apply
  - Eligible for Fiddler Innovation Undergraduate Research Award
- Student Participants:
  - U of I domestic and international
  - Trained 314 undergraduates
  - 26% on average female students
  - 24 students received Fiddler Innovation Undergraduate Research Award





# Student Program – REU INCLUSION

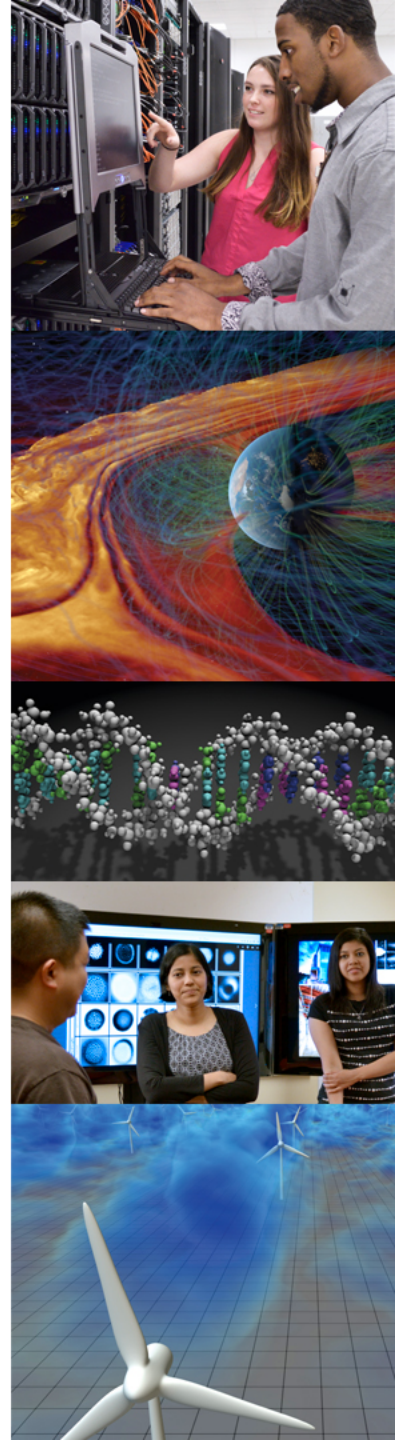
- Incubating a New Community of Leaders Using Software, Inclusion, Innovation, Interdisciplinary and Open-Science (INCLUSION) Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) is a software-in-research training experience
- NSF REU Site lunched in 2017
- Program activities:
  - Program dates: May 24 - July 30, 2021
  - 10 summer weeks - includes \$500/week stipend
  - Students work with mentors from different disciplines on socially-impactful projects
  - Domestic students from and outside of Illinois
  - Eligible for Fiddler Innovation Undergraduate Research Post Award
- Student Participants:
  - Domestic students from and outside of Illinois
  - Trained 36 undergraduates
  - 75% minority and underrepresented in STEM
  - 3 INCLUSION REU students received Fiddler Innovation Undergraduate Research Award



# Student Program – New Frontiers Initiative Graduate Fellowships

- New Frontiers Initiative (NFI) is administered by the Blue Waters project at NCSA
- Program activities:
  - Full-time PhD students at an accredited U.S. educational institution
  - Second or later year of their graduate program with a well-developed research proposal
  - U.S. citizens or permanent residents by the time of the application deadline
  - One year of full-time research support
    - \$38,000 stipend
    - up to \$12,000 in tuition allowance
    - allocation up to 100,000 node-hours on the powerful Blue Waters petascale computing system
    - Preference will be given to applicants engaged in geospatial and geointelligence research at scale that combine disciplines such as computer science, applied mathematics, and computational science applications
  - Application deadline is **April 5, 2021**
- Please direct questions to [bw-eot@ncsa.illinois.edu](mailto:bw-eot@ncsa.illinois.edu)

# NCSA Faculty Fellows program



# NCSA Faculty Fellows Program (est. 1999)

- Competitive program provides seed funding (up to \$25K/award) for demonstration, start-up projects, workshops, and/or other activities with the potential to lead to longer-term collaborations and externally funded activities around research and development.
- Anticipate funding for 6 fellows for the 2021-2022 cohort

## Important Dates

- **Dec. 4, 2020:** NCSA Faculty Fellows kickoff: solicitation goals and focus, help potential applicants understand its scope, answer questions
- **Feb. 26, 2021, 10 am-noon, on zoom: NCSA Fellowships Ideas Accelerator Workshop.**  
**Speed match-making event between potential applicants and NCSA staff and researchers.**
- **March 22, 2021:** Deadline to submit to the NCSA Fellowships Program - Link to submit will be posted on our website following the Idea Accelerator Workshop
- **By June 1, 2021:** Target date for decisions

# Fellows responsibilities to NCSA

- Responsible for contributing to the NCSA Academic Core;
- Contribute to and take part in large collaborative funding efforts;
- Act as liaisons with their home departments.

# NCSA responsibilities to Fellows

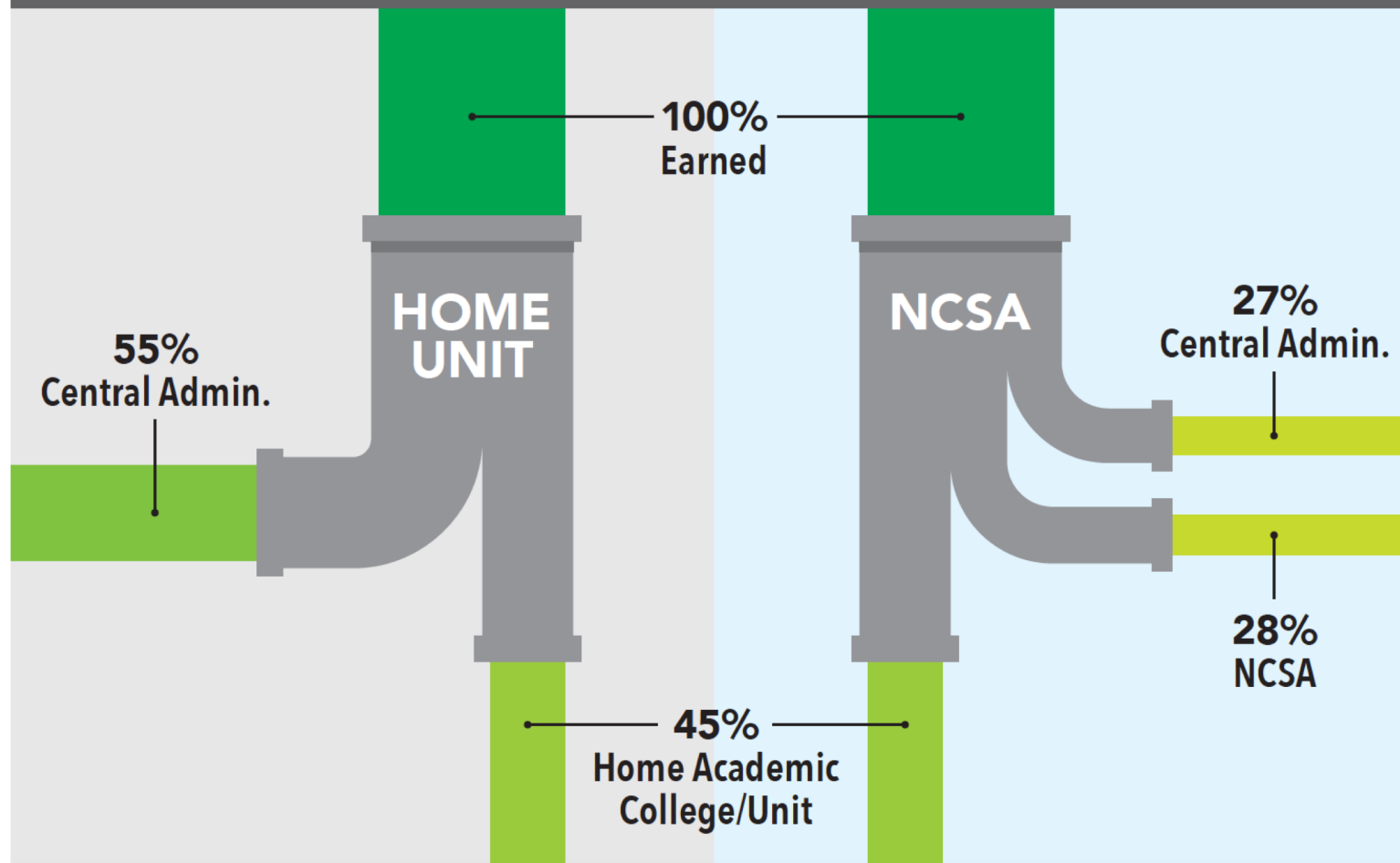
- Provide a 0% NCSA appointment;
- Fellows are provided drop-in office space at NCSA;
- Have direct access to NCSA research scientists, staff and services;
- Where possible, NCSA will provide access to compute, data storage, and other cyberinfrastructure, including software licenses, needed for fellowship projects.

# Collaborations with NCSA staff

- Strongly encouraged to maintain an active, close collaboration with NCSA staff for the duration of the fellowship, **discuss these collaborations in detail with the NCSA staff involved before submitting proposals.**
- Describe the nature of the collaboration, anticipated staff time commitment, source of support for staff involvement.
- **Support for NCSA staff can come from existing funding as part of normal duties, or can be requested as part of the proposal from the NCSA Director's Office\*.**

\*Requests for funding for staff time should be limited to one month of effort. Staff should discuss their plans with their supervisor.

# Grants run through NCSA do not impact the F&A returned to your home unit.





# Helpful Reminders

- **Computing Resources**

- Many computing resources require their own application to obtain an allocation; if you will need a computational resource for your project, please be sure to outline when you plan to apply for this in your proposal.

- **Letters of Commitment for NCSA Staff time**

- A letter of commitment should be completed and included in proposal package for each participating NCSA Staff Member. The letter template may be found on the [Proposal Preparation Instructions page](#) of the NCSA Fellows website.

# Program oversight

- **Faculty Fellows Program coordination**
  - Donna Cox, [donnacox@illinois.edu](mailto:donnacox@illinois.edu)
  - Amanda Lombardo, [alombar@illinois.edu](mailto:alombar@illinois.edu)
- **Education Programs**
  - Olena Kindratenko, Senior Education and Outreach Coordinator, [kindrat2@illinois.edu](mailto:kindrat2@illinois.edu)
- **Faculty Fellow account management**
  - Shawn Quigley, Grants and Contracts Specialist, [sfquigle@illinois.edu](mailto:sfquigle@illinois.edu)
- **Student Appointments**
  - Jewel Goodly, HR Specialist, [jgoodly@illinois.edu](mailto:jgoodly@illinois.edu)
  - Devin Scheidemantel, HR Specialist, [wds@illinois.edu](mailto:wds@illinois.edu)
- **Proposal Development for External Funding**
  - Janessa Gentry, Grants and Contracts Specialist, [janessag@illinois.edu](mailto:janessag@illinois.edu)

# Questions/Comments??

- All information from today and from the previous Kickoff meeting (December 2020) as well as the link to submit proposals will be available on the NCSA Wiki via the Faculty Fellows website:  
<http://www.ncsa.illinois.edu/about/org/fellowships>