VT | INSTITUTE FOR SOCIETY, CULTURE, AND ENVIRONMENT
VIRGINIA TECH.

ISCE NEWS FLASH
October 6, 2020

ISCE is offering a *Grants 101* Workshop Series for social science faculty (broadly defined) with limited grant experience.
Learn about the details and how to apply in the
Conferences, Seminars and Events section.

Also, check out the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation opportunity on research to advance racial equity and justice in the **Funding** section.

Please send any news items to Yancey Crawford
at yanceyc3@vt.edu by Friday each week.

Funding Opportunities

Funding for Storytelling Projects on Tropical Rainforests
National Geographic Society has issued an RFP seeking Stories of Tropical Rainforests. **Grants of up to $70,000 will be awarded for storytelling projects that highlight ecosystem-scale stories and solutions-oriented attempts to mitigate or reverse human impacts on these ecosystems.** The opportunity is open to journalists and storytellers (photo, film, text, maps, data visualization), social media influencers, and content creators. Potential topics include Connected Impacts in Cities & Farming Communities; Indigenous Peoples and Traditional Community Voices; and Solutions and Resilience. Click here for details.

Deadline: October 21, 2020

Call for Cybersecurity Research
The Commonwealth Cyber Initiative announces a request for proposals for its 2020-2021 Cybersecurity Research Collaboration Funding program. This program aims to create cross-pollination opportunities for the cybersecurity researchers to collaborate across the Commonwealth and to develop a Commonwealth-wide ecosystem of innovation excellence in cybersecurity. **Each CCI node has its research focus areas and proposed projects must**

be closely related to the focus area of the PI's node. Click here for details.

Deadline: October 30, 2020

Fellowships for Foreign Policy Research
The Council on Foreign Relations International Affairs Fellowship aims to **bridge the gap between the study and making of U.S. foreign policy by creating the next generation of scholar-practitioners**. Twelve-month fellowships and stipends of $105,000 will be awarded to mid-career professionals with a demonstrated commitment to a career in foreign policy in support of planned research. Click here for details.

Deadline: October 31, 2020

Anthropological Research Grants
The Wenner-Gren Foundation welcomes applications for its Post-PhD Research Grants program. **Grants of up to $20,000 will be awarded in support of research that demonstrates a clear link to anthropological theory and debate and promises to make a solid contribution to advancing these ideas.** There is no preference for any methodology, research location, or subfield. Click here for details.

Deadline: November 1, 2020

Call for Proposals for Education Research

The Spencer Foundation's **Small Research Grants Program supports education research projects that will contribute to the improvement of education, broadly conceived, with budgets up to $50,000 for projects ranging from one to five years.** This program is "field-initiated" in that proposal submissions are not in response to a specific request for a particular research topic, discipline, design, method, or location. Click here for details. An applicant webinar will be held on October 14th from 3:00-4:15 p.m.

Deadline: November 3, 2020

Research to Advance Racial Equity & Justice

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation will fund research that addresses systemic racism in public policy. Policies for Action is issuing a **call for proposals to build the evidence base exploring how national, state, and local policies can help advance racial equity and justice in the US**. All proposed research studies must include a plan to translate findings into actionable evidence about how, and how well, policies work to improve racial equity and racial justice. An applicant information webinar will be held on October 21, 2020 at 2:30 p.m. Click here for more details and here to register for the webinar.

Deadline: November 24, 2020

Call for Letters of Inquiry for Aging Research

RRF Foundation for Aging is dedicated to improving the quality of life of older people. The foundation is accepting optional Letters of Inquiry for its next grant cycle. **Grant making priorities include caregiving, economic security in later life, housing and social and intergenerational connectedness**. Click here for details.

Deadline: December 1, 2020 (LOI); February 1, 2021 (proposal)

- **NSF Announces Research on Emerging Technologies for Teaching & Learning Program**
  "*Research on Emerging Technologies for Teaching and Learning*" (RETTL) is a cross-directorate program, managed by NSF's Education and Human Resources (EHR) and Computer and Information Science and Engineering (CISE) Directorates, **with participation from** the Engineering (ENG) and **Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences (SBE) Directorates**. Considered an incubator program that provides an opportunity for interdisciplinary teams to try out new ideas that involve an element of risk, it is the new iteration of the former NSF "Cyberlearning" program. Projects are funded for $850,000. Contact the appropriate directorate to see if your project is a potential fit. Click here for details.
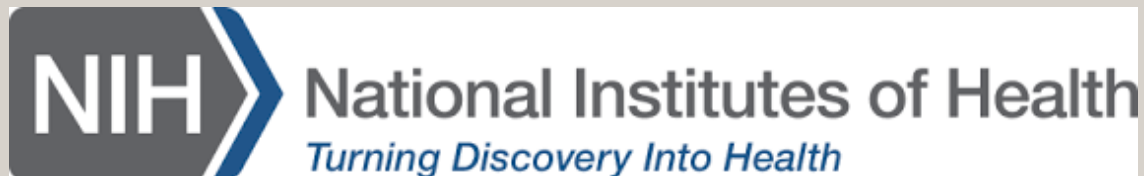 **First Deadline: January 25, 2021**

- **Call for RAPID & EAGER Proposals: Future of International Research Collaboration Post COVID-19**
  The NSF Office of International Science and Engineering (OISE) seeks to understand the nature and scope of COVID-19 impacts on international collaboration in research and education. This letter invites Rapid Response Research (RAPID) and EArly-concept Grants for Exploratory

Research (EAGER) proposals for research to clarify lessons from the COVID-19 pandemic for international collaboration and research to strengthen international collaboration in the future. **Proposals must focus on research topics unique to international engagement**. [Click here](#) for details.
Deadline: March 31, 2021

NIH > National Institutes of Health
Turning Discovery Into Health

- **New RFA Addresses Cancer Risk in Rural Populations**: NIH has announced a new request for applications, *Social and Behavioral Intervention Research to Address Modifiable Risk Factors for Cancer in Rural Populations* (R01 Clinical Trial Required). Selected projects will develop, adapt, and test interventions to address risk factors for cancer in rural populations. **Proposals should focus on primary prevention and assess and address one or more of the social and behavioral risk factors that contribute to cancer disparities in rural populations**: tobacco use; diet, physical activity and weight; alcohol use; UV exposure; and HPV vaccination. [Click here](#) for details.
Deadline: February 15, 2021 (Optional Letter of Intent); March 15, 2021 (Proposal)

- **Research of Biophysical Factors of Social Connectedness & Isolation**: This NIH opportunity, PAR-19-373, *Research on Biophysical Factors of Social Connectedness and Isolation on Health, Well Bein*g, *Illness and Recovery*, solicits research projects that seek to model the underlying mechanisms, processes, and trajectories of social relationships and how these factors affect outcomes in health, illness, recovery, and overall well being. [Click here](#) for details.
Deadline: March 21, 2021

Previously Posted Opportunities

- **Sociological Initiatives Foundation** - [Participatory Action Research Projects](#)
  Deadline: October 15, 2020

- **VT Center for Peace Studies & Violence Preventio**n - [Peacebuilding & Violence Prevention Program](#)
  Deadline: October 15, 2020

- **American Academy of Political & Social Science** - [2021 Moynihan Prize](#)
  Deadline: October 16, 2020

- **National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine** - [Jefferson Science Fellowships](#)
  Deadline: October 16, 2020

- **The Michael J. Fox Foundation** - [Analysis of Patient-Reported outcomes from Fox Insight Data](#)
  Deadline: October 22, 2020 (Pre-proposal)

- **American Council of Learned Societies** - [Religion, Journalism and International Affairs Fellowships](#)
  Deadline: October 28, 2020

- **iTHRIV** - [Community Organization & Research Institute Partnership Grants](#)
  Deadline: October 30, 2020

- **IAS/School of Social Science** - [Political Mobilization & Social Movements Fellowships](#)
  Deadline: November 1, 2020

- **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation** - [2021-2022 Health Policy Fellows](#)
  Deadline: November 9, 2020

External Funding Success

Virginia Tech leads a team pursuing more immersive virtual reality
Alexander Leonessa and **Divya Srinivasan**, both from the College of Engineering, are part of a team focused on developing new technology for the virtual world: a full-body experience in a fully electronic environment. Read more...

Conferences, Seminars and Events

Introducing the Jean Monnet Virtual Lecture Series
All are invited to attend the first in a series of virtual lectures organized by the Jean Monnet Center of Excellence. **Joaquin Roy, Jean Monnet Chair & European Union Center Director at the University of Miami will be presenting "*EU, US and Latin America*" on Wednesday, October 7th from 4:00-5:15 p.m**. Click here for the event flier and Zoom information.

Responding to COVID-19: Emerging Insights from SBE Sciences
COSSA is co-hosting a seminar bringing together policymakers and social science researchers working on pressing COVID-19 issues. The virtual event, "Responding to COVID-19: Emerging Insights from SBE Sciences" will take place on **Friday, October 9 from 12:45-5:00 pm Eastern Time and will feature 3 public sessions** highlighting emerging findings from policy-relevant social science research. Click here for more information on speakers and to register.

Apply Now for ISCE *Grants 101* Workshop Series
ISCE is offering *Grants 101,* an interactive, virtual workshop series designed **for social science faculty, broadly defined, interested in seeking extramural funding to support their research, but who have little to no prior experience in preparing grant applications**. Over the course of four, 90-minute sessions during the fall 2020 semester, participants will engage in discussions, activities, and short assignments to become familiar with proposal writing strategies and expectations. Click here for details and to apply.

Deadline: 9:00 a.m. Monday, October 19, 2020

LGBTQ+ History Month
Join the VT Office for Inclusion and Diversity for **multiple programs and events in honor of LGBTQ+ History month**. Click here for a calendar of the month's activities and for information about how to register and participate virtually.

Announcements and Faculty News

FAQs on the NSF Science of Science Programs

Last year the NSF Directorate for Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences announced the **repositioning of several programs**, **including the Science of Science and Innovation Policy (SciSIP) program**, which was renamed the *Science of Science: Discovery, Communication, and Impact (SoS:DCI)*. Click here for FAQs about the new facets of this program and types of proposals that are being accepted.

Program officials are here to help

The latest blog post from the NIH Office of Extramural Research **explains what program officials can and can't do** to help researchers as they prepare grant applications. Read more...

Economics faculty member named Patricia Caldwell Faculty Fellow

Eric Bahel has been named the Patricia Caldwell Faculty Fellow by the VT Board of Visitors. The fellowship, established in 2019 by a donation from its namesake, aims to enhance the national and international prominence of the College of Science. Read more...

Expert offers tips for feeling close when you can't be during COVID-19

"Although physical distancing is required for our health and safety, that does not mean we have to be socially removed from those we care about," says Virginia Tech expert **Rosemary Blieszner**. [Read more...](#)

Anne Khademian to lead Universities at Shady Grove

ISCE staff and the Policy DA stakeholders **extend warm wishes to Anne Khademian**, Presidential Fellow and former director of the School of International and Public Affairs, as she embarks on her new role as executive director of the Universities at Shady Grove. [Read more...](#)