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INSTITUTE FOR SOCIETY,  
CULTURE, AND ENVIRONMENT  
VIRGINIA TECH.

## ISCE NEWS FLASH

February 11, 2020



### Check out new funding opportunities and upcoming events featured this week:

- The **OVPRI** discussion on the impact of foreign influence on research
- The **Center for Communicating Science's** special talk by Regina Nuzzo

See the Conferences, Seminars and Events section below for details.

Please send any news items to Yancey Crawford  
at [yanceyc3@vt.edu](mailto:yanceyc3@vt.edu) by Friday each week.

## Funding Opportunities



### **Accepting Letters of Intent for Lyle Spencer Research Awards**

This **signature program supports intellectually ambitious research projects that aspire to transform education through lasting improvement.** Proposed projects will be awarded between \$525,000 and \$1 million for up to five years. This program is “field-initiated” in that proposals are not in response to a specific request. The foundation anticipates that proposals will span a wide range of topics and disciplines that innovatively *investigate questions central to education*, including education, anthropology, philosophy, psychology, sociology, law, economics, history, or neuroscience. [Click here](#) for details.

**Deadline: February 27, 2020**

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### **Request for Proposals for Community-Focused Research**

The [Virginia Higher Education Opioid Consortium](#) (VHEOC) has recently posted several new opportunities to its website with February deadlines. VHEOC is committed to working with its partners, local Community Services Boards, and academic research members to tackle the opioid crisis in Virginia. [Click here](#) to see the most recent RFPs.

**Deadlines: Multiple, February 2020**

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# EARLY EDUCATOR INVESTMENT COLLABORATIVE

*Professional Educators. Professional Compensation. Prepared Children.*

## Call for Proposals to Transform Early Education Teacher Programs

The Early Childhood Investment Collaborative has announced a **new funding opportunity designed to address structural barriers to a well-prepared and appropriately compensated early childhood education workforce**. The Collaborative will support partnerships of institutions of higher education, state agencies, and related entities that want to engage in efforts to catalyze transformative change in educator preparation and compensation. Grants will vary in size depending on needs and stage of development, ranging from \$200,000 to \$5 million. [Click here](#) for details.

**Deadline: March 2, 2020**

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Rita Allen Foundation

## Call for Letters of Inquiry in Civic Science

The Rita Allen Foundation is accepting letters of inquiry for **innovative work related to the field of civic science, which seeks to promote broad engagement with science and evidence to help inform solutions to society's most pressing problems**. Submissions may draw on the fields of science communication, public support for science, effective science policy, misinformation, institutional trust, deliberative democracy and related fields. The foundation is interested in ideas that bridge research and practice in the civic science field, and that seek to work with underserved audiences and incorporate diverse perspectives. [Click here](#) for details.

**Deadline: March 6, 2020**

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### Call for Proposals for 2020-21 ISCE Scholars Program

ISCE is accepting applications for its *2020-21 Scholars Program*. **This signature program provides faculty support for developing grant proposals in the social sciences, broadly defined, and consistent with ISCE's four thematic areas and the University's Transdisciplinary Communities.** Proposed projects are expected to address critical individual and social concerns impacting the lives of people and places locally, nationally, or across the globe. The Scholars Program supports faculty to undertake work in a new or existing area, with the expectation that proposals developed through the program lead to external funding. Visit the [ISCE webpage for full details and to apply](#).

**Deadline: March 11, 2020**

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AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

### RFP for Investigations of Serious Emotional Disturbance

The American Psychological Foundation is inviting applications for the John and Polly Sparks Early Career Grant for Psychologists Investigating Serious Emotional Disturbance. **Four grants of up to \$20,000 will be awarded to early-career psychologists** conducting research on early interventions and treatment for serious emotional disturbance in children with the potential to provide a basis for broad-based applications nationally. [Click here](#) for details.

**Deadline: March 15, 2020**

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JOHN  
TEMPLETON  
FOUNDATION

## Call for Applications: Academic Cross-Training Fellowship Program

The John Templeton Foundation welcomes applications for its Academic Cross-Training (ACT) Fellowship program, which is intended to **equip philosophers and theologians with the skills and knowledge needed to study “Big Questions” that require substantive and high-level engagement with empirical science.** Each ACT Fellowship will provide up to \$220,000 for up to thirty-three months in support of a systematic and sustained course of study in an empirical science such as physics, psychology, biology, genetics, cognitive science, neuroscience, or sociology. [Click here](#) for details.

**Deadline: May 1, 2020 (Letters of Intent)**

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## Previously Posted Opportunities

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- **VT IIHCC Destination Area** - [Call for Proposals for Human-Centered Communities](#)  
Deadline: February 20, 2020
- **National Academy of Medicine** - [Healthy Longevity Catalyst Award](#)  
Deadline: February 24, 2020
- **NIA Stress Management Network** - [Funding for Cross-National Comparisons of Psychological Stress](#)  
Deadline: February 28, 2020
- **National Endowment for the Humanities** - [Tuition-Free Summer Programs](#)  
Deadline: March 1, 2020
- **VT Destination Area Opportunity** - [Transdisciplinary Faculty Fellows Program](#)  
March 1, 2020
- **American Psychological Foundation** - [Gifted Children](#) or [LGBT Topics](#)  
Deadline: March 1, 2020
- **Samuel H. Kress Foundation** - [Scholarly European Art Projects](#)  
Deadline: March 1, 2020 (Letters of Inquiry)
- **American Philosophical Society** - [Phillips Fund for Native American](#)

## [Research](#)

Deadline: March 2, 2020

- **Spencer Foundation** - [Small Education-Focused Research Projects](#)  
Deadline: March 3, 2020
- **SAMHSA Strategic Prevention Framework** - [Partnerships for Success Grants](#)  
Deadline: March 6, 2020
- **JRS Biodiversity Foundation** - [Biodiversity Data/Information Services in Africa](#)  
Deadline: March 10, 2020
- **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation** - [Interdisciplinary Research Leaders](#);  
deadline: March 11, 2020

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## Conferences, Seminars and Events

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RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

### **OVPRI Discussion Series: Foreign Influence**

All members of the VT research community are invited to **OVPRI's Discussion Series presentation on foreign influence in research, which will be held on February 25th in 310 Kelly Hall from 3:00-4:30 p.m.** Speakers include Trudy Riley, Cristen Jandreau and John Talerico. Their talk will follow up on the OVPRI Memo dated October 7, 2019, and will provide an update from the Foreign Influence Committee and take questions on how the research division is approaching this evolving topic. [Click here](#) for details.

Participants may also join remotely via Zoom:

<https://viriniatech.zoom.us/j/620447737>; Dial-in: 1-929-436-2866; Meeting ID: 620 447 737

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### **CCS Event: "Connecting 21st Century Information to Stone-Age Brains"**

The Center for Communicating Science is hosting an **special talk on Thursday, February 27th at the Fralin Life Sciences Institute auditorium by statistician/journalist Regina Nuzzo**. Nuzzo, a senior advisor for statistics communication and media innovation at the American Statistical Association, will provide a "survival-kit" for communicating science. The event begins with a reception at 5:30 p.m., followed by the presentation at 6:30 p.m. [Click here](#) for details.

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### **Virtual COVES Policy Fellowship Info Session - Feb. 12th**

This summer, the COVES Policy Fellowship will place 6 current VT graduate students or postdoctoral researchers in government, nonprofit and other policy offices in Richmond for 12 weeks. The fellows will receive science communication and policy training and help strengthen ties between the scientific community and state government in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Faculty are encouraged to spread the word to any interested grad students/postdocs about a virtual COVES information session to learn more. **The information session will be held on Wednesday, February 12th from 5:00-6:00 p.m.** [Click here to join via Zoom](#) and [here](#) for more general information.

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## **Announcements and Faculty News**

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### **COSSA Releases 2020 Rankings of Social Science Investment**

The Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA) has released its **2020 College and University Rankings for Federal Social and Behavioral Science R&D, which highlight the top university recipients of research dollars in the social and behavioral sciences.** This data comes from the National Center for Science and Education Statistics' Higher Education Research and Development (HERD) Survey for fiscal year 2018. Virginia Tech currently ranks #75 with \$7,468,000 in research dollars.

[Click here](#) for the complete list and [here for the news story](#) about the rankings. Additional information can be found under [Resources](#) on the COSSA website.

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### **Caucuses Or Primaries? Why States Might Pick One Or The Other**

**Caitlin Jewitt**, assistant professor of political science, is interviewed by NPR's Audie Cornish about the differences between caucuses and primaries and why some states are favoring primaries. [Read more...](#)

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### **Downey Honored with 4S STS Infrastructure Award**

For **Gary Downey**, Alumni **Distinguished Professor of Science, Technology, and Society** at Virginia Tech, the Society of Social Studies of Science's award honors his achievements building scholarly infrastructures that have advanced his field of science, technology, and society. [Read more...](#)

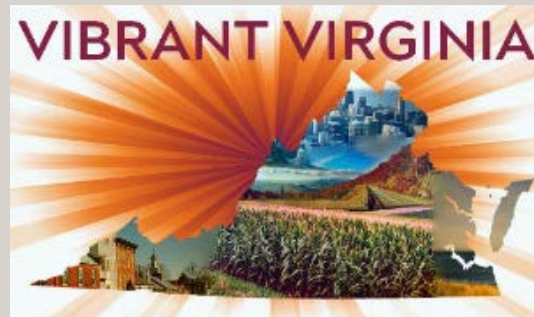


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**Cowell Explains What Vibrant Virginia Hopes to Accomplish**

**Dr. Margaret Cowell**, Virginia Tech Associate Professor of Urban Affairs and Planning, talks about the Vibrant Virginia program and shares details on what they are hoping to accomplish. [Click here](#) to view the video clip.

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