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INSTITUTE FOR SOCIETY,  
CULTURE, AND ENVIRONMENT  
VIRGINIA TECH.

## ISCE NEWS FLASH

May 12, 2020



### **The end is in sight!**

As the semester comes to a close, thank you to all the faculty, staff and students who have worked so hard during these unprecedented and challenging times to make this semester a success.

As you look ahead to summer, check out the new funding opportunities and resources available in today's ISCE News Flash.

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

# Funding Opportunities

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## Advance Scholarly Communication during Public Health Crises

Altmetric funds projects that use data to make advances in scholarly communication. Altmetric is offering an award of up to \$2,000 for a project that makes new discoveries about how research is shared and discussed online.

**This year's award will be given to a project that focuses on research in the midst of public health crises.** [Click here](#) for details.

**Deadline: May 15, 2020**

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## COVID-19 Design Innovation Grants

International Design Awards (IDA) is offering awards related to COVID-19 in four areas: **product design, architecture and interior design, graphic design and fashion design, with funding ranging from \$2,000-\$5,000** depending on the grant type. These awards will provide designers an opportunity to contribute to solutions for the global pandemic. [Click here](#) for details.

**Deadline: May 15, 2020**

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**Funding for Using the Internet to Improve Lives**

The Internet Society Foundation has an Emergency Response Grant program that supports organizations that use the Internet to improve lives during or in response to an emergency situation. **In 2020, this funding will be focused on projects that respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.** [Click here](#) for details.

**Deadline: May 17, 2020**

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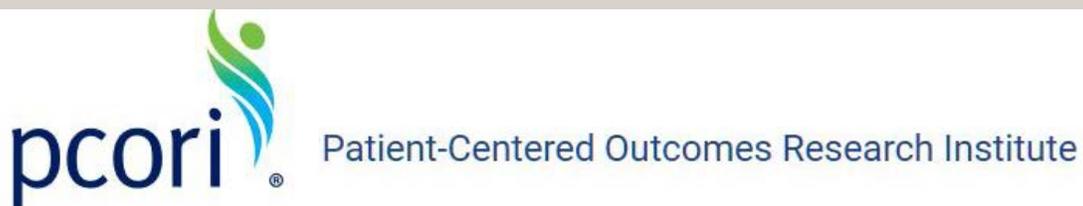
# EYEBEAM

## Applications for A Better Digital Future Program

Eyebeam is inviting applications for its Rapid Response For A Better Digital Future program. **In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, Eyebeam seeks to help artists positioned to create new ways of interacting through the Internet.**

Priority areas include new, online public spheres; ethical or values-driven technology; health and well-being; the development of public policy; efforts to create space for imagination; individual autonomy, borders, and immigration; new and necessary skills; democratic engagement and fortification; the impacts of Covid-19; the accessibility of online platforms; and artificial and natural intelligence. [Click here](#) for details.

**Deadline: May 21, 2020 (Phase 1 proposals)**



## COVID-19 Funding Announced

PCORI is issuing a new research funding announcement with an accelerated timeline to support innovative, high-impact studies that fit clearly within their core mission of patient-engaged and patient-centered comparative clinical effectiveness research. **Program objectives are to (1) strengthen the understanding of different approaches to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on individuals, communities, healthcare providers, and healthcare systems; and (2) provide evidence to inform clinical and public health responses, decision making, and planning.** [Click here](#) for details.

**Deadline: May 26, 2020**

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**Grants to Support Teaching of Accessible Technology Design**

Teach Access is offering **grants to support faculty who teach undergraduate courses related to accessible technology design and development** in computer science, design, human computer interaction, user experience research, and related fields. Awards of \$5,000 each will be given to faculty to develop modules, presentations, exercises or curriculum enhancements or changes that introduce the fundamental concepts and skills of accessible design and development into their existing courses. [Click here](#) for details.

**Deadline: June 1, 2020**

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**Applications for Virtual Anthropological Workshops**

The Wenner-Gren Foundation is currently accepting applications for its Conference and Workshop Grants program. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, **the foundation is not accepting applications for grants involving face-to-face activities, but it is accepting applications for up to \$5,000 to cover the costs involved in hosting virtual workshops and events.** Supported events should foster the creation of an international community of research scholars in anthropology and advance significant and innovative anthropological research. [Click here](#) for details.

**Deadline: June 1, 2020**

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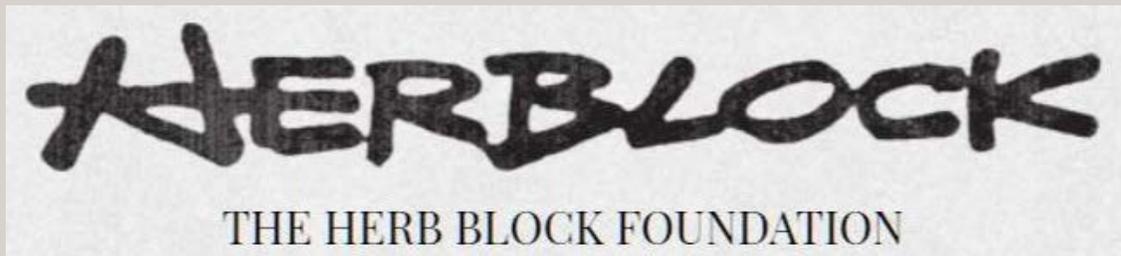


### **Rapid-Response Grants on Covid-19 & Social Sciences**

The Social Science Research Council, as part of its COVID-19 Initiative, **seeks proposals from across the social sciences and related fields that address the social, economic, cultural, psychological, and political impact of COVID-19** in the US and globally, as well as responses to the pandemic's wide-ranging effects. The grants offer \$2,000-\$5,000 in research support for up to six months toward research-related expenses. [Click here](#) for details. **Deadline: June 1, 2020**

### **Social Data Research Fellowships**

SSRC is interested in supporting research that makes creative use of available social data to investigate how social media interact with democracy and elections. While the program's primary emphasis is related to social media and the 2020 elections, **applications that investigate the impact of the coronavirus pandemic as it intersects with these core themes are encouraged.** Awards are up to \$50,000. [Click here](#) for details. **Deadline: June 16, 2020**



### **Defending Basic Freedoms Grant Program**

The Herb Block Foundation welcomes applications for its Defending Basic Freedoms program, which awards grants ranging between \$5,000 and \$25,000 in **support of efforts to safeguard the basic freedoms guaranteed in the Bill of Rights, help eliminate all forms of prejudice and discrimination, and assist government agencies to be more accountable to the public.** [Click here](#) for details.

**Deadline: June 4, 2020**



United States Department of Agriculture  
**National Institute of Food and Agriculture**

### **COVID-19 USDA AFRI Opportunity**

The Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) is America's flagship competitive grants program that provides funding for fundamental and applied research, education, and extension projects in the food and agricultural sciences. In this RFA, NIFA seeks applications for six AFRI priority areas through the Foundational and Applied Science Program for FY 2020 with multiple due dates, some of which have already passed. However, **a rapid response to Coronavirus impacts across food and agricultural systems has been added to this opportunity.** [Click here](#) for details.

**Deadline: June 4, 2020**



### **Update to NIH Opportunities on Social Connectedness and Isolation**

A new notice has been posted related to NIH [PAR-19-373](#) and [PAR-19-384](#), "*Research on Biopsychosocial Factors of Social Connectedness and Isolation on Health, Wellbeing, Illness and Recovery*" that has **added a deadline of June 8, 2020 for new submissions and expanded areas of focus to include those related to COVID-19.** [Click here](#) for details.



### **AI for Health COVID-19 Grant Form**

Microsoft is accepting requests in their AI for Health Program for COVID-19 proposals from nonprofits, academia and governments. **This grant program provides Azure cloud and High-Performance Computing capabilities.** Their team of AI for Health data science experts, whose mission is to improve the health of people and communities worldwide, is open to collaborations with COVID-19 researchers tackling the COVID-19 crisis. More broadly, Microsoft's research scientists across the world, spanning computer science, biology,

medicine, and public health, will be available to provide advice and collaborate per mutual interest. [Click here](#) for details.

**Deadline: June 15, 2020**

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### **Coastlines and People**

The National Science Foundation *Coastlines and People* program **supports diverse, innovative, multi-institution awards that are focused on critically important coastlines and people research that is integrated with broadening participation goals.** The objective is to support Coastal Research Hubs, structured using a convergent science approach, at the nexus between coastal sustainability, human dimensions, and coastal processes to transform understanding of interactions among natural, human-built, and social systems in coastal, populated environments. [Click here](#) for details.

**Deadline: August 10, 2020 (Required LOI)**

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### **ISCE Bridge Support for NSF RAPID and other External Proposals**

ISCE is making available **limited bridge funding of up to \$5,000 if there is a need to start data collection prior to receiving notification of the award for a COVID-19 related project.** To apply, use the [ISCE Unsolicited Request Form](#) and include a copy of the email from NSF, or other organization from which you are seeking funds, indicating forthcoming interest/support. In addition, all ISCE staff is available remotely to assist you with proposal reviews and submissions. Contact [Yancey Crawford](#) with questions.

**Deadline: Ongoing as funds are available**

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## Previously Posted Opportunities

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- **Spencer Foundation** - [COVID-19 Research Grants on Education and Inequity](#)  
Deadlines: May 18 & June 8, 2020
- **Facebook Research** - [Research on Economic Impact of Digital Technologies](#)  
Deadline: May 20, 2020
- **National Science Foundation** - Two Opportunities:
  - [Research on Cybersecurity Education in Age of AI](#)  
Deadline: May 15, 2020; August 31, 2020
  - [CIVIC Innovation Challenge](#)  
Deadline: July 1, 2020 (Stage 1)
- **National Institutes of Health** - Two Opportunities:
  - [Firearm Injury and Mortality Prevention Research](#)  
Deadline: May 15, 2020
  - [Long-Term Effects of Disasters on Healthcare Systems](#)  
Deadline: October 5, 2020
- **Russell Sage Foundation** - [COVID-19 Timely Social Science Research](#)  
May 21, 2020
- **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation** - [Global Solutions to Address Issues of Health, Equity & Climate Change](#)  
May 28, 2020 (Extended)
- **Caplan Foundation for Early Childhood** - [LOI for Early Childhood Research](#)  
Deadline: May 31, 2020
- **MIT Solve** - [Health and Security Pandemics Challenge](#)  
Deadline: June 18, 2020

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## Conferences, Seminars and Events

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Check back in the next issue for upcoming events.

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## Announcements and Faculty News

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RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

### COVID-19 Related Research Projects Posted

In immediate response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Virginia Tech faculty, staff, and students have initiated numerous research projects in an effort to support the local community and to affect humanity on a global scale. **For a summary of projects that Virginia Tech researchers are leading** go to

<https://www.research.vt.edu/covid-19-updates-impacts/research.html>.



### Replicating Studies with Existing Data: Funding & Publishing Opportunity

The [Center for Open Science](#) is seeking data finders and data analysts who are interested in being part of the largest social science replication project undertaken to date. **The goal is to replicate findings of up to 300 published studies in economics, sociology, psychology, management, organizational theory, political science, health, education and criminology using different (already-existing) datasets.**

There are two roles: ***data finders*** suggest datasets and (if approved) prepare the data for analysis. ***Data analysts*** will use the prepared data to perform the replication attempts. Both groups will preregister their plans and share code for full transparency. Both groups will be credited co-authors on the final report on the overall replication study, as well as any other reports they publish based on the analysis. Data finders are being offered up to \$2,000 for their work finding and preparing the data.

Contact [Nathaniel Porter](#) for details.

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### Let COVID-19 expand awareness of disability tech

**Ashley Shew**, assistant professor of Science, Technology and Society, writes in *Nature* how the pandemic's disruption shows how much academia could learn from the disability community. [Read more...](#)



### Pandemic parenting needs personal strategy

**Cindy Smith**, associate professor in the Department of Human Development and Family Science and director of the Children's Emotions Lab at VT, offers strategies for navigating the COVID-19 pandemic. [Read more...](#)

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### How much water should you drink a day?

Some studies suggest fluid consumption can help manage weight. **Brenda Davy**, professor of human nutrition, food and exercise, has carried out a few studies looking at fluid consumption and weight.

[Read more....](#)



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