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

ISCE NEWS FLASH
April 21, 2020

OVPRI Makes COVID-19 Rapid Response Seed Funding Available

See the **Funding Opportunities** below for more details on OVPRI's COVID-19 seed funding as well as other COVID-19 related opportunities, including bridge funding offered by ISCE.

Also, check out the publications posted in ISCE's new COVID-19 repository.

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

Funding Opportunities

VIRGINIA TECH | RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

COVID-19 Rapid Response Seed Funding Available

In collaboration with Virginia Tech institutes and colleges, the Office of the Vice President for Research and Innovation has established a COVID-19 Rapid Response Seed Fund to support Virginia Tech researchers. **Faculty, staff, and students are strongly encouraged to utilize their expertise to identify problems related to the COVID-19 pandemic and seek partnerships** with interdisciplinary researchers, industry, and federal agencies to create novel solutions needed now and in the future. Up to $50,000 per project is available. Click here for details.

Deadline: May 6, 2020 (rolling submissions will be considered thereafter as funds are available)

INSTITUTE FOR SOCIETY, CULTURE, AND ENVIRONMENT
VIRGINIA TECH

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

APF COVID-19 Rapid Response Grants

In response to the evolving COVID-19 pandemic, the American Psychological Foundation is allocating funding to support **psychological research that will provide insights that will help psychologists to work with individuals, families and groups who are struggling to cope during these challenging times**. This grant will fall under APF Visionary Grant priorities of using psychology to solve social problems. Pilot projects, additions to existing studies, and/or review and application of current literature will be considered for up to $20,000 of funding. Click here for details.

Deadline: May 1, 2020

ICAT to Offer Rapid Response Grants related to COVID-19

The connection between people separated by distance has been an ongoing research interest of the Institute for Creativity, Arts, and Technology. The COVID-19 pandemic has amplified this challenge and increased its urgency. Given this new urgency, **ICAT is implementing a rapid response call in three areas for up to $10,000 per area.** The areas include collaborative research: 1) among faculty and students supporting the university's transdisciplinary mission; 2) that connects students, educators and researchers across the university, K-12 schools and workforce partners; 3) and collaborative performance and exhibition amongst the arts community. Click here for details.

Deadline: May 1, 2020

Research on COVID-19 Response in Humanitarian Settings

Elrha is launching an urgent funding **call for research proposals to support the COVID-19 response in humanitarian settings in low and middle income countries**. The call aims to fund public health research that will produce robust findings that will contribute to the effectiveness of the current humanitarian response and increase the evidence base for future responses to similar infectious disease outbreaks. Research teams should include academic and humanitarian partners. Click here for details.

Deadline: May 4, 2020

Call for Research and Collaboration Grants

To accelerate scholarly output and research linked to the Commonwealth Cyber Initiative (CCI), Southwest Virginia Node, two opportunities are now available. CCI is a Commonwealth-wide ecosystem of innovation and excellence in cyber-physical system security. **The Southwest Virginia Node has an emphasis on fast, secure and customizable communications systems and technologies as well as applications to transportation, energy, autonomous systems, manufacturing and agriculture.**

- Research Funding
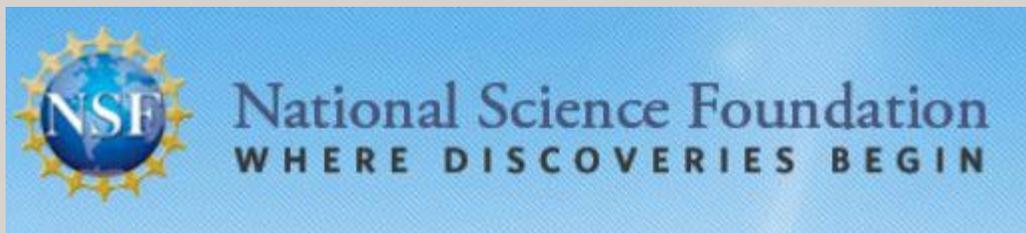- Collaboration Funding

Deadline: May 4, 2020

Harm to Gun Users RFP: Deadline Extended

The National Collaborative on Gun Violence Research is seeking proposals to develop an objective method for estimating the impact of gun policy on the interests of gun owners. **The deadline for this request for proposals has been extended to Friday, May 8 due to disruptions many researchers are facing as a result of COVID-19**. The collaborative will issue up to $30,000 for one award to produce a white paper describing a rigorous method for evaluating the benefits or harms gun policies impose on gun owners and users. Click here for details.

Deadline: May 8, 2020

Research on Cybersecurity Education in Age of AI

The National Science Foundation has issued a **Dear Colleague Letter focused on funding for a small number of EAGER grants to encourage advances in cybersecurity education and artificial intelligence**. To apply, teams are required to send a research concept outline, including project title, team members, institutions involved, and a summary of the concept by email to satc-edu@nsf.gov. NSF Program directors will review these research concept outlines and will invite the authors of those of most interest to submit full EAGER proposals. Click here for details.

Deadlines: Round 1: May 15, 2020; Round 2: August 31, 2020

CIVIC Innovation Challenge

NSF has launched the Civic Innovation Challenge (CIVIC) which is a research

and action competition in the *Smart and Connected Communities* domain. The challenge will **support ready-to-implement, research-based pilot projects in and with communities, with an expected $9M in federal funds.** CIVIC comprises two tracks: 1) Communities and Mobility: Offering Better Mobility Options to Solve the Spatial Mismatch Between Housing Affordability and Jobs; and 2) Resilience to Natural Disasters: Equipping Communities for Greater Preparedness and Resilience to Natural Disasters. Click here for details.

Deadline: July 1, 2020 (Stage 1)

Letters of Intent Invited for Timely Social Science Research
Due to the effects of COVID-19 on all facets of American life, the Russell Sage Foundation is changing its immediate priorities for Letters of Inquiry for its upcoming deadline. Under the new priority, the foundation will only consider LOIs that satisfy the following criteria: research so timely and time-sensitive that the project must start before April 1, 2021; or **research that analyzes social, political, economic, or psychological disruptions resulting from the coronavirus crisis affecting social and living conditions in the United States**. All LOIs must focus on issues related to the foundation's core program areas and special initiatives. Click here for details.

Deadline: May 21, 2020 (Letters of Inquiry)

Research on Economic Impact of Digital Technologies
Facebook is issuing a call for academic research to **address the economic impact of digital technologies, including new tools that enable commercial opportunities**. Facebook is especially interested in projects that address the economic consequences and implications of digital technologies for small businesses. Proposed research may extend beyond Facebook apps and technologies. Researchers may request between $50K to $100K to support

projects that will be completed in approximately one year from award receipt. Click here for details.

Deadline: May 20, 2020

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Pioneering Ideas: Exploring the Future to Build a Culture of Health
This program seeks proposals that are primed to influence health equity in the future. **The foundation is interested in ideas that address any of these four focus areas:** Future of Evidence; Future of Social Interaction; Future of Food; Future of Work. They also welcome ideas that fall outside of these areas, but which offer unique approaches to advancing health equity and progress toward a Culture of Health. Click here for details. **Deadline: Ongoing**

Global Solutions to Address Issues of Health, Equity, and Climate Change
This initiative **seeks to bring the most impactful ideas from across the globe to U.S. cities to address the intertwined issues of health, equity, and climate change.** Specifically, it is seeking proposals that explore changes in city planning, policies, and programs that address buildings and energy; land use and urban planning; transportation; waste; food systems and food security; and air quality. Preference is given to applications that are public entities, public charities or nongovernmental organizations; individuals from a collaborating organization such as a research partner, may serve as the co-project director. Click here for details. **Deadline: May 28, 2020 (extended)**

Previously Posted Opportunities

- **Bogliasco Foundation** - 2021 Applications for Fellowships in Italy
  Deadline: May 1, 2020

- **Environmental Research & Education Foundation** - Research in Waste

Management Practices
Deadline: May 1, 2020

- **MITRE Corporation** - [Cybersecurity Research](#)
  Deadline: May 1, 2020

- **Open Technology Fund** - [Internet Freedom Fund](#)
  Deadline: May 1, 2020

- **RRF Foundation for Aging** - [Aging Research](#)
  Deadline: May 1, 2020

- **Facebook Research** - [Research on Misinformation and Polarization](#)
  Deadline: May 6, 2020 (Extended)

- **William T. Grant Foundation** - [Reducing Inequality Grants](#)
  Deadline: May 6, 2020 (Letters of Inquiry)

- **MIT Solve** - [Health and Security Pandemics Challenge](#)
  Deadline: June 18, 2020

Conferences, Seminars and Events

Center for Humanities Colloquium- April 27th
All are invited to a presentation by **Dr. Andrea Baldwin,** Virginia Tech assistant professor of Sociology, on *Black Feminism, Postcolonialism and American Higher Education: Gender, Race and the Body*, which will be presented via Zoom on **Monday, April 27th @ 11:00-12:15**. [Click here](#) to RSVP and for the Zoom information.

Announcements and Faculty News

Understanding COVID-19 Economic Effects

ISCE's **Global Issues Initiative (GII) has contributed to the discussion of the economic effects of COVID-19 in two papers**. GII Director **David Orden** assesses challenges in the North American food system. GII Senior Research Fellow **Caesar Cororaton** and co-authors at De La Salle University use their model of the Philippine economy to evaluate consequences of lockdown policies.

Visit the ISCE COVID-19 repository to read both articles and others from Virginia Tech faculty. To submit an entry, contact Yancey Crawford.

Call for Timely Papers on COVID-19 in Rural Areas

To facilitate rapid publication of timely papers on COVID-19 in rural areas and associated consequences, the **Journal of Rural Health is encouraging submissions that do not require peer review,** such as commentaries and letters to the editor that describe current problems and innovative solutions pertaining to rural COVID-19 prevention, mitigation, and containment. Click here for details.

NIH COVID-19 Survey Item Repository Now Available

Since the COVID-19 pandemic began, researchers have been developing and fielding new survey items assessing various COVID-19 specific domains. To minimize the proliferation of one-off survey items, encourage comparisons across samples, and facilitate data integration and collaboration, an NIH working group has **developed a survey item repository for existing COVID-19 survey items and investigator contact information.** Two platforms for the repository are available:

- **NIH Public Health Emergency and Disaster Research Response (DR2)**: In addition to this COVID-19 list, DR2 provides a wide array of data collection tools and resources used in other public health emergencies and disasters
- **PhenX Toolkit**: Includes a list of COVID-19 related measurement protocols drawn from the surveys listed in DR2

Click here to submit items to the repository.

Our summer pandemic: The fight against the coronavirus won't be over when the U.S. reopens.
Ashley Shew, assistant professor of Science, Technology and Society, is quoted in an article in *The Atlantic* about how the nation must prepare.
Read more...

For small businesses, coronavirus is like 'a typhoon that leaves nothing standing in its wake'
Virginia Tech experts discuss the impact of COVID-19 on small businesses. Read more...

Coping with family stress and social isolation

Virginia Tech expert, **Cindy Smith**, associate professor of Human Development and Family Science, says one size doesn't fit all for families faced with the coronavirus pandemic. [Read more...](#)

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Questions? Contact Yancey Crawford at yanceyc3@vt.edu.

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