ISCE NEWS FLASH
April 14, 2020

ISCE to Begin a Repository of COVID-19 Publications

See the **Announcements** section below for information on a COVID-19 related repository of scholarly and media publications that ISCE will launch this week and how you can contribute.

There are also numerous COVID-19 related rapid grant opportunities being announced; those of greater interest to the social science community are included below. A comprehensive listing is available through the OVPRI website.

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

Funding Opportunities

ISCE Bridge Support for NSF RAPID and other External Proposals

To better understand individual and community response to COVID-19, NSF has issued a Dear Colleague Letter on COVID-19 using the RAPID mechanism, which has received additional federal funding to support non-medical, non-care studies. Other agencies and foundations may also offer similar opportunities now or in the future.

If you have received the "green light" from an NSF Directorate to submit a full RAPID proposal, or from some other funding agency, for a non-medical COVID-19 study, **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.**

To apply for bridge funding, use the ISCE Unsolicited Request Form and include a copy of the email from NSF, or other organization from which you are seeking funds. In addition, all ISCE staff is available remotely to assist you with proposal reviews and submissions. Contact Yancey Crawford with questions.
Deadline: Ongoing

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

Open Technology Fund Accepting Applications for Internet Freedom
The Internet Freedom Fund strives to advance technology-centered efforts to strengthen Internet freedom and promote human rights, improve digital security capabilities, and contribute to the overall health of the internet. Specifically, **the fund supports applied research** that focuses on real-time monitoring and analysis of both technical and political threats to Internet freedom; new content redistribution methods able to reintroduce content behind firewalls; and next-generation tools that move beyond traditional "cat-and-mouse" circumvention techniques. Most grantees will received between $50,000-$200,000. 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

Invitation for Research Grants to Reduce Inequality

The William T. Grant Foundation is inviting applications for its Research Grants on Reducing Inequality program, which **supports high-quality field-initiated studies from a range of disciplines and methodologies relevant to policies and practices that affect the lives of young people between the ages of 5 and 25 in the United States**. Through the program, grants of up to $600,000 over up to three years will be awarded. Click here for details.

Deadline: May 6, 2020 (Letters of Inquiry)

RFPs for Research in Misinformation and Polarization

Facebook Research is offering awards to researchers interested in **exploring the societal issues of misinformation and polarization related to social communication technologies.** Grants will range from $50,000-$150,000. Click here details including descriptions of their priority areas.
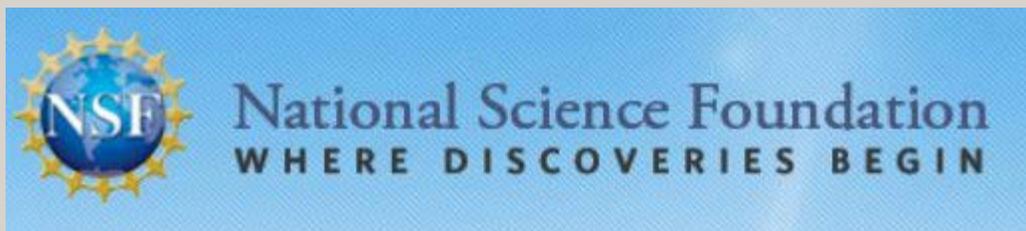
Deadline: May 6, 2020 (Extended)

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

NSF Research Collaborations with European Colleagues

The National Science Foundation has announced an **opportunity for US researchers to win awards to support travel for work with scientists in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland** when the worldwide COV-19 emergency ends. The objective of this partnership is to encourage trilateral, collaborative research projects that address significant challenges in the areas of nanoscale science and engineering, sensors and sensor networks, telecommunications, energy and sustainability, and cybersecurity. PIs from the partner countries must collaborate to submit a single, joint trilateral proposal that goes through a single review at the NSF. Click here for details.
Deadline: Check with the specific Directorate

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 17, 2020 (Letters of Inquiry)

Global Solutions to Address Issues of Health, Equity, and Climate Change

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation **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

New NIH R01 for Remote Complementary and Integrative Interventions

This NIH funding opportunity encourages applications for investigator-initiated, **fully remotely delivered and conducted clinical trials to assess the efficacy or effectiveness of complementary and integrative health interventions** in NCCIH priority areas. Click here for details.

Deadline: June 5, 2020 (First standard due date)

Upcoming Funding for COVID-19

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) **plans to issue a funding opportunity announcement to support novel, high impact studies evaluating the health system and healthcare professional responsiveness to COVID-19 in May 2020**. The agency is particularly interested in understanding how digital health innovations contributed to health system and healthcare professional innovation and challenges and solutions to meeting the needs of vulnerable populations. AHRQ expects to invest up to $5M in FY2020 funds to support this initiative. Click here for details.

Deadline: Expected June 2020

Access Census Data through The Opportunity Project

The Opportunity Project (TOP) is a program of the Census Open Innovation Labs that brings together technologists, government and communities to rapidly prototype data driven digital products that solve real-world problems for communities nationwide. **TOP works through 10-12 week virtual technology development sprints that leverage federal open data to address national problems**, which this year will focus on challenges related to the natural and built environment. Click here for more details and information on how to join a "sprint team."

Previously Posted Opportunities

- **Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation** - Grand Challenge: Improving the Impact of Health Campaigns
  Deadline: April 22, 2020

- **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

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

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

Conferences, Seminars and Events

COVID-19 Webinar on the Economy

The Department of Economics will host a **live webinar on Wednesday, April 15, 2020 at 12:00 noon** to address questions and concerns of the Virginia Tech community. Topics will range from macroeconomc models showing the impacts on GDP and international relations and development to discussions on the implications for health and labor sectors and the decision making that leads people to hoard toilet paper! [Click here](#) to register and/or submit a question.

Announcements and Faculty News

ISCE to Feature Faculty COVID-19 Scholarship and Research

ISCE is developing a repository of COVID-19 related research and scholarship of faculty and Centers affiliated with the Institute, as well as members of the Virginia Tech community who are engaged in research focusing on the social, psychological, and policy impact of the coronavirus on people and places. **Through this effort, ISCE will highlight your excellent and timely contributions related to this historic and far-reaching pandemic.**

Please submit any scholarly articles, research/policy briefs, consumer-focused articles or editorials to Yancey Crawford for posting. We will also post any submitted press interviews to a section of the newly created COVID-19 webpage entitled, "*What Virginia Tech Social Scientists are saying about COVID-19.*" We will continue featuring a selection of interviews and other social media contributions in the *ISCE News Flash*.

NIH Moving Ahead with FORMS-F in May 2020

Investigators must use new **NIH forms, FORMS-F, for grant applications due dates on or after May 25, 2020**. Read more...

2-Factor Authentication for eRA Modules

eRA is moving to two-factor authentication via login.gov, meaning that log-in will require something a password and authentication using a phone or other device. **This new log-in method, optional at first but which may be required later, became available as of Wednesday, April 8, 2020** for users of eRA Commons, Commons Mobile, IAR and ASSIST. Read more...

White House Seeks Comments on Open Access in Peer-Reviewed

Publications

The White House Office of Science and Technology Policy has issued a request for information seeking comments in its efforts to increase public access to federally funded research. Click here for details. **Deadline extended to May 6, 2020.**

Saving Humanity from the Next Plague

Ron Fricker, a professor of statistics at Virginia Tech, is featured in an NPR story about the application of statistical methods for use in disease surveillance such as COVID-19. Read more...

Measuring air pollution by bicycle

Steve Hankey is an assistant professor in Virginia Tech's School of Public and International Affairs who recently received a $500,000 award from the National Science Foundation to measure pollution around cities using bicycle-mounted sensors. Read more...

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