ISCE NEWS FLASH
March 17, 2020

In these uncertain times, we hope you can keep a positive outlook as we all navigate the changes in our personal and academic lives due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Please see several updates related to the Corona virus from Virginia Tech's OVPRI as well as NIH and NSF that impact research. Of note, the NIH has also issued new grant application forms for proposals due on or after May 25, 2020.

Although we recognize your focus may be elsewhere, feel free to reach out to ISCE if there are ways we can assist you with your research, especially during this challenging time.

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

Funding Opportunities

Healthcare for Adults with Developmental Disabilities
The WITH Foundation is inviting letters of intent from organizations for efforts to promote comprehensive health care for adults with developmental disabilities. **Grants, ranging from $30,000-50,000 for 1 to 3 years, will be awarded.** A broad range of topics are of interest, including improving health practitioner competency through education and/or training programs; care coordination; social policy research; and identifying and overcoming barriers to high-quality healthcare access, among others. Click here for details.

Deadline: April 1, 2020 (letters of intent)

National Coastal Resilience Fund 2020 RFP
This National Fish and Wildlife Foundation **program will support projects that create, expand, and restore natural systems that both increase protection for communities from coastal storms, sea- and lake-level changes, inundation, and coastal erosion while also improving valuable habitats for fish and wildlife species**. Pre-proposals should address one or all of the following priorities: community capacity building and planning; project site assessment and preliminary design; project final design and permitting; and project restoration and monitoring. Click here for details.

Deadline: April 8, 2020

Research on the Impact of Gun Policy on Legal Gun Users

The National Collaborative on Gun Violence Research has issued a **call for proposals for a white paper to describe a rigorous method for evaluating the benefits or harms gun policies impose on gun owners and users**. Up to $30,000 will be available to support one proposal. Click here for details.

Deadline: April 10, 2020

Policies for Action: Research on Housing Policies that Promote Equity

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation has issued a call for proposals to investigate the effectiveness of state, county and city public policies aimed at increasing housing affordability and stability, addressing racial segregation and isolation, and increasing access to opportunity rich neighborhoods. Click here for details and here to register for the **optional applicant webinar on Monday, March 30th at 2:00 p.m**.

Deadline: April 29, 2020

Dear Colleague Letters on COVID-19; also on Robotics

- **COVID-19:** The National Science Foundation is accepting proposals to **conduct non-medical, non-clinical-care research that can be used immediately to explore how to model and understand the spread of COVID-19**, to inform and educate about the science of virus transmission and prevention, and to encourage the development of processes and actions to address this global challenge.

  NSF encourages the research community to respond to this challenge through existing funding opportunities. In addition, they invite researchers to use the Rapid Response Research (RAPID) funding mechanism, which allows NSF to receive and review proposals having a severe urgency with regard to availability of or access to data, facilities or specialized equipment as well as quick-response research on natural or anthropogenic disasters and similar unanticipated events. Click here for details.

- **Foundational Research in Robotics:** The National Science Foundation announces the creation of the Foundational Research in Robotics (Robotics) program as a program jointly managed by the Directorates for Engineering (ENG) and Computer and Information Science and Engineering (CISE). **The goal of the Robotics program is to erase artificial disciplinary boundaries and provide a single home for foundational research in robotics**. Starting August 1, 2020, the Robotics program will accept unsolicited proposals at any time. Click here for details.

RFA on AI & Technology Collaboratories for Aging Research

The National Institute on Aging invites applications for the Artificial Intelligence

and Technology Collaboratories (AITC) for Aging Research program. The AITC program will serve as a national resource to **promote the development and implementation of artificial intelligence approaches and technology through demonstration projects to improve care and health outcomes for older Americans**, including persons with dementia (PWD) and their caregivers. Click here for details.

Deadline: September 1, 2020 (Letters of Intent)

Previously Posted Opportunities

- **Health Effects Institute** - Walter A. Rosenblith New Investigator Award
  Deadline: March 24, 2020 (Preliminary applications)

- **Facebook Research** - Statistics for Improving Insights, Models, and Decisions
  Deadline: March 25, 2020

- **National Endowment for the Arts** - Research Grants in the Arts and NEA Research Labs
  Deadline: March 30, 2020

- **American Cancer Society** - Role of Health Policy and Insurance in Cancer Services
  Deadline: April 1, 2020

- **American Psychological Foundation** - Visionary Grants Program
  Deadline: April 1, 2020

- **Fahs-Beck Fund** - Faculty/Post-Doctoral Research Grant Program
  Deadline: April 1, 2020

- **ICAT** - 2021 Accelerate Festival
  Deadline: April 17, 2020

Conferences, Seminars and Events

VT Research Ethics Sessions Offered Via Zoom

Due to the impact of COVID-19, both half-day RCR trainings that were planned for the Roanoke campus and the monthly SIRC Investigator Series lunch & learns are being transitioned to Zoom video conference. Please see below for details. Contact Kory Trott with questions or visit the SIRC web page.

Half-Day RCR Webinars

Research Ethics & Compliance for Virginia Tech Researchers - Part 1

- Date: 3/25/2020
- Time: 12:30pm to 4:30pm
- Zoom: https://virginiatech.zoom.us/j/208850105

Research Ethics & Compliance for Virginia Tech Researchers - Part 2

- Date: 3/26/2020
- Time: 8:30am to 12:30pm
- Zoom: https://virginiatech.zoom.us/u/aeict3S7JN

SIRC Investigator Series

Your Protocol and the IRB: Infusing Research Ethics into Your Research Protocol

- Date: March 27th, 2020
- Time: 12:30pm - 1:30pm
- Zoom: https://virginiatech.zoom.us/j/7791318183
- Registration: https://profdev.tlos.vt.edu/courses/sirc3-032720

Informed Consent: Beyond the Informed Consent Document

- Date: April 23rd, 2020
- Time: 12:30pm - 1:30pm
- Zoom: https://virginiatech.zoom.us/j/7791318183?status=success
- Registration: https://profdev.tlos.vt.edu/courses/sirc4-042320

OVPRI Spring Discussion Series - The Investment Institutes

At this time, OVPRI still plans to host its **April 28th discussion from 3:00-4:30 p.m. with the VT Investment Institutes**. A panel of Virginia Tech's investment

institute directors will provide a brief overview of each institute and how they support and promote faculty and students. Join the conversation via Zoom: https://virginiatech.zoom.us/j/620447737 or with the meeting ID: 620-447-737. Stay tuned to learn if an in-person session will also be offered.

Rural Health Data Institute Offered

The National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health is offering an **8-part series of training webinars for individuals who work with rural health data**. The institute includes the webinars, supplemental readings, optional homework assignments, session surveys and a final evaluation. **Webinars will be held every Wednesday from May 12, 2020 to June 30, 2020**. Click here for details and here to register. The deadline to apply is May 1, 2020.

Food Policy Seminar Postponed to Fall

The **Policy Destination Area *Policy, Technology and Society* seminar**, *Local to Global: A Conversation about Food Policy,* planned for March 31st, has been postponed to fall 2020. More details will be posted at a later date.

Announcements and Faculty News

Guidance for VT Research Continuity Due to COVID-19 Impact

In an effort to keep the research community informed, the Office of the Vice President for Research and Innovation has partnered with university leadership and teams across campus to provide **guidance, information, and resources for faculty, staff, and students to manage ongoing research and scholarship activities**. Click here to access this information and for additional resources.
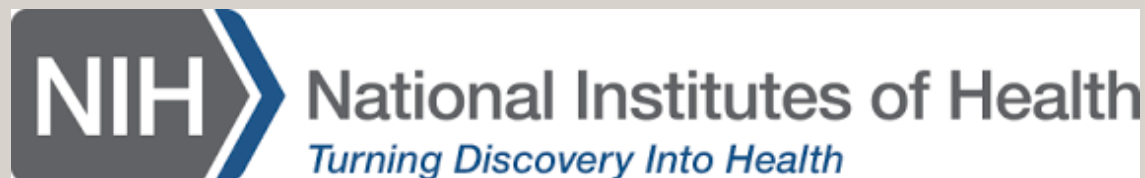
<u>Of note:</u> To address research continuity in the face of reduced in-person campus operations and to ensure safety of researchers, staff, and research participants, **the Virginia Tech IRB/HRPP is pausing all research involving person-to-person contact or gatherings of human research participants as of March 14, 2020**.

Guidance on Impact of COVID-19 on Research

NSF has developed a **Frequently Asked Questions site to address research-related questions** about the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Click here for details.

COVID-19: Information for NIH Applicants and Recipients

Due to the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak, the NIH as provided the following information for researchers:

- NIH **Late Application Policy Due** to Public Health Emergency for United States for 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) - NOT-OD-20-082
- **General Frequently Asked Questions** (FAQs) - Proposal Submission and Award Management Related to COVID-19 - NOT-OD-20-083
- **Flexibilities Available to Applicants and Recipients** of Federal Financial Assistance Affected by COVID-19 - NOT-OD-20-086
    - COVID-19 Flexibilities for Applicants and Recipient FAQs

New NIH Grant Application Forms for May 25th and Beyond

NIH has made available **new application forms, FORMS-F, for grants due on May 25, 2020 or after**. For grants due on or before May 24, 2020, the current forms (FORMS-E) are to be used. Click here for more details.

Personal privacy matters during a pandemic — but less than it might at other times

Lisa Lee, director of the division of Scholarly Integrity and Research Compliance at Virginia Tech and former executive director of the Obama administration's Presidential Bioethics Commission, is featured in an article discussing health privacy during a disease outbreak such as COVID-19. Read more...

How much water are you supposed to drink a day, debunking the 8 cups-a-day myth

For the average, healthy adult, drinking when you are thirsty is a good way to stay hydrated. However, this method may not always be the best practice, says **Brenda M. Davy**, a registered dietician nutritionist and professor at Virginia Tech. Read more...