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INSTITUTE FOR SOCIETY,
CULTURE, AND ENVIRONMENT
VIRGINIA TECH™

ISCE NEWS FLASH

March 16, 2021



Upcoming Events of Note:

- **Research Development Support:** National Science Board Vision 2030: March 18th at Noon
- **Presentation by NSF Program Officers:** March 30th at 12:30 p.m.

See below for details as well as funding opportunities and news.

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

Funding Opportunities



GCC-ISCE Issue Call for Proposals for Seed Grants

The Global Change Center (GCC) and ISCE are accepting letters of intent for two interdisciplinary seed grant opportunities, both focused on global change. **The second opportunity, in particular, seeks to fund projects led by GCC affiliated faculty that address social aspects (e.g., causes, consequences, solutions) of major global change issues**, such as disease, climate change or pollution. The project should leverage and integrate a unique combination of social science expertise with biophysical and/or engineering expertise at VT, and have high potential to leverage external resources. It is anticipated that \$30,000 will be awarded to 1-2 projects for this opportunity. [Click here for the full RFA](#) for both opportunities.

Deadline: May 21, 2021 (LOI); June 18, 2021 (Proposals)



Seed Funding Available for Coastal-Zone Research, Outreach & Education

The goal of the Center for Coastal Studies' seed grants is to form and foster interdisciplinary groups to address research, extension and engagement, and educational needs to **better understand and find innovative solutions for complex contemporary and emerging environmental, societal, security,**

political, and economic issues in the coastal zone. A total of at least \$50,000 is allocated to fund five to seven grants. The maximum proposed budget is \$15,000, but smaller grants are welcome and will enable more projects to be funded. [Click here](#) for details.

Deadline: March 31, 2021



Engage Your Undergraduate Students in Research!

Through its Undergraduate Research Faculty Grant Program, the VT Office of Undergraduate Research will provide several **short-term mini grants of up to \$3,500 each to individual faculty, teams of faculty, or departments, to facilitate the development or support of novel programs that aim to scale undergraduate research** for Tech students through virtual/remote means. Awards will be made by April 9 to fund projects that must be completed by June 30, 2021. [Click here](#) for details and to apply online.

Deadline: March 31, 2021



Apply to Be a SERN Mid-Career Fellow

The Student Experience Research Network (SERN) Mid-Career Fellows Program will support a community of scholars to collectively bridge equity-centered research on the structures that shape students' experience of feeling respected as valued people and thinkers in school with current topics in federal and state policy. **The fellowship advances SERN's goal of investing in the leadership of researchers doing practically relevant, interdisciplinary, and equity-centered scholarship who are seeking to deepen their social impact.** [Click here](#) for details.

Deadline: April 9, 2021



The Harold W. McGraw, Jr. Prize in Education

Nominations Invited for McGraw Prize in Education

The [McGraw Prize](#) has celebrated innovation in education by recognizing outstanding individuals who have dedicated themselves to improving education and whose accomplishments are making an impact on the field. In 2021, three McGraw Prizes, recognizing achievement in pre-K-12 education, higher education, and learning science research, will be awarded, with each winner receiving \$50,000. Self-nominations are allowed. [Click here](#) for details.

Deadline: April 15, 2021



Designing Accountable Software Systems Applicant Webinar - March 24th

The NSF Designing Accountable Software Systems (DASS) aims to bring researchers in computer and information science and engineering together with researchers in law and social, behavioral, and economic sciences to jointly develop rigorous and reproducible methodologies for understanding the drivers of social goals for software and for designing, implementing, and validating accountable software systems. **In response to high interest, NSF has organized a virtual DASS Town Hall for potential applicants on March 24th at 4:00 p.m.** [Click here](#) to register.

facebook research

Call for Research on Sequential Bayesian Decision Making

Facebook Research is now accepting research proposals in the area of Bayesian optimization, which Facebook uses to improve product experiences, infrastructure, and aid in cutting edge research. With this RFP, **Facebook**

hopes to deepen its ties to the academic research community by seeking out novel ideas and applications of Bayesian optimization that further advance the field. Committed to open source, Facebook will help awardees make the products of this RFP available to the public as part of BoTorch. [Click here](#) for details.

Deadline: April 21, 2021



Call for Research to Improve Education and Reduce Inequality

The Russell Sage Foundation in partnership with the W.T. Grant Foundation seeks research projects that aim to deepen understanding of educational opportunity and success in the U.S. by analyzing data on academic achievement from the Stanford Education Data Archive (SEDA) constructed at the [Educational Opportunity Project](#) at Stanford University. Studies that can plausibly identify the effects of policies, practices, and conditions on achievement and achievement inequality, or the effects of achievement and achievement gaps on other outcomes and forms of inequality, will be preferred over descriptive or correlational studies. [Click here](#) for details.

Deadline: April 29, 2021



Systems and Services Research to Address "Wrong-Pocket Problem"

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation has issued a call for proposals for *Systems for Action: Systems and Services Research to Build a Culture of Health*. This call will provide funding for new research to rigorously test and evaluate innovative solutions to the "wrong-pocket problem" that persists across health and social service systems. **This "wrong-pocket problem" occurs when benefits from systems designed to improve social and**

economic conditions do not flow to disadvantaged communities but rather to reduced costs for medical care. [Click here](#) for details. An optional 1-page letter of intent is due April 30, 2021.

Deadline: April 30, 2021 (LOI); June 9, 2021 (Proposals)



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CDC 24/7: Saving Lives, Protecting People™

Preventing Violence Affecting Young Lives

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has issued a funding opportunity, *Preventing Violence Affecting Young Lives*, to implement community and societal level strategies that address social determinants of health and racial inequity to prevent violence impacting adolescents and young adults in areas with high rates of violence. Priority consideration will be given to projects that focus on rural, American Indian/Alaska Native, and economically disadvantaged communities. **An applicant webinar will be held on April 8, 2021 from 1:30-3:00 p.m.** [Click here to register](#) and [here for more details](#).

Deadline: May 1, 2021



FULBRIGHT

Fulbright Scholar Competition for 2022-2023 Now Open!

Visit the Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program Catalog of Awards for details of over 400 awards offered across 130 countries. The deadline to apply is September 15, 2021. U.S. citizenship is required. For more information, multiple webinars are offered by discipline. **The webinar for Opportunities in Social Sciences and the Humanities will take place on March 24th from 2:00-3:00 p.m. EST.** Recordings will also be available. [Click here](#) for the full list of webinars.



Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality
Advancing Excellence in Health Care

AHRQ/PCORI Learning Health System Small Grant Pilot Program

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), in partnership with the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI), **invites applications for funding to support innovative patient-centered outcomes research small pilot projects in Learning Health Systems that evaluate the outcomes of embedded research** and evaluate the processes by which embedded research can enhance impact, stakeholder engagement, and other health system-identified outcomes of interest. [Click here](#) for details.

Deadline: June 16, 2021

Previously Posted Opportunities

- **National Science Foundation** - Multiple Opportunities
 - [Future of Work at the Human-Technology Frontier](#): Deadline: March 23, 2021
 - [DCL: Pilot Projects to Integrate Existing Data and Data-Focused Cyberinfrastructure to Enable Community-level Discovery Pathways](#): March 23, 2021
 - [Understanding the Rules of Life: Emergent Networks](#): Deadline: May 10, 2021
- **Health Effects Institute** - [Walter A. Rosenblith New Investigator Award/Health Effects of Air Pollution](#)
Deadline: March 24, 2021 (Preliminary Proposals)
- **National Geographic Society** - [COVID-19 Science Fund Conservation & Technology Projects](#)
Deadline: March 31, 2021 (Statement of Interest)
- **American Cancer Society** - [Health Policy, Insurance for Cancer Prevention Outcomes](#)
Deadline: April 1, 2021
- **Brady Foundation** - [Applications to Close Achievement Gaps](#)

Deadline: April 1, 2021

- **Fahs-Beck Fund for Research & Experimentation** - [Fahs-Beck Fellows](#)

Deadline: April 1, 2021

- **James S. McDonnell Foundation** - [2021 JSMF Opportunity Awards](#)

Deadline: April 9, 2021

- **RASTA** - [Social Science Awards/Parkistan RASTA Round 2](#)

Deadline: April 10, 2021

- **AARP** - [Challenge Grants for Livable Communities](#)

Deadline: April 14, 2021

- **Bogliasco Foundation** - [Fellowships in the Arts and Humanities](#)

Deadline: April 15, 2021

- **Russell Sage Foundation** - [Multiple Programs to Improve Social/Living Conditions in the US](#)

Deadline: May 4, 2021 (LOI)

Conferences, Seminars and Events



NSF Program Officers to Present on Social Science Opportunities

All Virginia Tech faculty and graduate students are invited to a presentation by National Science Foundation program officers, Frederick Kronz and Wenda Bauchspies, who will discuss funding opportunities for the Science, Technology and Society program as well as other social science-related programs. **The Zoom virtual meeting, co-hosted by ISCE, will be held on Tuesday, March 30th at 12:30 p.m.** [Click here](#) for details and [here to register](#).

National Science Board Vision 2030 Presentation - March 18th

The Office for Research and Innovation is hosting its third event in the Research Development Support series and will host guest speaker Victor McCrary, vice chair of the National Science Board, who will share insights into the National Science Foundation's National Science Board's Vision 2030 report. **The event will be held on March 18th from 12:00-1:00 p.m.** [Click here](#) for details and [to register](#).



Vibrant Virginia Book Webinar on Entrepreneurship - March 23rd

Join researcher Elsie Harper-Anderson, and Vibrant Virginia book authors, Erik Pages and Scott Tate, **to participate in an interactive discussion about entrepreneurship in Virginia on March 23rd from 11:00-12:00 p.m.** Vibrant Virginia invites audience members to sign up for a free account on Discourse and submit questions on Pages' and Tate's chapter, "*Connecting Entrepreneur Ecosystems across Urban and Rural Regions: Lessons from Central and Western Virginia*," which is in draft form. [Click here](#) for details and to register.



COVID-19 in Context: Dean's Forum - March 22nd

In the second session of the virtual series, **Virginia Tech experts will present on their research fields and other activities related to the COVID-19 pandemic on Monday, March 22nd from 12:00-1:00 p.m.** The four panelists include Ann Steensland, Katrina Powell, Donna Wertalik and Viswanath Venkatesh. Robert Sumichrast, Dean of Pamplin College of Business, will

chair the event. [Click here](#) for details and [here to register](#).

Presentation on the White Nationalist Basis of the 2nd Amendment

All are invited to attend a presentation by Dr. Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz, Professor Emeritus from CSU East Bay, on "The White Nationalist Basis of the Second Amendment." **The event, part of the *American Indian and Indigenous Community Center Virtual Lunch series*, will be held on March 25th at 2:30 p.m.** [Click here](#) for details and to register.



Access to Participate in UIDP Virtual 2021 Conference

The University Industry Demonstration Partnership (UIDP) identifies key issues impacting university-industry relations and seeks opportunities to develop innovative approaches to partnership and collaboration. **As a member of the UIDP, Virginia Tech has the opportunity to attend the 2021 conference** as the Office of Sponsored Programs has purchased the institute-wide registration option. Anyone with an "@vt.edu" email can [register](#) to attend. [Click here for the agenda](#).

SAVE THE DATE! Biennial Autism Conference to Focus on COVID-19

All are invited to attend the 2021 VT Autism Clinic & Center for **Autism Research Biennial Autism Conference, which will be held virtually on April 23, 2:00-5:00 p.m.** The conference theme is "Autism in the COVID-19 Era" and will feature a keynote presentation by Dr. Micah Mazurek from the University of Virginia's STAR program. Dr. Mazurek will speak about her research on leveraging technology to enhance best practices for autism. [Click here for the event flier](#) and [here to register](#).

Announcements and Faculty News

NIH Announces Change to Biosketch & Other Support

The NIH announced it is updating its Biosketch and Other Support documents to be more aligned with guidance from the Office of Science and Technology Policy Joint Committee on the Research Environment. **The updated forms and instructions will be required for applications submitted for due dates on or after May 25, 2021.** [Click here](#) for more information and to access the updated form, sample and instructions.



In memoriam: Richard E. Sorensen, Long-time Supporter of ISCE

In addition to being a leader, advisor, colleague and friend for those at the Pamplin College of Business and across campus, **Richard Sorensen was a friend and supporter of ISCE.** He served on the initial stakeholder committee and helped shape ISCE in its early years. [Read more](#) about his legacy here.

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