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INSTITUTE FOR SOCIETY,  
CULTURE, AND ENVIRONMENT  
VIRGINIA TECH.

## ISCE NEWS FLASH

October 27, 2020



**Multiple information sessions for faculty interested in the  
NEH Public Scholars Program offered this week!**

See the **Conferences** section below for details.

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

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# Funding Opportunities

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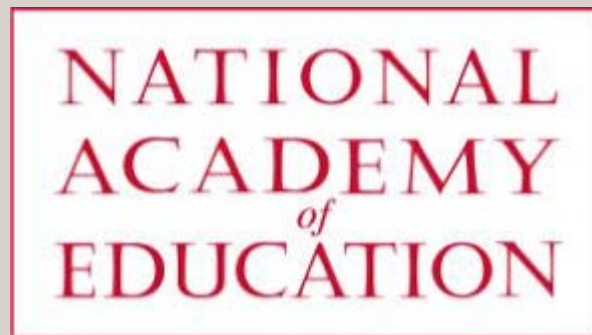
## *The Gerber Foundation*

### **Call for Pediatric Research: Health & Nutrition**

The Gerber Foundation welcomes applications for research projects aimed at identifying solutions to common everyday issues and problems in the field of children's health and nutrition. Of particular interest are **projects offering substantial promise of meaningful advances in prevention and treatment of disease and those with broad, general applicability**. [Click here](#) for details.

**Deadline: November 15, 2020 (Concept Papers)**

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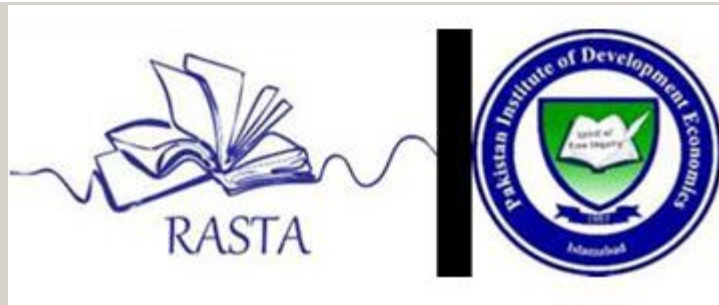


### **Education Fellowships Available**

The National Academy of Education (NAEd) **welcomes applications for its NAEd/Spencer Postdoctoral Fellowship Program which awards \$70,000 to twenty-five scholars in support of non-residential postdoctoral proposals with the potential to advance the field of education**. The fellowship is intended as salary replacement for one year and to cover other research expenses outlined in the proposal. [Click here](#) for details.

**Deadline: November 18, 2020**

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### Research for Social Transformation and Advancement in Pakistan

The Pakistan Institute of Development Economics is offering **competitive grants for policy-oriented research that will inform the federal Planning Commission of Pakistan and other policy decision makers**. Proposals are invited on themes ranging from markets and regulation to city governance and development. RASTA builds on a social science research competitive grants program during 2012-2016 in which ISCE's Global Issues Initiative played a central role. RASTA grants up to \$24,000 for one-year projects will be made primarily to national and provincial universities and research institutes, but proposals are also solicited from scholars at foreign universities (including Pakistani graduate students) with interest in economic growth and governance issues of Pakistan. [Click here](#) for the Call for Research Proposals.

**Deadline: November 20, 2020**

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### Call for iTHRIV Mentored Career Development Applications

iTHRIV announces its annual call for applications for the iTHRIV Scholar Mentored Career Development Program. **The program aims to develop the next generation of clinical and translational researchers in principles of data science, the conduct of rigorous and reproducible science, and to promote team science** as a means to enhance innovation and discovery in health-related research. Proposals that demonstrate potential to integrate team science and data science in clinical or translational research are preferred.

[Click here](#) for details.

**Deadline: December 1, 2020 (Required Letter of Intent); February 2, 2021 (Selected Proposals)**

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**Funding for Program Evaluation on Closing the Achievement Gap**

The Brady Education Foundation welcomes proposals focused on the evaluation of programs with the potential to help close the opportunity and resulting achievement gap associated with race and family income. **The primary aim of the proposal must concern the evaluation of the effectiveness of programs designed to promote positive cognitive and/or achievement outcomes** for children from underserved groups and/or low-resourced communities. [Click here](#) for details.

**Deadline: December 1, 2020 (Stage 1 Proposals)**

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**Call for 2021 Fellowships**

The Office of Evaluation Sciences (OES) at the General Services Administration is currently accepting applications for a yearlong fellowship beginning in fall 2021 (based in Washington, DC with some flexibility based on the COVID-19 pandemic). **OES is a team of applied researchers that works to build insights from the social and behavioral sciences into federal programs.** OES designs, implements, and analyzes evidence-based interventions and randomized evaluations. [Click here](#) for details.

**Deadline: December 13, 2020**

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**Previously Posted Opportunities**

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- **Spencer Foundation** - [Small Education Research Grants](#)  
Deadline: November 5, 2020
- **Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation** - [Balance the Equation: Grand Challenge \(Algebra\)](#)  
Deadline: November 6, 2020
- **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation** - Two Opportunities
  - [2021-2022 Health Policy Fellows](#)  
Deadline: November 9, 2020
  - [Policies for Action: Research to Advance Racial Equity & Justice](#)  
Deadline: November 24, 2020
- **VT Policy Destination Area** - [+Policy Research Fellowships](#)  
Deadline: November 30, 2020
- **RRF Foundation for Aging** - [Research Grants](#)  
Deadline: December 1, 2020 (Letter of Inquiry)

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## External Funding Success

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### Researchers examine impact of digital information on COVID-19 decisions and behavior

**Shalini Misra** and **Kris Wernstedt** have received a Rapid Response Research (RAPID) grant from the NSF to study whether people's decisions are influenced by the amount and quality of pandemic-related information they consume.

[Read more...](#)



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## Conferences, Seminars and Events

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NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE  
**Humanities**

### NEH Public Scholars Info Sessions Offered This Week

Three information sessions for faculty interested in the National Endowment for the Humanities Public Scholars program will take place this week. **The sessions (same information repeated each time) will discuss the program, review application materials, discuss proposal writing strategies, and invite applicants to a peer review process** in anticipation of the December 16 submission deadline.

- Tuesday, October 27 (today!), 3:00-4:00 p.m.
- Thursday, October 29, 11:00-12:00 p.m.
- Friday, October 30, 11:00-12:00 p.m.

[Click here](#) to register and for the Zoom information. For more information, please contact [Tom Ewing](#).

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LIBERAL ARTS AND HUMAN SCIENCES  
**CENTER FOR GERONTOLOGY**  
VIRGINIA TECH™

### "Breakfast with Bob" Forum this Thursday

The Center for Gerontology is kicking off its **fall forum series with "Breakfast with Bob" on Thursday, October 29th at 8:00 a.m.** Bob Blancato, President of Matz, Blancato and Associates and National Coordinator of the bipartisan 3000-member Elder Justice Coalition, will discuss the upcoming election and what the results could mean for older adults. Pamela Teaster, Center Director, will moderate the forum. [Click here](#) to register.

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### Presentation on Mood and Its Effect on Behavior & Performance

The Department of Economics "Coffee with the Chair" event will feature Dr. Monica Capra from Claremont Graduate University to discuss "Moods & Behavior." **The event will be held Thursday, October 29, 5:30-6:30pm via Zoom.** While the talk is aimed at undergraduates, all are welcome to attend. [Click here](#) for the event flier. [Advance Registration](#) is required.

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## ADVISE

Forum for Advancing Science and Education through Philosophy

### Socially Responsible Funding Policy Roundtable

A roundtable discussing socially responsible funding policy with a special emphasis on the medical sciences will be held at 10:00am EST (2:00pm GMT) on Saturday November 14th, 2020. **This international, online workshop brings together experts to discuss one of the many new questions prompted by the current crisis,** specifically, how are we to fund pandemic science? [Click here](#) for details and Zoom information.

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### Black Technical and Professional Communication Event

All are invited to attend a virtual event featuring a panel of Black scholars in technical and professional communication who will offer their perspectives on defining Black technical and professional communication; advocating for the

inclusion of Black perspectives in the body of mainstream disciplinary scholarship and pedagogical practice; and carving out the methodological, theoretical, and practical space that will enable other Black scholars, teachers, and practitioners to do such work. **The event will be held on Monday, November 30th from 1:30-3:00 p.m.** [Click here](#) for the event flier and [here to register](#).

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## Announcements and Faculty News

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OFFICE OF SPONSORED PROGRAMS

### OSP Procedure Changes for PIs & Salary Escalations

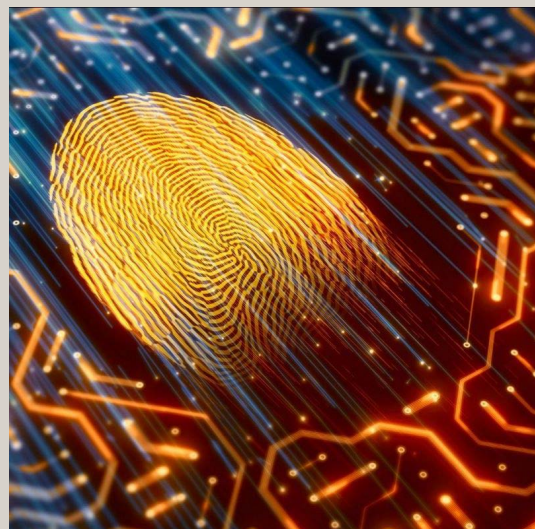
The VT Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP) has **updated the PI eligibility procedure to more specifically outline who meets the criteria to be a Principal Investigator at Virginia Tech** and also updated the process for requesting exceptions. [Click here](#) to review the updated procedure.

OSP has also reviewed the National Institutes of Health (NIH) practice regarding the funding of salary escalations in proposal budgets. Due to NIH inconsistency in their application of fiscal policy regarding salary escalation, OSP will no longer require salary escalation in NIH budgets. **Please be aware this is only applicable to NIH proposals.** Contact [Trudy Riley](#), OSP Director, with any questions.

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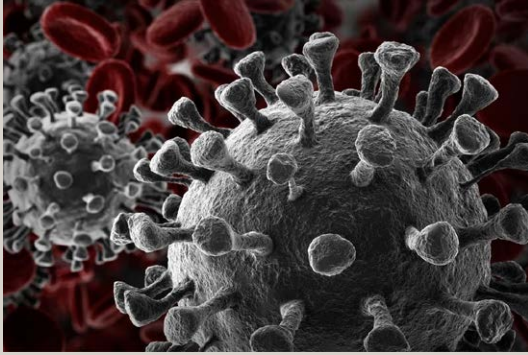
### New Virginia Tech research lab to explore human side of advanced technology

**Aaron Brantly** and a team of Virginia Tech colleagues have launched the Tech4Humanity Lab to explore the influence of technology on humanity and the human condition. The transdisciplinary lab focuses on human security and equity within political, medical,



social, economic, and environmental issues. [Read more...](#)

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### COVID-19 repository highlights how VT's social scientists are responding to the pandemic

The **Institute for Society, Culture, and Environment** has been highlighting the expertise of social scientists, broadly defined, through its COVID-19 publication repository, which it established this spring. [Read more...](#)

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### Lessons from another deadly pandemic courtesy of VT researchers

**Ron Fricker**, professor of statistics, and **E. Thomas Ewing**, professor of history, joined forces with Saint Louis University Professor Steve Rigdon to understand COVID-19 through the lens of the 1918 influenza pandemic. [Read more...](#)

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