

If you are having trouble viewing this email, [view it in your preferred browser](#).



INSTITUTE FOR SOCIETY,  
CULTURE, AND ENVIRONMENT  
VIRGINIA TECH™

## ISCE NEWS FLASH

February 2, 2021



Please note the call for internal notices of intent for limited submissions to the **Jeffress Trust Awards**, which will include projects focused on psychology, behavioral sciences, sociology, public health and health outcomes research.

See below for full details.

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

---

## Funding Opportunities

---



### Call for Proposals for 2021-2022 ISCE Scholars

The ISCE Scholars Program provides faculty support for grant proposals in the social sciences, broadly defined, and consistent with ISCE's four thematic areas. Six to eight awards of up to \$30,000 will be awarded for a period of one year, beginning in July 2021. **This year's call encourages team proposals aligned with the University's Transdisciplinary Communities or that address disinformation, inequality or structural racism.** [Click here](#) for the full announcement and application forms. Feel free to contact ISCE with any questions.

**Deadline: March 1, 2021**

---

### Call for Limited Submission Proposals for Jeffress Trust Awards

The Jeffress Trust has posted the instructions and dates for their 2021 funding opportunity. Grants are one-year \$100,000 awards to promote scientific discovery through interdisciplinary collaboration and integration of innovative computational and quantitative strategies. In addition, projects may be focused on psychology, behavioral sciences, sociology, population health and epidemiology. This opportunity is for researchers working in Virginia and geared towards improving the health of Virginia residents. **Since this is a limited submission in which Tech can only submit 5 proposals, interested researchers should submit an internal notice of intent for this opportunity to Janet Webster by Friday Feb. 12, 2021 by 11:59 p.m.** If more than five notices are submitted, an internal competition will occur. Contact [Janet Webster](#) with questions. [Click here](#) for the full application guidelines.

**Deadline: February 12, 2021 (Internal notice of intent); March 30, 2021 (Proposal)**



# Commonwealth Cyber Initiative

## Call for Scalable Pilot Experiential Learning Programs

The Commonwealth Cyber Initiative (CCI) seeks proposals for experiential learning projects that build on the expertise of the higher education institutions who are members of CCI and extend experiential learning opportunities aligned with CCI to students across the Commonwealth. The objective is to enhance students' essential skills to enter the cybersecurity workforce once they finish their current studies. **CCI will support programs that are already successful at the institution level and could potentially be expanded to serve the entire Commonwealth.** [Click here](#) for details.

**Deadline: March 1, 2021**

---



## Healthy Longevity Catalyst Competition

The National Academy of Medicine's *Healthy Longevity Catalyst Award Competition* will **issue up to 24 cash prizes worth \$50K each for bold ideas to extend the human healthspan** – or years of life marked by good health, productivity, and social connectedness. The competition is open to everyone, no matter their career stage, and ideas can originate from any field or combination of fields (including engineering, behavioral and social sciences, technology, data science, policy, and beyond). A 2-page application is all that is required. [Click here](#) for details and [here to apply](#).

**Deadline March 8, 2021**

---



## Upcoming NSF Solicitations that include Social, Behavioral & Economic Dimensions

The first two opportunities below have a significant role for social scientists. **If you are interested in pursuing either of these opportunities, please contact Yancey Crawford.** The third opportunity replaces an older version and includes social science projects as well.

- **NSF Future of Work Solicitation Updated for 2021:** NSF encourages researchers across the computational, social, behavioral and economic sciences to submit collaborative proposals to the *Future of Work at the Human-Technology Frontier: Core Research* solicitation. Proposals to this program should describe multi-disciplinary or convergent research that addresses technological, human, and societal dimensions of future work. Proposals that address the impact of large-scale disruptions such as the Covid-19 pandemic on the future of jobs and work are also of interest. [Click here](#) for the solicitation. **Deadline: March 23, 2021**
- **Designing Accountable Software Systems Solicitation:** The *Designing Accountable Software Systems* (DASS) program 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. DASS will support well-conceived collaborations between these two groups of researchers. Projects are limited to \$750,000 for up to three years. [Click here](#) for details. **Deadline: April 19, 2021**
- **Dear Colleague Letter (DCL): Pilot Projects to Integrate Existing Data and Data-Focused Cyberinfrastructure to Enable Community-level Discovery Pathways:** Through this DCL, NSF encourages proposals to the Cyberinfrastructure for Emerging Science and Engineering Research (CESER) program for pilot projects that bring together researchers and CI experts to develop the means of combining existing community data resources and shared data-focused CI into new integrative and highly

performing data-intensive discovery workflows that empower new scientific pathways. The Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences directorate participates in this DCL. [Click here](#) for details.

---

## Previously Posted Opportunities

---

- **National Science Foundation** - Two Opportunities
  - [Smart & Connected Communities](#): Deadline: February 24, 2021
  - [Future of Work at the Human-Technology Frontier](#): Deadline: March 23, 2021
- **National Collaborative on Gun Violence Research** - [Research on Fair & Effective Gun Policies](#)  
Deadline: February 5, 2021
- **National Institute of Justice** - [Research and Evaluation on Violence Against Women](#)  
Deadline: April 27, 2021 (Extended)
- **Human Animal Bond Research Institute** - [Research on Human-Animal Interaction](#)  
Deadline: February 11, 2021
- **Virginia Tech Center for Humanities** - [Humanities Summer Stipends](#)  
Deadline: February 15, 2021
- **National Science Foundation/National Institutes of Health** - [Smart Health and Biomedical Research in the Era of AI and Advanced Data Science](#)  
Deadline: February 16, 2021
- **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation** - [Equity-focused Policy Research](#)  
February 16, 2021 (brief proposals)
- **Institute of Education Sciences** - Two Opportunities  
Deadline: February 25, 2021
  - [Research Networks Focused on Critical Problems of Education Policy](#)
  - [Practice and for Transformative Research in the Education Sciences](#)
- **American Psychological Foundation** - [Research Exploring LGBTQ Issues](#)  
Deadline: March 1, 2021

- American Philosophical Society - [Phillips Fund for Native American Research](#)

Deadline: March 1, 2021

---

## Conferences, Seminars and Events

---



### Inaugural RISE Lecture: Impact of Bias on Machine Learning

The Division of Scholarly Integrity and Research Compliance is hosting its inaugural speaker to launch the **Research Integrity and Scholarly Excellence (RISE) Lecture series** on Friday, February 12th from **Noon-1:00 p.m.** Guest speaker Dr. Ming Jack Po will present "*Machine Learning at Google: AI Fairness and Ethical Quandries.*" [Click here](#) for details and [here to register](#).



### Improve Your Communication with a "Pinch of Practice" Workshop!

With support from FLSI and ISCE, the **Center for Communicating Science** is offering multiple "Pinch of Practice" workshops to develop your communication skills over your lunch hour. Multiple dates are offered throughout the semester. Topics range from *Distilling Your Message* to *Presenting Better Virtually* to *Making Your Research Understandable* and many others! [Click here](#) for the full list, dates and registration information.



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

### Five by Five by Five Forum

The Center for Gerontology presents its **Five by Five by Five Forum Series on Friday, February 26th from 1:00-2:00 p.m.** Speakers include Joshua Drake and Carlin Rafie, both from the Department of Human Nutrition, Food and Exercise, Ben Katz and Carolyn Shivers from the Department of Human Development and Family Science, and Justin Owens from VTTI. Click [here to register](#).



### Summer Institute Social Sciences Genomics

The Russell Sage Foundation Summer Institute in Social Science Genomics **introduces graduate students and beginning faculty in economics, sociology, psychology, statistics, genetics, and other disciplines to the methods of social-science genomics**—the analysis of genomic data in social science research. The institute will be held June 27-July 9, 2021. Assuming the event is held in-person, most participant costs during the workshop, including housing and most meals, will be covered, and economy-class travel expenses will be reimbursed by the foundation up to a set cap. [Click here](#) for details and to apply.

**Deadline: February 22, 2021**

alzheimer's  association®

**Interdisciplinary Summer  
Research Institute**

## Apply Now for Alzheimer's Association's Summer Research Institute

The Alzheimer's Association Interdisciplinary Summer Research Institute (AA-ISRI) is an **immersive, no-cost opportunity for early career researchers in psychosocial care and public health to launch a career in dementia science** and accelerate breakthroughs in the field. The institute will be held in Chicago, August 9-13, 2021, where experts will offer diverse perspectives on ground-breaking research through group sessions and individual mentoring. Twenty-four applicants will be selected for the institute. [Click here](#) for details. Applications are due April 8, 2021.

---

## Announcements and Faculty News

---

### Biden issues call to unity that comes with urgency

**Laura Belmonte**, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences and a professor of history, is featured in an AP article about President Biden's call to unity. [Read more...](#)



### Combating misinformation when a loved one is caught in a web of conspiracies

**James Hawdon**, interim chair and professor of sociology is featured in a National Public Radio segment on *All Things Considered* about combating misinformation. [Read more...](#)

---

Institute for Society, Culture and Environment, Virginia Tech  
230 Grove Lane  
MC 0555  
Blacksburg, Va 24061

[Add us to your address book](#)

Questions? Contact Yancey Crawford at [yanceyc3@vt.edu](mailto:yanceyc3@vt.edu).

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

