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INSTITUTE FOR SOCIETY,  
CULTURE, AND ENVIRONMENT  
VIRGINIA TECH™

## ISCE NEWS FLASH

June 8, 2021



### Update on ISCE's COVID-19 Repository

ISCE will no longer be actively identifying scholarly publications for its [COVID-19 Repository](#), but we are happy to add any publications you send to us.

See [Announcements & Faculty News](#) for details.

NSF has announced a new funding opportunity for developmental grants focused on [preventing future pandemics](#). See [Funding Opportunities](#) 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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### QuickFire Challenges Available to Address Health Disparities

Johnson & Johnson Innovation has two QuickFire Challenges to address health disparities in specific conditions, including mental health:

- **The Washington, DC Health Innovation QuickFire Challenge** - This challenge is focused on chronic healthcare and morbidity challenges of underserved communities and developing ways to achieve health equity. **Innovators are invited to submit potential science and technology solutions that address racial and socioeconomic disparities and that focus on maternal mortality, cardiovascular diseases and systemic autoimmunity, and kidney diseases.** Up to \$250,000 will be awarded to up to four innovators who will also have the opportunity to reside at JLABS @ Washington, DC at the new Children's National Research and Innovation Campus. [Click here](#) for details. **Deadline: June 11, 2021.**
  - **Decoding Disparities** - This challenge is focused on better detecting, understanding, or reducing the root causes of health inequities and informing steps to achieve equity. Innovator(s) will receive funding in increments of \$50,000, \$100,000 or \$200,000 as well as access to the global Johnson & Johnson Innovation - JLABS network and mentorship from experts at the Johnson & Johnson Family of Companies. Priority focus areas include mental health, inflammatory bowel disease, and cardiovascular disease. [Click here](#) for details. **Deadline: June 25, 2021**
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american federation  
for aging research

### **Innovator Awards in Cognitive Aging and Memory Loss**

The McKnight Brain Research Foundation and the American Federation for Aging Research will provide up to two 3-year awards of \$750,000 each to advanced Assistant Professors and recently appointed Associate Professors.

**One award will be made to support studies focusing on clinical translational research and another award toward understanding basic biological mechanisms underlying cognitive aging and age-related memory loss.** [Click here](#) for details.

**Deadline: July 15, 2021** (letter of intent)

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### **Predictive Intelligence for Pandemic Prevention Phase I: Development Grants**

Predicting and preventing pandemics that have not yet happened is the focus of a new funding opportunity from the National Science Foundation.

**Researchers from a broad range of scientific disciplines — including those in the social, behavioral and economic sciences —** are invited to submit proposals for the [Predictive Intelligence for Pandemic Prevention](#) initiative to develop multidisciplinary research centers that can address the complex challenges involved in forecasting and avoiding future pandemic-scale outbreaks. [Click here](#) for the solicitation and [here](#) for information on how to participate in an informational webinar on July 13th.

**Deadline: October 1, 2021 (Phase 1)**

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## **Previously Posted Opportunities**

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- **2022 Holberg Prize** - [International Prize for Humanities, Social Sciences, Law & Theology](#)  
Deadline: June 15, 2021
- **RRF Foundation** - [Aging Research](#)  
Deadline: June 15, 2021 (Mandatory letter of intent)
- **Virginia Catalyst** - [Grant Round 12/Translational Research](#)  
Deadline: June 15, 2021
- **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation** - Two Opportunities:
  - [Health Equity Scholars for Action](#)  
Deadline: June 16, 2021
  - [Research in Transforming Health and Health Care Systems](#)  
Deadline: June 28, 2021
- **Smith Richardson Foundation** - [Strategy & Policy Fellows](#)  
Deadline: June 18, 2021
- **Department of Defense** - [Minerva Initiative](#)  
Deadline: June 23, 2021
- **Russell Sage Foundation** - [Visiting Scholars Program](#)  
Deadline: June 24, 2021
- **American Association for Advancement of Science** - [Early Career Award for Public Engagement with Science](#)  
Deadline: June 30, 2021
- **Facebook Research** - [Statistics for Improving Insights, Models and Decisions](#)  
Deadline: June 30, 2021
- **National Institute for Health Care Management** - [U.S. Healthcare System Research](#)  
Deadline: June 30, 2021
- **Vibrant Virginia** - [Applied Research or Engagement Projects](#)  
Deadline: July 3, 2021
- **National Institute of Mental Health** - Two Opportunities:
  - [RADx-UP - Social, Ethical, and Behavioral Implications \(SEBI\) Research on Disparities in COVID-19 Testing among Underserved and Vulnerable Populations](#); deadline: July 7, 2021
  - [Community-engaged COVID-19 Testing Interventions among Underserved and Vulnerable Populations – RADx-UP Phase II](#); deadline: July

7, 2021

- **National Science Foundation** -Multiple Opportunities:
  - [Racial Equity in STEM Education](#); deadline: July 13, 2021 (first of multiple)
  - [Trans-Atlantic Platform Recovery, Renewal, and Resilience in a Post-Pandemic World](#); deadline: July 21, 2021
  - [Fairness in AI in Collaboration with Amazon](#); deadline: August 3, 2021

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## Conferences, Seminars and Events

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### Call for Applications: VT COVID-19 Research Accelerator

ISCE, the Policy Destination Area, and University Libraries are **now accepting applications for the VT Covid-19 Data-Driven Research Accelerator, to take place July 12-16**. This free event will provide dedicated time, space, and specialized support for researchers or teams to network and rapidly move their projects forward on this timely issue. Applications are open now through June 13th for faculty and graduate students at any phase of the research process. See the [full call for applications](#), [apply here](#), or contact [Nathaniel Porter](#) for more information.

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### Microaggressions and Micro-Interventions Workshop - June 17th

Dr. Derald Wing Sue from Columbia University is the featured presenter for a **workshop on June 17th from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.** Dr. Sue will address issues related to microaggressions and micro-interventions that respond to the

current U.S. socio-cultural and political climate. [Click here](#) to register and [here for the event flier](#).

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### **Symposium on Health Inequities and COVID-19**

AAAS Science and Technology Policy Fellows are hosting a **day-long virtual symposium addressing 'Health Inequities Exposed and Exacerbated by the COVID-19 Pandemic' on Wednesday, June 30th**. The symposium will feature expert panels on healthcare access, health literacy, and the long-term social, behavioral, and economic impacts of COVID-19 mitigation efforts. [See the event flier](#) to learn more about the symposium and [register at this link](#).

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## **OTA Education**

Learn How Your Organization Can Benefit From OTA-Based Collaborations

### **Webinar on Other Transaction Agreements - June 30th**

A free webinar on Other Transaction Agreements (OTA), a federal contracting mechanism used by many federal agencies but which does not have to follow standard federal regulations, will be held on June 30th from 11:00-12:00 p.m. **Learn about how academia can benefit from these types of contracts**, which are being used more often with higher education. [Click here](#) for details and [here to register](#).

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# QUANTUM SOCIAL SCIENCE BOOTCAMP

An Initiative of the Mershon Center and the  
Carnegie Corporation of New York

## Register Now!

Registration is now open for the first-of-its-kind Quantum Social Science Bootcamp being held July 12-16 in a virtual format. The “bootcamp,” which was made possible through a grant from the Carnegie Corporation of New York, is **intended to introduce students and scholars at all stages, from across the social sciences, to the potential utility of quantum theory for their work.**

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

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## Announcements and Faculty News

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### COVID-19 Repository highlights many contributions of social scientists

ISCE extends a warm **thank you to all social science and policy faculty at Virginia Tech** who have contributed their expertise in addressing the coronavirus pandemic! Since April 2020, ISCE has maintained a [COVID-19 Repository](#) of scholarly publications and news stories that feature social science. Topics range from debates on mask wearing to the impact of the pandemic on children, education, travel and the economy to issues around college sports, women and employment, cybercrime and resilience. The

repository currently includes:

- 46+ journal articles, research briefs or other scholarly works
- 40+ editorials or blogs
- 50+ stories that demonstrate the Virginia Tech *Ut Prosim* spirit
- 270+ popular news media stories and interviews that feature social scientists

We know there are likely more media stories that we have missed. Although we will no longer be actively identifying these types of stories, please feel free to send any of your scholarly publications related to COVID-19 to [Yancey Crawford](#), and we will add to them the repository. We appreciate all your efforts!



### New Guidance on Research Announced

The Office of the Vice President for Research and Innovation has **released new guidance for research as of summer 2021**. The guidance provides updates based on Governor Ralph Northam's executive orders related to fully vaccinated individuals and the wearing of masks and social distancing. [Click here](#) for details.



### Message from President Sands on Vaccinations for Fall Semester

President Sands has announced that **COVID-19 vaccinations will be required for students and strongly encouraged faculty and staff** for the fall 2021 semester. [Click here](#) for full details.

**Our mailing address is:**



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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](#).

