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INSTITUTE FOR SOCIETY,  
CULTURE, AND ENVIRONMENT  
VIRGINIA TECH.

## ISCE NEWS FLASH

June 2, 2020



### **We hope you are enjoying the beautiful summer days!**

As you move into summer mode and think about your research plans, be sure to check the [QVPRI website](#) for the latest guidance on the reinstatement of human subject research and a Q & A session they are offering June 5th.

The Policy DA is asking VT faculty interested in policy to complete a survey about a COVID-19 database they are developing. See the *Announcements* below for details.

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

# Funding Opportunities

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## Accepting Proposals for Seed Grants

The Center for Coastal Studies requests **seed grant proposals from members of the Virginia Tech community to increase institutional capacity in coastal-zone research, extension, and education.** The goal of the seed grants is to form and foster interdisciplinary groups to address research, extension, 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 up to \$50,000 is allocated; five to seven grants of up to \$15,000 will be awarded. [Click here](#) for details.

**Deadline: June 15, 2020 (12:00 p.m)**

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## Applications Invited for Policy Analysis Research, Writing

The Smith Richardson Foundation is accepting applications for its annual Strategy and Policy Fellows grant competition. Research grants of at least \$60,000 will be awarded in **support of research by young scholars and policy thinkers working in the area(s) of American foreign policy, international relations, international security, military policy, and diplomatic and military history** that leads to the writing of a single-authored book. [Click here](#) for details.

**Deadline: June 15, 2020**



### **Nominations Due for Annual Holberg Prize**

The Holberg Prize is an **international award given to recognize outstanding contributions to research in the arts and humanities, social sciences, law, and theology**. The approximately \$575,000 prize will be awarded to an individual who has had a decisive impact on international research. [Click here](#) for details.

**Deadline: June 15, 2020**

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### **Education Research Grants**

The Spencer Foundation is accepting applications for its Research Grants on Education program. **Proposals may address a wide range of topics and disciplines that creatively investigate questions central to education**, including education, anthropology, philosophy, psychology, sociology, law, economics, history, and neuroscience. Projects that consider the trajectories, implications, and potential impacts of their findings, including how the knowledge may be shared and utilized across the field, in practice, in policy making, or with the broader public, are encouraged. [Click here](#) for details.

**Deadline: June 18, 2020 (Letter of Intent)**

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### Now Accepting Applications for Research and Journalism Grants

The National Institute for Healthcare Management Foundation (NIHCM) is **seeking projects to advance the existing knowledge base in the areas of health care financing, delivery, management and/or policy** and have strong potential to yield insights that can be used to have a positive impact on the U.S. health care system by improving efficiency, quality, access to care, preparedness or equity. Studies involving direct patient care or clinical, bench science research are not relevant for this solicitation. [Click here](#) for details.

**Deadline: June 29, 2020 (Letter of Intent)**

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### 2021 Young Scholars Program

The Foundation for Child Development is accepting LOIs for its 2021 Young Scholars Program, which funds **implementation research that is policy and practice-relevant and examines the preparation, competency, compensation, well-being, and ongoing professional learning of the early care and education (ECE) workforce**. Award amounts are up to \$225,000 for primary research and up to \$180,000 for secondary data analysis. [Click here](#) for details.

**Deadline: June 30, 2020 (Letters of Intent)**

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### Applications Invited for Core Internet Infrastructure Projects

The Open Technology Fund **seeks proposals to advance "building block" technologies and infrastructure relied on by people in repressive countries and/or that strengthen Internet freedom, digital security, and the overall health of the Internet.** Grants ranging from \$5,000-\$300,000 over 18 months will be awarded. [Click here](#) for details.

**Deadline: July 1, 2020**

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**Agency for Healthcare  
Research and Quality**

### Small Research Grant Program Now Open

AHRQ supports different types of health services research projects, including pilot and feasibility studies; secondary analysis of existing data; small, self-contained research projects; development of research methodology; and development of new research technology. **Rural and frontier areas are considered a priority population.** [Click here](#) for details.

**Deadline: July 5, 2020**

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## Previously Posted Opportunities

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- **Microsoft** - [AI for Health Program/COVID-19](#)  
Deadline: June 15, 2020
- **Social Science Research Council** - [Social Data Research Fellowships](#)  
Deadline: June 16, 2020
- **Spencer Foundation** - [COVID-19 Research Grants on Education and Inequity](#)  
Deadlines: June 8, 2020
- **MIT Solve** - [Health and Security Pandemics Challenge](#)  
Deadline: June 18, 2020

- **National Science Foundation** - [Coastlines and People](#)

Deadline: August 10, 2020 (Required LOI)

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## Conferences, Seminars and Events

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RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

### Reinstating Research - June 5th Virtual Q &A for VT Researchers

OVPRI has recently posted information on its website about the process and forms needed to resume human subject research due to the COVID-19 pandemic. [Visit their website for the latest information and resources.](#)

The Human Research Protection Program will be hosting a **Question and Answer session on reinstating research on Friday, June 5th from 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. via Zoom.** Click here to access the meeting:

<https://viriniatech.zoom.us/j/92017742047>; Meeting ID: 920 1774 2047.



### Virtual Forum Series: Engaging Communities & Higher Ed - June 12th

Vibrant Virginia is hosting its next forum as part of its virtual conference series.

The forum, ***Engaging Communities and Higher Education for Shared Recovery and Prosperity***, will take place on Friday, June 12th from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. [Click here](#) to register for the event and [here for more details](#).





### Living with AI: The Human Impacts of AI

The AAAS Science & Technology Policy Fellowships will be hosting a **virtual symposium on the human impacts of AI on June 11th, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.** The symposium will provide a nuanced perspective on the human impacts of AI and how to ensure that AI technologies are safe and fair in their development and application, which will inform policymakers, academics, and industry leaders as they seek to implement these technologies. [Click here](#) to register and [here for details](#).

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## Announcements and Faculty News

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### Participate Now! VT Database Project focused on COVID-19

The Policy Destination Area **invites the Virginia Tech community interested in policy-related research to participate in a very brief survey.** Together with a team of graduate and undergraduate students and librarian collaborators, the Policy DA is compiling and annotating a “database of databases” related to three core areas – health, environment and energy policy – in relation to COVID-19 and its aftermath.

### Your responses will help make the database more useful to VT

**researchers.** The survey can be accessed [here](#). Thanks to those who have already participated.

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### Accepting Submissions to Communicate Science through Art and Film

Sigma Xi invites submissions to its *STEM Art and Film Festival*, featuring performing and visual arts that portray the beauty of science; communicate

abstract principles; promote science, technology, engineering, and math education; exemplify the integration of arts in STEM; feature creative art therapies; and depict scientific discoveries and phenomena. **The call for submissions is open to scientists, science communicators, filmmakers, educators and artists on a broad spectrum of topics.** This event will be free to the public. [Click here](#) for details.

**Submissions Due: July 31, 2020**



**U.S. lawmakers unveil bold \$100 billion plan to remake NSF**

The National Science Foundation (NSF) would get a sweeping remake —including a new name, a huge infusion of cash, and responsibility for maintaining U.S. global leadership in innovation—under bipartisan bills that have just been introduced in both houses of Congress. [Read more...](#)

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**“Fattening” the Curve: Funding Equitable Scientific Research After the Pandemic**

**Barbara Allen**, professor of Science, Technology and Society, advocates in her recent blog for post-pandemic research to "fatten" the curve by more inclusively partnering with communities most affected by COVID-19. [Read more...](#)



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**Petersburg Healthy Options Partnerships (PHOPs) serves the community during pandemic**





Since the emergence of COVID-19, the PHOPs team, led by **Kathy Hosig**, director of the Center for Public Health Practice and Research, has leveraged these partnerships to quickly mobilize and coordinate efforts to feed families and to improve access to healthy food. [Read more...](#)

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**Twitter sets unclear precedent, raises new questions by fact-checking Trump tweets**

According to **Mike Horning**, an assistant professor of communication who studies how audiences react to fact-checking, Twitter may need to define more clearly what is and is not acceptable in light of this action because the president is far from the only person spreading misinformation on the platform. [Read more...](#)



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