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INSTITUTE FOR SOCIETY,
CULTURE, AND ENVIRONMENT
VIRGINIA TECH.

ISCE NEWS FLASH

January 12, 2021



Happy 2021! We hope you had a restorative break that will help sustain you during these challenging times.

This week's *ISCE News Flash* has many new funding opportunities.

Please note: There are several ISCE events coming up in the next few weeks: the **ISCE Scholars Information session**, two **online survey methodology webinars**, the **CLAHS/ISCE NSF CAREER Award series**, and the **ISCE NSF SBE event featuring Dr. Craig-Henderson**.

See below for full details.

Please send any news items to Yancey Crawford
at 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. **Deadline: March 1, 2021**

An information session for the ISCE Scholars program will be held on Thursday, January 14th from 1:00-2:00 p.m. [Click here](#) to register by January 13th.



Grand Challenge for COVID-19 Data Science Program

The International COVID-19 Data Alliance (ICODA) and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's Global Grand Challenges initiative have **launched a new pilot *Grand Challenges ICODA COVID-19 Data Science* grant program** focused on addressing major questions about how to reduce the harmful

impacts of COVID-19 and future pandemics. The pilot will lead to a larger Grand Challenges Data Science call in late 2021, which will be led by global Grand Challenges partners. The pilot program will provide awards of up to \$100,000 for studies lasting 6-12 months. [Click here](#) for details.

Deadline: January 19, 2021



Smart City Challenge to Foster Innovative Solutions for Urban Issues

Tech's Virginia Center for Housing Research is a sponsor, along with multiple other partners, in the *Smart City Challenge* which will run from January 23-February 18, 2021. Join them for a month of hacking where participants create innovative solutions to make urban areas smarter, more livable, resilient, and sustainable for everyone. **The Smart City Challenge will convene diverse, wide-ranging teams virtually via Zoom to innovate in the following sectors: housing, transportation, health, water, broadband, education, infrastructure, public safety.** Individuals or teams may participate. More than \$350k in cash and in-kind prizes will be awarded to winning teams. [Click here](#) for more details and to register.

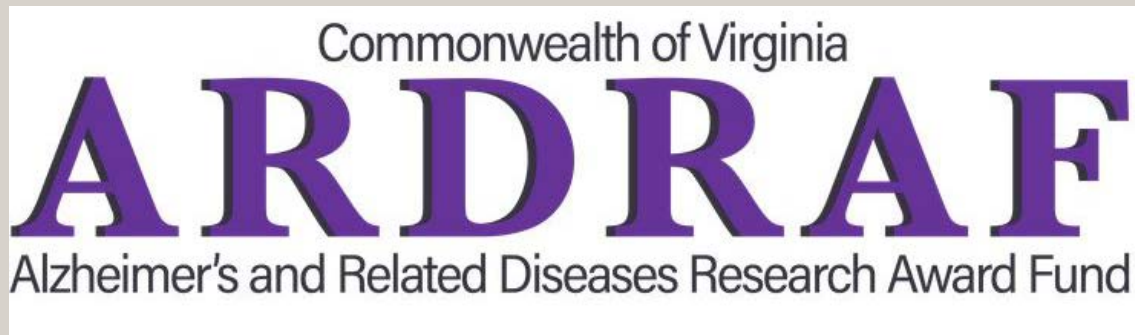


Call for Social Science Research on Energy Insecurity

Through its Energy and Environment program, the Sloan Foundation is soliciting Letters of Inquiry for **collaborative social science research projects led by early- and mid-career scholars examining critical and under-explored questions related to issues of energy insecurity, distributional equity, and just energy system transitions in the United States.** Grants up to \$500,000 will be awarded to a limited number of proposals over a 2-3 year

period. [Click here](#) for details.

Deadline: February 1, 2021 (LOI)



Call for Letters of Intent for Alzheimer's Research

The Commonwealth of Virginia Alzheimer's and Related Diseases Research Award Fund has issued a call for proposals for research in a variety of areas. Size of awards vary but are limited to \$45,000. **Applicants must be affiliated with colleges, universities or other not-for profit organizations in Virginia. Academic/community partnerships are encouraged.** A letter of intent is required. [Click here](#) for details.

Deadline: February 4, 2021 (LOI); March 11, 2021 (Proposals)

New Funding Opportunity

FOR GUN VIOLENCE RESEARCH

Funding Available for Gun Research Proposals

The National Collaborative on Gun Violence Research has issued a **new request for proposals for rigorous research that will produce evidence to support development of fair and effective gun policies.** The collaborative expects to award up to \$1.1 million in funding, including up to four \$25,000 dissertation awards and up to two \$50,000 post-doctoral awards. Up to \$225,000 has been set aside for an award to measure the tangible and nontangible impacts of gun policies on gun users. [Click here](#) for details.

Deadline: February 5, 2021



Three Upcoming NIH Opportunities

- [Research to Address Vaccine Hesitancy, Uptake and Implementation among Populations that Experience Health Disparities](#): The purpose of this opportunity is to solicit community-engaged research to: 1) evaluate intervention strategies (e.g., expand reach, access) to facilitate vaccination uptake in clinical and community contexts; and 2) address the barriers to increasing reach, access, and uptake of vaccinations among health disparity populations at high risk and likely to experience vaccine hesitancy. [Click here](#) for details. **Deadline: February 5, 2021** (additional deadlines: June & October 2021)
 - [Addressing the Etiology of Health Disparities and Health Advantages Among Immigrant Populations](#): This re-issued opportunity supports innovative research to understand factors uniquely associated with the immigration experience that contribute to health disparities or health advantages among U.S. immigrant populations. [Click here](#) for details. **Deadline: February 5, 2021** (and other standard deadlines)
 - [Service-Ready Tools for Identification, Prevention, and Treatment of Individuals at Risk for Suicide](#): This new RFA supports effectiveness research of service-ready tools and technologies for suicide prevention that are statistically powered to provide a definitive answer regarding the study tool's effectiveness. [Click here](#) for details. **Deadline: February 18, 2021** (first of three)
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Call for Research on Human-Animal Interaction

The Human Animal Bond Research Institute has issued an RFP for research on the health outcomes of pet ownership and/or animal-assisted activity or therapy, both for people and the animals involved. Proposals should have a strong theoretical framework and focus on innovative approaches to studying the health effects of companion animals on humans. **Proposals focused on current public health crises or issues are welcome**, including topics such as social isolation and loneliness, suicide prevention, addiction, trauma and/or post-traumatic stress, obesity, and heart health **as well as proposals that address the role of companion animals in the lives of people during the COVID-19 pandemic**. Awards up to \$45k available. [Click here](#) for details.

Deadline: February 11, 2021



Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Equity-focused Policy Research

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation is **seeking research proposals that explore policies and programming to help improve families' access to the social safety net system**. Grants, up to \$200,000 each, are available to study the ways that access to early child care education, income supports, and nutrition supports interact and potentially reinforce one another to promote families' well-being. [Click here](#) for details.

Deadline: February 16, 2021 (brief proposals); May 11, 2021 (full proposal)



Upcoming NSF Opportunities with Social Science Dimensions

These NSF opportunities have been updated with some changes for 2021:

- **Smart and Connected Communities:** The NSF Smart and Connected Communities (S&CC) program solicitation has been revised for the FY 2021 competition with some significant changes. This program **supports integrative research that addresses fundamental technological and social science dimensions of smart and connected communities and pilots solutions together with communities.** The solicitation will support research projects in three categories: Integrative Research Grants, Planning Grants and proposals to support a Virtual Organization. **An applicant information session will be held on Tuesday, January 19th from 3:00-4:00 p.m.** [Click here to register](#) for the session and [here](#) for the full solicitation. **Deadline: February 24, 2021**
- **Future of Work at the Human-Technology Frontier: Core Research:** NSF encourages researchers across the computational, social, behavioral and economic sciences to submit collaborative proposals to this 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**



2021 Research Competitions & Virtual Assistance Announced

The Institute of Education Sciences has released two funding announcements for 2021:

- [*Research Networks Focused on Critical Problems of Education Policy*](#): For FY 2021, IES invites proposals on two topics: Building Adult Skills and Attainment through Technology Research Network; and Digital Learning Platforms to Enable Efficient Education Research Network.
- [*Practice and for Transformative Research in the Education Sciences*](#): This program supports innovative or unconventional research that has the potential to lead to new scientific paradigms, novel and more effective approaches to education practice or policy, or transformative technologies that substantially increase learner outcomes.

Deadline: February 25, 2021 (Proposals)

AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

Call for Applications for Native American Research

The American Philosophical Society is inviting applications to its Phillips Fund for Native American Research program. **Grants of up to \$3,000 will be awarded in support of research in the areas of Native American linguistics, ethnohistory, and the history of Native Americans studies in the United States or Canada.** Grants are intended to support travel, the cost of tape or film, and consultants' fees. [Click here](#) for details.

Deadline: March 1, 2021



Research Exploring LGBTQ Issues

The American Psychological Foundation is inviting applications for its Wayne F. Placek Grant program. **Grants of up to \$9,000 will be awarded for empirical research in any field of the behavioral or social sciences on any topic related to lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender issues.** Research that addresses the following topics is of interest: heterosexuals' attitudes and behaviors toward lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) people, including prejudice, discrimination, and violence; family and workplace issues

relevant to LGBT people; and special concerns of the LGBT population that historically have been underrepresented in scientific research. [Click here](#) for details.

Deadline: March 1, 2021



Funding for Research related to Evaluation of Social Programs

Arnold Ventures' (AV) [Evidence-Based Policy initiative](#) is a major source of funding for studies across all areas of U.S. social policy, such as education, criminal justice, workforce development, healthcare delivery, and child welfare. AV is currently accepting applications for [randomized controlled trials related to evaluation of social programs](#) whose delivery is funded by government entities. The foundation is hosting a webinar that will provide practical advice on preparing a successful grant application to their organization on Thursday, January 21st at 2:00 p.m. [Click here to register](#) and for more details.

Deadline: Ongoing



New Recruitment Program, including Funding, for Underrepresented Groups Offered

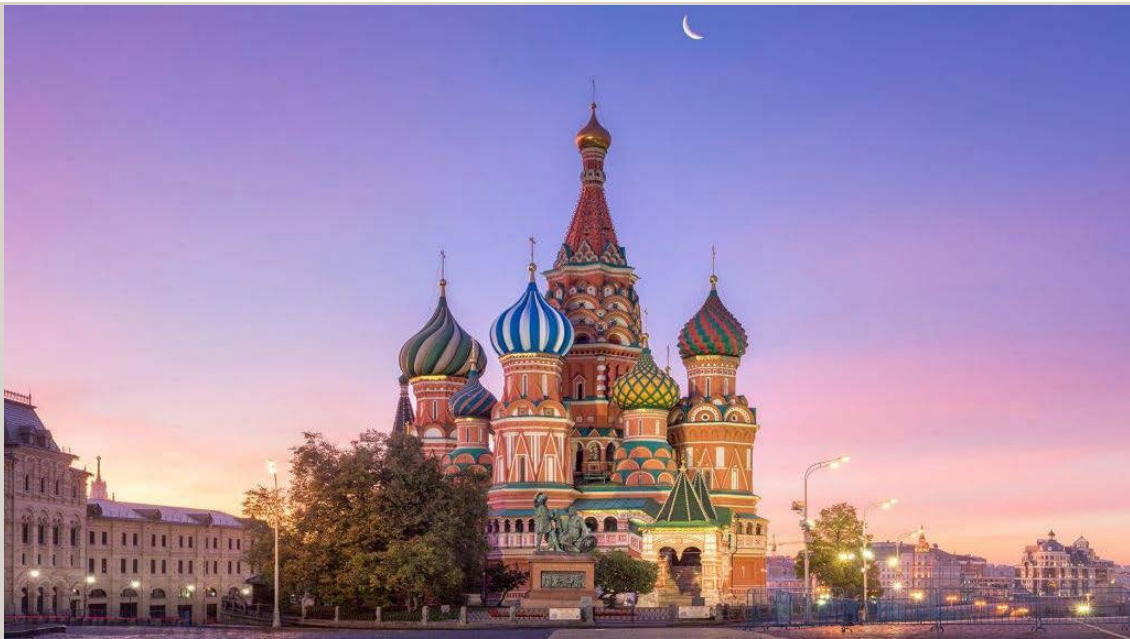
iTHRIV is committed to increasing underrepresented populations in research, and thus, has developed the Recruitment Enhancing Resources Program. The program offers researchers access to consultation, educational opportunities and financial resources. **Researchers may request up to \$5,000 that will allow them to better integrate populations into their projects.** [Click here](#) for details on the RERP program services and the application form.

Deadline: Rolling but encouraged to apply now

Previously Posted Opportunities

- **Time-Sharing Experiments for the Social Sciences (TESS)** - [Special Competition for Young Investigators](#)
Deadline: January 15, 2021
- **Spencer Foundation** - [Large Educational Research Proposals](#)
Deadline: January 15, 2021 (LOI); February 5, 2021 (Proposal)
- **American Psychological Foundation** - [Diane J. Willis Career Award](#)
Deadline: January 31, 2021
- **Center for Retirement Research at Boston College** - [Steven H. Sandell Grant Program](#)
Deadline: January 31, 2021
- **VT Center for Humanities** - [Summer Stipend](#)
Deadline: February 1, 2021
- **National Science Foundation** - Two Opportunities
 - [Mid-Career Advancement](#); Deadline: February 1, 2021
 - [Human Networks & Data Science](#); Deadline: February 4, 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

External Funding Success



Virginia Tech becomes the eighth Russian Language Flagship school in the United States

The Department of Modern and Classical Languages and Literature launched the program this fall after earning a competitive grant from the National Security Education Program at the U.S. Department of Defense. The grant represents a major accomplishment for the VT Russian program as it is now one of only eight Russian Language Flagship schools in the U.S. [Read more...](#)

Conferences, Seminars and Events



CLAHS/ISCE to Offer NSF CAREER Award Series for Social Scientists

National Science Foundation CAREER awards support pre-tenure faculty pursuing innovative projects connecting research, instruction, and outreach. The College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences and ISCE are co-sponsoring **a series of sessions on NSF CAREER Awards** for faculty whose research focuses on topics relevant to the Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences directorate. The sessions will help faculty better understand application requirements, provide opportunities to learn from past recipients and receive

feedback on drafts as well as assistance with the nuts and bolts of the application process.

An initial meeting will be held on **Friday, January 29th from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. via Zoom**. Please [click here to register](#) and to receive the Zoom link. If you are interested in learning more, but are unable to attend the workshop, please contact [Yancey Crawford](#). Eligibility is limited to tenure-track faculty. Applications are due in July 2021.



ISCE Online Data Collection Webinars

It's also not too late to attend the first online survey webinar which ISCE will host on **January 27th from 12:00-1:00 p.m.** and that will feature a panel discussing Qualtric, MTurk and AmeriSpeak. [Click here to register](#) for this event.

ISCE is also offering the second webinar on Thursday, February 4 from 2:00-3:00 p.m. The session, "*Online observational and experimental data collection methods for social sciences*" will include a moderated panel presentation and discussion with scholars on online observational and experimental data collection methods. Panelists include:

- **James Druckman**, Payson S. Wild Professor of Political Science and Faculty Fellow at the Institute for Policy Research at Northwestern University, will introduce Time-Sharing Experiments for the Social Sciences (TESS);
- **Marjorie Rhodes**, Professor of Psychology at New York University, will introduce Discoveries Online, a suite of methods for conducting virtual developmental research with children and families; and
- **Benjamin Katz**, Assistant Professor in Human Development and Family Science at Virginia Tech, will discuss online methods for conducting cognitive and behavioral experiments with adults.

[Click here to register](#) and receive the Zoom information. Questions? Contact [Isabel Bradburn](#).

Save the Date! ISCE NSF Event: February 24, 2021

In partnership with Virginia State University, **ISCE is hosting a virtual presentation featuring Dr. Kellina Craig-Henderson**, Deputy Assistant Director of the National Science Foundation's Social, Behavioral and Economic (SBE) Sciences directorate, on Wednesday, February 24th. Dr. Craig-Nelson will discuss future directions for the SBE directorate including new funding opportunities and priorities.

[Click here](#) for the event flier and [here](#) for a recent blog post written by Dr. Craig-Henderson entitled, "Why Social Science: Because It Can Help Fight Stereotypes in the World of Science."

Announcements and Faculty News



electronic Research Administration
Office of Extramural Research

New eRA Commons Login and Landing Screens Have Arrived

The new eRA Commons home screen (log-in screen) and landing screen (screen when first logged in) are now available. **Both screens provide resources and information that are easily identifiable and centrally located.** As part of the new design, once authenticated, researchers will be able to navigate to various eRA modules within Commons via the apps icon. [Click here](#) for details.

VT Researcher Awarded Promising Practices Award for Work with Older Adults

Matthew Fullen, assistant professor of Counselor Education, received the 2020 Promising Practices Award from the Mather Institute for his innovative work bringing counseling sessions on-site to the Warm Hearth



Community to support residents emotional well-being. [Read the report here.](#)

Building upon common ground, with humanity at its core

The College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences is bringing researchers and the community together through the new Center for Refugee, Migrant, and Displacement Studies. The center, also associated with ISCE, is led by **Katrina Powell**, **Brett Schadle** and **Rebecca Hester**. [Read more...](#)



Nikki Giovanni, finding the song in the darkest days

Part of the Black Arts Movement in the 1960s, part of a Biden campaign ad in 2020, **Giovanni** has never stopped writing. [Read more...](#)

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Questions? Contact Yancey Crawford at yanceyc3@vt.edu.

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