Office of Research & Innovation Newsletter · May 2021

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A Note from the Executive Vice Provost for Research & Innovation

Dear Colleagues,

Drexel's research ramp up has been a health and safety success, with no documented cases of COVID-19 transmission in laboratory, field or other research settings. This success is due in large part to the diligence of the research community. Thank you!

We are planning for a change in the density for approved researchers in specific research settings. We will announce the specifics of this change in a separate email to the research community. This will be an intermediate step prior to getting to the "new normal" in Phase 3 of the University's research ramp up[1]. We anticipate transitioning to the Phase 3 of the research ramp up prior to the beginning of the fall terms.

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[1] https://drexel.edu/research/resources/response-to-covid-19-pandemic/return-to-research/approach/

Improvements in the public health landscape are a direct result of rising vaccination rates that have driven down cases and hospitalizations here at Drexel, in Philadelphia, and the nation. We urge you to take advantage of free vaccination clinics held on Drexel's campus. For the fall term, students will be required to be vaccinated. For more information on vaccinations click here.[2] Feel free to upload your vaccination records to the Drexel Health Check app. Until the vaccination requirement takes effect, vaccination status cannot be used to make density-related decisions about research spaces, even if provided voluntarily. On May 19th Drexel public health experts discussed the COVID-19 vaccine and answered questions that the Drexel community had about this vaccine. You can find recording of that discussion here[3].

We thank you for your dedication to making the research ramp up a health and safety success and asked for your continue diligence.

With appreciation,

Aleister Saunders, Ph.D.

Executive Vice Provost for Research & Innovation

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[2] https://drexel.edu/coronavirus/health-safety/COVID-19-vaccination/
[3] https://drexel.edu/coronavirus/university-messages/town-halls/

News and Announcements

Good News and Positive Progress!

The HRPP hosted its Site Visit for AAHRPP reaccreditation on April 27th and 28th. While we are still waiting to receive the official report, the site visitors did offer very positive feedback about our Drexel community and our program to protect human research participants. Many thanks to everyone who attended, worked on, and provided support during this lengthy process. It truly takes a village!

Additionally, we have extended an offer for a new position, Assistant Director of the IRB, and it was accepted! Introductions and announcements will be shared as details become available. The new Asst. Director will arrive in mid-June. We are also happy to introduce Abiya Raju to our team. She is an Accounting major here at LeBow and will be assisting the IRB/HRPP with administrative duties during her Co-op experience. Welcome, Abiya!

Drexel Names New Computing Cluster After Historic Alumna

Back in 2014, when researchers affiliated with Drexel University's University Research Computing Facility[4] (URCF) were deciding the name of its first high-performance computer cluster, they went with an ancient, mythological choice: Proteus, the shape-changing sea god from Greek mythology.

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[4] https://drexel.edu/research/resources/urcf/

When naming its replacement computer cluster, the URCF went with something a little closer to home. Picotte, which opened in February, is named in honor of Susan La Flesche Picotte[5] (1865-1915), MD, who, according to current research, was the first Native American to become a physician in the U.S.

Check out the full article here[6]!

2021 Alpert Prize goes to scientists who elucidated RNA function

On May 3rd, the 2021 Warren Alpert Foundation Prize was awarded to scientists Lynne Maquat and Joan Steitz for seminal discoveries in the biology and function of RNA, the workhorse molecule of cells. Their discoveries have reshaped the understanding of RNA's myriad roles in healthy cell function and in disease-causing dysfunction and have informed the conceptualization and design of RNA-based therapies in various stages of development. To read more, click here[7]!

Legislation to give NSF massive spending boost advance in Senate and House, but hurdles remain

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[5] https://drexel.edu/medicine/about/diversity/diversity-blog/native-american-heritage-month-dr-la-flesche-picotte-and-dr-minoka-hill/
[6] https://drexel.edu/now/archive/2021/April/Drexel-Names-New-Computing-Cluster-After-Historic-Alumna/
[7] https://hms.harvard.edu/news/workhorse-molecule-center-stage

Two key congressional committees endorsed the idea of a sizable spending increase for the U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF). Separate pieces of legislation—one approved by a Senate panel, the other by a committee of the House of Representatives—would more than double NSF's budget over 5 years as part of a broader push to out-innovate China and the rest of the world through a massive federal investment in research. Check out the full story here[8]!

Nature Publishing Group - Tackling systemic racism requires the system of science to change

In response to the global Black Lives Matter protests, many institutions pledged actions to combat racism. That's not enough. This week marks a year since the murder of George Floyd, and nearly a year since the Black Lives Matter protests compelled numerous institutions — including many in research — to acknowledge systemic racism. These events made universities, institutes, corporations, museums, societies, publishers, and funders confront racial injustice in a way that had never happened before.

As part of that response, Nature recognized systemic racism in science and our part in it, and committed to stand against it. See the full story here[9].

How to Navigate Authorship of Scientific Manuscripts

Authorship norms and culture vary among research disciplines, countries, and even institutions, and early-career researchers need to make sure they are familiar with the rights and responsibilities that come with authorship in their field. But there are some commonalities in the issues surrounding authorship and the possible approaches to tackling them. To offer some guidance, AAAS Science Careers spoke with scientists in a range of fields and career stages about their practices and experiences. Get the full story here[10].

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[8]https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2021/05/bills-give-nsf-massive-spending-boost-advance-senate-and-house-hurdles-remain
[9]https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-021-01312-4
[10]https://www.sciencemag.org/careers/2021/05/how-navigate-authorship-scientific-manuscripts

Biomedical Innovation 'Cures 2.0' Draft Bill Expected in June

Draft legislation to update the landmark biomedical innovation law 21st Century Cures will likely come out in early June, lawmakers behind the bill said…. The legislation will include language to fold in the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health, the new agency within the NIH for which President Joe Biden requested $6.5 billion in his initial budget proposal to build. Read the full article here[11].

Funding Opportunity Resources

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[11] https://www.aamc.org/advocacy-policy/washington-highlights/reps-degette-upton-release-cures-20-concept-paper

NIH Updated Biographical Sketch and Other Support Format Pages Available Now and Required January 2022

As recently announced, updated bio sketch and other support format pages and instructions are available for use in applications, Just-in-Time (JIT) Reports, and Research Performance Progress Reports (RPPRs). Use of the new format pages is preferred immediately and required for due dates and submissions on or after January 25, 2022 (NOT-OD-21-110). This represents a change from the original May 25, 2021 requirement date for the updated formats and other support signatures. Applicants and recipients can use this time to align their systems and processes with the new formats and instructions. Failure to follow the appropriate formats on or after January 25, 2022 may cause NIH to withdraw applications from or delay consideration of funding.

For more details on this new mandate, click here[12].

2020-2021 Teck-Kah Lim Graduate Student Domestic Travel Subsidy Award Application
Summary:

The Graduate College and Graduate Student Association (GSA) of Drexel University offer a limited number of Teck-Kah Lim Graduate Student Travel Subsidy Awards annually to encourage graduate student participation in academic meetings and conferences held within the United States and territories (including Puerto Rico).* These awards not only strengthen the academic and professional skills of our students, preparing them to be leaders in their fields, but also increase the awareness of the exceptional graduate work happening at Drexel.

Click here for more details: https://drexel.infoready4.com/#competitionDetail/1821774

Deadline: 6/30/2021

NIH RFA-RM-21-015: NIH Director's Pioneer Award Program (DP1 Clinical Trial Optional)
Summary:

The NIH Director's Pioneer Award Program supports individual scientists of exceptional creativity who propose highly innovative research projects with the potential to produce a major impact on broad, important areas relevant to the mission of NIH. For the program to support the best possible researchers and research, applications are sought which reflect the full diversity of the nation's research workforce. Individuals from diverse backgrounds and from the full spectrum of eligible institutions in all geographic locations are strongly encouraged to apply to this Funding Opportunity Announcement. In addition, applications in all topics relevant to the broad mission of NIH are welcome, including, but not limited to, topics in the behavioral, social, biomedical, applied, and formal sciences and topics that may involve basic, translational, or clinical research. To be considered pioneering, the proposed research must reflect substantially different scientific directions from those already being pursued in the

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[12] https://nexus.od.nih.gov/all/2021/05/05/updated-biographical-sketch-and-other-support-format-pages-available-now-and-required-january-2022/

investigator's research program or elsewhere. The NIH Director's Pioneer Award is a component of the High-Risk, High-Reward Research (HRHR) Program of the NIH Common Fund.

Click here for more details: https://drexel.infoready4.com/#competitionDetail/1840723

Deadline: 7/02/2021

Events and Education

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Last Chance to Register for the Drexel Urban Health Summer Institute

There is limited time left to register for the Urban Health Summer Institute taking place **June 21 - June 28, 2021**. **Register by 11:59 p.m. on Tuesday, June 1st** to secure your spot! Eight courses are being offered, all teaching practical, tangible skills for participants at all career levels.

All courses are fully remote and offered online in a variety of formats, with the ability to earn CEU or CPH credits!

Courses include:

*Data Storytelling in Tableau: How to Convert Analytics into Insights;

*Introduction to GIS; GIS Spatial Analysis for Urban Health;

*Introduction to R for Public Health Research;

*Introduction to Multilevel Analysis for Urban Health Research;

*Applied Policy and Program Evaluation for Urban Health;

*Utilizing Electronic Health Records in Epidemiological Analysis; and

*Climate Change and Health in Cities: Evidence to Action.

Visit this link for more details: https://drexel.edu/uhc/events-workshops/summer-institute/

Council on Undergraduate Research: Membership Benefits

The Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR) is hosting a virtual conference in June 2021 titled Centering Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity [13]. Session themes include:

- **Allyship in Undergraduate Research:** How can programs, leaders, faculty, and staff be good allies?

- **Diversity in Undergraduate Research:** How can we expand access, outreach, and recruitment?

- **Equity in Undergraduate Research:** How can we restructure outdated systems?

- **Inclusive Curriculum/Program Design and Assessment:** How can we design student-centered programs and create new pathways for underrepresented groups?

- **Inclusive Mentoring:** How can we ensure mentoring across identities?

There are also two pre-conference workshops available – Mentoring 101 for Graduate Students and Post Docs[14] and Centering DEI: Practical Tools for Sustaining Transformative Racial Equity in Undergraduate

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[13]https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cur.org%2Fwhat%2Fevents%2Fconferences%2FDEI_inURandCreativeActivityConference2021%2F&data=04|01|cng45%40drexel.edu|2cedcba024574bd7102408d91aeb84e9|3664e6fa47bd45a696708c4f080f8ca6|0|0|637570421132356959|Unknown|TWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D|1000&sdata=Yy9dCDU2AwIQ4LX7pJX5YqzTeckn1hFYDE%2FEKJRKG64%3D&reserved=0

[14]https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cur.org%2Fassets%2F1%2F7%2FGraduate_Student_and_Post_Doc_Mentoring_Pre-Conference_Workshop.pdf&data=04|01|cng45%40drexel.edu|2cedcba024574bd7102408d91aeb84e9|3664e6fa47bd45a696708c4f080f8ca6|0|0|637570421132366953|Unknown|TWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIj

Research Programs[15]. Individual registration is available for these workshops, or registration for the workshops can be added to the full conference registration. Drexel is an Enhanced Institutional Member of CUR, which means that all faculty, staff, and students are eligible for free individual CUR memberships and can receive the enhanced institutional member rates for these opportunities.

Research Compliance, Ethics and Integrity Intensive

Research managers/administrators have a front row seat to view how research is conducted and administered in various settings: universities, hospitals, academic medical centers, nonprofit foundations, research institutes, industry, etc. But often they do not realize the key role they play in maintaining an institutional environment that supports research integrity. This training will explore critical compliance topics for the research compliance professional through discussion and case studies. You will interact with your instructors in real-time and continue the discussion with your peers through an easy-to-use digital platform.

Program Topics Include:

- Authorship and Responsible Publication Practices

- Conflicts of Interest and Commitment

- Export Controls and Undue Foreign Influence

- Human Subjects Research Protection (HRRP/IRB)

- Animal Welfare (IACUC)

- Risk Assessment and Management

- Data Management

Intended Audience:

Mid-level research administrators in any aspect of research administration: Pre-award, Post-award, Compliance, Conflict of Interest, Technology Transfer, Human Research Protections, Animal Welfare, Research Misconduct, Internal Audit, Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR), etc.

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[15]https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cur.org%2Fassets%2F1%2F7%2FCentering_DEI_CUR_Pre-Conference_Workshop_Agenda.pdf&data=04|01|cng45%40drexel.edu|2cedcba024574bd7102408d91aeb84e9|3664e6fa47bd45a696708c4f080f8ca6|0|0|637570421132376945|Unknown|TWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D|1000&sdata=1ydqT%2BA9cw%2Fy5xkigAPqc4EMjIhb6zZofAb8p5nKgfk%3D&reserved=0

Click here[16] for more details!

Online Resources and Links

- *Office of Research & Innovation [17]*

- *Find Your Pre-Award Program Administrator [18]*

- *Resources and Forms [19]*

- *Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic and Research Ramp-Up Guidance[20]*

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[16] https://www.srainternational.org/meetings/intensive-training/online-intensive-program/compliance-online/compliance-registration
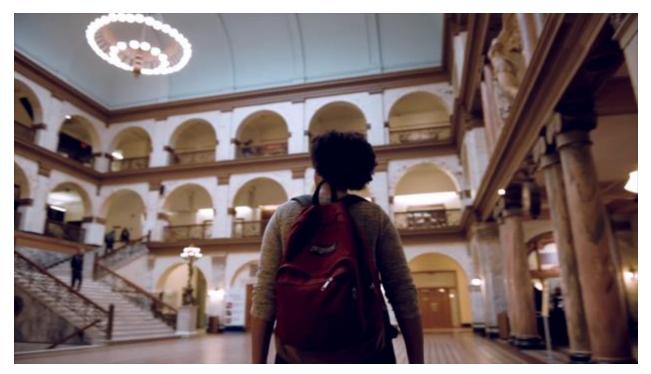
[17] https://drexel.edu/research

[18] https://drexel.edu/research/about/find-program-administrator/

[19] https://drexel.edu/research/resources/documents-and-forms/

- *Contact members of the Office of Research & Innovation[21]*

Contact Us

We Want To Hear From YOU! Let us know what you like (or don't like) about our newsletter and which research administration topics you'd like to learn more about. All feedback is welcome. Contact Us[22].

To locate a resource contact in the Office of Research & Innovation visit this page[23].

Office of Research & Innovation | 1505 Race Street | Philadelphia, PA 19102 | drexel.edu/research[24]

This message was sent to all Faculty and Staff, as well as Drexel Graduate students, via Drexel Announcement Mail and has been approved by Aleister J. Saunders, PhD, Executive Vice Provost for Research and Innovation.

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[20]https://drexel.edu/research/resources/response-to-covid-19-pandemic/
[21]https://drexel.edu/research/about/contact/
[22]mailto:crystal.n.gatling@drexel.edu
[23]https://drexel.edu/research/about/contact/
[24]https://drexel.edu/research