



Office of Research & Innovation  
Newsletter • December 2020



As we near the end of 2020, I'd like to reflect on this past year.

At the beginning of the year, no one could have anticipated the way that the COVID-19 pandemic would change our lives. From the ways we interact with our families to the ways we conduct research, we have all had to make adjustments in order to help facilitate our health and safety. During 2020, we have relied heavily on our colleagues in various departments including academic supervisors, Environmental Health Safety, and Associate Deans for Research, who have helped develop a robust multi-tiered review process for bringing researchers back to campus, with an emphasis on the health and safety of the research community.

With this process in place, we were able to bring over 1100 researchers back to campus during the pandemic. Vital research conducted since the pandemic's onset has included new projects related to COVID-19 vaccines, studying racial inequity, manufacturing personal protective equipment, as well as a variety of other research, scholarly, and creative activities. I am extremely impressed with our research community's ability to pivot and continue their scholarly efforts safely in this new environment despite the significant disruption that COVID-19 has caused.

During this year of more remote work, our researchers have also been able to devote more time to the submission of sponsored research proposals, which increased 25% going into the summer of 2020. There was also an increase in sponsored research awards during 2020, with significant increases in College of Computing and Informatics, College of Medicine, and the PA Fabric Discovery Center. This growth is a testament to the resilience of our faculty, professional staff and students.

Thank you all for your dedication to the continuation of research as well as ensuring the health and safety of our colleagues and students during this difficult year. It is important to remain safe while taking a break from this important work; relax and enjoy the company of your loved ones. This will help us all return energized and ready to keep going in the new year. Again, I hope that you all get the opportunity to rest, refresh, and connect with your loved ones over the holiday break.

Wishing you all a healthy and safe holiday,

Aleister Saunders

Executive Vice Provost for Research & Innovation



## News and Announcements



### **Drexel Autism Institute releases National Autism Indicators Report: Health and Healthcare across the Life Course**

The latest [National Autism Indicators Report](#) is now available. This year's report paints a holistic picture of what health and healthcare look like across the life course for people on the autism spectrum. Health and healthcare are critical issues for many children and adults on the autism spectrum. They may experience more frequent use of services and medications, and may need more types of routine and specialty healthcare. Additionally, their overall health and mental healthcare tends to be more complex than people with other types of disabilities and special healthcare needs.

Unfortunately, the current healthcare system often fails to adequately address the needs of people on the spectrum. As a result, there is more frequent need for emergency care and hospitalization. The gaps in healthcare for people with autism, versus those with other disabilities, are important to address.

Prior National Autism Indicators Reports have spurred national attention and conversation about services and research priorities, helping to move the needle on adult outcomes for those with autism spectrum disorder. As such, the AJ Drexel Autism Institute (AJDAI) is asking the Drexel research community to help spread the word and get this newest report into the hands of lawmakers, agency leaders, service providers, healthcare professionals, advocates, and others. Help share these trustworthy, useful statistics about the kinds of challenges people are facing, the kinds of help people

are getting, and how health and quality of life outcomes are looking across the life course for people on the autism spectrum.

Specifically, please consider the following actions:

- Repost AJDAI social media posts and share on your social media
- Create your own social media posts about the report that include the following link. AJDAI would be happy to help draft posts for your organization.  
[www.drexel.edu/AutismOutcomes/NAIRhealth](http://www.drexel.edu/AutismOutcomes/NAIRhealth)
- Create a blog post on your website about this new report.
- Send an email announcement to colleagues and organization members if you have an email list. Feel free to paste language from this email. AJDAI would also be happy to help draft an email message to your list members.
- Reach out to media and news organization contacts you have a strong rapport with. Share this message and refer them to Jessica Rast ([jer336@drexel.edu](mailto:jer336@drexel.edu)) if they are interested in doing a story about the report's findings. They can also share the [Drexel news](#) coverage of the report.

With your help, vital progress will continue to be made in addressing the health and healthcare needs of people on the autism spectrum.



1 - You can find the report here: <https://drexel.edu/autismoutcomes/publications-and-reports/publications/NAIRHealth/>

## 2020-2021 Drexel Research, Scholarship and Creativity Awards & Provost Awards for Teaching, Scholarship, and Professional Service

As a means of supporting the ongoing development of our research, scholarship, and creative activities, as well as recognizing excellence in teaching, scholarship, and professional service, the Office of Research and Innovation and the Office of Faculty Affairs are pleased to announce the 2020-2021 Research, Scholarship and Creativity Awards, and the 2020-2021 Provost Awards for Teaching,

Scholarship, and Professional Service. Additional details on applying for these faculty awards can be found on the InfoReady site by clicking on the link for each award.

- Awards include: [Faculty Summer Research Award](#). This award provides tenured and tenure-track faculty members with the opportunity to pursue research activities that will enhance recipient careers as well as increase their contributions to Drexel.
- [Provost Award for Outstanding Scholarly Productivity](#). This award recognizes tenured faculty members who have made outstanding contributions to their scholarly field and have demonstrated leadership in this respect. Awards are made at the Early, Mid and Advanced career levels. Additional eligibility criteria apply.
- [Faculty Scholarly and Creative Activity Awards](#). These awards, open to all faculty members (preference given to tenured and tenure-track applicants), support scholarly and creative activities of faculty in fields and on projects where limited external funding is available.
- [Faculty Bridge Funding Awards](#). These awards provide tenured and tenure-track faculty members with the opportunity to apply for gap funding for their research programs when all other sources of funding are exhausted.
- [Scholarly Materials and Research Equipment Awards](#). These awards, open to all tenured and tenure-track faculty members, are for the acquisition of materials, equipment, software, systems, library collections or other non-personnel items that will enhance the research enterprise. Additional eligibility criteria apply.
- [Adjunct Faculty Award for Teaching Excellence](#). This award recognizes an adjunct faculty member who exemplifies the highest quality of teaching and mentorship of students.
- [Allen Rothwarf Award for Teaching Excellence](#). This award recognizes a tenure-track junior faculty member with at least two years of service who exemplifies high standards of teaching while developing research in their areas of expertise.
- [Barbara G. Hornum Award for Teaching Excellence](#). This award recognizes a teaching/clinical faculty member who exemplifies the highest quality of teaching, pedagogical innovation and rigor.
- [Evidence-Based Teaching Award in Undergraduate Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Education \(STEM\)](#). This award, open to all full-time tenure track or teaching faculty members, recognizes the use of pedagogical strategies that have been shown in the literature to be effective, or the development of innovative approaches to evaluating the applicant's own classrooms.
- [Harold Myers Award for Distinguished Service](#). This award recognizes an administrator, member of the professional staff, or full-time or part-time faculty member who has engaged in service work that has been recognized to be truly significant to the University.
- [Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching](#). This award recognizes outstanding teaching by full-time members of the Drexel University faculty. Additional eligibility criteria apply.

- [The University Award for Pedagogy and Assessment](#). The Pedagogy and Assessment Award recognizes an individual or team who has worked to promote the use of assessment for quality improvement at Drexel University.
- [Outstanding New Advisor Award](#). The Outstanding New Advisor award recognizes the extraordinary contributions of advisors who guide student progress through their academic paths across the University. This annual award is awarded to a Drexel University professional staff member whose primary role is to serve as an academic advisor.
- [Outstanding Professional Advisor Award](#). The Outstanding Professional Advisor award recognizes the extraordinary contributions of advisors who guide student progress through their academic paths across the University. This annual award is awarded to a Drexel University professional staff member whose primary role is to serve as an academic advisor.

### **[Dornsife Gift to Establish Center on Racism and Health at Drexel](#)**

Earlier this month, President John Fry announced a \$9 million gift from Drexel alumna Dana Dornsife and her husband David to the Dornsife School of Public Health that will put Drexel in the forefront of research on racial inequality and health disparities. Their gift will enable the launch of a new Center on Racism and Health, as well as enhance our ability to recruit and retain faculty experts on racial inequities in health, while also endowing the deanship for public health.

With their incredible generosity, Dana and David Dornsife have transformed both the University and the Dornsife School of Public Health over the past five years. Now with this gift, Drexel will advance solutions to society's most pressing public health problems as they impact communities of color and lead the way in eliminating health disparities for all.

The Dornsifes have created an extraordinary legacy of philanthropic support for Drexel, becoming the largest single benefactors in the University's history having donated more than \$70 million. In addition to their \$45 million naming gift to the School of Public Health in 2015, their gifts have established the [Dana and David Dornsife Center for Neighborhood Partnerships](#), the [Dana and David Dornsife Office of Experiential Learning](#) at the LeBow College of Business, and the [Dornsife Global Development Scholars program](#), which partners with World Vision International on development projects related to water, sanitation and hygiene in Sub-Saharan African countries.

Dana and David view their latest gift as a means of growing the capacity of the Dornsife School to improve population health for all and, especially, to be a force for good in the renewed struggle for racial justice. The Center will leverage strengths across Dornsife departments, the [Urban Health Collaborative](#) and many partners across the University, while elevating existing work on racial health inequities and promoting new work.

[Sharrelle Barber, ScD](#), an assistant professor at Dornsife, is chairing the planning group to launch the new Center. With the gift, Dornsife will hire two new faculty whose work focuses on racial inequities and health. Additionally, endowing the deanship for public health now held by Ana Diez Roux will support strategic initiatives for the School and enable the dean to strengthen departments and programs, and support faculty and professional staff with the aim of advancing the School's reputation at home and abroad.

As philanthropists, Dana and David are well-known for helping to solve the most pressing problems facing today's world through their intelligence, talent, generosity, and time. Their steadfast focus is on improving the quality of life for all. Both received honorary Drexel degrees in 2014. Dana Dornsife received her bachelor's degree in business from Drexel in 1983. She is the founder of the Lazarex Cancer Foundation and serves as its president and CEO. David Dornsife, a University of Southern California trustee and 1965 alumnus, is chairman of the Herrick Corp., the largest steel fabricator and contractor on the West Coast.

The Dornsifes embody the spirit of [The Campaign for Drexel](#), which strives to catalyze a new era of impact through investments in Drexel's people and programs. Their generosity, and that of our many other donors, helps Drexel students and faculty respond to tomorrow's challenges while they shape the future itself.



### **Drexel Applied Innovation Stimulates Formation of Startups**

Drexel Applied Innovation has launched a new program to encourage and support the formation of startup companies based on Drexel research. The "Drexel Express Startup License" is a startup and investor friendly licensing agreement with pre-set terms. This new licensing tool will be used in cases where the startup is partnering with Drexel Applied Innovation to successfully complete designated commercialization pathways.



The pre-set terms are significantly more favorable than those typically extended to startups by universities and are supported by leading investors, such as the venture capital investors in the Kauffman Fellows Network. Kauffman Fellows is a highly selective global fellowship of 713 venture capital professionals originally founded by the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation in 1994. The Drexel Express Startup License aims to significantly streamline the licensing process and reduce the turn-around times from months to weeks, thus enabling the startup and its founders to focus their energy on building a company and not on negotiations.

“From my past experience as a co-founder of a venture-funded university spinout, I know that launching a startup is challenging enough. The typical university startup licensing process can be very frustrating and time consuming for the startup which adds to that challenge. The new program enables my team to be on the same side as the startup team so that we can be a partner in their pursuit to make real-world impact”, says Shintaro Kaido, Vice Provost for Innovation and Executive Director of Drexel Applied Innovation.

Some elements of the Drexel Express Startup License program are based on the take-aways from the technology commercialization panel session during the MXene Conference 2020 hosted by Drexel. Panelists included deep-tech investors Prime Movers Lab, HG Ventures and Osage University Partners as well as the NSF Program Director for Materials Research. “The panelists unanimously agreed that universities can better support their startups by providing ‘clean, clear and quick’ license agreements. In addition, the panelists expressed great excitement about an emerging opportunity for universities and university spinouts; that postdocs and PhDs can learn to become successful founder CEOs through training and development. The first step is the mindset change to focus on solving a real-world problem. NSF I-Corps was strongly recommended as that first step”, says Kaido.

As such, the Drexel Express Startup License will be first offered to Drexel innovators successfully completing the NSF I-Corps Teams program and receiving the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Phase I award. Drexel Applied Innovation will be introducing additional pathways in the future to serve the diverse needs of Drexel entrepreneurial teams.

“A key imperative in the University’s strategic plan is to expand Drexel’s research impact. The Drexel Express Startup License program is the first of set of initiatives to re-imagine Drexel tech transfer and remove barriers for Drexel innovators, systemize commercialization pathways and catalyze commercialization of Drexel’s unique and internationally recognized research strengths. This is a very important step in our streamlining efforts, and we look forward to unveiling other new approaches to support Drexel’s innovators”, says Dr. Aleister Saunders, Executive Vice Provost for Research & Innovation at Drexel University.

About Drexel Applied Innovation: Under Drexel University’s Office of Research & Innovation, Drexel Applied Innovation provides technology licensing, industry sponsored research support and startup services to assist and elevate the impact endeavors of Drexel faculty, postdocs and graduate students.

For more information about the Drexel Startup Express License or I-Corps at Drexel, contact: [applied\\_innovation@drexel.edu](mailto:applied_innovation@drexel.edu)

## Human Research: Upcoming Events and Changes

December is a short but busy month at Drexel. After successful completion of the first step for reaccreditation this fall, the Human Research Protection Program (HRPP) is now preparing to submit its application and materials required for the Association for the Accreditation of Human Research Protection Programs (AAHRPP) site visitation before the winter break. In keeping with AAHRPP standards, HRPP has revised some of its posted documents, including but not limited to the official HRPP Policy, the Protocol Templates, and Investigator Guidance documents for FDA Obligations and for Reliance Agreements. Implementation of a few improvements to the Institutional Review Board's (IRB) behind-the-scenes operations has begun as well. HRPP is also very excited to launch a new section on its webpage, "Putting the Belmont Report into Practice: A Focus on Justice and Community." This reflects an ongoing commitment by HRPP to ensure equity in subject selection. Please visit the [HRPP webpage](#) to explore this new section and to review all the current versions of HRPP documents.

Also this month, IRB Project Coordinator LaShaun Collins will be leaving Drexel to pursue a new position. She has been an integral part of the HRPP's success, a much-admired part of the IRB team, and will be missed a lot. Please join Drexel's HRPP in wishing LaShaun every success for the future!

For additional information on the Human Research Protection Program click here:

<https://drexel.edu/research/compliance/human-research-protection-new/>

## SEPTA and Drexel Team up to Battle COVID-19

Researchers from Drexel University will be working with the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA) on a partnership aimed at enhancing efforts to prevent the spread of COVID-19 on public transportation. Through a recently formed partnership, the institutions are pursuing a federal grant for research into risk assessment, mitigation and communication strategies that will help keep riders safe and healthy.

"The health and safety of our customers and employees is our top priority as we work through the COVID-19 pandemic," said SEPTA General Manager Leslie S. Richards. "SEPTA is extremely fortunate to have a neighbor and partner like Drexel University, and access to their world-renowned research and expertise. This partnership will help keep SEPTA on the cutting-edge of efforts by public transportation systems to battle COVID-19."

Since the onset of the pandemic, teams of researchers from across Drexel's campus have led the way in educating the public about COVID-19, studying its transmission and developing techniques to prevent its spread. The partnership allows SEPTA to tap into this wealth of knowledge as it continues to adjust operations.

"Like many public transit agencies and transportation hubs, SEPTA has already made significant changes to protect the health of their riders – from encouraging masking and social distancing to enhancing cleaning and ventilation," said [Aleister Saunders, PhD](#), executive vice provost for research at Drexel. "But evaluating these safety measures and reporting on their effectiveness will be important for assuring riders that they can safely travel on mass transit. Drexel has the breadth of expertise to support SEPTA in these efforts. We excited to partner with SEPTA on these efforts."

Drexel researchers will work with SEPTA to study COVID-19 transmission on public transit and develop strategies to prevent it.

“Studies during the pandemic have shown that public transportation is safe, and there have been no direct links between riding SEPTA and contracting the coronavirus,” SEPTA General Manager Richards said. “By partnering with Drexel, SEPTA will be positioned to continue to adapt and add measures to improve the safety of customers and employees.”

“This is just one of many ways that the pandemic has revealed the strength of our community during times of crisis.” said [Christopher Sales, PhD](#), an associate professor of environmental engineering at Drexel who is leading this collaboration with James Fox, SEPTA’s Assistant General Manager for System Safety. “And while the efforts of this partnership will certainly be important for regaining the trust and confidence of rider to return safely to commuting on Philadelphia’s public transit system, our findings could also help to guide the policies of similar systems across the country.”

Read the full story here: <https://drexel.edu/now/archive/2020/December/SEPTA-COVID-19-research-partnership/>



### University Funding Available for New Co-op Positions

In Spring of 2021, Drexel will usher in the largest spring/summer cohort yet seen at the University. Coupled with COVID-19's impact on student co-op employment, there is increased competition for fewer opportunities when compared to prior years. The Steinbright Career Development Center is asking potential employers at the university to consider creating one or more co-op positions within your college, school, or office. Steinbright will help offset the costs associated with paying a co-op student. Specifically, they will match up to \$3,000 for full-time co-op positions (32–40 hours/week) and up to \$1,500 for part-time co-op position (20 hours/week). This funding is available for newly created co-op positions to be posted in the upcoming B-Round.

The deadline to post a job for the B-round is January 12. Connect with Assistant Director of Employer Relations Greg Law to discuss next steps at [grl38@drexel.edu](mailto:grl38@drexel.edu).

Drexel has a rich tradition of championing our signature program and employs more than 200 co-op students annually. Please consider joining this tradition in support of our deserving students. More details and additional resources can be found on the Steinbright Co-op Funding Opportunities page [here](#).

## Funding Opportunity Resources



### **W.K. Kellogg Foundation's Racial Equity 2030 Challenge**

The Office of Research & Innovation and the Office of Foundation & Corporate Relations seek ideas for a university submission to the W.K. Kellogg Foundation's [Racial Equity 2030 Challenge](#). This global challenge in honor of the Kellogg Foundation's 90th anniversary is a call for bold solutions to drive an equitable future for children, their families, and communities.

While the term "racial equity" has specific connotations within the United States, in a global context, this Challenge seeks to advance equity within hierarchies, structures, policies, systems and practices of dehumanization that perpetuate disparities for racial/ethnic groups in a local context. Also, through the examination of historical impacts of colonialism in perpetuating structural racism, we can understand racism as a global issue and seek anti-racism strategies to decolonize systems through this challenge.

The Challenge invites ideas from anywhere in the world and will scale them over the next decade to transform the systems and institutions that uphold inequity. Solutions may tackle the social, economic, political, or institutional inequities we see today. Teams of visionaries, change agents, and community leaders from every sector are invited to join.

Up to ten Finalists will be identified and receive \$1 million planning grants along with nine months of capacity-building support to further develop their project and strengthen their application. Final Awardees will be selected from the pool of Finalists. At least three Awardees will receive grants of \$20 million each, and at least two Awardees will receive \$10 million each.

Drexel will unify around one outstanding project as the University's official applicant.



To be considered for the university submission to this challenge, please submit a 2-page project description by **Wednesday, January 6, 2021**, at 11:59 pm via the [Drexel University Limited Submission and Funding Portal](#).

Your description should address the following questions:

1. What makes your solution bold, and how will it drive an equitable future for children, families and communities?
2. How does your project embrace and reflect commitments to racial equity, racial healing, community engagement, and leadership?
3. Is your solution led by an experienced team that centers lived experience and includes communities closest to the issue as part of project leadership?
4. How would your project bring transformational change in policies, processes, institutions or power structures?

**The full proposal will be due February 25, 2021.** For more information on or questions related to this challenge, please contact [fcrcompetitions@drexel.edu](mailto:fcrcompetitions@drexel.edu)

**racialequity2030**

A Call for Bold Solutions to  
Drive an Equitable Future

### Grant Announcement from Misophonia Research Fund

The Milken Institute, in collaboration with The REAM Foundation, is administering a grant program focused on misophonia. The Misophonia Research Fund, established in 2019, has already awarded thirteen grants, equating to over \$4 million of funding disbursed. The program supports two-year projects led by either faculty or postdocs with annual budgets of up to \$200,000. Funded projects include:

- At Duke University, Dr. Clair Robbins will conduct postdoctoral research to develop a treatment protocol based on methods targeting emotional disorders.
- At the University of Florida, Dr. Andres Keil will use multimodal imaging techniques to evaluate the interaction between auditory processing, emotion, and sensory perception in misophonia.
- At University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Dr. Fatima Husain will study misophonia in the context of the audiological disorders such as tinnitus and hyperacusis.
- At University of Mississippi, Dr. Laura Dixon will evaluate the physiological basis of misophonia symptomology.
- At the University of Nevada Las Vegas, Dr. Erin Hannon will examine whether misophonia is linked to differences in high-level auditory processing.
- At the University of Sussex, Dr. Jamie Ward will test the hypothesis that atypical sensory sensitivity may underlie misophonia and predispose some people to develop misophonia.

We are enthusiastic to share the Request for Proposals to initiate the next funding cycle. The RFP is published on the Milken Institute website, and we have developed a guide to the scientific topic and outstanding questions which may help researchers interested in the field. Letters of intent are requested by December 11, 2020 and full proposals will be due on March 12, 2021. Contact for more information: [misophonia@milkeninstitute.org](mailto:misophonia@milkeninstitute.org)

Click here for grant details: <https://milkeninstitute.org/reports/misophonia-giving-smarter-guide>

### **NIH PAR-17-221 (2021): Enhancing Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Educational Diversity (ESTEEMED) Research Education Experiences (R25)**

**Summary:** The over-arching goal of this National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (NIBIB) R25 program is to support educational activities that enhance the diversity of the biomedical, behavioral and clinical research workforce. The ESTEEMED program is intended to support underrepresented racial and ethnic groups, individuals with disabilities, and individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds. It will prepare these participants for an Advanced Honors Program, such as a MARC U-STAR (T34) program and institutional program with similar goals, in the junior and senior years and subsequently, to pursue a Ph.D. or M.D./Ph.D. degree and a biomedical research career in academia or industry. The PD/PI should be an established investigator in the scientific area in which the application is targeted and capable of providing both administrative and scientific leadership to the development and implementation of the proposed program. The PD/PI will be expected to monitor and assess the program and submit all documents and reports as required.

**Click here for more info:** <https://drexel.infoready4.com/#competitionDetail/1818968>

**Deadline:** 12/24/2020

### **NIH PAR-20-107: Developmental Centers for AIDS Research**

**Summary:** The Centers for AIDS Research program was established in 1988 and renewed through 2021. D-CFARs were incorporated into the CFAR Program in 2000. The Developmental Centers for AIDS Research (D-CFARs) program supports research and administrative infrastructure, and translational HIV/AIDS research activities at institutions that receive significant HIV/AIDS funding from NIH Institutes or Centers. The purpose of the D-CFAR is to provide support for applicants ultimately seeking a standard CFAR. A D-CFAR will allow the applicant to develop collaborations, to experiment with Core facilities that may be important to support HIV/AIDS investigators at the institution, and to build and strengthen any deficiencies that might adversely affect an application for a standard CFAR award, which could ultimately lead to the development of a competitive standard CFAR application.

**Click here for more details:**

<https://drexel.infoready4.com/CompetitionSpace/#competitionDetail/1821941>

**Deadline:** 1/28/21

## Events and Education



### Strategies for Integrating Evidence into Policy Implementation

This webinar from the National Cancer Institute is the fourth of a five-part series designed to explore Policy Implementation Science (Policy IS) and will highlight strategies for integrating evidence into policy implementation. Speakers will present on the use of strategic science to support policy implementation, the importance of brokering relationships between policymakers and researchers, and experiences working in implementation of policy across local, state, and federal contexts. This session will kick off with a stimulus talk, followed by a round robin moderated panel and audience discussion. [Register for the Webinar](#) **Thursday, January 21, 2021 1:00 — 2:30pm EST**

#### Speakers:

[Jonathan Purtle, DrPH, MPH, MSc](#) Associate Professor, Health Management and Policy Drexel University School of Public Health

[Christina Roberto, PhD](#) Associate Professor of Medical Ethics and Health Policy University of Pennsylvania

[Max Crowley, PhD](#) Associate Professor of Human Development and Family Studies Penn State University

[Donna Shelley, MD, MPH](#) Professor of Public Health Policy and Management Director of Global Center for Implementation Science NYU School of Global Public Health

**Moderator:** [Ali Abazeed, MPH, MPP](#) Public Health Advisor National Cancer Institute

**Reasonable Accommodations** Captioning can be provided during the presentation. Individuals with disabilities who need reasonable accommodation to participate in this event should contact [NCIdccpsISteam@mail.nih.gov](mailto:NCIdccpsISteam@mail.nih.gov) no later than the Monday before the session.

Please contact [NCIdccpsISteam@mail.nih.gov](mailto:NCIdccpsISteam@mail.nih.gov) with any questions.

### Social Science Research Committee Workshop Series: Introduction to Statistics

In collaboration with the Office of Research & Innovation, the Social Science Research Committee (SSRC) will offer three workshops on introduction to statistics via Zoom, as part of SSRC's research methodology initiative. The main goal of this workshop series is to provide basic statistical knowledge to qualitative researchers who are considering adding quantitative analysis to their research portfolio. This series cannot replace systematic statistical training. We encourage interested colleagues to take statistical courses to better their skill development (see Drexel course catalog for more details on statistics course offerings by multiple schools). Another useful approach to learning statistics is to work with quantitative researchers on research projects (i.e., learning by doing).

Mon, Jan 4, 2021; 10:00am to 12:00pm (Data Cleaning)

Wed, Jan 6, 2021; 10:00am to 12:00pm (Statistical Distribution)

Fri, Jan 8, 2021; 10:00am to 12:00pm (Preparing to Use (and interpret) a Linear Regression Model)

We will continue our effective format of e-learning, meaning to show a SSRC-subscribed video to participants. We will leave about 20-30 min for participants to discuss each topic and their related interests.

In 2021, we will continue our trainings on advanced statistical analysis; we are also planning an event related to qualitative research methods.

Please [REGISTER](#) no later than Dec 20, 2020. We will send registered participants a Zoom link before the first workshop.

The Social Science Research Committee (SSRC) aims at building a vibrant social science research community at Drexel University. We are open to faculty members who are interested in human social behavior from all academic fields. In the past year, we have organized method training, civic engagement research forum, visit to DC to meet federal grant officers, etc. We are planning activities to facilitate interdisciplinary collaboration between social and natural/engineering sciences, longer-term collaboration between faculty and interested undergraduate students, etc.

If you are interested in joining the SSRC, please submit a request to Giang Nguyen [gnn23@drexel.edu](mailto:gnn23@drexel.edu) to join the group. Researchers from all academic fields are welcome.

Register here: [https://drexel.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_5tJbrusLqpZ2vsh](https://drexel.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5tJbrusLqpZ2vsh)



## Save the Date: 1/20/21 - Climate, Covid-19, and Drexel Dining: An Interdisciplinary Case Competition



Care about climate and human safety? Want to make your voice heard at Drexel? As the climate emergency accelerates, we now find ourselves grappling with Covid-19 safety measures that have suddenly increased our reliance on single-use plastics—a major driver of fossil fuel consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. How can Drexel best face these challenges? Well, the Drexel Climate and Sustainability Working Group needs your help to figure that out!

The Drexel Climate and Sustainability Working Group is facilitating a case competition focused on safely reducing the consumption of single use plastics in Drexel dining, called “Climate, COVID-19, and Drexel Dining: An Interdisciplinary Case Competition.” Drexel undergraduate students will join interdisciplinary teams to craft evidenced-based solutions. There is a \$2,000 prize pool, and the winning team’s proposal will be considered for adoption by Drexel Dining Services and Aramark at Drexel.

Climate, COVID-19, and Drexel Dining: An Interdisciplinary Case Competition will run January 20 - 27, 2021, so save those dates! Individuals and teams can begin registering on January 4th. For more details about the case comp’s question, associated programming, and registration, visit the competition website here (<https://drexel.edu/pennoni/news-events/events/interdisciplinary-case-competition/>)

This event is open to all Drexel undergraduates and will be held completely virtually. In addition to Aramark, thanks to additional sponsors including Drexel Business Services, Undergraduate Student Government Association, Center for Interdisciplinary Inquiry and the Office of Research and Innovation.

Watch for future emails in early January regarding “Climate, COVID-19, and Drexel Dining: An Interdisciplinary Case Competition.”

### **Student Conference on Global Challenges**

The Office of Global Engagement (OGE) invites you to mark your calendars for the 14th Annual Student Conference on Global Challenges. This year the student-selected topic is “Disaster!” and the conference will be held on Tuesday, May 18, 2021, during the Week of Undergraduate Excellence.

The Student Conference on Global Challenges: Disaster! will be an opportunity for undergraduate and graduate students to present their research and engage in critical dialogue about the multitude of hazards that impact society's well-being. These perils range from climate and natural disasters to pandemic and economic threats.

OGE would like to request that you and your faculty include the conference in your Winter and Spring syllabi and encourage students to submit proposals for presentation topics. In addition, OGE would be happy to visit classes to share details about the conference.

Students may join some or all conference activities throughout the day. We encourage all students to:

- Apply to present their research on one of six student panels (open to undergraduate and graduate students)
- Submit an abstract to present a poster
- Join us as attendees for all or part of the conference activities

Each year faculty members serve as moderators of the six student panels. If you are interested in moderating or would like our office to speak to your class about conference opportunities, please contact Casey Devine at [md3683@drexel.edu](mailto:md3683@drexel.edu).

OGE anticipates a mostly virtual conference offering but will add in-person opportunities if University guidelines allow.

Special thanks to Pennoni Honors College and Undergraduate Research & Enrichment Programs for their collaboration on this event.

OGE looks forward to working with you and your faculty on a successful event.

### **SRA International Training Intensive**

The Science & Security: Facilitating a Compliant and Inclusive Research Environment in the Wake of Foreign Influence Concerns online training will occur over a five-week period, January 12 to February 9, 2021. The cohort will meet Tuesday afternoons at 3:00 pm ET for 75-minute sessions. Online classes will also be recorded and available for 30 days following the program.

iSRA Online Training Intensive let you engage in live learning experiences without leaving your desk or committing your entire day to a program. As part of a Cohort, you will interact with your instructors through online classes in real-time and continue the discussion with your peers through an easy-to-use digital platform.

For more details click here: <https://www.srainternational.org/meetings/intensive-training/online-intensive-program/science-security-online>

### Fashion, Style & Queer Culture Conference May 2021

The Office of Research, The Antoinette Westphal College of Media Arts & Design, Drexel University Online, with The Department of Design, are proud to present Fashion, Style & Queer Culture, May 20-22, 2021. In this third Fashion & Style conference, we will focus on how fashion and style is portrayed in queer culture. This conference moves beyond fashion as clothes and is broadly interdisciplinary, considering all areas of media, arts and design. Members of the LGBT community have recaptured the terminology 'queer' as it becomes a new area of study allowing LGBTQA to re-examine how we look at lifestyle. But as the queer theorist Thomas Piontek (2006) has discussed – through the prism of identity and its discontents the field (queer) studies modelled itself on other areas such as ethnic studies programs, perhaps to be intelligible to the university community – this conference aims to see the other interdisciplinary connections and approaches to queer. With the advent of queer theory, there are now many perspectives available that frequently find themselves at odds with the traditional, and while fashion has been one of them, this conference hopes to examine all areas, representations and expressions of queer culture found in style, art, exhibition, religion, education, the humanities, health, medicine, business, social sciences, everyday lifestyles, practice-based disciplines and other various forms that are indicators of this phenomenon. We welcome all disciplines throughout the university as this conference will be free to all those who are affiliates of Drexel! **Abstracts from those at Drexel are due February 1, 2021.**

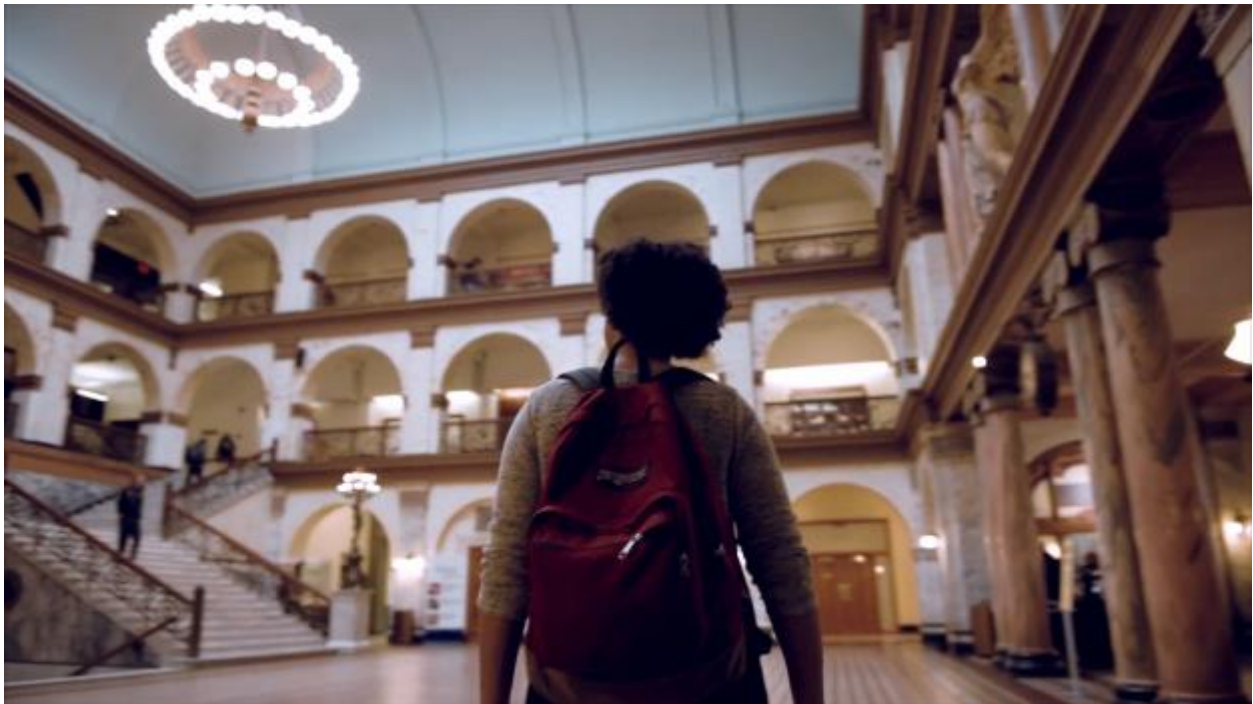
More information can be found here: [Fashion, Style & Queer Culture Conference](#)

### Online Resources and Links



- 
- [Office of Research & Innovation](#)
  - [Find Your Pre-Award Program Administrator](#)
  - [Resources and Forms](#)
  - [Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic and Research Ramp-Up Guidance](#)
  - [Contact members of the Office of Research & Innovation](#)
- 

## 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.](#)

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

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.