

Office of Research & Innovation Newsletter



DREXEL UNIVERSITY
Office of
**Research &
Innovation**

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*Office of Research & Innovation*¹

*Find your PA*²

*Resources*³

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- Funding Opportunities
- Events & Education

¹<https://nam01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.drexel.edu%2Fresearch&data=02|01|rk683%40drexel.edu|81b1d6fd35bd4ffe765308d784c7b1c4|3664e6fa47bd45a696708c4f080f8ca6|0|0|63712386559992839&sdata=WOenzHHz77LmGtj6Az4bbyo0lkm5pCWEuEJOo9H7khw%3D&reserved=0>

²<https://nam01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fdrexel.edu%2Fresearch%2Fabout%2Fpa%2F&data=02|01|rk683%40drexel.edu|81b1d6fd35bd4ffe765308d784c7b1c4|3664e6fa47bd45a696708c4f080f8ca6|0|0|63712386559992839&sdata=nSdEaDn%2FEoxX3tPmDyiNolplZP5myi2rYJ%2B67SdUjU8%3D&reserved=0>

³<https://nam01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fdrexel.edu%2Fresearch%2Fresources%2Foverview%2F&data=02|01|rk683%40drexel.edu|81b1d6fd35bd4ffe765308d784c7b1c4|3664e6fa47bd45a696708c4f080f8ca6|0|0|637123865560002834&sdata=AcwYwPIHPETiWFJsKJAbt27DljkfmVg7HNuY4ZodTk%3D&reserved=0>

⁴<https://nam01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fdrexel.edu%2Fresearch%2Fabout%2Fcontact%2F&data=02|01|rk683%40drexel.edu|81b1d6fd35bd4ffe765308d784c7b1c4|3664e6fa47bd45a696708c4f080f8ca6|0|0|637123865560002834&sdata=R5SdGXhGOBBemAindt8c5JXjSgJ%2B%2B0qsJuyy%2FqNf3nc%3D&reserved=0>

A Note from the EVPR on COVID-19 Research



Dear Drexel Research Community,

I hope that you are all adjusting to your new working circumstances as we continue to follow Drexel's and Pennsylvania's state shelter-in-place guidelines in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. As this unprecedented disruption continues to evolve, the Office of Research & Innovation (ORI) is closely monitoring these event to ensure the continuity of the research enterprise, communicate new COVID-19 research opportunities, and support new COVID-19 research and development activities.

As part of this effort, ORI has convened a COVID-19 Research & Innovation Collaborative. The goals of this collaborative are to:

- Develop new research and innovation programs based upon:
 - Strengths of Drexel and our partners
 - Scientific needs
 - Societal needs
 - Best opportunities for funding and impact
- Coordinate and synergize existing research efforts
- Identify and respond to research opportunities
- Provide centralized information to the research community

Approximately 50 of your colleagues at Drexel are currently engaged in COVID-19-related research, from 12 colleges and institutes across the university. Some are engaged in policy analysis or the transition to

online teaching, others in manufacturing face masks⁵ and other protective gear, and still others are researching vaccines and examining transmission of the virus. We are proud to support such vital research at Drexel at the time of an unprecedented pandemic that is affecting all of us.

If you are currently engaging in any research activities related to COVID-19, or you have expertise and/or capacities that can be brought to bear as part of this COVID-19 Collaborative, please let us know by completing a short survey found at this link⁶. We welcome all researchers in our community to participate.

Additionally, we are announcing a COVID-19 Rapid Response Research & Development Fund to provide fast funding to faculty actively engaged in COVID-19 related research & development projects. These funds, provided by donations made to Drexel specifically for this purpose, are for urgent-action, short-term projects focused on COVID-19 and health-related research and development. Details and application instructions can be found here⁷ under the “internal” section. Funding decisions will begin to be made on April 6th and will continue until funds are exhausted.

We also continue to offer guidelines and best practices on issues affecting the research community, such as conducting human and animal research in this climate, preparing research contingency plans for your lab, and updates from federal sponsors, all of which can be found on our website⁸. We are also compiling COVID-19 funding opportunities from sponsors as they are announced, posted on our website⁹ as well.

Wishing you all health and safety,

Aleister Saunders

Executive Vice Provost for Research & Innovation

⁵<https://www.inquirer.com/business/health/covid-19-masks-n95-respirators-drexel-university-20200325.html>

⁶https://nam01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https:%2F%2Fdrexel.qualtrics.com%2Fife%2Fform%2FSV_6_WlqveaagOuu9JH&data=02|01|cec324%40drexel.edu|6505fd54a6b54250f49e08d7d0c58e53|3664e6fa47bd45a696708c4f080f8ca6|0|0|637207419250049182&sdata=2ag270IAjomOG%2BX3SLhWBYcapk5SpNSFNeYE8gyisBM%3D&reserved=0

⁷<https://drexel.edu/research/resources/response-to-covid-19-pandemic/covid19-research-funding-opportunities/>

⁸<https://drexel.edu/research/resources/response-to-covid-19-pandemic/>

⁹<https://drexel.edu/research/resources/response-to-covid-19-pandemic/covid19-research-funding-opportunities/>

News and Announcements



Surgical masks and N95 respirators shortage

Surgical masks and N95 respirators shortage and need

Drexel is unable to order additional surgical masks and N95 respirators due to the shortage in supply associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, we ask that you conserve the use of these masks and consider reusing masks unless they have been used in a hazardous environment. Should users run out of masks, their use in the barrier rooms and while conducting surgery will be reconsidered.

For those whose on-campus labs or units have PPE available to donate, your Drexel colleagues are in need of the following:

- N-95 masks - must have N-95 rating (even if expired)
- Non-N-95 Surgical masks - ear loops for patients
- Latex gloves - Nitrile - all sizes
- Goggles - splash proof
- Isolation gowns - disposable paper gowns

- Purell - Alcohol based hand sanitizer - any quantity but large bottles are preferred
- Tyvek suits - all sizes
- Alcohol based wipes
- Alcohol lens wipes

The CDC has issued guidance regarding reuse and extended use of disposable N95 respirators here¹⁰, and all Drexel users should be engaging in similar practices with surgical masks.

Additionally, this recent post by the CDC on optimizing the supply of N95 masks may be useful:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/respirators-strategy/index.html>¹¹

Please contact Julie Jones, AVP of Procurement (jaj358@drexel.edu¹²), with any questions about PPE supply needs.

Human Subjects Research

Research projects involving human subjects are an important aspect of the University's research enterprise. These projects come with considerable ethical responsibilities and regulatory oversight. Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, there are particularly pressing **regulatory and operational** questions facing researchers involved in human subjects research. To ensure safety of our researchers, staff, and research participants and to be aligned with the most recent NIH guidance, the Office of Research & Innovation is requesting that **research involving person-to-person contact or gatherings of human research participants be paused as soon as possible unless needed for participant safety. Please** find more information on our website here¹³.

Research Involving Animal Models

Given the unprecedented nature of this disruption, the Provost and the EVPR of Research & Innovation have suspended on-campus, non-critical research activities effective March 18th. Guidance on what research activities are deemed critical can be found on this page. Given this public health emergency, several actions must be taken by the users of ULAR facilities, including the delay of all new animal experiments until the EVPR issues a statement resuming on-campus, non-critical research activities and ceasing of all new animal orders. See more information on our website here¹⁴."

Subscribe to the Council on Governmental Relations (COGR)

Please subscribe to the Council on Governmental Relations (COGR) updates for the latest on all federal agencies and the impact of COVID-19 on funding, deadlines, and guidance. Many of the agencies have

¹⁰<https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/hcwcontrols/recommendedguidanceextuse.html>

¹¹<https://nam01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fhcp%2Frespirators-strategy%2Findex.html&data=02|01|pc625%40drexel.edu|1fb2687b245c40ae7e5008d7cc444f2b|3664e6fa47bd45a696708c4f080f8ca6|0|0|637202466106225974&sdata=YjWu7JgSZBUGddFEQ5g0FzvGWWZzT%2FOg89ZizQCGQhA%3D&reserved=0>

¹²<mailto:jaj358@drexel.edu>

¹³<https://drexel.edu/research/resources/response-to-covid-19-pandemic/research-projects-involving-human-subjects-contingency-planning/>

¹⁴<https://drexel.edu/research/resources/response-to-covid-19-pandemic/research-involving-animal-models/>

FAQs and increased flexibility on deadlines, as well as guidance on human and animal research that has been affected by COVID-19. Please see more information here¹⁵.

Funding Opportunity Resources



The Office of Research & Innovation has been compiling funding opportunities and guidelines on current funding as they are announced by sponsors. Please check this page regularly for updates and see highlighted opportunities below.

<https://drexel.edu/research/resources/response-to-covid-19-pandemic/covid19-research-funding-opportunities/>

PUBLIC FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

- **Date posted:** 4/2/20

Funding Opportunity Number: FG-20-006

¹⁵<https://nam01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cogr.edu%2Finstitutional-and-agency-responses-covid-19-and-additional-resources&data=02|01|pc625%40drexel.edu|7e244ee8072e425e5e6f08d7d7e2b983|3664e6fa47bd45a696708c4f080f8ca6|0|0|637215241079640015&sdata=L3IF0SRJ2WAHQw4gHPlpWw7i5vSW%2B1YuZ0PLYkrnTpk%3D&reserved=0>

Funding Opportunity Title: Emergency Grants to Address Mental and Substance Use Disorders During COVID-19

Link for Details: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=325993>¹⁶

- **Date posted:** 4/2/20

Funding Opportunity Number: CDC-RFA-OT20-2004

Funding Opportunity Title: Supporting Tribal Public Health Capacity in Coronavirus Preparedness and Response

Link for Details: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=325942>¹⁷

INTERNAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

- **Date posted:** 4/1/20

Title: Drexel's Rapid Response Research & Development Fund

Summary: Drexel's Rapid Response Research & Development Fund provides fast funding for faculty in support of COVID-19 research projects. These funds are for urgent action, short-term projects focused on COVID-19 related health, and health-related research and development.

Link for Details: <https://drexel.edu/research/resources/response-to-covid-19-pandemic/covid19-research-funding-opportunities/>

Funds must directly support COVID-19 research projects and must be expended no later than September 30, 2020.

¹⁶<https://nam01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.grants.gov%2Fweb%2Fgrants%2Fview-opportunity.html%3FoppId%3D325993&data=02|01|pc625%40drexel.edu|a10f0466ae7a418de7ac08d7d7f77b52|3664e6fa47bd45a696708c4f080f8ca6|0|0|637215330231619957&sdata=9Pjeqw5SYNJ7WG79CMRIecoDeIA6IXQPjes19Rko2mg%3D&reserved=0>

¹⁷<https://nam01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.grants.gov%2Fweb%2Fgrants%2Fview-opportunity.html%3FoppId%3D325942&data=02|01|pc625%40drexel.edu|a10f0466ae7a418de7ac08d7d7f77b52|3664e6fa47bd45a696708c4f080f8ca6|0|0|637215330231629954&sdata=57QBnTN3%2Fheq6CM4OH4n2aVnlM6m3XcU9cJPBFCz59I%3D&reserved=0>

Events and Education



April 20-22, 2020 11am - 4:30pm

As part of SRAI's rapid response to current events, they will be hosting their **first completely online conference entitled iSRA Virtual Conference 2020**¹⁸ via Zoom on April 20-22 from 11:00 am to 4:30 pm EDT. They are developing an inspiring curriculum to tackle the current and future challenges and responsibilities facing research administration professionals. Save the date and click the link above for more details and a full agenda in the coming weeks.

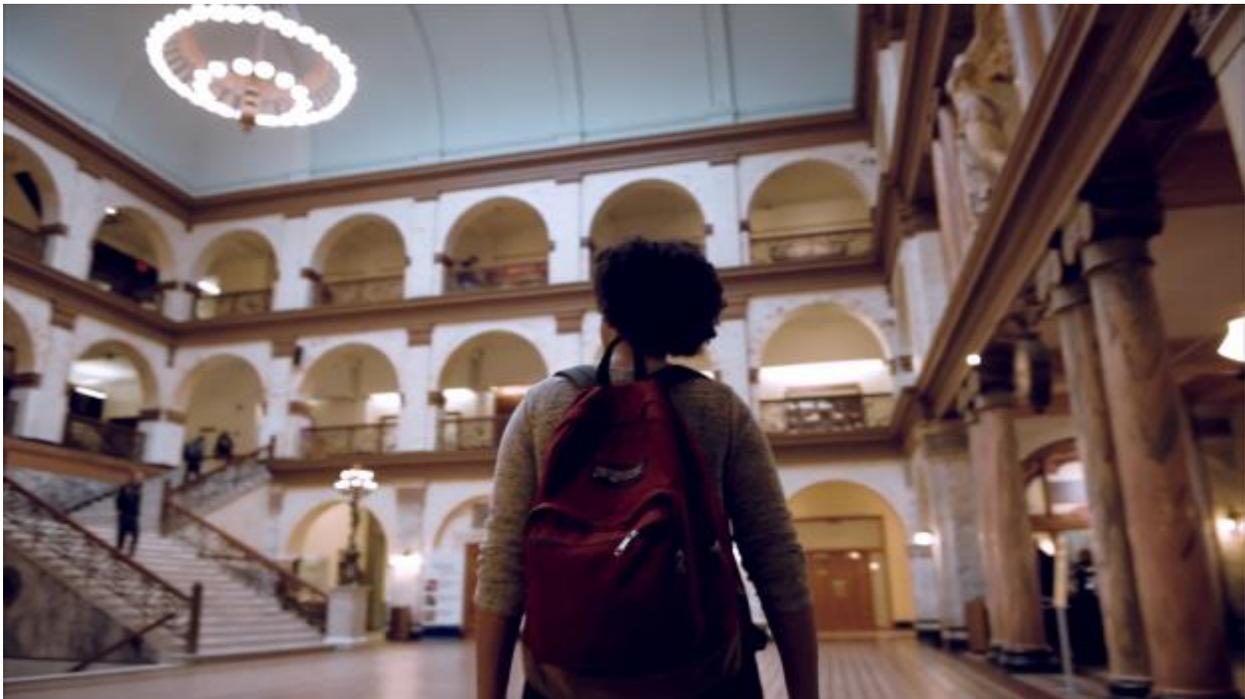
¹⁸<https://nam01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fsrainternational.us&list-manage.com%2Ftrack%2Fclick%3Fu%3Db4d088df8342e8ff542443e19%26id%3Df695bf0579%26e%3D6aa0a724dd&data=02|01|pc625%40drexel.edu|24a3ac3edbcf4a31452c08d7d70e5db4|3664e6fa47bd45a696708c4f080f8ca6|0|0|637214329011984201&sdata=RVWB6DKVo1HohMc0fLKeZ6lGDBebFuHNGOS6X90YFsc%3D&reserved=0>



April 15th, 2020 1pm - 2pm

On April 15th at 1pm, you are invited to participate in a Zoom workshop on email best practices and professional communication. It will be available in Career Pathway shortly. This is especially useful now that we are using email more frequently during this period of remote work. It's good to take a fresh look at a tool we all use every day for essential work functions and effective professional communication, which is vital to all of our jobs. There will be review of some basic elements, like signatures and greetings, but also some more in-depth elements like how to respond when emails get snippy or confusing. This training is open to everyone; please pass along to anyone you know who you think may benefit, and don't forget to sign up via Career Pathway.

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.¹⁹

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

¹⁹<https://drexel.edu/research/about/contact/>

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