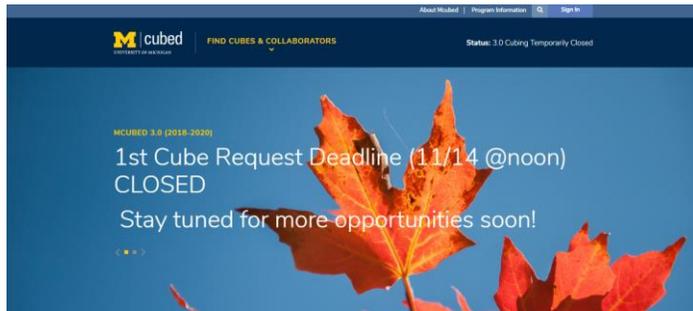![University of Michigan-Flint Research logo]

RESEARCH UPDATES
January 11, 2019

Next Mcubed distribution coming soon…

UM-Flint faculty formed 9 cubes during the first round of project creation in Mcubed 3.0 in November of 2018. The next round of project formation will be announced soon. In many cases it is still possible for you or members of your proposed team to request a cube in the next distribution event in **late January 2019**.

Currently, the Mcubed website is not open for cube requests. **But you can re-form your teams** (get three tokens committed) so that you are ready to request a cube when the Mcubed website allows request activity again in late January.

There are still several cubes to give away to faculty trios if their units have sufficient funding to participate in cube formation. Currently almost half of the original funding invested by the academic deans and central administration at UM-Flint remains available. A total of $240K remains available for classic or mini cube formation:

CAS (Art & Design) – 1 mini token, $5K
SOM (Business) – 2 classic or 9 mini tokens, $45K
SEHS (Education) – 2 classic or 9 mini tokens, $45K
CAS (Engineering) – 1 mini token, $5K
Library (Libraries) – 1 classic or 5 mini tokens, $25K
CAS (Social Sciences) – 1 classic or 6 mini tokens, $30K
CHS (Medicine) – 2 mini tokens, $10K
SON (Nursing) – 2 classic or 11 mini tokens, $55K
SEHS (Social Work) – 1 classic or 4 mini tokens, $20K

For now, to assist you with new team formation, the Mcubed staff have returned all unfunded projects to a "ready to cube" state (project is filled with three tokens committed). Now is the time to consider reconstituting the team of collaborators. The project owner can reconstitute the team as needed, perhaps substituting a new member whose unit still has tokens available. Or you can ask your project owner to release your token so that you can form a new team of three faculty members. (The project owner is the faculty member who originally posted the project idea – the first person listed).

All Mcubed eligible faculty can review the status of tokens by authenticating to Mcubed.

To reconstitute your team of collaborators: The project creator should login to the Mcubed website, open the project card, and then click the "x" next to the name of the collaborator(s) he/she wishes to remove/replace. The project creator will need to invite a new collaborator(s) whose unit has sufficient funding to join the project. The project creator can then request the cube in late January.

To free up your token: If the faculty member who originally created your project comes from a unit that has used up its tokens, that person cannot currently serve as one of the three token-contributing collaborators on the team. Instead, you can form a different trio of faculty members. In this case, you will need to ask the faculty project creator from your previous project to release your token.

SEEK MINI INSTEAD OF CLASSIC
Some units have currently reached their limits of funded tokens in classic cubes (worth $60K total), but there are still sufficient funds to support tokens in mini cubes (worth $15K total). If one of the three faculty collaborators on your team comes from such a unit, when the Mcubed website opens for cube requests in January, you can choose to request a mini-cube instead of a classic cube.

To keep current collaborators on the cube but change the cube size: If the project creator wishes to change the size of the requested cube to a mini-cube, the project creator should click the "edit" button on the upper left side of the project page. Next, click the radio button labeled "mini cube," then click "save project." This will change the cube size from classic to mini and keep all three collaborator tokens committed to the project. The project owner can then request the cube.

Involve faculty as additional collaborators: As always, only a group of three faculty collaborators from units that have remaining funds can request a cube. However, you can still involve faculty from units without remaining funds in your team's work, recognizing such individuals as fourth or fifth collaborators who are contributing their talent and expertise, but not a token. In fact, this practice is quite common, with many cubes involving more faculty members than the three who contribute tokens. (Such individuals can be officially named on the Mcubed website as additional collaborators after a cube has been awarded funding.)

The Mcubed staff hope that you will propose a cube again or explore forming a new project team, and are glad to consult with you about your particular situation. You can reach the Mcubed team at mcubedinfo@umich.edu or - 734-763-2453.   Or contact Ken Sylvester in the UM-Flint Office of Research, 810-766-6842, with questions.

RESEARCH FUNDAMENTALS SEMINAR
Research Fundamentals: Community-Engaged Research

Continuing with the theme of community-engaged research our first seminar of the New Year is scheduled for next **Friday, January 18**, from 12:00-1:30pm in the main floor space **Ferris Wheel Building at 615 S Saginaw St**.   Our presenters will be from Poverty Solutions.

H. Luke Shaefer, Director, Poverty Solutions at the University of Michigan; Associate Professor, School of Social Work; Associate Professor, Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy.

Joining us is the Director of Poverty Solutions, H. Luke Shaefer, and managing director, Julia Weinert, MPH. Dr. Shaefer's research on poverty and social welfare policy in the United States has been published in top peer-reviewed academic journals in the fields of public policy, social work, public health, health services research, and history.

Shaefer has presented his research before numerous federal agencies, has testified before the U.S. Senate Finance Committee and has advised a number of the nation's largest human services organizations as well as numerous community-based agencies. His work has been cited in the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, *The Economist*, *The Atlantic*, *Vox*, the *LA Times* and *Huffington Post* and he has been featured on such programs as "Marketplace" and CNBC's "Nightly Business Report."

Poverty Solutions at the University of Michigan is a young initiative that combines the assets of the university toward the prevention and alleviation of poverty. A cornerstone of the initiative's work is a partnership with the City of Detroit Mayor's office: Detroit Partnership on Economic Mobility. Poverty Solutions has also fostered a unique partnership between Washtenaw County, MichiganWorks! and the University of Michigan to pilot a university-engaged Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP).

The title of talk is: "Poverty Solutions: Partnering with Communities to Find new ways to Prevent and Alleviate Poverty."

Shaefer and Weinert will discuss these two major cornerstones of the wider initiative. The Detroit Partnership on Economic Mobility is a joint effort between UM and the city of Detroit to identify and implement concrete, evidence-based strategies that significantly improve economic opportunity and reduce poverty in Detroit.

As part of the Economic Mobility Partnership projects are already underway pairing dozens of U-M experts with the

leadership of city departments including health, workforce, housing and revitalization, jobs and economy, and police.

U-M partners with the city to serve three critical roles:
- Advise city officials on evidence-based strategies to enhance the economic mobility of Detroiters.
- Provide technical support and data analysis in the implementation of mobility initiatives.
- Evaluate city initiatives to measure both short and long-term impacts on economic mobility, using publicly available data, city administrative resources, and resident surveys.

A second effort that will be discussed by Shaefer and Weinert is the Summer Youth Employment Program. Attaining a college degree is a well-recognized path to economic mobility in the United States but enrollment gaps persist among students and vary enormously by family income. Residents with no-affiliation to their local university face low rates of economic mobility from one generation to the next and universities see low rates of application and enrollment from nearby neighborhoods struggling with poverty.

This pattern is reflective of the deep economic divides that exist between the families of students attending selective universities and local residents. We will describe a unique partnership between Washtenaw County, MichiganWorks! and the University of Michigan (UM) to pilot a university-engaged Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) and highlight opportunities this model presents for both universities and local youth.

All interested faculty are welcome. **Refreshments will be served**.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

The Michigan Institute for Clinical and Health Research (MICHR) has partnered with **Community-Based**

Organization Partners (CBOP) in Flint to establish a funding opportunity to address health consequences stemming from the **Flint water crisis**. This award will fund community-engaged research partnerships and projects addressing community priorities in Flint.

Applicants should consider addressing one or more of the priority areas listed in the application guidelines linked below. The areas are intentionally broad to allow teams to develop innovative ideas and research projects.

Applicants may request up to **$5,000** for partnership development activities or up to **$10,000** for conducting small-scale research projects.

Application guidelines
Budget
Face page
Project plan template
Application checklist

Who can use this service?

Each application must have at least two partners: an academic partner who is affiliated with a college, school, or university and a community partner who is affiliated with a non-academic community organization or group (e.g. non-profit, neighborhood coalition, etc.).

Academic partners do not need to be affiliated with the University of Michigan.

Community partners must be affiliated with organizations or groups located within the city of Flint. Community partners who do not have an organizational affiliation may serve as collaborators, consultants, mentors, and other roles in conducting the project.

When should I contact MICHR about this service?

Applications must be submitted via UMMS Competition Space by 5 p.m. on **Thursday, February 14, 2019**.

How much does this service cost?

This service is free. The cost pricing/recharge rates for other MICHR services are available here.

GRAHAM SUSTAINABILITY INSTITUTE
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Winter 2019 Sustainability Funding Update

Apply for Sustainability Funding

The Graham Sustainability Institute is now accepting Catalyst Grant proposals. Catalyst Grants provide up to $10,000 over 8 months for projects that support collaborative sustainability research planning and partnership development, or enhance the real-world application of existing? sustainability research. Approximately three grants will be awarded this funding cycle, and U-M PI-eligible faculty from the **Flint, Dearborn, and Ann Arbor** campuses may apply.

- **February 11, 2019** – Letter of Intent deadline (required)

- **March 18, 2019** – Proposal deadline
Access materials & apply

QUICK LINKS

Collaborative Research Support
Funded Projects

Resources

- **QUESTIONS**
Contact Maggie Allanmaallan@umich.edu
734.763.2640