Research Updates
March 2020

COVID-19: Research Operations at U-M

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer issued a shelter-in-place order, effective March 24, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This executive order will not further alter the University of Michigan's research operations, as all three campuses moved on March 20 to ramp down noncritical laboratory research activities.

The university will maintain minimal access to laboratories so that critical activities, including the maintenance of animals, unique reagents, and essential equipment and materials, along with approved research related to COVID-19, can continue. Research and scholarship (e.g., analyzing data, writing and reviewing manuscripts, preparing presentations, developing new grant proposals, convening online discussions with students and lab staff, etc.) that can occur remotely should continue.

Please refer to the March 18 leadership message and FAQs on the UMOR COVID guidance webpage for more information as it relates to ramping down all noncritical laboratory research activities.

https://research.umich.edu/covid-19

Still time to Apply for MiCHR's Pathway Awards

Do you need to obtain preliminary data that will strengthen an extramural grant application and help you establish your long-term research goals? To support faculty along their career trajectories, the Michigan Institute for Clinical & Health Research (MiCHR) is offering two funding mechanisms – Pathway to First Grant and Pathway to Independence. These awards are intended to support investigators who need to collect additional data to competitively pursue their first extramural grants (such as NIH K or R21) or larger independent grants (such as NIH R01 or similar).

Research should propose addressing an important area of clinical and translational science or a community-identified health priority. Applications are encouraged for projects at all stages of translation (T1-T4) that use one of the following approaches to research: investigator-initiated, collaborative, or community-based participatory. Details are available here.

Applications for these awards are open to faculty from all campuses, schools, and colleges at the University of Michigan, as well as partners affiliated with community and patient coalitions and groups, nonprofit organizations, government, and other agencies outside U-M.

Applications for the Pathway Awards are due April 13, 2020 and must be submitted via UMMS Competition Space.

Further information about MiCHR funding is available here.

If you have questions, please email the MiCHR Pilot Grant Program at MiCHR-PilotGrants@umich.edu.

Mcubed program launched its Mcubed Communities initiative on February 26, 2020. The program uses the existing Mcubed
There are currently 45 communities listed on the Mcubed web portal. They include a recently formed community by U-M immunologist Michael Imperiale on COVID-19 research.

This image (left) is from the Mcubed web portal, which adds the 'Create a Community' functionality to the existing Mcubed platform.

The first Mcubed Community involving UM-Flint faculty was formed by Randy Duncan, You-Shin Chen and Besa Xhabija, and focuses on Environmental Cancer. Duncan, Chen and Xhabija welcome those who have related research interests.

Ken Sylvester (UMF Office of Research) and Zia Davidian (Thompson Library) recently visited with faculty at SEHS and CHS (and were scheduled to visit with faculty at SON and CAS governing faculty meetings before the COVID outbreak) to demonstrate the capabilities of Michigan Research Experts. Chancellor Dutta’s Citizens Advisory Committee was inquiring recently about the existence of such a experts portal for UM-Flint.

All faculty with full time appointments are listed in the backend of Michigan Research Experts. The database which is managed and paid for by UMMS (Medical School) for all three U-M campuses, regularly pulls appointment information from the academic departments in each U-M school or college. If you don't see your name listed alphabetically in the listings of UM experts, please

https://mailchi.mp/0f18a92440bb/february-research-updates-740922
Click on the Toolkit menu to access your profile, and you will be taken to your private listing. You can edit and add content including a recent photo. The database routinely pulls publication information from publishing databases (Web of Science, Scopus, etc), conference proceedings, government reports, working papers, etc, based on author name and institutional affiliation. It suggests that you claim these 'pending' publications to confirm that they are indeed yours, and then allows you to make the profile public. UM-Flint faculty members will not appear in the public UM Research Experts site until they make their profiles public.

The MRE database is more than just a publication database like Google Scholar. It also includes reporting on grant funding awarded to U-M faculty, connecting to U-M's own internal research databases in eResearch. It also provides a searchable database of patent activity, clinical trials, corporate and foundation funding, in addition to federal and state funding. There is also a global database of publications, grants, patents, clinical trials, and policy documents. Want to know which agencies or foundations are funding work in your area of expertise across the United States or around the world. Search the Dimensions Plus database using a few key words (using the boolean operator "AND") and filter down further to see who is active in those research areas and how novel your ideas might be.

https://libguides.umflint.edu/dimensionsplus

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2020 Student Research Conferences

The Student Research Conference and the Meeting of Minds were cancelled this year.

Students who wish to submit a digital version of their presentation can submit a slide deck or poster for curation via the Student Research Conference (SRC) webpage.

https://www.umflint.edu/research/student-research-conference

An invitation to participate in a virtual conference, a digital repository of student presentations, was sent to student registrants and their faculty mentors. To submit your presentations for public display online, follow the instructions on the SRC webpage, where students can find a presentation template. Accepted presentations will be posted on the SRC website, each with an individual URL. The deadline to submit presentations is Friday, April 24th.

The virtual conference is open to all undergraduate AND graduate students from the University of Michigan-Flint, Kettering University, and Mott Community College.

Organizers of Meeting of Minds (MOM) have no plans at this time to launch a similar virtual conference for students hoping to participate in the collaborative undergraduate symposium, co-sponsored by the University of Michigan-Flint, the University of Michigan-Dearborn, and Oakland University. The was scheduled for Friday, May 8 2020, at Oakland University, but has been
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