Research Updates
April 18, 2018

Celebration of Teaching and Research

Don’t forget to join TCLT and the Office of Research for a Celebration of Teaching and Research. Hospitality will be provided by Market Tap and Blackstone’s and the event will be held again in the Ramsdell Room at the Flint Farmer’s Market, 5:00-7:30 pm, on Tuesday, April 24th.

This year’s internal and external funding award winners will be celebrated in an event that is an opportunity to meet faculty from other schools and disciplines and learn more about the research activity going on across campus. In competitions in the fall and winter of 2017-2018, the Research and Creative Activities Committee received applications totaling $435,985 in requested funding, and awarded a total of $227,969 in internal funding. Some 36 proposals were received from CAS, 5 from SEHS, 3 from SHPS and 2 from SON.

Research Fundamentals Seminar

Please save the date for the return Research Fundamentals Seminar on Thursday, April 19, from 11:00am-12:30pm in Thompson Center for Learning and Teaching seminar room, 134 Thompson Library.

Our guest presenter will be UM associate professor of civil engineering Seth Guikema. Seth is part of a new Urban Collaboratory at UM Ann Arbor. Launched in 2017, the initiative involves interdisciplinary faculty teams work closely with city stakeholders to identify specific challenges, develop effective approaches and then implement smart city solutions guided by innovative urban design methods.

Currently there are 16 UM faculty members involved in the Collaboratory, across 9 UM schools and colleges, working with 6 cities across the region. Areas of research interest in the collaborator include:

- Transit and Employment Accessibility
- Integrating Health and Asset Management Techniques to Improve Water Service Delivery
- Deployment of an Urban Sensor Network to Monitor Street Activity
- Prototype Design for New Mobility Hubs
- Tracking, Simulating, and Optimizing Mobility Services
- Initiating Public Engagement Through Focus Groups

More information on the faculty involved and the research agendas can be found on the UM-Ann Arbor Office of Research webpage, http://research.umich.edu/urban-collaboratory-0.
**UM-Flint Funding Opportunity**

2018 UM-Flint HFRCC Small Grants Research Funding Opportunity. Community–Engaged and Community-Driven Research Request for Applications (RFA)

**Deadline: May 11, 2018**

**BACKGROUND**

The Healthy Flint Research Coordinating Center (HFRCC) is a partnership between The Flint Community, the University of Michigan Flint (UM-Flint), Michigan State University (MSU), and the University of Michigan Ann Arbor Campus (UM). HFRCC was formed in June 2016 to better coordinate research conducted in Flint, increase community voice, and ensure ethical community involvement in research. The HFRCC serves as a point of contact for academic researchers, community members and organizations, as well as state and local government officials looking for research connections and engagement. The central mission of the HFRCC is to build a healthy vibrant community.

**GOALS**

This funding opportunity seeks to engage UM-Flint faculty in supporting projects that will lead to more equitable community-academic partnerships and community-engaged and community-driven research.

**PRIORITIES**

UM-Flint HFRCC Research Funding Opportunity provides up to $10,000 for UM-Flint faculty to engage in community based participatory research projects in the Great Flint Community. The HFRCC has worked with community members in developing research priority areas. Applicants are encouraged to consider one of the identified research priority areas when applying.

1. Communications, information sharing and transparency
2. Trust, mistrust and institutional relationships
3. Social-behavioral interventions (i.e., anxiety, depression, substance abuse, paranoia, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, etc.)
4. Special populations (especially youth and seniors)
5. Long-term health outcomes (i.e., substance use, maternal and child health, food insecurity, healthy lifestyles, healthcare access, health disparities, etc.)
6. Capacity building in community-based organizations
7. Facilitate a collaborative, multi-stakeholder, research agenda

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

Beyond members of the project team, partnerships should engage community residents and members of the public who have first-hand knowledge and experience that will be valuable to better understand the health issue or priority area.

**APPLICATION GUIDELINES**

Each application must include the following components:

1. **Proposal Summary Page:** Provide a summary of no more than 350 and indicate the application type (partnership or project).

2. **Partnership / Project Plan:** A maximum TWO-page, single-spaced document (Arial 11, minimum of 0.5 inch margins) describing the partnership, or both the partnership and project concisely. Use the following overall format and note the suggested page limits.

   **a. Significance and Impact** (up to 0.5 page): Describe the specific priority area and health problem the partnership will address and its relevance to the communities involved. Describe how activities will lead to sustained research collaborations and projects.

   **b. Partners** (up to 0.5 page): Describe any previous experience partners have conducting community-engaged research, and expertise partners will bring to the project and/or partnership.
c. Approach (up to 1 page): Describe the specific objectives of the project and/or partnership, and activities partners will conduct to meet the desired outcomes. Include details about the community-engaged research framework and/or approach partners will utilize along with a project timeline.

3. References (Not included in the page limit).

4. Budget and Justification: All budget items must be listed and justified.

5. Regulatory Approval: For partnerships requesting funding to conduct a project utilizing human subjects (and your application receives a fundable score), you will be required to provide additional human subjects documentation and Institutional Review Board approval, if applicable. Funds will not be released until approval has been secured.

Release of funding is also subject to successful review of awarded proposals by the Community Ethics Review Board (CERB). The CERB is comprised of Flint-area volunteers established to examine potential and actual research proposals using a community ethics perspective. Its mission is to facilitate a process which explicitly advocates for the protection, mutual benefit, and equity between researchers and the community. CERB provides feedback on whether proposed research is sensitive to needs and concerns of the community and its culture, with a formal written critique to the investigators, and suggestions for improving community feedback and guidance from Flint residents.

Applicants must adhere to Federal guidelines on allowable expenditures for Federal grants. Examples of unallowable expenditures include food, entertainment, sales tax, books, and supplies.

AWARD INFORMATION

There is a total of $40,000 available in this round of funding. Applications may request up to: 1) $5,000 for partnership development activities (e.g. building relationships, exploring areas of shared interest) or 2) $10,000 for research projects. The funding period for both types of applications is one year.


Applicants will be notified of funding decisions by June 1, 2018.

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Student Research Conference

On April 6th, 2018, students from the University of Michigan-Flint, Mott Community College, and Kettering University gathered for a day of sharing their faculty-mentored research, scholarship, and creative activities at the 7th annual Flint Student Research Conference (SRC). This year’s event, marking the second consecutive year of collaboration with our partnering institutions, welcomed over 150 undergraduate and graduate students from the three partner institutions.

The conference included 78 presentations, each focusing on a broad range of contemporary topics including: psychology, physics, engineering, cybersecurity and public health. Students presented their research efforts in either a combination of 20-minute oral presentations, hour-long poster sessions, demonstrations, or performances. Students were also offered an opportunity to have their manuscripts published in the annual conference proceedings.

Next month, on May 11, 2018, UM-Flint students will join other undergraduates from the University of Michigan-Dearborn and Oakland University for the annual Meeting of Minds (MOM) Undergraduate Research Conference.
The undergraduate research meeting, now in its 26th year, will take place on the campus of the University of Michigan-Dearborn. Our host will be the College of Arts, Sciences and Letters.

In May of 2019, MOM returns to UM-Flint, when our campus will host the 27th annual meeting.