UM-Flint will join MCubed 3.0 this fall.
The Office of the Provost at the University of Michigan-Flint is pleased to announce the launch of an exciting partnership with the MCubed program, together with the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor and the University of Michigan-Dearborn. Beginning with the next distribution cycle, in November of 2018, all eligible UM-Flint faculty will have the opportunity to enter the MCubed website to create and join projects.

MCubed Leadership will hold open forums at UM-Flint on Wednesday, October 3 and Friday, October 19:
MCubed staff members will join us for two open forum presentations in October to explain the novel seed funding program in person, and answer your questions about the web-based discovery and project team formation process. Presentations are scheduled for Thompson Center for Learning and Teaching seminar room, 134 Thompson Library:

- 11:30 am to 1:00 pm Wednesday, October 3, and
- 11:30 am to 1:00 pm, Friday, October 19.

MCubed is an innovative research program designed to distribute seed funding to self-organized multi-unit faculty and student teams. Virtual funding tokens are made available in an online system to initiate peer discovery and project formation. Tokens of $20,000 are available to form classic cubes of $60,000, and mini-tokens of $5,000 are available to form mini-cubes of $15,000. Project teams of three faculty must have at least one member from a different discipline, outside their home college, school or unit. Teams can be formed across the Ann Arbor, Flint and Dearborn campuses, or across units on the same campus.

Cubing Begins this Fall! November 2018
The next opportunity to form a cube will be in November 2018. Changes to the Mcubed website are underway and faculty will soon be able to create and update their profiles on the Mcubed website, https://mcubed.umich.edu/. A list of all eligible UM-Flint tenure track faculty was shared with MCubed staff in Ann Arbor in August. The list contains the uniqname and titles of faculty and will serve as the shell for each faculty profile on the MCubed website. Once the web profile placeholders are activated on the Mcubed website, UM-Flint faculty will be invited to add more detail to their profile information, including additional detail on their education, research interests and recent publications, as well as an updated profile picture. The Mcubed website limits the basic profile information to a profile picture, academic title, unit, campus, department, education, research summary and recent publications. The web site includes a search function to allow participants to discover proposed projects and/or potential collaborators across all UM units and all three UM campuses.

Detailed information on projects funded in the previous two rounds of Mcubed are available on the program website. Program staff can answer more specific questions about Mcubed 3.0 when contacted at the general information email address, mcubedinfo@umich.edu. Mcubed program requirement are also available on the website.

UM-Flint MCubed Funding Model:
The UM-Flint funding model for Mcubed 3.0 is different from Ann Arbor and does not require a faculty contribution. A central pool of $250,000 is divided among the participating units based on numbers of eligible faculty (principally, tenure track or tenured faculty in each unit), and the deans have contributed additional funding for each unit at UM-Flint. The result is that UM-Flint’s total commitment to the Mcubed program is $495,000.
Please don’t hesitate to reach out if you have further questions. The UM-Flint liaison for Mcubed is Ken Sylvester, kenms@umflint.edu, in the UM-Flint Office of Research. He is available to answer individual questions or offer presentations about Mcubed to groups of interested faculty.

Internal Research Funding Fall Deadlines

UM-Flint Office of Research will not conduct its usual internal funding competitions for the RCA and Bryer Awards in the fall of 2018. RCA funding from the fall has been diverted to MCubed 3.0 and the Bryer Awards are based on the availability of endowment funding. But these competitions will return in the winter 2019. The International Travel Funding program continues this fall and applicants are asked to submit their requests for international travel funds by Friday, October 12, 2018. Submissions will be handled electronically via the new InfoReady Review system, located at https://umflint.infoready4.com/. Please remember to authenticate using your umich domain email and password. International Travel Awards will be announced by early November.

Research Development at UM

October 10, 2018 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM

Rackham Amphitheater & Assembly Hall

Registration is now open. Register today! (link is external)

Light breakfast available at 8:00 AM

This free half-day conference is for all staff, faculty and leadership who support research across campus. Learn more about Research Development strategies to help your investigators increase their competitiveness in today’s research funding climate.

Research Development is a growing field of professionals who work with faculty to foster research excellence and increase extramural funding. Our many activities include: connecting faculty with funding opportunities; working with faculty on grant writing and editing; coordinating large-scale proposals; facilitating collaboration among faculty and across disciplines; connecting faculty to resources; supporting faculty career development in the research funding space; managing internal funding programs; fostering innovation, and finding the best ways to communicate our knowledge and services.

This event is intended to inspire creative problem-solving, share successful practices, and grow our network of RD professionals across U-M. Questions? Contact Jill Jividen, Ph.D., at jjgoff@umich.edu (link sends e-mail) or umresearchdev@umich.edu (link sends e-mail).

AGENDA

8:00 AM - 8:30 AM -- Light breakfast & registration

8:30 AM - 9:30 AM -- Keynote Speaker: Holly Falk-Krzesinski, Ph.D.

- Holly Falk-Krzesinski, Ph.D., is a renowned leader in the fields of research development and team science and was the founding president of the National Organization of Research Development Professionals (NORDP). She is currently the Vice President for Global Strategic Networks at Elsevier and holds an adjunct faculty position at Northwestern University.

9:45 AM - 10:45 AM -- Panel 1

- Online Tools to Increase Productivity and Build R-E-S-P-E-C-T

Learn from staff who have capitalized on technology (e.g., Trello, Google, Basecamp) to improve communication, efficiency and productivity around proposal development and project management.
• **Research Development in the Multi-functional Office with Limited Resources!**
  This panel will present ideas for how to incorporate strategic Research Development activities, while managing other widespread research activities (research administration, research compliance, etc.)

**11:00 AM - 12:00 PM -- Panel 2**

• **Lessons Learned Building a Research Methods Hub Through Interdisciplinary Collaboration**
  Learn how to bring interdisciplinary faculty together from diverse schools/colleges, how to foster collaborative research, and how to keep the momentum going over time, as the group and objectives evolve.

• **Leveraging the Foundation Relations Office to Connect to New Opportunities and Diversify Funding Portfolios**
  Foundation Relations representatives will discuss how U-M performs in the private funding space (compared to our peers), why it’s important to diversity funding sources, and what services they provide, including relationship building and helping faculty write for foundation sponsors.

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**Research Fundamentals Seminar**

Please save the date for the return of the Research Fundamentals Seminar on **Thursday, September 20**, from 11:00am-12:30pm in Thompson Center for Learning and Teaching seminar room, 134 Thompson Library.

Are you thinking about external funding or developing a new research project? Ken Sylvester, Director of the UM-Flint Office of Research, will present on ‘Writing a Competitive Research Grant Proposal.’

Dr. Sylvester will give an overview of UM Resources for finding funding, offer an analysis of sponsor priorities, discuss the review process, and offer advice on writing the proposal and proposal mechanics.

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The largest part of UM-Flint’s funding portfolio is Foundation funding. Foundations are often interested in innovative solutions to challenging problems but are usually focused on shorter time-frames. They usually fund work that focuses on the most vulnerable members of society. Beyond 1-2 years you will need a sustainability plan and that typically means thinking about federal or state agency funding.

The federal government has 24 grant-making agencies and the opportunities are compiled in a searchable database, at Grants.gov. The two biggest agencies for civilian and university-based researchers are the National Institutes of Health, whose budget increased 8.8% in FY2018 to $37.1 billion, and the National Science Foundation, whose budget increased 3.9% in FY2018 to $7.7 billion. In FY 2016, NIH awarded 15,597 grants, or about 21% of all applications received. The success rate for NSF was about the same, with 8,800 of 42,000 applications receiving funding.

One of the important UM-based resources for developing a new research project is the Michigan Institute for Clinical and Health Research. MICHR is part of a large multi-disciplinary effort at UM to enable & enhance clinical & translational research. MICHR educates, funds, connects & supports research teams at UM and across the state.

Founded in 2006, MICHR received a Clinical and Translational Science Award in 2007 from the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Renewed in 2012 and 2017, MICHR is part of a national consortium of about 50 academic research institutions funded by the CTSA program, accelerating discoveries toward better health.
Last May MICHR funded eight research projects in Flint, including two led by UM-Flint social work faculty members, Sheryl Groden and Julie Ma. A total of $60,000 was awarded in MICHR’s Building Capacity for Research and Action competition, meant to address health consequences stemming from the Flint water crisis. MICHR anticipates another competition late in the fall of 2018 or early 2019. The funded projects involving UM-Flint faculty were:

**Family Violence and Father Involvement in Flint**
Shon Hart, Executive Director, InvolvedDad
**Julie Ma**, University of Michigan-Flint, Assistant Professor, Social Work department
Research Project - $10,000

**Meditation for older adults: A pilot study**
Yaushica Aubert, Vice President of Operations, Valley Area Agency on Aging
Sheryl Groden, University of Michigan-Flint, Assistant Professor, Social Work
Research Project - $10,000

Another UM-Flint faculty member received funding in a separate MICHR competition for a Community-Based Participatory research project, the English Department’s Emily Feuerherm:

**English as a Second Language (ESL) Health Literacy to Prevent Lead Exposure in Flint**
San Juana Olivares, Genesee County Hispanic Latino Collaborative, Executive Director
Bonnie McIntosh, ACE Community Health, Consultant
**Emily Feuerherm**, University of Michigan-Flint, Assistant Professor of Linguistics
(Community-Based Participatory) Research Project - $40,000

Later in the term, we will turn to community-engaged research as a theme for the Research Fundamentals workshops in October and November. The focus will be on how to create authentic community-university partnerships and write successful community-engaged research grants. They will share ideas on how to find the right partner and build relationships, how to bridge cultural and language differences and overcome challenges. Look for future save the date announcements.

**Apply Now for MICHR $100,000 Accelerating Synergy Award**

Are you interested in positioning your interdisciplinary research team to be competitive for an external large-scale grant (i.e., NIH U- and P-series)? Do you need funds to pursue final data collection/analysis, to publish with your collaborators, or to support resources for grant development? If so, you are encouraged to apply for the Accelerating Synergy Award through the Michigan Institute for Clinical & Health Research.

Hosted in partnership with the Medical School Office of Research and the Institute for Healthcare Policy & Innovation, we are pleased to offer three Accelerating Synergy Award mechanisms: 1) Basic Research, 2) Translational Research and 3) Health Services Research. Awardees will receive up to $100,000 to tackle significant and complex research questions. This funding, coupled with tailored MICHR support, will provide the foundation for future large-scale grant submissions. Details are available [here](#).

Applications for this award are open to faculty from all schools and colleges at the University of Michigan, with mechanism-specific requirements noted in the guidelines.

Pre-applications are due October 15, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. via [UMMS Competition Space](#).

Information about other MICHR funding opportunities is available [here](#).

For questions, contact:
The MICHR Pilot Grant Program at [MICHR-PilotGrants@umich.edu](mailto:MICHR-PilotGrants@umich.edu).
Poverty Solutions Research Funding

Poverty Solutions is pleased to announce grant funding to support action-based research focused on preventing and alleviating poverty. More than $200,000 is available through two funding mechanisms: community-academic partnerships and faculty grants (see detailed description and links to the requests for proposals below).

Successful action-based research projects will cut across disciplines, have the potential for innovative approaches in the field, and hold promise for advancing solutions to poverty challenges in Michigan.

Grants are open to faculty at U-M’s Ann Arbor, Flint and Dearborn campuses. Partnerships with faculty across multiple campuses are strongly encouraged.

The deadline to apply to both RFPs is November 12th, 2018.

Community-Academic Partnership RFP

The “Research Strategies to Prevent and Alleviate Poverty” grant, offered to teams of community-academic partners as part of a joint funding program between U-M Poverty Solutions and the Detroit Urban Research Center, will support research focused on evaluating and strengthening interventions, programs and policies in the State of Michigan that seek to prevent and alleviate poverty.

- More than $100,000 is available for grants up to $25,000.
- Projects are to be completed within one year (January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019).
- Must equitably involve community and academic partners in all aspects of the research process.

Funded projects could include activities designed to prevent and alleviate poverty such as:

- Evaluation of an existing intervention, program or policy;

- Analysis of new or existing data to better understand the effectiveness of strategies (e.g., interventions, programs and policies);
- Development, implementation and preliminary evaluation of a new pilot program; and
- Assessment of community needs, strengths and resources that lead to the identification of new strategies.

Poverty Solutions and the Detroit URC are co-administering all aspects of this funding opportunity.

Go to RFP (PDF)
Learn more about the Detroit Urban Research Center

Faculty Grant Competition RFP

Poverty Solutions invites faculty at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Flint and Dearborn campuses to pursue research projects focused on informing strategies that seek to prevent and alleviate poverty.

- Up to 5 awards of up to $20,000 each will be given for self-contained research projects or as seed funding that may be leveraged to pursue larger external awards.
- Projects are to be completed within one year (January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019)

This request for proposals seeks to support faculty research that can inform existing policies, practices, or interventions meant to reduce poverty, or research that lays out proposals for future policy directions. Junior faculty encouraged to apply. Projects using either qualitative or quantitative data sources are eligible for funding. Examples of possible projects for funding include (but are not limited to):

- Secondary quantitative data analysis that informs or examines poverty policy
- Simulations of the effects of proposed policy alternatives
- A small-scale evaluation of a pilot or existing intervention that seeks to prevent or alleviate poverty
- A project that explores how recipients experience anti-poverty programs at the local, state or federal level
- Projects that examine how contextual factors can shape the utilization of existing or proposed interventions, programs, or policies that seek to prevent and alleviate poverty.

Go to RFP (PDF)
View previous grant awards.
Foundation Funding for Faculty

Don’t forget to look for upcoming opportunities from UM’s Foundation Relations webpage or sign up for their mailing list. They highlight current funding opportunities and offer a grantwriter’s toolkit on their webpage. Here are some new opportunities that are available this fall.

September

Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan –
September 21 (brief internal concept papers due to Donna Lartigue at lartigue@umich.edu) – Up to $30,000

American Council of Learned Societies Fellowship Programs – September 26 – up to $70,000 (full professor), $50,000 (associate professors) and $40,000 (assistant professors)

October

National Academy of Sciences Awards (social and natural sciences and engineering) – October 1 (nomination deadline) – Most awards $10,000-$200,000

Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute Eugene Washington Engagement Awards – October 1 (LOI) - $300,000 for Dissemination Initiative, $250,000 for Capacity Building and $50,000 for Conference Support

Getty Foundation Getty Scholar Grants in arts, humanities and social sciences – October 1 – up to $65,000 for a nine-month residency

Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (policy-relevant fellowships) – October 1 – Stipend for nine-month residential fellowships, amount depends on faculty’s current income

Wellcome Climate Change and Health Awards - October 11 (Preliminary Application) - £100,000-£500,000 (Approximately $130,000-$650,000)

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Technology, Infrastructure and Health – October 17 (brief proposals) - $200,000-$400,000 over one to three years

November

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Policy Fellows – November 7 - $165,000

Smith Richardson Foundation Domestic Public Policy Program – November 15 (LOI); optional abstracts due to Allison McElroy (mcelroya@umich.edu) due by October 15) – Most awards between $50,000 and $250,000

Woodrow Wilson Foundation/Course Hero Higher Education Teaching Awards - November 9 - $30,000

Russell Sage Foundation Regular Programs (Future of Work, Behavioral Economics and Race, Ethnicity and Immigration) – November 30 (LOI) – Up to $175,000

Russell Sage Foundation Special Programs in Immigration and Immigrant Integration, Non-Standard Employment, and Computational Social Science – November 30 (LOI) – Up to $175,000

Open

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Evidence for Action - Varies by project; past projects have been awarded $100,000-$800,000 over up to three years

Laura and John Arnold Foundation Randomized Controlled Trials to Evaluate Social Programs Whose Delivery Will Be Funded by Government or Other Entities – Amount not specified but in the six figures

Laura and John Arnold Foundation Demonstrating the Power of Evidence-Based Programs to “Move the Needle” on Major U.S. Social Problems - $1,000,000 - $5,000,000 over multiple years

To subscribe to the Foundation Relations mailing list consult the webpage:
https://foundations.umich.edu/