



RESEARCH UPDATES

November 12, 2018

MCubed 3.0 cubing event November 14.

The first of three cubing events is scheduled for Mid-November. Faculty have until **noon** on **November 14** to propose projects and commit their token for the first semi-random cubing event in mid-November.



MCubed is an innovative 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.

Collaborations are possible across the Flint, Dearborn and Ann Arbor campuses. The first cubing event will use a semi-random matching process to assign funding to proposed projects. A second cubing event is anticipated in the early winter of 2019 and will repeat the semi-random matching process. A final cubing event later in 2019 will be a first-come first-serve.

RESEARCH FUNDAMENTALS SEMINAR

Research Fundamentals: Community-Engaged Research

A second Research Fundamentals Seminar was held on Thursday, **October 18**, from 11:30am-1:30pm in **Thompson Center for Learning and Teaching** seminar room, 134 Thompson Library. Participants learned about

two new projects that emerged from efforts to connect faculty expertise with community organizations. The research partnerships focused on very different domains, social work and urban ecology. Dr. Julie Ma, assistant professor of social work, described her work with Shon Hart’s organization InvolvedDad. Since 2015, Mr. Hart has been working with young men in the greater Flint area to provide peer-to-peer support. Dr. Ma’s research in alternative parenting styles was a good match to the needs of InvolvedDad’s non-custodial fathers who needed to think about different models for re-engaging with their children after periods of absence from their lives. You can learn more about the organization on its website, <https://www.involveddad.org/>. Julie Ma obtained funding from the Michigan Institute for Clinical and Health Research (MICHR), and collaborated with a colleague from the School of Social Work in Ann Arbor, Andrew Grogan-Kaylor, to develop an online workbook tool to digitally track the points of contact with parents and children.



Clockwise from top left: Julie Ma, Shon Hart, Megan Heyza, Rebecca Tonietto.

Rebecca Tonietto, assistant professor of biology, has interests that lie in native bee conservation and urban ecology, and when local resident Megan Heyza needed to connect with an expert on urban green spaces, the future partners connected through Kris Johns in the UM-Flint Office of Research. Heyza led an effort by the Eastside Improvement Association to fix up porches in the front of local homes. Walking the neighborhood and getting to know other residents, as Heyza explained at the seminar, helped to build momentum and gain the trust and interest of her neighbors as the work expanded. Rebecca Tonietto saw the local improvement effort as an opportunity to put several ideas for reimagining green space in rust belt cities to use. She has collaborated in similar projects in St. Louis, Chicago and Detroit to explore

the notion of what a green space can be. Reintroducing native plants often runs afoul of municipal regulations that favor carefully manicured lawns. So some concessions to urban aesthetics are necessary when designing landscapes to reintroduce native flowers and plants to the gardens and front lawns of homes in urban areas. With the help of funding from UM-Flint and donations from local nurseries, Tonietto, Heyza, and several residents and student volunteers were able to complete porch renovations and landscape redesigns in front of 43 homes in the summer of 2018. They hope to continue the effort with further funding from local foundations. To see some of the work that is underway, check out the project's website at <https://www.theporchproject.org/>.

The **Research Fundamentals** seminar returns **this week on Friday, November 16**, from **11:30 am to 1:00 pm**, in the TCLT seminar room, 134 Thompson Library.



Barbara Israel, UM SPH

Suzanne Cleage, ECN

Joining us will be Dr. Barbara Israel, Professor of Health Behavior and Health Education, in the School of Public Health, UM-Ann Arbor, and Director of the University of Michigan's Detroit Community-Academic Urban Research Center (Detroit URC) and Suzanne Cleage, Director of Neighborhood Growth, at Eastside Community Network, in Detroit. The title of their joint talk will be "**Community-Based Participatory Research: Definition, Principles, Outcomes and Benefits – the Detroit Urban Research Center and Healthy Environments Partnership.**"

There have been increasing calls for more comprehensive and participatory approaches to health research and interventions which actively engage the participation of community entities in order to have a broader and more sustained effect on health. The purpose of this session is to describe and analyze one such partnership approach –

community-based participatory research (CBPR). The presentation will begin with a discussion of the rationale for, definition, and key principles of CBPR, and will provide examples of how the Detroit Community-Academic Urban Research Center (Detroit URC) has put CBPR into practice. **The Detroit URC, established in 1995**, is a CBPR partnership which builds upon the strengths of the communities involved, in order to conduct etiologic research, health promotion and education interventions, and policy advocacy aimed at understanding and addressing health inequities. The presentation will describe the goals, structure and overall accomplishments of the Detroit URC; and will provide a more in-depth examination of the key components and findings from one of its CBPR affiliated partnerships, the Healthy Environments Partnership (focused on examining the social and physical environmental determinants of cardiovascular disease). An analysis will be presented of the benefits of using a CBPR approach.

Suzanne Cleage, BA, is the Director of Neighborhood Growth for Eastside Community Network (ECN). She provides program oversight and management for the day-to-day operations of the educational, health and wellness, youth development and neighborhood building and organizing programs ECN offers the residents of the lower east side of Detroit. She has worked in both the non-profit and corporate (for-profit) arenas. Most of her professional career she has designed and implemented programs that impact and improve the quality of life of the individuals being serviced; either through national work/family balance programs with unionized workers across the United States, statewide programs that assisted those living with Multiple Sclerosis or implementing a demonstration study for a government research contractor.

Dr. Israel is a Professor in the Department of Health Behavior and Health Education, School of Public Health, University of Michigan. She has published widely in the areas of: the social and physical environmental determinants of health and health inequities; the relationship among stress, social support, control and physical and mental health; and community-based participatory research (CBPR). Since 1995, she has worked together with academic and community partners to establish and maintain the Detroit URC. The Detroit URC has facilitated the establishment of numerous such CBPR partnerships affiliated with the Center, which are engaged in multiple NIH and Foundation-funded basic etiologic research, intervention research and training projects

aimed at increasing knowledge and addressing factors associated with health inequities. Dr. Israel is actively involved in several of these CBPR partnerships and projects examining, for example, the environmental triggers of childhood asthma and strategies for reducing them, the social and physical environmental determinants of cardiovascular disease, the impact of physical activity interventions on cardiovascular health, the translation of research findings into policy change, and capacity building for conducting CBPR.

NCID Funding Opportunities



The National Center for Institutional Diversity (NCID) is based in the College of Literature, Sciences and the Arts at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor campus, and committed to the production, dissemination, and application of **diversity scholarship**. NCID wishes to announce funding opportunities open to **faculty at all three University of Michigan campuses** to apply to the funding opportunities listed below. Deadline for applying for these initiatives is **November 21st, 2018**. NCID funding structures provide supports for scholars to advance their individual scholarly agendas, as well as collaborate with scholars across disciplinary fields and institutions and with practitioners. By investing in these opportunities, NCID hopes to mobilize a scholarly collective in addressing critical issues and have a lasting impact in our society.

These include grants for individuals and teams to further their scholarly agendas and writing, as well as funding to support scholarly engagement for transitioning faculty and faculty distinctions.

Grants to Support Research and Scholarship for Change support scholars or research teams on innovative projects that will positively impact

academia and society.

Eligibility: University of Michigan faculty

Amount: Up to \$5,000

Deadline: January 28

Pop-Up Grants provide opportunities for scholars to actively engage in diversity scholarship around emerging or re-emerging social issues and disseminate findings quickly to the public (a 6-month grant period).

Eligibility: Diversity Scholars Network members*

Amount: Up to \$2,000

Deadline: Announced throughout the year

Knowledge Community Grants promote staff and faculty to actively collaborate on scholarship-to-practice initiatives to drive institutional transformation on campus and across the country.

Eligibility: Lead must be University of Michigan-Ann Arbor faculty and staff

Amount: Up to \$5,000

Deadline: December 3

Think-Act Tanks mobilize multi-disciplinary, institutional, and generational collaborative

research teams to advance diversity scholarship that has a public impact.

Eligibility: Lead must be University of Michigan-Ann Arbor faculty

Amount: Up to \$15,000

Deadline: December 3

LSA Collegiate Fellows program supports exceptional scholars who are committed to diversity in the academy and to prepare those scholars for possible tenure-track appointments in LSA at the University of Michigan.

Eligibility: PhD in all liberal arts fields**

Amount: \$60,000 per year, plus benefits

Deadline: Closed (except to economics applicants, whose deadline is November 1)

NCID Postdoctoral Fellowship supports the work of outstanding early career diversity scholars. This program provides the opportunity of protected time for focused scholarship, as well as to engage with the rich intellectual community at the University of Michigan.

Eligibility: PhD in fields represented at the University of Michigan

Amount: \$55,000 per year, plus benefits

Deadline: December 3

NCID Scholar-In-Residence provides an opportunity for diversity scholars to pursue their research and writing at the University of Michigan.

Eligibility: PhD in fields represented at the University of Michigan

Amount: Stipend up to \$75,000

Deadline: December 17

Distinguished Diversity & Social Transformation Professorship is an honorific designation for senior faculty who have throughout their careers demonstrated a commitment to DEI through their scholarship, teaching, and/or service and engagement.

Eligibility: Senior faculty

Amount: \$20,000 per year for their first five years

Deadline: University of Michigan candidates, February 15; external candidates, March 15

***CLICK HERE** to apply to the Diversity Scholars Network by **November 21st, 2018**.