



# May 2020



## COVID-19: Research & Innovation Updates

### CONNECTING VIRTUALLY

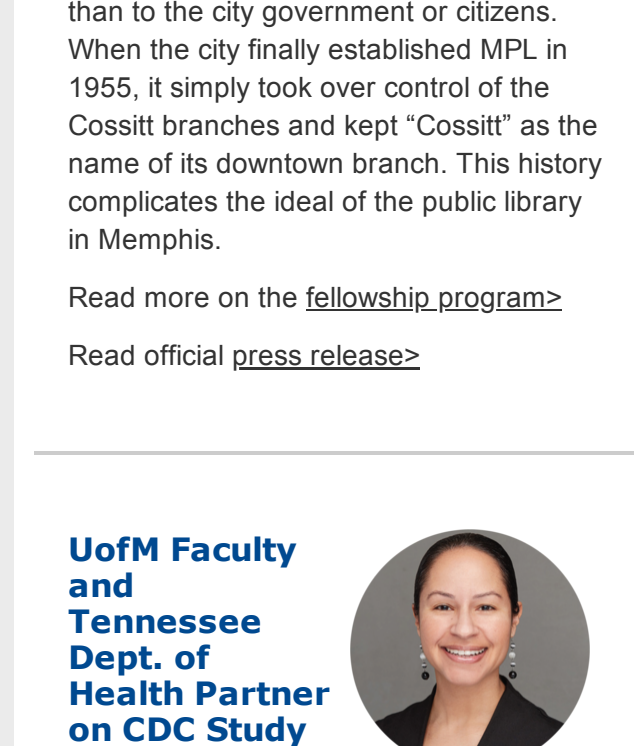
The move to online learning and interaction brings an opportunity to highlight how the University of Memphis is **#DrivenByDoing**, even though we're not apart from each other. The FedEx Institute of Technology will host virtual events throughout the summer months focusing on how this pandemic is affecting research, applications, innovations and everyday life. Join us.

- We will be virtually hosting:
  - » 5 Questions Series featuring UoM Researchers
  - » TeleHealth Webinar Series
  - » Pandemic Purdity - Interview Panels with industry experts and academic researchers
- » Tech Meetups and Workshops
- » COVID-19 Lightning Talks

For more information or to schedule events, contact [fedex@memphis.edu](mailto:fedex@memphis.edu).

FedEx  
INSTITUTE OF  
TECHNOLOGY

## RESEARCH



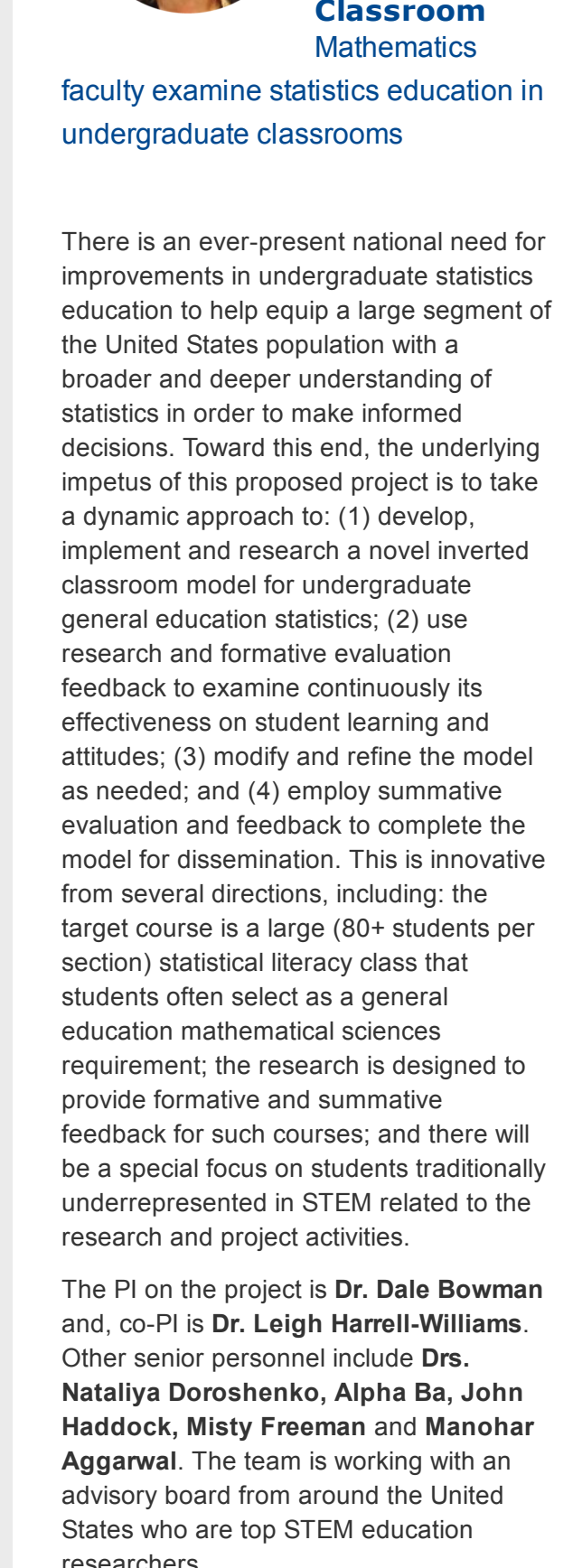
### Harris wins Prestigious ACLS/Mellon Foundation Fellowship "The Citizens of Cossitt"

**Dr. Donal Harris**, professor of English and director of the Marcus Orr Center for the Humanities, has received a prestigious fellowship from the American Council of Learned Societies and the Mellon Foundation for the "Citizens of Cossitt" project. This project is a collaboration between the University of Memphis (UoM) and the Memphis Public Library (MPL) to research the history and reimagine the future of MPL's first library, Cossitt Library. Guided by librarians at both institutions, the UoM research team will use MPL archives and special collections to create public exhibitions and digital learning tools about the role of Cossitt Library in the city's long civil rights history. Then, using public outreach surveys conducted by Cossitt staff, and in consultation with the UoM Benjamin Hooks Institute for Social Change, the project will develop training workshops and exhibition space for library patrons to produce their own physical and digital exhibitions about the library's place in civic life.

"Citizens of Cossitt" provides the first systematic history of public libraries in Memphis, Tenn. Memphis is unique among large metropolitan areas, even in the South, because it did not have a true public library until 1955. Until then, it had Cossitt Library, which was founded in 1893 as a private philanthropic institution, beholden to its board of trustees rather than to the city government or citizens. When the city finally established MPL in 1955, it simply took over control of the Cossitt branches and kept "Cossitt" as the name of its downtown branch. This history complicates the ideal of the public library in Memphis.

Read more on the [fellowship program](#).  
Read official [press release](#).

## UoM Faculty and Tennessee Dept. of Health Partner on CDC Study of HIV Community Pichon to lead

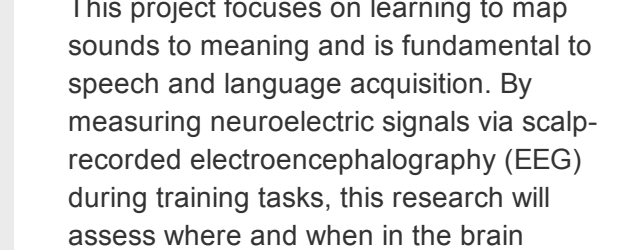


### Dr. Latrice Pichon, associate professor of Social and Behavioral Sciences in the School of Public Health, in partnership with Tennessee Department of Health (TDH) Division of HIV/STD/Viral Hepatitis with funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, will conduct the formative assessment to lay the foundation for an HIV behavioral surveillance study among men who have sex with men. Recently the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced the goal to end the domestic HIV epidemic within 10 years through the "Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America" initiative. The Memphis metro area was one of 48 hotspots selected with the highest number of new HIV diagnoses. Pichon uses a community-based participatory research approach to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the challenges faced by people living with HIV (PLWH) and other priority groups.

In partnership with Connect to Protect (C2P) Memphis, local HIV prevention coalition and TDH, Pichon will contribute to the rapid planning process that engages the broader community in engaging experts, resources, and existing activities to develop an Ending the Epidemic Plan (EIP) for Memphis. Her work seeks opportunities for improvements to existing social and medical support systems for PLWH, including the role and involvement of the faith community. She conducts qualitative research to better understand current systems of care and inform system-level improvements to support EIPH initiative planning goals. These projects build on her larger body of work, collaborating with community and faith-based partners and healthcare systems to break down systemic barriers to sustainable and equitable care for vulnerable communities in Memphis and beyond.

For more information on Pichon's research, visit [here](#).

## UoM Faculty and Tennessee Dept. of Health Partner on CDC Study of HIV Community Pichon to lead

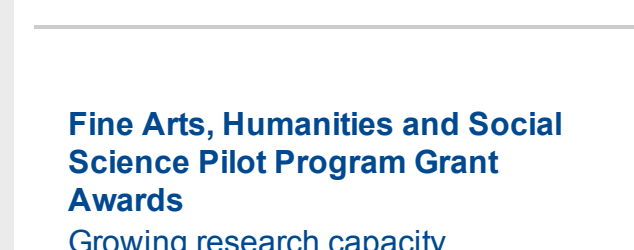


### Dr. Latrice Pichon, associate professor of Social and Behavioral Sciences in the School of Public Health, in partnership with Tennessee Department of Health (TDH) Division of HIV/STD/Viral Hepatitis with funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, will conduct the formative assessment to lay the foundation for an HIV behavioral surveillance study among men who have sex with men. Recently the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced the goal to end the domestic HIV epidemic within 10 years through the "Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America" initiative. The Memphis metro area was one of 48 hotspots selected with the highest number of new HIV diagnoses. Pichon uses a community-based participatory research approach to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the challenges faced by people living with HIV (PLWH) and other priority groups.

In partnership with Connect to Protect (C2P) Memphis, local HIV prevention coalition and TDH, Pichon will contribute to the rapid planning process that engages the broader community in engaging experts, resources, and existing activities to develop an Ending the Epidemic Plan (EIP) for Memphis. Her work seeks opportunities for improvements to existing social and medical support systems for PLWH, including the role and involvement of the faith community. She conducts qualitative research to better understand current systems of care and inform system-level improvements to support EIPH initiative planning goals. These projects build on her larger body of work, collaborating with community and faith-based partners and healthcare systems to break down systemic barriers to sustainable and equitable care for vulnerable communities in Memphis and beyond.

For more information on Pichon's research, visit [here](#).

## UoM Faculty and Tennessee Dept. of Health Partner on CDC Study of HIV Community Pichon to lead

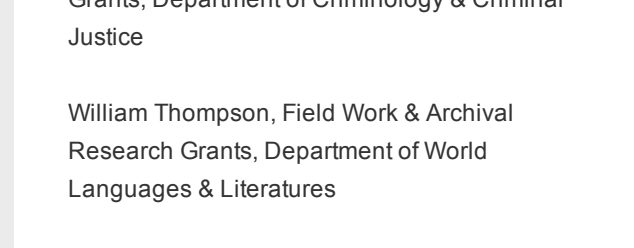


### Dr. Latrice Pichon, associate professor of Social and Behavioral Sciences in the School of Public Health, in partnership with Tennessee Department of Health (TDH) Division of HIV/STD/Viral Hepatitis with funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, will conduct the formative assessment to lay the foundation for an HIV behavioral surveillance study among men who have sex with men. Recently the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced the goal to end the domestic HIV epidemic within 10 years through the "Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America" initiative. The Memphis metro area was one of 48 hotspots selected with the highest number of new HIV diagnoses. Pichon uses a community-based participatory research approach to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the challenges faced by people living with HIV (PLWH) and other priority groups.

In partnership with Connect to Protect (C2P) Memphis, local HIV prevention coalition and TDH, Pichon will contribute to the rapid planning process that engages the broader community in engaging experts, resources, and existing activities to develop an Ending the Epidemic Plan (EIP) for Memphis. Her work seeks opportunities for improvements to existing social and medical support systems for PLWH, including the role and involvement of the faith community. She conducts qualitative research to better understand current systems of care and inform system-level improvements to support EIPH initiative planning goals. These projects build on her larger body of work, collaborating with community and faith-based partners and healthcare systems to break down systemic barriers to sustainable and equitable care for vulnerable communities in Memphis and beyond.

For more information on Pichon's research, visit [here](#).

## UoM Faculty and Tennessee Dept. of Health Partner on CDC Study of HIV Community Pichon to lead

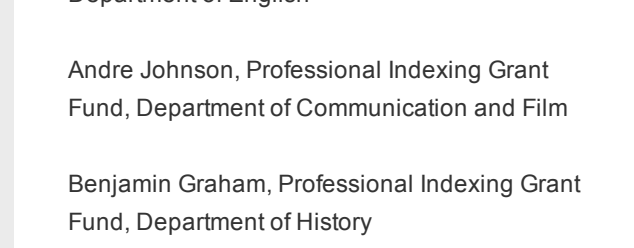


### Dr. Latrice Pichon, associate professor of Social and Behavioral Sciences in the School of Public Health, in partnership with Tennessee Department of Health (TDH) Division of HIV/STD/Viral Hepatitis with funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, will conduct the formative assessment to lay the foundation for an HIV behavioral surveillance study among men who have sex with men. Recently the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced the goal to end the domestic HIV epidemic within 10 years through the "Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America" initiative. The Memphis metro area was one of 48 hotspots selected with the highest number of new HIV diagnoses. Pichon uses a community-based participatory research approach to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the challenges faced by people living with HIV (PLWH) and other priority groups.

In partnership with Connect to Protect (C2P) Memphis, local HIV prevention coalition and TDH, Pichon will contribute to the rapid planning process that engages the broader community in engaging experts, resources, and existing activities to develop an Ending the Epidemic Plan (EIP) for Memphis. Her work seeks opportunities for improvements to existing social and medical support systems for PLWH, including the role and involvement of the faith community. She conducts qualitative research to better understand current systems of care and inform system-level improvements to support EIPH initiative planning goals. These projects build on her larger body of work, collaborating with community and faith-based partners and healthcare systems to break down systemic barriers to sustainable and equitable care for vulnerable communities in Memphis and beyond.

For more information on Pichon's research, visit [here](#).

## UoM Faculty and Tennessee Dept. of Health Partner on CDC Study of HIV Community Pichon to lead



### Dr. Latrice Pichon, associate professor of Social and Behavioral Sciences in the School of Public Health, in partnership with Tennessee Department of Health (TDH) Division of HIV/STD/Viral Hepatitis with funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, will conduct the formative assessment to lay the foundation for an HIV behavioral surveillance study among men who have sex with men. Recently the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced the goal to end the domestic HIV epidemic within 10 years through the "Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America" initiative. The Memphis metro area was one of 48 hotspots selected with the highest number of new HIV diagnoses. Pichon uses a community-based participatory research approach to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the challenges faced by people living with HIV (PLWH) and other priority groups.

In partnership with Connect to Protect (C2P) Memphis, local HIV prevention coalition and TDH, Pichon will contribute to the rapid planning process that engages the broader community in engaging experts, resources, and existing activities to develop an Ending the Epidemic Plan (EIP) for Memphis. Her work seeks opportunities for improvements to existing social and medical support systems for PLWH, including the role and involvement of the faith community. She conducts qualitative research to better understand current systems of care and inform system-level improvements to support EIPH initiative planning goals. These projects build on her larger body of work, collaborating with community and faith-based partners and healthcare systems to break down systemic barriers to sustainable and equitable care for vulnerable communities in Memphis and beyond.

For more information on Pichon's research, visit [here](#).

## UoM Faculty and Tennessee Dept. of Health Partner on CDC Study of HIV Community Pichon to lead

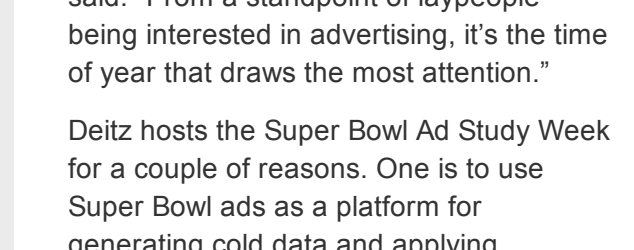


### Dr. Latrice Pichon, associate professor of Social and Behavioral Sciences in the School of Public Health, in partnership with Tennessee Department of Health (TDH) Division of HIV/STD/Viral Hepatitis with funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, will conduct the formative assessment to lay the foundation for an HIV behavioral surveillance study among men who have sex with men. Recently the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced the goal to end the domestic HIV epidemic within 10 years through the "Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America" initiative. The Memphis metro area was one of 48 hotspots selected with the highest number of new HIV diagnoses. Pichon uses a community-based participatory research approach to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the challenges faced by people living with HIV (PLWH) and other priority groups.

In partnership with Connect to Protect (C2P) Memphis, local HIV prevention coalition and TDH, Pichon will contribute to the rapid planning process that engages the broader community in engaging experts, resources, and existing activities to develop an Ending the Epidemic Plan (EIP) for Memphis. Her work seeks opportunities for improvements to existing social and medical support systems for PLWH, including the role and involvement of the faith community. She conducts qualitative research to better understand current systems of care and inform system-level improvements to support EIPH initiative planning goals. These projects build on her larger body of work, collaborating with community and faith-based partners and healthcare systems to break down systemic barriers to sustainable and equitable care for vulnerable communities in Memphis and beyond.

For more information on Pichon's research, visit [here](#).

## UoM Faculty and Tennessee Dept. of Health Partner on CDC Study of HIV Community Pichon to lead



### Dr. Latrice Pichon, associate professor of Social and Behavioral Sciences in the School of Public Health, in partnership with Tennessee Department of Health (TDH) Division of HIV/STD/Viral Hepatitis with funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, will conduct the formative assessment to lay the foundation for an HIV behavioral surveillance study among men who have sex with men. Recently the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced the goal to end the domestic HIV epidemic within 10 years through the "Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America" initiative. The Memphis metro area was one of 48 hotspots selected with the highest number of new HIV diagnoses. Pichon uses a community-based participatory research approach to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the challenges faced by people living with HIV (PLWH) and other priority groups.

In partnership with Connect to Protect (C2P) Memphis, local HIV prevention coalition and TDH, Pichon will contribute to the rapid planning process that engages the broader community in engaging experts, resources, and existing activities to develop an Ending the Epidemic Plan (EIP) for Memphis. Her work seeks opportunities for improvements to existing social and medical support systems for PLWH, including the role and involvement of the faith community. She conducts qualitative research to better understand current systems of care and inform system-level improvements to support EIPH initiative planning goals. These projects build on her larger body of work, collaborating with community and faith-based partners and healthcare systems to break down systemic barriers to sustainable and equitable care for vulnerable communities in Memphis and beyond.

For more information on Pichon's research, visit [here](#).

## UoM Faculty and Tennessee Dept. of Health Partner on CDC Study of HIV Community Pichon to lead

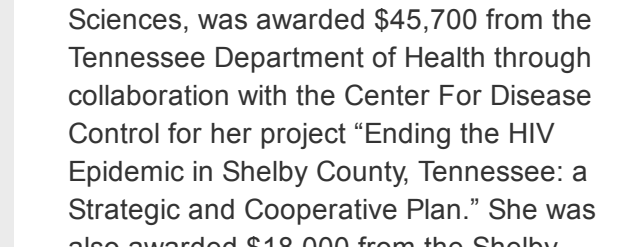


### Dr. Latrice Pichon, associate professor of Social and Behavioral Sciences in the School of Public Health, in partnership with Tennessee Department of Health (TDH) Division of HIV/STD/Viral Hepatitis with funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, will conduct the formative assessment to lay the foundation for an HIV behavioral surveillance study among men who have sex with men. Recently the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced the goal to end the domestic HIV epidemic within 10 years through the "Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America" initiative. The Memphis metro area was one of 48 hotspots selected with the highest number of new HIV diagnoses. Pichon uses a community-based participatory research approach to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the challenges faced by people living with HIV (PLWH) and other priority groups.

In partnership with Connect to Protect (C2P) Memphis, local HIV prevention coalition and TDH, Pichon will contribute to the rapid planning process that engages the broader community in engaging experts, resources, and existing activities to develop an Ending the Epidemic Plan (EIP) for Memphis. Her work seeks opportunities for improvements to existing social and medical support systems for PLWH, including the role and involvement of the faith community. She conducts qualitative research to better understand current systems of care and inform system-level improvements to support EIPH initiative planning goals. These projects build on her larger body of work, collaborating with community and faith-based partners and healthcare systems to break down systemic barriers to sustainable and equitable care for vulnerable communities in Memphis and beyond.

For more information on Pichon's research, visit [here](#).

## UoM Faculty and Tennessee Dept. of Health Partner on CDC Study of HIV Community Pichon to lead

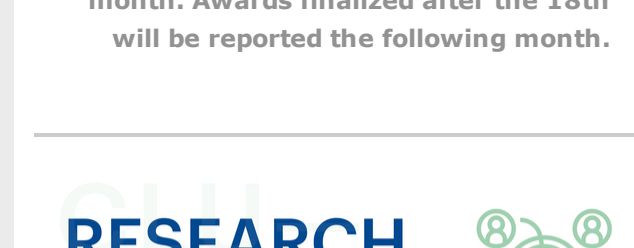


### Dr. Latrice Pichon, associate professor of Social and Behavioral Sciences in the School of Public Health, in partnership with Tennessee Department of Health (TDH) Division of HIV/STD/Viral Hepatitis with funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, will conduct the formative assessment to lay the foundation for an HIV behavioral surveillance study among men who have sex with men. Recently the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced the goal to end the domestic HIV epidemic within 10 years through the "Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America" initiative. The Memphis metro area was one of 48 hotspots selected with the highest number of new HIV diagnoses. Pichon uses a community-based participatory research approach to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the challenges faced by people living with HIV (PLWH) and other priority groups.

In partnership with Connect to Protect (C2P) Memphis, local HIV prevention coalition and TDH, Pichon will contribute to the rapid planning process that engages the broader community in engaging experts, resources, and existing activities to develop an Ending the Epidemic Plan (EIP) for Memphis. Her work seeks opportunities for improvements to existing social and medical support systems for PLWH, including the role and involvement of the faith community. She conducts qualitative research to better understand current systems of care and inform system-level improvements to support EIPH initiative planning goals. These projects build on her larger body of work, collaborating with community and faith-based partners and healthcare systems to break down systemic barriers to sustainable and equitable care for vulnerable communities in Memphis and beyond.

For more information on Pichon's research, visit [here](#).

## UoM Faculty and Tennessee Dept. of Health Partner on CDC Study of HIV Community Pichon to lead



### Dr. Latrice Pichon, associate professor of Social and Behavioral Sciences in the School of Public Health, in partnership with Tennessee Department of Health (TDH) Division of HIV/STD/Viral Hepatitis with funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, will conduct the formative assessment to lay the foundation for an HIV behavioral surveillance study among men who have sex with men. Recently the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced the goal to end the domestic HIV epidemic within 10 years through the "Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America" initiative. The Memphis metro area was one of 48 hotspots selected with the highest number of new HIV diagnoses. Pichon uses a community-based participatory research approach to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the challenges faced by people living with HIV (PLWH) and other priority groups.

In partnership with Connect to Protect (C2P) Memphis, local HIV prevention coalition and TDH, Pichon will contribute to the rapid planning process that engages the broader community in engaging experts, resources, and existing activities to develop an Ending the Epidemic Plan (EIP) for Memphis. Her work seeks opportunities for improvements to existing social and medical support systems for PLWH, including the role and involvement of the faith community. She conducts qualitative research to better understand current systems of care and inform system-level improvements to support EIPH initiative planning goals. These projects build on her larger body of work, collaborating with community and faith-based partners and healthcare systems to break down systemic barriers to sustainable and equitable care for vulnerable communities in Memphis and beyond.

For more information on Pichon's research, visit [here](#).

## UoM Faculty and Tennessee Dept. of Health Partner on CDC Study of HIV Community Pichon to lead



### Dr. Latrice Pichon, associate professor of Social and Behavioral Sciences in the School of Public Health, in partnership with Tennessee Department of Health (TDH) Division of HIV/STD/Viral Hepatitis with funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, will conduct the formative assessment to lay the foundation for an HIV behavioral surveillance study among men who have sex with men. Recently the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced the goal to end the domestic HIV epidemic within 10 years through the "Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America" initiative. The Memphis metro area was one of 48 hotspots selected with the highest number of new HIV diagnoses. Pichon uses a community-based participatory research approach to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the challenges faced by people living with HIV (PLWH) and other priority groups.

In partnership with Connect to Protect (C2P) Memphis, local HIV prevention coalition and TDH, Pichon will contribute to the rapid planning process that engages the broader community in engaging experts, resources, and existing activities to develop an Ending the Epidemic Plan (EIP) for Memphis. Her work seeks opportunities for improvements to existing social and medical support systems for PLWH, including the role and involvement of the faith community. She conducts qualitative research to better understand current systems of care and inform system-level improvements to support EIPH initiative planning goals. These projects build on her larger body of work, collaborating with community and faith-based partners and healthcare systems to break down systemic barriers to sustainable and equitable care for vulnerable communities in Memphis and beyond.

For more information on Pichon's research, visit [here](#).

## UoM Faculty and Tennessee Dept. of Health Partner on CDC Study of HIV Community Pichon to lead



### Dr. Latrice Pichon, associate professor of Social and Behavioral Sciences in the School of Public Health, in partnership with Tennessee Department of Health (TDH) Division of HIV/STD/Viral Hepatitis with funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, will conduct the formative assessment to lay the foundation for an HIV behavioral surveillance study among men who have sex with men. Recently the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced the goal to end the domestic HIV epidemic within 10 years through the "Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America" initiative. The Memphis metro area was one of 48 hotspots selected with the highest number of new HIV diagnoses. Pichon uses a community-based participatory research approach to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the challenges faced by people living with HIV (PLWH) and other priority groups.

In partnership with Connect to Protect (C2P) Memphis, local HIV prevention coalition and TDH, Pichon will contribute to the rapid planning process that engages the broader community in engaging experts, resources, and existing activities to develop an Ending the Epidemic Plan (EIP) for Memphis. Her work seeks opportunities for improvements to existing social and medical support systems for PLWH, including the role and involvement of the faith community. She conducts qualitative research to better understand current systems of care and inform system-level improvements to support EIPH initiative planning goals. These projects build on her larger body of work, collaborating with community and faith-based partners and healthcare systems to break down systemic barriers to sustainable and equitable care for vulnerable communities in Memphis and beyond.

For more information on Pichon's research, visit [here](#).

## UoM Faculty and Tennessee Dept. of Health Partner on CDC Study of HIV Community Pichon to lead



### Dr. Latrice Pichon, associate professor of Social and Behavioral Sciences in the School of Public Health, in partnership with Tennessee Department of Health (TDH) Division of HIV/STD/Viral Hepatitis with funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, will conduct the formative assessment to lay the foundation for an HIV behavioral surveillance study among men who have sex with men. Recently the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced the goal to end the domestic HIV epidemic within 10 years through the "Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America" initiative. The Memphis metro area was one of 48 hotspots selected with the highest number of new HIV diagnoses. Pichon uses a community-based participatory research approach to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the challenges faced by people living with HIV (PLWH) and other priority groups.

In partnership with Connect to Protect (C2P) Memphis, local HIV prevention coalition and TDH, Pichon will contribute to the rapid planning process that engages the broader community in engaging experts, resources, and existing activities to develop an Ending the Epidemic Plan (EIP) for Memphis. Her work seeks opportunities for improvements to existing social and medical support systems for PLWH, including the role and involvement of the faith community. She conducts qualitative research to better understand current systems of care and inform system-level improvements to support EIPH initiative planning goals. These projects build on her larger body of work, collaborating with community and faith-based partners and healthcare systems to break down systemic barriers to sustainable and equitable care for vulnerable communities in Memphis and beyond.

For more information on Pichon's research, visit [here](#).

## UoM Faculty and Tennessee Dept. of Health Partner on CDC Study of HIV Community Pichon to lead



### Dr. Latrice Pichon, associate professor of Social and Behavioral Sciences in the School of Public Health, in partnership with Tennessee Department of Health (TDH) Division of HIV/STD/Viral Hepatitis with funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, will conduct the formative assessment to lay the foundation for an HIV behavioral surveillance study among men who have sex with men. Recently the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced the goal to end the domestic HIV epidemic within 10 years through the "Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America" initiative. The Memphis metro area was one of 48 hotspots selected with the highest number of new HIV diagnoses. Pichon uses a community-based participatory research approach to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the challenges faced by people living with HIV (PLWH) and other priority groups.

In partnership with Connect to Protect (C2P) Memphis, local HIV prevention coalition and TDH, Pichon will contribute to the rapid planning process that engages the broader community in engaging experts, resources, and existing activities to develop an Ending the Epidemic Plan (EIP) for Memphis. Her work seeks opportunities for improvements to existing social and medical support systems for PLWH, including the role and involvement of the faith community. She conducts qualitative research to better understand current systems of care and inform system-level improvements to support EIPH initiative planning goals. These projects build on her larger body of work, collaborating with community and faith-based partners and healthcare systems to break down systemic barriers to sustainable and equitable care for vulnerable communities in Memphis and beyond.

For more information on Pichon's research, visit [here](#).

## UoM Faculty and Tennessee Dept. of Health Partner on CDC Study of HIV Community Pichon to lead

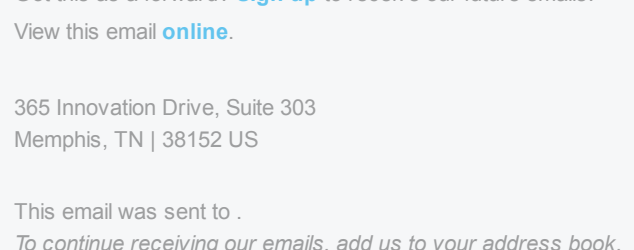


### Dr. Latrice Pichon, associate professor of Social and Behavioral Sciences in the School of Public Health, in partnership with Tennessee Department of Health (TDH) Division of HIV/STD/Viral Hepatitis with funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, will conduct the formative assessment to lay the foundation for an HIV behavioral surveillance study among men who have sex with men. Recently the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced the goal to end the domestic HIV epidemic within 10 years through the "Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America" initiative. The Memphis metro area was one of 48 hotspots selected with the highest number of new HIV diagnoses. Pichon uses a community-based participatory research approach to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the challenges faced by people living with HIV (PLWH) and other priority groups.

In partnership with Connect to Protect (C2P) Memphis, local HIV prevention coalition and TDH, Pichon will contribute to the rapid planning process that engages the broader community in engaging experts, resources, and existing activities to develop an Ending the Epidemic Plan (EIP) for Memphis. Her work seeks opportunities for improvements to existing social and medical support systems for PLWH, including the role and involvement of the faith community. She conducts qualitative research to better understand current systems of care and inform system-level improvements to support EIPH initiative planning goals. These projects build on her larger body of work, collaborating with community and faith-based partners and healthcare systems to break down systemic barriers to sustainable and equitable care for vulnerable communities in Memphis and beyond.

For more information on Pichon's research, visit [here](#).

## UoM Faculty and Tennessee Dept. of Health Partner on CDC Study of HIV Community Pichon to lead

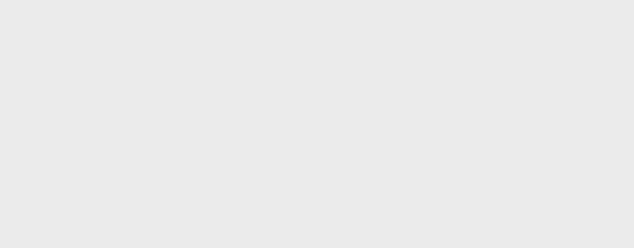


### Dr. Latrice Pichon, associate professor of Social and Behavioral Sciences in the School of Public Health, in partnership with Tennessee Department of Health (TDH) Division of HIV/STD/Viral Hepatitis with funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, will conduct the formative assessment to lay the foundation for an HIV behavioral surveillance study among men who have sex with men. Recently the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced the goal to end the domestic HIV epidemic within 10 years through the "Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America" initiative. The Memphis metro area was one of 48 hotspots selected with the highest number of new HIV diagnoses. Pichon uses a community-based participatory research approach to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the challenges faced by people living with HIV (PLWH) and other priority groups.

In partnership with Connect to Protect (C2P) Memphis, local HIV prevention coalition and TDH, Pichon will contribute to the rapid planning process that engages the broader community in engaging experts, resources, and existing activities to develop an Ending the Epidemic Plan (EIP) for Memphis. Her work seeks opportunities for improvements to existing social and medical support systems for PLWH, including the role and involvement of the faith community. She conducts qualitative research to better understand current systems of care and inform system-level improvements to support EIPH initiative planning goals. These projects build on her larger body of work, collaborating with community and faith-based partners and healthcare systems to break down systemic barriers to sustainable and equitable care for vulnerable communities in Memphis and beyond.

For more information on Pichon's research, visit [here](#).

## UoM Faculty and Tennessee Dept. of Health Partner on CDC Study of HIV Community Pichon to lead

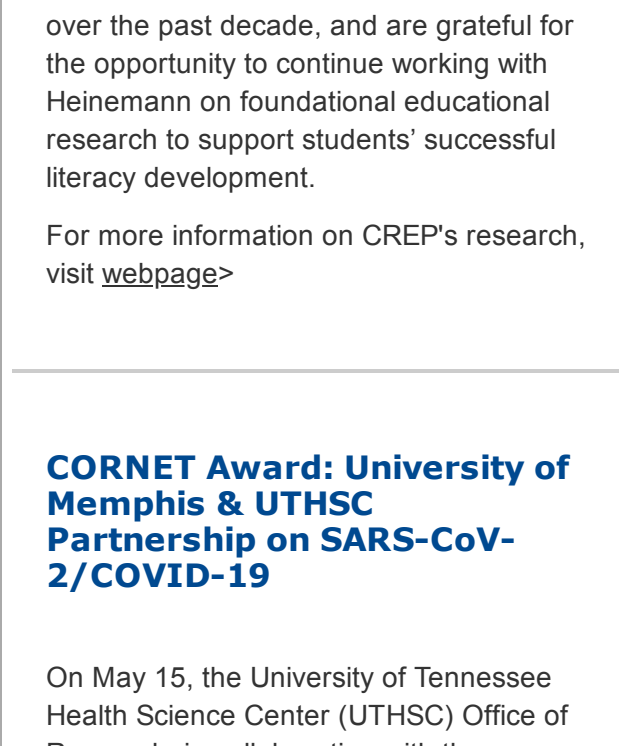


### Dr. Latrice Pichon, associate professor of Social and Behavioral Sciences in the School of Public Health, in partnership with Tennessee Department of Health (TDH) Division of HIV/STD/Viral Hepatitis with funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, will conduct the formative assessment to lay the foundation for an HIV behavioral surveillance study among men who have sex with men. Recently the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced the goal to end the domestic HIV epidemic within 10 years through the "Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America" initiative. The Memphis metro area was one of 48 hotspots selected with the highest number of new HIV diagnoses. Pichon uses a community-based participatory research approach to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the challenges faced by people living with HIV (PLWH) and other priority groups.

In partnership with Connect to Protect (C2P) Memphis, local HIV prevention coalition and TDH, Pichon will contribute to the rapid planning process that engages the broader community in engaging experts, resources, and existing activities to develop an Ending the Epidemic Plan (EIP) for Memphis. Her work seeks opportunities for improvements to existing social and medical support systems for PLWH, including the role and involvement of the faith community. She conducts qualitative research to better understand current systems of care and inform system-level improvements to support EIPH initiative planning goals. These projects build on her larger body of work, collaborating with community and faith-based partners and healthcare systems to break down systemic barriers to sustainable and equitable care for vulnerable communities in Memphis and beyond.

For more information on Pichon's research, visit [here](#).

## INNOVATION



### Heinemann Publishing Leverages CREP for Large Validation Study Awarded \$1.4 million

**Dr. Carolyn Kaldon**, research associate professor, and co-PI **Dr. Todd Zoblotsky**, research associate professor, will lead a team at the Center for Research in Educational Policy (CREP) to conduct a nationally representative, full-scale validation study of two K-8 literacy assessments developed by Dr. Irene Fountas and Dr. Gay Su Pinnell for Heinemann Publishing. These literacy assessments are offered in both English and Spanish, and when these types of assessments are being considered for purchase by a school district or school administrators are looking for validation research to enable them to adopt such materials. This project will involve approximately 36 schools and 1,200 students in grades K-8 across all four census regions (Northeast, Southeast, West and Midwest). The project team will lead the administration of over 3,600 one-on-one student assessments on three separate occasions across two school years. They will then conduct both quantitative and qualitative analyses after each administration to provide statistical feedback for assessment modifications, and after the last administration, provide conclusive evidence of the reliability and validity of the assessments. This project is part of an ongoing collaborative research partnership that Kaldon, Zoblotsky and CREP have established with Heinemann over the past decade, and are grateful for the opportunity to continue working with Heinemann on foundational educational research to support students' successful literacy development.

For more information on CREP's research, visit [website](#).

## CORNET Award: University of Memphis & UTHSC Partnership on SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19

On May 15, the University of Tennessee Health Science Center (UTHSC) Office of Research, in partnership with the University of Memphis, will be announcing a new CORNET RFA focused on SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19 Research. This RFA will cover the full translational science spectrum of T0 - T4. Up to five CORNETs will be awarded. In conjunction with the release of the RFA will be an accompanying project questionnaire. All projects will require prior approval from the Office of Research before a proposal may be submitted for consideration. Project questionnaires will be due by 5:00 p.m. on May 22, and approvals will be provided no later than May 30. Projects approved for submission will be due by June 19.

### Eligibility

To be considered for a UTHSC/UoM SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19 Research CORNET Award, each research team must include, **at a minimum, one faculty member from each participating campus (UTHSC and UoM).**

Adjunct and visiting faculty can participate but are not eligible to be PIs.

All UTHSC campuses are eligible (Memphis, Knoxville, Chattanooga and Nashville).

### How to find a collaborator

If you are interested in applying for the CORNET, please email Cody Behles at [cbehles@memphis.edu](mailto:cbehles@memphis.edu) for details on the application process and to obtain the necessary documents and forms. Between now and May 15, collaborators are being identified. If you do not have a pre-identified UTHSC collaborator, our office can help you identify one.

## CSD Helps Hospitals During COVID-19 Provides boards to assist with patient communication

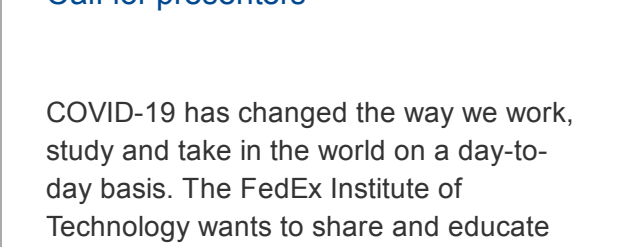
**Dr. Linda Jarmulowicz**, dean of the University of Memphis' School of Communication Sciences and Disorders, recently led efforts to assist local hospitals treating ventilated patients impacted by the coronavirus by providing low-tech communication boards. These boards will assist medical personnel communicating with patients and patients with their family members.

Connected to the University's School of Communications Sciences and Disorders is the Memphis Speech and Hearing Center, a fully functional clinic that provides services to patients of all circumstances and ages. With guidance from **Marilyn Wark**, director of the clinic, and **Vicki Haddix**, the alternative communication specialist, graduate students put Jarmulowicz's idea of providing the boards into action and printed and laminated new communication boards located inside the clinic and delivered them to intensive care units in the Memphis area.

The boards feature many types of messages, used by pointing toward pictures or letters to spell out words in English or Spanish. Each set delivered to the hospitals contains approximately 20 different types of boards in variations by image and language. Through this effort, the boards offer quick communication with family and staff, impacting the patient's level of care.

For more information on this effort, contact Wark at [mjwark@memphis.edu](mailto:mjwark@memphis.edu).

## UoM Committed to Reducing Barriers During Pandemic Encourages fast commercialization of innovations related to COVID-19



The University of Memphis has endorsed and committed to the COVID-19 Licensing Guidelines recently released by the Association of University Technology Managers (AUTM), the global association of technology transfer professionals.

The new principles provide global guidance for tech transfer offices, focusing on research intended to develop technologies, treatments and solutions needed during the current pandemic. These recommendations are meant to reduce barriers so researchers and their respective institutions are able to deliver innovations in a timely manner for immediate impact.

More than 50 institutions worldwide, as well as the Association of American Universities and the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities, have already signed the guidelines published on April 15.

Learn more about the guidelines >

## 2020 Faculty Awards Distinguished research, creative achievement & excellence in engaged scholarship awards

Each year, the UoM Alumni Association recognizes outstanding faculty members by sponsoring awards in teaching, research and creative excellence annually. This year's recipients:

### Distinguished Research in the Social Sciences, Business & Law

**Dr. Dursun Peksen**, professor, Department of Political Science, joined the UoM faculty in 2012. He recently received the Quincy Wright Distinguished Scholar Award by the International Studies Association-Midwest. [Read more about Peksen >](#)

### Excellence in Engaged Scholarship Award

**Dr. Susan Elswick**, associate professor, School of Social Work, has more than 15 years of clinical mental health experience that she brings to her classroom. She was awarded the 2018 Gary Lee Shaffer Award for Academic Contributions to the Field of School Social Work. [Read more about Elswick >](#)

### Distinguished Research in Science, Engineering & Mathematics

**Dr. Roberto Triggiani**, Distinguished Professor, Department of Mathematical Sciences. [Read more about Triggiani >](#)

### Distinguished Research in the Humanities

**Dr. Peter Brand**, professor, Department of History, is a historian and Egyptologist specializing in the history and culture of ancient Egypt during its imperial age. He is director of the Karnak Hypostyle Hall Project. [Read more about Brand >](#)