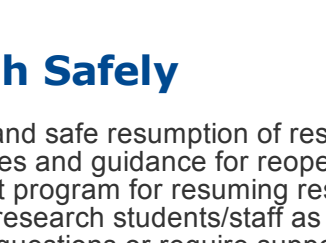
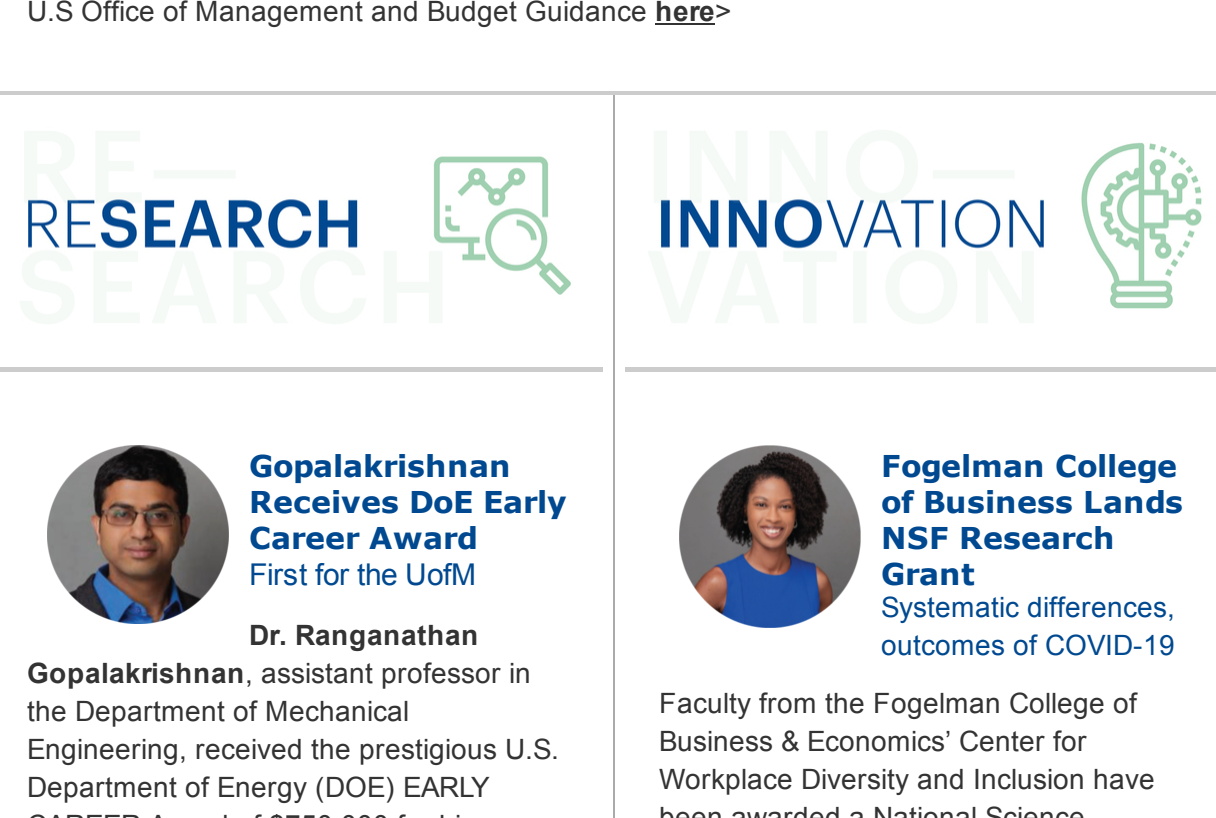




July 2020



COVID-19: Research Guidance and Updates



Resuming Research Safely

To ensure a systematic, careful and safe resumption of research activities on campus in accordance with University policies and guidance for reopening, the Division of Research & Innovation is launching a support program for resuming research safely. The primary goal is to prioritize the safety of faculty, research students/staff as well as research subjects. Faculty and research leaders who have questions or require support relating to resuming research safely are encouraged to use guidelines posted below or can email research@memphis.edu. Dr. Jasbir Dhalwal is also available to discuss any aspect at 901.283.9988.

Research Guidelines

The Division of Research & Innovation Guidelines for Research Labs [here](#)>
Human Subjects Research Restart Guidelines [here](#)>
U.S. Office of Management and Budget Guidelines [here](#)>



Gopalakrishnan, assistant professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, received the prestigious U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) EARLY CAREER Award of \$750,000 for his research project titled "Thermodynamics and Transport Models of Strongly Coupled Dusty Plasmas." This research was selected for funding by the DOE Office of Fusion Energy Sciences. Complex dusty plasmas are systems that consist of electrons, ions, neutral species, and charged micro/nanometer-sized grains interacting with each other predominantly through electrical forces. Examples of dusty plasmas include charged dust and grains in comets, planetary rings, dust in interplanetary and interstellar space. Dusty plasmas are also formed in thermonuclear fusion reactors in the space between the hot fusion core and the confining walls during material ablation.

To learn more about the DOE Early Career Research Program, visit [here](#)>

For more information on Gopalakrishnan's research, visit [here](#)>



Faculty from the Fogelman College of Business & Economics' Center for Workplace Diversity and Inclusion have been awarded a National Science Foundation grant to study systemic differences in employee outcomes from COVID-19 and the effectiveness of organizational response. **Drs. Enrica Ruggs (PI)**, along with **Wendy Bedwell-Torres, Frances Fabian, Andrew Hussey and Dave Arena** will lead the project.

The study will examine how changes in work structure and status due to COVID-19 has differentially affected employees across various levels of job structure, socioeconomic status and race. Specifically, the study will examine differences in employee job attitudes, well-being, and work situations and track changes across time. An examination of COVID-19-related attitudes, perceptions, and health-related behaviors will be assessed. Additionally, the researchers will examine the ways in which organizational responses to COVID-19 have affected the relationship between changes to work and employee well-being.

"Fogelman faculty conduct high-quality, relevant, impactful research to address contemporary business challenges," stated Dr. Damon Fleming, dean and professor of accounting in the Fogelman College of Business & Economics. "NSF funding for this project demonstrates that business research contributes to solving real world problems that we are all facing. Sponsored research is an essential element of top-tier research universities. Dr. Ruggs and this research team are reshaping the future culture of business research at Fogelman."

For more information on this project, contact Ruggs at enruggs@memphis.edu.



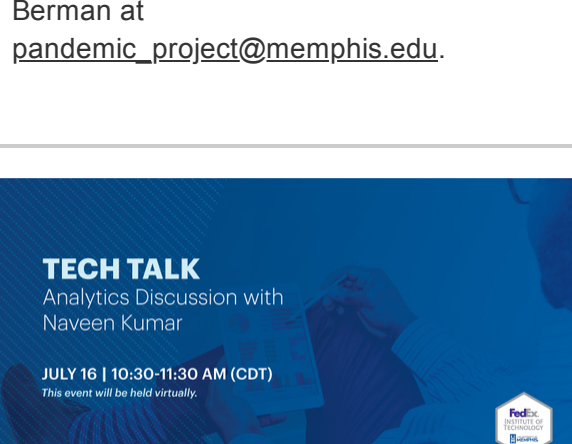
The University of Memphis received funding from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) geared toward student success. Grants were awarded to the College of Education, School of Social Work and Loewenberg College of Nursing and will serve to support and retain disadvantaged students.

A \$3.18 million, five-year award for The Mid-South Social Work Scholarships for Disadvantaged Students program will provide scholarships for up to 25 Master of Social Work (MSW) students per year who meet the HRSA qualification of being disadvantaged. According to Dr. Susan Neely-Barnes, professor and chair of the School of Social Work, 73.2% of MSW students at the UofM qualify as disadvantaged. The first scholarships will be awarded in fall 2020. The grant was awarded to **Neely-Barnes**, along with School of Social Work faculty **Dr. Elena Delavega**, MSW coordinator and associate professor; **Katie Norwood**, instructor and MSW admissions coordinator; and **Cherry Malone**, MSW field director and clinical assistant professor.

The second, a \$3.24 million, five-year grant, was awarded for the project Supporting the Retention of Next Generation Registered Nurses (STRONG-RNs), led by **Dr. Eric Bailey**, assistant dean in the Loewenberg College of Nursing. Some 61% of nursing students come from disadvantaged backgrounds. This project will enable those LCON students from disadvantaged backgrounds to pursue nursing and ultimately diversify the nursing workforce. The purpose of STRONG-RNs is to aid LCON in increasing the retention of full-time students from disadvantaged backgrounds, including students who are members of racial and ethnic minority groups; providing more opportunities for clinical practice in primary care; and enhancing the number of graduates for careers in medically underserved communities.

The third, a \$2.98 million, five-year grant, was awarded to The Memphis Disadvantaged Student Scholarship (MDSS), led by **Dr. Steven West**, professor and chair of Counseling, Educational Psychology and Research. MDSS will increase the number of master's degree-trained clinical mental health counselors (CMHC) in Memphis and the Mid-South, and will fund students in the Clinical Mental Health Counseling master's program. The project seeks to increase access to graduate-level training in CMHC for students from disadvantaged backgrounds and underserved minority students, and provide students clinical training placements in primary mental health care agencies in medically underserved communities in Memphis and the Mid-South.

Read full press release [here](#)>



The University of Memphis (UofM) and the University of Tennessee Health Science Center (UTHSC) are teaming up in a venture to secure a portion of federal funding allocated for COVID-19 research. The two universities issued a call for collaborative research proposals, which has yielded 23 projects addressing the SARS-CoV-2 virus and its related disease, COVID-19.

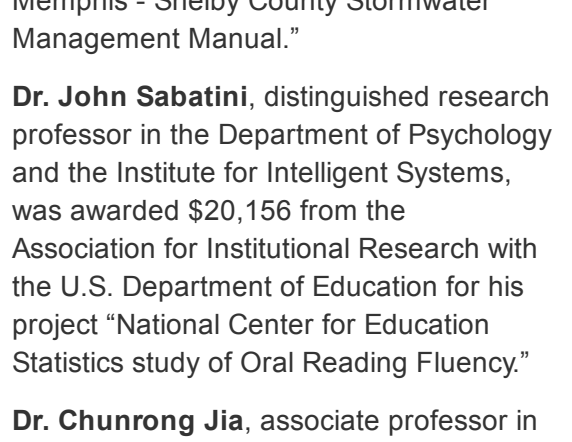
The awards at stake are part of UTHSC's Collaborative Research Network (CORNET) program, a seed funding initiative designed to encourage interdisciplinary collaboration on novel and innovative research that will lead to larger, national grants. The UofM/UTHSC SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19 Research CORNET is a grant competition specifically geared to facilitate new collaborations between UTHSC and UofM faculty on projects designed to better understand the disease and find therapies to end the pandemic. Funding is available for up to five teams, each of which must have at least one principal investigator from each of the partner institutions. Each funded project will receive \$50,000, with the UofM and UTHSC contributing equally to the award.

"It is critical that the medical and scientific aspects of the COVID-19 pandemic be addressed first," said Jasbir Dhalwal, PhD, executive vice president for research and innovation at the UofM. "The social and economic consequences can be mitigated if the scientific problem is resolved quickly."

The goal of these team-based projects is to generate data that will lead to larger, national grants. The CORNETs have a strong track record in generating subsequent federal funding. Since the creation of the awards in 2016, \$1.8 million in CORNETs have been awarded; extramurally funded grants stemming from CORNET stimulated research totals over \$19 million - an 11-fold return on investment.

For more information, please contact Jasbir Dhalwal at jdhaliw@memphis.edu or Steve Goodman at sgoodma5@uthsc.edu.

Read full press release [here](#)>



The Psychotherapy Research Lab, led by Dr. Jeffrey Berman, professor and director of Psychotherapy Research, Clinical (Psychotherapy), currently has a study titled *The Pandemic Coping Project* meant to assess different coping strategies during social isolation. The coronavirus public health crisis and the large-scale societal changes implemented to combat the virus have impacted all individuals in profound and unique ways. This research seeks to understand individual experiences and evaluate ways of coping with the COVID-19 pandemic.

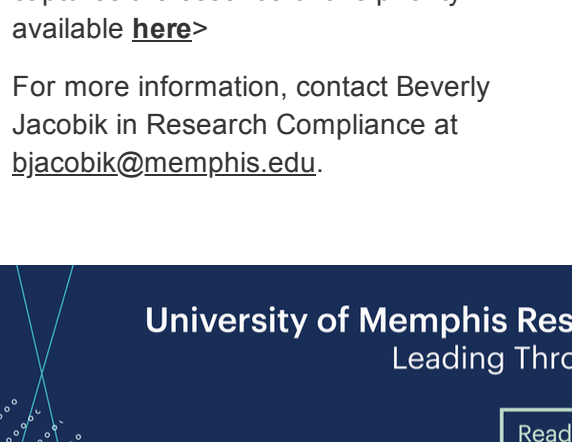
If you are interested in participating, you would fill out the initial questionnaire that takes no more than 15 minutes. There would be two additional follow-up questionnaires over the next two weeks. To sign up as a participant in this study, visit [here](#)>

For more information or questions about this project, contact Rachel Pace, Rivian Lewin, Andrew Snell and Dr. Jeffrey Berman at pandemic_project@memphis.edu.



Analytics and data-driven decisions have become prevalent during the COVID-19 pandemic. Join us as Dr. Naveen Kumar, faculty member at the University of Washington (and former faculty member at the University of Memphis), as he deep dives into the world of analytics, focusing on industry trends, how data-driven decisions are made and how employers can motivate employees by using analytics.

Register for this event [here](#) >



Dr. Eric Bailey, assistant dean in the Loewenberg College of Nursing, was awarded \$3,240,000 from the Health Resources and Services Administration for his project "Supporting the Retention of Next Generation Registered Nurses (STRONG-RNs)."

Dr. Susan Neely-Barnes, professor and school chair in the Department of Social Work, was awarded \$3,187,554 from the Health Resources and Services Administration for her project "Memphis Social Work Scholarships for Disadvantaged Students (MSW-SDS)."

Dr. Steven West, professor and chair in the Department of Counseling, Educational Psychology and Research, was awarded \$2,997,450 from the Health Resources and Services Administration for his project "Memphis Disadvantaged Student Scholarship."

Dr. Jessica Jennings, assistant professor in the Department of Biomedical Engineering, was awarded \$499,316 from the U.S. Department of Defense for her project "Acylation of electropolymerized membranes for burn wound coverage, infection prevention, and pain relief."

Dr. Xiaohua Huang, associate professor in the Department of Chemistry, was awarded \$415,740 from the National Institute of Health for his project "Single exosome protein profiling with SERS imaging."

Dr. James McGinnis, associate professor in the Department of Engineering Technology, was awarded \$318,460 from the Office of Naval Research for his project "Navy ROTC Cybersecurity Training Program."

Dr. Brian Waldron, associate professor in the Department of Civil Engineering, was awarded \$26,910 from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for his project "Waldron-IPA."

Dr. Stephanie Ivey, associate dean and professor in the Department of Civil Engineering, was awarded \$22,141 from the Memphis Metropolitan Planning Organization for her project "MPO Freight Survey."

Dr. Claudio Meier, associate professor in the Department of Civil Engineering, was awarded \$21,600 from Christian Brothers University for his project "ICA: Consulting services related to the hydrological aspects of the project to revise the City of Memphis - Shelby County Stormwater Management Manual."

Dr. John Sabatini, distinguished research professor in the Department of Psychology and the Institute for Intelligent Systems, was awarded \$20,156 from the Association for Institutional Research with the U.S. Department of Education for his project "National Center for Education Statistics study of Oral Reading Fluency."

Dr. Chunrong Jia, associate professor in the Division of Epidemiology, Biostatistics and Environmental Health, was awarded \$3,600 from Northeastern University with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for his project "Volatile Organic Compound Monitoring for Collective Efficacy with Karnes Area Residents for the Environment (KARE)."

* Data reported the 18th of each month. Awards finalized after the 18th will be reported the following month.

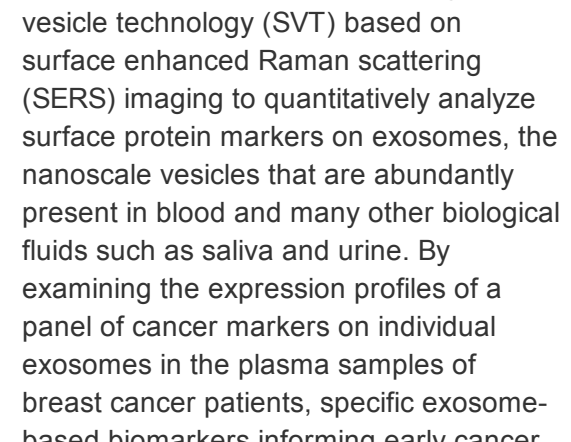
ADDITIVE MANUFACTURING
AGRICULTURE & FOOD TECHNOLOGIES
BIOLOGISTICS
CAST
DATA SCIENCE
DRONES
SMART CITIES

Reviewing, Submitting and Accepting Funded Research

A resource for faculty and staff

Research Development and Sponsored Programs are the central research support teams responsible for the review and submission of proposals (grants, contracts, cooperative agreements, non-monetary) to external sponsors and for the review and acceptance of any sponsored project funds. The team includes Pre-Award Services, Contract and Award Services, Electronic Research Administration and Research Development. They are located in 315 Administration Building.

Quick Guide available [here](#).



New Research Equipment Database Launched

Find new collaborators across campus

A cross-campus collaborative team comprised of faculty, ITS team members, and Division of Research and Innovation staff has helped to launch the University's first searchable listing of research equipment across campus. The Research Equipment Database Version 1 includes equipment from a pilot group of departments and schools including Chemistry, Biology, Physics, Psychology, Engineering, Public Health, Health Studies, Communication Sciences and Disorders and the Integrated Microscopy Center. The tool leverages the TopDesk Asset Management platform to ensure continuity and robust search functionality. You can browse the database at this [link](#). To add, edit, or delete equipment from the database, please fill out the form [here](#)>

For more information on this research, contact Huang at xhuang4@memphis.edu, or Hoang at tbohang@memphis.edu.



FIT TECH Meetup: WordPress Memphis
July 2 | 6-9 PM | Teleconference

FIT TECH Meetup: Code Together | North MS Community Session
July 4 | 1-3 PM | Teleconference

FIT TECH Meetup: DevMemphis | Making a Mesh of the Infrastructure
July 7 | 6-7:30 PM | Teleconference

FIT TECH Meetup: Machine Learning/Data Sciences/R
July 7 | 7-8 PM | Teleconference

FIT TECH Meetup: Unity vs Unreal with Memphis Game Developers
July 8 | 6-8 PM | Teleconference

FIT TECH Meetup: MemPASS/Power BI
July 9 | 5:30-7:30 PM | Teleconference

FIT TECH Meetup: Code Together | Memphis Community Session
July 12 | 1-3 PM | Teleconference

FIT TECH Meetup: Google Developers Group Memphis
July 14 | 5-7 PM | Teleconference

FIT TECH Meetup: Web Workers Online: React Query and Tailwind CSS
July 14 | 6:30-7:30 PM | Teleconference

FIT Corporate Training: Org Change Management
July 14-16 | 8 AM-5 PM | Teleconference

FIT TECH Talk: Analytics Discussion
Naveen Kumar
July 16 | 10:30-11:30 AM | Teleconference

FIT TECH Meetup: Leveraging Microsoft Power Platform & Licensing Options with Memphis M365
July 16 | 3-5 PM | Teleconference

FIT Corporate Training: Training From the Back of the Room
July 20-21 | 8 AM-5 PM | Teleconference

FIT Corporate Training: Agile Coaching
July 20-21 | 8 AM-5 PM | Teleconference

FIT TECH I Meetup: Azure Notebooks with Memphis Python
July 20 | 6:30-8:30 PM | Teleconference

FIT TECH Virtual Meetup: MemDevOps
July 22 | 2-4 PM | Teleconference

FIT TECH Virtual Meetup: Memphis .Net
July 23 | 6-8 PM | Teleconference

FIT TECH Meetup: Intro to Syncfusion Essential Studio Memphis Xamarin
July 28 | 6-8 PM | Teleconference

FIT TECH Meetup: MemphisPHP
July 28 | 6:30-8 PM | Teleconference

FIT TECH Meetup: Coding Help & Hack Night
July 28 | 6:30-8 PM | Teleconference

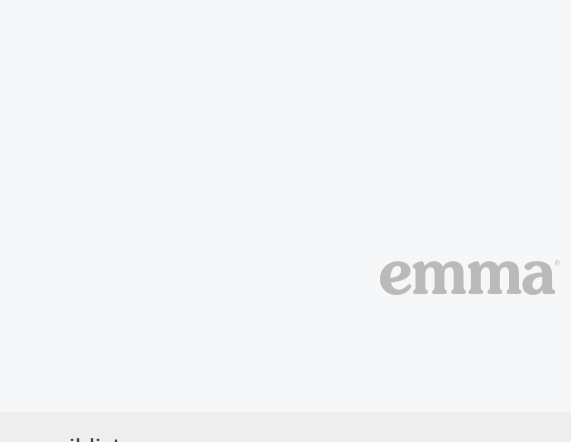


Organizational Change Management

July 14-16 | 8 AM-5 PM (CDT)

Addressing unexpected change while keeping change management momentum going are top priorities these days for businesses trying to stay ahead. Participants gain the knowledge, skills and tools to drive successful change initiatives — no matter how complex or urgent.

For more information, contact Rami Lotay at rsilotay@memphis.edu. Register [here](#) >



Training From the Back of the Room

July 20-21 | 8 AM-5 PM (CDT)

If you train, coach, lead meetings or facilitate groups, this course takes your training skills to an advanced level, regardless of the complexity of topics or level of learners. Training From the Back of the Room is an accelerated learning model that goes hand-in-hand with agile values and principles.

To learn more, contact Rami Lotay at rsilotay@memphis.edu. Register for this event [here](#)>

Agile Coaching

July 20-23 | 8 AM-2 PM (CDT)

A coach's primary goal is to enhance their client's awareness of practice and behavior, enabling and empowering the client to realize objectives, which may be just outside of their reach. Through thoughtful and deliberate engagement, the coach strives to enhance, in a measurable and sustainable fashion, team practices in order to provide focus on the business goals and objectives of the team and organization. Whether the coach is internal or external to the organization, coaching covers a broad spectrum of teaching, mentoring, problem solving, planning, leadership, team building and mastery of skills and knowledge.

To learn more, contact Rami Lotay at rsilotay@memphis.edu. To join this training, register [here](#) >

R Immersion for Data Science

July 29-31 | 8:30 AM-4:30 PM (CDT)

This training is a three-day intensive R training program for beginner to intermediate users designed to provide attendees with a comprehensive toolkit for applying R to business intelligence data solutions. R is a language widely used by statisticians and data miners for developing strategic data analysis programs.

To learn more, contact Rami Lotay at rsilotay@memphis.edu. Register [here](#)>

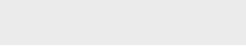
For the latest news and happenings at the research park, umrfresearchpark.org

NEWS TO FEATURE IN THE RESEARCH + INNOVATION NEWSLETTER?

We welcome the opportunity to highlight the research infrastructure and innovation capabilities at the University of Memphis. Email major award notifications, conferences to be held at the UofM, honors, publications, research impact stories, initiatives, etc., for inclusion in an upcoming issue of the newsletter. We look forward to sharing the world-class accomplishments taking place at the University of Memphis.

CONTACT US

Share this email:



Manage your preferences | Opt out using TrueRemove™
Got this as a forward? Sign up for better, not future, emails.
View this email [online](#).

365 Innovation Drive, Suite 303
Memphis, TN | 38152 US

This email was sent to .
To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

Subscribe to our email list.

