



Provost Newsletter — July 6, 2020

Still Hunkered Down: *Midsummer Updates*

Dear Colleagues,

As we settle into the midsummer season, it's time for me to share several updates. First, I want to comment on the most recent University of Redlands COVID update, which was provided right before the July 4th holiday. It's reprinted here. It does not change the status of full time faculty and your potential return to campus in the fall. It's primarily an update for staff, many of whom will eventually return to on-campus assignments later in the summer as we prepare for August and the start of fall terms.

Because some work that could be done at home from March through June is no longer continued, you'll note that we are now actively working with staff and administrators potentially to reassign employees across departments. The teams that support you the most as you plan for fall—ITS, Armacost Library, the Registrar, Office of Career and Professional Development, Office of International Students and Scholars, and Office of Veterans' Services—are all working remotely, and/or with options for on campus appointments with you, as needed. You do not need to worry about the pay guarantee described in the Announcement. As full time faculty, your annual contracts confirm your compensation and are renewed each summer. I expect annual salary letters to be sent out later in July.

This issue of the *Newsletter* also includes updates on academics and logistics planning for the fall; affirmation of diversity and equity initiatives announced in June; an overview of the 20-21 annual budget and the structural budget deficit; announcements about Academic Affairs leadership and reporting changes; and an update on the *Forever Yours!* campaign.

Several of you have provided proposals for TF4H consideration, new program ideas, consolidation and reorganization ideas. Your suggestions will also inform our fall strategic planning, as we evolve together the "true north" direction for the University of Redlands in years to come.

Much is still unknown. We know that speculation about a fall "second wave" of COVID are no longer our main concern, given that a "surge" is already with us. "Coping with COVID" will continue to impact decisions, policy, and ultimately, how we evolve our plans and mandated on campus behavior. State and County guidance continues to inform our planning.

Thank you for navigating this perpetual whitewater. May it someday flatten out into smooth sailing.

Kathy Ogren, Provost

Provost Updates

COVID-19

In light of rising number of new cases reported in San Bernardino County and more broadly across California, we are delaying further reopening of the Redlands campus and announce the extension of guaranteed pay for all current faculty, staff, and administrators until July 15.

Governor Gavin Newsom is expected to release new guidance for higher education soon, and, while we had planned to provide the opportunity for departments to return to any building on the Redlands campus beginning on July 6, we now think it is prudent to await the governor's guidance.

If you are an employee who has not returned to work and cannot perform your duties remotely, please contact your supervisor to discuss your options, which may include completing assignments for a different department. Supervisors should continue to use discretion in determining if and when employees should return to work in person to carry out essential functions.

To protect the health and safety of our community, the University's precautions have included:

- Deep cleaning offices, cubicles, lobbies, bathrooms, etc.
- Distributing personal protective equipment (face coverings and gloves) and sanitizing products (we also encourage employees to bring their own if possible, as some of these items are also backordered)
- Working with supervisors to identify modifications to workspaces, common areas, and technology to accommodate social distancing and a low-density model of work life. Most, but not all, of these changes have been implemented, as some items (such as Plexiglas) are backordered.
- Creating new signage with reminders about hand washing, social distancing, and other safety protocols. Many of these signs have been posted, however they are also available in digital form at <https://www.redlands.edu/coronavirus-resources/covid-19-signs/> so employees can print and post them as needed.

We also require that all employees on campus contribute to the safety of our community as a whole through your actions.

- Individuals on campus must remain a minimum of six (6) feet away and/or separated by a solid barrier from all other individuals unless closer interaction is ***absolutely required*** to perform their job duties, and then face coverings are required. Employees must minimize face-to-face contact with others to the greatest extent possible.
- ***All employees must wear face coverings any time they are in the presence of others or when leaving their own workspace.*** Coverings may consist of a bandana, surgical mask, scarf, etc. and must fully shield the mouth and nose.
- All employees must [wash their hands](#) frequently.

- Employees with positions that include touching items often used by others (credit cards, computers, copiers, printers, trashcans, books, etc.) must wear disposable gloves and change them regularly throughout the day.
- Employees should take their temperatures before work, and those who are sick with flu-like symptoms, respiratory symptoms, or unexplained fever should stay home (or leave work immediately), notifying their supervisor; before returning to work, employees should call their health care provider for instructions regarding return to work if they have been ill.

For more information about the University's COVID-19 response, see the [Coronavirus FAQ webpage](#). For more information on prevention and safety protocols, see the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website](#).

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

On June 29th, the President's Cabinet announced a range of policies, practices, and organizational changes to act on our commitment to an equitable and inclusive University community (see: <https://www.redlands.edu/bulldog-blog/2020/june-2020/forward-in-our-diversity-equity-and-inclusion-work/>). The actions announced included an invitation to submit proposals to the University's 2020-21 \$50,000 Innovation Fund, which is now dedicated to new grant offering called the "Inclusive Community and Justice Fund." Proposals should be emailed to diversityandinclusion@redlands.edu by Monday, August 3.

Academic and Logistics Planning for the Fall

I know you are all working hard on preparations for the summer cohorts in Business, Education, and the GST, as well as the upcoming fall term in CAS. Thank you so very much.

As you know, the University is continuing its commitment to personalized education by offering varying on ground/online teaching modalities. Deans Brown, Horan, Martinez and Childers are working closely with faculty to provide a range of options that are responsive to student preferences, and that will also provide a high quality experience for all students. All planning to date offers options for in person, hybrid, on-line, and in-residence learning modalities in CAS and GST. Deans are sharing guidelines for instruction options with faculty and students, as Dean Brown did with CAS last week. Because some of our students express skepticism about online and hybrid modalities in the wake of our rapid adoption of distanced courses in the spring, we are emphasizing to students that the fall terms will be different. We're describing the current actions you are taking as faculty members committed to course revision, re-design preparation and training over the summer. You are integrating the best, research-validated instructional practices into our classes and curriculum, demonstrating your excellent and effective teaching.

ITS is converting classrooms over the summer to expand our capacity for distanced modalities. Faculty have expressed interest in outdoor instructional sites, as well. Our next steps will be to evaluate the budget and feasibility of the outdoor locations.

Many faculty members have asked about mandatory testing of all students and employees. We have reviewed testing options at the EPP and the Return to Work committees. Few higher education health advisories support widespread testing. For example, here is the current rationale from the American Council on Education (ACE), for example:

The Centers for Disease Control has released [new guidance](#) on what colleges and universities should consider when planning COVID-19 testing protocols for the fall.

Significantly, the guidance does not recommend testing for all returning students, faculty, and staff, noting that it's unknown if such "entry testing" provides any additional protection beyond other infection preventive measures like social distancing, wearing masks, hand washing, and enhanced cleaning. It does suggest broader testing for people who have been in contact with infected patients in places where the virus can quickly spread—such as residence halls—as well as at institutions located in regions experiencing "moderate to substantial community transmission." Every campus is going to make different plans based on their different needs.

Senate Republicans are reportedly considering funding for testing in the next emergency coronavirus spending package, which currently is being drafted. Sen. Lamar Alexander (R-TN), chair of the Health, Education, Labor & Pensions Committee, has signaled some willingness to help colleges pay for testing in the fall, given the lack of clarity over whether the tests will be covered by insurance. As [Inside Higher Ed](#) reported, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and, in a separate guidance, the departments of Health and Human Services and Labor and the Internal Revenue Service, have said health insurers are only required to pay for tests ordered by a doctor when a person is showing symptoms or has been in contact with someone who is sick.

We will continue to follow all the health and safety protocols shared with you in recent months, such as use of mandatory face coverings, social distancing, use of thermometers by students and employees for daily readings, testing of ill students referred to the Health Center, and isolation/quarantines as indicated. We will continue to update you on details for reopening the campus to more widespread use by staff, faculty, and students.

The 20-21 Budget and Beyond

On Saturday June 27, 2020, The Board of Trustees approved a 20-21 budget, with the expectation that additional revenue and savings will be generated by the October Board meeting. At that time, the approved budget may be modified. I provided an overview and update on the budget to the June 30 Academic Assembly. Here are my remarks, edited for length:

I begin with an introduction and conceptualization of the budget into three components: the annual operating budget, reserves, and the endowment:

- **The annual operating budget** is like your checking account. You project annual contributions to that account, from which you pay monthly bills and when you are able, move funds into savings accounts. Our projected annual revenue comes from several sources: university-wide tuition, room and board in the College, fees, events and conferences, and a spending rate allocation from the endowment. Tuition revenue is the biggest contributor, and we pay financial aid out of this budget to attract and retain students. When we say that the annual budget has assumptions that change over the year, it is fluctuations in enrollment that are a key driver of changing assumptions. This year we also had a crisis produced by COVID.
- **Reserves are like long term savings accounts for the Institution**. These are non-operations accounts generated from several sources. Some have called these our "rainy day funds." There are specific categories for some reserves, such as emergency funds or earthquake coverage, that cannot be used for other purposes. Other reserves are not restricted. Reserves are also part of the investment strategy of the University. In those years when we have an excess at the end of the fiscal year, which is June 30, then we are required by Trustees to allocate that excess into reserves. Fortunately, we have built up reserves since the Great Recession through intelligent and prudent management of operations.
- **The Endowment**. The endowment is an investment fund from which we draw only a portion each year. It is central to investment portfolios, and it is meant to ensure our financial health and existence in perpetuity. We only use a portion of these funds based on a spending rate established annually by Trustees. Long term endowed funds are used for many purposes—scholarships, endowed chairs, endowed programs, some facilities, Salzburg, etc.—that receive annual allocations from endowed accounts. Our current endowment is about \$200m.

The 20-21 Budget. In forecasting the 20-21 budget, we expect a \$17.7m deficit. The original budget assumed \$131.7m in revenues, but we now project \$121.1 m in revenue. Expenses for 20-21 were projected at \$138m. These numbers include both one-time costs, such as COVID, and long-term "flow through" impacts, such as enrollments, that adds to our structural deficit.

Efforts to close that gap have focused on four areas:

- **Personnel Reductions and Salary Savings, \$6.3 million:** 9% reduction in personnel and positions. 20FTE staff, 26FTE administrators, 107 adjunct faculty, and 7 visiting professors. We have offered an accelerated retirement plan offered to full time and term faculty. A minimum salary increase pool will cover only regulatory increases related, for example, to minimum wage requirements and faculty promotions. The rest of our salaries remain at 19-20 levels. Faculty searches for 20-21 are on hold until we see our overall financial picture in the fall.

- **Non-Personnel Reductions/Changes: \$ 3.0 million.** These reductions include trimming of operations budgets, restrictions on entertainment and travel, reducing the equipment budget, limiting capital expenditures, and coverage of debt services.
- **Strategic Initiatives from the Task Force on Future Financial Health and the Cabinet to date:** \$0.4m in 20-21 with \$4.8 million projected over the next four years for currently approved initiatives. We intend to see more revenue and savings as proposals continue to be reviewed through the TF4H.
- **Financial Policy Adjustments of \$8.0 million based on raising the endowment drawdown from 4% to 5%.** In addition, \$6 million in structural savings from reserves was authorized to cover one-time COVID expenses of \$4.2 million and a remaining deficit of \$1.8 million. The endowment spending rate will be restored to 4% over the next three years.

This budget will be reviewed weekly because we know that changes constantly continue to come forward.

Impact of 20-21 on Longer Term Projections and Planning. *The Cabinet closely examined the capacity to achieve cost savings across each of these four areas for FY 20-21. Personnel savings, non-personnel savings, and initiatives, such as the Connected Campus and ITS Reorganization were the immediate priorities. These provide strategic savings in out years, as well as in FY 20-21.*

Still, the Cabinet agrees with Trustees that significant further reductions and innovations are needed to achieve structural financial sustainability. Analyses are actively underway (in TF4H) in several new areas including event management, academic programs, Marin campus utilization and other personnel and non-personnel items. The University aims to identify at least \$6 million in additional structural savings (and/or revenue generation) over the summer and certainly by the end of the calendar year, and to do so through the broad outreach that is currently underway, as well as through Cabinet and TF4H generated initiatives. As identified and implemented over the next fiscal year, this would allow the University to return to the standard "no reserve" use in FY 21-22 and bring us closer to a fiscally sustainable path.

Conversion of Adjunct Faculty to “Non-Exempt” Employees

The deans and I have updated you throughout the last year on the situation faced by private colleges and universities in California who are out of compliance with state law when we pay adjuncts as exempt employees instead of non-exempt employees. Traditionally, adjunct faculty in California have been paid on a per course basis. Although we believe that adjunct faculty have been compensated appropriately and fully, the per-course payment structure has recently been legally challenged in California through Private Attorney General Act (PAGA) lawsuits challenging employers over employment violations. The University, like many private universities in California, has been engaged in PAGA litigation.

Earlier this year, the University announced that it hoped to benefit from legislation that would have provided a pathway to continue compensating adjuncts as exempt employees through AB1466. Although the bill passed, it has not been signed by Governor Newsom. Therefore, the University of Redlands will change how its adjunct faculty will be paid, and, like most of our peers, classify adjuncts as "non-exempt" employees in order to comply with California labor law. By September 2020, all adjuncts will be paid by the hour, rather than by the course.

A task force with representation from the deans' offices, human resources, and the Provost Office started working on this conversion in May. Adjuncts received notification of this change on Monday, June 29. An FAQ for adjuncts has been posted to the Provost website (see the Adjunct Faculty Transition tab on the Faculty Resources page: <https://sites.redlands.edu/provost/faculty-resources/>). As the College and Schools work through the specifics of each adjunct group, it's important to affirm that rates of compensation will reflect existing course rates. Adjuncts will need to enter their hours into the *UltiPro* system each pay period. Supervision of adjuncts will be managed by each dean. If you have questions about how this will impact your School or CAS, please contact your dean.

Leadership and Reporting Transitions in Academic Affairs

- **School of Education.** Dr. Mario Martinez joins us as the new Dean, School of Education.
- **School of Continuing Studies.** Dr. Amy Moff Hudec is the new Director of the School of Continuing Studies.
- **Veteran's Services.** Beginning July 1, the Office of Veterans Services will report to Emily Baker in the Enrollment division. Monique Pope and her team work closely with student financial services and our recruitment colleagues, making this reorganization timely.
- **The Office of International Student Services.** Under the continued direction of Assistant Provost for Internationalization Steve Wuhs, the OISS will coordinate more distributed support for international students with colleagues from the Registrar, Admissions, Student Services at Redlands and the GST.
- **Instructional Technology Services.** Earlier this month, Chief Information Officer Steve Garcia announced the departure of Dr. Shariq Ahmed from the department of Information Technology Services. Shariq has been a valued member of our academic affairs and ITS teams, most recently leading our initiatives to rapidly convert courses into online formats. Shariq has been instrumental in transforming the structure of ITS and the manner in which we deliver our services. As Steve noted, "we will miss his enthusiasm and willingness to take on new challenges, as well as his open and warm demeanor." Shariq leaves Redlands to assume a new position as Associate Vice President, Academic Technology Services, at California State University, Long Beach. Cheyenne Murray, Associate Director of Instructional Technology Services, will be assuming leadership responsibilities for technology support of teaching and learning.

- **Endowed Chairs:**
 - Professor Wendy McIntyre has been named to the Hedco Chair of Environmental Studies, beginning September 2020.
 - Professor Joy Manesiotis has been named the Edith R. White Endowed Chair, beginning January 1, 2021.
- **Sustainability Council.** Andrew Hollis will chair the Sustainability Council, beginning in September 2020. This Council, previously chaired by Dr. Monty Hempel, is composed of faculty, students, and staff.
- **Academic Affairs Specialist.** A search for a new Academic Affairs Specialist will launch in August. This is the position previously held by Cheryl McIntosh, who retires this week. This position will be a ten month position in the future. Debbie Clark, Executive Assistant to the Provost, and I, will provide assistance with requests that are made throughout the summer.

Additional structural or organizational changes to Academic Affairs will be announced later this summer.

Update on the *Forever Yours!* Campaign

Tamara Josserand, Vice President for Advancement, recently provided the following update on the campaign to Trustees and the Cabinet:

"The *Forever Yours* campaign has officially exceeded **91% of our campaign goal**, with more than **\$181.5 million in gifts and commitments** to date! Through continued strategic outreach, our Major Gifts team has recently secured several commitments ranging from six-figure bequests to outright endowed scholarships. Loyal donors continue to mail their annual gifts, while others have responded to [online efforts to support students](#) or appeals for [employee emergency grants](#). While our fundraising results have been promising compared to other peer institutions during this unprecedented time, there is a possibility that due to the significant setbacks posed by COVID-19, we may need to revisit the end date for our campaign, originally scheduled to end on December 31. A final decision will be made prior to the Trustee meeting in early October.

Several of you have asked about our plans for rescheduling Giving Day, which we had to postpone because of the pandemic. We will be hosting our next Giving Day this fall on September 10th.

Thank you all for your continued support and commitment to our students, faculty, and University community, especially during these most challenging of circumstances. Our Bulldog spirit continues to show our resiliency and dedication to this University, now and for all time."

Academic Affairs Updates

<p><u>For Faculty</u></p> <p><i>by Cheyne Murray</i></p> <p>Director, Instructional Technology Services</p> <p>Adjunct Professor, School of Education</p> <p>President, University of Redlands Staff & Administrators Assembly</p>	<p>Instructional Technology Services</p> <p>We've been very fortunate to have teamed up this Summer with both CAS Working Group 2 co-chaired by Julie Townsend & Caryl Forristall as well as Ben Aronson, Hunsaker Chair for Teaching Excellence. In our collaboration, we're pleased to offer our Summer 2020 Workshop opportunities to explore teaching ideas that are new to you, new to a few, new to many, or new to all. Our workshops will touch on diversity and sustain inclusive learning environments where students feel a sense of belongingness and can thrive. Join us as we have dialogue centered around evidence based teaching strategies, listen to our faculty champions and the methods they've used in leveraging technology to engage students in communities and deepen learning.</p> <p>In our first three workshops, Recorded Lectures & Visuals for Lectures, Collaborative Assignments and Group Discussions, we had 244 faculty and instructors attend. Subsequent follow-up deep dive sessions have had over 111 attendees. We're off to a great start and will continue to explore topics and imagine how to apply them in the context of your teaching. Please join us in conversational dialogue centered around teaching and learning.</p> <p>Upcoming Topics</p> <p>Week of July 6th and beyond Simplified Offerings Page:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ScreenShare & Whiteboard<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ RSVP form for WebEx: Wednesday (7/8) at 10am & Friday (7/10) at 2:30pm.○ RSVP form for Teams: Tuesday (7/7) at 2:30pm Thursday (7/9) at 2:30pm. <p>A majority of these sessions are filling up or have filled, in the event they all become booked we'll open up additional offerings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• HyFlex<p>Please join our FLC focus groups dedicated to the Hybrid - Flexible (HyFlex) classes. The HyFlex approach observes</p>
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	<p>students who will be either online or in class as the day's content is delivered. In this multi-modal learning environment we will discuss how faculty actively engage with students, build opportunities for communication and collaboration between all learners. In our dialogue, we'll identify concerns and recommendations, classroom management techniques and content delivery in both synchronous and asynchronous meetings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ See: Hyflex Model for detailed information which breaks down content, engagement and assessment. ○ RSVP form for HyFlex: Wednesday 7/8, 7/15 and 7/22 at 2:30pm.
<p><u>Sponsored Program Opportunities</u></p> <p><i>by Steve Moore</i></p>	<p>The section below features new and continuing opportunities from governmental and private sources. Contact Steven Moore, Director of Sponsored Programs, at steven.moore@redlands.edu or 909-748-8687 to inquire about these opportunities.</p>

Grant Opportunities July 6, 2020

Federal Opportunities

National Endowment for the Arts (NEA)

[Grants for Arts Projects](#). Proposals due July 9, 2020. Grants for Arts Projects is the National Endowment for the Arts' principal grants program. Through project-based funding, we support public engagement with, and access to, various forms of excellent art across the nation, the creation of art that meets the highest standards of excellence, learning in the arts at all stages of life, and the integration of the arts into the fabric of community life. Projects may be large or small, existing or new, and may take place in any part of the nation's 50 states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. territories.

National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)

[Humanities Initiatives at Colleges and Universities](#). Application due July 16, 2020. Humanities Initiatives at Colleges and Universities strengthen the teaching and study of the humanities at institutions of higher education by developing new humanities programs, resources (including those in digital format), or courses, or by enhancing existing ones.

[Summer Stipends](#). Application due September 3, 2020. The National Endowment for the Humanities' Summer Stipends program aims to stimulate new research in the humanities and its publication.

National Institutes of Health (NIH)

[Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\): Information for NIH Applicants and Recipients of NIH Funding](#). Most of the currently announced opportunities are targeted at Principal Investigators (PIs) who are already conducting research relevant to the pandemic. However, competitions available to any applicants are becoming available. For instance, the following opportunity...

[Notice of Special Interest \(NOSI\): NIEHS Support for Understanding the Impact of Environmental Exposures on Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#), First Available Due Date May 1, 2020. NIEHS is issuing this Notice of Special Interest (NOSI) to address the urgent need for mission-relevant research to understand the impact of environmental exposures on Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) and its causative agent, the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-Cov-2). NIEHS is particularly interested in applications that will provide insight into the role of environmental exposures in pathogenicity, transmission, individual susceptibility, or prevention and intervention strategies.

[Enhancing Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Educational Diversity \(ESTEEMED\) Research Education Experiences \(R25\)](#). Rolling deadline through June 24, 2022. The NIH Research Education Program (R25) supports research education activities in the mission areas of the NIH. The overarching goal of this R25 program is to support educational activities that encourage individuals from diverse backgrounds, including those from groups underrepresented in the biomedical and behavioral sciences, to pursue further studies or careers in research

[NIH Support for Conferences and Scientific Meetings](#). Rolling deadline until May 7, 2023. The purpose of the NIH Research Conference Grant (R13) is to support high quality conferences that are relevant to the public health and to the scientific mission of the participating Institutes and Centers.

[Special Emphasis Notice \(SEN\): AHRQ Announces Interest in Research on Improving Organizational Health Literacy to Prevent and Manage Chronic Disease](#), Standard NIH application deadlines. This Special Emphasis Notice (SEN) highlights AHRQ's interest in receiving applications focusing on primary and other ambulatory care settings that: 1) test approaches to integrating organizational health literacy strategies that make it easier for people, especially those with limited health literacy, to take action to prevent and manage their chronic conditions, including diabetes, and 2) spread

and scale previously tested organizational health literacy strategies to settings that serve a high proportion of patients with limited health literacy, and/or socioeconomically disadvantaged people.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

[Ocean Exploration Fiscal Year 2021](#), Closing date for applications: October 22, 2020. NOAA's Office of Ocean Exploration & Research (OER) is soliciting proposals for ocean exploration in waters under U.S. jurisdiction, including the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). OER is interested in projects that provide data and information that may inform ocean-related segments of the U.S. economy through mapping, characterization, and exploration of the deep seafloor and water column of the U.S. EEZ as well as marine cultural heritage in U.S. waters.

National Science Foundation (NSF)

[Coastlines and People Hubs for Research and Broadening Participation](#). Application due September 9, 2020. Scientific research into complex coastal systems and the interplay with coastal hazards is vital for predicting, responding to and mitigating threats in these regions. Understanding the risks associated with coastal hazards requires a holistic Earth Systems approach that integrates improved understanding of and, where possible, predictions about natural, social, and technological processes with efforts to increase the resilience of coastal systems. The Coastlines and People program supports diverse, innovative, multi-institution awards that are focused on critically important coastlines and people research that is integrated with broadening participation goals. The objective of this solicitation is to support Coastal Research Hubs, structured using a convergent science approach, at the nexus between coastal sustainability, human dim

[Dear Colleague Letter: Request for SBIR/STTR Phase I Proposals Addressing COVID-19](#). The letter invites US-based small businesses [which can be created by faculty] to submit Phase I proposals focused on the development and deployment of new technologies, products, processes, and services with the potential to positively impact the nation's and world's ability to respond to the COVID-19 crisis. Areas of research that might be considered include, but are not limited to: artificial intelligence, digital health, diagnostics, distributed ledger, environmental technologies, medical devices, pharmaceutical technologies, disinfection and sterilization, and filtration and separations.

[Dear Colleague Letter on the Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#). *The letter states that the NSF is ...accepting proposals to conduct non-medical, non-clinical-care research that can be used immediately to explore how to model and understand the spread of COVID-19, to inform and educate about the science of virus transmission and prevention, and to encourage the development of processes and actions to address this global challenge. NSF encourages the research community to respond to this challenge through existing funding opportunities.*

[Discovery Research PreK-12 \(DRK-12\)](#). Proposal Deadline: October 7, 2020. The Discovery Research PreK-12 program (DRK-12) seeks to significantly enhance the learning and teaching of science, technology, engineering, mathematics and computer science (STEM) by preK-12 students and teachers, through research and development of STEM education innovations and approaches.

[Inclusion across the Nation of Communities of Learners of Underrepresented Discoverers in Engineering and Science](#). Letter of Intent due October 5, 2020; Full Proposal Due January 26, 2021. Through this solicitation, NSF INCLUDES will support the establishment and growth of new Alliances that employ a collaborative infrastructure approach to address a critical broadening participation challenge in STEM at scale.

[Industry-University Cooperative Research Centers Program](#). Preliminary proposals due September 8, 2020. The IUCRC program catalyzes breakthrough pre-competitive research by enabling close and sustained engagement between industry innovators, world-class academic teams, and government agencies. IUCRCs help industry partners and government agencies connect directly and efficiently with university researchers to achieve three primary objectives: 1) Conduct high-impact research to meet shared and critical industrial needs in companies of all sizes; 2) Enhance U.S. global leadership in driving innovative technology development, and 3) Identify, mentor and develop a diverse, highly skilled science and engineering workforce.

[NSF INCLUDES](#). Full proposal due July 13, 2020. In 2016, the National Science Foundation (NSF) unveiled a set of “Big Ideas,” 10 bold, long-term research and process ideas that identify areas for future investment at the frontiers of science and engineering (see https://www.nsf.gov/news/special_reports/big_ideas/index.jsp). The Big Ideas represent unique opportunities to position our Nation at the cutting edge of global science and engineering leadership by bringing together diverse disciplinary perspectives to support convergence research. As such, when responding to this solicitation, even though proposals must be submitted to the Education and Human Resources (EHR) Directorate/Division of Human Resource Development (HRD), once received, the proposals will be managed by a cross-disciplinary team of NSF Program Directors.

Through this solicitation, NSF Inclusion across the Nation of Communities of Learners of Underrepresented Discoverers in Engineering and Science (NSF INCLUDES) will support Planning Grants to build capacity for the development of collaborative infrastructure to: (a) facilitate innovative partnerships, networks, and theories of action for broadening participation in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) at scale and (b) lead to the establishment of future centers, alliances, or other large-scale networks to address a broadening participation challenge. While this solicitation is open to all, NSF INCLUDES Design and Development Launch Pilots are especially encouraged to apply, as a Planning Grant could serve as an intermediate conduit for bringing their exploratory pilot work to scale.

Private Opportunities (Primarily focused on COVID-19 opportunities)

[BIOPAMA: Rapid Response Grants](#). Application due December 31, 2020. Rapid Response Grants are designed to respond to risks and difficulties induced by the COVID-19 crisis in African, Caribbean, and Pacific countries. Grants aim at increasing the resilience of protected areas and local communities’ livelihoods facing the risks and difficulties of the global COVID-19 pandemic.

[The Center for Craft: Craft Futures Fund](#). Applications accepted monthly until October 2020. The Center for Craft's Craft Futures Fund will support craft communities throughout the United States and their creative responses to COVID-19. These one-time, unrestricted grants of \$5,000 will be disbursed to craft-based education projects that seed resilience, foster community, and amplify impact.

[data.org Inclusive Growth and Recovery Challenge](#). Application due July 17, 2020. data.org, in partnership with the MasterCard Center for Inclusive Growth and The Rockefeller Foundation, has launched the \$10 million data.org Inclusive Growth and Recovery Challenge. The challenge is an open call for breakthrough ideas that harness the power of data science to help people and communities thrive, especially in the wake of COVID-19's economic impact. The challenge seeks inclusive growth proposals from and for anywhere in the world. Areas of interest include, but are not limited to, jobs of tomorrow - leave no worker behind; access to capital - leave no entrepreneur behind; and cities and towns - leave no place behind. The Challenge is open to any individual, organization, or collaboration from anywhere in the world, including nonprofits, for-profits, individuals 18+ and above, and governments and U.N. agencies.

[Healthy Eating Research: COVID-19 Rapid-Response Funding Opportunity Focused on the Federal Nutrition Assistance Programs](#). Application due July 1, 2020. Healthy Eating Research, a national program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, has rapid-response research funds available to commission the following: 1) issue briefs/ commentaries or papers/research reviews; and 2) small studies to explore the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on nutrition and diet quality, food security, and related health consequences for children and families. The goal is to inform decision-making regarding innovative policies and/or programs during and after the COVID-19 pandemic.

University of Redlands Opportunity

[Rapid Response Rewards for Spatial Inquiries Involving Students](#). Rolling Deadline. The purpose of this special opportunity is to provide grants of up to \$2,000 to support projects that involve students in conducting and communicating spatial inquiries during summer and fall, 2020.