



Provost Newsletter May 11, 2020

Hunkered Down: Masks

*"Man is least himself when he talks his own person.
Give him a mask, and he will tell you the truth."*

Oscar Wilde

San Bernardino County officials issued the following COVID-19 update on Friday, May 8, 2020:

"Face coverings are no longer required – but still strongly recommended – in San Bernardino County as the result of new health order requested by the Board of Supervisors."

Much like similar relaxations of health and safety regulations across the state and the nation, this order has produced varied social practices. The subject of masks has also generated much debate and discussion about the tensions between individual choice and social responsibility, fears about economic collapse, and equally strong fears about health and safety in our communities. Given this recent order, masks are on my mind this weekend.

One message on Facebook has received many re-postings. Many of you may have seen it:

"I wear a mask in public, not for me, but for YOU! I want you to know that I am educated enough to know that, although I have been very careful, I could be asymptomatic and still give you the virus. I don't "live in fear" of the virus-- I just want to be a part of the solution, not the problem. I don't feel the "government is controlling me"; I feel like I'm being a contributing adult to society, and I want to teach children the same. I want them to grow up as I did knowing that the world doesn't revolve around me... that it's not all about me and my personal comfort...that if we all could live with the consideration of others in mind, this whole world would be a much better place. Wearing a mask doesn't make me weak, scared, stupid or even "controlled"; it makes me considerate."

[#DoingMyPart](#) [#PayItForward](#)

Thank you to Director of Athletics, Jeff Martinez, for sharing this with many of us.

As an historian, I am intrigued and appalled at all the fuss over masks, which has now risen to political furor and even violent confrontations in the nation. After all, masks are ubiquitous in human history and contemporary society. Among the oldest of human artifacts, masks can be used in rituals, ceremonies, hunting, feasts, wars, performances, theatres, fashion, sports, movies — not just for medical or protective occupational purposes. If you have ever had the good fortune to make

masks — especially of your own face — you know that the process can invoke deep sacred power and personal insight.

Masks are deeply troubling to us socially because we know that "masking" can mean hiding, lying, dissembling. In my ruminating about masks, I recalled one of the most famous Harlem Renaissance poems by Paul Lawrence Dunbar:

We Wear the Mask

*We wear the mask that grins and lies,
It hides our cheeks and shades our eyes,—
This debt we pay to human guile;
With torn and bleeding hearts we smile
And mouth with myriad subtleties,*

*Why should the world be over-wise,
In counting all our tears and sighs?
Nay, let them only see us, while
We wear the mask.*

*We smile, but oh great Christ, our cries
To thee from tortured souls arise.
We sing, but oh the clay is vile
Beneath our feet, and long the mile,
But let the world dream otherwise,
We wear the mask!*

Dunbar's poem is recited and performed by many contemporary artists. Celebrated poet Maya Angelou expanded Dunbar's poem in a February 6, 2017 YouTube command performance: <https://youtu.be/HLol9InM>. Redlands awarded Angelou an honorary doctorate in 2011. I find re-visiting her work in these times of uncertainty, protest and division, both encouraging and restorative.

My ruminations on masks and their many meanings should not suggest that we are not focused on immediate policy needs. The University is reviewing many requirements for practicing appropriate social distancing, including cleaning, ventilation, organization of office and classroom spaces, and yes, mask-wearing. Health and safety guidance, as well as the policies in development at fellow institutions informs our evaluation. Like us, many of you are reading the large literature circulating about how safely to return to work and school. One thoughtful blog came my way today, and I have shared it with senior leadership and the EPP: erinbromage.wixsite.com/covid19/post/...

In addition to our own planning, which is underway, we should have specific guidance from the Governor's office by June 1. Our current focus is very much on the specific requirements for manageable and safe practices for staff, faculty and students across all our campuses. As we look at pandemic-specific plans, we might also ponder testimonies from the poets about larger impact of

our social and cultural "masking" practices. Surely these are more revealing and even more frightening than the inconvenience of placing a cloth or paper rectangle over your ears.

Be well and stay safe,

Kathy Ogren
Provost

Provost Updates

Join our weekly Provost WebEx Office Hour: https://redlands.webex.com/meet/debbie_clark

- Thursday, 5/14, 2:30-3:30
 - Wednesday, 5/20, 3:00-4:00
 - Wednesday, 5/27, 3:00-4:00
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Academic Affairs Updates

For Faculty

Reminder: join Ben Aronson for the weekly **4:00 Tuesday Hunsaker/ACIT-hosted teaching conversation** at: https://redlands.webex.com/meet/ben_aronson.

To sign up for **School of Education webinars and workshops**: <https://confirmsubscription.com/h/t/15ECDDA0265F1B94>

Sponsored Programs

by Steve Moore

See the listing below for this week's Sponsored Programs update featuring new and continuing opportunities from governmental and private responses to the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as upcoming deadlines for other competitions that may be particularly relevant to scholarly activities at the University of Redlands. Contact Steven Moore, Director of Sponsored Programs, at steven_moore@redlands.edu or 909-748-8687 to inquire about these opportunities.

Sponsored Program Opportunities May 11, 2020

California State Opportunity

[CA CARES: Humanities Relief and Recovery Grants](#). Relief Grants for Organizations applications due May 15, 2020 (Round 1) and June 15, 2020 (Round 2). Humanities Relief Grants for organizations aim to provide general operating support to organizations that have experienced the cancellation of their public humanities activities due to a decrease or loss of revenue, cancellation of programming opportunities, loss of paid staff, or venues as a result of COVID-19.

Federal Opportunities

Department of Commerce

[Entrepreneurship Education Program for Formerly Incarcerated Persons](#). Application due May 22, 2020. The purpose of this notice is to request applications for special projects and programs associated with the Minority Business Development Agency's (MBDA) strategic plans and mission goals, as well as to provide the general public with information and guidelines on how MBDA will select proposals and administer discretionary Federal assistance under this Broad Agency Announcement (BAA or Announcement).

Department of Defense (DoD)

[Newton Award for Transformative Ideas during the COVID-19 Pandemic](#). Applications due May 15, 2020. *This award will be presented to a single investigator or team of up to two investigators that develops a "transformative idea" to resolve challenges, advance frontiers, and set new paradigms in areas of immense potential benefit to DoD and the nation at large.*

Department of Education

[Supporting Effective Educator Development \(SEED\) Program](#). Application due June 12, 2020. The SEED program, authorized under section 2242 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended (ESEA) (20 U.S.C. 6672), provides funding to increase the number of highly effective educators by supporting the implementation of Evidence-Based practices that prepare, develop, or enhance the skills of educators. These grants will allow eligible entities to develop, expand, and evaluate practices that can serve as models to be sustained and disseminated.

Department of Health and Human Services

[Street Outreach Program](#). Closing Date for Applications: June 29, 2020. The Runaway and Homeless Youth (RHY) Program's Street Outreach Program (SOP) provides street-based services to runaway, homeless, and street youth who have been subjected to or are at risk of being subjected to sexual abuse, prostitution, sexual exploitation, and severe forms of human trafficking in persons. These services, targeted in areas where street youth congregate, are designed to assist such youth

in making healthy choices and providing them access to shelter as well as basic needs, including food, hygiene packages and information on a range of available services.

NASA

[Research Opportunities in Space and Earth Sciences 2020 \(ROSES 2020\)](#)

[Biodiversity](#), Notices of Intent due May 27, 2020, Proposals due June 25, 2020.

[Physical Oceanography](#), Notices of Intent due May 28, 2020, Proposals due June 25, 2020.

[The New \(Early Career\) Investigator Program in Earth Science](#), Closes September 15, 2020.

National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)

[Infrastructure and Capacity Building Challenge Grants](#). Applications due May 15, 2020. The purpose of the Challenge Grants program is to strengthen the institutional base of the humanities by enabling infrastructure development and capacity building. Awards aim to help institutions secure long-term support for their core activities and expand efforts to preserve and create access to outstanding humanities materials.

[Research and Development](#). Applications due May 15, 2020. The Research and Development program supports projects that address major challenges in preserving or providing access to humanities collections and resources. These challenges include the need to find better ways to preserve materials of critical importance to the nation's cultural heritage—from fragile artifacts and manuscripts to analog recordings and digital assets subject to technological obsolescence—and to develop advanced modes of organizing, searching, discovering, and using such materials.

[Digital Projects for the Public](#). Applications due June 19, 2020. *The Digital Projects for the Public program supports projects that interpret and analyze humanities content in primarily digital platforms and formats, such as websites, mobile applications and tours, interactive touch screens and kiosks, games, and virtual environments. The projects must be designed to attract broad public audiences.*

[Digital Humanities Advancement Grants](#). Applications due June 30, 2020. Digital Humanities Advancement Grants (DHAG) support innovative, experimental, and/or computationally challenging projects at different stages throughout their lifecycles, from early start-up phases through implementation and sustainability. Experimentation, reuse, and extensibility are hallmarks of this program, leading to innovative work that can scale to enhance scholarly research, teaching, and public programming in the humanities. This program is offered twice per year. Proposals are welcome for digital initiatives in any area of the humanities.

Additional NEH opportunities and deadlines are provided at <https://www.neh.gov/grants/listing>.

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.

[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](#). Applications 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.*

[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.

Private Opportunities

[Booz Allen Foundation Innovation Grant](#). Proposals accepted now through June 5, 2020. The Booz Allen Foundation has established a \$1 million Innovation Fund to help nonprofits, entrepreneurs, thought leaders, innovators at colleges and universities, and startups and small businesses harness the power of data, technology, and diverse intellectual capital to improve COVID-19 relief efforts and make a difference.

[COVID-19 & Beyond – Innovation for Social Good](#). Proposals due June 5, 2020. To support the community in co-creating impactful and lasting solutions in these troubled times, IMDA, The National Volunteer & Philanthropy Centre, Golden Energy and Resources, GlobalSignIn and ABM Media are coming together to bring offer the COVID-19 & Beyond – Innovation For Social Good challenge.

[Economic Hardship Reporting Project](#). Open Submissions. EHRP is offering assignments to independent journalists for stories on the intersection of the coronavirus and financial suffering in America, with an emphasis on writers and photographers who are themselves experiencing significant economic hardship caused by the pandemic.

[Fast Grants](#). Rolling deadline, currently paused. If you are a scientist at an academic institution currently working on a COVID-19 related project and in need of funding, we invite you to apply for

a Fast Grant. Fast Grants are \$10k to \$500k and decisions are made in under 48 hours. If we approve the grant, you'll receive payment as quickly as your university can receive it.

[Getty Images COVID-19 Reportage Grants](#). Proposals due May 15, 2020. Getty Images will offer eight awards of \$5,000 each to photographers reporting stories related to the COVID-19 pandemic. They give particular consideration to those working in their own cities or immediate regions.

[Research Grants on Education: COVID-19 Related Special Grant Cycle](#). Full Proposal Deadlines: May 4, May 18, and June 8, 2020. The COVID-19 Related Research Grants support education research projects that will contribute to understanding the rapid shifts in education in this time of crisis and change.

[Russell Sage Foundation](#). Letter of Interest (LOI) Due May 21, 2020. Because of the effects of COVID-19 on all facets of American life, the Russell Sage Foundation is changing its immediate priorities for letters of inquiry for the May 21, 2020, deadline. For this deadline, RSF will only consider LOIs that satisfy at least one of the following criteria: (a) The research is so timely and time-sensitive that the project must start before April 1, 2021; or, (b) the research analyzes social, political, economic, or psychological disruptions resulting from the coronavirus crisis that affect social and living conditions in the United States. All LOIs must focus on issues related to the foundation's core program areas and special initiatives: Behavioral Economics; Decision-Making and Human Behavior in Context; Future of Work; Race, Ethnicity, and Immigration; Social, Political, and Economic Inequality.

[MIT Solve](#). Applications due June 18, 2020. Over \$1.5 million in prize funding is available for Solve's 2020 Global Challenges, including Health Security & Pandemics. MIT Solve is seeking tech innovations that can slow and track the spread of an emerging outbreak, for example by improving individual hygiene, developing low-cost rapid diagnostics, analyzing data that informs decision making, and providing tools that support and protect health workers.

[Social Science Research Council \(SSRC\)](#), Applications due June 1, 2020. In partnership with the Henry Luce Foundation, The Social Science Research Council (SSRC), as part of its Covid-19 Initiative, seeks proposals from across the social sciences and related fields that address the social, economic, cultural, psychological, and political impact of Covid-19 in the United States and globally, as well as responses to the pandemic's wide-ranging effects.