

BULLETIN

CREATIVITY • INNOVATION • SERVICE

Hallmarks of excellence in higher education. Keys to success in life. Be a part of it. Ask how.

2020 Distinguished Research and Creative Activity awards announced

Each spring the Faculty Research and Creative Activity Committee recognizes two faculty members for their respective contributions to their fields and MTSU through their scholarly research and creative activity. The Office of Research and Sponsored Programs (ORSP) is pleased to announce—and congratulate—this year’s recipients. A description of their esteemed status, accomplishments, and contributions will be detailed in the written program for the University’s Fall 2020 faculty meeting.

2020 Award for Distinguished Creative Activity:

Angela Deboer, Professor (Horn), School of Music

2020 Award for Distinguished Research:

Tom Brinthaup, Professor, Department of Psychology, and Director, Lucinda Taylor Lea Learning, Teaching, and Innovative Technologies Center (LT&ITC)

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Katherine Foss

FACULTY HIGHLIGHT

Katherine Foss

Foss book tackles timely subject of epidemics

In a timely release, Professor Katherine Foss, (Journalism and Strategic Media) has a new book titled *Constructing the Outbreak: Epidemics in Media and Collective Memory*, scheduled for release this September. You also can see Foss' synopsis of the new work in the April 2020 issue of [*Smithsonian Magazine*](#).



Mary Ellen Sloane

FROM THE BIBLIOGRAPHER'S DESK

Mary Ellen Sloane, user services librarian for Basic and Applied Sciences

New Library Resource: ACS Guide to Scholarly Communication

The Walker Library now provides access to the ACS Guide to Scholarly Communication. It is available from the Library catalog, Databases A-Z page, Citation Help page, and Chemistry page. Although developed by the American Chemical Society (ACS), this resource will be helpful for faculty and students in many disciplines. ACS solicited contributions from a wide range of scholars when compiling this guide.

It covers the standard elements of a style guide, like formatting reference, table style guidelines, and grammar. This fully online edition now includes guidance that is pertinent to today's research and dissemination environment, such as open access, preprints, copyright, and data sharing. Most importantly, it provides guidance for selecting a journal, organizing your paper, and engaging with peer review. The guide leverages the online format with dynamic elements, such as the Visual Guide to Simplifying Tables in section 4.2.4.

Several sections may lend themselves well to course integration, like Types of Intellectual Property, Communicating Science to the Public, and What Is Data? To add any section to your course, look for the digital object identifier (DOI) link under the section author's name. Right-click on the link and copy the link address. The copied link will include the EZproxy path that will allow off-campus users to log in through Walker Library using their campus login and access the guide.



We hope you find this resource useful in your scholarly communication and in your support of student research. Please let me know if I can be of assistance in integrating this content into your course. Check it out at: [login.ezproxy.mtsu.edu/login?url=https://pubs.acs.org/doi/book/10.1021/acsguide](https://pubs.acs.org/doi/book/10.1021/acsguide).

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Be aware that our subscription funding opportunity search engine, GrantForward, is providing free access to funding opportunities related to COVID-19. The list will be updated daily at: grantforward.com/grant-covid

NSF Faculty Early Career Development Program (CAREER)

Deadline: July 27

nsf.gov/pubs/2020/nsf20525/nsf20525.pdf

This National Science Foundation (NSF) program offers the NSF's most prestigious awards in support of early-career faculty who have the potential to serve as academic role models in research and education and to lead advances in the mission of their department or organization. Activities pursued by early-career faculty should build a firm foundation for a lifetime of leadership in integrating education and research.

Please contact ORSP for assistance with the NSF CAREER opportunity.

NEH Summer Stipends

Internal deadline: June 8 to express interest to ORSP at research@mtsu.edu

neh.gov/grants/research/summer-stipends

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Summer Stipends program aims to stimulate new research in the humanities and its publication by:

- providing small awards to individuals pursuing advanced research that is of value to humanities scholars, general audiences, or both
- supporting projects at any stage of development, but most especially early-stage research and late-stage writing in which small awards are most effective
- furthering the NEH's commitment to diversity and inclusion in the humanities by encouraging applications from independent scholars and faculty at Hispanic Serving Institutions, Historically Black Colleges and Universities, tribal colleges and universities, and community colleges

Summer Stipends support continuous full-time work on a humanities project for a period of two consecutive months. NEH funds may support recipients' compensation, travel, and other costs related to the proposed scholarly research. **Full-time faculty members who apply must be nominated by their institutions, and each institution is only allowed to nominate two applicants. Please notify ORSP at research@mtsu.edu by June 8 if you want to be considered for a nomination.**

NIH Science Education Partnership Award (SEPA) (R25–Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

Letter of intent deadline: June 12 (not required to submit an application) at research@mtsu.edu by June 8

Application deadline: July 14

**Note: Only one application is allowed per institution.*

A notification with the details for MTSU's internal competition has been issued; please contact research@mtsu.edu if you did not receive the email.

grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-20-153.html

This National Institutes of Health (NIH) program supports educational activities, including interactive digital media resources, which complement or enhance workforce training to meet the nation's biomedical, behavioral, and clinical research needs.

SEPA promotes interactive partnerships between biomedical and clinical researchers and pre-kindergarten to grade 12 (P–12) pre-service and in-service teachers, schools, and other interested organizations. SEPA provides opportunities for students from underserved communities to consider careers in basic or clinical research; provides teachers with professional development in science content and teaching skills; and improves community health literacy through SEPA-funded science centers and museum exhibits on health and medicine.

Educational resources, including classroom curricula, mobile laboratories, science center and museum exhibits, workshops, films, software, and websites that provide P–12 students, teachers, and the general public a better understanding of life sciences, also are supported. A dedicated SEPA website provides access to the educational materials and expertise produced through these efforts.

NIH Small Research Grant Program–R03

Deadline: June 16

grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-19-052.html

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) Small Research Grant Program supports discrete, well-defined projects that realistically can be completed in two years and that require limited levels of funding. This program supports different types of projects including, but not limited to:

- pilot or feasibility studies
- secondary analysis of existing data
- small, self-contained research projects
- development of research methodology
- development of new research technology

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

(continued)

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NIH Exploratory/Developmental Grant–R21

Deadline: June 16

grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-19-053.html

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) Exploratory/Developmental Grant supports exploratory and developmental research projects by providing support for the early and conceptual stages of these projects. These studies may involve considerable risk, but may lead to a breakthrough in a particular area or to the development of novel techniques, agents, methodologies, models, or applications that could have a major impact on a field of biomedical, behavioral, or clinical research.

NIH Academic Research Enhancement Award (AREA)–R15 Laboratories, Fiscal Year 2020

Deadline: June 25

grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-18-714.html

The purpose of this award for Undergraduate-Focused Institutions is to support small-scale research grants at institutions that do not receive substantial funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), with an emphasis on providing biomedical research experiences primarily for undergraduate students and enhancing the research environment at these applicant institutions.

NEH Digital Humanities Advancement Grants (DHAG)

Deadline: June 30

neh.gov/grants/odh/digital-humanities-advancement-grants

These National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) grants support innovative, experimental, and/

or computationally challenging projects at different stages throughout their lifecycles, from early startup 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. The DHAG program is offered twice per year. Proposals are welcome for digital initiatives in any area of the humanities.

NEH Humanities Collections and Reference Resources (HCRR)

Deadline: July 15

neh.gov/grants/preservation/humanities-collections-and-reference-resources

This National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) program supports projects that provide an essential underpinning for scholarship, education, and public programming in the humanities. Thousands of libraries, archives, museums, and historical organizations across the country maintain important collections of books and manuscripts, photographs, sound recordings and moving images, archaeological and ethnographic artifacts, art and material culture, and digital objects.

Funding from this program strengthens efforts to extend the life of such materials and make their intellectual content widely accessible, often through the use of digital technology. Awards also are made to create various reference resources that facilitate use of cultural materials, from works that provide basic information quickly to tools that synthesize and codify knowledge of a subject for in-depth investigation.



Joe Driver

FROM THE DESK OF . . .

Joe Driver

Reminders for PIs and students during COVID-19

There is a lot of uncertainty during this difficult time for students and principle investigators (PIs). Here are some things to remember:

- Recently it was determined that student hourly workers' wages paid to non-working students will be charged to your grant temporarily. At a later time, the Budget Office will move the wages expensed to your grant for non-working students to a University account. If you have students who are continuing to work on grants, they should continue to complete their time reporting as usual.
- Travel is still suspended until further notice.
- You may continue to work on your grants, just be mindful of social distancing recommendations during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Many agencies have extended reporting deadlines and other requirements.

Please contact your ORSP award manager if you have any questions. Award managers are constantly monitoring agencies for further developments regarding operations during this difficult time. Stay safe.

FACULTY SECTION

Congratulations to CJA's Stickle on scholar award

MTSU's Ben Stickle, associate professor of Criminal Justice Administration, is the recipient of the 2020 McGraw-Hill Distinguished Scholar Award for dedication, service, and scholarship in the area of ethnographic and qualitative research. Stickle received this award while attending the Ethnographic and Qualitative Research Conference at the University of Nevada–Las Vegas College of Education.

Grant Writing Enhancement Program

Keeping in mind our primary goal of accelerating participants' path to sustained external funding to support their scholarship, the following will catalyze Grant Writing Enhancement Program (GEP) workgroup activity this month.

Participants will be provided with one or two recent or current solicitations with instruction for the group to deconstruct and develop draft responses, with a timeline, for:

- comments on solicitation
- a to-do list by which to prepare a proposal
- paragraph outline of a draft proposal interactively in D2L

Mentors and ORSP will help participants find individual solicitations to which they would like to write prose (either active or recent), and participants and mentors will repeat the above to prepare a draft full proposal.

FACULTY SECTION

(continued)



Fulbright updates: virtual visit, webinars, and deadline

The Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program will continue to accept applications for awards for the 2021–22 academic year to teach, research, and conduct professional projects in 135-plus countries. Over 450 awards offer more than 800 grants annually.

The deadline to apply is **Sept. 15, 2020**. To learn more, [click here](#). Additionally, you can view the [What's New for 2021–22 Webinar](#) and visit the [Catalog of Awards](#).

Regional and discipline-focused webinars are held every Wednesday at 1–2 p.m. CDT. See the Fulbright [webinar schedule](#) for more details.

As faculty are now at home, it may be easier to join a virtual presentation on Fulbright opportunities. These presentations may be tailored to our campus and set up in a virtual meeting space. Other local institutions can be invited to join as well. Please email outreach@iie.org to schedule a virtual visit.

If you would like more information about the U.S. Scholar Program, please visit our new Fulbright web page featuring MTSU's [Fulbright](#) Scholar awardees and resources.

If you are interested in pursuing a Fulbright, we are here to help! Please contact Jamie Burriss at jamie.burriss@mtsu.edu for more information and additional resources.

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH CENTER



Scholars Week expo “stays the course” online

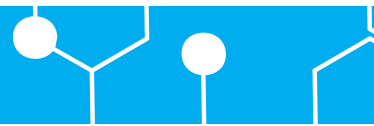
The Scholars Week 2020 Online [Research and Creative Activity Exposition](#) went live to the campus community on April 20.

While the excitement, energetic exchange, and fun of the in-person Exposition was missed, we are extremely pleased that 140 students and their mentors “stayed the course” under the unusual circumstances to complete their posters and be part of another strong display of the excellent scholarship in which our students engage. Additionally, we are grateful to the Theatre, Music, Dance, and Recording Industry faculty and students who would have been showcased during the live event.

While the immediate motivation for this format was our collective response to the COVID-19 pandemic, we are pleased to be able to make this an annual supplement to the in-person expo and record of each successive poster exhibitions here forward.

We are also grateful to MTSUNews.com for their coverage of the exposition. To learn more about Scholars Week, including some of our featured students, the article can be viewed mtsunews.com/scholars-week-expo-starts-april-20/.

If you have questions or feedback about the online poster exposition, we welcome your thoughts. Please contact Jamie Burriss at jamie.burriss@mtsu.edu with comments or questions.



Frazier earns prestigious Goldwater Scholarship

Article adapted from MTSUNews.com

Jared Frazier, 20, a double major in Chemistry and Computer Science from Spring Hill, Tennessee, just earned the prestigious Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship. He is one of nearly 400 college students from nearly 1,350 U.S. applicants to capture the honor.

"Without the combination of guidance from the Department of Chemistry, opportunities provided by the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, advising from the Honors College, and the support of my family and friends, I never could have become a Goldwater Scholar," Frazier said.

Mengliang "Mike" Zhang, an associate professor in Chemistry and Forensic Science, praised Frazier's past work ethic in the lab, discipline, communication, being a fast learner, and reading books in analytical, physical, and inorganic chemistry to better understand the advanced concepts in the research.

Zhang, who is Frazier's mentor along with Chemistry Department Chair Greg Van Patten, said Frazier "has everything you can expect from a young researcher and will definitely be an academic rising star in chemistry."

"Jared is inquisitive, passionate and curious, and he truly is a scientist in the making," Zhang said. "I can clearly feel his uncurbed passion and enthusiasm for research."

Since coming to MTSU, Frazier has maintained a 4.0 GPA and has been awarded three URECA grants. After graduating from MTSU, he plans to pursue his doctorate in the field of nanomaterials.

He is the seventh MTSU student since 2007 to receive the Goldwater award, with eight others achieving honorable mention.

Students Spotlight



Nibraas Khan, a Computer Science major, has been accepted into the Ph.D. program in Computer Science at Vanderbilt University.

Faculty mentor: Joshua Phillips



Aric Moilanen, a Physics and Astronomy major, has been accepted into the Ph.D. program in Physics at the University of Michigan.

Faculty Mentor: Hanna Terletska

URECA grants awarded for summer semester

To support its vision of nurturing a culture of research and creative activity at MTSU through support for undergraduate students and their faculty mentors, the Undergraduate Research Center (URC) offers Undergraduate Research Experience and Creative Activity (URECA) grants to students three times a year.

The URC's commitment to excellence in research, scholarship, and creative projects is exemplified through the URECA program, which presents an opportunity for undergraduate students to work alongside distinguished faculty mentors through a structured mentored program. The application process is competitive, but the benefits are rewarding.



Congratulations to our Summer 2020 URECA recipients!

Student	Project	Level	Mentor	Department	College
Ciarra Black	A Field-Based Examination of the Karen People (An Ethnic Minority Group from Burma) in Middle Tennessee: Karen Identity after Resettlement under Religious Affiliation	Platinum	Ida Fadzillah Leggett	SOC	CLA
Mark Blackmon	The Multinational Association for Supportive Care in Cancer (MASCC) Risk Index Score and Physician Intuition: Febrile Neutropenia and Patient Outcome	Platinum	Kathleen Darby	SOWO	CBHS
Kylie Bow	The endosymbiotic bacterial community of the causative agent of White Nose Syndrome, (<i>Pseudogymnoascus destructans</i>) of bats.	Platinum	Donald Walker	BIOL	CBAS
Benjamin Campbell	Dyeing with Deep Eutectic Solvents	Assistant	Scott Handy	CHEM	CBAS
Anika Chowdhury	Investigating Classroom Discourse in Active Learning Environments for Chemistry Courses	Silver	Gregory Rushton	STEM	CBAS
Shelby Cox	Assessment of Cannabinoid Levels in Successively Cloned Generations of Industrial Hemp (<i>Cannabis sativa</i>)	Assistant	John DuBois	BIOL	CBAS
Laura Grimes	The Relationship Between Hearing and Cognitive Function in the Geriatric Population	Assistant	Rebecca Fischer	HHP	CBHS
Amber Hayden	The Effect of Language Sample Length as a Function of Varying Age Groups	Platinum	Kathryn Blankship	HHP	CBHS
Koda Hengstenberg	Exploration of Aurone System in Mercury Sensing.	Platinum	Scott Handy	CHEM	CBAS
Cameron Maddux	Synthesis of Peptoid Coated Quantum Dots for Biomedical Applications	Platinum	Kevin Bicker	CHEM	CBAS
Katherine Mills	Variation in Reproduction Among Populations of the Endangered Plant <i>Dalea foliosa</i>	Assistant	Jeffry Walck	BIOL	CBAS
Brendan Fostyk	Defining Landscape Effects on the Spatial Variability of Hydraulic and Thermal Properties	Platinum	Samuel Haruna	ABAS	CBAS
Jessy Shearer	Effect of heat stress on serum metabolic profile of lactating Holstein and Jersey dairy cows	Assistant	Maegan Hollis	ABAS	CBAS
Jillian Sherer	Fluorescent Labels Based on the Aurone Scaffold: A Group Project	Platinum	Scott Handy	CHEM	CBAS
Emily Stafford	Effects of Leaf Meal Supplementation on Commercial Broiler Performance and Carcass Characteristics	Assistant	Kevin Downs	ABAS	CBAS
Ahmad Thomas	How the Indigenous Tribes of Brazil Mastered Film	Gold	Paul Chilsen	EMC	CME
Amy Tran	Fluorescent Labels Based on the Aurone Scaffold: A Group Project	Platinum	Scott Handy	CHEM	CBAS