**ISCE COVID-19 Reset Program: Connect, Contribute, Complete**

The Institute for Society, Culture and Environment (ISCE) is offering a novel opportunity for [social science faculty](https://www.isce.vt.edu/index4.html) whose research and subsequent plans for preparing an external grant proposal were interrupted or set aside due to competing personal and professional demands associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. Faculty selected for the program will receive mentoring and funding to support their research activities and gather regularly with ISCE staff to **CONNECT** with peers, **CONTRIBUTE** expertise, and **COMPLETE** a grant proposal for submission to an external entity.

**Eligibility**: Social science faculty from any department/program across Virginia Tech’s campuses whose research addresses significant societal concerns that impact people and places are eligible to apply. Although scholars of all types and ranks have had their careers disrupted by the pandemic, there is a substantial body of evidence suggesting that women have been especially hard hit. ISCE welcomes proposals from all faculty, but will give priority for the ISCE COVID-19 Reset Program to women in tenure/tenure-track position at the assistant or associate level and to women research faculty (research scientist and assistant/associate professor level) embedded within departments/centers seeking significant external funding.

**Requirements**: The award recipients must commit to attending monthly awardee meetings, providing feedback on proposal ideas and drafts of members of the group, and completing a grant proposal for which they will serve as PI by June 2022. In addition, all awardees will provide ISCE an annual report detailing activities leading up to the submission of the proposal as well as publications and presentations for three years after the completion of the program.

**Timeline**: The deadline for application is **September 10, 2021**. A single pdf file of the application [last name\_ISCE\_resetprogram.pdf] should be emailed to Yancey Crawford (yanceyc3@vt.edu). Notification of awards will be made by September 30, 2021. The funds must be spent by June 2022 in accordance with University guidelines.

**Review Criteria**: A committee consisting of the ISCE leadership team and affiliated faculty with diverse expertise in different focus areas will review the proposals. The review criteria will include the scientific merit, impact and feasibility of the proposed idea, relevance to ISCE [mission](https://www.isce.vt.edu/index4/mission.html) and [thematic focuses](https://www.isce.vt.edu/index4.html), and documentation of a well-thought plan for submission of an extramural grant.

**Awards**: ISCE anticipates making up to 8 awards of approximately $7,500 per award. Awardees will receive mentoring and other support through several mechanisms to develop and submit an external proposal:

* Grant writing and related seminars, including specific instruction on the details of successful proposal development and resources of the University that support proposal submission.
* Working sessions with all awardees to share progress and obtain feedback.
* Individual and group consultation provided by ISCE and others.

**Questions**: Contact Yancey Crawford (yanceyc3@vt.edu) or Isabel Bradburn (isbrad@vt.edu)

**Application Guidelines**

**[Format: single spaced; 12-point font; 1-inch margins]**

**Cover Page (1 page or less):** Include name, rank, department, and college as well as project title and brief project summary (~75 words): This information will be used to announce the awards and will be published on the ISCE website.

**COVID and Interest Statement** **(1 page or less)**: Describe how the pandemic hindered your research and grant writing efforts and why you want to be a part of the ISCE COVID-19 Reset Program.

**Project description (2-pages)**: Describe the significance of your proposed research, rationale and research question or hypothesis to be tested, sample and data collection methods, and anticipated outcomes, and any other relevant information.

**Plan for submission of an extramural proposal by July 2022**: Briefly describe your planned timeline leading to the submission of an extramural proposal. What is the funding agency or RFA (if available) for your planned proposal submission, who will comprise your research team, and what level of funding do you anticipate requesting?

**Budget and Justification**: Applicants may request funds for the following expenses related to their proposed research and application to an external funding agency:

* Student wages
* Support for pilot/feasibility study (e.g., travel, printing, measures)
* Course buy-out (Spring 2022 only; requires department pre-approval)
* Other (must specify)

Use the COVID-19 Reset Budget Form to submit your budget request and justification.

**BioSketch** **(2 pages):** NIH or NSF style or any other two-page format is acceptable.