

ISCE Funding Opportunities & Support 2020-21

The mission of the Institute for Society, Culture and Environment (ISCE) is to enhance Virginia Tech's capacity in the social sciences by catalyzing innovative, interdisciplinary, and translational research and scholarship that addresses critical human and societal concerns impacting the lives of people and places in Virginia, nationally, and across the globe. Details regarding ISCE funding opportunities and support can be found <https://www.isce.vt.edu/>

| Program | Description ¹ | Contact |
|---|---|---|
| ISCE Scholars | The aim of this signature program is to provide interdisciplinary faculty teams with support for developing grant proposals, in new or existing areas in the social sciences, that align with one of ISCE's four thematic areas. The expectation is that proposals will lead to submission of an external grant application. Approximately six proposals of up to \$30,000 each are funded each year. Proposals are due annually in spring with funding beginning with the new academic year. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Karen Roberto kroberto@vt.edu ▪ David Orden (DC) orden@vt.eu |
| Unsolicited Requests | ISCE accepts unsolicited proposals from full-time faculty anytime during the calendar year for projects that require a rapid response to an event, small feasibility studies and interdisciplinary team building that enable faculty to be more competitive for applications for external funding. Requests typically range from \$2,500-\$5,500. Applicants are encouraged to speak with the ISCE director prior to a formal request for funds. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Karen Roberto kroberto@vt.edu |
| Restricted Microdata Research | Virginia Tech has entered into an agreement with Georgetown University through 2024 to allow four approved projects access to restricted federal microdata through the Georgetown Federal Statistical Research Data Center (FSRDC). To assist Virginia Tech faculty who receive approval for a project, ISCE will provide awards up to \$5,000 to help cover the costs of implementing the project, such as travel, access to data, student wages, data fees, and other related expenses. Potential applicants should register at https://www.isce.vt.edu/index3/restricted-microdata-research.html . | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Isabel Bradburn isbrad@vt.edu ▪ Yancey Crawford yanceyc3@vt.edu |
| Co-Sponsored Initiatives and Partnerships | An ongoing partnership between ISCE and the Global Change Center (GCC) provides funding for interdisciplinary projects that address social aspects of major global change issues and intend to seek external funding. Typical projects receive \$20,000-30,000 and must include at least two faculty members affiliated with the GCC and at least one Virginia Tech faculty member from the social sciences. Proposals are due annually each fall with funding completed by the end of the fiscal year. ISCE partners with other Virginia Tech Investment Institutes, Centers, Destination Areas, and Colleges to offer additional funding opportunities that are announced as funding becomes available. ISCE also co-sponsors speakers, seminars and events related to ISCE's thematic areas and other social issues. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Karen Roberto kroberto@vt.edu ▪ Bill Hopkins (ISCE-GCC only) hopkinsw@vt.edu |
| Policy Destination Area: +Policy Fellowship | The +Policy Fellowship supplement is designed to enable new and existing research teams to collaborate with a Virginia Tech policy expert to add or enhance a policy dimension to a project. Typically, up to three team/Fellow pairings are selected annually, with funding provided for both Fellows and the teams. Projects focused on decision-making concerning emerging technologies, health policy, and environmental policy are of particular interest. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Isabel Bradburn isbrad@vt.edu |
| Technical Assistance ² | ISCE staff provide technical assistance upon request with writing and research endeavors, critiquing and proofreading proposals, serving as a liaison with the Office of Sponsored Programs to develop budgets and submit proposals, facilitating team meetings and other proposals activities. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Yancey Crawford yanceyc3@vt.edu |
| Workshops & Seminars | ISCE sponsors and/or co-facilitates workshops and seminars to prepare faculty to apply for external funding. Examples include the annual spring ISCE-CLAHS NSF CAREER Award Workshop series and the Proposal Development Institute (PDI) faculty mentoring group. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Yancey Crawford yanceyc3@vt.edu |
| ISCE News Flash | ISCE distributes an electronic newsletter weekly on Tuesdays during the academic year and biweekly in the summer that announces funding opportunities, events and faculty news relevant to social science and policy faculty. The deadline to submit items is the Friday before each issue. To sign up to receive the ISCE News Flash, visit: https://www.isce.vt.edu/newsflash.html . | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Yancey Crawford yanceyc3@vt.edu |

¹Amount of support is contingent upon the availability of funds. ²ISCE is also a member of the Virginia Tech Faculty Activity Support Team (VT-FAST), which provides proposal development assistance ranging from copy editing to submission of large proposals. For more info, visit: <https://fralinlifesci.vt.edu/Resources/fast.html>.