



IDIA February Newsletter

If you have any events/news to share with the community, please email us at idia2@gmu.edu. We would love to highlight funding opportunities, upcoming conferences, and events through our newsletter.

Thanks,
The IDIA Team

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

[Bureau of Justice Statistics/Department of Justice – Continuation of the Federal Justice Statistics Program](#)

Under this program, the sponsor has announced that it is seeking proposals to administer the Federal Justice Statistics Program in Fiscal Year 2021 to collect, standardize, link, analyze, and disseminate comprehensive federal justice transaction statistics. The FJSP seeks to collect and process administrative data received from seven federal justice agencies to provide data on arrests, prosecutions, adjudications, sentencing, appeals, imprisonment, and immigration court proceedings.

The recipient of funds will—

1. collect, standardize, maintain, and archive federal data in a timely and accurate manner
2. provide expertise in updating and expanding FJSP record linkage capabilities
3. provide formatted data for importing into the current BJS web query tool and expand the BJS query tool to include additional stages (pretrial/postconviction supervision and pretrial detention)
4. provide technical assistance to BJS, federal agencies, and the public
5. prepare public data for archiving and documentation, including data user guide(s).

Deadline: March 02, 2021

[National Science Foundation \(NSF\) - Build and Broaden 2.0](#)

Build and Broaden 2.0 (B2 2.0) encourages research collaborations between scholars at minority-serving institutions (MSIs) and scholars in other institutions or organizations. Growing the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) workforce is a national priority. National forecasts of the impending shortage of science and engineering skills and essential research workforce underscore a need to expand opportunities to participate in STEM research.

NSF has taken steps to expand participation by focusing on research communities that are not well-represented in the federal research system. Through these steps, NSF is working to expand the volume and increasing the diversity, interconnectedness, and effectiveness of STEM workforce.

Deadline: March 05, 2021

[National Science Foundation \(NSF\) - Industry/University Cooperative Research Centers](#)

Industry/University Cooperative Research Center (IUCRCs) are public-private partnerships that catalyze breakthrough, cutting-edge, pre-competitive research by enabling close and sustained engagement between industry, academic teams, and government agencies. These Centers have three primary goals: (1) conducting high-impact research to meet the critical and shared needs of commercial and governmental entities that require better fundamental understandings of processes, mechanisms, and problems that they are unable to carry out internally; (2) moving fundamental research results to society and/or the marketplace via innovation and technology development; and (3) mentoring and developing a diverse, highly skilled, science and engineering workforce that understands how to work with industry and translate research results into understandings, products, and technologies that benefit society and the economy.

Deadline: Preliminary Proposal: March 10, 2021; Full proposal: June 09, 2021

[National Institutes of Health \(NIH\) - Digital Healthcare Interventions to Address the Secondary Health Effects Related to Social, Behavioral and Economic Impacts of COVID-19](#)

This funding opportunity aims to support research to strengthen the healthcare response to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) caused by the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) and future public health emergencies, including pandemics. The purpose of this funding opportunity is to focus on the role and impact of digital health interventions (e.g., mobile health (mHealth), telemedicine and telehealth, health information technology (IT), and wearable devices) to address access, reach, delivery, effectiveness, scalability and sustainability of health assessments and interventions for secondary effects (e.g., behavioral health or self-management of chronic conditions) that are utilized during and following the pandemic, particularly in populations who experience health disparities and vulnerable populations.

Deadline: March 02, 2021

UPCOMING EVENTS

[Sixth Conference on Research in Equity and Sustained Participation in Engineering, Computing, and Technology](#)

You are invited to submit to the 6th Conference on Research in Equity and Sustained Participation in Engineering, Computing, and Technology (RESPECT 2021) to be held virtually on May 23-27, 2021. This conference is the premier venue for research on equity, inclusion, and justice in computing and computing education. This year's theme is "From Broadening Participation to Justice-Centered CS Education." Conference organizers are excited to receive submissions from teachers, students, advocates, and policymakers, as well as researchers. Please consider submitting! Most submissions are due in early February.

[Join Spring 2021 CMAI Colloquium](#)

Attend to learn an ongoing initiative in AI, ML and Data Science under CMAI. The CMAI Colloquium schedule of Spring 2021 is close to being finalized. Check the website often for updates and register to learn from some of the topmost people from academia and national labs from all over the world.

[Second Annual East Coast Optimization Meeting \(ECOM\)](#)

The Center for Mathematics and Artificial Intelligence (CMAI) invites you to the second annual East Coast Optimization Meeting (ECOM) on April 1-2, 2021 hosted by the Center for Mathematics and Artificial Intelligence (CMAI). ECOM is an annual two-day workshop organized jointly between George Mason University and Sandia National Labs.

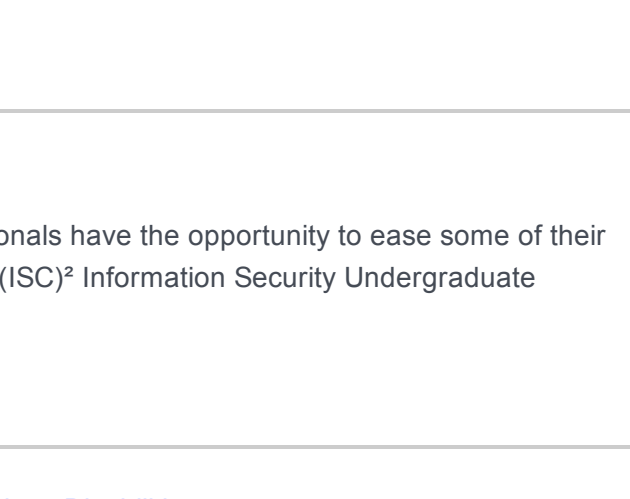
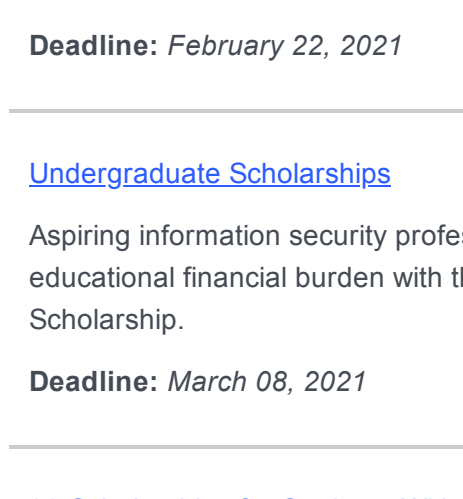
This year ECOM will take place in a fully virtual format. The goal of ECOM is to introduce students and early-career researchers to current trends in optimization as well as to provide a strong networking environment between academia, industry, and the national laboratories. This year's focus for ECOM is Optimization for Machine Learning.

The keynote speakers for the second ECOM are:

- Prof. Frank E. Curtis (Lehigh University)
- Prof. Wotao Yin (UCLA)

More details and registration information is available [here](#)

Everyone is welcome to attend but registration is mandatory.



[Register Now - "New Directions for Consumer Finance Law: An Insider's Look at the Report of the CFPB's Taskforce" Feb. 11, 2021, 12:00 – 1:30 p.m. EST](#)

Time is running out to register for our upcoming Webinar. The Webinar will be held on **February 11, 2021 from 12 noon EST – 1:30 p.m. EST**. Virtual space is limited. If you would like to attend, please register by **February 8, 2021**. There is no charge to register and CLE credit will not be offered. Click [here](#) to register now.

On January 5, 2021, the CFPB Taskforce on Federal Consumer Financial Law chaired by George Mason University Scalia Law School (GMU Law) Professor Todd J. Zywicki issued a comprehensive report on U.S. consumer finance law tethered to five guiding principles: consumer protection, information and inclusion, competition and innovation, regulatory modernization and flexibility, and inclusion and access.

During this Webinar, CCFL President James M. Milano and GMU Law Professor Thomas P. Vartanian will interview three members of the Taskforce:

Professor Todd J. Zywicki
Jean Noonan, Partner at Hudson Cook
William C. MacLeod, Partner at Kelley Drye

They will discuss the Report and its key recommendations including:

- Authorizing the CFPB to license non-depository institutions that provide lending, money transmission, and payments services.
- Expanding access to the payments system by unbanked and underbanked consumers and ensure consistent treatment by applying the same rules to similar financial products.
- Consideration of the costs and benefits of preempting state law and the regulation of FinTech companies engaged in money transmission
- Caution in restricting the use of nonfinancial alternative data, which can be useful indicators of creditworthiness.
- Working with other agencies to create a unified regulatory regime and eliminate overlapping regulation for new and innovative financial technologies.

For questions, please contact CCFL Chairman John Chiles at jchiles@burr.com or GMU Law Professor Robert Ledig at rledig@gmu.edu.

Don't wait, click HERE to register!

[4-VA@Mason Issues Collaborative Research Grant Call for Proposals](#)

4-VA@Mason, part of a statewide consortium of eight universities, has opened calls for Collaborative Research Grant (CRG) proposals for the 2021-2022 academic year. The grants are designed to facilitate and support alliances which leverage the strengths of each partner university to improve efficiencies in research and higher education. Successful proposals will incorporate collaborations with faculty from at least one other 4-VA partner school; opportunities to engage undergraduate and graduate student researchers for real-world experience and growth; and plans for the dissemination of research findings statewide or nationally. While the portal to accept proposals will open March 1, interested faculty can view the application, review associated policies and procedures, as well as read previous successful proposals by visiting the 4-VA@Mason [CRG Grants](#) page. For more information, [click here](#).

[VSGI & Computer Game Design Spring Speaker Series](#)

The Virginia Serious Game Institute (VSGI) and Computer Game Design hosts a Game/Tech Innovation Speaker Series this semester. Presentations will be 15-20 minutes with the remaining time for Q&A. [Click here](#) to see the upcoming schedule.

Wed., Feb. 10, 12:45 p.m.

- *Pitching the Press: How Can I Get My Game in The News?*
- *Chris Kohler*, Editorial Director, Digital Eclipse

[Register Here](#)

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

[Summer Internship Program for Minority and Underrepresented Students](#)

The National Institutes of Health-funded HuBMAP (Human BioMolecular Atlas Program) Consortium is launching a summer internship program for minority and underrepresented students (as defined by NIH) that may be of interest to XSEDE users. Note that this is a virtual internship experience due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

HuBMAP, funded by the NIH Common Fund, is working to catalyze the development of a framework for mapping the human body at single-cell resolution by accelerating the development of tools and techniques for constructing spatial maps that quantify biomolecules. HuBMAP data is composed of healthy (normal, non-diseased) tissue from modalities including Mass Spectrometry, Microscopy, and Sequencing.

The internship will give students the opportunity to work with consortium members for 8-10 weeks conducting research and receiving invaluable mentorship and training. Students who have completed more than 1 year of undergraduate studies and who are interested in a STEM field can apply for the program. More eligibility and application details are available on the internship program website.

Internship opportunities will be available at six labs connected to the HuBMAP consortium, which range in focus from bioinformatics, genomics, computational image analysis, to data visualization. Students will have the chance to study cells or conduct data analysis using advanced technology and working with some of the best scientists in their field. The labs are located at Stanford University, Harvard Medical School, and the University of Pennsylvania. The internship will involve faculty mentorship, a research project, and involvement in a seminar series involving fellow students. Students selected for the program will receive a \$6,000 stipend.

More information on the internship program, including important dates and overviews of the available programs, can be found here:

<https://hubmapconsortium.org/internship-program/>

More information on HuBMAP can be found here:

<https://hubmapconsortium.org/internship-program/>

To view the current products of HuBMAP, check out the data portal here: <https://portal.hubmapconsortium.org/>

PARTNERING OPPORTUNITIES

The [Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department \(FCFRD\)](#) is a combination career and volunteer organization providing fire suppression, emergency medical, technical rescue, hazardous materials, water rescue, life safety education, fire prevention and arson investigation services. FCFRD operates 38 fire stations 24/7 serving the needs of over 1M residents and visitors and answers over 100k calls for service annually, with 1,500 career firefighters and over 300 operational volunteers. *FCFRD is interested in partnering with GMU for studies and investigations in health research, human factors engineering, data analytics and other areas.* If you are interested in partnering with FCFRD, please contact [Rebekah Hersch](#).

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

[Geri Wolff Scholarship For Women in Computer Science or Design Degrees](#)

The Digital Signage Federation established the Geri Wolff Scholarship Fund which awards a scholarship for a young woman who is committed to majoring in computer sciences as a way in which to interest them in choosing a career in the digital signage industry. Applicants must be a sophomore, junior or senior in college and demonstrate a commitment to a career in the field of computer sciences and specifically digital signage. A minimum 3.0 GPA is required as well. For more information or to apply, please visit the scholarship provider's website.

Deadline: February 15, 2021

[\(ISC\)² Women's Cybersecurity Scholarships](#)

The (ISC)² Women's Cybersecurity Scholarship works to inspire women to join the ever-growing field of information security. Applicants must be pursuing, or plan to pursue, a degree with a focus on cybersecurity or information assurance.

Deadline: February 22, 2021

[Undergraduate Scholarships](#)

Aspiring information security professionals have the opportunity to ease some of their educational financial burden with the (ISC)² Information Security Undergraduate Scholarship.

Deadline: March 08, 2021

[30 Scholarships for Students With Various Disabilities](#)

Please check the link for the various scholarships.

Deadline: Various

[The Long Nguyen and Kimmy Duong Scholarship Programs School Year 2021-2022](#)

The Kimmy Duong Foundation

Announces
The Long Nguyen and Kimmy Duong Scholarship Programs
School Year 2021 - 2022

These two programs are for students (Vietnamese American and Non Vietnamese American) students enrolled in the following six institutions:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| The University of Maryland (UMD) | George Mason University (GMU) |
| NOVA Community College (NOVA) | Montgomery College (MC) |
| Virginia Polytechnic Institute (VPI) | University of Virginia (UVA) |

Eligible students must be US Citizens or US permanent residents (except for the 3 gold scholarships mentioned below) who demonstrate:

- Outstanding academic achievement,
- Strong leadership potential,
- A track record of service to the Vietnamese and American communities,
- Pride in their Vietnamese and/or American culture and heritage, and
- A passion to apply their academic background to create a better world, both in America and in Vietnam.

The Vietnamese American students should apply through "TheKimmyDuongFoundation.org"
• ** 27 scholarships will be reserved for Vietnamese American students
• ** 3 Gold scholarships will be reserved for Vietnamese students from Vietnam, who've been accepted to US universities

The Non-Vietnamese American students should apply through their schools
• ** 20 scholarships will be reserved for Non-Vietnamese American students

Each scholarship will be \$2,000 annually (Gold Prize) or \$1,000 (Silver Prize).
The scholarship is renewable annually for up to 4 years, for students who are pursuing a bachelor's degree

For more details about qualifications, please visit our web site:

TheKimmyDuongFoundation.org

Program Timeline:
11/20/20 - 12/31/20: Public announcement of scholarship opportunity in various media
01/01/21 - 02/15/21: On-line portal open for receiving applications
02/16/21 - 03/31/21: Review and candidate selection for interviews
TBD - Scholarship announcement for academic year 2021-2022
TBD - Scholarship Award Ceremony

[Society of Women Engineers 2020-2021 Scholarships](#)

In 2020, the Society of Women Engineers awarded nearly 260 new and renewed scholarships valued at more than \$1,000,000. SWEScholarships support those who identify as a female/woman and are pursuing an associate, bachelor or graduate degree in engineering, engineering technology and computer science both in the United States and internationally. Students complete one application and are considered for all scholarships for which they are eligible. The application process is entirely online including submission of recommendation letters and transcripts. If you will be a sophomore through Ph.D. candidate in the 2020-2021 academic year.

Deadline: February 15, 2021

[Lockheed Martin STEM Scholarships – 200 Renewable \\$10,000 Scholarships Available](#)

Awards are open to individuals studying eligible engineering or computer science majors, who demonstrate financial need and come from underrepresented or underserved communities.

Applicants must:

- Be U.S. Citizens
- Be high school seniors, freshman or sophomore undergraduate students with a minimum GPA of 2.5
- Be majoring or planning to major in Aerospace Engineering, Computer Engineering, Computer Science, Electrical Engineering, Electrical and Computer Engineering, Industrial Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Physics
- Plan to enroll in full-time undergraduate study at an accredited four-year college or university in the United States for the upcoming academic year
- Demonstrate financial need
- Be willing to consider internship opportunities with Lockheed Martin

Deadline : April 1, 2021 3:00 pm CT

FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENTS, AWARDS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Solar Physics, Space Weather, Computational Physics, Computational Astrophysics, and Associated Scientific Fields

PI: Becker, Peter A, College of Science

Co-PI: Stan, Cristiana

Funding source: US Department of the Navy

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Driver Vigilance Framework for Level 2 and Level 3 Driving Automation

PI: Helton, William S, College Humanities & Social Sciences

Co-PI: Lee, Yi Ching

Funding source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

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Joint Geoinformatics Laboratory (JGIL), Phase VI Cooperative Geo Information Research with NASA GSFC Earth Sciences Data and Information Service Center (GEI DISC)

PI: Di, Liping, College of Science

Funding source: NASA-Goddard Space Flight Cent

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AISLE: an AI-Security Living Lab Experience

PI: Tryfona, Nektaria, Research, and Innovation Initiative

Co-PI: Sanghera, Kamaljeet

Funding source: Virginia Research Investment Fund

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Distributed Semi-Supervised Temporal Learning for Global Change Monitoring (DISSTL)

PI: Wessels, Konrad J, College of Science

Co PI's: Zuefle, Andreas E, Pfoser, Dieter

Funding source: Intelligence Advanced Research Projects Activity

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Amazon-Mason PD Experience

PI: Hutchison, Amy, College of Educ & Human Development

Funding source: George Mason Univ Foundation

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Optimizing Antidepressant Selection through Artificial Intelligence

PI: Alemi, Farrokh, College of Health & Human Services

Funding source: Commonwealth Health Research Board

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3-D Heliosphere Data and Model Visualization using Python

PI: Weigel, Robert S, College of Science

Funding source: NASA-Goddard Space Flight Cent

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Collecting Together: A Portal and Coordinated Collecting Effort for the American Jewish Community During COVID-19

PI: Mullen, Lincoln A, College Humanities & Social Sciences

Co PI: Turner, John Geoffrey

Funding source: Russell Berrie Foundation (RBF)

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The impact of investment on irrigated rice, dryland agriculture and afforestation in Senegal using SAR and optical time-series imagery in data fusion approaches

PI: Wessels, Konrad J, College of Science

Funding source: NASA-Goddard Space Flight Cent

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Research on Geospatial Information Technology and Standards

PI: Di, Liping, College of Science

Co PI: Guo, Liying

Funding source: US Geological Survey

IN THE NEWS

[Schar School Partners with UIPath for Robotic Process Automation Initiative](#), SCHAR news, January 11, 2021

[Mason Engineering students and faculty compete at 99 Uptballons competition](#), VSE news, January 8th, 2021

[Mason Competitive Cyber Club cracks the code, hacks a building](#), VSE news, January 4th, 2021

[Mason climate communication researcher's smartphone game helps combat misinformation](#), CHSS News, December 14th, 2020

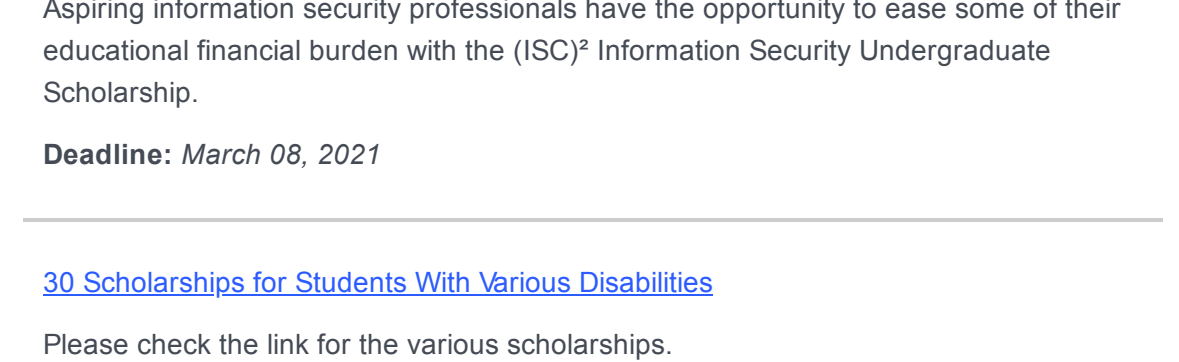
[Mason partnering with Amazon to provide computer science education to teachers](#), Mason News, January 26, 2021

[Researchers receive over \\$1.5 million from Darpa to optimize security and energy tradeoff](#), VSE News, February 2, 2021

FACULTY PROFILE

The IDIA faculty directory is a tool to find others with complementary expertise and a search tool for external and internal audiences to seek you! If you have not yet provided information for your profile, please do so [here](#).

If you have submitted your information, we are reviewing and preparing it for the website. You will hear from us soon.



[Connect with us](#)

