May 11, 2020

Office for Public Engagement COVID-19 Resources and Updates
The following is a weekly round-up of COVID-19-related community-engaged teaching and learning resources and policies for University faculty, staff, and students. For more info on how to navigate community-based activities during the COVID-19 crises, visit engagement.umn.edu.

Policy Updates

Current policies regarding community-based activities
Visit the University's COVID-19 and Community-Based Activities webpage often for updates on policies, recommendations, and resources pertaining to Spring, Summer, and Fall community-based research, teaching, and learning activities. Along with information on policies, the site includes links to key resources for faculty, students, and staff involved in community-engaged activities.

U of M travel ban extended through June 30
The restriction against non-essential domestic and international travel for University purposes—which applies to students, faculty, and staff—has been extended through June 30, 2020. The University will continue to follow public health guidance and revisit this issue in the coming weeks.

Resources and Opportunities

U of M COVID Action Network (U-CAN) Mask Makers seeks volunteers
Volunteers with expertise in mask production and/or sewing from patterns and who have a sewing machine are needed to join U-CAN Mask Makers. To volunteer for this opportunity, please sign up in this spreadsheet.

Connecting community and University resources and needs
The Office for Public Engagement's Making Connections—Making a Difference online service offers community members and internal stakeholders a way to ask questions and offers ideas about University-community collaborations focused on COVID-19; Connect with a University Partner helps community members connect with University resources on longer-term projects and topics beyond the current pandemic.

Strategies for Supporting Community-Engaged Research and Teaching During COVID-19
Faculty, staff, and students throughout the University's five campus system are invited to join the University's Office for Public Engagement’s continuing series of virtual discussions on conducting community-engaged research and teaching and supporting community partners during COVID-19. Discussions focus on a variety of topics and take place via Zoom.

Supporting Community Partners

Northpoint Health & Wellness Center offers COVID-19 testing
North Minneapolis-based Northpoint Health and Wellness is now offering drive-up COVID-19 testing by appointment only. For more information and to schedule an appointment, click HERE.

U of M Crookston to host small business webinar series to prepare community businesses for recovery
U of M Crookston, in partnership with the Northwest Minnesota Small Business Development Center and the Northwest Minnesota Foundation, will kick off a six-part webinar series focused on what the community and businesses can do to prepare for recovery. For more information and to register, click HERE.
Community-Engaged Teaching and Learning Resources

U of M Provost's COVID-19 Academic Planning FAQ's
The Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost has posted a COVID-19 Academic Planning FAQ web page with resources related to teaching and learning.

U of M Pandemic-Related Curriculum
The University launched a system-wide Pandemic-Related Curriculum for summer 2020. This suite of courses is available to all students interested in understanding and responding to pandemics. The courses are offered by faculty from across the University system who bring diverse disciplinary expertise to the circumstances that face society and impact the University community of students, faculty, and staff around the world.

U of M students looking for remote service opportunities
Do you or your community partner know of a community need that might be fulfilled by a University of Minnesota student? The Office for Public Engagement is working to connect students to service opportunities, especially students looking to fulfill academic program/course requirements, with organizations in need of materials or volunteers. Please submit needs and opportunities using this form.

Support for U of M online/virtual/remote teaching and learning
Need help with your Zoom meetings, classes, or conferences? The University's Information Technology group offers Zoom self-help guides and other resources, as well as knowledgeable staff who are available by phone (612-301-4367) or chat. Additional information about the University's technical resources for online/virtual/remote teaching and learning can be found HERE.

U of M CEI offers online/virtual/remote teaching and learning resources
The University’s Center for Educational Innovation’s Support for Remote Teaching website can help you enact a remote teaching plan and engage in creative problem-solving to determine practical options that work for you and your students within the available technology.

Need to complete a summer internship or capstone project?
Until further notice, University of Minnesota community-based research and teaching activities offered through Summer 2020 are to move to an alternate, remote form of community partner exchange, or be temporarily suspended or rescheduled through mutual agreement. If you believe you are in a situation in which conducting your community-engaged activity remotely (or having to suspend it altogether) will have a serious, irreparable, detrimental effect on you or your community partner, you can submit a petition to receive an exemption to the University's current "remote-only" policy. For exemptions related to health-focused internships, clinical work, and community-engaged research, contact the Office of Clinical Affairs at clinicalaffairs@umn.edu. For exemptions related to non-health-focused internships, community-engaged research, or other community-based activities, submit this form.

Community-Engaged Research Resources

Community Health Improvement Partnership of Hennepin County funding — Deadline: Wednesday, May 20
Mini grants of $250 to $500 available for Hennepin County community members or small teams who have local ideas and solutions to improve mental well-being and housing stability in your communities and who need a small amount of money to carry them out. People representing communities of color or indigenous populations are strongly encouraged to apply. For additional information, contact Karen Nikolai.

U of M CTSI child health COVID-19 Rapid Response funding — Deadline: Friday, May 22
The University's Clinical and Translational Science Institute Child Health COVID-19 Rapid Response Program seeks proposals for novel studies stemming from COVID-19 that affect child or adolescent health, with research teams including investigators from the University of Minnesota and Children's Minnesota.

CDC Tribal Public Health Capacity in Coronavirus Preparedness and Response funding — Deadline: Sunday, May 31
This Centers for Disease Control and Prevention funding opportunity is intended to carry out surveillance, epidemiology, laboratory capacity, infection control, mitigation, communications, and other preparedness and response activities for COVID-19.

U of M CTSI COVID-19 Rapid Response funding — Deadline: Monday, June 15
The University's Clinical and Translational Science Institute seeks proposals intended to identify and fund early-stage projects in which the primary goal is to develop solutions that address direct or indirect
healthcare impacts created or exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Other Events and Deadlines

May 13 U of M Crookston Community and Business Series: reopening your business
May 13 U of M College Readiness Consortium's COVID-19 and Summer Precollege Virtual Programs Weekly Discussion (Email dani0203@umn.edu for Zoom link)
May 15 Campus Compact's Friday Virtual Discussions: election engagement and civic learning
May 18 Keeping your Research alive through COVID-19

Additional Resources

Minneapolis Foundation releases report on teaching, learning during COVID-19
The Minneapolis Foundation has released Implementing Principles of Reimagine Minnesota in a Period of Remote Teaching and Learning: Education Equity in the Ave of COVID-19. The report includes University of Minnesota research-based insights for educators, actions for policy makers, and practical tips for parents that could lead to promising approaches in disrupting the status quo in an inequitable education system.

U of M CIDRAP outlines COVID-19 realities, next steps
A new report by the University's Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy (CIDRAP) outlines the COVID-19 situation using past influenza pandemics as models and makes recommendations for the likelihood of a lengthy timeline to reach “herd immunity.” See key recommendations from the report.

When xenophobia spreads like a virus
Professor Erika Lee, an award-winning American historian and director of the Immigration History Research Center at the University of Minnesota, says the rise of racism and xenophobia that we’re seeing during the COVID-19 public health crisis is both old and new.

APLU is working with institutions responding to the impact of COVID-19
The Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities (APLU) is working to help members address the impact of coronavirus through the association’s councils, commissions, projects, and initiatives. This updated post shares a sampling of some activities the association has undertaken to help members amid the pandemic. APLU is also sharing COVID-19-related: policy priorities and analysis; public university communications; member research; and teaching and learning approaches.

Minnesota Humanities Center's survey about creativity and culture during COVID-19
The Minnesota Humanities Center is conducting an anonymous survey gathering information on how you're spending your time during the pandemic, how things have changed, and how creativity, entertainment, culture, and other things fit into your life. To participate in the survey, click HERE by May 17.

For additional information about engagement-related activities, please visit engagement.umn.edu.

The Office for Public Engagement is part of the University of Minnesota Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost.

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