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.

Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz extends “stay at home” order for the State of Minnesota — Through Monday, May 18
This executive action directs all Minnesotans, including members of the University community, to stay home and limit trips elsewhere to critical needs only. Only those designated in “essential on-campus roles” or who receive approval through the Phase One Sunrise Plan process (see next message) are permitted to work on campus until further notice.

President Gabel's University of Minnesota “Sunrise Plan”
This plan presents details for Phase One of the gradual reopening of limited functions on our campuses and other University sites. Remember, if you are able to work from home, you are expected to continue to work from home until further notice. Faculty, staff, and students who cannot conduct their work from home now have the option to submit a request to supervisors/faculty to be considered for on-site work.

U of M Youth Online Programming: College Readiness Consortium
All University of Minnesota youth-focused online/virtual programs must register via the Youth Central website. If already registered and transitioning to online programming, email dani0203@umn.edu with activity, date, and time. Waivers must include online activity and a statement about recording, if applicable. Online programming guidelines can be found HERE. All staff involved in online activities need to go through an orientation of the guidelines. For questions and additional information, email dani0203@umn.edu.

Resources and Opportunities

Strategies for Supporting Community-Engaged Research and Teaching During COVID-19
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. All University faculty, staff, and students systemwide are invited.

Matching community and University resources and needs
Get your needs and ideas connected to others via the University’s Office for Public Engagement's new online web resources. Making Connections—Making a Difference 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.
U of M Graduate Schools offers academic, career, and campus updates
The University's Graduate School is paying close attention to COVID-19-related developments and will continually update this website with frequently asked questions.

Supporting Community Partners

U of M technology support for community partners
The University's Office for Public Engagement's COVID-19 and Community-Based Activities webpage includes information on University-support technology resources that can be accessed by community partners. Resources include accessing the University's WiFi network in sites across the state, Zoom training, and technology troubleshooting.

U of M Program in Health Disparities Research: COVID-19 Community Resources
The University's Program in Health Disparities Research has developed a list of resources in a variety of formats for faculty, staff, students, and community members in response to the COVID-19 Health Emergency. If you have additional information to should be included on this list, please contact phdr@umn.edu.

Protecting the Vulnerable During the Pandemic
Responding to the COVID-19 pandemic has been met with “safer at home” and social distancing declarations from public health officials and many elected officials. However, those recommendations may be harder on certain populations, including low-income and marginalized communities. Project Hope’s Health Affairs offers strategies on how to protect these populations.

U of M Extension online series: Practicing emotional intelligence during a community crisis experience
University of Minnesota Extension is offering a free, weekly, online series, open to anyone who wants to learn and connect with others across Minnesota to talk about the challenges and opportunities that exist in their work and communities. Weekly topics and registration can be found HERE.

Community-Engaged Teaching and Learning Resources

U of M Libraries expands reach during COVID-19
Students who are encountering unfamiliar academic situations, especially in research areas, are turning to online appointments with University of Minnesota Libraries' Peer Research Consultants (PRCs). PRCs are U of M students with strong academic records and writing skills, trained to help other students with research papers and assignments. Lately, demand for PRCs has been spiking, and the program has even begun serving Minnesota high school students looking for research help.

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 would like to connect students seeking 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.

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

WFMN COVID-19 Women and Girls Response Fund — Deadline: Friday, May 8
The Women's Foundation of Minnesota seeks grant proposals from organizations and initiatives serving women and girls experiencing gender-based violence, older women, women and girls who need short-term financial support for everyday needs due to the effects of COVID-19.
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 Clinical and Translational Science Institute child health COVID-19 Rapid Response funding — Deadline: Friday, May 22
The University's 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 4 U of M Rochester 10th annual research and education symposium
May 5 U of M Office for Public Engagement's Decolonization and the Settler Colonial State During the Pandemic
May 5 U of M Extension's Practicing Emotional Intelligence During a Community Crisis Experience
May 6 U of M College Readiness Consortium's COVID-19 and Summer Precollege Virtual Programs Weekly Discussion (Email dani0203@umn.edu for Zoom link)
May 8 Campus Compact's Friday Virtual Discussions: Supporting student well-being

Additional Resources

U of M College of Liberal Arts expertise around COVID-19
The University's College of Liberal Arts (CLA) is collecting stories demonstrating how the liberal arts advance our understanding of critical societal issues and how CLA faculty are bringing their insights and expertise to the benefit of us all during the COVID-19 pandemic.

U of M Libraries Music Library
The University Libraries website includes the Music Library's vast virtual musical storehouse of audio and video streaming databases. Music librarian, Jessica Abbazio, can make recommendations, or you can build your own playlist.

U of M University Health and Safety: Work-from-home ergonomics information
Feeling uncomfortable or experiencing pain while working at home? Check out the University Health and Safety (UHS) Work-from-Home Ergonomics fact sheet for information and tips on how to make your home office more comfortable and better for your body. Online ergonomic evaluations are now available. Visit the UHS website for more information.

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.

GivePulse survey offers snapshot of COVID-19 impact on campus volunteering
GivePulse's most recent partner survey found that 63% of campus respondents had suspended all community-based learning activities through the remainder of the term and that 67% of their partners had suspended hosting student volunteers. Read about these and other findings in GivePulse's higher education blog.
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.

©2017 Regents of the University of Minnesota. All rights reserved. The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity educator and employer.