



A Tennessee Flagship Carnegie R1 Research Institution

RESEARCH + **INNOVATION**

NEWSLETTER



Navigating Federal Research Funding Changes

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UofM Receives \$4.9M Grant from Mellon Foundation for Humanities Majors

Supports paid internships, new staff, course development, faculty stipends and professional development for faculty and staff.

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UofM Launches Memphis Research Ecosystem Leaders Program

Connects UofM faculty researchers to collaborators, fostering large-scale, transformational research ecosystems over a year.

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Advancing Equitable Care Through Data-Driven Insights

Data analysis to provide culturally competent case management and care coordination for health equity.

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UofM Receives Grant to Enhance Cybersecurity Training

Empowering the future workforce: UofM launches cybersecurity training to strengthen digital defense

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Innovating Mobility: Piloting an AI-Powered Multimodal Transit System

Advancing connectivity for Tennessee's growing vehicle manufacturing hubs.

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Empowering Future Engineers Through STEM Scholarships

Supporting student success and expanding STEM opportunities for future engineers.

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Communities of Research Scholars Funds Record 40 Projects

Projects selected to receive funding as part of recording-breaking year in the CoRS initiative.

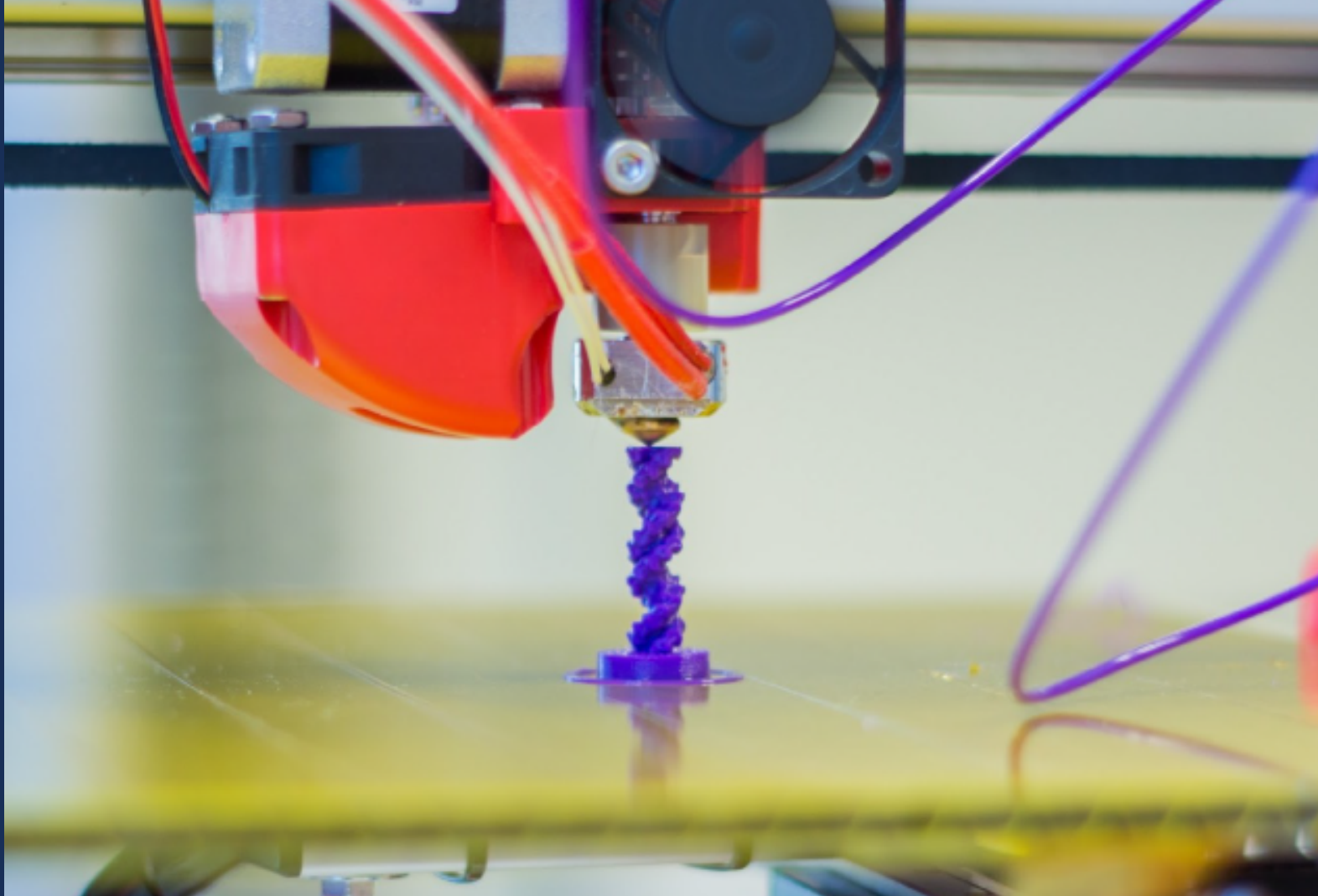
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UofM's Charles Langston Honored with 2025 Harry Fielding Reid Medal

Pioneering seismologist recognized for transformative contributions to earthquake research.

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UofM's Gao Receives ORAU Ralph E. Powe Award

Research will enable 3D printed biomimetic porous scaffolds for study on brain tumor development.

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UMRF Ventures, Inc. at UofM Celebrates Milestone

Over 100 students gained real-world experience at UMRFV before securing full-time jobs in their field.

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DOE, FDA, NIH, NSF and Robert Wood Johnson

Learn more about recent funding opportunities from federal agencies, outlining upcoming grants.

[See Full List](#)



Calendar of Events: February 2025

Learn more about research, UMRF Research Park and FedEx Institute of Technology events.

[See Full List](#)

Research Awards January 2025

Dr. Eric Bailey awarded \$4,140,938 from Peer Power Foundation Inc.

Dr. Stephanie Ivey awarded \$1,999,581 from National Science Foundation.

Dr. Santosh Kumar awarded \$1,008,061 from National Institutes of Health.

Dr. Rouzbeh Nazari awarded \$210,408.56 from U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Dr. Karimi Maryam awarded \$193,000 from U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Dr. Jennifer Renick awarded \$140,000 from the National Science Foundation.

Dr. Daniel Foti awarded \$123,531 from the National Science Foundation.

Dr. Satish Kedia awarded \$105,000 **twice** from the Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration.

Dr. Latrice Pichon awarded \$101,353 and \$98,978 from the Centers For Disease Control and Prevention.

Dr. Kathryn Howell awarded \$91,122 from the National Institutes of Health.

Dr. James McCutcheon awarded \$50,000 from the Shelby County Board of Commissioners.

Dr. Ali Fatemi awarded \$45,483 from Office of Naval Research.

Dr. Randolph Dupont awarded \$45,000 from the City of Memphis.

Dr. David Oller awarded \$37,903 from the National Institutes of Health.

Dr. Ranganathan Gopalakrishnan awarded \$35,500 from U.S. Army Research Office.

Dr. Amy Curry awarded \$30,000 from the Tennessee Department of Commerce and Insurance.

Dr. Youngsang Kwon awarded \$23,548 from the U.S. Geological Survey.

Dr. Timothy McCuddy awarded \$10,000 from the Annie E. Casey Foundation.

** Data reported on the 18 of each month. Awards finalized after the 18 will be reported the following month.*

[*Full project and award details available here.*](#)

Research Awards December 2024

Dr. Sabya Mishra awarded \$500,000 from the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development.

Dr. Ashish Joshi awarded \$459,890 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Dr. Mohd Hasan Ali awarded \$500,000 from the Department of Homeland Security.

Dr. Ashish Joshi awarded \$199,999 from the Centers for Disease Control.

Dr. Marie van der Merwe awarded \$179,550 from the National Institutes of Health.

Dr. Rodrigo Villalpando Vizcaino awarded \$165,899 from the State of Tennessee Mega site Authority of West Tennessee.

Dr. Bonny Banerjee awarded \$122,914 from the U.S. Department of Defense.

Dr. Jasbir Dhaliwal awarded \$60,417 from the National Science Foundation.

Dr. Randolph Dupont awarded \$44,000 from the City of Memphis.

Dr. Eraina Schauss awarded \$25,000 from Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare.

Dr. Fawaz Mzayek awarded \$21,956 from Gilead Sciences, Inc.

Dr. Shawn Brown awarded \$9,409 from The Cotton Foundation.

Dr. Yuan Gao awarded \$5,000 from Oak Ridge Associated Universities.

Dr. Stephanie Ivey awarded \$5,000 from (New Prime) Federal Highway Administration.

Dr. Chunrong Jia awarded \$5,000 from the King County Department of Public Health.

Dr. Lan Wang awarded \$4,528 from the National Science Foundation.

** Data reported on the 18 of each month. Awards finalized after the 18 will be reported the following month.*

[Full project and award details available here.](#)

Upcoming Events & Announcements



Technology Serving Humanity Speaker Series Welcomes Dr. Tinglong Dai

Bernard T. Ferrari Professor,
Johns Hopkins Carey Business School

Join us as we welcome Dr. Dai for his talk, "Johns Hopkins Drug Supply Chain Data Dashboard: Improving Data Transparency and Increasing Resiliency in the U.S. Pharmaceutical Supply Chain."

Dai will discuss the U.S. pharmaceutical supply chain's reliance on foreign countries heightens risks of shortages and safety issues. The Johns Hopkins Drug Supply Chain Data Dashboard provides critical insights to inform policy, address shortages and strengthen resilience.

Feb. 6 | 3 PM

Methodist Presentation Theatre (103)

FedEx Institute of Technology

[RSVP](#)



**FCBE & FedEx Institute of Technology
901 AI Meetup Welcomes
Geoff Woods**
Founder,
AI Leadership (AIL)

Join us as we welcome Geoff Woods for his talk, "The AI-Driven Leader: Harnessing AI to Make Faster, Smarter Decisions."

Every executive knows AI is the future, but many don't know where to start. This practical workshop helps your leaders get started and delivers results! By the end of the workshop, your leaders will know how to harness AI to escape operational overwhelm and lead with strategic clarity, enhance their ability to think strategically, collapse the time required to turn data into smart decisions, ask the right questions that unlock insights and growth and apply real-world examples and prompts to start gaining immediate value with AI.

Seats are limited — only 200 available!

The first 150 guests to arrive will receive a **FREE copy** of "The AI-Driven Leader" by Geoff Woods!

Feb. 27 | NOON
The Zone
FedEx Institute of Technology

[RSVP](#)



Discover & Protect Your Innovations!

The Office of Technology Transfer to Host a Townhall on End-to-End Services for Faculty

Join Dr. Hai Trieu and Ido Sarig from the Office of Technology Transfer to explore services provided, learn about intellectual property protection and licensing and share feedback to enhance our future resources.

Tuesday, Feb. 25 | 1-2:30 PM

Fishbowl (203/205)

FedEx Institute of Technology

[RSVP](#)



Fine Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Support Program

Call for Proposals

The Division of Research & Innovation is pleased to announce the 2024-2025 Fine Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences (FAHSS) Support Program to encourage the growth of externally funded research through the production of scholarly and creative works. This program provides funding in the following categories:

- Professional Indexing Grant
- Image Reproduction Fund
- Subvention Grant
- Field Work and Archival Research Grant

You may apply to any category of funding using the same application requirements below. The maximum allowable award in any category is \$2,500.

Submission Documents

Submission materials include the following:

- CV (maximum of five pages)
- Description of the scholarly work or research activity being produced as a result of funding (two pages or less)
 - For indexing, image reproduction and subvention grants please include details on the published work that will be supported with this work. If a contract or other documentation is available and may be submitted, include as an appendix (appendices do contribute to the page count)
- A summary plan for pursuing external funding including any granting agencies, foundations or other sources of funding you plan to pursue as a result of this work's publication. Including specific grants, you will apply to (one page or less).
- A brief budget narrative for your planned expenditure (one page or less)
 - If a quote for costs from a publisher is available, please include this as an appendix document.

Submission

All applications will be submitted through [InfoReady](#) (UofM log-in required).

Applications will be accepted through Friday, Feb. 28, at 5 p.m. CT.

Award Decisions

Awards will be announced in March and the period of performance will extend for one year.

For questions regarding the program or application process, email researchdev@memphis.edu.

SUBMISSIONS



December & January Professional Development Sessions

Recorded Learning Opportunities for Faculty

The Division of Research & Innovation hosts a variety of workshops, networking events and other professional development throughout the year, and any events that can be recorded and uploaded to the training archive (UofM log-in required). Below are the events from December 2024 and January 2025 that have been recorded and uploaded to the archive:

- [Cayuse Training: Creating a Proposal](#) (Dec. 5)
- [HRSA Workshop](#) (Dec. 6)
- [Budget Guidance & Subcontracts Workshop](#) (Jan. 24)
- [Grant Administration for PIs: Negotiating & Business Processes](#) (Jan. 31)

Upcoming professional development and other events can be found on the calendar [here](#). If you have any questions about the recorded events or have difficulty accessing any of the materials, please contact researchdev@memphis.edu.



Request for FY24 Book Publications

As the Division of Research & Innovation prepares to honor and recognize the University's researchers during the upcoming annual Research Celebration, we ask any faculty that have published a book during the 2024 fiscal year (July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024), please self-report your publication via the Qualtrics link below.

[SELF REPORT PUBLICATION](#)



INTEGRIT-E Collaboration Conference

SAVE THE DATE

Date: May 29-30

Location: FedEx Institute of Technology, University of Memphis Central Campus

Join us for the INTEGRIT-E Collaboration Conference, themed *Pathways to Prosperity: Overcoming Inequality Through Innovation*, as we tackle systemic challenges in the Delta region and explore innovative solutions to drive sustainable change.

Highlights:

- Engaging panels and workshops on equity, innovation and regional progress.
- Focus on grant writing, coalition building and fostering partnerships.
- Networking opportunities with leaders, policymakers and community stakeholders.

Register Now:

- Early Bird Rate (Jan 1 – Feb 20): \$75
- General Rate (Feb 20 – May 20): \$125

For more information, contact Shnesa Wiggins at scwggns1@memphis.edu. Let's create pathways to prosperity together!

REGISTER



UofM Faculty Expert List

Topics Across Various Subjects, Areas and Fields

Calling all University Partners:

As UofM marketing finalizes the new look of our UofM Newsroom, they are creating a **University Faculty Expert** list to connect faculty members with the media on news and trending topics across various subjects, areas and fields.

Please share this survey with faculty who would be interested in engaging with media requests and are open to discussing their research and insights. The ultimate goal is to create a centralized list across the University and begin to proactively pitch our experts.

Thank you for your assistance with this project.

[UofM FACULTY EXPERT LIST SURVEY](#)

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