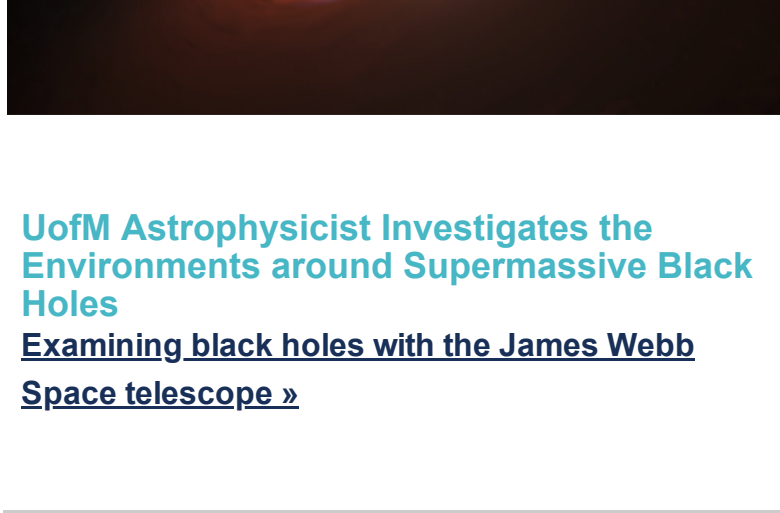


INNOVATION

NEWSLETTER

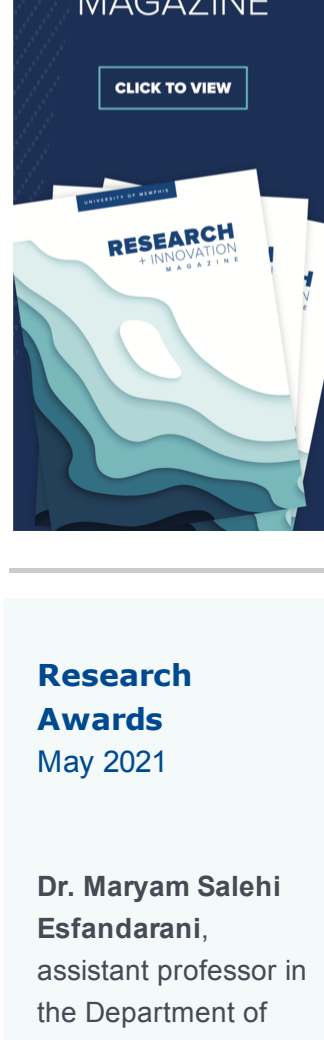
RESEARCH, TECHNOLOGY, ACHIEVEMENTS.

JUNE 2021 • COVID-19 Updates



UofM Astrophysicist Investigates the Environments around Supermassive Black Holes

[Examining black holes with the James Webb Space telescope »](#)



Brown Awarded Fulbright Scholar Honor Research in Romania to begin October 2021 »

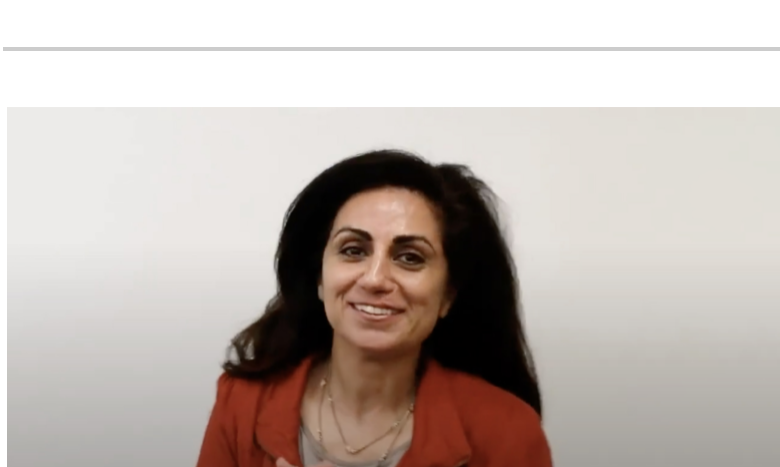


Biological Sciences Faculty Published in High-profile Journal *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, U.S.A.*

[Antarctic beetles have diversified in splendid isolation for over 50 million years »](#)



UofM Faculty Receive ORAU Award Sabri to lead UofM efforts in impact study on women in science »



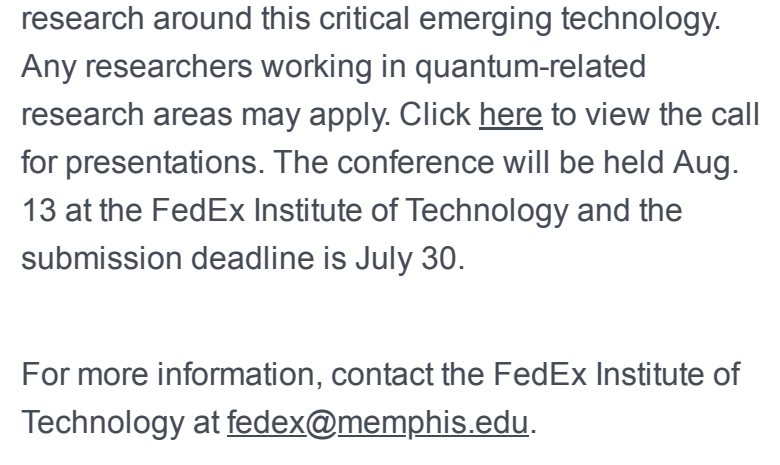
Research Development Launches Honorifics Resource Over 200 faculty included in recognitions »



UofM Scientist Receives Patent Featuring Temperature-sensing Technology Sabri's invention is currently orbiting earth on the International Space Station »



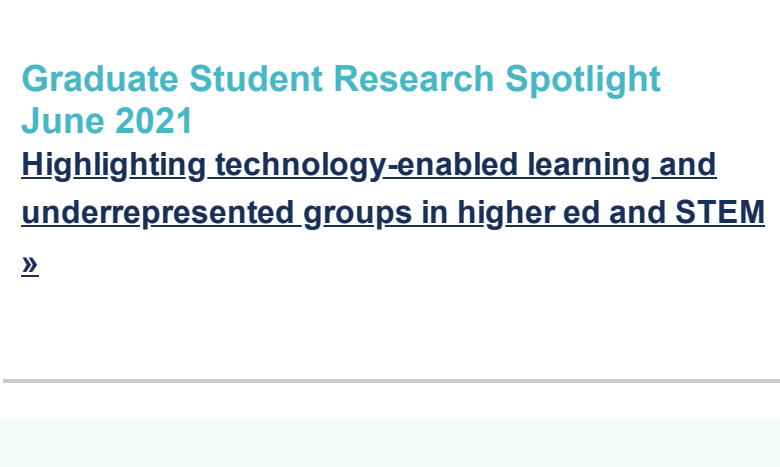
The FedEx Institute of Technology Launches the "Technology Serving Humanity" Lecture Series Will feature scholars within the social sciences, humanities, fine arts and non-technical disciplines »



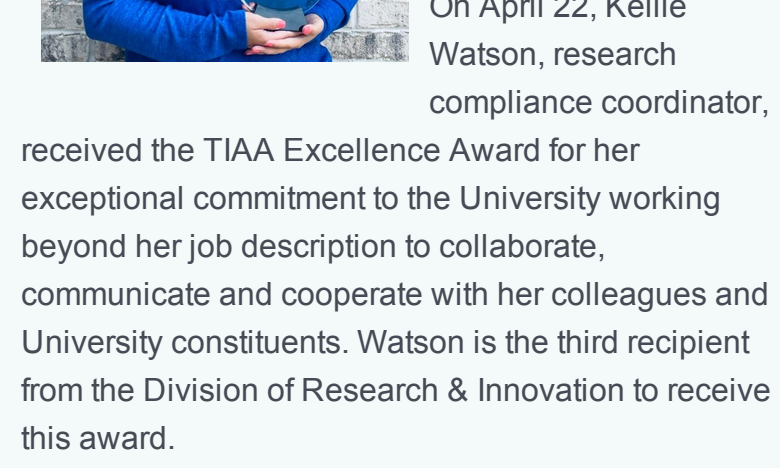
Announcing Applied Quantum Approaches Mini-Conference Call for Presentations

The FedEx Institute of Technology and the Division of Research & Innovation are hosting an inaugural **Applied Quantum Approaches Mini-Conference** in order to highlight and enhance communities of research around this critical emerging technology. Any researchers working in quantum-related research areas may apply. Click [here](#) to view the call for presentations. The conference will be held Aug. 13 at the FedEx Institute of Technology and the submission deadline is July 30.

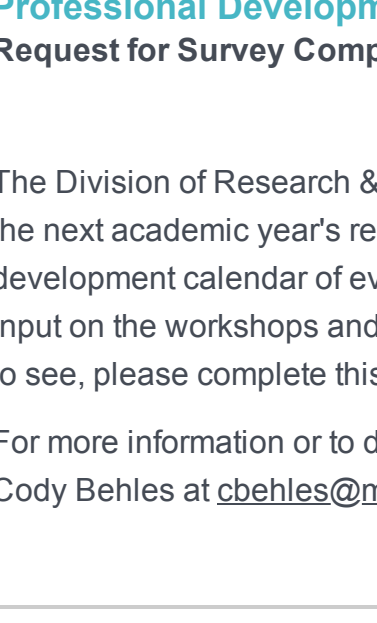
For more information, contact the FedEx Institute of Technology at fedex@memphis.edu.



The Conversation UofM Articles Published in 2021 Raising awareness on the impact of your research »



Graduate Student Research Spotlight June 2021 Highlighting technology-enabled learning and underrepresented groups in higher ed and STEM »



Compliance Corner June 2021

Watson Receives TIAA Excellence Award

On April 22, Kellie Watson, research compliance coordinator,

received the TIAA Excellence Award for her exceptional commitment to the University working beyond her job description to collaborate, communicate and cooperate with her colleagues and University constituents. Watson is the third recipient from the Division of Research & Innovation to receive this award.

Congratulations Kellie, and thank you for going the extra mile!

Office of Sponsored Programs Reminder for NIH Proposals

National Institutes of Health has recently made changes to the "Other Support Format Page" for all proposals due on or after May 25.

A summary of those changes are as follows:

1. The format page has been re-organized to separate funded projects from in-kind contributions.
2. Signature block added, for program director/principal investigator or other senior/key personnel to certify the accuracy of the information submitted. Each PD/PI or senior/key personnel must electronically sign their respective Other Support Form as a PDF prior to submission.

See full details and other changes at this [link](#). For further information, email osp@memphis.edu.

Research Awards May 2021

Dr. Maryam Salehi Esfandarani, assistant professor in the Department of Civil Engineering, was awarded \$453,144 from the National Science Foundation for her project "CAREER: An Investigation of Microplastics Fate and Contaminant Transport in Storm Runoff, The Nexus of Environmental."

Dr. Aaryani Sajja, assistant professor in the Department of Biomedical Engineering, was awarded \$298,619 from the National Institutes of Health for her project "Modeling MRI-based tissue relaxation in the presence of iron overload and steatosis."

Dr. Helen Sable, associate chair of Educational Initiatives and associate professor in the Department of Behavioral Neuroscience, was awarded \$285,908 from the National Science Foundation for her project "REU Site: Memphis Neuroscience Techniques and Research Training (NeuroSTART) Program."

Dr. Latrice Pichon, associate professor in the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences, was awarded \$50,000 from the National Institutes of Health, \$349,813 from the Centers for Disease Control and \$35,700 from the State of Tennessee with the Center For Disease Control for her projects "Collaborating with Faith Leaders of the Deep South to End the Epidemic of HIV Stigma," "Ending the HIV and Stigma Syndemic: Re-framing Health Education Content for Southern Black Churches," and "National HIV Behavioral Surveillance 2021."

Dr. Brian Waldron, associate professor in the Department of Civil Engineering, and director of the Center for Applied Earth Science and Engineering, was awarded \$33,000 from the City of Memphis and \$7,996 from the City of Piperton for his projects "BCS 2.0" and "City of Piperton WHP."

Dr. Robin Poston, dean of the Graduate School and professor in the Department of Business Information and Technology, was awarded \$29,111 from Alion Science and Technology with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) for her project "Test and Evaluation (T&E) Course Instruction in Support of Information Technology Systems on behalf of DHS S&T Test and Evaluation Division."

Dr. Matthew Smeltzer, associate professor in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, was awarded \$20,000 from the International Association for the Study of Lung Cancer for his project "Global Survey on COVID-19 and Clinical Trials."

Dr. Maxime Paquette, associate professor in the Department of Health Sciences, was awarded \$5,134 from Lever Running for his project "Effects of a Body Weight Unloading System on Biomechanics and Metabolic Cost during Treadmill Running."

Dr. Jeffrey Marchetta, associate professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, was awarded \$4,615 from Vanderbilt University with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration for his project "University of Memphis Space Grant Program."

Dr. Andrea Pirkey, post-doctoral fellow in the Department of Social Work, was awarded \$9,250 from Compass Community Schools for her project "HERO Training Program: Compass/UCI Pilot."

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

[Research + Innovation News](#)

[Quick Guide to Research & Sponsored Programs](#)

[Research Compliance](#)

[FedEx Institute of Technology News](#)

[Research Clusters](#)

[Emerging Tech Training](#)

[FIT-Blockchain901 Speaker: Blockchain Business Models from Private Clubs to the Token Economy.](#)

June 4 | 10-11 AM | Virtual

[Memphis Web Workers](#)

June 8 | 6-8 PM | Virtual

[Memphis Data Pros: Query Store feature for SQL Server on-premises and cloud](#)

June 10 | 5:30-6:30 PM | Virtual

[FedEx Institute of Technology Emerging Tech Training: Power BI](#)

June 15-17 | 3-5 PM | Virtual

[Memphis M365](#)

June 17 | 3-5 PM | Hybrid

[Memphis Game Developers](#)

June 19 | 6-8 PM | Virtual

[Memphis Python](#)

June 21 | 6:30-8:30 PM | Virtual

[Memphis PHP](#)

June 22 | 6-7:30 PM | Virtual

[Memphis Agile](#)

June 24 | 6-7:30 PM | Virtual

[West Tennessee STEM Hub Conference 2021](#)

June 30 | 8 AM-NOON | FIT Lobby, Methodist Presentation Theatre, The Zone

[Research for the newsletter? Contact us.](#)

WHAT'S NEXT? EMERGING RESEARCH

JUNE 4 | 10-11 AM

Blockchain Business Models: From Private Clubs to the Token Economy

Andy Martin

JUNE 15-17 | 8 AM-2 PM

Microsoft Power BI Training

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