

# Research Brief

## ***Message from the Senior Associate Dean for Research***

Dear Colleagues,

In the span of less than two weeks, an elementary school and a grocery store, more than 1,700 miles apart, were shattered by gun violence in Uvalde, Texas, and Buffalo, New York. Now, both share the tragic loss of friends, family, and the feeling of being unsafe in their own communities. These gunmen were motivated by different ideologies - but they succeeded because they could kill innocent lives using deadly guns. Our hearts, thoughts, and prayers go towards the victims and their families.

An 18-year old should not have access to weapons of mass casualty; the age at which an individual can legally purchase a firearm should be higher. And more importantly, years of public health research, both in the United States and globally, has shown the relationship between easy availability of guns and gun violence. In fact, for years such research was unfunded by federal agencies in the US despite the critical need. The role of the gun industry as a major commercial determinant of health in this space needs careful attention (see my OpEd in *The Hill* [here](#)). As public health professionals, we must move this discussion forward through a public health perspective - conduct more research, advocate for violence prevention, and showcase the best global evidence

With sincere condolences,

**Adnan Hyder, MD MPH PhD**  
*Senior Associate Dean for Research*  
*Professor of Global Health*  
*Milken Institute School of Public Health*

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## Did You Know?

**2020-2021 We Conducted,**

**First review of current PhD Students**

**First school-wide PhD Orientation!!**

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## ***Research Project Highlight***

### **Elucidating the Role of Human Microbiome in Host Susceptibility to Infectious Diseases**



**Dr. Cindy Liu**

**Associate Professor**

*Environmental & Occupational Health*

*Microbiology, Immunology, and*

*Tropical Medicine*

The project on ***Elucidating the role of human microbiome in host susceptibility to infectious diseases***, focuses on understanding how microbe-microbe and host-microbe interactions in the respiratory and urogenital tract affect disease risk and developing diagnostics and microbiome-based therapeutics.

Some highlights of this project are that the research identifies specific genital bacteria linked to increased HIV risk, identifies "good" nasal bacteria from microbiome and showing that they strongly inhibit *Staphylococcus aureus*, and the research team is starting to look at how nasal bacteria can influence nasal immune environment and the risk for COVID-19 and other diseases.

Funding for the project comes from four different prestigious sources. From the NIH, there are four R01s (3 GW-prime). The other funding sources are the Gates foundation (Sub), the Canadian Institute of Health Research (CIHR) (Sub), and Redstone Global Center for

Prevention and Wellness Pilot Award. The next steps for the project are to kick off our new R01 (IRB!), advance our metagenomic and transcriptomics analysis pipelines, expand our genital and respiratory microbiome/bacterial culture collection, develop microbiome-epithelial co-culture models for our target body sites.

***We are proud of our Research!!***

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## Lectures & Event

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### Research!America's Early Career Summit

During this one-day virtual event, early career researchers will have the opportunity to explore an array of career paths, network with fellow researchers, participate in professional development workshops, and engage in meaningful discussions around issues critical to the success of the R&D ecosystem.

Sample workshops and discussion topics the Summit will explore include:

- Communicating the Value of Science Through Opinion Piece Writing
- Science Communications: Mastering the Elevator Pitch
- Mentorship on the Ground: The What, Why, and How

Early career researchers in biomedical, public health, or other health-related disciplines are invited to attend, including graduate students in Master's, PhD, MD, PharmD, or similar degree programs; recent graduates; Postdocs/Fellows; and early-career employees. There is no charge for attendance.

[Register](#)



[Link to Courses](#)

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## Funding Opportunities

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Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

**Application Deadline:**

**June 24th, 2022**

**Research in Transforming Health and Healthcare Systems** program seeking “proposals to support policy-relevant, community-engaged research that helps improve the affordability of care for communities most impacted by structural racism, inequities, and discrimination.” Awards are \$50-350K/9-36 months. Brief proposals are due June 24<sup>th</sup>.

*For more information click [here](#).*



**The Greenwall Foundation**

**Application Deadline:**

**June 27th, 2022**

**The Greenwall Foundation—Making a Difference in Real-World Bioethics Dilemmas** program to support “research to help resolve an important emerging or unanswered bioethics problem in clinical, biomedical, or public health decision-making, policy, or practice.” Priority topics include bias and discrimination, trust in science, medicine, and public health, public health crises, developments in AI, and healthcare access, costs, and resource allocation. Awards are ~\$220K/18 or 24 months. LOIs are due June 27<sup>th</sup>.

*For more information click [here](#).*



**Wellcome Leap**

**Application Deadline:**

**June 30th, 2022**

**Wellcome Leap—In Utero** program “to create the scalable capacity to measure, model and predict gestational development with sufficient accuracy to reduce stillbirth rates by half, without increasing provider-initiated delivery.” Areas of focus include identification and testing of new measures and biomarkers, pilot novel approaches to data collection, development, integration and validation of predictive models of gestational development, and methods for scalable screening, prevention and intervention. There are no set award amounts for this \$50M program. Seven-page abstracts are due June 30<sup>th</sup>.

*For more information click [here](#).*



## NIHCM Foundation

Application Deadline:

July 1st, 2022

**NIHCM Foundation—Research Grants** for “innovative investigator-initiated research with high potential to inform improvements to the US health care system. Projects must advance the existing knowledge base in the areas of health care financing, delivery, management, and/or policy.” Awards are ~\$55K and LOIs are due July 1<sup>st</sup>.

*For more information click [here](#).*



## GWU EQUITY INSTITUTE INITIATIVE Seed Grant Funding

Application Deadline:

June 13th, 2022

The Equity Institute will convene top experts, publish action-oriented research, educate future leaders, and engage in transformative and interdisciplinary problem-solving to advance the eradication of racial and economic injustice in the United States and in the world. By engaging with the community, policymakers, and non-profit organizations, the Equity Institute will translate innovative research into tangible community benefits. By leveraging GW's prominent faculty, energetic students, vast network of renowned alumni, and location in Washington, D.C., the Equity Institute will become a national model for equity policy, research, and education.

### Fall 2022 EEI Seed Grant Funding Details

- **Project Focus:** STEM, Technology, Social Science, and Global projects
- **Application Deadline:** June 13, 2022
- **Number of Awards:** Up to (3)
- **Award Amount:** Up to \$75k (per project)
- **Documents required from all Applicants:** Seed Grant Project Agreement and Seed Funding Project Proposal Form (see attached)
- **Disbursement Date:** July 8, 2022

### Important EEI Project Dates

- **Funding Announcement/ Applications Available:** May 16, 2022
- **Proposal Deadlines:** June 13, 2022
- **Internal Application Review:** June 14-17, 2022
- **Awardees Notified:** June 20, 2022
- **Funds Disbursed (GW Law Finance Office):** July 8, 2022

- **Benchmark Deliverables for Seed Grant Funding (not required in order to disburse funds):**
  - September 9, 2022 *\*(9) wk mark*
  - December 9, 2022 *\*(22) wk mark*
  - March 10, 2023 *\*(35) wk mark*
- **Overall Project Duration:** (8) months & (3) weeks

## University Seminar Series Funding Program

**Application Deadline:**

**June 9th, 2022**

The University Seminars Series Funding Program was established in 1985 to foster sustained discussion of issues which cross traditional disciplinary boundaries among members of the George Washington University (GW) faculty, possibly including their distinguished counterparts in universities, research centers, federal agencies, international organizations and private industry throughout the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. The goal is to connect the traditional research and scholarly endeavors of the academy across disciplines, thereby ensuring an exchange of perspectives and information. The seminars should promote new inquiry rather than already established programs.

Funding range: up to \$4,000 per year. Funding may be renewed for up to two additional years.

June Deadlines

Continuous Deadlines



## Pod 2 Job Opportunity

Are you looking for full-time employment? Have you thought about a career in Research Administration here at GW? Do you have the following key attributes: good organizational skills, strong financial capacity, basic understanding of scientific research, and an ability to prioritize tasks? Knowledge of basic accounting or economics, the ability to monitor and manage multiple needs simultaneously is critical along with basic familiarity of Excel and tracking information are all key attributes that promote success in research administration. Looking to apply? A well-rounded resume, with a focus on organization and project management will get you noticed.

*For more details click here.*



## Research Resources



**REDCap is available for current GW faculty, staff, students, and affiliates after completing the GW RedCap Online Training.**

**REDCap (Research Electronic Data Capture)** is a secure web application for building and managing online surveys and databases. REDCap can be used to collect virtually any type of data, enables rapid project development, provides users with complete autonomy and control of a project, and direct exports to common statistical packages.

**Visit the [website](#) for more information.**

**Early Career Reviewer (ECR) Program:** The NIH Offers an Opportunity for Early Career Faculty to join and to take part in the Grant Review Process and to Gain Insights for their Own Applications.



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