

**Office of Research and Economic Development**

**2023 Fall Seminar Series**

**IGNITING**  
*the* **RESEARCH** *that* **MATTERS**

**AN INFORMATIVE GUIDE TO THE PROGRAMS AND PRESENTERS FOR THE FALL 2023 ORED SEMINAR  
SERIES LINEUP, ALONG WITH SCHEDULE AND REGISTRATION LINKS.**

From August to November, the Office of Research and Economic Development will host workshops and other events that promote a greater understanding of how the Mississippi State University research enterprise can help develop and grow individual and institutional capacity for quality proposal writing. Running the gamut from responsible research to emerging trends, these events are separated into Tracks so that the user may easily identify which topics are most beneficial to them, as each offers different types of education. The Responsible Research Track will enable attendees to gain credits for certification. All tracks are open to MSU faculty and staff and will be offered in either virtual or in-person formats.

**SPECIAL EVENTS TRACK (SE)**

**SYMPOSIA TRACK (SYM)**

**SEMINAR TRACK (SEM)**

**RESPONSIBLE RESEARCH TRACK (RR)**

**FUNDER FOCUS TRACK (FF)**

The next two pages show events in chronological order.

Click the event to see program details, presenters, and locations.

**SE: Office of Research & Economic Development Welcome Back Open House & Networking Social**

*Wed., Aug. 23rd from 3pm – 6:30pm*

**SEM: Proposal Preparation 101: A Crash Course in MSU's Grant-Related Processes & Support Services**

*Thur., Aug. 24th from 10am – 12pm*

**FF: National Science Foundation (NSF)**

*Mon., Aug. 28th from 1pm – 4pm*

**SEM: Telling Your Research Story: Leveraging MSU's Resources for Funding Success & Strategic Visibility**

*Wed., Sept. 6th from 2pm – 4pm*

**SYM: The Cyber Spectrum: Research, Innovation, and Impact Across Disciplines**

*Thur., Sept. 14th from 1pm - 5pm*

**RR: Collaborative Research: Tips for Success and Advice for Overcoming Obstacles**

*Fri., Sept. 15th from 9am – 10am*

**SE: Workshop: "Write Winning Proposals," Presented by Grantwriters, LLC**

*Tue., Sept. 19th from 8:30am – 4:30pm*

**RR: Ethical Research: Strategies for Avoiding Plagiarism**

*Sat., Sept. 23rd from 10am – 11am*

**RR: Collaboration and Mentorship: Ethics and Best Practices**

*Wed., Oct. 4th from 9am – 10am*

**SEM: Demonstrating Research Impact through Outreach and Engagement**

*Tue., Oct. 10th from 10am – 12pm*

**SEM: Driving Grant Funding through the Diversity & Inclusion Imperative**

*Tue., Oct. 24th from 10am – 12pm*

**FF: Department of Defense (DoD)**

*Wed., Oct. 25th from 1pm – 4pm*

**RR: Contemporary Ethical Issues in Research: Social Responsibility in the Research Process**

*Thur., Nov. 2nd from 9am – 10am*

**SEM: New Frontiers: Multidisciplinary Research Challenges in Space Exploration & Future Communities**

*Thur., Nov. 9th from 2pm – 4pm*

**SYM: Autonomous Systems: Inspiring Innovation Across Land, Air, & Sea**

*Tue., Nov. 14th from 1pm – 5pm*

**SEM: Defending the Nation: An Overview of Modern National Security Challenges & Research Opportunities**

*Mon., Nov. 27th from 10am – 12pm*

# **SPECIAL EVENTS**

This fall, there are two special events scheduled.

The first is the Seminar Series kickoff event in August and the second is the September proposal writing workshop.

# SPECIAL EVENT #1

## ORED OPEN HOUSE & NETWORKING SOCIAL

Wednesday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> @ 301 Research Blvd.

**OPEN HOUSE from 3 pm – 5 pm | NETWORKING SOCIAL from 5 pm – 6:30 pm**

Vice President for Research and Economic Development, Dr. Julie Jordan, invites you to an open house to meet members of the ORED support units, representatives of many university centers and institutes, and the ORED leadership. Join us for food and fellowship and get to know the professional research administrators and personnel who work to advance the MSU research enterprise and support your work. Open house will take place from 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. and refreshments will be served. An after-hours networking social will begin at 5:00 p.m. ORED is located in the Research Park at 301 Research Boulevard. We have plenty of parking and no registration is necessary for this event, however we kindly request you RSVP.

We look forward to seeing you!

- **Meet the Team:** Engage in conversations with our exceptional research support personnel and learn about the myriad of services they provide to assist you in your scholarly and funding pursuits.
- **Networking Opportunities:** Connect with fellow faculty members from different departments to foster interdisciplinary collaborations and the exchange of innovative ideas.
- **Tour the Facilities:** See the services and spaces available at 301 Research Boulevard to support your work, as well as the tools and technologies employed by our research support team to streamline your research processes.
- **Refreshments & Hors d'oeuvres:** Enjoy a delightful spread of refreshments during open house and stick around for an after-hours social until 6:30 pm.

Kindly confirm your attendance by [RSVP](#). Directions to [301 Research Boulevard](#).

# SPECIAL EVENT #2

## “WRITE WINNING PROPOSALS” WORKSHOP

Tuesday, September 19<sup>th</sup> from 8:30-4:30 @ Colvard Student Union Ballroom U

This full day, in-person workshop (lunch provided) will present strategies and tips for writing proposals for the National Science Foundation and the National Institutes of Health, however the skills taught are transferable to most federal granting agencies. Emphasis is given to doing the “extra” things that can make the difference between success and failure. Participants are guided through the process of writing with a linear progression of logic, which leads reviewers through an application without them knowing that they are being led.

Seminar attendees will also learn strategies for managing the fact that certain sections of the proposal are being written for two different reviewer audiences. That is, the assigned reviewers, who read the application in its entirety, and the non-assigned reviewers, who may have read little to none of the application prior to the meeting of the review panel.

Participants receive an extensive handout and choice of an NSF, NIH, or USDA Grant Application Writer’s Workbook. Following the workshop, participants will have the option to apply to join a year-long intensive cohort for personalized support with their proposal from the consultant, Dr. Lauren Broyles.

Register [HERE](#) by August 25<sup>th</sup>.



# SYMPOSIA

Two half-day symposia will provide a platform for stakeholders, faculty, and students to engage around a central theme. Format will typically include a guest keynote talk, panels of guests representing multi-disciplinary perspectives on the topic, discussions of institutional capabilities, and lightning talks by MSU personnel with relevant research or work to share. Opportunities for student engagement will be a part of each.

Register [HERE](#) for Symposia.

# SYMPOSIUM #1

Thursday, September 14<sup>th</sup> from 1pm – 5pm @ Colvard Student Union Ballroom U

## THE CYBER SPECTRUM: RESEARCH, INNOVATION, AND IMPACT ACROSS DISCIPLINES

The word “cyber” emerged as synonym for virtual and information technologies, but now represents the influence of those technologies in every sector of modern life. From consumer safety, e-commerce, and national security, to crime, culture, and infrastructure, there are endless opportunities for research and a growing need to prepare the future workforce for managing the next wave of cyber impacts. MSU is uniquely positioned to be on the cutting edge of teaching and research regarding emerging technologies and demands in cyber-related industries. The Cyber Spectrum Symposia will feature sessions on the current state of - and opportunities developing in -the cybersphere, to broaden engagement on this topic across campus for future collaboration, and to identify institutional capacities for emerging opportunities. [Save the date and register now](#). Full details, agenda, and speakers will be announced via email. If you would like to present a lightning talk at this event, use [this link](#) to access the solicitation.



# SYMPOSIUM #2

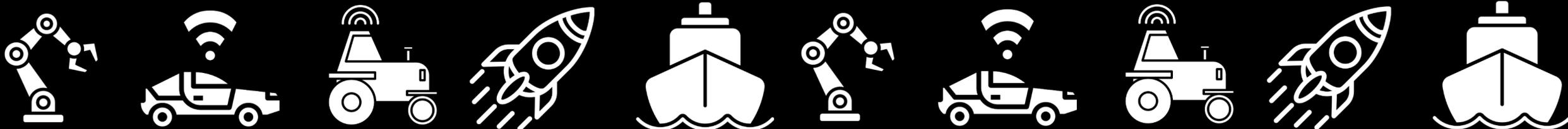
Tuesday, November 14<sup>th</sup> from 1pm – 5pm @ Colvard Student Union Ballroom U

## AUTONOMOUS SYSTEMS: INSPIRING INNOVATION ACROSS LAND, AIR & SEA

Autonomous systems are proving essential to improving productivity, mitigating dangerous conditions, and overcoming dwindling workforces across numerous sectors. MSU is recognized as a leader for research and development to help industry and government stakeholders meet demands for new technologies, and the preparation of a workforce trained to use them. Autonomous technologies and systems are rapidly impacting economic development, agriculture, aerospace, and marine industries, as well as creating new methods for data analysis and driving need for innovative paths to commercialization.

The Autonomous Systems Symposia will feature guests representing the many impacted sectors and industries, such as NOAA, U.S. Geological Survey, MS Emergency Management Association, FAA, MDOT, The US Army Corps of Engineers, and MS Dept of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks, and private industry to name a few. Additionally, MSU faculty and researchers will share some of the exciting work going on in the area of Autonomous Systems. [Save the date and register now.](#)

The full agenda with confirmed speakers will be announced via email.



# SEMINARS

Fall seminars will focus on trending, timely topics with potential relevance to a large segment of the university community. Seminars will feature both internal and external guests, with the goal of increasing institutional collaboration and awareness of opportunities.

Register [HERE](#) for seminars.

# **PROPOSAL PREPARATION 101: A CRASH COURSE IN MSU'S GRANT-RELATED PROCESSES & SUPPORT SERVICES**

Whether you are new to MSU or just need a refresher on where and how to begin your quest for funding, this overview of the systems and supports for grantseekers at MSU will help get you started! This workshop will cover the steps required in proposal preparation, as well as a review of the “who does what,” throughout the lifecycle of a proposal and award. Attendees will leave with the knowledge of essential administrative requirements for preparing proposals for submission to funding agencies and guidance on where to source additional support for proposal development and award management at the unit and central levels. We are excited to help you navigate the world of grants successfully.

Register [HERE](#) for seminars.

# **S E M I N A R**

## **# 1**

**Thursday, August 24**

**10am – 12pm**

**Fowlkes Auditorium,  
Colvard Student Union**

Presenter:  
Stephanie Hyche, Director,  
Office of Research  
Development

# SEMINAR

## #2

**Wednesday, September 6  
2pm – 4pm**

**Fowlkes Auditorium,  
Colvard Student Union**

Presenters:

Dr. Brent Fountain, Vice Provost

James Carskadon, Research Editor, Office  
of Public Affairs

Chris Bryant, Branding and Marketing  
Resource Manager, Office of Public  
Affairs

Karyn Brown, Director of  
Communication and Instructor II, College  
of Arts and Sciences

## TELLING YOUR RESEARCH STORY: LEVERAGING MSU'S RESOURCES FOR FUNDING SUCCESS & STRATEGIC VISIBILITY

Effective communication of research and outreach activities has strategic value to faculty in promoting their scholarship, procuring funding, and to advancing the overall mission of the university. This seminar will bring together colleagues to discuss why it matters for faculty to promote their activities in a way that is aligned with the institutional strategies for messaging, branding, and marketing our “stories,” explore what supports are available and how to utilize the personnel and services at MSU to enhance your proposals, and share some trends and lessons learned from colleagues who are actively deploying use of a shared institutional voice and persona in persuasive and promotional writing, such as grant proposals and marketing tools.

**Register [HERE](#) for seminars.**

# DEMONSTRATING RESEARCH IMPACT THROUGH OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT

Outreach & engagement scholarship and service has grown substantially at colleges and universities over the years, and funders are increasingly looking to broaden the impact of their investments. With the modern technological advancements and changing generational preferences, higher education is reaching more non-traditional students and audiences, which grantseekers can leverage to increase the impact of their work. In this program, we will discuss the differences in outreach and engagement scholarship and service, and the types of faculty activities required for both. Guidance will be provided to help faculty engage in effective partnerships with the public and private sectors to enrich scholarship, research, creative activity, and to enhance curriculum, teaching and learning. This workshop will also identify how faculty should plan, implement, evaluate, and document outreach and engagement scholarship and service on the *Annual Faculty Evaluation Form and Promotion and Tenure Application*. Additional resources will be provided by ORD on integrating these activities into grant proposals.

Register [HERE](#) for seminars.

# SEMINAR

## #3

**Thursday, October 10**

**10am – 12pm**

**Fowlkes Auditorium,  
Colvard Student Union**

Presenter:

Dr. Gary Jackson,  
Associate VP for Outreach  
and Engagement,  
Office of the Provost, and  
Professor of Agricultural  
Education and  
Communication

# SEMINAR

## #4

**Tuesday, October 24**

**10am – 12pm**

**Fowlkes Auditorium,  
Colvard Student Union**

**Presenters:**

Delaney Foster, Associate Director for Planning  
& Assessment, Division of Access, Diversity &  
Inclusion

Dr. Devon Brenner, Director, Social Science  
Research Center and Professor

Dr. Ryan Folk, Assistant Professor, Biological  
Sciences

## DRIVING GRANT FUNDING THROUGH THE DIVERSITY & INCLUSION IMPERATIVE

Funding agencies of all types are increasingly requiring PIs to incorporate diversity, social change, and inclusive practices into their proposals. In addition to including such practices as project objectives or deliverables, many funding opportunities, including those from the National Science Foundation, Department of Energy, the Department of Defense, the National Institutes of Health, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, require special proposal components describing plans for integrating principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion. If you write for any of these funders, this is a must-attend session! The MSU Division of Access, Diversity and Inclusion can fuel your great ideas through research, writing, evaluation, and programmatic collaborations for a more impactful grant proposal. Join this session for general inclusive proposal writing best practices and an overview of how ADI can help you craft inclusive recruitment and retention plans, create and assess inclusive environments, and create strong Broader Impact statements.

**Register [HERE](#) for seminars.**

# NEW FRONTIERS: MULTIDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH CHALLENGES IN SPACE EXPLORATION & FUTURE COMMUNITIES

There are myriad capabilities needed to reach the increasingly tangible reality of future space communities. From agricultural and medical considerations for sustaining human life, to the computational, mechanical, and autonomous systems for building infrastructure and mitigating unique environments, there are opportunities to engage in mission-critical research. This seminar will explore the diverse and multi-disciplinary research opportunities needed to prepare humanity for living in space. What are the social and psychological dynamics that might impact human behavior in confined communities? How might AI and robotics revolutionize engineering and healthcare in distant space? How will innovative techniques and on-demand manufacturing be utilized to manage available resources in harsh conditions? How will we grow food and provide shelter in unfavorable geological conditions? These are only a few of the topics to be discussed in this exciting program. Come learn more about how your research may play a part in a new frontier!

Register [HERE](#) for seminars.

# SEMINAR #5

**Thursday, November 9**

**2pm – 4pm**

**Fowlkes Auditorium,  
Colvard Student Union**

Presenter:

Josh Arceneaux, Booz Allen's NASA Human Space Flight line business delivering Systems Engineering and Integration, Digital Engineering, Digital Transformation, and Project Management across the Artemis Programs, the International Space Station, the Commercial Crew Program, and the NASA Space Communications Network.

# SEMINAR #6

**Monday, November 27  
10am – 12pm**

**Fowlkes Auditorium,  
Colvard Student Union**

Presenter:

Dr. Jim Martin, Associate VP for  
Corporate Engagement and  
Economic Development

## **DEFENDING THE NATION: AN OVERVIEW OF MODERN NATIONAL SECURITY CHALLENGES & RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES**

The term "national security" encompasses a wide range of disciplines and impact areas, all of which are crucial for safeguarding a nation's sovereignty, citizens, and interests from internal and external threats. The concept of national security is not limited to military defense but extends to various dimensions including energy and food security, environmental security, public health, humanitarian aid and disaster response, diplomacy and foreign policy, intelligence and counterintelligence, and trade and economics, just to name a few. Please join us to hear about MSU's ongoing efforts to identify and address these and other national security challenges, our institutional capabilities faculty might leverage to strengthen their research, and current related funding opportunities.

Register [HERE](#) for seminars.

# RESPONSIBLE RESEARCH

Responsible Research programs will deliver content that will fulfill requirements for Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) credit. Topics, presenters, and content have been provided via the Office of Research Compliance and Security to ensure compliance with these requirements. Responsible Research programs will be offered in hybrid format: in-person in the 301 Research Blvd. training room and live-streamed to enable virtual participation.

Register [HERE](#) for responsible research.

# RESPONSIBLE RESEARCH #1

**Friday, September 15  
9am – 10am**

**301 Research Blvd.  
Webex**

## COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH: TIPS FOR SUCCESS AND ADVICE FOR OVERCOMING OBSTACLES

What does it take to build and sustain a research collaboration? In this presentation, we will discuss steps for establishing and strengthening cross-disciplinary collaborations and share our experiences working with industry, academic, and government partners. Our goal for this presentation is for attendees to gain ideas for specific actions they can take to establish collaborations for sustained success.

Presenters:

Dr. Lauren Priddy, Associate Professor, Ag & Bio Engineering

Dr. Matthew Priddy, Associate Professor, Mechanical Engineering

Register [HERE](#) for responsible research.

# ETHICAL RESEARCH: STRATEGIES FOR AVOIDING PLAGIARISM

# RESPONSIBLE RESEARCH #2

This workshop will discuss the importance of ethics research, including strategies for avoiding plagiarism. RCR credit will be available for this session.

**Saturday, September 23  
10am – 11am**

**Webex Only**

Presenter:

Dr. Deborah Lee, Professor and Associate Dean – Research, Teaching and Engagement, MSU Libraries

Register [HERE](#) for responsible research.

# RESPONSIBLE RESEARCH #3

## COLLABORATION & MENTORSHIP: ETHICS AND BEST PRACTICES

**Wednesday, October 4**  
**9am – 10am**

**301 Research Blvd.**  
**Webex**

**Register [HERE](#)**  
**for responsible**  
**research.**

This talk is designed to provide emerging researchers with comprehensive guidance on fostering ethical practices, maintaining professional relationships, & navigating the intricacies of mentorship within the research community. Collaborative research and mentorship are essential not only for advancing science in any given field but also for developing a strong resume to ensure success and advancement for faculty and students. Best practices for establishing goals and expectations within collaborations and mentoring relationships and understanding ethical considerations for the roles of mentees, mentors, and collaborators will be shared and discussed. This is not a talk about various types of research misconduct but rather a starting point to help researchers understand the various structures (I don't like this word) these relationships can assume so they can begin to develop their own strategy for successful establishment and navigation of collaboration and mentoring in their career.

Presenter: Dr. Kari Babski-Reeves, Professor/Dept. Head, Industrial Systems Engineering / Associate Dean, Bagley  
College of Engineering

# CONTEMPORARY ETHICAL ISSUES IN RESEARCH: SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

# RESPONSIBLE RESEARCH #4

This session will focus on scientists' responsibilities toward society and the environment. Specifically, we will discuss ethical considerations that arise at each stage of the research process, from selecting your research topic to publishing your results. We will also discuss socially responsible ways to address these issues.

Presenters:

Dr. Stacy Haynes, Professor, Sociology

Dr. Diego Thompson, Assistant Professor, Sociology

Register [HERE](#) for responsible research.

Thursday, November 2  
9am – 10am

301 Research Blvd.  
Webex

# FUNDER FOCUS

The Funder Focus Track will provide information relevant to faculty researchers and research support personnel on agency-specific priorities, regulations, and considerations for preparing proposals to and managing awards from these organizations. Each program will consist of the following:

- an overview of the agency's funding priorities, initiatives, and organizational structure for grantmaking
- highlights of specific funding sources or programs of broad interest
- highlights of MSU initiatives funded by the agency and best practices gleaned by the awarded project PI/Director
- MSU administrative and compliance support personnel speaking to the administrative and regulatory considerations for working with the agency.

Register [HERE](#) for funder focus.

# FUNDER FOCUS #1

Monday, August 28 from 1pm – 4pm  
Franklin Building Auditorium

## NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Event Highlights and Tentative Agenda:

- NSF agency overview, priorities, organizational structure, new programs and initiatives
  - Stephanie Hyche, Office of Research Development
- NSF Policy and Procedure updates
  - Becky Bassett, Sr. Grants and Contract Administrator, Office of Sponsored Projects
- A review of agency-specific institutional resources for proposal preparation
  - Ashley Miller, Contracts and Grants Specialist, College of Arts and Sciences
- Panel Discussion: Program-specific lessons learned and best practices:
  - Dr. Deb Mlsna, Associate Professor, Chemistry (representing Research Experiences for Undergraduates projects)
  - Dr. Nick Fitzkee, Professor, Chemistry (representing Major Research Instrumentation projects)
  - Dr. Wen Meng Tian, Assistant Professor, Industrial and Systems Engineering (representing the CAREER award)
  - Dr. Vuk Marojevic, Associate Professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering (representing collaborative NSF projects)
  - Dr. Katie Echols, Executive Director of Research Initiatives & Innovation, ORED (representing EPSCoR)
- Q&A and Networking

# FUNDER FOCUS #2

Thursday, November 2 from 1pm – 4pm  
Franklin Building Auditorium

## U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Event Highlights and Tentative Agenda:

- DoD organizational structure, granting entities, and funding priorities
  - *Stephanie Hyché, Office of Research Development*
- Overview of ERDC
  - *Tasha Bibb, Senior Program Manager, Office of Technology Management*
- DoD Risk Matrix
  - *Chris Jenkins, Research Security Officer, Office of Research Compliance*
- DoD success at MSU and lessons learned working with DoD:
  - *Mike Navicky, Director, MSU High-Performance Computing Collaboratory*
  - *Dr. Reed Mosher, Director Institute for Systems Engineering Research*
- DoD administrative, compliance, and operational considerations for proposals, contracts, and awards
  - *Gretchen Crawford, Office of Sponsored Projects, Senior Grants and Contracts Administrator*
  - *Denise Navicky, ASSURE, Business Development and Capture Manager*
  - *Criss Bell, CAVS, Research Administrator*
  - *Jeannette Bailey, Sponsored Programs Accounting, Sponsored Program Manager*
  - *Sharon Hamlin – Director, Receiving and Property Control*