Campus Updates

Funding Available to Increase Vaccine Awareness

The BlueCross Foundation has issued a request for proposals for COVID-19 Vaccine Campaign Funding. That will provide funding to leverage local resources to increase vaccine awareness and vaccination rates. Connecticut-based BlueCross BlueShield and Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Tennessee partnered to create the BlueCross Foundation to support innovative nonprofit projects that improve health and access to care in Tennessee. The $10 million fund is intended to ensure residents of Tennessee have access to the COVID-19 vaccine, with a special focus on increasing vaccination rates in underserved communities. The BlueCross Foundation will accept proposals from organizations that can demonstrate the ability to meet the needs of vulnerable populations in their communities. Applications are due April 30. Winners will receive national recognition and up to $20,000 in prize money. Office hours will be held at 2:30 p.m. EST on April 22 and April 27. Details can be found at https://www.bluecrossfoundation.org/. Winners will be announced May 18.

New Opportunities and Funding

Amazon Commits $750,000 to Haslam College of Business

The College of Business at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, has received a $5,000 Amazon Community Engaged Scholars Grant. The grant will be used to provide funding to support research, educational programming, and service learning activities that contribute to the college's aspiration to become one of the top business schools in the country. The grant will also support the college's diversity initiative, which aims to increase the number of diverse students and faculty in the college. The grant will be used to fund student and faculty research, educational programming, and service learning activities that contribute to the college's aspiration to become one of the top business schools in the country. The grant will also support the college's diversity initiative, which aims to increase the number of diverse students and faculty in the college. The grant will be used to fund student and faculty research, educational programming, and service learning activities that contribute to the college's aspiration to become one of the top business schools in the country. The grant will also support the college's diversity initiative, which aims to increase the number of diverse students and faculty in the college.

Vaccine Campaign Funding.

Grace Ochoco, Assistant Director of the Office of Community Engagement and Outreach (Office of CE), will serve as match lead for the BlueCross Foundation’s request for proposals. Office of CE has several ongoing initiatives that address the needs of vulnerable populations in the state of Tennessee, including health equity, social determinants of health, and workforce development. These initiatives will also be enhanced through the grant.

The UT Graduate School of Medicine (UTGSM) has launched a new in-person, full-time, paid research program for undergraduate students called Advancing Access to Careers in Medicine. From June 7-July 30, this new research program is designed to improve knowledge of and access to careers in medicine and medical research among UT students who possess an outstanding commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion. The program is open to all undergraduate students who are citizens or permanent residents of the U.S. and are enrolled in a four-year college or university. The program will provide students with the opportunity to work with UTGSM faculty and staff to gain hands-on experience in medical research. The program will also provide students with the opportunity to network with current medical students and healthcare professionals. The program will conclude with a poster session and award ceremony. For more information, please visit https://www.utk.edu/gsmd/programs/advancing-access-careers-medicine.

Federal COVID-19 Relief Funding for Need-Based Awards

UT has begun distributing $19.62 million in federal student emergency relief funds directly to student grants to more than double the $9.62 million allocated under the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II (HEERF II) to eligible students. On March 24, the U.S. Department of Education released $46 billion in emergency relief funds to colleges and universities to provide “substantive assistance” to “students and families adversely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.” The funds were allocated based on the number of full-time equivalent students a college had on March 12, 2020. UT has used these funds to provide additional funding to students who are struggling as a result of the pandemic. UT students can access the funds here: http://communityengagement.utk.edu/.

From the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II (HEERF II), UT has designated $4.62 million for students in the College of Arts and Sciences, the College of Communication and Information, the College of Engineering, the College of Law, and the UT College of Veterinary Medicine. UT has also designated $2.5 million for students in the College of Social Work, the College of Business, the College of Nursing, and the Haslam College of Business. UT has designated $2 million for students in the College of Education, the College of Communication and Information, the College of Engineering, the College of Law, and the UT College of Veterinary Medicine. UT has also designated $1.5 million for students in the College of Social Work, the College of Business, the College of Nursing, and the Haslam College of Business. UT has designated $1 million for students in the College of Arts and Sciences, the College of Communication and Information, the College of Engineering, the College of Law, and the UT College of Veterinary Medicine. UT has also designated $750,000 for students in the College of Social Work, the College of Business, the College of Nursing, and the Haslam College of Business. UT has designated $750,000 for students in the College of Arts and Sciences, the College of Communication and Information, the College of Engineering, the College of Law, and the UT College of Veterinary Medicine. UT has also designated $750,000 for students in the College of Social Work, the College of Business, the College of Nursing, and the Haslam College of Business. UT has designated $750,000 for students in the College of Arts and Sciences, the College of Communication and Information, the College of Engineering, the College of Law, and the UT College of Veterinary Medicine. UT has also designated $750,000 for students in the College of Social Work, the College of Business, the College of Nursing, and the Haslam College of Business.