

# RESEARCH@TC MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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Office of the Vice Dean for Research

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## WELCOME MESSAGE

**Dear Colleagues,**

I hope you are doing well and enjoying the fall season. As we progress through a new academic year, I am thrilled to share some exciting updates that will enhance our newsletter and the support structure for research here at Teachers College. We are revamping and updating the newsletter to better serve you and highlight the valuable resources that are available to support your research and scholarship.

We are introducing our new initiative, [From Roots to Research](#), a monthly blog series that will spotlight one of our distinguished scholars from Teachers College, showcasing their origins of research and unique journey and insights.

I am also delighted to extend a warm welcome to our new Administrative Fellows, Sumit Karn and Isabella Zhong! They bring fresh perspectives and innovative ideas to our office. Additionally, I would like to take a moment to acknowledge and express my appreciation for the dedication of our outgoing IRB Chair, [Dr. Karen Froud](#), whose tenure concluded on August 31st. I want to welcome and thank [Dr. Peter Gordon](#) as he steps into this important role of TC IRB chair.

In this issue, you will find information about a grant writing workshop hosted by the Gordon Institute and co-sponsored by the VDR office, a curated list of current funding opportunities, and key announcements and updates for our faculty and student researchers. I encourage you to explore these resources and leverage the support available to you. Please feel free to reach out with any questions, ideas, or suggestions you have. I welcome your input as we work together to strengthen research at TC.

Warm regards,  
Caroline

**Caroline Ebanks, Ph.D.**  
**Vice Dean for Research**

## FROM ROOTS TO RESEARCH

**Meet Dr. Carol Scheffner Hammer**  
**Professor of Communication Sciences and Disorders**

### **From Roots to Research: A Conversation with Dr. Carol Scheffner Hammer**

This month, in our inaugural [From Roots to Research](#) feature, we sat down with Dr. Carol Scheffner Hammer, a scholar whose career has been shaped by diverse experiences, spanning from speech-language pathology to groundbreaking research on bilingual children's development, from Saipan to San Francisco and then now to New York. Dr. Hammer discusses how her work as a speech-language pathologist and her focus on bilingual children's development inform her current research. Read her full story on the [Research@TC](#) website, where she shares her journey, the challenges she has faced, and her advice for future researchers.

## WORKSHOP ANNOUNCEMENT

### **Workshop on Best Practices for Approaching Funders and Grant Proposal Writing - REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

The [Edmund W. Gordon Institute for Advanced Study](#) is offering a two-part workshop co-sponsored by the Office of the Vice Dean for Research. Participants will learn to navigate the proposal drafting process, analyze successful case studies, and reframe rejection as an opportunity for growth. This workshop will be led by [Ed Dieterle](#), a researcher and former program officer with extensive experience on both sides of fundraising.

For in-person and online participation please register [here](#). The in-person session will take place at Teachers College, Columbia University. Space is limited. Virtual participation will be available via Zoom.

Part I - Friday, November 1, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Part II - Friday, November 15, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

## ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM OFFICES THAT SUPPORT RESEARCH AT TC

**DIGITAL FUTURES INSTITUTE's (DFI) MULTIMODAL TOOLKIT:** The team at DFI created a multimodal toolkit to support TC students and faculty who want to produce multimodal projects. [Check out the toolkit here.](#)

### VICE DEAN FOR RESEARCH (VDR)

- *From Roots to Research* feature: From [Roots to Research](#) is a new initiative of the Office of the Vice Dean for Research that highlights the personal and professional journeys of Teachers College faculty members and researchers, exploring how their diverse backgrounds and experiences shape their work. Each feature focuses on the challenges they've faced, their groundbreaking contributions, and the insights they offer to inspire the next generation of scholars.
- *Staffing Update:* Harriet Jackson served as the Assistant Director for Research in the Office of the Vice Dean for Research. Harriet Jackson's last day at Teachers College was on August 28th. I thank Harriet for her work and support during my first four months at TC.
- *Administrative Fellows:* I am pleased to introduce two TC graduate students, Isabella Zhong and Sumit Karn, who recently joined the Office of the Vice Dean for Research.
  - Isabella Zhong: Isabella is a first-year Ed.M. student in the Measurement, Evaluation & Statistics program at Teachers College, Columbia University. Before moving to the U.S., she spent 11 years in Vancouver, Canada, where she earned her undergraduate degree in Statistics from the University of British Columbia. Her academic interests include statistical modeling and equity research. Through her multidisciplinary studies in psychometrics and statistics, she aims to integrate human elements into data analysis. In her free time, Isabella enjoys playing tennis, practicing Pilates, and exploring New York City. She is also an avid player of the Guzheng, a traditional Chinese instrument.
  - Sumit Karn: Sumit is pursuing a Ph.D. in Comparative & International Education. His research focuses on the diffusion of ideas and institutions and the impact of public opinion on educational policies, reforms, and systems,

particularly within the context of South Asia. Sumit holds an M.A. in International Educational Development from Teachers College, Columbia University and a B.A. in Strategic Communication from Washington State University.

## EXTERNAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

### UPCOMING DEADLINES

#### **Federal Agency Funding Opportunities**

Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Department of Education

IES [Unsolicited Grant Opportunities](#) (Application Deadline: March 15, 2025)

Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP), U.S. Department of Education:  
[Office of Special Education Programs and Rehabilitative Services-OSERS-OSEP: Personnel Development to Improve Services and Results for Children with Disabilities--Preparation of Special Education, Early Intervention, and Related Services Leadership Personnel \(84.325D\)](#)(Application Deadline: November 22, 2024)

[Office of Special Education Programs and Rehabilitative Services-OSERS-OSEP: Personnel Development to Improve Services and Results for Children with Disabilities--Preparation of Early Intervention and Special Education Personnel Serving Children with Disabilities who have High-Intensity Needs \(84.325K\)](#)  
(Application Deadline: December 3, 2024)

Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Department of Health and Human Services, [Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training Program for Professionals](#)  
(Application Deadline: January 21, 2025)

Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Department of Health and Human Services, [Graduate Psychology Education Program \(GPE\)](#)  
(Application Deadline: January 21, 2025)

National Science Foundation, [Cultural Anthropology Program Senior Research Awards](#)  
(Application Deadline: January 15, 2025)

#### **Foundation Funders**

The Spencer Foundation invests in education research that cultivates learning and transforms lives.

The [Small Research Grants on Education Program](#) (Application Deadline: December 4, 2024)

The [Large Research Grants on Education Program](#) (Application Deadline: February 11, 2025)

## ADDITIONAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES WITH UPCOMING DEADLINES

Please check out the [Research@TC Grants Database](#) for additional funding opportunities.

## PROPOSAL PREPARATION SUPPORT

**DIGITAL FUTURES INSTITUTE (DFI):** The Digital Futures Institute is offering consulting services to researchers who are applying for external grants. The purpose is to assist researchers in implementing data collection, analytics, and technology workflows within their research projects. Interested faculty can sign up for a consultation [here](#).

### **OFFICE OF THE VICE DEAN FOR RESEARCH (VDR)**

The Office of the Vice Dean for Research offers grant writing support to increase the number of successful grant proposals submitted by faculty.

- **Grant Writing Coach Award (\$1,500)**

Any pre-tenure or tenured faculty member may apply for one grant writing coach award (up to \$1,500) per academic year. Funding can be used for one-on-one coaching from an experienced coach, such as a senior faculty member at or outside of TC. The funding can also be used to pay for fees to attend a grant writing workshop. Please contact [vicedeانforresearch@tc.columbia.edu](mailto:vicedeانforresearch@tc.columbia.edu) for more information.

- **Grant Reviewer Award (\$750)**

Any pre-tenure or tenured faculty member who is submitting a grant application to a federal agency or a foundation may apply for funds (up to \$750) to pay for a grant reviewer. Please contact [vicedeانforresearch@tc.columbia.edu](mailto:vicedeانforresearch@tc.columbia.edu) for more information.

## ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEW EXTERNAL AWARDEES

Congratulations to TC faculty members who recently received external funding. We have highlighted a few of those external awardees here.

Congratulations to the following TC faculty awardees:

- [Dr. Prerna Arora \(PI\)](#) and [Dr. Mel Collier-Meek \(PI\)](#) received a \$4,912,096 training grant award from the U.S. Department of Education to prepare school based mental health providers to provide evidence-based, culturally-informed, trauma-sensitive mental health services to culturally and linguistically diverse youth in Districts 4 and 5.
- [Dr. Davis Jenkins](#), senior research scholar in the Community College Research Center (CCRC), received a \$3,740,000 award from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation for a new project, Guidance, Tools, and Field Education for Dual Enrollment Equity Pathways.
- [Dr. Douglas Ready](#) received a \$1,367,384 award from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation for a new project, District Partnership Formative Evaluation in New York.