Development of the COVID-19 Working Groups – A Few Key Dates in 2020

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<td>🔄 <strong>March 19</strong>, CONVERGE Virtual Forum: <em>New and Proposed Research on COVID-19</em></td>
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60 minutes:
- 3 NSF Program Directors
- 17 presenters
- ~450 Registrants

https://converge.colorado.edu/communications/virtual-forum
# Development of the COVID-19 Working Groups – A Few Key Dates in 2020

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<td><strong>March 4</strong>, NSF Issues Dear Colleague Letter for COVID-19 Rapid Research</td>
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<td><strong>April 3</strong>, CONVERGE Virtual Forum: <em>COVID-19 Working Groups for Public Health and Social Sciences Research</em></td>
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<td><strong>April 4-13</strong>, Application Window for COVID-19 Working Groups</td>
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COVID-19 Working Groups – Application Requirements

• Have a clear focus area
• Led by public health or social, behavioral, or economic sciences researcher
  • Preference for SSEER members
• Have a diverse team to encourage convergence research
  • Minimum of 3 disciplines
  • Preference for groups with commitment to underrepresented groups, students
• Identify status
  • Formed and open, Formed and closed, In formation and recruiting
• Budget and budget justification for $1,000 award
Application Form

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124 applications received  
90 funded
COVID-19 Working Groups

• Population Groups, Organizations, and Social Institutions

• Issues, Impacts, and Recovery

• Compound Hazards and Cascading Disasters

• Research Networks, Methods, and Ethics

https://converge.colorado.edu/resources/covid-19/working-groups
There are 1,120 researchers involved in the 90 COVID-19 Working Groups.

- **Size**: Groups range in size from 3 participants to 82 participants. The average group has 11 members.
- **Affiliations**: Most with academic institutions, although representatives from local, state, and federal government, the private sector, and the non-profit sector are involved as well.
- **Career Stage**: Working Group members range from undergraduate students to seasoned veterans.
- **Disciplines**: Dozens of academic disciplines are represented, including public health and the social sciences, engineering, biomedical sciences, and beyond.
- **Diversity**: About an equal number of men and women are involved as Working Group leads and members. Group leaders and members also include members of historically underrepresented groups including African Americans, Latinos, Asian Americans, Indigenous persons, and persons from developing countries.
- **Geography**: Most (~70) of the leads are based at universities in the U.S.; other leads and members located throughout Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, Oceania, and the rest of North America as well.
COVID-19 Working Groups – Group Requirement

• Submit a research agenda setting paper by June 19, 2020

https://converge.colorado.edu/resources/covid-19/working-groups/research-agendas
COVID-19 Working Groups
First Generation Students and College Persistence During COVID-19 Working Group

FACING COVID-19 AT HOME

An assessment of College Persistence for UNC-Chapel Hill’s First Generation College Students

Author:
Cassandra R. Davis, PhD — The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Contributors:
Harriet Hackett, PhD — Brown University
Dana Minot, PhD — The University of Pittsburgh
Jean Minkus, PhD — The University of Pittsburgh
Tina Noren, PhD — Bauder College
Julie Dabney, PhD — The University of Colorado, Boulder
Melinda Tucker, PhD — Florida A&M University

Fall 2020

How Is COVID-19 Hitting First Generation College Students?

Nearly one of five students at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill are the first in their families to attend college. Many first-generation students come from socioeconomically-disadvantaged families and have access to fewer resources and support than their peers. These students are also less likely to graduate — they drop out of college after three years at more than twice the rate of their peers whose
COVID-19 Survey Research Working Group

In the context of the rapidly evolving COVID-19 epidemic, an extraordinary number of research projects have been launched, involving survey and observational methods. To help facilitate the sharing of lessons learned, discussion of common challenges, and distribution of results and opportunities, we are running a ongoing working group on survey research methods in COVID-19. Sessions are hosted every week and membership is open to anyone with interest or experience in these topics.

While we review new methods and technologies, this group has a slightly different focus on the methodological core of survey research during COVID-19 and other emerging public health crises. The discussions focus on the very detailed, highly specific aspects of questionnaire design (both qualitative and quantitative), including sampling frames, item design, instrument design, and data analysis. Our goal is to share promising practices, overcome obstacles and common challenges, and advance a practice-oriented understanding of high-quality research.

Meetings are held via Zoom and YouTube Live every Wednesday (Thursdays in Australia) at 16:00 Eastern Standard Time. [Link here for local time converter]

There are two ways to participate in the meetings as a member of the working group or as a viewer.

Working Group Membership
Membership in the working group is open to anyone interested in the methodological dimensions of survey-based research in COVID-19 (or other emerging public health challenges). Members receive regular updates about upcoming presentations, research funding opportunities, and emerging practices about survey research methods in emergency contexts. In exchange, we ask that members contribute their perspectives to these discussions and participate in the weekly sessions as regularly as possible.

Members are also invited to participate in the Zoom version of the meetings (i.e., audio and video chat options). Participants, rather than just develop the live broadcast as a YouTube. To become a member, [Link here for online form]

https://www.cemppr.org/research/covid-19-survey-research-working-group
Evacuation and Sheltering of Vulnerable Populations in a Hurricane-Pandemic Working Group

https://sites.wp.odu.edu/hurricane-pandemic/participate/
Readying Populations for the COVID-19 Vaccine Working Group

$2 million grant from the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative’s (CZI) Science and Society Group
Enabling Conditions

- A generous, educated, motivated, dedicated hazards and disaster research workforce
- NSF support for CONVERGE and federal agency support for the Natural Hazards Center which has helped to create a social infrastructure for convening and allows for rapid funding for research
- Interested media, publishers, and others looking to share knowledge generated by the groups
- Funders motivated to support and advance science and outreach efforts
Please sign up for updates and information for the Natural Hazards Center and CONVERGE:

hazards.colorado.edu/signup
converge.colorado.edu/signup

CONVERGE and the Natural Hazards Center are funded by the National Science Foundation, Division of Civil, Mechanical, and Manufacturing Innovation (CMMI), Program on Humans, Disasters, and the Built Environment (Award #1841338 and Award #1635593). Any opinions, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the NSF.