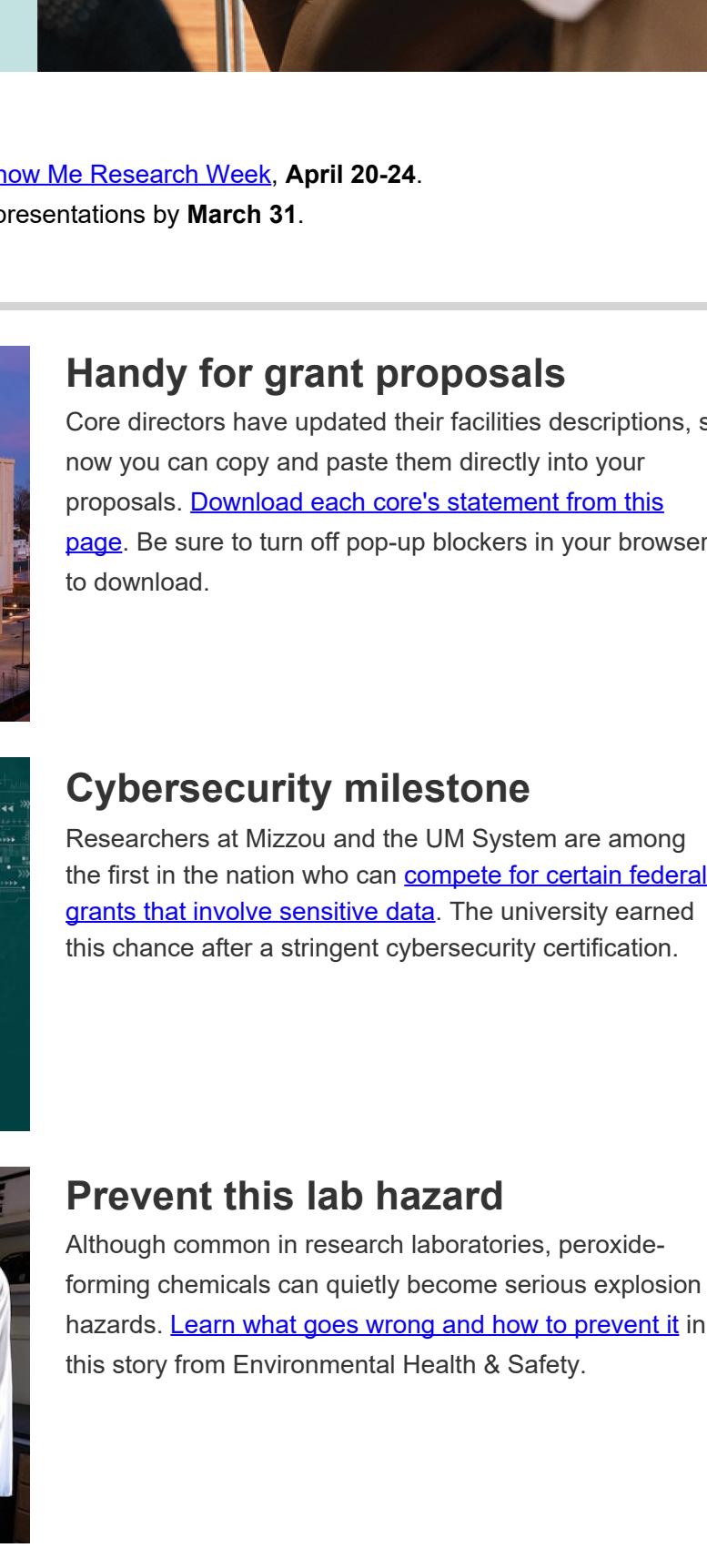


BRIGHT IDEAS

Insights & opportunities from Mizzou Research

Vol. 8, No. 7 — February 2026

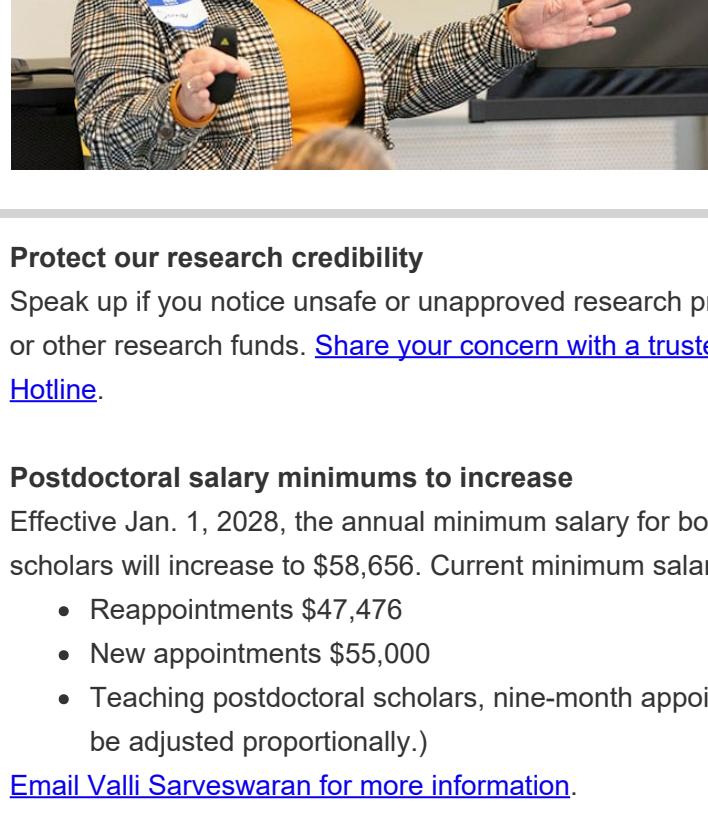
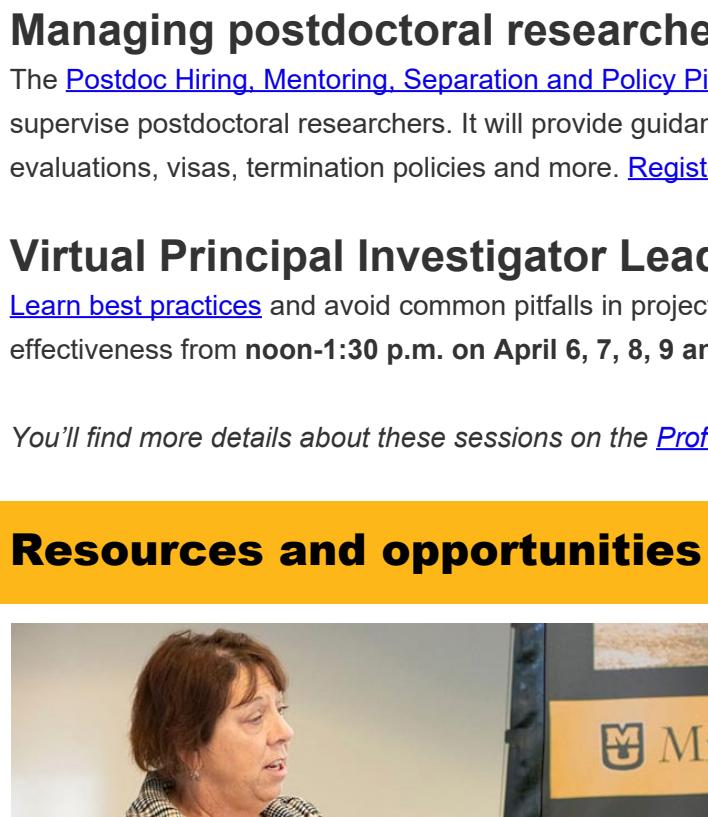
[View grants and contracts awarded in December.](#)



Seeking presenters, judges

Celebrate research and creative achievements during [Show Me Research Week](#), April 20-24.

- Make sure students [register](#) their oral and poster presentations by **March 31**.
- [Sign up](#) to be a judge by **April 3**.



Professional development

Research writing retreats

Find a quiet place to read, write and think in community with other scholars during five upcoming writing retreats. The Professional Development team will be on hand for individual consultations **9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. on Feb. 12** (Room 171, Bond LSC). Drop in and out as needed. [Register for this month's retreat and see more dates](#).

Communicating your research

[Early career faculty are invited to hear tips](#) that will help them more effectively communicate their research to campus and the public from **9 a.m.-noon on Feb. 20** (Room 171, Bond LSC). A panel of researchers also will share success stories. [Register by Feb. 16](#).

Managing postdoctoral researchers

The [Postdoc Hiring, Mentoring, Separation and Policy Pitfalls](#) webinar at **noon on March 4** is designed for faculty who supervise postdoctoral researchers. It will provide guidance on topics such as eligibility criteria, salary requirements, evaluations, visas, termination policies and more. [Register and check out other spring webinars](#).

Virtual Principal Investigator Leadership Program

[Learn best practices](#) and avoid common pitfalls in project management, meeting grant deliverables and team effectiveness from **noon-1:30 p.m. on April 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10**. [Register by March 31](#).

You'll find more details about these sessions on the [Professional Development website](#).

Resources and opportunities



Engaging private funders

The Foundation Relations team in Advancement manages university relationships with charitable foundations and other private organizations. [Check out their regularly updated list of curated funding opportunities](#).

Mark your calendar



[Lab Safety Awareness Week](#) showcases people, practices and innovations that protect our campus community.

Join an info session with [Zoom link](#) (noon) on **Feb. 11** (noon).

Feb. 27 (9 a.m.) or **March 10** (4 p.m.) MU's [limited submissions](#) due date for [CVs](#) and [summaries](#).

Feb. 13. Watch presentations on personal protective equipment.

Feb. 10 and compressed gas **Feb. 13**.

Deadlines

Institutional Review Board (IRB)

Feb. 25: Submit human subjects research applications, amendments and annual updates for March 11 full board review.

Institutional Biosafety Committee

March 2: Submit research protocols for April 2 meeting.

NCFDD Summer Faculty Success Program

March 2: Apply for a scholarship by **5 p.m.** for this summer's 12-week virtual program to increase your research and writing productivity.

Limited Submissions (foundation funding)

March 9: William T. Grant Scholars program for early career researchers

April 6: W. M. Keck Foundation Research Program

Research Council Grants

March 30: Applications due by 5 p.m. Email [internal funding staff](#) with questions.

Events

Saturday Morning Science

Feb. 7 (10 a.m.): "Uncovering Egypt's First Capital: Secrets From the City Behind the Pyramids"

HRPP/IRB research compliance seminar

Feb. 7 (2 p.m.): Policies to protect research continuity in an emergency. [Request Zoom link](#)

Extra Credit film series

Feb. 9 (6 p.m.): "The Best Man" and researcher panel discussion

NextGen Precision Health Discovery Series

Feb. 24 (noon): "Live Longer, Live Stronger: The Science of Muscle and Bone Health in Aging"

Grant Connections meeting

Feb. 25 (10 a.m.): Research Support Services and annual survey Q&A. [Zoom link](#)

Columbia Young Scientists Fair and Expo

Feb. 28 (1-4:30 p.m.): Hands-on STEM activities for families at Memorial Union North

In case you missed it



Last month, Science News published a story highlighting new research from Curators' Distinguished Professor Ron Mittler and his team that shows why [plants packed close enough to touch are more resilient to stress than solo stalks](#).

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