Ideas & Resources for Maintaining Research Productivity During COVID-19:

**Research Development**

- **INCREASE COMMUNICATION:** Set up a plan and schedule times to communicate with your research team. Reconnect with research colleagues, both within and outside KSU. Reach out to program officers from foundations and agencies who might be interested in funding your research.

- **PLAY THE LONG GAME:** Come up with a detailed 3-5 year research plan, complete with deadlines. Know which conferences and publications you want to target. Identify gaps in your research. Think about your writing habits.

- **MOVE TO VIRTUAL RESEARCH AND DATA COLLECTION WHERE POSSIBLE:** This includes rapidly deploying virtual enrollment, consent, and assessments as well as providing tools to subjects for self-monitoring and reporting. Decisions and study amendments must be based on a risk assessment of subjects and approved by the IRB.

- **PIVOTING WITHOUT PILOT DATA:** Now is the time to think of using set-aside or existing data to pilot new projects and publications.

- **GETTING TO THE “SOMEDAY” LIST:** Revisit manuscripts, meet with library staff about conducting literature reviews, look at options for digital scholarship. Make sure you are up-to-date with current literature in your field to figure out potential opportunities.

- **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:** Now is the time to hone some of your skills, including research methods, data analysis techniques, grant writing, writing for publication, etc. Also, look for conferences that are being offered online.

- **INCREASE YOUR ONLINE PRESENCE:** Update your PIVOT profile at KSU which will help you connect with research opportunities. Also, update your Research Gate, Google Scholar, and ORCID profiles.

- **KSU CONNECTIONS:** Make an appointment with the Office of Research Development to discuss finding funding, developing a research idea, understanding reviewer comments, grant writing 101, and other resources that can improve your research.

**Research with Undergraduates**

- There are many undergraduate research activities that can be effectively conducted virtually, including:
  - literature searches;
  - writing (e.g., grant proposals, manuscripts for publication, conference proposals);
  - data entry;
  - data analysis;
  - training (e.g., how to use statistics software like SPSS, SAS, or R; how to use software for organizing references like Endnote or Refworks; how to conduct effective literature searches);
  - professional development activities (e.g., how to present at conferences, updating resumes/vitas, interviewing, writing personal statements).

- There may be creative ways to conduct your research in ways that minimize contact. For example, can surveys be administered online through Qualtrics instead of face-to-face?
interviews be conducted virtually through Microsoft Teams? For lab research, can students alternate between working in the lab and doing any of the above tasks to minimize their contact with each other? We want to help you strategize ways to continue your work with students; please feel free to contact us at our@kennesaw.edu.

- If you encounter students who are interested in research and unable to find any available opportunities, please direct them to the Undergraduate Research Club (URC). URC will offer virtual team-based research opportunities for any interested students. More information about the research teams can be found here. Encourage students to join the club through OwlLife so they will receive email updates.

**Research Compliance**

- Get your research group up to speed with Cayuse IRB.
  - Request access for all students and staff.
  - Read the Initial Submission walkthrough.
- Make sure you and all your research group members have their official KSU email as their Institutional Email Address in their CITI accounts (Cayuse links to CITI allowing the IRB to verify training of KSU personnel directly, no more emailing certificates!).
- Verify that your research group has all the appropriate training for your type of research (Lab Safety, Human Subjects Protections, Biosafety, etc.).
- Review the ways your group stores and secures research data and educate your group members.
- Create or update Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for your lab and educate group members.
- Complete or refresh Conflict of Interest training at CITI and be prepared to fill out annual disclosures (coming soon via Cayuse).
- Have your research group complete Responsible Conduct of Research modules in CITI and then discuss at a virtual group meeting. If you document the session, it can serve as your certification of training for paying students from NSF grants.

**Burruss Institute**

- Schedule a one-on-one consultation for how to add program evaluation to your future grant proposal
- Schedule a one-on-one consultation on best practices for survey research design and data collection methodologies

**Field Station**

- Schedule a one-on-one consultation to learn about the resources available at the Field Station for your research and academic endeavors.

**High Performance Computing**

- Schedule a one-on-one consultation to learn about the capabilities of the HPC and how to incorporate HPC into your research.
During the pandemic, students do field and lab work without leaving home (more about lab courses, but ideas for virtual field work are interesting)

The Chronicle of Higher Education Online Events

The Life Scientists’ Guide to Working Remotely (HelloBio)

Conducting research during the COVID-19 pandemic (American Psychological Association)

CITI COVID-19 Back to Campus (Fall 2020) – focused on information about COVID-19, hygiene, and best practices for work with human & animal subjects

Check out the Office of Undergraduate Research calendar for the most up-to-date information on virtual events and deadlines.

The Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR) has compiled resources related to undergraduate research during the pandemic (both in general and discipline-specific). You need to activate your membership before you can access these resources. KSU is an enhanced institutional member of CUR, so this is free for all members of the KSU community (faculty, staff, students).

Resetting Your Research Agenda (Inside Higher Ed)

Time well spent: How researchers can stay productive in the time of Covid-19 (STAT)

6 Ways to be productive during the COVID-19 lockdown (Editage Insights)

Six strategies for staying motivated during the COVID-19 pandemic (Rice University)

Maintaining Research Productivity During COVID-19 (UNC Greensboro)

How Nurse Scientists Can Stay Productive and On Track During the Pandemic

Maintaining Tenure Goals During the COVID-19 Pandemic (Amer. Soc. For Microbiology)

The productivity pitfalls of working from home in the age of COVID-19 (Stanford News)

Academic institutions in the time of Covid-19: Homeworking and productivity (Sciendo)

No Room of One’s Own: Early journal submission data suggest COVID-19 is tanking women’s research productivity (Inside Higher Ed)

Gender Inequality in Research Productivity During the COVID-19 Pandemic (Harvard Business School)