Our UVA family and the world face unprecedented challenges related to COVID-19. Yet with dedication, hard work, and creativity, our students, faculty, and staff have continued the core mission of the University—advancing knowledge and the common good through excellent teaching, research, and clinical care.

UVA’s new School of Data Science is fulfilling this mission through innovative and proactive teaching and research to combat the novel coronavirus. The School of Data Science is the first of its kind in the nation, yet it has already convened the best and brightest in data science—a flourishing field that intersects all aspects of society—from epidemiology and health care, to economics and public policy, and beyond. Working in partnership with the UVA Health System, the National Institutes of Health, Wikipedia, and more, the School of Data Science is pushing epidemiological and public health research to new limits.

Our ability to overcome extraordinary challenges requires extraordinary levels of support. The School of Data Science is seeking new resources to ensure that we can fight COVID-19 today—and better prepare our global community for unforeseen crises in the future.
FUNDING NEEDS FOR THE SCHOOL OF DATA SCIENCE

Faculty Hiring and Support
• Funding for faculty hiring – Five tenure-track professors and three assistant professors
• Expansion of undergraduate offerings to support a data science minor (expected in Spring 2021)
• Support for faculty research projects
• Collaborative efforts between UVA’s eleven other schools

Support needed: $100,000+

Student Fellowships
• Need-based financial aid for students, particularly those adversely affected by COVID-19
• Sponsorships for our annual Women in Data Science conference
• Support for underrepresented minorities embarking on data science careers

Support needed: $10,000+

ADDITIONAL AREAS OF RESEARCH

From science and medicine, to finance and policy, to law and the humanities, research at the School of Data Science spans all disciplines and industries.

• Global health modeling in a pandemic
• Pandemic health information – iTHRIV, language translation (e.g. Wikipedia in India)
• Biomedical data sciences

• Educational analytics and impact of online education during COVID-19
• Digital humanities and digital library archives, text analysis

• Environmental science
• Materials science and machine learning
• Neuroscience informatics – neurogenerative disorders, autism, imaging

• Cybersecurity
• Financial modeling – business analytics and supply chains
• Smart cities and predictive modeling

• Ethics and justice
• Normativity – the evolution of rule and law making
• Quantitative analysis of democracy

PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

The School of Data Science is on the brink of unprecedented breakthroughs—but we need your support. We welcome the opportunity to partner with you and your company around innovative data science research and teaching. Together, we can not only mitigate the COVID-19 crisis but ensure the continued health and well-being of our community and our world. Thank you.

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