

Effect of The Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic on the Academic, Career, Mental, Psychosocial, and Physical Functioning of the SBU Community”

Project Summary: The primary goal of this longitudinal study is to develop a model for understanding the academic, career, cognitive, emotional, psychosocial, and physical consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic in the short and long term. This project leverages the diverse Stony Brook University community, including undergraduate and graduate students, postdoctoral scholars, staff, and faculty, as a testbed for a generalizable model of how this pandemic impacts the higher education climate. The COVID-19 pandemic is the largest, most socially- and economically- pervasive collective trauma most people in the U.S. have experienced in their lifetimes. This, coupled with NY being the most heavily-affected area in the world at the moment, makes this an especially critical target to study. The unprecedented nature and impact of the present pandemic (e.g., social distancing, campus closures, shift to online instruction, child and elder care responsibilities, family job loss, and death), requires a comprehensive and systematic study to assess and model the widespread impact on academic, career, emotional, psychosocial, and physical outcomes. With an OVPR seed grant, this longitudinal multi-wave 12-month project will provide a unique opportunity to leverage psychological research methodologies for studying academic, career, emotional, psychosocial, and physical outcomes (including inequalities) among an ethnically/racially- and age-diverse sample.

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