



A Hub for Interdisciplinary Social Science Research

The Center for Social Science Innovation (CSSI) is the University of Iowa's central hub for social scientists including faculty, staff, and PhD students.



Workshops

CSSI delivered fifteen workshops on research design, advanced methodologies, and peer review to over one hundred UI faculty, staff, and students.

Writers' Circles

Write on Target and Grant Writers' Circle helped 32 researchers craft social science research manuscripts for publication and develop refined grant proposals.



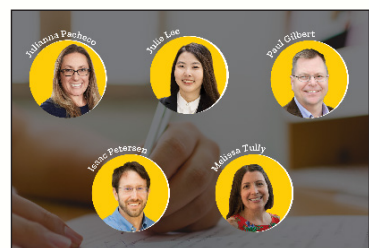
"Write on Target fostered an encouraging environment that allowed me to break out of my shell and actually finish the manuscript on time."

Sang Jung Kim, Journalism and Mass Communication

Advancing Social Science Research

CSSI provides strategic resources—research services and grant development—to advance social science research.

Access to High Quality Survey Data



In January 2025, CSSI announced its subscription to Verasight, allowing researchers to survey nationally representative or tailored samples at a low cost.

CSSI also fully funded five faculty to distribute surveys through Surveying the Social World.

As of July, 49 researchers from 24 departments and 9 colleges joined CSSI as researcher affiliates.

Residency Programs

Grant Writing Residency Program

Faculty members received tailored support to develop competitive grant proposals.



Researcher-in-Residence

Researchers were provided critical structure and resources over the summer to advance their own research programs.



Inaugural CSSI Faculty Research Fellowship

Elizabeth Menninga will spend the 2025-2026 year at CSSI, investigating how cooperation can unfold in civil wars.



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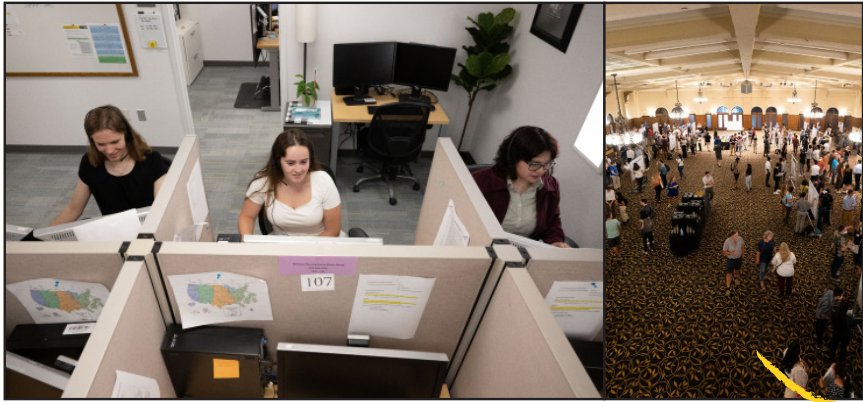
GRANT APPLICATIONS SUPPORTED

\$53

MILLION IN FUNDS APPLIED FOR

Creating Student Research Experiences and Training

CSSI provides opportunities for both graduate and undergraduate students to grow the necessary skills to conduct social science research.



Our field staff help collect and manage survey and qualitative data.



Analytical Expertise from Consultants

Graduate consultants provided assistance to researchers on various methodological topics.



Dissertation Completion Program

Graduate students received resources and support from CSSI to finish their dissertations.

CSSI Partner: Through the Office of Undergraduate Research, we co-sponsored nine students conducting social science research.

Serving Needs of Iowa's Communities

CSSI provides research support services and topical expertise to external partners in Iowa's communities and government organizations.



CSSI and Tippie's Social Impact Community hosted an event for researchers and community professionals to discuss how to transform social science research into social change.



CSSI is assisting the Johnson County Board of Supervisors in assessing public opinion about the Sheriff's Office and Jail building.

Sharing Social Science Research Successes

CSSI develops stories about our researcher affiliates and their scholarly achievements, cultivating a strong, respected culture of social science research.

Follow Us on Social Media



Stay connected on new stories and other news through our LinkedIn, Instagram, and Facebook!

Researcher Affiliate Feature Series

Spotlights of our CSSI researcher affiliates' personal and academic trajectories and what they love about conducting research.

Example headline: Brian Ekdale peels back the surface of digital media



Research Spotlight Series

An in-depth showcase of CSSI researcher affiliates' publications, unpacking the importance of the study.

Example headline: Amy Colbert connects employee mood and significance of job duties



Message from the Director

We have been honored to support the research of faculty, staff, and students across campus during our first year as the Center for Social Science Innovation and we look forward to building on this strong foundation in the coming year.

To read the full version of our annual report, please use the QR code on the right or visit our website at cssi.research.uiowa.edu.

