**Understanding the COVID-19 Economy with Big Data**

**Abstract**

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic is a 100-year event that has repeated much of the experience with the 1918-1920 Great Influenza (Spanish Flu) outbreaks, which killed some 40 million people worldwide. One notable exception is the availability of daily data that track infections around the world and people's social interactions. Given the close relationship between epidemics and the economy, this presentation gives an overview of a rapidly growing body of research that draws on some popular real-time, geolocation data sources. The topics include (1) findings on the social and economic impacts of COVID-19 and policy responses, particularly changes in local businesses and labor markets, and (2) research work that integrates economic and spatial aspects into traditional epidemiological models. The goal of this presentation is to cultivate interdisciplinary research with big data.