Graduate Studies & Research
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SPRING 2016

NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS

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Welcome to the Spring ‘16 issue of our newsletter.

I would like to bring your attention to our McNair Scholars program, which is featured in this newsletter. Funded by a grant from the United State Department of Education, the goal of the program is to encourage and prepare students from traditionally underrepresented groups to pursue graduate education. At CSUDH, the program was established in 2004, and since that time, under the direction of Dr. Michelle Martinez, it has achieved an unprecedented success of 93% graduate school acceptance for its participants. You can find more information about McNair Scholars on page 11. Additionally, the newsletter features two students who participated in the program: Kaitlin O’Brien (page 10) and Rita Kirkpatrick (page 4).

In the technology department, we have launched two new products and services. In our efforts to enhance access to information and knowledge we have adopted ScholarWorks for digital publications of theses and projects. To coincide with the new digital publication, we have transitioned to a online thesis submission and review process, beginning with the Spring 2016 semester. Sara Cristin describes the steps of this new electronic process on page 4. In the area of research, we have launched a new cloud-based grants management system, infoReady Review, for intramural RSCA proposals. More about it can be found on page 7. This semester we also welcome new faces to our team: Dr. Chandra Khan (page 7) joined us on a part-time basis as Faculty Director of Research Development, and Dr. Kathryn Theiss started as the chair of Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC).

Please take note of the upcoming deadlines and events on next page. I welcome your suggestion and contributions to our next issue.
Current Students

Summer 2016 Registration
March 21 - July 8

Fall 2016 Registration
April 25 - August 19

Events

Commencement
May 20 - 21, 2016

New Graduate Student Orientation
August 18, 2016

Graduating Students

Graduate Studies Intent to Submit a Thesis/Project Form Deadlines:
- Graduation
  - Fall Graduation
  - Spring Graduation
  - Summer Graduation

Graduate Studies Office Thesis Submission Deadlines:
(On-campus Students)
- Graduation
  - Fall Graduation
  - Spring Graduation
  - Summer Graduation

Graduate Studies Office Thesis Submission Deadlines:
(Distance Learning Students)
- Graduation
  - Fall Graduation
  - Spring Graduation
  - Summer Graduation

ScholarWorks Thesis Publication Deadlines:
- Graduation
  - Fall Graduation
  - Spring Graduation
  - Summer Graduation

Application for Graduation

Degree Conferral Term
- Fall Semester
- Spring Semester
- Summer Session

Regular Deadline
- July 1
- October 1
- February 1

Late Deadline
- September 15
- Last day of fall semester
- April 15
Rita Kirkpatrick is a senior majoring in anthropology and minoring in political science at California State University, Dominguez Hills. She is also a McNair Scholar, a delegate on the competitive model United Nations team, and co-editor of the Electronic Student Journal of Anthropology at CSUDH. Her research interests include international environmental policy, water governance, international non-governmental organizations, environmental anthropology, conflict resolution and peacebuilding, and civil society. She has been accepted to the Fall 2016 Masters of Arts in Global Environmental Policy Program in the School of International Service at American University and received the Deans McNair Award valued at $22k. She hopes to become involved in policy analysis, design, and negotiation at the international level in order to improve water resource management and decrease conflict in water-scarce areas.

CSUDH has transitioned to a completely digital, online thesis/project submission and review process. Below you can find a step by step guide for submitting your thesis/project for approval and publication.

**REVIEW**

**STEP 1:** Register your intent to submit a thesis or project with the Office of Graduate Studies and Research by completing and turning in the Intent to Submit Thesis/Project Form: http://www4.csudh.edu/Assets/CSUDH-Sites/Graduate-Studies/docs/Thesis/Intent%20to%20Submit%20Thesis-Project%20Form.pdf

**STEP 2:** Make sure that all committee members of your thesis/project have signed the Approval page on or before the stated deadline.

**STEP 3:** Once your intent to submit form and committee approval page have been received, you will be notified to upload your manuscript for review using these instructions: http://www4.csudh.edu/Assets/CSUDH-Sites/Graduate-Studies/docs/Thesis/Graduate%20Studies%20Thesis%20Revision%20Procedure.pdf

**STEP 4:** The Thesis Reviewer will read and annotate your thesis/project for necessary revisions. You can revise as many times as necessary before the University Publication deadline. Once all required changes to grammar/format have been made, the Thesis Reviewer signs the GSR approval page.

**PUBLICATION**

In its effort to enhance access to knowledge and information, CSUDH has transitioned to ScholarWorks.

What is ScholarWorks?

CSUDH ScholarWorks is part of a broader CSU initiative. ScholarWorks is a digital archive designed to capture, preserve, and make available research, creative works, and the administrative output of California State University, Dominguez Hills.

Why ScholarWorks?

CSUDH ScholarWorks permanently preserves student work in a central location. ScholarWorks allows collections to be “harvested” by other databases and included in multi-institutional searches, which means that work submitted is available for discovery on any major search engine. Not only does ScholarWorks allow CSUDH to decrease its carbon footprint by eliminating a paper trail, it allows students to open-access publish their work for FREE. Additionally, students with creative projects will be able to upload their work along with their thesis/project for viewing.
Introducing Kathryn Theiss

The Research Compliance office is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Kathryn Theiss as our new Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) Chair.

Kathryn Theiss, a native Californian, started in the fall of 2015 as an Assistant Professor in the Biology Department at California State University, Dominguez Hills. She completed her dissertation research on orchid conservation in Madagascar in the spring of 2012 and promptly moved to Oregon to start a post-doctoral position at Willamette University. Her post-doctoral research examined how to define “species” in plants using a combination of field and laboratory techniques, including ecological niche modeling and phylogenetics. One of her favorite parts of the research is traipsing around pitcher plant bogs looking for the target plants while getting side-tracked by the native orchids. Her research at CSUDH studies how plant reproduction strategies will affect their ability to evolve in a change climate.

Institutional Review Board Tips

TIP 1. Before you start the IRB process, complete the online training in human subjects’ protection. This can be done by taking the National Institutes of Health online training found at the following web link: https://phrp.nihtraining.com/users/login.php. This training will give you a good overview of the IRB process and is required in order to obtain IRB approval. Please submit an electronic or hard copy of your certificate of completion with your IRB submission.

TIP 2. Use the guidelines for preparing your IRB submission found on our website: http://www4.csudh.edu/gsr/research/research-compliance/irb/. These guidelines contain all of the information you need to fill out the forms completely and accurately, including templates for consent forms, etc.

TIP 3. Proofread and spell check your IRB submission to ensure there are no typographical or grammatical errors.

TIP 4. Student researchers should ask their professors, who serve as their Principal Investigators, to carefully review their proposals and sign Form A (Cover Form) prior to submitting it to the Compliance office.

TIP 5. Indicate precisely how you will recruit study subjects. Provide a copy of recruitment tools such as recruitment flyers, classroom announcements, or email invitations with your IRB submission.

TIP 6. Obtain a letter of permission (on letterhead) to document you have permission to recruit subjects at another study site.
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One of the duties with which the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs is tasked with is assisting faculty in identifying possible sources of funding and leading them in the preparation and submission of a proposal that is competitive and worthy of being funded. Potential Principal Investigators (PIs) are reminded to abide by the six steps for a successful grant submission, which can be found at: [http://www4.csudh.edu/gsr/research/grant/six-steps-grant-submission/index](http://www4.csudh.edu/gsr/research/grant/six-steps-grant-submission/index)
CSUDH Archives Awarded NEH Grant

CSUDH Archives has been awarded a $285,000 grant from NEH to continue their work on the CSU Japanese American Digitization project. In 2014, the Archives received NEH planning grant for this project for $40,000 and in 2015, they were awarded a National Parks Service grant for $327,000. Gregory Williams, PI of the grant, stated: “This new NEH implementation grant will allow us to scan up to 15,000 items, produce classroom materials and create an exhibition for the 75th anniversary of the executive order that resulted in the incarceration of 120,000 Japanese Americans during World War II. That exhibition will hopefully be a statewide exhibition and open in Feb 2017. This grant is collaboration with 15 other CSU’s but CSUDH is the lead.”

In other Grant news...

PI Reception

On Thursday, March 10, the Office of Graduate Studies and Research and the Faculty Development Center co-hosted a ceremony honoring CSUDH principal investigators and project directors. Seventy seven faculty and staff members, who submitted grant proposals or received grant awards in 2013 and 2014, were invited to this recognition reception. The event, organized by the Dean of Graduate Studies and Research, Dr. Dorota Huizinga, and Dr. Keisha Paxton, director of the Faculty Development Center, celebrated the honorees’ achievements through remarks by Provost Ellen Junn and the awarding of certificates of recognition. CSUDH music major, Carlos Bolivar, performed GF Handel’s “Sara Vande” on classical guitar.

RSCA Goes Digital

Last fall, Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, rolled out a new cloud-based grant management system for intramural Research, Scholarly & Creative Activities (RCSA) proposals. The application, hosted by infoReady Review, facilitates online submissions and review process, sends automatic reminders and notifications, tracks proposal status and stores progress reports. Funded by the CSU Chancellors Office, infoReady will be used to collect and aggregate outcome reports for the CSU RCSA budget allocations from all CSU campuses. CSUDH 2016 RCSA competition successfully piloted infoReady’s implementation on our campus.

The CSUDH Archives Awarded NEH Grant

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This year’s Student Research Day expanded from a one-day event to a two-day event held on February 11-12, 2016. The program included 32 sessions, featuring 247 oral presentations, and three poster sessions showcasing 53 posters. Among the oral presentations, the most popular category was Behavioral and Social Sciences, which comprised eight sessions, followed by Health, Nutrition, and Clinical Sciences with six sessions each, and a tie between Humanities and Letters and Business and Economics, and Public Administration, with four sessions each. Nearly 400 students, mentored by over 100 faculty members, registered for this year’s event. Almost 200 student volunteers helped before and during the event and over 170 judges served as session jurors.

The names of the sessions’ first and second place winners can be found on our website: [http://www4.csudh.edu/gsr/research/student-research/student-research-day/student-research-day-session-winners/index](http://www4.csudh.edu/gsr/research/student-research/student-research-day/student-research-day-session-winners/index)

Sandra Tsing Loh Keynote Speaker

Our inaugural keynote speaker, Sandra Tsing Loh, a writer, actress, and radio personality, delivered a very entertaining presentation titled: “Ionic and Covalent Bonding with (11-Year Old) Susie”.

The following students were selected to represent CSUDH at the 30th Annual CSU Student Research Competition on April 29-30, 2006 at CSU Bakersfield:

Juan Cardenas “Evidence for Λp Elastic Scattering in the CLAS Detector”  
Category: Physical and Mathematical Sciences  
Faculty mentor: John Price, Physics

Vanessa A. Dougherty and Lisa M. Faust “Occupational Therapy Trauma-Informed Practice Using the Community Resiliency Model: Narrative and Photo Voice with Veterans”  
Category: Health, Nutrition and Clinical Sciences  
Faculty mentor: Claudia Peyton, Occupational Therapy

Sara Hu “Mechanisms of Parasitism by the Thermophilic Ant, Melophorus Anderseni”  
Category: Biological and Agricultural Sciences  
Faculty mentor: Terry McGlynn, Biology

Cory L. James “2014 Los Angeles/Long Beach Ports Dispute: Use or Abuse of Mediation?”  
Category: Humanities and Letters  
Faculty mentor: Margaret Manning, Negotiation, Conflict Resolution, and Peacebuilding

Soulaey Mauricio, Ana Melissa Sanchez, Patrick Taylor “Los Angeles Skacore”  
Category: Creative Arts  
Faculty mentor: George Vinovich, Digital Media Arts

Cynthia Perez “Perceptual Differences between Latino/a and Caucasian Children”  
Category: Behavioral and Social Sciences  
Faculty mentor: Megumi Kuwabara, Child Development

Rebecca Prosser, Michelle Savarese, Katrina Scalzi and Daniel Tran “Shared Experiences of Social Support for People Living with HIV/AIDS: A Phenomenology”  
Category: Health, Nutrition and Clinical Science  
Faculty mentor: Claudia Peyton, Occupational Therapy
Interview: Kaitlin O'Brien

Psychology Graduate Student and McNair graduate mentor is moving on to pursue a Ph.D.

Graduate Equity Fellow (2014 - 2015)

Tell us a little bit about yourself! Where are you from and what is your educational background?

Originally I am from Sacramento, but attended Point Loma Nazarene University during my undergraduate studies in San Diego. Upon completing my Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, I moved to Los Angeles to pursue my Master of Arts in Clinical Psychology at CSUDH. I will defend my thesis this summer and then begin a doctoral program.

Congratulations on your wins at CSUDH’s 2016 Student Research Day! Could you briefly explain the research that went into your two, first-place wins with Jonathon Pedroza and Lizzette Ceja?

The two first place presentations were based off of one massive project conducted through both the George Marsh Applied Cognition Laboratory and affiliated Brain Imaging Laboratory through mentorship of Dr. Rosen and Dr. Carrier. The project looks at cognitive/executive functioning located in the prefrontal cortex, collecting data on participants who are connected to the fNIR and while engaging in a battery of executive functioning tasks, such as the Stroop, O-Span, Wisconsin Card Sorting, Tower of Hanoi, and the Go/No-go. We found little differences between heavy and light technology users but we have noted trends on which we would like to follow-up in another experiment.

Have you decided on a school for your doctoral program?

Out of the ten PhD programs I applied to, I was invited to three interviews by: University of Oregon, University of Southern Mississippi, and Jackson State University. After my interviews, I have received acceptance from both University of Oregon and Jackson State University. I have now officially accepted University of Oregon’s fully funded APA accredited counseling Psych Doctoral Program.

Can you tell us about a specific course or instructor at DH who has had an impact on you, either personally, academically, or in regards to your research?

Throughout my time at CSUDH I have been impacted by many individuals. First and foremost, my mentors and thesis committee members, Dr. Rosen, Dr. Carrier, and Dr. Victor, who have all guided me through this process, providing much insight and support. I have learned and grown so much from their instruction. Additionally, I would love to thank both of my bosses throughout the McNair Scholars Program, where I work. Both Dr. Michelle Martinez and Lyzette Blanco, MPH have been key to learning how to navigate application process to graduate schools.

What are some of your hobbies and interests outside of school?

A few of my hobbies, although I have little time to engage in them now, are writing and reading poetry (specifically Spanish poetry, and especially Pablo Neruda). Additionally, one of my passions is ballet, which I have done for over seven years but have not had much time to participate in lately.

Name one person you would invite to your dream dinner party.

At my dream dinner party, I would like to sit with Carl Rogers, a famous psychologist who established a humanistic approach (client-centered) to therapy, which is the philosophy of therapy I would like to implement myself. Additionally, I would love to have Jack Kornfield, a famous meditation expert who has included many ways to self-actualize and love oneself and others. Finally, I would like all the influential mentors in my life to be present and for us to all converse and enjoy each other’s company.
The goal of the McNair Scholars' Program is to encourage and prepare students who are traditionally underrepresented in college to pursue graduate studies – specifically, the Ph. D. The program provides a variety of academic support and services to juniors and seniors, including graduate admissions counseling, GRE preparation, campus visits to research universities, and a 3 unit course (Research Writing and Design) to prepare them for a research project with a faculty member. A research stipend is offered to scholars and their faculty mentor during the McNair Summer Research Program.

During the past two years, the program successfully achieved a 100% graduate school enrollment rate among graduating seniors. Applications for each fall cohort (limited to 13 students) are due on October 1st each year. More information can be found at www.csudh.edu/mcnair or by contacting the program director, Dr. Michelle Waiters Martinez.

Meet Cohort II of Grants for My Research

Adriana Aldana, Assistant Professor, Social Work
Michael Durand, Professor, Physics
Yan-hua Huang, Associate Professor, Occupational Therapy
Karin Kram, Assistant Professor, Biology
Saili Kulkarni, Assistant Professor, Special Education
Kelin Li, Assistant Professor, Sociology
Hannah Nguyen, Assistant Professor, Human Services
Lauren Outland, Associate Professor, Nursing
Jen Stacy, Assistant Professor, Liberal Studies
Bin Tang, Assistant Professor, Computer Science
Kathryn Theiss, Assistant Professor, Biology

January 19th marked the first day of the Kick-off Workshop for the CSUDH Spring 2016 Grant Writing Academy, called Grants for My Research (GMR). Launched last year, the program, offered by the Office of Graduate Studies and Research, provides training and support to faculty interested in developing proposals for external funding. The program is open to all full-time instructional faculty who are at the beginning to intermediate stages in their grantsmanship. Applications to GMR are solicited in Fall. Those who are selected after a review process participate in a three-day Kick-off Workshop in January, followed by monthly group meetings with program facilitators and guest speakers and one-on-one mentoring sessions with faculty Director for Research Development throughout the spring semester. The program goal is to have each participant submit at least one high-quality, competitive application to an external funder during current or following academic year. Additionally, each of the selected participants will receive $1,000 in professional development fund:

- $500 for participation in the program, and
- $500 for submitting a proposal to an external funding agency.

For more questions and to learn when the applications for the program’s next cycle will open, call Office of Research and Sponsored Programs at extension 2852, or visit our website: http://www4.csudh.edu/research.
Have a Great Summer!!

From the Office of Graduate Studies and Research