2017 CSU
STUDENT RESEARCH COMPETITION

Biennial Faculty Recognition
Grant Submissions & More

Spring'17

GRADUATE & RESEARCH STUDIES
Spring’17 was a semester of great celebrations for our University as well as our office of Graduate Studies and Research. In February, we celebrated our students’ research achievements in yet another successful Student Research Day with 258 oral, poster, and new this year, round table student presentations. Selected from the Student Research Day, the CSUDH representation brought a record of three prestigious awards from the 31st Annual California State University Student Research Competition held in April at Cal Poly, Saint Luis Obispo. Check who are the winners in the story featured on pages 13-16. Also in April, we honored our faculty research and creative activity accomplishments in the biennial recognition event (pages 21-22). The success of our McNair Scholar program emanates in the interviews of its alumni, Rita Kirkpatrick and David Salas. We follow Rita all the way to Germany. She is a 2016 recipient of a B.A. in Anthropology and now, as a graduate student at American University was selected to participate in a prestigious study abroad program in Berlin (page 4). This year’s graduate, Clinical Science major, David, will be joining a UCLA’s Molecular Biology Ph.D. program (page 9). Also, I am happy to introduce Gillian Fischer as our new Director of Sponsored Research and Programs, responsible for managing our pre- and post-award services effective this January (page 2). And, as always, I would like to bring your attention to the important graduate studies dates and deadlines, listed on page 3. Also, save the dates for SRD’18 listed on the back cover. I wish you enjoyable reading!
Welcome

Even Letters of Intent (LOI) and pre-proposals to external agencies are routed through the Office of Graduate Studies and Research (GSR). Get in touch with a GSR staff, Gillian Fischer or Craig Geber as soon as you know the program you are planning to target.

Before you start the proposal preparation and submission process to external agencies, check in with Gillian Fischer or Craig Geber first to make sure the program you are trying to submit does not have a cost share. If there is a cost share requirement, work with your college Dean and the Chair to identify how that requirement will be met.

Budget and budget justification needs to be developed in consultation with GSR staff well before the sponsor’s deadline.

Final submission ready files and documents should be ready at least five (5) days before the sponsor’s submission deadline so that GSR staff can perform a compliance check to make sure all the required pieces are included and in the correct format to avoid the proposal rejection by the sponsor.

**EXTERNAL PROPOSAL SUBMISSION TIPS**

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**Meet Our New Team Member**

Gillian Fischer joined our staff prior to the start of the spring semester as a Director of Sponsored Research and Programs. She is a Certified Research Administrator with extensive working knowledge in pre- and post-award grant administration. Gillian started this career path as a Sr. Administrative Analyst at UCLA. She then moved on to work at UC Irvine as a Senior Contract & Grant Officer and at UC Riverside as a Principal Contract & Grant Officer, and then as an Assistant Director in the Office of Grants and Contracts at CSU, Fullerton. She received her Bachelor of Arts from CSU Northridge in Cinema and Television Arts, Electronic Media Management and has completed CSU Systemwide Principles of Supervision Course. When she is not working she keeps herself busy with various interesting diversions that include travel, film, immersion in the retro culture (Swing, Rockabilly, Tiki). A fun fact about Gillian is that for over 20 years she has regularly attended the San Diego Comic-Con International. She is also an avid LA Kings fan!

If you are planning to submit a grant proposal to an external federal agency in the near future, please reach her at gfischer@csudh.edu or by phone (310) 243-3119.
Dr. Vivian Price from the Interdisciplinary Studies has been awarded a prestigious Fulbright U.S. Scholar award. For her Fulbright award, she will be in the UK during Spring 2018 to teach a course on Labor and the Environment at the University of Liverpool. She will work with the campus' community and labor program on a public photography and performance exhibit.

We wish her success!

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### Important Dates & Deadlines

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**New Graduate Student Orientation**
Saturday, August 26, 2017
Rita Kirkpatrick, a recent graduate from California State University Dominguez, a former McNair scholar, and now a graduate student at American University has received the opportunity to study abroad in Germany at Freie Universität. After earning her B.A in Anthropology with a minor in Political Science, Rita Kirkpatrick moved across the country to pursue a Master’s in Global Environmental Politics program at American University in Washington D.C. As a California native, Rita struggled to adjust to living in Washington D.C., as she shares, “To be honest, the adjustment period of being away from family and friends took a toll on my mental well-being.” Although Rita found it difficult to adjust to life away from her family and friends, she cites her experience with the McNair program that helped her find academic success at American University, “In terms of the academic load, I felt well prepared because of the McNair program. I would suggest DH students take writing workshops since I feel that this was a weakness of mine compared to other students in my cohort. Fortunately, I was able to take free writing workshops through my school and improved.” In finding ways to support her academic success, Rita adds about her overall experience living and pursuing her M.A in a city and college far away from home, “In general, I feel as though I have changed tremendously in good ways. Although the classes in my program are difficult, the adjustment in my personal life was way harder. But, once I got used to living in a new city, I felt more comfortable networking and making connections which is very important when you’re living in D.C.” In regards to her study abroad program, she shares, “I will be taking three classes in English and also taking German language courses.” In her free time, she hopes she will have the opportunity to travel to Madrid, Paris, London, and Rome, but when asked what she hopes to gain from her experience in Berlin, Germany, she gleefully states, “I’m looking forward to establishing new networking connections related to my interests in water policy, urban infrastructure development, and implementation strategies from international to local level policies.” As Rita embarks on this new journey, the mantra familiar to all Dominguez Hills students remains true, “Once a Toro, always a Toro.”
The Office of Graduate Studies and Research offers the Grants for My Research (GMR) program to faculty interested in developing and submitting grant proposals to compete for extramural funding. The following faculty are participating in the GMR program this year which is now in its third year.

Heather Butler, Assistant Professor, Psychology
Amlan Chatterjee, Assistant Professor, Computer Science
Xuefei (Nancy) Deng, Associate Professor, Information Systems and Operations Management
Jessica Federman, Assistant Professor, Management
Kitty Fortner, Assistant Professor, Graduate Education
Yan-hua Huang, Professor, Occupational Therapy
Saili Kulkarni, Assistant Professor, Special Education
Bin Tang, Assistant Professor, Computer Science
Kimmie Tang, Assistant Professor, Special Education
Sarah Taylor, Assistant Professor, Anthropology
Philip Vieira, Assistant Professor, Psychology
Zheng Yang, Assistant Professor, Public Administration and Public Policy
GMR is an annual program open to all full-time instructional faculty, who are at the beginning to intermediate stages in their grantsmanship. Applications to GMR are solicited each Fall semester and after a review process, those that are selected participate in a three-day kick-off workshop in January. This past January 17 – 19th, 12 faculty participated in the kick-off workshop followed by monthly group meetings with program facilitators and notable on and off campus guest speakers who have tremendous successes with external funding. Additionally, faculty have access to one-on-one mentoring sessions with the GSR staff throughout the spring semester. The main goal of this program is to enable each participant to submit at least one high-quality, competitive, funding application to an external funder during 2017 or 2018. Three faculty from this year’s GMR cohort, Saili Kulkarni, Kimmie Tang and Philip Vieira represented our campus in the CSU system-wide research and proposal development webinar held on February 14th and are now part of the pilot research development 1:1 mentoring program administered by the Chancellor’s Office for selected new faculty from the five LA area CSUs. Through this pilot program these faculty have access to an external mentor with whom they are working to enhance their proposal preparation skills to submit a competitive proposal in the near future.
McNair Scholars from CSU Dominguez Hills College of Natural and Behavioral Sciences and the Division of Health Sciences continued their long tradition of presenting research at various conferences across the United States. In the fall of 2016, McNair Scholars attended the national conference, Society for Advancing Chicanos/Hispanics & Native Americans in Science (SACNAS) in Long Beach, CA. SACNAS is national conference aimed at fostering the advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics & Native Americans in STEM fields. The conference provided the opportunities for students across the United States to engage in professional, academic and cultural activities, alongside peers, mentors and scientists with diverse backgrounds. Six McNair Scholars across various fields (math, psychology, and sociology) presented research conducted under the guidance of their CSUDH faculty mentors. The conference which took place over the course of three days provided opportunities for student and faculty engagement focused on research, career
opportunities, and graduate education. Mathematics major, Elizabeth Villanueva, a McNair Scholar, states, “SACNAS was an amazing experience, I enjoyed working with the McNair Scholars program in preparing for my first poster presentation. I left SACNAS feeling more inspired to continue to graduate school to earn a PhD in the field of mathematics.” Elizabeth Villanueva’s work aims to present a mathematical model of a solar electric propulsion system that could be analyzed through simulation to show what a mission to Mars would encompass in terms of duration. Other scholars presenting their research included: Ivette Gabriella, a psychology major under the mentorship of Dr. Carl Sneed presented, “Physical Activity and Alcohol Use Among Older College Students”; Marcos Jimenez, a psychology student, presented, “The Impact of Computer Technology Use on Time Perception,” under the mentorship of Dr. Mark L. Carrier; Stephanie Elias, a psychology student, presented her work, “Predicting Problematic Internet Use from Mental Health, Technology Usage, and Executive Functioning,” conducted under the mentorship of Dr. Larry Rosen; Esmeralda Cabrera, a sociology major under the guidance of Dr. Matt Mutchler presented her work titled: “Paternal Alcohol Effects on College Students.”; David Salas, a clinical science major, presented his research title: “Role of Human T-Cell Leukemia Virus Type 1 Matrix and Nucleocapsid Proteins in tRNAPro Annealing to Genomic RNA.” David’s research was conducted during a summer research program at Ohio State University’s Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry. Psychology majors, Marcos Jiménez and Ivette Gabriella, along with mathematics major, Elizabeth Villanueva were awarded the SACNAS travel fellowship. Continuing their quest to engage in research and professional development, McNair Scholars, Magaly Ordonez (Chicana/o Studies and Sociology/Women’s Studies major), Kimberly Cortez (Chicana/o Studies major major), Alejandra Regla-Vargas (Chicana/o Studies major major), Janet Ibarra (Chicana/o Studies major major) and Gabriela Corona (Chicana/o Studies major major) will be attending the National Association Chicana Chicano Studies (NACCS) in March 2017, supported by their mentors, Dr. Corina Benavides López and Dr. Marisela R. Chávez. In April 2017, psychology students, Ivette Gabriella, Marcos Jimenez, and Stephanie Elias will be attending the Western Psychological Association. The McNair Scholars program aims to continue their support of student and faculty mentorship at CSU Dominguez Hills.
How do you think your military service influenced your experience as a student?
When I served in the U.S. Army, I was fortunate enough to rise high enough in the ranks to manage a platoon. I think my military experience helped expose me to a diverse group of people and refined my ability to adapt to different spaces. After my military career, I took my courses more seriously and regarded my professors as authority figures.

DAVID SALAS
McNAIR SCHOLAR
CSUDH Class of 2017
Clinical Science Major

David will be attending UCLA’s Ph.D. program in Molecular Biology this fall. He has been awarded the prestigious Eugene V. Cota-Robles Fellowship for entering doctoral students who are interested in a career in college or university teaching and research.

What led you to become a McNair Scholar?
I had not considered graduate school until I was in a Chicano/a Studies class and a McNair representative came to give a presentation. I became interested in the idea of furthering my education. With the support of Dr. Marisela Chavez, I applied and was accepted into the program.

What has been your most valuable takeaway from the McNair program?
The McNair program strives to provide valuable experiences throughout the graduate school preparation and application process. They strive to make you competitive and present your best self. As a first generation student, I had some issues thriving in non-diverse spaces as well as moving past gratitude when I reached some success. McNair staff and scholars never let me forget that I belonged in these spaces and that I deserved every opportunity that was presented.

Has anything surprised you?
The genuine connections you make with people can take you far. In each lab that I was in, including visitations to schools and all my grad school interviews, I tried hard to display my genuine self. I expressed my interest and was upfront about concerns I had, such as diversity, and left confident that I did enough.
Talk a little bit about your relationship with your mentors.
I tried to digest and internalize advice from a variety of mentors. Dr. Begona De Velasco had a lot of pride in me from the outset and was very willing to advocate for me as a scholar. She’s been great in pointing me in a direction and letting me explore options on my own. Professor Barbara Belmont has been amazing in helping me navigate my personal experiences and my professional ones and how they intersect. She’s been great in referring me to resources and giving me blunt criticisms. Dr. Chavez helped keep me grounded. She’s been great in reminding me what it means to enter these spaces as a Chicano student. All of these amazing women continue to encourage me to go further than I ever really thought I could go.

What made the biggest impression on you at Ohio State University during your summer research there?
My research mentor the first summer, Dr. Juan Alfonzo treated me like a grad student. I hit the ground running and read as many papers on tRNA modifications as he would give me. During my second summer at OSU, I was in a bigger lab which was an adjustment since my project required a lot more hours than I expected. Dr. Karin Musier-Forsyth had a more “hands off” approach but still expected a lot from me. It was a great experience and also hard work.

What led you to want to pursue cancer biology? What do you picture yourself doing after you finish school?
I lost both my parents to cancer, so before I understood biology, I tried hard to understand their cancer. The more I read, the more questions I had. It just made sense to study something I knew I’d never lose interest in. Every day biology changes, every day we change, every day you can learn something new. When I finish my graduate education, I am considering going into STEM education. It’s important to diversify STEM, and I think the current demographics in STEM are not reflective of this. A lot of people believe that you have to have this different, have a special brain to study science or to do research but it’s the preparation you have and the work you’re willing to put into it.

“All of these amazing women continue to encourage me to go further than I ever really thought I could go.”

-David Salas
California State University, Dominguez Hills (CSUDH) continues to thrive as Student Research Day completed its 12th annual event in support of research and creative activities. Held on February 15-16, 2017, Student Research Day (SRD) saw a continuous expansion of student participants during the two-day event with over 300 abstract submissions. A remarkable amount of 258 oral and poster presentations were showcased at the conference. This year introduced the round table, where students and faculty could discuss research in a personable setting. Health, Nutrition, and Clinical Science had the most presenters, followed by Behavioral and Social Sciences, and Humanities and Letters. Student presenters were mentored by over 100 participating faculty who guided their research over the past year. SRD continues to be a showcase for the high-quality research, sponsorship, and creative activities of our campus.
Jessie Kawata, lead creative design strategist at Jet Propulsion Laboratory, presented the keynote address during SRD’s lunch break to a full crowd of faculty and students inside the Loker Student Union’s Ballroom. Her presentation was titled “Outside-the-Box Rocket Science: A Unique Trajectory to the Stars.” Ten overall winners were selected to represent CSUDH at the 31st Annual California State University Student Research Competition on April 28-29, 2017, at California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo.

In a survey of Student Research Day (SRD’17) Participants...
50% were undergraduate students
63% were First Generation College Students
64% are or have previously been Pell grant recipients
28% work 20+ hours per week
54% were prompted to present because a faculty member suggested it to them
77% have the goal of earning a graduate degree (42% MA; 35% Doctorate)
10% graduated from a high school local to CSUDH (within a 15-minute radius)
40% graduated from a high school within LA County (outside a 15-minute radius from CSUDH)
78% said SRD improved their research skills
75% said SRD improved their presentation skills
66% said SRD increased their interest in their engagement with their research project
61% said SRD increased their level of interaction with their faculty mentor
41% said SRD increased their interest in pursuing graduate education
** Survey conducted in February 2017 with a total of 148 student responses
CSUDH Students Attend CSU Student Research Competition
Congratulations to CSUDH Student Research Team!!!

The 31st Annual CSU Student Research Competition took place on April 28 & 29 at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. The following students were selected to represented CSUDH at the statewide competition:

**Biological and Agricultural Sciences:**
Erika Lytle, Using population genetic analyses to distinguish between two morphologically similar species of rush lilies (Hastingsia)
Faculty Mentor: Kathryn Theiss, Biology

**Business, Economics, and Public Administration:**
Dhanushka Kumarasinghe, Come Catch Pokemon at the Celadon City Department Store!: Player Perceptions Toward Businesses Within Pokemon Go Hotspots
Faculty Mentor: Keunyeong Kim, Communications

**Computer Science:**
Kevin Daley, RTMP Video Streaming: Server Tool Development for Accessibility and Efficiency
Faculty Mentor: Mohsen Beheshti, Computer Science

**Creative Arts:**
John Gonzales, Jon Domingo, Cynthia Gutierrez, "The Watermen"
Faculty Mentor: George Vinovich, Digital Media Arts

**Health, Nutrition, and Clinical Science:**
Samantha Chow, Ashley Carey, Aileen Chau, Sherilyn Chau, Occupational Changes After Death of a Long-Term Spouse: The Widow's Experience
Faculty Mentor: Claudia Peyton, Occupational Therapy

Yea Ji Lee, Jessica Lontayo, Musical Interventions for Children with Autism: Parents’ Perspectives
Faculty Mentor: Claudia Peyton, Occupational Therapy

Kevin Sun, Lauren Santiago, Daniella Tarankow, Living with Crohn’s Disease: A Phenomenology
Faculty Mentor: Claudia Peyton, Occupational Therapy

**Humanities and Letters:**
Paloma Duran, It’s About Bloody Time
Faculty Mentor: Vanessa Wenzell, English

Lawrence Ramirez, Significant Possessions: Altered States of Consciousness in Yoruba Masquerades
Faculty Mentor: Kirstin Ellsworth, Art and Design

**Physical and Mathematical Sciences:**
Natalia da Silva, Hector Salgado, Differences of harmonic numbers and the abc-conjecture
Faculty Mentor: Serban Raianu, Mathematics

Dhanushka Kumarasinghe, undergraduate, Communications - 1st place in the Business, Economics, and Public Administration session (Undergraduate and Graduate),

Kevin Sun, Lauren Santiago, Daniella Tarankow, graduate, Occupational Therapy - 2nd place in the Health, Nutrition and Clinical Science session (Graduate),

Lawrence Ramirez, undergraduate, Art and Design - 2nd place in the Humanities and Letters session (Undergraduate).
Congratulations to these students and their mentors: Dr. Keunyeong Kim, Dr. Claudia Peyton and Dr. Kirstin Ellsworth! Also, many thanks to Dr. Michelle Martinez for her expertise and countless hours of hard work to prepare our students for this very competitive event. All of them were fantastic!

**The winning presentations:**

Dhanushka Kumarasinghe, Come Catch Pokemon at the Celadon City Department Store!: Player Perceptions Toward Businesses Within Pokemon Go Hotspots
Faculty Mentor: Keunyeong Kim, Communications

Kevin Sun, Lauren Santiago, Daniella Tarankow, Living with Crohn’s Disease: A Phenomenology
Faculty Mentor: Claudia Peyton, Occupational Therapy

Lawrence Ramirez, Significant Possessions: Altered States of Consciousness in Yoruba Masquerades
Faculty Mentor: Kirstin Ellsworth, Art and Design.

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### 31th Annual Student Research Competition

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PEGS
Promoting Excellence in Graduate Studies
he Title-V (2014-2019) PPOHA (Promoting Post-Baccalaureate Opportunities for Hispanic Americans) grant program provides services and activities that are well received by the campus community, especially by the 24 masters, professional, and certificate degree programs. The major areas of enriched academic services include discipline specific graduate writing, critical thinking/reading, and the research writing process disseminated via workshops, in-class seminars, and individual tutoring. The grant activities also promote scholarship presentations and publications. This past year, a major area of PEGS’ scholarship advancement witnessed at the GWIE Center (Graduate Writing Institute for Excellence) has been the Research-Assistanship (RA) program. The RA program is part of the PEGS’ Scholar’s Program where an instructor/scholar mentors a student (RA) to conduct collaborative research based on an original scholarship project of a faculty member. The collaborative work culminates in a publication. The GWIE Team and Dr. Furtado designed the program to optimize student learning and engagement in the area of academic research writing and publication. Prior to the commencement of the scholarship tenure, RAs receive over two days of orientations to target academic research skill development such as: library navigation, annotated bibliography writing, review of literature, research methodology, data collection, its purpose, and reporting. To track student progress, the Center collects a monthly reflection from RAs and faculty reporting protocol over a period of 15 weeks or semester. The four RA cohorts commenced in January 2016 now have a robust number of 36 faculty and 39 student Research Assistants enrolled in the scholarship program. So far, one RA team had their manuscript accepted, while five other RA teams currently have their manuscripts under review. The benefits of the RA program have been revered by the faculty and student community, with many more interested in receiving support to increase scholarship publication output on campus.

“I believe it was very valuable, I think my RA is now more enthusiastic about research.” A professor’s comment about the RA program
**Grant Submissions**

July 1-December 31, 2016

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As you may have already heard, Human Health Services (HHS) has announced a proposal to improve and modernize the regulations governing human subject research in the United States. The changes proposed are to ensure the highest standards of protections for human subjects involved in research, while enhancing effectiveness of oversight. The deadline for public comment was January 6, 2016....and now we wait. The proposed changes to the Common Rule are foreseeable and maybe even about time, some would say. Some of the major changes being proposed are the rules relating to informed consent, while others relate to exempt research, waiver of consent, single IRB review for multi-investigator research, and eliminating the requirement for continuing review when specific criteria are met. Changes in IRB policies and procedures are imminent and our office will plan accordingly. We will keep you posted as to what those changes will be.......STAY TUNED.

*A notice of proposed rule-making (NPRM) is a public notice issued by law when one of the independent agencies of the United States government wishes to add, remove, or change a rule or regulation as part of the rule-making process.

Beginning in Fall 2016, the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs along with the Office of Information Technology, launched the use of Cayuse 424 software as the sole method of submitting all Federal grant proposals with the exception of the National Science Foundation. Cayuse 424, a product of Evisions Corp., replaces what many long-time principal investigators remember (perhaps some more fondly than others) as the “greensheet” as the means of obtaining required internal approval before any request for extramural funding can be extended to a sponsoring agency. The ease of use by which reviewers can now read and approve proposals makes the process much easier and less problematic. Questions regarding it can be directed to Gillian Fischer (gfischer@csudh.edu) or Craig Geber (cgeber@csudh.edu).
BIENNIAL FACULTY RESEARCH, SCHOLARLY & CREATIVE ACTIVITY RECOGNITION

On April 20, 2017 CSUDH faculty were recognized for the achievements from January 1, 2015 to March 31, 2017, in the following categories:

1) Peer Reviewed Scholarly Publications and Conference Presentations
2) Juried Creative Activity,
3) Extramural Grantsmanship
4) Student Research and Creative Activity Mentorship
5) Book or Book Chapter Authorship or Editorship.

Keynote Speaker:
Dr. Larry Rosen
Professor Emeritus and Past Chair
Department of Psychology
WINNER, 2017 PROSE Awards, Biomedicine and Neuroscience Category.

Keynote Speech:
The Distracted Mind: Mentoring and Publishing at a State University.

Provost
Rod Hay

College of Arts & Humanities 65
College of Business Administration & Public Policy 35
College of Education 22
College of Health, Human Services, and Nursing 34
College of Natural & Behavioral Sciences 77
University Library 5
ALL 238
If you have completed your research project, or have reached a significant milestone on the way toward punishable work, you can give an oral presentation of your research. Both an abstract and supplemental document are required.

If your project is still underway, or if it is a part of a larger project, you can present the status of your contribution to the work in a poster format. An abstract describing your project is required.

If you are just getting started on your project, or are new to research programs, you can discuss the work you are doing in a round-table format moderated by a faculty member. An abstract describing your project idea is required.

Choose a format of the presentation that suits you the best:

**Oral (Powerpoint) Presentations**
If you have completed your research project, or have reached a significant milestone on the way toward punishable work, you can give an oral presentation of your research. Both an abstract and supplemental document are required.

**Poster (36x48) Presentations**
If your project is still underway, or if it is a part of a larger project, you can present the status of your contribution to the work in a poster format. An abstract describing your project is required.

**Round Table Discussion**
If you are just getting started on your project, or are new to research programs, you can discuss the work you are doing in a round-table format moderated by a faculty member. An abstract describing your project idea is required.

**Abstract (300 words max)**
Due: December 7, 2017
* Required for all presentations

**Oral Presentation Supplement**
January 8, 2018
* Required to be considered for an oral presentation