

## *From the Director*

Dear Colleagues:

It's hard to believe that we are already through Spring Break and into the second half of the semester. The Grants Office has been busy with a steady stream of requests from faculty and staff members seeking external funding and submitting grant proposals.

We have also been receiving award notifications from funding agencies for grant proposals that were submitted in previous semesters. On the following pages, you can read about these awards and the people who have been successful in their efforts to secure funding.

I hope that the remainder of your semester is a pleasant one and that everyone continues to put forth such an impressive effort in seeking external funding. The Grants Office staff is ready to assist you in your grant writing endeavors!

Nancy L. Cruikshank, CRA  
*Director, Office of Grants  
and Sponsored Research*

## **New Person in the Grants Office**

The Office of Grants and Sponsored Research asks you to welcome Casey McCandless to SRU. Casey joins the staff as a half-time secretary in the Grants Office. She also works half-time as the department secretary in Political Science. Among other duties, Casey will be assisting those with active grants by keeping them informed of upcoming report deadlines. Feel free to stop by the Grants Office to welcome Casey to SRU.

*Awards received from July 1 through December 31, 2007 totaled \$2,025,362. A complete listing of the awards is on pages 2 and 3 of this newsletter. Congratulations to all awardees! If you are interested in learning how to receive sponsored funding, contact the Grants Office at extension 2045 or by e-mail at [grantsoffice@sru.edu](mailto:grantsoffice@sru.edu)*

## **Upcoming Funding Opportunity**

PASSHE released the RFP for **Programs in Support of Diversity and Equity**. The purpose of this program is to support vital System-wide initiatives designed to achieve and promote diversity by serving the educational needs of historically under-represented minority students, faculty and staff populations. The deadline to submit proposals to the Grants Office is **Monday, March 31, 2008 by 4:00 PM**.

Visit the website at <http://www.sru.edu/pages/4958.asp> for the guidelines on preparing and submitting a proposal for this important grant program.

## **SRU Symposium for Student Research and Scholarship**

The SRU Symposium for Student Research and Scholarship will be held in the Multi-Purpose Room of the University Union on Thursday, April 3 and Friday, April 4, 2008. This two-day event is designed to showcase student research, scholarship and creative activity. Over 50 presentations and poster sessions will be featured. To view the schedule of presentations and poster sessions, visit the website at <http://academics.sru.edu/symposium/finalprogram08.pdf>.

A plenary address will be held on Thursday, April 3rd at 12:30 PM. Dr. Lee Torda, Director of Undergraduate Research at Bridgewater State College, will share her insights into the importance of the student research experience in the academic enterprise. We look forward to seeing you and your students there!

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## External Awards Received January 1, 2007—June 30, 2007

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**Amissah-Arthur, Abigail**, geography, geology and the environment, received an award from the National Science Foundation (NSF) in the amount of \$53,460 to sponsor travel to Nigeria for 20 scientists from universities throughout the United States to attend a week-long conference. The overall goal of the project is to draw on the complementary expertise of the US and Nigerian scientists in order to generate novel approaches to drought management that will lead to the development of integrated models of drought management.

**Ambrosio, Nora**, dance, received an award from the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education's Diversity and Equity Grant Program in the amount of \$8,384 for a program entitled "Diversity in the Curriculum: Afro-Caribbean Dance and Performance". This funding will bring Tania Isaac, an up-and-coming Afro-Caribbean dancer/choreographer, to SRU in April 2008 to conduct a two-week residency.

**Ambrosio, Nora**, dance, was awarded \$1,500 from the Venango Center for Creative Development for "Bringing the Arts to Underserved Regions: Kaleidoscope – The Slippery Rock University Regional Arts Festival 2008".

**Arnhold, Robert**, exercise and rehabilitative science, received funding in the amount of \$5,000 from the Pennsylvania Department of Health to evaluate the Building Inclusive Communities mini-grant program offered by the Bureau of Family Health and to determine best practices or models that may be applied to other mini-grant programs.

**Arnhold, Robert**, exercise and rehabilitative sciences, received \$50,000 from the DSF Charitable Foundation for Year 02 of a two-year grant to fund the Center on Disability and Health. The two-year grant totaled \$100,000.

**Baker, Deb**, public relations, was awarded \$4,500 from the Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation to support bringing the performance of Philadanco to SRU as part of the 2006-2007 Performing Arts Series.

**Baker, Deb**, public relations, received an award in the amount of \$500 from the Venango Center for Creative Development to support bringing the performance, "Five Guys Named Moe", to SRU as part of the 2006-2007 Performing Arts Series.

**Bateman, Renee**, health center, was awarded a grant from the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board in the amount of \$11,500 to prevent underage and high risk drinking at SRU by expanding faculty involvement in activities in alcohol prevention efforts.

**Condrary, Jace**, English and Women's Studies, received an award from the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education's Diversity and Equity Grant Program in the amount of \$7,000 for a program entitled "Women

in the Conflict Zone: A Western SSHE Universities Initiative". This project will bring two critically acclaimed women of the Middle East to speak at both SRU and Clarion University to address issues of oppression, prejudice and stereotyping of women of Middle Eastern cultures.

**Cooke, Colleen**, President's Commission on LGBT Issues, received an award from the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education's Diversity and Equity Grant Program in the amount of \$8,000 to develop the LGBTQ Mentoring Program and Resource Center. The center will house educational resources and host events for student, faculty and staff on issues regarding diverse sexual orientations and gender identities.

**Cooper, Tamara**, admissions, received an award from the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education's Diversity and Equity Grant Program in the amount of \$14,100 to host the "Joint Recruitment West". The goal of the Joint Recruitment West program is to showcase PASSHE universities to underrepresented high school students by hosting and funding a college fair in Pittsburgh.

**Fleming, DaNine**, Intercultural Programs, received an award from the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education's Diversity and Equity Grant Program in the amount of \$3,900 for the "Board of Governors' Jump Start Mentoring Program." This program is designed to assist with the recruitment and retention of a diverse student population with an emphasis on the Board of Governors' scholarship recipients' matriculation to graduation.

**George, Cathy**, Student Government Association (SGA), received an award of \$5,000 from Pittsburgh 250 Community Connections to expand two greening programs on campus and in the Slippery Rock community. Students will plant 100 trees and obtain at least 10 new bicycles for a Green Bike Initiative that makes loaner bicycles available to anyone on campus.

**Hladio, Patricia**, financial aid, received notification that SRU will receive \$74,646 from the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) under their Workforce Advancement Grant for Education (WAGE) program. This program benefits adult students who may face financial barriers in pursuing higher education opportunities.

**Holland, Carol and Chiprean, Kristina**, counseling center and health center, received \$1,000 from the Pennsylvania Faculty Health and Welfare Fund to provide SRU faculty and staff with the opportunity to study and practice yoga. The goal of the project is to decrease the effects of workplace stress, improve work productivity and health of the participants.

**Johnson, Paulette and Livingston, Jack**, environmental education and geology, geography and the envi-

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## External Awards Received, cont.

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ronment, received an award in the amount of \$10,000 from the PA Game Commission for a research project entitled "Northern Goshawk: Survey, Status, Best Management Practices and GIS Habitat Classification Model".

**Kaiser-Drobney, Alice**, Institute for Community, Service-Learning and Non-Profit Leadership, received a grant in the amount of \$439,179 from the Corporation for National and Community Service through PENNSERVE for the first year of a three year grant. The total three year award is \$1,310,000. The goal of the CONNECTOR CORPS AmeriCorps program is to leverage social capital for an enhanced quality of life in the communities where members serve.

**Mariacher, Deborah**, academic services, was awarded \$175,000 from the Pennsylvania Department of Education for the continuation of the Act 101 Program for this fiscal year. This program assists students in acquiring skills necessary for academic success, to connect them to essential university services, to advocate for them, and to partner with them during their academic journey.

**Meredith, Matthew**, athletics, received a grant in the amount of \$5,000 from the United States Tennis Association to defray the cost of resurfacing the SRU tennis courts located on the SRU campus.

**Misner, John and Mong, Donald**, school of business, were awarded \$90,247 from the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education to plan and design a business incubator as the hub of Slippery Rock's budding entrepreneurship program. The business incubator will allow SRU to contribute to the economic re-development of the underserved areas of western Pennsylvania, Beaver, Butler, Lawrence and Mercer.

**Nelson, Ramona, and Lewis, Deb**, nursing, received an award of \$36,000 from the Pennsylvania Higher Education Foundation, Inc. to provide scholarships to nursing students enrolled in the RN to BSN program.

**Nichols, Randall and Zillifro, Tracy**, physical education, were awarded \$29,559 for Year 02 of a three-year grant from PE4LIFE. The total of the three-year grant is \$92,672. The primary goal of this project is to demonstrate that PE4LIFE programs are having a positive impact on the health of children by increasing the physical activity and diminishing childhood obesity.

**Parsons, Susan**, academic services, received funding in the amount of \$236,966 from the US Department of Education for the continuation of the Student Support Services Program. This program provides supportive services, such as orientation sessions, learning strategies and student mentoring, to low-income, first-generation and disabled students at SRU.

**Penrose, Joyce**, nursing, was granted \$137,059 from the Health Resources and Service Administration (HRSA) for Year 03 of a three year grant for a project entitled "Preparing Family Nurse Practitioners for Rural and

Underserved Pennsylvania". The goal is to improve access to quality health care through appropriate preparation, composition and distribution of prepared nurses through the enhancement of advanced nursing education. The total three-year award was \$439,505.

**Rose, Suzanne**, elementary education, was awarded \$495,457 from the US Department of Education for a Teacher Quality Enhancement grant entitled "Systemic Program Reform Supporting Minority Candidates at Slippery Rock University". This is for Year 03 of a three year grant totaling \$1,305,375.

**Russell, Bruce**, College of Business, Social and Information Science, received a grant in the amount of \$30,000 from the Pennsylvania State System of Education to develop a campus-wide internship coordinator office to assist all academic departments to enhance current internship sites and recruit and develop additional internship sites within Pennsylvania.

**Slogar, Kelly**, International Services, received notification that the Open Society, Inc. (OSI) will place four international students at SRU for the 2007-08 academic year. OSI will provide funding for tuition, fees and room/board for the students totaling \$57,924.

**Slogar, Kelly**, International Services, received notification that the International Research & Exchange Board (IREX) will place one international student at SRU for the 2007-08 academic year. IREX will provide funding for tuition, fees and room/board for the student totaling \$14,481.

**Walker, Christophas**, academic services, received an award from the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education's Diversity and Equity Grant Program in the amount of \$12,000 to fund the "Frederick Douglass Institute for Academic Achievement and Human Development." The Frederick Douglass Institute has created a clearinghouse where outreach services and programs have focused on academic achievement, campus climate and community aid throughout the university community.

**Werner, Judy**, elementary education/early childhood, was awarded \$5,000 from the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education for the Collaborative for Excellence in Teacher Preparation in Pennsylvania (CETP-PA) program.

**White, Frederick**, English, received an award from the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education's Diversity and Equity Grant Program in the amount of \$3,000 to fund the "Native American Celebration Day" scheduled in November 2007. The goal of this program is to raise awareness of important Native American contributions to society and to inform the community about Native American identity.

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## Internal Grants Awarded

### Teaching, Learning and Technology Roundtable (TLTR) Grants

**Arnhold, Pamela**, exercise and rehabilitative science, was awarded \$5,000 for a project entitled *Use of GameCycle for Classroom*.

**Bian, Wei**, physical education, received an award of \$700 for a project entitled *Creation of Scenario-Based Interactive Learning Center for PETE Students*.

**Borsch, Daniel**, biology, was awarded \$4,775 for a project entitled *Virtual Interactive Science Laboratory*.

**Foster, Jennifer**, communication, received \$325 for a project entitled *Exploration of Incorporating the Lynda.com Online Training Library*.

**Ogoreuc, Robert**, physical education, was awarded \$4,700 for a project entitled *Analysis of Underwater Human Movements*.

### Faculty/Student Research Grants

**Amissah-Arthur, Abigail**, geology, geography and the environment, and student investigator **Brittany Ryhal (U)**, were awarded \$4,184 for a project entitled *Geographic Pattern and Neighborhood Characteristics Associated with Foreclosure Trends in a Small Town America: The Case of Butler, PA*.

**Birckbichler, Paul**, chemistry, along with student investigators, **Kimberly Negrin (U)** and **Kayce Tomcho (U)**, received an award of \$4,821 for a project entitled *Evaluation of BBZDR/Wor Rat: New Animal Model for Type 2 Diabetes*.

**Chen, Xianfeng, and Zieg, Michael**, geology, geography and the environment, were awarded \$5,000 to work with two undergraduate student investigators on a project entitled *Automatic Extraction of Textural Information of Porphyritic Olivine Chondrules: An Object-Based Classification Approach*.

**Herat, Athula, Mahmood, Rizwan, and Mukherjee, Krishna**, chemistry, along with student investigator, **Eric Hardin (U)**, will work with two additional undergraduate student investigators on a project entitled *Dynamics of Spherulite Formation from Self-Aggregation of Amyloid Fibrils in  $\beta$ -lactoglobulin* funded in the amount of \$4,891.

**Mahmood, Rizwan, Mukherjee, Krishna, and Herat, Athula**, chemistry, along with two undergraduate student investigators, received funding in the amount of \$4,984 for a project entitled *Optical Microscopy of Water-Liquid Crystal-Double Tailed Ionic Surfactant Micro Emulsion*.

**Mickle, Katherine**, art, and **Burkhart, Patrick**, geology, geography and the environment, received funding in the amount of \$5,000 to work with up to 10 undergraduate student investigators on a project entitled *Where Art Meets Science: A Synergistic Approach to Landscapes and Ideas*.

**Kaplan-Solomon, Nanette**, and **Meixner, Brian**, music, were awarded \$5,000 to work with 40 undergraduate music majors on a project entitled *The Performers Meet the Composer: A Commissioned Work for Piano and Wind Ensemble*.

**Wells, Deborah**, elementary education/early childhood, received an award in the amount of \$1,059 to work with two undergraduate student investigators on a project entitled *Trends in Newbery Award Winning Books from 2000-2008: Literary Elements, Themes and Multicultural Representations*.

SlipperyRock  
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[www.SRU.edu](http://www.SRU.edu)

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