

## From the Director

Dear Colleagues:

It's hard to believe that we are already half-way through the Spring semester. The Grants Office has been busy, but that is how we like it! The number of applications submitted through the Grants Office has surpassed last year's number for the same time period. And we hope to break last year's record for total grant submissions.

If you have a project or idea in mind, contact the Grants Office so that we can help you find funding sources, guide you through the grant application process, answer any questions, address your concerns, as well as obtain administrative approvals for your proposal.

We hope that the remainder of your semester is a pleasant one and that everyone continues to put forth such impressive efforts. Please let us know how we can help you in your pursuit of external funding. We are waiting to hear from you!

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

## Proposal Development Travel Fund

In an effort to encourage the pursuit of external funding at Slippery Rock University, the Grants Office has funding available to support travel by SRU faculty and staff members developing grant proposals.

This program provides travel support for faculty and staff to: (1) meet with program officers at a funding agency, (2) attend a proposal preparation workshop, a funding information conference, or a bidder's conference sponsored by a funding agency, or (3) attend a proposal preparation workshop, a funding information conference, or a bidder's conference that is part of a professional meeting. This program is intended to provide the opportunity for faculty and staff to communicate with program officers about funding activities in preparation for submitting a proposal for external funding.

To download eligibility requirements and request form, visit our website at <http://www.sru.edu/pages/5869.asp>.

***"Awards for July 1st through December 31st 2008 totaled \$1,608,428." Congratulations to all awardees!***

## 2009-2010 Request for Proposals for Programs in Support of Diversity & Equity

The Pennsylvania State System (PASSHE) currently has an RFP available for the 2009-2010 Diversity & Equity Grant Program.

The deadline to submit proposals to the Grants Office is Monday, April 6th, 2009 by 4:00 p.m. All applicants must attend a proposal preparation workshop on Tuesday, March 17th, 2009 at 2:00 p.m. If you are preparing a proposal please call Casey McCandless at ext. 2045 or email at [casey.mccandless@sru.edu](mailto:casey.mccandless@sru.edu) to register for the workshop.

[Click here to access the RFP](#)

## SPINPlus Funding Opportunities Database

The Grants Office has recently started using a new database, called SPINPlus, to find various sources and opportunities.

**SPINPlus** is a comprehensive web-based system comprised of three modules, including a database of funding opportunities (**SPIN-Sponsored Programs Information Network**) which is designed to provide up to date information on current federal, non-federal and international funding opportunities including: Fellowships, Research Grants, Publication Support, Sabbatical Support, RFAs (NIH Guide), Curriculum Development, Conference Support, RFPs and more; a database of investigator profiles (**GENIUS**); and a matching alert system (**SMARTS**). These products work together to ensure that faculty/PIs are quickly and efficiently able to locate the most current funding opportunities available in their field of interest.

If you are interested in receiving information on possible funding opportunities please complete a Grant Seeker Profile Form located on our website ([www.sru.edu/pages/15475.asp](http://www.sru.edu/pages/15475.asp)). Return your form to me via e-mail at [casey.mccandless@sru.edu](mailto:casey.mccandless@sru.edu) or by inter-office mail at 140 Patterson Hall. SPINPlus will automatically e-mail you funding announcements.

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## External Awards Received July 1, 2008 - December 31, 2008

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**Ambrosio, Nora** – dance, received an award in the amount of \$2,688 from the Venango Center for Creative Development, a partner in the Pennsylvania Partners in the Arts Regrant Program, to support Kaleidoscope – The Slippery Rock University Regional Arts Festival in April 2009.

**Arnhold, Robert** – exercise and rehabilitative sciences, received a grant in the amount of \$3,000 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to collect data on participant progress for the “*I Can Do It, You Can Do It*” Program.

**Arnhold, Robert** – exercise and rehabilitative sciences, received a grant from the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs in the amount of \$187,904 for Year 01 of a three-year grant. The total three-year award is \$773,990. This project addresses a well-established need for the preparation of highly qualified adapted physical education teachers to meet the unique needs of children with disabilities by providing scholarship funds to students enrolled in the graduate-level adapted physical activity program. Personnel prepared by this project will be equipped with the knowledge, skills and abilities to assume leadership roles as adapted physical educators.

**Arnhold, Robert** – exercise and rehabilitative sciences, was awarded a cooperative agreement in the amount of \$275,000 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for Year 01 of a three-year agreement to implement and expand the national “*I Can Do It, You Can Do It*” Program. The program will be conducted at nine sites across the United States, including a site at Slippery Rock University, and is devoted to developing a nationwide mentoring and awards initiative to promote good nutrition and physical activity in youth with disabilities. The total three-year award is \$849,998.

**Baker, Deb** – advancement, received an award in the amount of \$403 from the Venango Center for Creative Development, a partner in the Pennsylvania Partner in the Arts Regrant Program, to underwrite the performance of “*Pastures of Plenty*” as part of the Performing Arts Series.

**Bechard, Thomas, Lotman, Rebecca and Hawranick, Sylvia** – social work, criminology and criminal justice, received a grant in the amount of \$5,000 from the Council of Social Work Education, Inc. under their Curriculum Development Institute (CDI) Program. The CDI Program combines extensive opportunities for supportive networking and problem-

solving with mentors and peers from social work programs nation-wide.

**Bonando, John** – Student Services, received a supplement in the amount of \$53,000 to a grant from the PA Department of Transportation to construct lighted pedestrian pathways to increase safety for students and visitors walking, jogging or biking on campus, increasing the total award for the project to \$663,995.

**Condavy, Jace** – English, received an award from the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education’s Diversity and Equity Grant Program in the amount of \$5,000 for a program entitled “*Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Frederick Douglass: Equality Beyond Race and Gender*”. This program acknowledges the important history of traditionally marginalized groups as well as offers a model of collaboration in the goal of achieving social justice by bringing actors portraying Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Frederick Douglass in their advocacy for abolition and women’s rights.

**DePalma, Judith** – nursing, received a grant in the amount of \$37,230 from the Pennsylvania Higher Education Foundation, Inc. under their Nursing Education Grant Program to provide scholarships to students enrolled in SRU’s RN to BSN program. These funds will support students in their efforts to acquire a baccalaureate level nursing education and advance their professional nursing careers.

**Holland, Carol** – counseling center, and **Chiprean, Kristina**, student health center, were awarded \$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.

**Hunt, Herbert** – elementary education/early childhood, was awarded \$3,876 from the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education under a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Education for the Leadership and Excellence for Administrators in Pennsylvania Schools (LEAPS) and the Principals Induction Network (PLI) program. The LEAPS grant provides professional development for administrators. The PLI program provides experienced administrators to mentor newly-certified principals during their first year of service.

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## External Awards Received July 1, 2008 - December 31, 2008

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**Isherwood, Robert** – special education, was awarded \$3,736 from the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education under a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Education for the Leadership and Excellence for Administrators in Pennsylvania Schools (LEAPS) and the Principals Induction Network (PLI) program. The LEAPS grant provides professional development for administrators. The PLI program provides experienced administrators to mentor newly-certified principals during their first year of service.

**Kaiser-Drobney, Alice** – Institute for Community, Service-Learning and Nonprofit Leadership, received a grant in the amount of \$434,168 from the Corporation for National and Community Service through PennSERVE. The goal of this program is to create stronger bonds between the Connector Corps and the surrounding communities. Connector Corps aims to leverage social capital within communities for the specific purpose of enhancing quality of life for children and their families.

**Kemeny, Betsy** – exercise and rehabilitative sciences, was granted an award in the amount of \$6,341 from the Snee-Reinhardt Charitable Foundation to purchase and install a specially designed aquatic sound system for the West Gym pool. This aquatic sound system will improve communication, independence and skill attainment for individuals with autism and intellectual disabilities who participate in the adapted aquatics program.

**Kemeny, Betsy** – exercise and rehabilitative sciences, received a grant in the amount of \$3,038 from the Dr. & Mrs. Arthur William Phillips Charitable Trust to provide scholarships for youth who are blind or visually impaired to participate in a week-long overnight sports skill camp, biannual sports skill clinic and a competitive goalball team. The scholarships will support the participation for 10 youths from northwestern Pennsylvania.

**Massey, Catherine** – psychology, received an award of \$4,000 from the Pennsylvania Department of Health through the Community Health Challenge of Southwestern Pennsylvania for the Pennsylvania Students Working Against Tobacco (PA-SWAT) program.

**Massey, Catherine** – psychology, received an award from the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education's Diversity and Equity Grant Program in the amount of \$5,000 for a program entitled "*Enhancing Campus Community Understanding of Lesbian, Gay,*

*Bisexual and Transgender Identities*". The goal of this program is to decrease invisibility and lack of understanding or misunderstanding of a historically under-represented group by offering three significant events on campus.

**McCarren, Joseph** – English, received an award from the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education's Diversity and Equity Grant Program in the amount of \$12,000 for a program entitled "*Summer Creative and Performing Arts Academy: Diversity/Equity Outreach Component*". This funding will provide an opportunity for historically underrepresented low-income high school students to participate in a university residential arts program in order to increase the students' awareness of the potential for post secondary education and careers in the arts.

**Parsons, Susan** – Academic Services, received a grant in the amount of \$249,407 for Year 04 of a four-year grant from the U.S. Department of Education for 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.

**Paul, Kathleen** – Pennsylvania Center for Environmental Education, was granted \$15,000 from the Pennsylvania Department of Environment Protection for a project entitled "*Development on an Online Outdoor Learning Site Resource Guide*". This grant will allow the PCEE to develop a collection of books and resources related to environment education to be housed at SRU's Bailey Library to be available to lend to over 3,000 school and community libraries through the AccessPA interlibrary loan system.

**Paul, Kathleen** – Pennsylvania Center for Environmental Education, was granted \$27,540 from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) for a project entitled "*Critter Quest PA: Educational Materials*". This grant will allow the PCEE to develop online educational materials that will make this program more useful for teachers and naturalists. Classroom "wikis" will be designed to allow students to interact and learn as a group in a way that is challenging, multi-sensory and fun. Students will also be able to post their findings to the Wiki, creating a potential for state-wide dialogue about our natural resources and their biodiversity.

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**Reynolds, Thomas** – Macoskey Center for Sustainable Systems, received a grant in the amount of \$10,000 from the Beulah Land, Inc. to improve public visibility and to develop interpretive materials for the Macoskey-Center. The funding will be used to construct a visitor information booth, install new signage, create trailhead kiosks and maps for the new trail system, and create improved interpretation of demonstrated sustainable technologies and systems. It will also allow for a paid internship to design and implement the project.

**Ringer, Lisa** – SRU/SGA Preschool and Childcare Center, received a grant in the amount of \$14,653 from the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare under the Keystone STARS Merit and Education & Retention Award program to provide funding to assist providers in improving the quality of service and rewarding early learning and school-age programs for achieving and/or maintaining a STAR level.

**Silva, Judith** – Bailey Library, was selected to receive an IMLS Connecting to Collections Bookshelf award from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The IMLS Bookshelf is a collection of resources about collections care and is intended for small to mid-sized museums, libraries and archives. This award of resource material is valued at over \$800.

**Soeder, Pamela** – elementary education/early childhood, received an award of \$80,000 from the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education under the R. Benjamin Wiley Partnership Program to conduct the Pittsburgh Partnership Program Phase I at Slippery Rock University. This is a multi-year college preparatory program beginning the summer after completing 10<sup>th</sup> grade to help students from urban high schools in the Pittsburgh area prepare for and attend college. Through the program, students have the chance to work with university staff and faculty to develop academic and social skills needed to succeed in college.

**Sykora, Sharon** – political science, and **Cooklin, Katherine**, philosophy, received an agreement for \$9,500 from Carnegie Mellon University to conduct the “Deliberative Poll on the Issue of Marriage in America” at Slippery Rock University.

**Vallin, Robert** – mathematics, received \$144,089 from the Mathematical Association of America (MAA) to continue to serve as their Associate Director for Student Activities in Washington, DC.

**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 \$9,000 for the Frederick Douglass Institute for Academic Achievement and Human Development. This funding will allow the Institute to continue to sponsor and promote diversity and social justice by bringing students, faculty and staff from diverse backgrounds together to address and manage differences, and create a welcoming climate across campus and into the community.

**Werner, Judy** – elementary education, was awarded \$4,055 from Michigan State University to participate in the US TEDS-M Data Collection Study. The Teacher Education Study in Mathematics (TEDS-M) is an international study focusing on the preparation of teachers of mathematics at the elementary and middle school levels.

**White, Frederick** – English, received an award from the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education’s Diversity and Equity Grant Program in the amount of \$2,000 for a program entitled “Native American Celebration Day.” This day of celebration will be an opportunity to enhance the campus climate with singing, dancing, storytelling, lectures and drama to raise awareness of important Native American contributions to our society.

*The Grants Office received notification of awards for 30 grant proposals from July 1, 2008 to December 31, 2008! 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)*

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## Internal Grants Awarded

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

**Anning, Jonathan**, exercise and rehabilitative sciences, was awarded \$4,713 for a project entitled “*Critical Analysis of Strength and Conditioning Training*”.

**Chase, Mark**, communication, received an award of \$896 for a project entitled “*Professional Development to Obtain Adobe Certified Expert (ACE) Certification as a Print Specialist*”.

**Holland, Carol**, counseling center, was awarded \$1,491 for a project entitled “*Student Counseling Center Internship: Professional Development through Professional Presentations*”.

**Risco, Kerry/Martin-Elkins, Carol**, nursing/school of physical therapy, were awarded \$4,195 for a project entitled “*Advanced Wound Care Assessment*”.

**Shipe, Nancy/Williams, Jacqueline/Siple, Bonnie/Billek-Sawhney, Barbara/Risco, Kerry**, school of physical therapy/exercise and rehabilitative sciences/nursing received an award of \$3,925 for a project entitled “*Self and Peer Assessment of Performance Through Videography*”.

**White, Frederick**, English, was awarded \$1,000 for a project entitled “*Haida Language Curriculum Digitization Project*”.

### Faculty/Student Research Grants

**Beeching, Simon**, biology, and student investigator **Jessie Rack (U)**, were awarded \$1,710 for a project entitled “*Behavioral Response to Chemical Cues in the Convict Cichlid, *Archocentrus nigrofasciatus**”.

**Birckbichler, Paul**, chemistry, and student investigator **Ashley Dawson (U)**, were awarded \$4,949 for a project entitled “*Response of Tissue Transglutaminase to Inducers of Apoptosis in Normal and Virus Transformed Cells*”.

**Rehorek, Susan/Steglich, Carolyn**, biology, and student investigators **Caleb Cragle (U) and Aaron Foutz (U)**, received an award of \$4,957 for a project entitled “*Identification and Characterization of Proteins Secreted by the Harderian Gland of the Garter Snake, *Thamnophis sirtalis**”.

**Schiappa, Tamra**, geography, geology and the environment, along with one student investigator, received funding in the amount of \$4,824 for a project entitled “*Ammonoid Distribution within the Lower Permian Dry Mountain Trough: Implications for Paleoclimate Conditions During the Early Permian*”.

**Steglich, Carolyn/Chmielewski, Jerry**, biology, and student investigator **Phillip Williamson (U)**, received an award of \$3,229 for a project entitled “*Testing the Origins of a Possible Hybrid Between Two Species of *Antennaria**”.

**Zapien, Donald**, chemistry, along with student investigators, **Brandon Scott (U) and Peter Lukus (U)** received funding in the amount of \$5,000 for a project entitled “*Electrochemical and Fluorometric Characterization of Recombinant Ferritins to Explore Their Suitability in the Study of Neuroferritinopathy*”.



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

### Office of Grants and Sponsored Research

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A member of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education