

## *From the Director*

Dear Colleagues:

Once again, another busy academic semester is underway. The Grants Office has already received many requests from potential grant writers for information on funding sources, and we anticipate that this trend will continue to increase as the year progresses.

Over the past few months, we have received notices of approved grants and are extremely pleased with the outcomes. The number of submissions has steadily increased, and it is because of the hard work and dedication of the faculty and staff preparing grant applications.

Our goal for the upcoming fiscal year is to continue to increase the number of faculty and staff interested in seeking external funding and the number of external grant applications submitted. Contact the Grants Office to see how you can share in the success!

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

**Suggested Web Site:** The Federal Government posts current grant opportunities on the web located at [www.fedgrants.gov](http://www.fedgrants.gov). This site is a free database searchable by category, date and eligibility. Other grant links can be located on our website [www.sru.edu/pages/3103.asp](http://www.sru.edu/pages/3103.asp).

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## **New Grad Assistant**

The Office of Grants and Sponsored Research welcomes Mindy Wolfe as the new graduate assistant. Ms. Wolfe earned a B.A. in Communication from Slippery Rock University and is working towards an M.A. in Student Personnel.

Her principle duties include assisting faculty members by researching potential funding sources, maintaining the grant seeker database on funding interests and dispersing information regarding deadline announcements and requests for proposals. Mindy is happy to help anyone interested in having an idea researched for a possible funding source. She can be reached at extension 2045.

## **Students and Faculty Team-Up to Write Proposals**

The Grants Office would like to recognize eight SRU students and four faculty members who participated in learning how to research possible funding sources and write grant applications. This experience was part of an advanced writing course taught by Dr. Danette DiMarco, Department of English, in Spring 2003. The project consisted of two students teaming up with a faculty member to explore funding sources and prepare possible applications for a specific idea. The projects and participants are as follows:

**Katherine Sellers, Colleen O’Bryant and Dr. Kimberly Forrest**, allied health, prepared a boilerplate proposal to seek scholarships for minority students in the Allied Health field. Dr. Forrest submitted a grant proposal to the American Honda Foundation using the boilerplate application. **Roberta Jaworowicz, Jen Brusco and Dr. Jace Condrary**, Women’s Studies, prepared a boilerplate proposal bring a Women’s Study speaker to the SRU campus during Women’s history month. **Brianna Jinar, Lauren Groesbeck and Dr. Joseph McCarren**, English, wrote an application to the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette Charities for funding for the SRU Summer Academy for the Performing Arts for high school students. **Jessica Baker, Cora Ferraro and Dr. Colleen Cooke**, parks and recreation, worked on an outside project trying to acquire funding to install an elevator in a church in Pittsburgh for elderly and disabled members of the congregation and other community members who use the facilities.

We anticipate continuing this program in the upcoming Spring semester. Contact the Grants Office for more information.

## Awards Received July 1, 2003 through September 30, 2003

**Nora Ambrosio**, dance, was awarded \$800 from the Venango Center for Creative Development to bring the internationally known comedy troupe, Capitol Steps, to perform during Kaleidoscope – the Slippery Rock University Arts Festival.

**Dr. Robert Arnhold and Pamela Arnhold**, exercise and rehabilitative sciences, received an award of \$20,000 from the Christopher Reeve Paralysis Foundation, Inc. to enhance the recruitment and retention of undergraduate students with spinal cord injuries and related disorders by providing scholarships to five students with disabilities enrolled in the Adapted Physical Activity minor. The scholarships will encourage people in this population an opportunity to enter college and purse a degree and will be available to the five students as they matriculate through the program.

**Linda Beatty, RNC, BSN**, health center, will be the coordinator of a cultural competency demonstration site at Slippery Rock University for the American College Health Association's Building Health Campus Communities Project. ACHA received funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for this project. SRU will work with the ACHA staff to assess the strengths and challenges of the campus health center regarding cultural competency and develop a needs assessment plan, implement a day-long strategic planning session, and develop a strategic plan that outlines the activities to be implemented that will enhance the health center's cultural competency.

**Dr. Christopher Cole**, student affairs, received \$15,720 to coordinate the "Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws" program sponsored by the Pennsylvania State Police. This grant will fund the hiring of a full-time graduate assistant to work with the Slippery Rock Community Coalition to Address Alcohol Issues to assist with coordinating conferences and workshops regarding alcohol awareness and zero-tolerance enforcement policies, developing and distributing brochures and advertisements, and providing training to Coalition members. The grant also provides funds to increase the police coverage at home football games to enforce liquor laws and university policies governing possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages.

**R. Brian Crow**, physical education and sport management, was awarded \$600 from the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference to attend the Faculty Athletic Representative Forum in December 2003.

**Dr. Joseph McCarren**, English, received \$6,000 from the PA Department of Education through the Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV to provide funding for the Summer Creative and Performing Arts Academy: 2003. The Summer Arts Academy is a two-week interdisciplinary program that offers students from rural areas and high risk, low income, inner-city students a wide range of challenging and enriching experiences in visual arts, dance, creative writing, jazz and theater.

**Dr. Joseph Merhaut and Dr. Richael Barger-Anderson**, special education, were awarded \$10,000 from The Institute on Disabilities at Temple University under a grant from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Developmental Disability Planning Council to prepare pre-service teachers to be more effective in educating all students so that they become committed to the philosophy that "all children can find success."

**Dr. Joyce Penrose**, nursing, received \$6,000 from Duke University Medical Center to participate in the Genetics Interdisciplinary Faculty Training (GIFT) program. This program is designed to provide an educational conference to faculty that will emphasize the integration of genetics content into nursing curricula and the relationship of genetics and cultural diversity.

**Thomas Reynolds**, Macoskey Center, was awarded \$500 from the Venango Center for Creative Development to continue the butterfly garden/outdoor classroom project at the Slippery Rock Elementary School. The project, in its third year, will focus on fully utilizing the thematic and butterfly gardens to encourage a multi-level interaction with the natural environment by the teachers, students and parents.

**Lisa Ringer**, child care center, received an award of \$1,000 from the Education Policy & Issues Center for achieving a Keystone Stars Four-Star rating. This award will support continuous improvement efforts and further enhance program quality of the child care center.

Total awards for this time period equaled \$60,620. Congratulations to all involved!!! If you are interested in learning how to receive sponsored funding, contact the Grants Office at extension 2045 or [grantsoffice@sru.edu](mailto:grantsoffice@sru.edu)

**SlipperyRock**  
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