

2014

# Foundation to Promote Scholarship and Teaching 2013-2014 Awards

Office of the Provost, Roger Williams University

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## Recommended Citation

Office of the Provost, Roger Williams University, "Foundation to Promote Scholarship and Teaching 2013-2014 Awards" (2014).  
*Foundation to Promote Scholarship & Teaching*. 5.  
[https://docs.rwu.edu/foundation\\_promote\\_scholarship\\_teaching/5](https://docs.rwu.edu/foundation_promote_scholarship_teaching/5)

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Foundation to Promote Scholarship and Teaching  
2013-2014  
Abstracts

**Edgar Adams, Professor of Architecture**

*Title: Finding Common Ground Part II: Affordable Housing in Rural Rhode Island*

“Finding Common Ground Part I explore the rural Growth Centers in the State in order to begin to establish some basis for measuring their potential and relative performance according to the goals of Land Use 2025. This report has been well received and has been given recognition by the Office of Statewide Planning and the RI Chapter of the American Planning Association. This proposal would allow us to approximate the scope of the original foundation proposal. The end product will be “Finding Common Ground: *Growth Center Planning and Affordable Housing in Rhode Island*”.

**Paul Bender, Associate Professor of Writing Studies**

**Jennifer Campbell, Associate Professor of Writing Studies**

*Title: Transitioning the Writing Program*

This proposal seeks funding for two in-coming writing program coordinators to develop and promote the systems, tools, and theoretical grounding necessary to ensure program-wide consistency and faculty development across the over 120 sections of WTNG 100, 102, 200, and 220 delivered annually by 30+ faculty. This includes research towards (1) fluency in assessment theory and practices, and (2) developing a program assessment matrix. Deliverables include a series of focused meetings with program faculty regarding updated teaching methods, developing responses to learning styles and challenges (including ESL), implementing classroom and program assessment strategies, and creating a rich vein of scholarship on Transitioning the Writing Program at RWU.

**Garrett Berman, Professor of Psychology**

*Title: Effects of Video-recording Eyewitness Lineups on Fairness; Impact of Redirect Examination on Rehabilitating Eyewitness Confidence Inflation; Strategic Planning for Teaching in American Psychology-Law Society*

Researchers recommend procedures for administering police lineups. One of these recommendations is to obtain an eyewitness' confidence level immediately following his/her identification. This post-identification confidence rating can then be compared against potential inflated confidence levels (e.g., I'm 100% sure that is the perpetrator) presented by the eyewitness at trial. This problem referred to as confidence inflation can be confronted during cross-examination forcing the witness to explain the disparity. A series of studies will be developed to examine how differential explanations for confidence inflation impact mock-juror verdict and perceptions of the eyewitness (e.g. credibility, accuracy, consistency, etc.). Participants will read one of four trial transcripts that vary different type's confidence inflation explanations and redirect examination. Some of the explanations will include epiphany, humble, cautious, social influence with varying levels of redirect examination to rehabilitate the witness's testimony. After reading a trial

transcript participants will rate the witness's testimony and the defendant's probability of guilt and culpability.

***Jeremy Campbell, Assistant Professor of Anthropology/Sociology***

*Title: The New El Dorado of the Amazon*

This research investigates the effects of a recent surge in informal gold mining in the Brazilian Amazon on environmental conservation efforts and rural labor practices. The record-breaking price of gold has stimulated legal industrial mining efforts throughout the world, but in Amazonia most gold is produced in an unregulated manner by migrant laborers using basic technologies. The social, economic, and political structure of this industry is often obscured from the view of policy makers; our goal in this research is to bring an ethnographic lens to describe the human side of the Amazon gold rush, and to explore more fully its environmental and economic effects.

***Luis Carranza, Professor of Architecture***

*Title: Modern Architecture in Latin America: Art, Utopia and Technology*

*Modern Architecture in Latin America: Art, Technology, and Utopia* presents an overview of the issues, polemics, and works of 20<sup>th</sup> century modern architecture, urban planning, and landscape in Latin America. The intention is that it serves as a survey-like text book that introduces a wide audience to the rich and complex production of modernism that developed throughout Latin America.

***Charlotte Carrington, Assistant Professor of History***

*Title: Crime and Dissent in Early New England: A Documentary Reader*

This project ties together my current book project: 'Dissent and Identity in Early New England' and the 'Crime and Dissent in Early New England' class that was taught last semester. Whilst teaching the class I was struck by the lack of documents that are available as a collection (with an introduction) to students studying this particular topic. I had to source the primary documents from a range of places, including Early English Books Online, published editions of journals, pamphlets and copies of manuscripts from my own archival research. The project is targeted for 'The Bedford Series in History and Culture.'

***Bilge Gokhan Celik, Assistant Professor of Construction Management***

*Title: Collecting and Analyzing Case Studies from Construction Industry to Improve Construction Education*

Real world experience for construction management (CM) discipline has been an important part of a college degree prior to graduation. Introduction of encouraged/mandated internships, site visits, and/or guest speakers into curricula have traditionally addressed this requirement. This proposal aims to analyze and increase the number of case studies collected from the construction industry in 2011-2012 by RWU students. Analysis of case studies will include identification of trends and correlations as well as common issues in the CM industry. This study is significant for developing instructional materials for CM courses, and for setting an example for programs with similar needs of current real world data in the classroom.

***Sean Colin, Associate Professor of Marine Biology***

*Title: Mechanics of Survival during Plankton Development*

Virtually all aquatic animals start off very small (about 1mm) living in the plankton. At this size the functional traits necessary for survival differ significantly from adults as a result of differences in the fluid environment, energy requirements and risks to predation. As a result, these early stages are quite perilous and often represent population bottlenecks of aquatic animals. While the functional ecology of adults has been well studied, much less is understood about the optimal functional traits necessary for survival during these early stages. I will be quantifying the animal-fluid interactions, behavior, foraging and predation risk of a diverse array of planktonic larvae in an effort to identify the optimal traits necessary for successfully functioning as planktonic larvae.

***Jacqueline Cottle, Assistant Professor of Psychology***

*Title: Moral Identity and its Relation to Perceptions of Torture Perpetrate*

The concept of morality may assist in understanding the variability in torture perceptions. The extent that one considers themselves a moral individual has been shown to influence judgments. However the moral judgments studies have not involved situations where one's own in-group was responsible for the moral transgression. Literature shows that in this case, morality can shift in the direction of justification or dehumanization to alleviate feelings of guilt. The present study, for which a foundation course release is being sought, seeks to combine these two areas to determine whether moral identity influences perceptions of torture perpetrated by one's own in-group.

***Laura D'Amore, Assistant Professor of American Studies***

*Title: Representations of Women's Intellect in Film and Television*

Since the Second Wave Feminist Movement during the 1970s, Hollywood has slowly begun to give prominent and leading roles to women. However, the intellectual representations of women are out of line with reality, in many cases failing to reflect the successes and struggles that women have faced in a resistant social and political environment. This book considers the portrayals of traditional myths about women's intellect across film history, as well as new myths and/or myth-busters that may have arisen since the Second Wave.

***Laura D'Amore, Assistant Professor of American Studies***

*Title: American Supermom*

The book, "American Supermom" traces the origin and history of the supermom in American culture. The term has historically described women who choose to take on the dual and competing roles of work and motherhood, and it was intricately intertwined with feminism during the 1970s. It emerged from an atmosphere of female empowerment that was perfectly captured in the symbol of the super heroine (particularly Wonder Woman), a woman with extraordinary capabilities and dual identities. However, the supermom actually entered the cultural lexicon as a negative description of what feminism expected from women who wanted to have it all. Throughout the past four decades, the supermom has been adapted as an identity that suits the needs of its time period, alternately positive and negative depending on the cultural reception of feminism at any given time. Today our popular culture consistently affirms that the supermom is an impossible identity, forcefully

arguing that American women cannot have it all. This book traces that evolution, showing how cultural understanding of American motherhood has been affected by super heroic expectations since the 1970s.

***Frank DiCataldo, Associate Professor of Psychology***

*Title: Recidivism Risk of Juveniles Convicted of a Homicide Offense*

This study proposed to follow-up on a previous study conducted with the cooperation of the Massachusetts Department of Youth Services which compared 33 adolescents adjudicated delinquent or awaiting trial for murder and 38 adolescents who committed a violent, but non-homicidal offense, to determine whether the two groups differed significantly on family history, early development, delinquency history, mental health, and weapon possession variables (DiCataldo and Everett, 2008). The proposed study intends to follow-up on the sample of 33 juveniles charged with a homicide offense to estimate their overall recidivism rate and further investigate their post-release adjustment in the community.

***Sargon Donabed, Assistant Professor of History***

*Title: Narrative and Negotiation: Agency, Religion and the State*

The proposed project is a journal/book based on the proceedings from the RWU Religions and State Conference April 12-14, 2013. The theme, "Narrative and Negotiation: Agency, Religion and the State" focuses on emerging stories of engagement, struggle and dialogue between individuals, groups, and states. There are over 30 professional papers which will be included in either a two volume edited book or a double issue of a journal. The course reduction will allow for the applicants to gather, edit, and format the work.

***Sargon Donabed, Assistant Professor of History***

*Title: Myth, Fable, and Faith*

The proposed project is a book manuscript that redefines the world of myth and legend. It aims to identify in particular why myth plays such an important role in how humanity sees its place in the world both historically and in contemporary retellings. Drawing upon extensive research on various myths and legends both famous and unknown from *Gilgamesh*, *1001 Arabian Nights* in the Middle East to the European myths of the *Nibelungenlied*, *Beowulf*, and *Mabinogion* to the *Ramayana* and *Mahabharata* in India, the fables of Aesop and fairytales of Hans Christian Anderson and the Grimm Brothers, this book will reexamine the process of mythopoeia by relating and actively linking historical fact and religious ideals to the process of epic creation during different historical periods.

***Elizabeth Duffy, Associate Professor of Visual Arts***

*Title: Upcoming Exhibitions*

The funding is requested for two upcoming exhibitions that include new work created while on sabbatical this past academic year. One will be mounted at Roger Williams University during the fall 2013 semester and the other (pending proposal approval) at Galleria Ghiglione in Genoa, Italy, during Genoa's START art festival this coming October 2013. The exhibitions include recent objects, installation and photography that address the issue of Global Climate Change. My application includes funding for materials, framing and travel to Italy to mount the exhibition there.

**Robert Engvall, Professor of Criminal Justice**

*Title: Young Athletes, Couch Potatoes, and Helicopter Parents*

Dr. Skolnikoff and I have presented at numerous conferences concerning sports and the relationship between sports and our popular culture. Specific topics have included the nature of “helicopter parenting” and the impact that hyper-involved parents have upon the “play” of their children. The chapters of this book will address a variety of topics under a broader theme which suggests that the nature of “play” has changed in our society, and while the reasons vary, most center upon greater involvement of parents in their children’s lives, for good and for ill. One chapter will focus upon how kids are chosen for their various sports teams. Another will concern how the lack of unstructured play has lessened kid’s ability to resolve disputes and pursue their own interests, rather than interest their parents choose for them. Still another will seize upon the notion of “specialized sports” at a young age, so that in our hyper-competitive society parents can be comforted by the notion that their kids are “getting a jump” on others. These topics all lend themselves to individual chapters held together by the common theme that suggests that children’s lives have increasingly become micro-managed by their parents.

**Gail Fenske, Professor of Architecture**

*Title: Regionalism in the 1930s*

To further work on a book project that was begun during sabbatical: *Regionalism in the 1930s: Modern Architecture Local Identity, and the Significance of Place*. The starting point for the project is an earlier essay, “Lewis Mumford, Henry-Russell Hitchcock, and the Bay Region Style,” in which I outlined the regionalist perspective of the era’s leading cultural critic, Lewis Mumford, and its significance to the interpretation of the work of William W. Wurster, an architect strongly identified with the California Bay Region. I plan to extend the study to other regions within the United States, choosing representative works by architects that are similarly identified with a particular region, e.g. Pietro Belluschi, O’Neil Ford, and Eleanor Raymond.

**Matthew Gregg, Associate Professor of Economics**

*Title: The Economic History of Indian Removal*

Recently recovered archival data on the federal spending on Indian reservations allow for the estimation of the social costs and income transfers of the removal of Indians to lands west of the Mississippi River. In previous work, Gregg and Wishart (2012) estimated the economic costs of Cherokee removal, i.e., “The Trail of Tears.” Our costs estimates provided several new insights into this extensively studied topic. Notably, our estimate of the number of removal-related fatalities was considerably lower than the commonly accepted figure. We also found that the uncompensated value of ceded Cherokee land in the southeast was the largest cost borne by the Cherokees, followed in magnitude by the value of lost agricultural output due to removal. Finally, the cost burden of Cherokee removal, as a share of one year’s GDP, was greater for the Cherokees than the cost burden of any major war for the American population. In this project we will extend this analysis to all Indian removals (i.e., the Creek, Seminole, Choctaw, and Chickasaw removals) in order to estimate the long-run economic consequences of Indian removal on the U.S. economy.

**Matthew Gregg, Associate Professor of Economics**

*Title: The Long-Run Impact of American Indian Board Schools*

Using information on the location and exposure to American Indian boarding schools during the late nineteenth century, I examine the long-term impact of boarding school exposure on American Indian educational attainment today. Exploiting variation in boarding school exposure across reservations, I provide evidence that government boarding schools had strong negative effects on contemporary levels of education attainment. The results are in line with the arguments of Child (2000) and Szasz (1999). Given the evidence that more educated individuals favor democracy (Glaeser, Ponzetto and Shleifer 2007); these results suggest that through lower education, these boarding schools may have decreased the prevalence of attitudes favorable towards democracy and civic participation and through this channel, lower per capita incomes on Indian reservations.

**France Hunter, Associate Professor of Dance**

*Title: Bewilderness Revisited*

This inter-media project incorporating dance, music and video projection, was realized in its first incarnation in the fall of 2011 when the 23 minute dance was performed in the RWU Dance Theatre in Concert series. This is the most ambitious project to date and integrating all aspects of my research focus-embodied memory, dance film/video and interdisciplinary collaboration. The intention is to revisit the project with new research insights with the goal of performing the work in the outside community as well as on the Roger Williams campus in the spring 2014.

**Jason Jacobs, Assistant Professor of Modern Languages**

*Title: The Epic Sex: Masculinity and Heroism in the Geste of Guillaume d'Orange*

This project places the gender of heroism at the center of a study of the cycle of Guillaume d'Orange; the largest and most coherent group of Old french epic narratives or *chansons de geste*. Masculinity is most often taken for granted in analyses of heroism – even by feminist scholars with an interest in medieval constructions of femininity. My project seeks to reveal the unstable, discontinuous, and contradictory nature of the medieval epic hero's "manliness," in part by highlighting the processes through which masculinity is produced and distributed in the Guillaume cycle, as well as the ways in which it's incomplete and constructed nature is occluded.

**Robert Jacobson, Assistant Professor of Mathematics**

*Title: Formulas and Zeros of the Bergman Kernel Function*

Bergman kernel functions play an important role in complex analysis. An old problem in the field is the so-called Lu Qi-keng problem which asks which open sets have an associated Bergman kernel function that takes the value zero. To study the Lu Qi-keng problem we would like concrete formulas for the Bergman kernel, but such formulas are only available when the domain has a high degree of symmetry. We develop new techniques for computing concrete formulas for Bergman kernel functions and apply these techniques to investigate the kernels' zero sets.

***Alejandro Leguizamo, Assistant Professor of Psychology***

*Title: Characteristics, Perceptions, and Risk Factors Associated with Victims of Sex Trafficking in Bolivia*

There is currently only a small body of published research on the psychological consequences of any form of human trafficking, and there is an extremely limited body of research on the mental health consequences of trafficking (e.g., Hussain, Zimmerman, Abas, Light, and Watts, 2010). The present study will concentrate on adolescent victims of sex trafficking. Perpetrators of this organized crime utilize various means of abducting victims, including seducing teens in order to introduce them into the sex industry (Bales & Soodlater, 2009). Potential risk factors that make minors vulnerable to becoming victims of sex trafficking include economic, familial, and individual. The current study will explore differences in the characteristics, perceptions, and risk factors between adolescent victims of sex trafficking and adolescent sex abuse victims. It is of utmost importance to explore these variables since the victim's psychological functioning greatly influences the success of legal proceedings against the perpetrators of this type of organized crime (Goodey, 2005) and to assist victims in reintegrating back into society.

***Tadeusz Kugler, Assistant Professor of Political Science***

*Title: Immigration Policy and the Undermining of International Power: The U.S. Case*

The Alien Exclusion Acts are not simply the enactment of anti-immigration legislation in the early 1920s but the manifestation of societal beliefs and a rising xenophobia. This choice to reduce migration to the United States drastically altered the population makeup of the country but also had the resulting effect of a dramatic reduction in total population in the long run. When taking into account the hierarchy of the international system the current hegemon, the United States, made the choice to be smaller and hence have a lower amount of international influence than if it had continued traditional acceptance of immigration.

***Marybeth MacPhee, Associate Professor of Sociology***

*Title: Community Engagement in Undergraduate Public Health Education*

Community engagement is essential to public health education, research, and delivery. This project aims to advance scholarship on community engagement through the design and pilot testing of ethical, sustainable community learning opportunities for RWU undergraduates interested in public health. The project employs insights from recent literature on university-community partnerships and engaged learning as well as my ethnographic research on community-level social determinants of health. The requested funds and course release will support: collaboration with two local civic organizations; interviews with students; the design and testing of program protocols and manuals; and consultation with national community-engagement leaders.

***Marilynn Mair, Professor of Music***

*Title: Hybridity in Music-Exploring Post-Colonial Connections*

I will study interactions between European and American musical styles in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, after the age of colonial rule and post-slavery, by analyzing the music of European (*particularly French and Italian*) and American (*particularly North American, Brazilian, and*

*Mexican*) composers, who chose to evoke “foreign” music styles in their works. I intend to categorize musical idioms used to accomplish this, and document the process of creating crossover music. I will then decipher foreign elements, European and Latin American, in my own composition, and use these insights to create a series of original hybrid works encompassing my disparate musical influence.

***Marcie Marston, Professor of Biology***

*Title: Generation and Maintenance of Genetic Diversity within a Marine Viral Population*

Marine viral communities are notably diverse, often with thousands of co-occurring viral types. Although many studies have documented viral community diversity, fewer studies have examined the extent of genetic diversity that exists within a single viral population. In this study, I will examine the mechanisms that lead to the generation and maintenance of genetic diversity within a viral population. Specifically, I will test the hypothesis that genetic variability is not uniformly distributed along the genome, but rather genetic loci responsible for adaptations to the environment or contributing to viral-host interactions will be more variable than other core viral genes.

***Murray McMillan, Associate Professor of Visual Arts***

*Title: Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art Video Installation*

This proposal funds the fabrication of a new large-scale video installation that features car-sized coal boulders lifting into the air, a performer that rides the, a floating Japanese tea house and a custom camera elevator system that follows the performer 50 feet vertically as she moves up with the boulders through the tea house and above. This artwork will be fabricated at the new Providence Waterfire Warehouse – which will host a public live performance in 2013 – as well as filmed and exhibited at the Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art in *Next Stop Wonderland*, curated by Denise Markonish.

***Jeffrey Meriwether, Associate Professor of History***

*Title: History of Detainee Operations in Iraq, 2003-2011*

This project seeks to tell the other story of the Pentagon’s Iraq-War administration: the process by which American forces developed and learned to administer their detainee system. Americans are unaware of this history; when they recall these events; visions of the Abu Ghraib affair and the death of Saddam Hussein come to mind. Yet, there is a myriad of resources to be tapped that will tell the history of detainee operations in Iraq. In the challenging, often unique prosecution of the war in Iraq, this is a success story.

***Kathleen Micken, Professor of Marketing***

*Title: Rhode Island Farmers’ Markets*

This request is an outgrowth of an external course that I facilitated in the spring 2013 semester. Working with the Mount Hope Farmers’ Market manager, we conducted a participant observation study as well as a survey of market attendees. Based on the results of that work, I've been asked to expand the research to the other farmers’ markets sponsored by Farm Fresh Rhode Island.

**Debra Mulligan, Associate Professor of History**

*Title: The Public Life of J. Howard McGrath*

The purpose for this particular funding is to continue research for a book-length manuscript on the life of Rhode Island Governor (1941-1945) and Democratic National Chairman (1947-1949) J. Howard McGrath. During the proposed grant period I will explore McGrath's role in securing victory for President Harry Truman, when, for all intents and purposes, success for the Democrats appeared unattainable. Battling Southern "Dixiecrats" who eventually bolted the Party, Northern liberals who fought for the nomination of General Dwight David Eisenhower on the Democratic ticket, and liberal followers of former Secretary of Commerce Henry Wallace, McGrath and his organization faced a formidable task in achieving party unity and victory in November 1948. While he failed to achieve the former, his strategy contributed markedly in realizing the latter. The title of this chapter: *He's Just Wild about Harry: J. Howard McGrath and the Election of 1948* will be submitted for review at the end of this period.

**Cathy Nicoli, Assistant Professor of Dance**

*Title: The Barry Commoner/4 Laws of Ecology Project*

The purpose of this performance project is to aestheticize Barry Commoner's Four Laws of Ecology: *everything is connected to everything else, everything must go somewhere, nature knows best, and there's no such thing as a free lunch*. This process will create an analogue of each law via synthesizing movement, text, and visual art. These individual laws will serve as catalysts for four separate collaborations by four different artists working with myself: Thomas Deininger, Heidi Henderson, Brandon Shaw and Eugenio Volpe. Michael DeQuattro, musician and composer, will also work as our sound designer. Our creative research will premier as an interdisciplinary performance at the Roger Williams University Performing Arts Center, fall 2013.

**Roxanne O'Connell, Associate Professor of Communication**

*Title: Visualizing Culture – book under contract with Peter Lang, USA*

The funds will be used for publication subvention to cover the cost of 12 pages with color images and illustrations for a book under contract to Peter Lang/USA in the Visual Communication Series, *Visualizing Culture: Analyzing the Cultural Aesthetics of the Web*.

**Stephen O'Shea, Associate Professor of Chemistry**

*Title: Microbial Metallo-Enzyme Regulation of NO<sub>x</sub>'s Potent Green House Gases*

The global nitrogen cycle has been greatly impacted by intensive farming and their use of nitrogen based fertilizers. A consequence of the increased loadings of fertilizers into the environment namely the input of nitrite ion has been identified as a major source of microbial atmospheric nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>), potent greenhouse gases. The regulation of NO<sub>x</sub> production in living organisms is extensively controlled by their reactions with metallo-enzymes. This work will focus on synthesizing biomimetic models of metalated porphyrins establishing the effect of their metal oxidation state on reaction pathways, intermediates and mechanisms with nitrite species in the formation of various NO<sub>x</sub> gases.

***Koray Ozer, Assistant Professor of Mathematics***

*Title: On Pade Approximations of Strongly Continuous Semigroups*

The focal point of this work is to extend the results obtained in our previous studies on the numerical inversion methods for the Laplace transform and to apply these novel techniques to attain sharp numerical approximations for the solutions of evolution equations of convolution type. Furthermore in light of recently developed rational best approximation procedure, we shall see ways to develop new approximation methods for Banach space valued Laplace transform while focusing on the approaches that will yield better error estimates for rational time-discretization schemes.

***Jason Patch, Associate Professor of Anthropology/Sociology***

*Title: Street Alive: Urban Food Markets, Diversity, and Neighborhood Chai*

The approved spring 2014 sabbatical project will consist of ethnographic and visual analysis of the multi-ethnic and multi-class biweekly street market in the Belleville neighborhood, Marche Belleville, of Paris. The neighborhood is a nexus point for immigration (Chinese, North African/Maghreb), religious diversity (Muslim, Jewish) and gentrification (via artists and new cafes). Distinct groups interact in the equalizing space of the market. In this period of globalization, street markets are still key urban sites for building face-to-face relationships. This project's intent is to record and interpret the complex interplay between vendors and customers, the manipulation of public space, and the distribution of products.

***Jennifer Pearce, Assistant Professor of Physics***

*Title: Thermophoresis to quantify the dissociation constant,  $K_D$ , of protein-ligand complexes: lattice-Boltzmann-based and molecular dynamics simulations*

This study will use two computer simulations applicable at different time and length scales to determine the specific properties of protein-drug interactions that lead to changes in thermophoresis, the accumulation of a species due to a temperature gradient. Thermophoresis is poorly understood because of its complexity, leading to challenges in exploiting it for measurements of the dissociation constant,  $K_D$ , of protein-drug complexes. Measurements of  $K_D$  are important in assessing drug candidates since they quantify the ratio of bound (drug is attached to target) and unbound states.

***Kamille Gentles-Peart, Assistant Professor of Communication***

*Title: Body Politics and Second Generation West Indian Immigrants*

This project examines how second-generation West Indian immigrant women negotiate their multiple cultural and national beauty ideals in the United States, and explores the ways in which mainstream US media inform, transform and challenge these discourses. More precisely, I will assess how these women employ media texts to negotiate the ideals of beauty they encounter in the US and in their cultural communities.

***Paola Prado, Assistant Professor of Communication***

*Title: Book Project: Citizen Reporters in the Dominican Republic*

This grant proposal requests funding to support travel to the Dominican Republic to research and write with co-author Leonardo Ferreira, Ph.D. the first book to document the impact of the Community Communicators (Com2) citizen reporter training on the lives of

program graduates, their students, and members of the communities in which they live. In addition, a course release will allow me the proposer to write the text, select and compile samples of news reports published by program graduates, edit photographs, and revise the manuscript for submission.

***Autumn Quezada-Grant, Assistant Professor of History***

*Title: Healing Communities: Public Health in Post-Revolutionary Central America*

This book, *Healing Communities: Public Health in Post-Revolutionary Central America* is a work that compares the recent histories of El Salvador, Nicaragua and Costa Rica and the state of public health in these countries. Research for this book revolves around arcs of violence and peace in the latter quarter of the twentieth century. The groundwork for this book is rooted in the narrative of revolutionary demands: access to health care, education and food. This study compares three public health clinics in El Salvador, Nicaragua and Costa Rica run by the non-governmental organization Foundation of International Medical Relief for Children (FIMRC) and their local community partnerships.

***Dahlia Reynolds, Assistant Professor of Writing***

*Title: Composition & Public Engagements (working title)*

This project is a study of Project English, a post-Sputnik program funded by the federal government to develop literature, language, and composition curriculum. Assessing Project English as a site of productive engagement with public constituencies, I complicate a disciplinary commonplace: composition and rhetoric has failed to redress public critiques of student writers and writing instruction. Project English provides a model for revitalizing disciplinary responses to public outcries about the inadequacies of literacy education. Studying the rhetorical dimensions of congressional debates over the purpose of humanistic study and the government's role in education provide a useful framework for engaging these arguments.

***Andrew Rhyne, Assistant Professor of Marine Biology***

*Title: Saving Dory: Exploring Innovation in the Marine Aquarium: Trade for Improved Social and Environmental Performance*

Indonesia is the second largest exporter-country of live fish for the pet trade. The trade sustainability is in question from ecosystem impacts. This proposal will explore the feasibility of juvenile capture and open-ocean grow-out for sustainable production of marine aquarium species. Working collaboratively with a US based NGO (Olazul) and a local environmental group (LINI), we plan to test a new technique to capture juvenile aquarium species and grow them to market size. These fish will form the basis for a new, cost-effective model for aquarium species production that improves the sale price realized by producer communities through delivery of a premium product to market. The outcomes of this pilot study will 1) support a multi-year grant proposal; 2) result in one peer-reviewed publication, and 3) two conference presentations.

***Joseph Roberts, Assistant Professor of Political Science***

*Title: Internationalizing Political Science Curriculum – Edited Book*

Internationalization of curriculum means rethinking courses and programs by embracing alternative cultural definitions, developing intercultural awareness and

communication, and fostering sensitivity to cross-cultural differences. Political science, as a discipline, has actively sought to internationalize its curriculum through the auspices of the American Political Science Association and its Teaching and Learning Conference. The initial push for this came from the American Council of Education in 2005 and for over seven years the discipline has discussed and evaluated the best practices to empower students to be global citizens through active and engaged learning. Equally important, the discipline has discussed ways to motivate departments and institutions to embrace an active strategy of internationalizing their curricula in response to the increasing globalization of society. The APSA has commissioned a comprehensive book to critically evaluate the entirety of this enterprise. Deborah Ward of Rutgers University and I will solicit manuscripts and edit a book to be published by the American Political Science Association on internationalizing the political science curriculum.

***Lynn Ruggieri, Associate Professor of Accounting***

*Title: Tavern on the Green – The decision of NYC*

Case Study entitled *Tavern on the Green – The decision of NYC* was written as a follow up to a case currently under review. This case study researches the decision by the City of New York to not renew the lease with the long time proprietors of the restaurant Tavern on the Green but instead but to issue a request for bids on the license. This case looks at the decision by NYC and evaluates the proposals submitted.

***Mark Sawoski, Professor of Political Science***

*Title: Foreign Policy Beliefs of Chinese Political Elites*

Ideas matter, especially the beliefs of political elites. This paper categorizes the foreign policy beliefs of contending political factions in the Peoples' Republic of China in terms of underlying IR theories or "paradigms," traditional realism, offensive realism, "idealism," "modernism," neo-Leninism, "peaceful rise," etc.; this, as distinct from national identity and norms. The paper complements on on-going research on the foreign policy beliefs of US and Russian political elites.

***Michael Scully, Assistant Professor of Communication***

*Title: A Digital Publishing Model: The Experiential Hudson Valley*

Given the exploding market for tablet computers, there is growing interest in media design; with improvements in media design comes the opportunity for new forms of storytelling. The proposer is creating a digital "pop-up" book for adults. A typical chapter will open with a short 15-second visual illustration that may or may not include a brief "teaser narrative"; the text of the chapter will advance the narrative of the story and will include visual elements, and "departure themes" related to the overall story.

***Valerie Sloan, Associate Professor of Graphic Design***

*Title: Designer as Author – Travel Blogger, a Study Abroad Experience*

This is a continuing education opportunity that is directly related to my broader-creative focus of design, narrative, and identity with place. As a lifetime learner and designer, I am an adventurer, explorer, traveler, observer, researcher, and a storyteller. On a trajectory towards a Sabbatical project in spring of 2014, I intend to become a student again in the study abroad course for session 2014 through the Communication department

– ***Travel-blogging Dublin*** combined with ***Cultures in Contact Dublin Past and Present***. I intend to hone my skills as a writer, specifically focusing on blogging, and develop a design narrative project.

***Jennifer Stevens, Associate Professor of History***

*Title: In Search of the Gaelic Diaspora*

This research project will explore the “Gaelic Diaspora” in the United States and Canada as it exists today. The “Gaelic Diaspora” is defined as those regions and communities where Gaelic language and culture are still a regular and influential component of the everyday lives of the people who live there. The Gaelic being investigated here is Scots-Gaelic specifically. As one of many relatively small and often overlooked cultures/language groups in the world today, the study of this particular sub-culture in the US and Canada will also offer insight into the larger topic of ethnic cultures, big and small, and the role they play in diverse societies.

***James Tackach, Professor of English***

*Title: “James Baldwin’s *The Fire Next Time* and the Jeremiad Tradition”*

The article tentatively titled “James Baldwin’s *The Fire Next Time* and the Jeremiad Tradition,” will connect Baldwin’s great 1962 essay, *The Fire Next Time*, to the jeremiad tradition that commenced on American soil with 17<sup>th</sup> century Puritan ministers. Baldwin (1924-87), who grew up in Harlem churches and, as a teenage “junior minister”, delivered sermons, severed his ties with orthodox Christianity in his young adulthood, but its rhetoric remained with him. In *The Fire Next Time*, Baldwin returns to the rhetoric of the jeremiad to deliver his stinging, yet hopeful, critique of American race relations.

***Anne Tait, Associate Professor of Visual Arts***

*Title: Monumental Studies, Design and Embroidery Techniques*

Romantic headstones have become a source of inspiration for me, both in order to understand them and those who employed them, and for use as a beginning point in my own artwork primarily as a printer and painter. However, I have begun to experiment with needlepainting in order to employ color and process more in the spirit of the memorials of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The studies I propose in England are meant to advance my knowledge of technical process in color and design for a new body of artwork in both prints and embroidery.

***David Taylor, Associate Professor of Biology***

*Title: Fish Eating Habits of Rhode Island Recreational Anglers*

Mercury is a toxic environmental contaminant that adversely affects human health, and exposure occurs mainly through dietary uptake of contaminated fish. Relative to the general US population, recreational anglers may be more susceptible to mercury toxicity because of their elevated rates of fish consumption. Information on the dietary habits of this sensitive subpopulation, however, is lacking. The principal objective of this study is to evaluate the basic fish eating habits of Rhode Island recreational anglers and their families, as determined through a specially designed food frequency survey. Acquiring fish-eating data for this subpopulation is particularly warranted and necessary to support public

health risk assessments and risk management decisions related to the issuance of fish consumption advisories.

**David Taylor, Associate Professor of Biology**

*Title: Temperature-mediated Changes in Rhode Island's Benthic Community: What are the implications for local food webs and fisheries?*

The summer flounder, *Paralichthys dentatus*, and blue crab, *Callinectes sapidus* are temperate species that utilize Mid-Atlantic estuaries across varying life history stages. Empirical data, however, have noted a recent northward shift in the distribution of juvenile summer flounder and adult blue crabs, such that their abundances have increased in southern New England estuaries. Moreover, the apparent geographic range-expansion of these biota may be mediated by climate change, with potential implications to local food web dynamics and benthic community structure. To this end, the objectives of this study are threefold: 1) determine if there has been a significant increase in the annual abundance of summer flounder and blue crabs in the Narragansett Bay (RI/MA, USA); 2) identify if warmer seasonal water temperatures have contributed to such an increase; and 3), via dietary analysis, assess the impact of summer flounder and blue crabs on the benthic community, with a specific focus on predation and competition with juvenile winter flounder, *Pseudopleuronectes americanus*.

**Kerri Ullucci, Assistant Professor of Education**

*Title: Co-Creating Cultural Relevance: A Community Partnership*

Launching in the fall of 2013, the School of Education will require our Elementary Education majors to complete a specialization in working with marginalized and high-needs youth. This is a unique and exciting change in the program, and is ground-breaking in the field. Part of this specialization will require a new course, Responding to Diverse Learners. Using this course development as a catalyst, this project seeks to engage deeply with youth in urban schools by utilizing them as course creators, while teaching our on School of Education students how to conduct research, develop instruction and engage in community outreach.

**Adria Updike, Assistant Professor of Physics**

*Title: Dust Composition of Early Universe Galaxies*

Our current study of early universe galaxies is severely hampered by the low surface brightness and great distances of these intriguing objects. By utilizing telescopic observations of gamma ray burst, brief and extremely luminous stellar explosions occur in these galaxies, we can back out the chemical composition of these galaxies. Using a method-developed by myself and collaborators that relies on the optical properties of the underlying dust distribution, we can determine with great accuracy the environments of these early stars with significant implications to star formation and galaxy evolution.

**Sean Varano, Assistant Professor of Justice Studies**

*Title: Assessing School Safety Needs: The Perceptions of School Administrators*

School safety has been of great concern after tragedies such as Columbine, Virginia Tech, and most recently, Sandy Hook Elementary. Following such tragedies, a wide range of safety measures are typically proposed and/or implemented. These are often proposed

without systematic evaluation and lack input from school administrators on the need and practicality of these measures for a specific school environment. By surveying a randomly selected sample of school principals, the proposed research aims to assess the perceptions of school administrators in regards to the levels and security in their school environments and their attitudes toward specific safety measures.

***Kerri Warren, Associate Professor of Biology***

*Title: Temperature Effects on Developmental Cadmium Sensitivity*

Temperature and acidification have been shown to affect the metal tolerance of a range of aquatic organisms. These changes are acutely felt at near-shore ecosystems that serve as multi-species nurseries and often are the most polluted of marine environments. This project aims to examine the relationship between climate change-related stressors and cadmium toxicity in developing fish. Using a sensitive bioassay we developed to detect cadmium-induced cardiovascular changes in zebrafish embryos, the proposed work will compare baseline responses to cadmium with responses to cadmium in combination with temperature changes. The requested course release will allow time for final data collection, analysis and manuscript preparation.

***Ann Winfield, Associate Professor of Education***

*Title: History Rising: Stories Not Told*

From the Achafalaya Swamp in Louisiana to the Annapolis Valley in Nova Scotia there are untold histories, suppressed, submerged or obliterated, which hold much promise for their ability to challenge the disciplinary internalization of enlightenment notions of progress, utopian quest, struggle, and redemption; an internalization which has thus far ensured that, writ large, curriculum history remains thoroughly embedded in a project of subjugation and erasure. From the largest population of Free Blacks in North America in 1783 to representations of Acadian expulsion, this interdisciplinary research seeks to reframe what we know and who we think we are in terms of historical representation in the present.

***Miao Zhao, Associate Professor of Marketing***

*Title: The Impacts of Brand-Cause Fit and Message Framing on Consumer Attitude toward the Brand in China*

Cause-related marketing (CRM) has been identified as a key to success since it is considered an effective marketing tool to build and differentiate corporate image and improve customer attitude. In this research, we use a 3X2X2 between-subjects factorial design to examine the impacts of brand-cause fit and two types of message framing on consumer attitude toward the brand in China. Moreover, the interaction effects of brand-cause fit and two types of message framing are also examined. The results of the current research will shed light on the effective design of a CRM campaign.

***Min Zhou, Associate Professor of Foreign Language***

*Title: Vergegenkunft: Encounters with China in German and Swiss Literature from the 1980s*

This project focuses on three German writings published in the 1980s: Max Frisch's "Notizen von einer kurzen Reise nach China. 28.10-4.11.1975." Gunter Grass's

*Kopfgeburten, oder die Deutschen sterben aus*, and Adolf Muschg's *Baiyun, oder die Freundschaftsgesellschaft*. Not only do the three accounts span a period from end of the Cultural Revolution through the post-Mao period; more importantly, they present an alternative travel writing by overcoming Edward Said's diagnosis of Orientalism, namely, the orient was an invention of Europe and served as a projection of Europeans' desires or fears. Instead of focusing merely on European travelers' on-sided visions of the other, the three writers approached Chinese reality by reconfiguring, in a varying degree, the relationship between the self and the other. They recorded encounters between the two by portraying also the self's impact on the culture, the other which is the object of its gaze. By discerning the narrators' selves and their national history reflected in the other and discovering the other in the narrators (*Wahrnehmung des Eigenen im Andern, aber auch des Anderen im Eigenen*), the three writings capture the spirit of China of the 1970s and 1980s; a society at the inception of modernity, in which past, present, and future co-existed.