The Diversity of WP’s Funded Research Projects

A funded project begins with a good, compelling idea. Each is distinguished through excellence in research, international experience, and student and community development. The Office of Sponsored Programs is excited to feature the diversity of funded research awards in this issue of its newsletter. Along with ground-breaking research these awards provide opportunities to involve WP students in research and research laboratories and engage them in the community.

Collaborative Research: Reconstructing deglacial and holocene climate variability in South East Asia using speleothems and isotope-enabled model simulations. Dr. Michael Griffiths from the department of Environmental Science, in the College of Science and Health, was awarded $59,496 from the National Science Foundation’s Paleo Perspectives on Climate Change (P2C2) program. The grant is providing funding to develop new high-resolution, speleothem stable isotope records from the Tham Mai Cave, Laos. The research is studying how the Southeast Asian monsoon (SEAM) region weather intensity varied over the past 20,000 years in response to orbital forcing, millennial scale abrupt climate events, and inter-annual to multi-decadal climate modes. The project is studying the mechanisms that control precipitation and speleothem δ18O on millennial to seasonal timescales in the region. It is also considering how the Laos speleothem records relate to broader spatial and temporal patterns of past climate variability and hydrologic change in the tropical Indo-Pacific and the Asian monsoon region.

This project is providing scientific research and professional development experience for several undergraduate students. Preliminary laboratory work is being conducted in the Department of Environmental Science research labs, as well as other equipment housed in various departments of the College of Science and Health.

This is a collaborative project with the University of California, Irvine. It has opened doors for WP internationally and with other top-ranked universities. The results of the proposed work will have a large impact on archaeological research in Southeast Asia. For example, the improved paleoclimate record from Laos (Continued on page 2)
will be the focus of collaborative efforts by the Principal Investigators at WP and UC-Irvine with researchers from the Middle Mekong Archaeology Project to investigate the relationship between past climatic and societal changes over the Late Pleistocene and Holocene.

“Can Video Speak the language of Autism?” Dr. Amy Learmonth from the department of Psychology in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, received a $125,899 award from the New Jersey Governor’s Council for Medical Research and Treatment of Autism, New Jersey Autism Center of Excellence (NJ ACE) Clinical Research Program.

This research is examining imitation from video in children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) through a controlled experiment to support the proliferation of video and touchscreen based imitation interventions for ASD. This project has two important purposes. The first is to look at imitation in autism and the possibility that children with ASD have a different mode of imitating than typically developing children that is highly dependent upon the unique social constraints of imitation. The second is to take a carefully controlled look at the possibility that video and touchscreen technology, a medium that is very popular within the autism community, offers children with ASD an advantage over live instruction.

This pilot study represents a first attempt to dissect the strengths and weakness of imitation performance in children with ASD. Understanding the mechanisms of imitation will lead to interventions that encourage the effective use of an important learning tool in children who have difficulty imitating. There are several interesting outcomes that will lead from this project. The project will provide solid empirical support for the proliferation of video-based interventions and use of touchscreen technology in the assessment of children with ASD. The project will demonstrate that by combining this research with the existing research on the underlying mechanisms of imitation in typically developing children will give a clearer picture of imitation in general and imitation in ASD particularly. This project will lead to empirically driven educational interventions.

Once this research has been successfully concluded, a larger study may follow that would allow for a closer examination of the mechanisms that underlie imitation in both the typically developing population and the population with ASD by allowing a direct look at the differences between the two populations.

Online WIC Nutrition Education to Promote Farmers’ Market Fruit and Vegetable Purchases and Consumption. Dr. Jennifer Di Noia from the department of Sociology in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, received a $274,967 award from the USDA Center for Collaborative Research on WIC Nutrition Education Innovations at the USDA/ARS Children’s Nutrition Research Center at Baylor College of Medicine (CNRC WIC Center).

The grant is funding the development and testing of prototype theory-driven, web-based nutrition education lessons to promote fruit and vegetable consumption among women and children enrolled in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC). The project will leverage and encourage use of vouchers — which are already being provided to WIC participants — for fresh fruit and vegetable purchases through the WIC Farmers’ Market Nutrition Program. The project is developing nutritional and educational awareness for WIC participants in both English and Spanish language versions.

In addition, the project will evaluate lesson effects on fruit and vegetable intake and redemption of vouchers provided through the WIC Farmers’ Market Nutrition Program. Women are being recruited through the WIC agency that is collaborating in the project to participate in focus groups designed to gather data for lesson content development, pre-testing, and finalizing content. Lesson content will be analyzed by using cognitive testing procedures for assessing the clarity and interpretability of items and response formats in measures of targeted knowledge, attitudes, and skills. One-on-one sessions with participants will also be held to gather feedback on reactions to initial versions of video segments developed for the lesson.

(Continued on page 6)
Awards Received in FY2014

Heejung An, Carrie Hong, and Keumjae Park
US Department of Education
$85,000
The US-NJ-South Korea Project: Exploring Korea’s History, Culture and Education System through Experiential Learning
Fulbright-Hays Group Study Abroad
Travel Project to South Korea for teachers and pre-service teachers in summer 2014

Lindsay Bard
NJ Division of Highway Traffic Safety
$14,884
HERO Campaign, 2014
Campus educational program promoting the importance of selecting a sober designated driver before going out

Lourdes Bastas and Martin Williams
US Department of Education
Title III/Title V Eligibility
Designation as a Title III and Title V eligible institution

Candace Burns
US Department of Education
$1,399,236
Garden State Partnership for Teacher Quality
Supports recruitment, preparation and support of teacher preparation statewide through a partnership involving William Paterson, Kean University, Rowan University, and local high-need schools

US Department of Education
$217,985
The New Vistas Teachers Project
This partnership involving William Paterson and Kean University prepares recent college graduates and mid-career changers, including downsized employees, to transition into successful teaching careers

Lynette Butler
Department of Veterans Affairs
$107,250
VA Work Study Support
Supports the Veteran Resource Center by providing Veteran work-study students

Nicole Davi
National Science Foundation
$235,777
Collaborative Research: TUES Type 1: Using Tree Rings to Develop Critical Scientific and Mathematical Thinking Skills in Undergraduate Students
Develop new interdisciplinary science and mathematical curriculum, interactive game modules, and multi-media that focus on using tree-ring research projects that will give students a hands-on experience in research and a virtual experience in fieldwork

Marianne Edmond and Katherine Rizman
Passaic County Department of Human Services
$21,296
WPU: Passaic County Comprehensive Addiction Services Plan/Education
WP will educate college students about alcohol and drug abuse, and will provide positive messages to help students make better choices related to substance use

Kristen Evangelista
NJ State Council on the Arts
$19,247
WPU University Art Galleries
Supports exhibits and programs at the University Galleries

New Jersey Council for the Humanities
$3,000
35 in 350: A History of New Jersey
This exhibition reveals how local populations have contributed to the state’s diversity - historically, culturally, and politically - a snapshot of New Jersey taken by those who call it home

National Endowment for the Arts
$20,000
WPU Artist in Residency Program
A collaboration of the Center for
Computer Art and Animation (CCAA) and the University Galleries offering an Artist in Residency Program, workshops and a technology-based exhibition

National Endowment for the Humanities $6,000
WPU NEH Preservation for Small Institutions
Supports a conservator to conduct a general preservation assessment of WP’s collection of African and Oceanic ethnographic art

Robert Fulleman
State of NJ, Department of Law & Public Safety, Division of Highway Traffic Safety $10,225.74
Drunk Driving Enforcement Fund
Support to purchase mobile data terminal with connection costs to the C.A.D. system

Eileen Gardner
National Science Foundation $108,249
Robert Noyce Teachers Scholarship Program
This collaboration between the College of Science and Health, the College of Education and the Paterson and Passaic Public Schools to recruit and support new science and math teacher certification students

National Science Foundation $148,033
ISSLBB: Increasing Undergraduate and Graduate Student Success in Biology & Biotechnology
Scholarships for WP undergraduate and graduate students majoring in Biology and Biotechnology

Michael Griffiths
National Science Foundation $59,496.00
Collaborative Research: Reconstructing deglacial and holocene climate variability in South East Asia using speleothems and isotope-enabled model simulations
Produce new well-calibrated, replicated, high resolution, precisely-dated, speleothem records of past climate and hydrologic variability over at least the last ~20,000 years from Laos, a key site at the interface between the Indian and East Asian monsoon systems

Carrie Eunyoung Hong and Gladys Vega
US Department of Education $320,173
Preparing All Teachers to Better Serve English Learners (PATSEL) Project
Provides professional development and support for completion of ESL certification for teachers in Paterson, Passaic, Clifton and other high need districts in NJ

Richard Kearney
National Endowment for the Humanities/Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History $1,200
Created Equal: America’s Civil Rights Struggle (Film Series and Discussion Program)
To host a film series and discussion program, Created Equal, at the David and Lorraine Chen Library

Kem Louie
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services $99,507
Nurse Faculty Loan Program
Provide loan support to full time and part time masters and doctoral graduate degree students who wish to become nurse faculty

Kathleen Muldoon
US Small Business Administration through Rutgers University $138,000
WP Large Business Development Center
Provides training and assistance to small business owners

City of Paterson, UEZ Program $50,000
WP Large Business Development Center
Support for counseling and services to new businesses in Paterson

NJ Business Action Center through the Small Business Development Centers at Rutgers University $16,019
WP Large Business Development Center
Provides counseling and services to new businesses in Paterson and Passaic County

US Small Business Administration through the Small Business Development Centers at Rutgers University

$14,773

*Phase I: Hurricane Sandy Small Business Revitalization Opportunity, Additional Funds*

Provides counseling, workshops, and other resources to support small business expansion

US Small Business Administration through the Small Business Development Centers at Rutgers University

$70,400

*Phase II: Hurricane Sandy Small Business Revitalization Opportunity*

Enhances counseling, workshops, and other resources to support small business expansion started in Phase I

**Nancy Norris-Bauer**

NJ Historical Commission

$20,000

*New Jersey History Day 2013, Supplement*

National History Day is a highly regarded, national program that promotes the study of history by engaging students and teachers in the excitement of historical inquiry

**Carmen Ortiz**

NJ Commission on Higher Education

$981,352

*Educational Opportunity Fund FY 2014*

This program gives tremendous opportunities for higher education to financially disadvantaged and academically underprepared New Jersey residents

**Behnaz Pakizegi**

NJ Department of Children & Families - NJ Home Visiting Initiative

$20,000

*Passaic Family Head Start, Passaic Parents as Teachers (PAT)*

Provides home visits and services to at risk first time expectant mothers and new families with infants in Passaic and neighboring communities

**Sheetal Ranjan and Librada Sanchez**

US Department of Justice – Office on Violence Against Women

$300,000

*WPU Campus Violence Prevention Program, Phase II*

This project will expand resources, increase services, and promote safety for students, faculty, staff, and external partners

**Lance Risley**

Federal Aviation Administration through TRC, Inc.

$38,733

*Bat Research and Equipment, Atlantic City, Summer 2014*

Compare bat abundance and general activity among locations at the FAA Technical Center that have been previously assessed for ecological risk due to presence of environmental contaminants

**Warren Sandmann and Jean Fuller-Stanley**

National Science Foundation through Rutgers University

$38,420

*Garden State Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation in the Sciences (GSLSAMP)*

Activities and resources to support retention and graduation of students in undergraduate science majors

**Glen Sherman and William Kernan**

NJ Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services

$400,000

*Recovery Support & Environmental Management Strategies/Passaic County Coalition to Utilize Environmental Strategies*

These projects enhance and strengthen collaboration between existing community outreach programs for the prevention and reduction of substance use and abuse; also provide for continuing support of the substance-free Recovery Housing area on campus

**Jane Stein**

NJ State Council on the Arts

$34,405

*Shea Center for the Performing Arts*

Supports Jazz Room Series performances
Research and Scholarship Day!

April 1st and 2nd 2015

Research Day provides an opportunity for WP faculty, students, librarians, and professional staff to share their research, scholarship or special initiatives.

Please plan to attend. Faculty are encouraged to bring or require their classes to attend. Suggestions for integrating Research Day into courses are on the Research Day webpage.

Bernadette Tiernan
NJ Department of Labor and Workforce Development / Skills 4 Jersey
$819,440 (Total of Four Awards Received)
To provide workforce and/or literacy training to employees of NJ businesses in the healthcare, hospitality, manufacturing, technology industries

NJ Commission on Higher Education
$223,617
2014 Aim High Academy: A Summer of Science at WPU
Provides high achieving northern NJ High School students with intensive college educational experiences on our campus

Passaic Board of Education
$30,000
Consulting and Staff Professional Development Services
Provides consulting and Professional Development services to the Passaic school district

Georgette Van Vliet
Passaic Board of Education
$9,150

Kevin Walsh
US Department of Education
$520,620
Leaders As Learners
To improve the academic achievements of P-12 students by preparing effective school leaders

Lisa Warner
NJ Department of Education through Rutgers, The State University
$8,824
The Common Core Standards Survey Research Project
Purpose of this project is to better understand how teachers (administrators and other stakeholders) across the state understand, interpret, and plan on implementing the changes set forth in the CCSS, and how they interpret, understand and will address the related Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) assessments.

Diversity of WP’s Funded Research Project, (continued from page 2)

Dr. Di Noia’s award will contribute research findings to the WIC program that could enable them to make improvements to other services and resources they offer.

These three research awards cover a broad range of topics, require the collaboration of other agencies and the involvement of students, and enhance the capacity of WP to undertake additional research and expand learning opportunities for our students. The projects and advancements would not have been possible without Drs. Griffiths’, Learmonth’s and Di Noia’s passion for research, the creation of new knowledge, and their unique, creative and compelling ideas.

The OSP realizes its commitment to the development of faculty research interests by assisting investigators to realize their goals through one-on-one support in idea and priority development, the planning, development and evaluation of proposals, and the submission of the application to the prospective sponsor. If you are seeking support for research, training, professional development, a public service, or a cultural event, the OSP can help. Call us at (973) 720-2852 or visit the OSP website: http://www.wpunj.edu/osp/ for more information on our services and resources. If you are not already receiving our email announcements of funding opportunities, email grants@wpunj.edu.
Opportunity Databases available to guide you to funding to realize your goals

COS Pivot provides access to over 50,000 funding opportunities and profiles of potential collaborators.

GrantSearch has pre-selected opportunities that are for public institutions of higher education.

The Grants Resource Center provides a rich assortment of insights on Federal funding as well as resources to support project development and proposal writing.

Grants.Gov is the Federal site for funding opportunities and submitting proposals.

The OSP offers a variety of resources.

WP has had great success over the years in obtaining external support for sponsored projects. In FY2014, we received over $6,200,000 to support a variety of projects. This chart compares the number of proposals that were submitted to awards that were active, which includes multi-year awards. 53% of proposals submitted in FY2014 have been funded.

### OSP Spring Workshop Schedule

Proposals are successful because they were written effectively and submitted to the most appropriate prospective sponsor. The OSP’s workshops are designed to flexibly meet the interests and skills of those in attendance to build and enhance the skills and techniques needed to create a competitive proposal. Workshops currently scheduled for Spring 2015 include:

**Grants 101: The Anatomy of Grants**
This introduction to the application process spans from idea development to identifying and assessing funding opportunities to completing and submitting applications. Participants will learn the structure of the proposal process.

**Toolkit for Finding Grants**
Participants will learn about the many ways to identify funding opportunities to support their ideas and will begin their search during the workshop. Includes the hands-on opportunity to explore COS Pivot, GrantSearch and Grants.Gov to potential funding opportunities.

**The Art of Writing a Competitive Grant Proposal**
Participants will learn about the process of developing a fundable project, and proposal and the top mistakes to avoid. This workshop is for both new grant seekers as well as those more experienced but looking for new insights.

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<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Date and Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>Grants 101: The Anatomy of Grants</td>
<td>January 29th, 12:30—1:45</td>
<td>Science East, 3054D</td>
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<tr>
<td>Toolkit for Finding Grants</td>
<td>April 9th, 12:30—1:45</td>
<td>Valley Road, 1020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Art of Writing a Competitive Grant Proposal</td>
<td>May 20th, 12:30—1:45</td>
<td>Raubinger Hall, 309</td>
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### OSP Mission and Services

The OSP provides assistance and support to WP faculty and staff who seek external grant or contract support for research, teaching, service, public programs, creative endeavors, conferences and other types of projects from government agencies, grantmaking public charities, and professional associations. The OSP concentrates activities in three broad areas:

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<th>Pre-Award Services</th>
<th>Post-Award Services</th>
<th>Compliance</th>
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<td>Any and all efforts leading up to the submission of a funding request, including: idea development, funder identification, proposal strategizing, photocopying and mailing, and conversion and electronic submission. The OSP maintains databases and reference resources, distributes information, provides individualized assistance to applicants, manages the proposal review process, and obtains signatures.</td>
<td>Any and all activities that begin with learning that funding is a distinct possibility and then continuing from contract negotiation to project start-up, subcontract preparation and monitoring, budget and program revisions, progress report submission, and the development and submission of requests for the continuation of support.</td>
<td>Federal, State and WP’s own policies, regulations and procedures that are related to or may affect a grant and contract can be a challenge. Responses can range from strategically responding to requirements as part of a project’s operating plan policies or activities that have an affect on the entire University community.</td>
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<td>The OSP offers one-on-one proposal preparation support because every proposal must respond to the unique content and technical requirements of its potential sponsor AND effectively and honestly represent the project and the University.</td>
<td>The OSP project-specific support is dedicated to both supporting the successful outcome of the project and compliance with the terms, conditions and expectations of the sponsor. When everyone is satisfied with the project, the potential for follow-up activity and support is much greater.</td>
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A major activity is training, both by providing in-house workshops and by providing opportunities and support for prospective applicants to attend conferences and participate in web-based information sessions and workshops. Contact the OSP if you learn of an educational opportunity that will enhance your ability to develop or manage a successful proposal or project.

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**A note about the OSP’s perspective:** As with any hard job done well, sponsored projects bring many benefits. Research advances the topic that is examined, teacher professional development enables excellent educational practices, business development strengthens the economy of our communities, and cultural activities enrich our lives. But these are the broad benefits. Projects also enable the personal and professional growth of the leaders of the project, and almost always establish directions that they will then follow for many years after the project is completed. Students are inspired, whether it is to become scientists or educators or small business owners or professional musicians or writers or social workers or corporate executives or Ph.D. candidates or whatever their “next” will be. Yes, undertaking any special project adds complications and can be frustrating at times, but the value of the outcomes and the differences they make in peoples lives makes it well worth the effort.

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[www.wpunj.edu/osp](http://www.wpunj.edu/osp)