

**Innovation Grants Funded
2014-2015 AY**

PROJECT: UCSD Summer Program for Women in Philosophy

PI: Rick Grush, Professor, Philosophy

The **UCSD Summer Program for Women in Philosophy (SPWP)** is a two week program of intensive coursework and workshops designed to provide an engaging experience in which undergraduate women can study philosophy without the hurdles usually associated with being a small minority in a heavily male-dominated field. The goal of the program is to increase the representation of women in the discipline by providing opportunities to improve women's prospects of acceptance into UCSD's highly ranked graduate program.

PROJECT: UCSD Intertribal Youth Writing Program

PI: Olga Vasquez, Professor, Communications

UCSD-Intertribal Youth Writing Program addresses low representation of Native American students at UCSD by creating and providing a research based, culturally relevant two week summer writing course in addition to a 10 week on-line writing course for Native American high school students. The two-week course was designed to be the academic anchor of the InterTribal Youth (ITY)/UCSD summer program. The on-line course will be offered in partnership with UC San Diego Extension. Taught by Caroline Collins, it will be followed by an additional 10-week online writing course for Native American high school students.

PROJECT: Black Studies Research Collaborative

PI: Dayo Gore, Associate Professor, Ethnic Studies and Sara Kaplan, Associate Professor, Ethnic Studies

The **Black Studies Research Collaborative** explores new ways to institutionalize and sustain a cross-discipline research collaborative in Black Studies. The program aims to accomplish four goals: 1) Create a cross-campus institutional structure that fosters innovative frameworks and methods for the study of Blackness; 2) Increase collaborative scholarship in Black Studies across departments, divisions, and schools by building networks for intellectual exchange among scholars in the humanities, social sciences, and sciences within and beyond UCSD who are working in critical emergent areas of African American and African Diaspora studies; 3) Support and strengthen the African American Studies Minor; at UC San Diego by providing a vibrant intellectual node for scholars, instructors, students, and community members committed to the field, and 4) Foster ongoing connections and collaborations among campus researchers and those individuals and groups working with communities of African descent in the region.

PROJECT: Increasing the Participation of Women of Color in the Physical Sciences: The UCSD-Morehouse-Spelman Physics Bridge Program

PI: Adam Burgasser, Associate Professor, Physics

The UCSD-Morehouse-Spelman Physics Bridge Program is a trial expansion of the existing UCSD-Morehouse UC-HBCU program in physics to include women students from Spelman College. The program will build upon existing partnerships and infrastructure to accomplish the goal of increasing recruitment of HBCU students into UC graduate programs, with specific emphasis on creating a new Bachelor's-to-PhD pipeline for African American women in physics at UC San Diego.

PROJECT: Community College Partnership in Bioengineering

PI: Todd Coleman, Associate Professor, Bioengineering and Michelle Ferrez, Director IDEA Center

The **Community College Partnership in Bioengineering** program partners with a Hispanic Serving Institution and focuses on community college transfer students, many who are first generation to increase the admission of students into the Bioengineering undergraduate and graduate programs. The primary goals are to: (1) Immerse incoming transfer engineering students from MESA College in Bioengineering through graduate/faculty mentorship and experiential learning projects; (2) Increase participation of transfer students in research during their first year at UCSD; (3) Use Biomedical Engineering Graduate Students in the teaching of transfer students and provide training in the mentoring of diverse students.

PROJECT: Militarism and Migration Research Center

PI: Wayne Yang, Associate Professor, Ethnic Studies and Yen Espiritu, Professor Ethnic Studies

Militarism and Migration Research Center pilot brings to campus scholars and other professionals to discuss the impact of U.S. militarism on people's lives. The scholarly and co-curricular activities of the pilot will pay special attention to displaced refugees and migrants from Southeast and West Asia, the Pacific Islands, and East Africa—populations that are underrepresented and underserved at UC San Diego, with the goal to initiate and cultivate comparative discussions and projects across groups that have been displaced due to transnational militarism, empire, and war. Feasibility data from the pilot will be used to seek foundation funding that will support an eventual research cluster/center on campus on "Militarisms and Migrations."

PROJECT: Graduate Student Climate Intern (GSCI)

PI: April Bjornson, Assistant Dean Graduate Division and Kim Barrett, Dean Graduate Division

Graduate Student Climate Intern (GSCI) pilot program was created to meet the need for enhanced co-curricular and professional development for URM graduate students. The GSCI develops niche and broad co-curricular programming and events that allow URM graduate students the opportunity to engage with peers from diverse academic and personal backgrounds. The internship aligns with Student Affairs Strategic Planning Goal 3: Community Building, and is designed to connect the dots between multiple diversity efforts across campus and provide programming targeting specific graduate student populations.

PROJECT: EDI Educators for Greek Life

PI: Colin Gerker, Greek Life Coordinator and Emily Marx, Director Center for Student Involvement

This pilot proposes the development of Peer Educators, trained in EDI, for Greek Life. The aim of the program is provide a platform for increased knowledge and understanding of social justice, equity,

diversity, and inclusion as they relate to self, Greek Life, campus, and the broader communities. Through quarterly in-chapter trainings, this program will create a space for all Greek students to explore equity, diversity and inclusion in a Greek Life context, identify community-building strategies, and brainstorm ways to operationalize practices that promote community and allyship.

PROJECT: REACH and BioChemCore 2015

PI: Olivia Graeve, Professor, Mechanical/Aerospace Engineering and Rommie Amaro, Associate Professor, Chemistry/Biochemistry

The **REACH and BioChemCore 2015** will focus on increasing the number of URM and women into STEM through multi-disciplinary training and cross discipline (Chemistry and Engineering) experiential learning. The proposed pilot aims to establish strong and long-lasting teaching and learning collaborations between Chemistry and Engineering pipeline programs that are designed to instill multi-disciplinary scientific approaches in a cadre of young female and URM students.

Innovation Grants Funded 2015-2016 AY

PROJECT: ARTS AND HUMANITIES ADVANTAGE OUTREACH

*PI: Alma Palazzolo, Assistant Dean of Arts and Humanities
PI: Cynthia Dillon, Director of Communications, Arts, and Humanities*

Aimed at increasing the number of Humanities majors at UC San Diego, **Arts and Humanities Advantage (AHa) Outreach Internship Program** recruits students either in the 11th or 12th grade of high school and community college transfer students with a focus on historically underrepresented students who are interested in the arts and humanities. The internship program seeks to provide high school and transfer students who have committed to attending UC San Diego, or who have expressed interest in applying, with information and guidance gained from real-world experience. The AHa internship will help inform students about their course and career options in the arts and humanities, guiding them along a path to a successful undergraduate experience and professional career.

PROJECT: CALIFORNIAN SHAMAN, A STUDY OF THE CHEMISTRY AND CONSERVATION OF NATIVE CALIFORNIAN PLANTS

PI: Dionicio Siegel, Associate Professor, Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Services

The **Californian Shaman** seeks to recruit historically underrepresented students into STEM fields by establishing an annual summer program for high school students in which they spend three weeks on the UCSD campus learning about basic botany, plant conservation, and several native Californian plants. Key goals of the program include: 1) Greater diversity and careers in science by URM, 2) Increased recruitment

and admission to UCSD of URM, 3) Fostering on-going connections between individuals and faculty members.

PROJECT: DEPENDENT CARE PROFESSIONAL TRAVEL GRANT PROGRAM

PI: Alexandra C. Bortnick, PhD., Alumni Outreach Coordinator - UC San Diego Postdoctoral Association

The **Dependent Care Professional Travel Grant Program** focuses on awarding funds for child or adult care for traveling postdoctoral scholars. In granting these funds, the program aims to increase the amount of career-advancing opportunities taken by postdocs, through the means of alleviating additional costs incurred by child or adult care.

PROJECT: IMPROVING COURSE OUTCOMES USING A STRUCTURED AND ACTIVE LEARNING COURSE INTERVENTION

PIs: Richard Armenta, Assistant Adjunct Professor, Department of Family Medicine and Public Health, Nancy Binkin, Professor, Department of Family Medicine and Public Health and Dennis Trinidad, Associate Professor, Department of Family Medicine and Public Health

The **Structured and Active Learning Course Intervention** is a program that is focused on increasing the technology and support structure within the core courses of the undergraduate Public Health major, to increase the success of minority students. The four main goals are: 1) Develop methods to assess disparities in performance among diverse student populations in FPMU 40, a lower division requirement for the Public Health major, and identify possible contributory factors, 2) Work with Teaching + Learning Commons to develop a multi-faceted package for improving the inclusiveness of the classroom for FPMU 40, 3) Test the abilities of these strategies to modify student performance when compared with historical results, and 4) Share lessons learned with other public health courses within the major and with other programs offering introductory STEM courses at UC San Diego.

PROJECT: PRESTIGE BIAS IN ADMISSIONS AND HIRING

Rick Grush, Professor, Department of Philosophy

The **Prestige Bias in Admissions and Hiring Program** will attempt to evaluate bias against prospective hires from low-income backgrounds who are applying to tenured track positions and graduate students applying for the Ph.D. programs within UC San Diego. This program contains two components: 1) A study and 2) A dismantling of the biased system based on the results of the study. Through the creation of false applications, the program will aim to identify how attending prestigious universities prior to applying affects the ratings and reviews given to individual applications.

PROJECT: PROMOTING PUBLIC SERVICE CAREERS

Jennifer Burney, Assistant Professor, School of Global Policy and Strategy (GPS) and Wendy Hunter Barker, Dean for Academic Programs – GPS

Through partnerships with the Public Policy and International Affairs Program (PPIA), the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration (NASPAA), local higher education Institutions, and

Marshall College the **Promoting Public Service Careers** project proposes to develop, implement, and evaluate a Public Service Weekend to introduce under represented/first generation students to the field of public policy and provide them with the “fundamental understanding of the knowledge necessary for pursuing advanced degrees and careers in public service.” The objectives of the weekend are to: Demonstrate to underrepresented undergraduate students that careers in public service are interesting and achievable; Highlight advanced education as a path towards a public service career and in doing so, increase the visibility of GPS’s new MPP with southern Californian undergraduates; and Institutionalize ties with local community colleges, HSIs and other minority serving institutions and programs, which will benefit the MPP and GPS’s other degree programs.