Internal Grants Available

Student Research, Scholarly and Creative Activity Grants
Undergraduate and graduate students in any major or program at SRU are invited to apply for up to $500 in funds to support independent research, scholarly projects, or a creative activity to be conducted in collaboration with a faculty or staff member. The deadline to apply is Thursday, October 15, 2015 by 4:00 PM.

Green Fund Advisory Board Grant Program
Faculty, staff, or undergraduate and graduate students in any major or program at Slippery Rock University are invited to apply for up to $20,000 in funds to support sustainable-progressive projects, educational programs, and activities. The deadline to apply is Monday, November 2, 2015 by 4:00 PM.

Faculty/Student Research Grant Program
The purpose of this initiative is to provide support for faculty research proposals that directly involve undergraduate or graduate students in scholarly research, or creative activity directed toward a joint presentation, publication, demonstration, and/or performance. The deadline to apply is Monday, November 16, 2015 by 4:00 PM.

The Request for Proposals (RFPs) can be found on the webpage of the Office of Grants, Research and Sponsored Programs at http://www.sru.edu/offices/grants-research-and-sponsored-programs/funding-opportunities

Grant Writing Seminars

David G. Bauer, one of the most highly sought-after speakers on grant seeking, will be conducting two half-day seminars on improving grant writing skills. The first seminar, Using Quality Circles to Improve Proposals, will be held on Thursday, October 29, 2015 from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM. The second seminar, Winning Federal and Private Grants, will be held on Friday, October 30, 2015 from 8:00 AM until 12:00 PM. Registration to attend either or both seminars can be made by calling the Grants Office at extension 4849 or by e-mail at grantsoffice@sru.edu.

Award Notices were received for 20 external grant proposals totaling $217,261 for the time period January 1, 2015 through June 30, 2015.

New Chair of the IRB

The Institutional Review Board (IRB) asks you to welcome Dr. Ann Romanczyk as the Chair of the IRB. Dr. Romanczyk is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychology. She has been an IRB member since Fall 2002. If you have any questions about projects involving human participants in research, contact the IRB Office at extension 4846 or at irb@sru.edu.

Professional Development Day

Professional Development Day will be held on Tuesday, October 6, 2015 beginning at 8:30 AM on the 3rd Floor of the Robert M. Smith Student Center. This year’s theme is Transforming Students: HIPs and Beyond. A luncheon hosted by President Cheryl Norton and APSCUF President Ben Shaeveitz will highlight Faculty and Staff Stories of Innovation and Success. All faculty and staff are invited to attend. The full agenda and registration form can be obtained at http://www.sru.edu/offices/grants-research-and-sponsored-programs/grant-management-information. Contact the Grants Office at grantsoffice@sru.edu or extension 4849 if you have any questions or need additional information.
**Faculty Incentive Program**

This program provides an opportunity for tenure or tenure-track faculty members to apply for compensation for developing and writing a competitive grant proposal for a large research grant or sponsored program. The grant proposal must be a minimum of **$50,000** in direct cost to apply for one week compensation. For proposals larger than **$100,000** in direct costs, two weeks of compensation can be requested. Applications are accepted at any time.

The guidelines for applying and the application form can be obtained at [http://www.sru.edu/offices/grants-research-and-sponsored-programs/funding-opportunities](http://www.sru.edu/offices/grants-research-and-sponsored-programs/funding-opportunities). Contact the Grants Office for more information.

**Proposal Development Travel Fund**

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

To download eligibility requirements and request form, visit our website at [http://www.sru.edu/offices/grants-research-and-sponsored-programs/proposal-writing-resource](http://www.sru.edu/offices/grants-research-and-sponsored-programs/proposal-writing-resource).

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**Grants Resource Center Funding Opportunities Database**

**Grants Resource Center (GRC)**, a unit of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU), is designed to provide up-to-date information on current Federal, non-federal and international funding opportunities. The GRC provides monthly deadline publications, a weekly electronic news magazine and a GRC bulletin that contains information for higher education grant-seekers. The GRC database has the ability to create individualized grant seeker profiles to send grant opportunities in the person’s area of interest. This process ensures that faculty and staff grant seekers are quickly and efficiently able to locate the most current funding opportunities available.

If you are interested in receiving information on possible funding opportunities please complete a Grant Seeker Profile Form located on our website ([http://www.sru.edu/offices/grants-research-and-sponsored-programs/forms-and-policies](http://www.sru.edu/offices/grants-research-and-sponsored-programs/forms-and-policies)). Return your form to the Grants Office via e-mail at grantsoffice@sru.edu or by inter-office mail at 009 Patterson Hall. GRC will automatically e-mail you funding announcements based on the keywords listed on the form.

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**Faculty/Student Research Grant Proposal Workshop**

The Office of Grants, Research and Sponsored Programs will be offering a workshop to discuss the internal Faculty/Student Research Grant program on **Tuesday, October 13, 2015 at 12:30 PM** in the **Smith Student Center Room 324**. To register call extension 4849 or email grantsoffice@sru.edu.
External Awards Received January 1, 2015 — June 30, 2015

Robert Arnhold—Physical and Health Education, received an award in the amount of $5,000 from XTO Energy, Inc. for the expansion of the SRU Transition Program.

Renee Bateman—Student Health Center, was awarded a grant in the amount of $387,774 from the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board under their Grants to Reduce Underage and Dangerous Drinking program.

Fran Bires, Robert A. Mackosey Center, and Christine McHenry-Glenn, Parks & Recreation, were awarded a grant in the amount of $2,997 from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection to provide environmental education field trips and in-school programs to local schools.

Barbara Billek-Sawhney—Physical Therapy, was awarded $5,000 from the PASSHE Faculty Professional Development Council for a service project, “Physical Therapy Faculty and Students Serving Others in Vellore, India”.

John Buttermore—School of Business, received an award from the NRA Foundation for supplies for the SRU Clay Target Club. Amount of the supplies provided is valued at $7,200.

Ana Marie Caula, Gisela Gonzalez Dieter, Modern Languages, and Junko Yamamoto, Secondary Education, received a grant in the amount of $4,467 from the PASSHE Faculty Professional Development Council to provide training to faculty to instruct students to improve their level of oral proficiency in the target language.

Nicole Dafoe—Biology, was awarded $9,294 from the PASSHE Faculty Professional Development Council for a research project, “The Role of CCS52 Genes in the Onset of Endoreduplication in Soybean.”

Laurel Dagnon—CSIL, received an award of $2,500 from the PDE through the Intermediate Unit 4 to provide tutoring and programs for homeless children in western Pennsylvania during the summer months.

Alice Del Vecchio—Professional Studies and Interdisciplinary Studies, was awarded $2,187 from the Butler County Drug and Alcohol Program to conduct the SPEAK UP! Forum.

Wendy Fagan and Pam Arnhold—Physical and Health Education, were awarded $5,000 from the Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation.

Deborah Hutchins—Parks & Recreation/Therapeutic Recreation, received an award in the amount of $1,000 from the Council on Brain Injury (CoBI) for a recreational therapy equine and aquatics program.

Jennifer Keller—Dance, was awarded $7,625 from the PASSHE Faculty Professional Development Council for a performing arts project, “Over, Under and Through: Creating an Experimental Dance Film from the Intimate Perspective of the Performer.”

Elizabeth Kemeny, Colleen Cooke, and Deborah Hutchins—Parks and Recreation, were awarded $8,355 from the PASSHE Faculty Professional Development Council for a career enhancement project, “Enhancing Faculty Competency in Stress Management Modalities for High Impact Practices.”

Brad Kovaleski and Laurel Dagnon—CSLI, received an award in the amount of $2,500 from the Pennsylvania Campus Corps under the AmeriCorps*VISTA Program.

Wendy Leitera and Lisa Ringer—SGA, received a supplemental award in the amount of $72,155 from the Pennsylvania Department of Education through Lifesteps, Inc. for the Pre-K Counts Program which provides tuition-free pre-kindergarten opportunities for eligible children.

Sunita Mondal and Roger Solano—School of Business, received a grant in the amount of $15,000 from the Center for Rural Pennsylvania for a research project entitled “Analysis of 2012 Census of Agriculture Data” which will examine farmers’ characteristics based on demographics, farm ownership, and farming practices.

Lia Paradis and Aaron Cowan—History, were awarded $10,000 from the PASSHE Faculty Professional Development Council for a career enhancement project, “Stone House Center for Public Humanities Phase 2: Advanced Training in Civic Engagement as a High Impact Practice.”

Ursula Payne—Dance, was awarded $6,000 from the PASSHE Faculty Professional Development Council for a performing arts project, “Dancing the Terrain of Uganda: Rediscovering My Identity as a Performer.”

John Rindy, Career Education and Development, and Cathie Sadler, Residence Life, were awarded a grant in the amount of $1,000 from the Pennsylvania Association of Colleges and Employers to provide a workshop, “Year Two, Brand You: Sophomore Reflective Retreat”.

Lisa Ringer—SGA/Student Government Association, was awarded a grant from the Northwest Regional Key in the amount of $11,207 under the Keystone STARS Quality Improvement grant program. This funding will assist the childcare providers improve the quality of service as well as provide professional development funds to the staff of the day care center.

Edward McHenry—Department of Environmental Protection, received an award in the amount of $2,997 from the Pennsylvania Department of Education through Lifesteps, Inc. for the Pre-K Counts Program which provides tuition-free pre-kindergarten opportunities for eligible children.

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Internal Grant Awards

Summer Undergraduate Research Experience Grants

Jessica Bennett (U) received funding in the amount of $780 for a project titled, *Community Involvement Among Lesbians, Gay and Bisexual Men and Women: Implications for Body Image*. Catherine Massey, Psychology, is the faculty mentor on this project.

Melanie Clarke (U) received funding in the amount of $780 for a project titled, *Observation of Inter-arm Systolic Blood Pressure Difference During Exercise*. Michael Holmstrup, Exercise and Rehabilitative Sciences, is the faculty mentor on this project.

Andrew Davis (U) was awarded $780 for a project titled, *The Study of Nano-magnetism in Lanthanide Containing Metallacrown Structures*. Thaddeus Boron, Chemistry, is the faculty mentor on this project.

Emily Eyth (U) received funding in the amount of $780 for a project titled, *Exercise Intensity Estimates for Various Modes of Exercise*. Carena Winters, Exercise and Rehabilitative Sciences, is the faculty mentor on this project.

Allison Franco (U) was awarded $780 for a project titled, *Design and Development of Reflective Supervision Rating Scale*. Jennifer Willford, Psychology, is the faculty mentor on this project.

Baylee Kushner (U) received funding in the amount of $780 for a project titled, *Shifting Sands: Drainage and Provenance Changes in the Northern Appalachian Foreland Basin*. Tamra Schiappa, Geography, Geology and the Environment, is the faculty mentor on this project.

Meghan O’Neill (U) received funding in the amount of $780 for a project titled, *Long-Term Impact of a Walking Program on Physical Activity Levels in Children and Their Families*. Barbara Billek-Sawhney, Physical Therapy, is the faculty mentor on this project.

Logan Pollman (U) received funding in the amount of $780 for a project titled, *Analysis of the Gene Expression Patterns of CCS52, a Potential Regulator of Endoreduplication*. Nicole Dafoe, Biology, is the faculty mentor on this project.

Linda Roldan (U) received funding in the amount of $780 for a project titled, *Gold Nanoparticle Colloids in Liquid Crystals*. Rizwan Mahmood, Physics and Pre-engineering, is the faculty mentor on this project.

Shelby Schettler (U) was awarded $780 for a project titled, *NMR Analysis of Beta-Hairpin Peptides Containing Unnatural Amino Acids*. George Lengyel, Chemistry, is the faculty mentor on this project.

Amelia Staub (U) received funding in the amount of $780 for a project titled, *Relationship Between Physical Activity, Obesity and Cognition in College Students Worldwide*. Kimberly Smith, Exercise and Rehabilitative Sciences, is the faculty mentor on this project.

Taylor Tustin (U) was awarded $780 for a project titled, *Identifying Data Completeness Issues in the Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL) Data of the Butler Transit Authority System*. Roger Solano, School of Business, is the faculty mentor on this project.

Blake Wallrich (U) received funding in the amount of $780 for a project titled, *Collection of Petrographic Data to Test Magma Emplacement Hypothesis*. Michael Zieg, Geography, Geology and the Environment, is the faculty mentor on this project.

Jordan Zajac (U) was awarded $780 for a project titled, *Assessment of Amphibian Life Stage Differences in Response to Pesticide Exposure*. Paul Falso, Biology, is the faculty mentor on this project.
Grants for Student Research, Scholarly, Creative, Entrepreneurial and Civic Projects

Kristin Eberhart (G), Ben Lowry (G), Laurie Martin (G) and Connor Sheriff (G) received funding in the amount of $500 for a project titled, Providing Physical Therapy to an Under-Privileged Community in Arequipa, Peru. Mary Holbein-Jenny, Physical Therapy, is the cooperating faculty member on this project.

Patrick Jakim (U) and Jacob Ciafre (U) were awarded $500 for a project titled, How Thermal Measurement Can Determine Energy Efficiency. Krishna Mukherjee, Physics and Pre-Engineering, is the cooperating faculty member on this project.

Kathryn Jones (U) received funding in the amount of $500 for a project titled, Examining the Clarity of Current Skinfold Measurement Guidelines. Michael Holmstrup, Exercise and Rehabilitative Sciences, is the cooperating faculty member on this project.

Baylee Kushner (U) was awarded $500 for a project titled, Shifting Sands: Drainage and Provenance Changes in the Northern Appalachian Foreland Basin. Tamra Schiappa, Geography, Geology and the Environment, is the cooperating faculty member on this project.

Maureen Walsh (U), Tyler Kuhn (U), Jessica McFadden (U) and Taylor Weeter (U) were awarded $500 for a project titled, Blood Pressure Cuff Selection: Does Adiposity Matter? Brock Jensen, Exercise and Rehabilitative Sciences, is the cooperating faculty member on this project.

Michael Zech (U) was awarded $500 for a project titled, Using Music Technology and Apps Easily and Effectively in the Classroom. Kathleen Melago, Music, is the cooperating faculty member on this project.

Norton Undergraduate Research Scholarship

Tyler Kuhn, an Exercise Science major, received the Norton’s Undergraduate Research Scholarship for $500 for his project titled, Blood Pressure Cuff Selection: Does Adiposity Matter? Michael Holmstrup, Exercise and Rehabilitative Sciences, is the cooperating faculty member on this project.

Green Fund Grants

Erin Strain, Leadership Development Center, was awarded $2,619, for the project titled, Butterfly and Hummingbird Garden.

Congratulations to all awardees! If you are interested in learning how to receive sponsored funding, contact the Grants Office at extension 4849 or by e-mail at grantsoffice@sru.edu
Grant Writing Tips

Common grant-writing mistakes: Pitfalls to avoid when applying for funds

- **4 surefire ways to NOT impress grant makers**
  
  Approaching funders to ask for grants is a major task, and it’s easy to make mistakes.

  You can improve your grant writing skills by avoiding some of these common missteps:

- **Fail to thoroughly research**
  
  Before you begin writing a grant proposal, make sure you know who your audience is, and if it’s a good fit.

  Ask yourself, what area does this foundation usually support? How much does it typically give in grants? What types of projects has it supported in the past and what does it refuse to support?

  If you aren't sure of the answers to these questions, you should take a closer look.

- **Ignore instructions**
  
  One easy way to get funders to pass over your proposal is by failing to follow their instructions. When you do this, foundations will quickly label your proposal as “amateur” and toss it to the side.

  Avoid this mistake by reading and following all of the instructions, including those on length, submission deadlines, information needed (like budget plans) and how to submit your proposal. (Do they require a hard copy or an online submission?)

- **Lack of focus**
  
  It can be easy to get off track when writing a proposal, but doing so could cost you a grant. Keeping a tight focus on your NP’s needs and goals will help hold funders’ attention.

  When reading over your proposal, ask yourself these questions:
  * Do I use clear and concise language?
  * Have I painted an accurate picture of my NP and its goals?
  * Is my argument aligned with the foundation’s interests?

- **Not asking for an amount**
  
  Experts say that many people fail to actually ask for the grant money in their proposal.

  Be sure to make the ask for the specific amount you would like within the first few sentences. Also, check that you’re asking for the right amount.

  When you do your research, note how much the foundation has given to others in the past, and stay within that range.

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### New Graduate Assistant

The Office of Grants, Research and Sponsored Programs asks you to welcome Kimberly Maravola as a new graduate assistant. Ms. Maravola earned a B.S. in Exercise Physiology from Kent State University. She is working towards a doctorate degree in Physical Therapy. She will be joining Lauren Marriner our current graduate assistant. Their principle duties will include assisting faculty and staff members by researching potential funding opportunities, maintaining the grant seeker keyword database, dispersing information regarding deadline announcements and requests for proposals, and preparing the yearbook and newsletters. If you would like to have an idea for a potential grant researched, contact Kimberly and Lauren at extension 4849 and they will be happy to assist you.