**Faculty Development Grant Awards: 2016 – 2017**

***Awards to Faculty in Arts & Humanities***

**Project Title:** “Gender, Sexuality, and Human Rights in Contemporary Argentina”

**Faculty Investigator Name**: Lisa DiGiovanni, Associate Professor of Spanish

The Faculty Development Grant will be used for an International Faculty Development Seminar (IFDS) through the Council On International Education and Exchange (CIEE). The title of the seminar is “Gender, Sexuality, and Human Rights in Contemporary Argentina” and will be held in Buenos Aires in June 2017. This seminar examines discourses of human rights in the context of the military dictatorship (1976-1983), as well as social movements of today. Of particular relevance to my research is the segment on “Sex, gender, and the making of the ‘enemy within’ in Cold War Argentina.” The program will include lectures in a workshop setting, site visits, and direct encounters with activists, artists, filmmakers and intellectuals. The final outcome of this program is threefold. First, it will offer an opportunity for me to gain a deeper understanding of the intersecting relationships between gender, sexuality, culture, class, age and nation in contemporary Argentina. This understanding will later translate into new avenues of research and publication. Second, this opportunity to engage with activists and scholars “on the ground” in Argentina will not only benefit me, but also my students at Keene State College. In my intermediate Spanish language courses through the major, I share with students my firsthand experiences with other cultures. Such discussions enliven the course material and inevitably inspire interest in global learning. Finally, by entering into a dynamic forum, I will foster new relationships, networks and make connections for future teaching and research pursuits.

**Project Title:** *The Anxiety of Autonomy and the Aesthetics of German Orientalism*

**Faculty Investigator Name:**  Nicholas Germana, History

My book manuscript, *The Anxiety of Autonomy and the Aesthetics of German Orientalism*, has been accepted for publication by Camden House, a highly respected publisher in the fields of German philosophy and literature. Camden House has requested a very modest $1500 subvention to help pay for the services of a specialist editor for the project. The manuscript is complete and will be delivered to the publisher by February 1st. It will be scheduled for release during the summer or fall of 2017.

**Project Title:** Final mastering and presentation of debut album, Living in Light

**Faculty Investigator Name:**  Heather Gilligan, Music

Over the past two years, I have pursued an extensive recording project which will culminate in the release of my debut album, *Living in Light*, on the Albany Records label. The album features six of my self-composed song cycles for soprano and varied instrumentation, featuring soprano Margot Rood who sings on all twenty tracks. As the project comes to a close, with a CD release date of May 1, 2017, only two areas remain in need of funding. The first is to compensate a mastering engineer and the second is to offer a CD Release Concert. The mastering process is the critical last step in the long course of recording CD-quality music. The mastering engineer carries out final steps related to noise reduction, balancing of levels, compression of tracks, and an equalization process which allows the music to sound good no matter what device the listener is using. The mastering engineer also performs the last layer of edits and prepares the tracks for commercial distribution. The CD Release Concert will provide an opportunity to present the debut album in a live, face-to-face setting. The proposed concert will bring this work into the public sphere and will help broadcast it to listeners both within the field of music and beyond the scope of the music profession. It will help to alert professional musicians of its existence and generate hype which could lead to reviews as well as subsequent performances of the works contained on the CD.

**Project Title:**  2017 National Association for Music Education (NAfME) Eastern Division Biennial In-Service Conference, Atlantic City

**Faculty Investigator Name:** Sandra Howard, Associate Professor of Music

At the 2017 NAfME Eastern Division Biennial In-Service Conference in Atlantic City I will

present a session entitled Speed Interviewing: Refining Your Skills to Get a Great Job. In this session, I along with other NAfME leaders will pose interview questions or scenarios to collegiate music education student attendees who will respond briefly to the question. The interview team will then provide feedback to their responses and address other related factors that could enhance the given response. Each session will last approximately 5 minutes and then attendees will be cued to rotate to the next interviewer to discuss the next interview topic. The interview dialogues will urge undergraduate music education students to fuse theory with practice and address current topics in music education along with identifying the newly adopted

National Core Arts Standards in curricular conversations. At the conclusion of the session, I will facilitate a discussion involving NAfME leaders who will gather in front of the group and share general advice on effective interviewing techniques. I will also discuss and provide guiding information for successful interview strategies including topics such as: interpersonal skills, body language, response length and content, and sample interview questions. Collegiate members (pre-service music educators) will then be able to ask follow up questions.

**Project Title:** Board Game Design Research and Presentations

**Faculty Investigator:**  Randall Hoyt, Associate Professor of Graphic Design, Art Department

This Faculty Development Grant project focuses on ongoing research and the presentation of my work in board game design. The project entails travel to and participation in two conferences: the national game conference Gen Con in Indianapolis, and the international conference Spiel (Play) in Essen, Germany. These venues are important to developing my current project *Recovery*!, a board game which educates players about treatment for mental health issues, as well as presenting my recently published game *Road Hog* to publishers, professional game designers, and players. The unique and immersive nature of these venues is critical to the development of my scholarship trajectory.

While many games focus on fantasy realms and deep space adventure, I see the board game as a place to learn. *Recovery!* Is a collaborative game where players work together to get sick people the treatments they need. The core of the game focuses on what I have personally identified as the five things that keep people with mental health issues well: 1) good food, 2) exercise, 3) sleep, 4) proper medication, 5) talk therapy. Some cards create stressful problems such as “new job,” “family holiday,” and “bad breakup.” Players help each other to make sure the “people” in the game navigate these issues and stay heathy. It is intended to teach players about the essentials of good mental health. Presenting *Road Hog* and eliciting critical feedback for *Recovery!* from publishers, game designers and players at Gen Con and Spiel would significantly advance the development of my research.

**Project Title:**  Travel to Havana, Cuba, to perform works for guitar and cello as part of Cello Festival; and partial recording expenses related to CD of music for guitar and cello, including works by Cuban composers

**Faculty Investigator Name: Jose Lezcano, Professor of Music**

The project entails travel to Havana, Cuba, during the week of March 10 – 18, 2017 (the semester break), to participate in a cello festival organized by Cuban cellist Alejandro Martinez (emails from Mr. Martinez included with this application). With cellist Rebecca Hartka, with whom I have been collaborating the past year on several concerts, we will present a program of Brazilian, Cuban, and Spanish works at the festival, including my own Sonata for Cello & Guitar (2015), and *Suite Habana* by my Cuban friend & colleague, Eduardo Martinez. We will also coach advanced students at the festival in chamber music performance. On her own, Rebecca has secured a donation from the Boston Cello Society to go toward the purchase of a high-quality student cello, which she will donate to a Cuban music school recommended by Mr. Martinez. We also plan to complete a CD recording of works for cello and guitar to release in October, 2017.

**Project Title:**  The Office of Ethics

**Faculty Investigator Name:**  Associate Professor Lynn Richardson

This project proposes the research and development of a new body of work to be exhibited in three upcoming exhibitions. The initial exhibition, in May takes place at Gravity Gallery and is titled The *Office of Ethics* under the pseudonym Anton Mikhailov. The second exhibition titled *Volume* will be in July at Berkshire Art Museum. This project will continually evolve over an eight-month period at which time it will be presented in its entirety at the Thorne-Sagendorph Biennial Art Faculty Exhibition in January 2018.

This new body of work will question what the role of the Office of Ethics is in this political climate. My art practice is centered around an examination of relationships between governments, corporations and the collateral effects of this association on our physical environment. I am interested in creating a new American architectural vernacular language in which consumer icons, logos, and strip-mall architecture are reduced to minimalist repetitious forms, rendering uniqueness and diversity obsolete. Currently my work continues to focus on the complexities of this affiliation and the impact on the natural world. I look towards architectural design for innovative approaches to building temporary structures to support my ideas. This manifests itself in large-scale sculptural installations.

**Project Title:** A Haunt in the Light, Your Ghost in the Sky (equivalents)

**Faculty Investigator name:**  Jonathan Schwartz, Film

My new film, *A Haunt in the Light, Your Ghost in the Sky (equivalents)* will be a trilogy of vignettes that use Icelandic winter imagery as a means to explore interior landscapes and emotional responses. Taking inspiration from Alfred Steiglitz’s *Equivalents,* a series of photographs that render clouds yet are sequenced as if they were abstract representations of inner states, this film will explore place as a metaphor. My film will concentrate on the move from ghostly light (aurora borealis) to the glacial behemoth of Vatnajokull to the close-up textures of an ice cave. Moving images and ethereal sounds intersect to conjure ideas around what was and what remains. This film strives to operate as a visual poem hinting at loss, hauntings, and the impact of absence. It extends a set of films that I have made that concern abstract ideas around memory.

**Project Title:** *Alloys: American Sculpture and Architecture at Midcentury*

**Faculty Investigator Name**: Marin R. Sullivan, Art

The integration of art and architecture became a hotly contested topic amongst practitioners and critics in the United States during the immediate postwar period. Using the work of three sculptors—Harry Bertoia (1915-1978), Richard Lippold (1915-2002), and Isamu Noguchi (1904-1988)—as well as contemporary theories of synergy and alloying developed by postwar polymath Buckminster Fuller, this project investigates what made this brief period in time such a rich environment for cross-disciplinary collaboration. It questions what sculpture gained by moving beyond the gallery, why so many architects included sculpture in their designs, and what can be gained by examining both mediums together instead of from the separate perspectives of architectural and art history. Separate, but unified by shared materials, concepts, and goals, postwar American sculpture and architecture maintained distinct medial boundaries while re-envisioning and reconstructing the world at a moment that seemed to burst with the endless possibilities wrought by economic prosperity, scientific discovery, and technological innovation.

***Awards to Faculty in Professional & Graduate Studies***

**Project Title:** Application ofBehavior Change Strategies in Step One of Narcotics Anonymous

**Faculty Investigator Name**: John Finneran Ph.D., LADC-1

This project will investigate the behavior change strategies contained in Step 1 of Narcotics Anonymous (NA) through the development of a short documentary film. The film will record a focus group of up to twelve participants who will utilize NA recovery literature that centers on a description of Step 1. A facilitated and purposive discussion with participants will identify key concepts that can promote behavior change. This film will explicate important behavior change concepts for students within the Health Science Addiction option, and for clinicians working with persons with substance use disorders.

**Project Title:** Educational attainment for young mothers in Zambia: Disconnects between policy and practice.

**Faculty Investigator Name**: Margaret J. Henning

In Zambia, education inequality coupled with a particularly high adolescent pregnancy rate poses a plethora of health and social risk factors toward young mothers and their babies. Adolescent pregnancy is well documented as a reason for school dropout in sub-Saharan Africa, but a relatively small body of work examines young mothers’ experiences after giving birth, in regards to education. Dr. Zuilkowski, Assistant Professor, Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies, Learning Systems Institute at Florida State University and Dr. Henning will serve as co-principal investigators. Both have had established collaborative relationships with academics at the University of Zambia and policymakers at the Zambian Ministry of Education. These local relationships will enable dissemination of the results back to clinics, schools, and Ministries of Education and Health. We propose a mixed-methods study that will examine the experiences of schoolgirls, adolescent mothers, and teachers in Lusaka, Zambia. Little is known about how well current policies meet young mothers’ needs, what young mothers’ goals are, and how these young women would prefer to be supported in achieving their educational goals. The aim of the proposed project is to gather information that will assist policymakers, program planners, and international donors in designing interventions designed to improve outcomes for young mothers and their children. Girls with secondary education are more likely to enter the workforce, earn a higher income, advocate, and seek an education for their children, and have healthier children and families.

***Awards to Faculty in Sciences/Social Sciences***

**Project Title:** Attentional Orienting to Social Cues in Special Operations Personnel:

What Does It Teach Us About Eyewitness Memory?

**Faculty Investigator Name**: Harlan Fichtenholtz

The goal of the present study was to characterize the effects of an acutely stressful situation on attentional orienting to social cues. Participants were tested as they entered a highly stressful military selection and assessment program. Participants studied the faces of “Military-relevant Target Individuals” for 2 minutes. During the subsequent 6-minute task, participants were shown faces at fixation that concurrently displayed dynamic gaze shifts and expression changes from neutral to fearful or angry emotions. Military-relevant targets subsequently appeared in the periphery and were spatially congruent or incongruent with the gaze direction. 8-months later candidates were shown a 16 sequential photo array containing the original Military relevant targets, non-targets, and neutral targets (faces never seen before). True positive and True negatives identifications were 75% and 90% respectively. These data enhance our understanding of the accuracy of eyewitness face identification over time in special operations personnel and suggest that moderate, as opposed to extreme stress, is associated with high levels of accuracy.

**Project Title:** A Qualitative Study of Corporate Internship Practices

**Faculty Investigator Name**: Emily Porschitz, Management

According to NACE (National Association for Colleges and Employers), 65% of college and university student participated in internships or co-ops in 2015. Internships have become almost ubiquitous and are one of the most important factors many employers consider when hiring entry-level employees. There is a particular need for strong, comprehensive studies of corporate internship practices, given the ethical dilemmas raised about internship practices in this country , i.e. that many internships are unpaid and student often have to pay college tuition to get credit for their internship. In essence, we could consider that they are paying to work (e.g. Wexler, 2016). This is even more troubling given that paid internships have a much better impact on the future career success of college students than unpaid internships (NACE).

Interviews, observations and participant observations will be used for data collection in this large-scale qualitative research study of corporate internships. I will travel around New England and to Seattle, WA to examine a range of corporate internship programs, including top-rated programs at Amazon and Boeing. Research questions include: How are “successful” internship programs defined? How are internships experienced day-to-day by interns and their managers? What are the key challenges faced in the internship process? What are the outcomes of the internships? Who benefits from internships and who does not? Who “pays” for internships (in money, time and/or other resources)?

**Project Title:** Computational Chemistry Software for Research and Teaching

**Faculty Investigator Name**: Jerry P. Jasinski, Chemistry

Upgrading of an outdated *Spartan-14*, a computational chemistry software program package to assist individuals in understanding, visualization and data processing of theoretical and complex concepts for research and teaching in X-ray crystallography and chemistry related areas is the primary objective of this proposal. The new *Spartan-16 Parallel Suite* package provides easy access to research quality theoretical methods in a mobile computer environment and a significant leap to access the latest computational methods in a user-friendly mode. It can be used as a server for both remotely submitted calculations and the Spartan Spectra and Properties Database extending access to computational tools from remote devices such as iPads and iPhones. With this new package, Professor Jasinski and his chemistry department colleagues will be able to calculate Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) spectra of flexible molecules, engage in conformational analysis and excited state calculations, as well as perform a variety of Density Functional Theory (DFT) calculations, for example, to correlate with both their research and teaching activities. It will provide previous unavailable support for Professor Jasinski’s many globally interactive research projects in the X-ray crystallography of pharmaceutically related molecules and more importantly with his in-house research project on the synthesis and crystal and molecular structure studies of Galantamine derivatives , potential cholinesterase Inhibitor’s, for the treatment of Alzheimer’s disease. Being able to add these types of supporting computational calculations to single crystal X-ray crystallography and NMR results will significantly increase our ability to publish these results in high impact peer –reviewed scientific journals.

**Project Title:** Organizational Process and Work Identities among Employees with Disabilities

**Faculty Investigator Name**: Kathleen R. Johnson , Management

Positive workplace cultures that support and affirm an individual's identity (whether that identity be, for example, gender, age, race, ethnicity) not only helps to create satisfied and happier workers, but also to achieve organizational goals such as reduced absenteeism, lower employee turnover, and greater motivation and productivity. As with other workers, those with disabilities have an interest in having their work-related identities affirmed and supported. Through semi-structured interviews of workers with disabilities, this project seeks to better understand the process of disability identity formation as well as the organizational dynamics in which this identity develops and evolves among workers living with disability.

**Project Title:** Rock Bottom: The Earliest Maya Lithic Technology at Cahal Pech and Blackman Eddy, Belize

**Faculty Investigator Name**: James Stemp

This project entails the presentation of a research paper, entitled “Rock Bottom: The Earliest Maya Lithic Technology at Cahal Pech and Blackman Eddy”, on the lithic technology recovered from terminal Early Preclassic – Middle Preclassic (ca. 1200 BC – 300 BC) occupations at Cahal Pech and Blackman Eddy at the 15th Annual Belize Archaeology Symposium in San Ignacio, Belize, from June 28th-30th, 2017. While at the symposium, I will also analyze chipped stone tools from the Archaic period recovered in Western Belize and examine chipped stone tools from the earliest occupations at Xunantunich, Belize. Prior to the start of the symposium, I will analyze the chipped stone tools excavated during the 2017 field season at San Pedro, Ambergris Caye, Belize.