Faculty Development Grant Awards: 2013-2014

Awards to Faculty in Arts & Humanities

Faculty Name: Jonathan Gitelson
Project Title: POC Photography Workshop: Strasbourg, France
Project Abstract:

My proposal is to attend the Piece Of Cake photography collective's 2014 workshop in Strasbourg, France. Piece of Cake is a group of 42 North American and European photographers who meet to critique, network, and support each other’s professional development. The workshop in Strasbourg will take place from April 1-6 and provide me the opportunity to introduce my artwork to a group of European photographers and curators in order to plant the seeds for future European exhibitions and publications.

Faculty Name: Joseph Darby
Project Title: Publishing music by subscription in 18th-century Britain
Project Abstract:

Composers and publishers in eighteenth-century Britain used the subscription method of selling music to manage production costs, improve sales, and provide a reliable system of distribution. The subscription method generally involved a buyer’s payment or promise of payment in advance of publication; in return, the subscriber was rewarded with a discount on the retail price and her/his name inscribed on a ‘subscribers list’ in the work’s first edition. Publishing music by subscription was particularly useful for offsetting the high costs of producing large, expensive, or elaborately decorated music books. Although the subscription method accounted for a fraction of total music sales in eighteenth-century Britain, the transactions recorded by subscription lists provide useful demographic information about buyers in the marketplace (e.g., names, titles, occupations, and residences of the subscribers) as well as insight into social trends, audiences, and the economics of music publishing.

My research project will be the first systematic, genre-by-genre study of publishing music by subscription in eighteenth-century Britain. The first step will be obtaining the subscription lists of all music publications issued by subscription (approximately 350 publications), followed by creating a comprehensive database of subscribers, locating the pricing information for the publications, and conducting statistical analyses of the data based on social rank and gender. This project expands earlier research I conducted on the demographics of subscription concertos, and applies my research methodology to all genres of music published by subscription in eighteenth-century Britain.

Faculty Name: Maura Glennon
Project Title: Return to Practice: Summer Study Abroad
Project Abstract:

For registration, tuition and travel to Maiori, Italy to perform and study as a pianist in the Amalfi Coast Music and Arts Festival Music Institute in July 2014. I will spend two weeks working with elite music faculty and peers from around the world on solo piano repertoire and chamber music works in daily
lessons, chamber music coachings and public performances. This summer study will be the culmination of a spring semester sabbatical that focuses on a return to practice and performance as a classical pianist. During the festival I will also establish new relationships with musical colleagues from around the world and will perform music masterworks for new audiences in outstanding venues.

Faculty Name: John Roberts
Project Title: Solarplate Color Printmaking
Project Abstract:

I am requesting a Faculty Development Grant to assist me in creating a new series of ten color intaglio prints that utilize the Solarplate method of photoetching. Over the course of the next two years, I am planning to produce ten prints that focus upon the industrial landscape – specifically, the steel mill in Bethlehem Pennsylvania. I intend to combine digital images from this site with both hand drawn imagery as well as printed found objects to produce these prints. The prints will use a photographic image as their starting point and use traditional intaglio color printmaking methods to produce multiple-color compositions. The combination of digital images and more conventional intaglio techniques will enable me to focus on both dramatic strength of this structure as well as elements of underlying abstraction to support the atmosphere of the composition.

Solarplate photoetching was initially developed as a commercial printing process but has been adapted for printmakers. It is a non-toxic method for photoetching that utilizes water to develop and etch the printing plate. The plate can then be printed in the manner of a traditional etching plate and may be easily combined with other printmaking processes to produce dynamic mixed media prints.

Faculty Name: James Chesebrough
Project Title: “50 First Lessons” Identifying Pedagogical Techniques Used by Applied Instructors of Trombone for Intermediate to Advanced Students
Project Abstract:

Support for "Fifty First Lessons" Identifying Pedagogical Techniques Used by Applied Instructors of Trombone for Intermediate to Advanced Students originated during three international tours with the Trombone Choir of America. Discussions with the trombonists on the tours identified skills and teaching techniques that are universally accepted by all trombone teachers, some unique ideas, and any number of ways of presenting the material to students. During this project, lessons will be scheduled with fifty highly respected trombone teachers. The lessons and interviews will be recorded. This data will then be used to specifically identify the universals, discover unique pedagogical ideas, and identify the various methods of presenting this material in the studio.
Faculty Name: Meriem Pages
Project Title: From Martyr to Murderer: The Representation of the Assassins in Twelfth- and Thirteenth-Century Europe

Project Abstract:

I am applying for a faculty grant to help fund Syracuse University Press’s production costs for the publication of my manuscript, From Martyr to Murderer: The Representation of the Assassins in Twelfth- and Thirteenth-Century Europe, of which the following is a brief summary:

Ever since the publication of Orientalism, medievalists have attempted to apply Said’s thesis on the Western European representation of the Muslim Other to the Middle Ages. However to supply a complete inventory of the various medieval representations of the Muslim Other is a daunting task indeed. Faced with such an undertaking, the sect of the Nizari Isma'ilis, known for their use of political assassination, and its complicated relationship with Western Europe provide a fascinating—and much more manageable—case study.

The representation of the Nizaris, who came to be known in Europe as Assassins, closely parallels that of Islam in the Middle Ages. The sect’s perception in Latin Christendom is nuanced and complex, providing a wide array of divergent readings of the Assassins that range from their portrayal as potential allies in the earliest texts discussing the sect to their exoticization as “marvels of the world” in works of the thirteenth century and thereafter. By delineating the development of the sect’s depiction in medieval historical and literary works, this study shows that the Assassins did not originally inspire alienation in medieval Europeans reading and writing about them, leading us to question our preconceived notions about the larger issue of the image of Islam in the Middle Ages.

Faculty Name: Debra White-Stanley
Project Title: “Leaving Chelsea” short film
Project Abstract:

I am requesting funding to attend the “Documentary Filmmaking A-Z” workshop at Massachusetts College of Art and Design in Boston. This workshop covers the basics of interviewing techniques, camerawork, sound design, and editing. As part of this workshop, I will combine personal reflections, interviews of family and friends, historical imagery and video of my hometown to create a short personal documentary entitled “Leaving Chelsea.” The training and the creation of this film will help me to begin my goal of supplementing my scholarly activity in the field of film studies with creative filmmaking practice. Combining scholarly activity with creative filmmaking in this way will not only help me to become a better film professor but will also benefit my scholarly work and help my career to develop into its next stage.

Faculty Name: Lisa DiGiovanni
Project Title: Longing for Resistance: Post-Revolutionary Nostalgia in Spanish and Chilean Fiction and Film

Project Abstract:

My book manuscript, Longing for Resistance: Post-Revolutionary Nostalgia in Spanish and Chilean Fiction and Film, examines how contemporary Spanish and Chilean historical novels and feature and documentary
films convey a nostalgic longing for a pre-dictatorial past in Spain and Chile, as well as an unanticipated nostalgia for resistance during the Franco and Pinochet regimes. Currently my book has two sections entitled “Childhood, Rupture and Reconnection”, and “Re-imagining Women’s Resistance”. I will add a new section called “Narratives of Exile and Return,” that will focus on the relationship between nostalgia and displacement and the tensions between national and transnational claims of identity. For this section, I will need to conduct original research in Spain, where I will review new cultural production, as well as visit local libraries and archives in both Madrid and Salamanca. The research that I plan to conduct with the help of the Faculty Development Grant would provide me with the necessary opportunity to locate materials to compare; materials that are essential in the development of both the historical framework of my project, as well as the theoretical framework about nostalgia. My research in Spain will not only offer me an indispensable opportunity to further conceptualize the transatlantic historical connections of the periods in my study, but it will also enhance my professional associations and provide me with a very informed forum in which to share, discuss and test my ideas.

Faculty Name: Jiwon Ahn
Project Title: Research on the legacy of animation outsourcing in South Korea
Project Abstract:

The Myth of Nimble Fingers: rethinking animation outsourcing in South Korea

This project examines the impact of Japanese animation (called anime) outsourcing on the South Korean animation, which peaked from the 1970s through the 1990s. While South Korea ascended world’s third largest animation industry as a result, the lack of its original domestic production and its arrested development as an industry has been regarded as a consequence of the exploitative outsourcing history. Academic discourses regarding Korean animation have also been mournful, blaming anime outsourcing as a neo-colonial practice that exploits low-waged animation workers with “nimble fingers.”

As Korean animation has mostly moved away from anime outsourcing and 2D animation, the project assesses its continuing legacy. While the outsourcing history is important to recognize, the project, based on interviews with Korean animators, challenges the idea of the one-dimensional exploitation of Korean “nimble fingers,” and provides a more complex picture of intertwined interests that have contributed to a gradual maturation of the South Korean animation as a creative force.

Faculty Name: Irina Leimbacher
Project Title: Roots with Rifts: Research Towards and Essay Film
Project Abstract:

Funding is requested for a research trip towards the creation of a 30- to 60- minute essay film exploring a family history and it intertwining with some of the major world events of the 20th century. This research involves travel to Hungary, the Ukraine, and Romania to locate and investigate buildings, land, and landscapes that were once a part of my mother’s family. In the period between her youth in the 1930s and the present, all of these places have been affected, often more than once, by war, shifting national borders, anti-Semitism, Soviet expansionism, and the collapse of communism in Central Europe. Cities, villages, edifices, and the land surrounding them have all shifted their identities and their significance. What was once Poland is now part of the Ukraine, Transylvania moved from Hungary to Rumania,
towns that were major junctures of commerce are now sleepy villages, communities with large Jewish populations now have none, palaces have become orphanages, the estates of the wealthy have become property of the state, and people who were firmly wedged in the Soviet sphere of influence are now vying for their position in the European Union.

In part an investigation into the 20th century demise of a wealthy Austro-Hungarian family that had been Jewish but converted to Catholicism (at various points in the early 1900s), this project is also a look at the traces and effects of historical change on some landscapes and villages in Central Europe, including the impact of major events such as World-War I, World War II, Soviet expansion, and the collapse of Communism in 1989.

Awards to Faculty in Professional & Graduate Studies

Faculty Names: John Sturtz
Project Title: Beginning teacher thinking in Australia and the United States: A Cross-Cultural Examination
Project Abstract:

This cross-cultural project is set to investigate teacher thinking by employing video stimulated recall interviews in Australia and the United States. The research is important because social studies teachers often have to work within a context of conflicting viewpoints especially in the context of standards-based educational reform. A cross-cultural investigation allows for outside observation, critical thinking, and examination of possibilities that might not otherwise have been considered. The results of this research will provide insight into the relationship between standards-based curriculum and teacher thinking and help teacher educators better prepare and support pre-service teachers by gaining insight into thinking and decision making. In addition, it can help school administrators learn how to better support beginning teachers. This research is relevant to my work teaching and supporting pre-service teaching candidates in social studies education.

Faculty Name: Rebecca Dunn & Karrie Kalich
Project Title: Dissemination of Results from New Hampshire WIC Mothers Breastfeeding Survey and Assessing the Effectiveness of New Hampshire Breastfeeding Friendly Child Care Training
Project Abstract:

The benefits of breastfeeding for both mother and baby are significant and well-documented. Numerous health-related professional organizations acknowledge the importance of human milk as the optimal nutrition for infants. The Surgeon General of the United States supports breastfeeding as “one of the most highly effective preventive measures a mother can take to protect the health of her infant and herself”. Despite broad recognition of benefits associated with breastfeeding, rates in the United States continue to be below targets established by Healthy People 2020, a national health promotion and disease prevention initiative that aims to increase the proportion of infants who are breastfed. As part of a multifaceted approach to understand barriers and contributors to breastfeeding and to support and
promote breastfeeding, the proposed project builds on previously conducted research endeavors by Drs. Dunn and Kalich. **The proposed project has the following goals:**

1. Present *Barriers and Contributors to Breastfeeding and Early Infant Feeding Practices in New Hampshire WIC Mothers* in a poster session at the 18th Annual International Meeting for the Academy of Breastfeeding Medicine (ABM conference) in November 2013 with the aim of gathering feedback from field based professionals on evidence informed action planning.

2. Assess the effectiveness of a 1 ½ hour online breastfeeding friendly child care training that was recently developed by the faculty investigators (Dunn and Kalich), and piloted to early childhood professionals in New Hampshire.

Faculty Names: Lisa Hix
Project Title: Materials – A Life Cycle View, Ecology in the industrial economy
Project Abstract:

I have been invited to speak about my illustrated Material Life Cycle (iMLC) research and creative work at the North American Materials Education Symposium at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. This Materials Education Symposium focuses on the values and methodologies for educating about the materials used for our built/manufactured world in the disciplines of design, science and engineering at the college and university level.

At this stage of my research, this opportunity to summarize and present my project, is giving me the opportunity to focus my research and plan for creating a physical materials library, highlighting a material’s life-cycle, as both an educational tool and a professional methodology for assessing materials. My goal is to continue to develop this process of materials selection and evaluation into a methodology providing transparency through the material’s supply chain, and a methodology for producers to anticipate their responsibility for their products at their end-of-useful-life. This expanded mindset and greater information is needed as we, as a society, rethink how we manage our valuable and limited resources.

Awards to Faculty in Sciences & Social Sciences

Faculty Name: Cynthia Hays
Project Title: Using new molecular tools to explain and explore the effect of genetic diversity on eelgrass restoration
Project Abstract:

*Zostera marina*, or eelgrass, is an ecologically important species of marine plant found in shallow temperate seas worldwide. Eelgrass populations in New England (and globally) have declined significantly since the early 1970s; given the many important ecosystems functions that eelgrass provides (e.g. nutrient cycling, carbon fixation, stabilization of sediments, and nursery habitat for commercially harvested fish and invertebrates), this decline is a major concern for coastal communities. Managers often
attempt to restore eelgrass in places where it has been lost, with very mixed success, by transplanting adult plants from other sites where the species appears to be thriving. Understanding what characteristics make a particular ‘donor population’ successful (i.e. transplanted shoots survive and grow) is key to improving the success of restoration success. This project uses fine-scale molecular tools (microsatellites), in conjunction with a major field experiment, to help inform the selection of donor populations for eelgrass restoration.

My research students and I will use microsatellites to evaluate the genetic characteristics of six different donor populations that will be transplanted into two recipient sites on Cape Cod. By analyzing both the level of genetic diversity within each donor population, as well as the degree of genetic similarity between populations, we hope to gain important insight into the importance of local adaptation and genetic diversity in restoration success.

Faculty Name: Armagan Gezici
Project Title: Corporate Investment in the Turkish Economy
Project Abstract:
This project entails collaborative research with two other economists from Turkey and will be completed in Turkey during my year-long sabbatical in 2014-2015. The goal of the project is to provide an in-depth analysis of the key determinants and constraints of corporate investment in Turkey. Available studies of investment in the Turkish economy are aggregate investment estimations that offer broad correlations between macroeconomic variables and investment. An attempt to unearth the specific mechanisms through which investment is influenced calls for a microeconomic investigation of investment behavior at the firm level. Our study will accomplish this by utilizing firm-level data collected by the Central Bank of Turkey based on the financial statements of 8,000 private Turkish companies. This data set will allow us to conduct econometric analyses to investigate the correlations between investment and its determinants, such as cost of capital, demand for product, availability of finance, product market competition, and macroeconomic indicators. The panel data will allow us to develop insights as to variations in these correlations across time, industry, and companies. We plan to present our findings in two separate articles, and will present the results of our project to the faculty at Kadir Has University in Istanbul in January 2015 and May 2015. Having received feedback from our audiences, we plan to submit our articles to peer-review journals by the end of summer 2015.

Faculty Name: Wei Lu
Project Title: Toward an Automatic Discovery of Botnets in Cyberspace
Project Abstract:
I am seeking Faculty Development Grant funding that would allow me to present, and to continue, my research on botnets. Botnets have been recognized as the most serious security threat on the current Internet, and are responsible for a large volume of malicious activities from distributed-denial-of-service (DDoS) attacks to spamming and phishing. The main goal of this research project is to investigate the botnet activities in cyberspace, because they remain as-of-yet poorly addressed.

In 2013, Keene State College (KSC) now alumnus Dan Garant and I conducted a pilot study on statistically detecting botnet behaviors on the Web and presented a paper at an international conference in Spain, and more recently an extended edition of this paper was published in a leading journal,
Computer & Security, in December of 2013. Because of these outcomes, the research on botnets at KSC has been highlighted by the Council on Undergraduate Research and reported by local New Hampshire media such as Union Leader and Keene Sentinel.

Recently, my latest research work on botnets has been accepted by the 28th IEEE International Conference on Advanced Information Networking and Applications and this grant would allow me to travel to Canada and present my paper on this prestigious conference. After the conference, I will meet colleagues at the University of Victoria (UVic), and discuss the potentials of developing an additional research project on botnets collaborative between KSC and UVic. For this purpose I desire to obtain further external-grant funding toward the enrichment of academic excellence at KSC.

Faculty Name: Richard Blatchly
Project Title: Quality Analysis of South African Olive Oil
Project Abstract:

The importance of olive oil from South Africa is very rapidly growing, and the product is recognized as having very high quality. As quality is a crucial part of the reputation and position in the market, agricultural research to explore best practices must include quality as a measured outcome. Currently, the academic research is hampered by the absence of robust in-house analytical methods to measure quality. I will begin the development work at Keene State, working on analytical techniques for the analysis of aroma compounds and of antioxidant phenolic compounds. I then propose to establish those analytical methods in laboratories at Stellenbosch, using existing instrumentation. I will document these methods and begin a training process so that the measurements can be carried out after the end of the grant period.

Faculty Name: Angela Barlow
Project Title: Investigating the Success of Vocational Education at Women’s Prisons: A Case Student at MCI Framingham
Project Abstract:

The positive impact of academic and vocational education on reducing recidivism is well established. Traditionally, vocational programming offered to women inmates consisted of programs offered at men’s prisons (e.g. custodial management, auto-mechanics) or vocational programs focused on traditional “feminine” skills (e.g. sewing; secretarial skills). However, some of these industries suffer higher than average unemployment rates and poor job-growth outlook. The aim of this research is to conduct a study investigating the impact of vocational education on women’s recidivism rates at the Massachusetts Correctional Institution Women’s Prison in Framingham, Massachusetts (MCI Framingham). Specifically, this study focuses on the impact of graduating from cosmetology and culinary arts programs at MCI Framingham on “survival times” (how long one remains out of prison) of women released between 2009-2012, compared to survival times of graduates from “traditional” vocational programs during that time. This study is two fold: to quantitatively assess the effectiveness of these two vocational programs at MCI Framingham on women’s survival time, and to qualitatively explore women’s perceptions and attitudes of vocational program choice as a means of preparing for release.