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Buffalo State Awarded a Title III Grant

By Carol Darstein, Pre-Award and Contract Services Coordinator



Carol Darstein.

If you were anywhere in the vicinity of the Research Foundation’s office in Bishop Hall on March 15th you probably heard a lot of cheering! That’s because that was the day we learned that Buffalo State College had been granted a Title III, Strengthening Institutions project from the U.S. Department of Education which will total \$1,387,506 over five years. Dr. Dewayne Beery, Associate Professor, Physics, received the glad news from Congresswoman Louise Slaughter (28th District, NY).

The road to success for this project came about a bit differently than most federal awards – the application was originally submitted in February of 2004, and our score at that time, although high, was not enough to result in a positive decision. The U.S. Department of Education realized that there were a significant number of high-scoring applications that could not be funded in FY 2004, and made the decision not to hold a competition in FY 2005. Instead, they funded from the group of unfunded 2004 applications and, happily, we learned that Buffalo State was one of the new awardees.

Dr. Beery, the project director, stated that,

“the purpose is to foster closer collaboration between the mathematics curriculum and client departments with the goal of improving the quantitative reasoning and performance skills of our students.” He is looking forward to working with his colleagues on this project, which involves four coordinator positions and includes Dr. Ted Schmidt, Associate Professor, Economics and Finance, Dr. Javier Peñalosa, Associate Professor, Biology, and Dr. Sue McMillen, Associate Professor, Mathematics. Ms. Melaine Kenyon will serve as the Electronic Learning Specialist.

With the goal of enhancing student performance in programs requiring significant use of quantitative and mathematical skills, activities will include an examination of the math curriculum as it relates to the needs of client departments. Technology and peer tutoring will also be integrated in the coursework. Faculty development will have a particular focus on adjuncts, the primary instructors for the targeted introductory courses. The grant also includes funding for additional smart classrooms for the Math department.

To ensure sustainability of our goals, the college will also receive a \$50,000 endowment, which will be matched on a dollar for dollar basis by Buffalo State. The resulting funds will contribute to the support of ongoing annual faculty development workshops.

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NEW F&A RATE UNDER NEGOTIATION

By Linda Dubrawsky, Associate Director of Finance and Grants Management



Linda Dubrawsky.

The data has been collected, the numbers have been crunched, the negotiation is underway, and if all goes according to plan we will have a new Facilities and Administration (F&A) rate in place by July 1, 2005. Negotiating a new F&A rate is nothing new for the Research Foundation, in-fact we go through this process every 4-5 years. What is different about this year, however, is that we are changing the basis for the rate.

Those of you who have received or even submitted proposals in the past know that our current F&A rate is 77% of salaries and wages. This is about to change. Last year we had upwards of \$34 million in sponsored funding, most of which came either directly or indirectly from the federal government. This has prompted RF Central Office staff accountants who are responsible for developing our rate to require that we change the basis upon which the F&A rate is computed. Beginning in July, we will move from a salary and wage base to a modified total

direct cost base (MTDC). Instead of taking our indirect cost on salary and wages, the F&A will be computed on all of the categories included in the MTDC base. The modified total direct cost base includes all budget categories with the exception of equipment, tuition, participant stipends and allowances, and sub-awards over \$25,000.00. Beginning with the new fiscal year Buffalo State College will not only have the distinction of being the only decentralized college in the system, but we will also now be the only college that has sufficient sponsored program activity to warrant being MTDC based. We will now join company with the large university and health science centers whose indirect cost rate is based on modified total direct costs.

So what does all this mean for BSC? First, keep in mind that this rate is only applicable to federal awards that allow our full federally negotiated rate. Current awards will not be impacted, but new proposals submitted after July 1, 2005 will be subject to the new rate (expected to be around 50%). In establishing your budgets going forward you will need to apply the new rate to all budget categories included in the MTDC base. We expect that for research awards that we

receive directly from the federal government that net indirect cost recovered will remain about the same. This is because, when we reviewed our current federal awards that allowed our full indirect cost rate, we found that when we compared the higher rate applied to salary costs (usually the bulk of the budget), to a lower percent applied to all of the other MTDC categories the results were similar in most cases. We do, however, expect moving to an MTDC base will increase indirect cost revenue associated with the Center for the Development of Human Services, which receives federal flow-through funding. This is significant as CDHS funded projects currently account for more than 75% of our sponsored program activity.

We would be remiss if we did not say a special thank you to all who participated in this effort. We are especially grateful to the BSC accounting, budget and comptroller offices, as well as to select project staff who assisted with the space survey and equipment inventories. Their assistance was not only very much appreciated but also essential to the success to this process. ■

Continued from Page 1

A special note of congratulations and thanks goes to Ms. Maryruth Glogowski, Assistant Vice President for Library and Instructional Technology, who led the writing effort for this proposal. Her hard work and dedication were integral to the achievement of a winning proposal. Maryruth says, "I appreciated being able to work so closely with faculty, including Mathematics Chair Robin Sanders, to address the needs of our students in a holistic way that integrates curriculum redesign, faculty development for adjuncts, innovative technology, and assessment. Hopefully these will be ingredients for success." ■

Coordinator of Special Projects to Assist Faculty with Grant Proposals



Ellen Errigo.

Ellen Errigo has joined the Research Foundation, Office of Sponsored Programs as Special Projects Coordinator. Ellen previously was the chief fundraising officer at Medaille College for seventeen years, and she was employed at Buffalo State College as Associate Director of the Academic Skills Center in 1985. Prior to this appointment she was a temporary employee with Pre Award office, filling in for an employee on maternity leave. She pursued graduate

studies in History at Wayne State University and completed an MBA degree in 2002. She is a Certified Fundraising Executive. Ellen will work with the Arts and Humanities and the Applied Science and Education faculties to develop grant proposals. She will research sources of funding, assist in project conceptualization, do background research for proposals, assist in proposal writing, and edit and/or proof-read proposals. In addition, she edits the Research Foundation newsletter, and develops other publications. ■

RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Incentive Funds Awarded



The Research and Creativity Council Funds Program is aimed at generating additional funded programs. An applicant for these funds is expected to submit a grant proposal within one year of an incentive award. A recipient of an award also will be required to submit a full report of the use of these funds and submission of grant proposals. The Research and Creativity Council announced the following awards as of April 11, 2005:

Cheryl Albers, Sociology, \$3,000

The Scholarship of Teaching & Learning – Funding supports faculty and staff in undertaking the scholarship of teaching and learning (SOTL). The incentive grant supports conducting background research for proposal development and developing materials that will convince granting agencies to invest in Buffalo State.

Dennis Gaffin, Anthropology, \$6,692

Fairypeople and the Fairy Faith in Ireland: Phase One of Religion in Mental Health – The grant will continue research in the linkages between Irish spirituality and mental health as a pilot case study of the use of elemental beings (fairies) in a Western mental health practice. To clearly demonstrate how personal spiritual experience of fairypeople can provide a framework for mental health and to show how even in modern Western contexts alternative New Age practices

and beliefs parallel native non-Western approaches and to lay down a research basis for further work in this area on a cross-cultural basis.

Kim Irvine, Geography & Planning, \$6,516

A Decision Support Framework to Assess the Impacts of Land Use Change in Underdeveloped Countries: Case Study Cambodia – Land use change in developing countries has resulted in environmental degradation and diminishing land productivity, which often results in a downward spiral that further reduces income and livelihood options for the poor. This research will develop a framework for pricing hydrologic services provided by a tropical forest ecosystem in Cambodia by estimating the cost of replacing those services when lost or degraded through land use change.

Christopher Pennuto, Biology, \$5,808

Effects of the Invasive Round Goby on Macroinvertebrate Communities in Tributary Streams to Lake Erie – The invasive round goby (*Neogobius melanostomus*) is now present in all the Great Lakes, causing significant changes in resident fish and macroinvertebrate communities. Recent reports suggest round gobies are now moving up tributary streams. This proposal will assess round goby effects on tributary macroinvertebrates, especially crayfish, through upstream and downstream field

collections in streams with and without round gobies coupled with laboratory and field studies on crayfish/goby interactions.

Howard Riessen, Biology, \$6,947

Induced Antipredator Defenses in Zooplankton: Interaction of Predator and Prey Size – This proposed study will examine predation by larvae of two species of *Chaoborus* commonly found in fishless habitats (medium to large *C. americanus* and very large *C. trivittatus*) on a wide size range of spined (*Daphnia* individuals (0.6-1.6 mm body length) of two species of different body size (large *D. pulex* and small *D. minnehaha*). The results of this study will then be used to further develop fitness models for *Daphnia* in preparation for a proposal examining the evolution of antipredator strategies in these animals.

Stephen Saracino, Design, \$3,564

“Flamboyant-style” Etruscan Research – Provides funds to travel to the regions where “flamboyant” style Etruscan artifacts were unearthed and visit their museums and necropoli to formulate a more concise idea of how they evolved and try to comprehend how this style was arrived at without using emulation of pervasive Greek conventions. The conceptual ideation that served as the basis for the “flamboyant” style would then be able to be included into a body of work that would reinvigorate this Etruscan style. ■

Annual Recognition Reception Held April 29

The Research Foundation Office of Sponsored Programs held its eighth annual recognition reception on April 25 at the Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society. Over 100 people attended the reception honoring Project Directors, members of Research Foundation committees and review boards, and many others who contribute to the success of Buffalo State sponsored programs. Dr. Muriel Howard, President, and Dr. Richard S. Podemski, Dean of Graduate Studies and Research, welcomed the honorees and guests. Mr. Ted Turkle, Director, Research Foundation of SUNY Buffalo State, presented the Research Foundation Awards. The 2005 Recognition Award Recipients were:



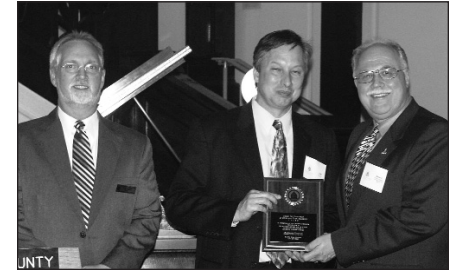
Ted Turkle and Richard Podemski present award to Elisa Bergslien

Elisa Bergslien, Assistant Professor, Earth Sciences and Science Education, joined the Buffalo State faculty in fall 2002. Her research interests include forensic geology and the surface chemistry of geological materials. She recently received a grant from the National Science Foundation through the Course, Curriculum and Laboratory Improvement (CCLI) Adaptation and Implementation Program. This grant has contributed to the acquisition of an x-ray diffractometer or XRD for use in the earth science and chemistry programs. She is active with several environmental groups in the area, including Friends of the Buffalo Niagara Rivers.



Bill Wieczorek accepts award from Ted Turkle and Richard Podemski

William Wieczorek, Professor, Geography and Planning, is currently Director of the Center for Health and Social Research at Buffalo State College. Since he joined the faculty in 1997, his success at obtaining external grant funding has been exemplary and totals approximately \$2 million over the past eight years. Sponsors of his research have included the National Institutes of Health, Health Research Inc., Roswell Park Cancer Institute, and Western New York United Against Drugs. His research interests include the epidemiology of substance abuse, prevention of drunk driving, and the use of advanced GIS applications. He is widely published, and received the Chancellor's Award Honoring Research and Scholarship in 2002.



Dr. John Siskar accepts the CEURE award from Ted Turkle and Richard Podemski

The Center for Excellence in Urban and Rural Education (CEURE) is dedicated to the enhancement of high-need urban and rural schools through the recruitment, education, and retention of qualified and effective educators. The Center's partnerships include schools, community groups, and other institutions of higher learning. Since its inception in fall of 2000, CEURE, represented through its directors, has received federal and state funding administered by the Research Foundation totaling over \$2.9 million. Dr. John Siskar, Interim Director of CEURE, accepted the award.

In addition, the Research Foundation Office of Sponsored Programs recognized the following employees for years of service:

Gina Game, 20 years;
Lauren Mierzwza, 15 years;
Laura Leone, 5 years;
Guy Cameron, 5 years.
Carol Darstein was recognized for 25 years of service to Buffalo State.



RF Employees – Lauren Mierzwza, Carol Darstein, Guy Cameron, Gina Game.



The Undergraduate Summer Research Fellowship Recipients gather with their mentors and director Jill Singer.

Dr. Dennis Ponton, Provost and V. P. of Academic Affairs and Dr. Jill Singer, Director of the Office of Undergraduate Research, recognized the Undergraduate Summer Research Fellowship recipients. They include:



Dr. Jill Singer.

Arts and Humanities

Nicole Savoy, Professor Tara Stephenson, Design Department, Mentor
Afrim Djonbalic, Professor Gerry Trentham, Performing Arts, Mentor
Carol Scheeler, Professor Stephen Saracino, Design, Mentor
Sherry Brinser-Day, Professor Rebecca Geraghty, Design, Mentor
Carol Ann Rafferty, Professor Jozef Bajus, Design, Mentor
Lisa Van Coevering, Professor Aimable Twagilimana, English, Mentor
Kyle Dennis Zynda, Professor Ken Payne, Fine Arts, Mentor

Natural and Social Sciences

Jessica Gaiser, Professor Chris Pennuto, Biology, Mentor
Matthew Lee, Professor Michael MacLean, Psychology, Mentor
Angela Hirtzel, Professor Gary Solar, Earth Sciences, Mentor
Lori MacLean, Professor William Durfee, Chemistry, Mentor
Matt Coia, Professor Dan MacIsaac, Physics, Mentor

APPLIED SCIENCE AND EDUCATION

Joshua Oliver, Professor Louis Colca, Social Work, Mentor
Bart Blum, Professor Elizabeth Szockyj, Criminal Justice, Mentor

Dean of Graduate Studies and Research to take new position in Florida

Dr. Richard S. Podemski, Dean of Graduate Studies and Research, announced that he has accepted an administrative appointment at the University of West Florida. He will be associate Vice President for Research and Dean of Graduate Study at the Pensacola campus. His appointment is effective July 1.

Dean Podemski's leadership in research and graduate affairs in the five years he has served at Buffalo State advanced many campus strategic initiatives. Sponsored-program funding has continually increased. Numerous new programs were implemented to support and provide incentives to expand research. As operations manager for the Research Foundation, Podemski facilitated decentralization of research program management and resolved numerous problematic operational issues. His accomplishments in advancing graduate study include renewing the Graduate Advisory Council, updating graduate student policies, strengthening recognition for graduate students and graduate faculty, and collaborating with other deans and faculty to further graduate education at Buffalo State. ■

New Grant Awards January -March 2005

January 2005

Gary Jones – *NYS Educ Dept
Speech Pathology Upstate Consortium*
\$100,000

This project will continue to provide Speech Language services and supervision of Buffalo State College graduate students at Aspire. The SLP Dept will use Aspire as a placement site, offering clinical experiences not currently available on campus.

Susan McMillen –
*Buffalo Public Schools
MSP Partnership*
\$68,000

This subcontract has two major components: (1) a partnership between the Department of Mathematics/Mathematics Education and Buffalo Public Schools to improve student achievement in mathematics in grades 3-10 at Buffalo's SINI and SURR schools; and (2) a program assessment designed and carried out by the Center for Excellence in Urban and Rural Education (CEURE).

(1) Four math department faculty will study the standards-based curricula that Buffalo Public Schools will be implementing and design a total of six 3-credit courses designed to improve teachers' content knowledge of the mathematics presented in the new curricula.
(2) The CEURE program assessment component will focus on activities that will assist the BSC faculty in evaluating and improving their teacher education programs.

Sharon Raimondi –
*Buffalo Board of Education
School Improvement Grant*
\$5,500

This project, through the VESID State Improvement Plan, will provide consultant and technical assistance to BPS schools (#31, #76, and #94). The PI will advise and recommend appropriate staff development that addresses the VESID Key Performance Indicators targeted through a data analysis process.

Margaret Shaw-Burnett –
*JP Morgan Chase
Financial Literacy*
\$25,000

Buffalo State College Continuing Education will develop a pilot program to assess the implications of working through a partnership with the Commission on the Status of Women, Children and Family Services, Even Start and other literacy programs. This project seeks to effect the financial education of individuals in special circumstances and support the development and delivery of programs and materials.

Jill Singer –
*NSF
STEP : Creating Opportunities for
Success Through Recruitment, Retention
and Faculty Development*
\$230,137

The primary goal of this project is to increase the number of students entering Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) majors and to increase the number of students receiving baccalaureate degrees in STEM disciplines at Buffalo State College. Activities include: increasing outreach and recruitment activities in an effort to target prospective STEM students in area high schools; attracting and retaining undeclared students interested in STEM fields through their participation in a year-long learning community; taking advantage of the

College's Freshman Seminar Program to offer introductory STEM courses for students interested in becoming STEM majors and for students who entered the college with a declared STEM major; providing STEM students with opportunities to participate in summer research; increasing the support services available to students enrolled in introductory STEM courses and introduce problem-solving sessions in math and peer tutoring for all introductory STEM courses; and providing faculty development opportunities.

February 2005

Kathleen Contrino –
*NYS Coalition Against Sexual Assault
(Dept of Justice)
NYS Victim Assistance Academy*
\$39,245

This is the second year of funding for this project, which will be used to finalize the planning for a NYS Victim Assistance Academy. The overall goal is to establish a comprehensive, academically based, multi-disciplinary educational course for victim assistance providers, advocates and allied professionals in the field in NYS. The Academy is projected to open by Summer 2005.

Maryruth Glogowski –
*NYS Education Dept
Library Collection Aid*
\$14,133

These monies fund collection development in the Western New York region's 16 academic libraries (Buffalo State, Canisius College, Daemen College, D'Youville, ECC, GCC, Hilbert, JCC, Medaille, NCCC, Niagara University, St. Bonaventure, Fredonia, UB, Trocaire and Villa Maria). The purpose of CCDA (Coordinated Collection Development Aid) is to enhance regional resource sharing by supporting academic libraries to build their collections in specific subject areas.



THE RESEARCH FOUNDATION
The State University of New York

March 2005

Kimberley Irvine – *US Environmental Protection Agency Synthesis/Mapping Environmental Data, Niagara River Tributaries*
\$113,020

This project will conduct a search to identify and obtain all relevant reports and associated databases dealing with physical, chemical (sediment and water), and biological data related to tributaries of the Niagara River. A synthesis report will be prepared to summarize results of the gathered reports and databases. The synthesis report also will compare water quality results with state water quality standards and sediment quality results with sediment quality screening criteria.

Ronald Smith – *Mohegan Sun American Indian Media Initiative Project*
\$5,000

The Policy and Media Initiative is an activity that will serve both the strategic interests of Buffalo State College by building upon our reputation as an innovative leader in educational service emphasizing diversity, and participating American Indian professionals, tribes and organizations. It is designed to assist tribes that must contend daily with the portrayal of American Indian issues within the mainstream media.

Amy McMillen – *Beckman Coulter, Inc. Genomics Educational/Research Matching Funds Program*
\$52,200

This grant purchases a Genetic Analysis System that benefits academic programs in both the Biology and Chemistry departments at Buffalo State College. These programs include courses that will be improved by providing students with hands-on experience in sequencing, genotyping and DNA fingerprinting technology. Furthermore, the sequencer opens up research opportunities at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. This equipment allows faculty and their students to keep the sequencing in-house and provides students the valuable opportunity to learn this skill. ■

Research Foundation's Student Assistants to Graduate in May 2005



Laticia McNaughton, Olga Grinberg, Christina Knight.

All three Student Assistants in the Research Foundation Office of Sponsored Programs will be graduating from Buffalo State College in May 2005. The students were hired two years ago to assist with the increased workload in the office during the decentralization and the document imaging projects.

Olga Grinberg, who has worked in the Administrative Services department answering the phone, performing clerical duties, and assisting with special events, will receive a Business degree from the College with a concentration in public relations and marketing. She also minored in Philosophy. Olga says that her work in the Research Foundation has helped her improve her phone skills and provided special events experience, both important in public relations. Olga is excited to be moving to New York City to seek employment in her field.

Christina Knight has worked in the Human Resources and Accounts Receivable office scanning documents, performing clerical duties, and answering phones. A Music major who plays the piano and clarinet, she already has a job in the fall as the K-5 music teacher at Christian Central Academy in

Williamsville. Chrissy is busy planning her June wedding.

Laticia McNaughton, student assistant in the Purchasing Department, assisted with phones, filing and other clerical duties. Laticia, who majored in English and minored in Anthropology, will continue her studies at the University of Oklahoma in the Native American Studies Master's Program, pursuing her goal to teach Native American studies at the college level. A McNair scholar at Buffalo State, she received the prestigious Chancellor's Award for academic achievement, leadership and community service.

All of us at the Research Foundation will miss our student assistants and wish them the best in their future endeavors. ■



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THE RESEARCH FOUNDATION
The State University of New York

Human Resources Corner

By Sandra Cochran, PHR, Human Resources Coordinator



Sandra Cochran.

Now that the season of spring is here, the summer is not too far behind. Students will graduate, many will travel and some may choose to do nothing at all. Summer is a time for relaxation, a time to renew and review and it is also the academician's time to plan for the next semester of students.

For faculty on campus, summer is a time to pursue academic endeavors out of the classroom, such as partnering with a Center for Development of Human Services trainer on a mini grant. For others, the summer is an opportunity to teach accelerated classes to motivated students. Summer is also a time of programs that take place on the campus that provide opportunity to children and students where a dearth of opportunity exists.

For the Research Foundation the summer is a very busy time! There are numerous sponsored summer programs that the RF adminstrates, and the RF Human Resource department function of payroll is a very important part of the success of the summer. The summer programs, such as National Youth Sports Program directed by Jerry Boyes, the Math Science Upward Bound program that Michelle Parente

manages, the McNair summer program that Sandra Washington directs and the summer Upward Bound program that Donald Patterson manages all employ the best and the brightest to assure the ultimate educational and enjoyable experience for the population that each serves. Many of the professors that work with each of these programs are employed by the college on a 10 month appointment which allows them to pursue the opportunity to make a difference in someone's life or contribute to society in a meaningful way and be compensated for doing so! In the summer, a 10 month faculty member becomes a Research Foundation employee for that small window of time. The summer for those faculty members that hold the title of principal investigator may also allow for creative academic research activities. Dr. Kim Irvine will be traveling to Cambodia and Thailand to research water quality and conduct workshops on water quality and GIS for the government of Cambodia and the faculty of the Royal University of Phnom Penh. Dr. Jurgis Karuza will be finishing work with other faculty members of the Psychology department on his Mental Health Issues in Applied Life Span Development project. Summer is the time for faculty and staff partnering with CDHS trainers to develop curriculum for New York State Training programs. ■

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