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# Research Foundation Recognition Reception



Guests enjoy Recognition Reception at the Historical Museum

The 9th Annual Research Foundation Recognition Reception was held on April 24, 2006, at the Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society. The event was established by Research Foundation Director Ted Turkle with the purpose of recognizing the work of the numerous faculty and staff of the College who support the Research Foundation mission as Project Directors, Research Foundation Committee members, or as Incentive Award recipients. This year, The Research Foundation recognized Project Directors whose efforts have resulted in \$1,000,000 or more in grants and contracts between 2000 and 2005.

**THE MEMBERS OF THE**  
*"The Million Dollar Club"*

**include:**

- |   |                                |
|---|--------------------------------|
| <i>Art Conservation</i>                                   | <i>Florence D. Johnson</i>     |
| <i>Dr. Dewayne A. Beery</i>                               | <i>Dr. Gary W. Jones</i>       |
| <i>Yolanda N. Belle</i>                                   | <i>Dr. Subodh Kumar</i>        |
| <i>Carolyn E. Brunner</i>                                 | <i>Michele Parente</i>         |
| <i>Patrice A. Cathey</i>                                  | <i>Donald A. Patterson</i>     |
| <i>Center for Excellence in Urban and Rural Education</i> | <i>Dr. John Popovich</i>       |
| <i>Peter B. Dow</i>                                       | <i>Dr. Sarita C. Samora</i>    |
| <i>Dr. Henry S. Dowski</i>                                | <i>Dr. Harish Sikka</i>        |
| <i>Dr. Thomas Giambrone</i>                               | <i>Dr. Jill K. Singer</i>      |
| <i>Dr. Robin Lee Harris</i>                               | <i>Wendel B. Wickland</i>      |
|   | <i>Dr. William F. Wiczorek</i> |

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## Research Foundation Recognition Reception *Continued from cover story*



*Undergraduate Summer Research Fellowship Recipients and their Faculty Mentors*

The Galaxy Club was established to recognize the Center for Development of Human Services, which has been awarded \$118,000,000 in grants and contracts between 2000-2005.

Office of Undergraduate Research, Undergraduate Summer Research Fellowship Recipients also were honored at the event. They include:

School of Arts and Humanities  
**Melissa Crowell**, "Placing a Value on Student Crafts", Faculty Mentor: Professor Stephen Saracino, Design

**Chanda Glendinning**, "Incorporating Metals in Fired Ceramic Works", Faculty Mentor: Professor Robert Wood, Design

**Ronald Johnson**, "Creating Lab Exercises for Grad Students in Art Conservation", Faculty Mentor: Professor Gregory Smith, Art Conservation

**Marianna Kozak**, "Interpretations of Place", Faculty Mentor: Professor Dennis Dehart, Fine Arts

**Aimee Levesque**, "The Whimsical Jester: Researching an Era Through an Unusual Book", Faculty Mentor: Professor Lisa Berglund, English

**Ashley North**, "Paratextuality and Literary Interpretation in Chinua Achebe's Things Fall Apart", Faculty Mentor: Professor Aimable Twagilimana, English

School of Natural and Social Sciences  
**Harmony Gugino**, "Possible Impacts of the Urban Environment on Area Water Source", Faculty Mentor: Professor Kim Irvine, Geography and Planning

**Sean Hays**, "A Detailed Study of Mineral and Rock Patterns of Migmatites and Associated Granites, Southern Maine", Faculty Mentor: Professor Gary Solar, Earth Sciences

**Michael Kawa**, "Chemistry of the Mono- and Dicarborophyrazines", Faculty Mentor: Professor William Durfee, Chemistry

**Dawn Schranz**, "Analysis of Cx31 Mutations Causing Skin Disease", Faculty Mentor: Professor Martha Skerrett, Biology

**Natale Sciolino**, "A Model of Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD): Effect of Topiramate on the Acoustic Startle Response in Rats", Faculty Mentor: Professor Jean DiPirro, Psychology

**Jennifer Shemansky**, "Genotyping and Sex Determination in Bald Eagles", Faculty Mentor: Professor Amy McMillan, Biology

School of the Professions  
**Katherine Coppola**, "Comparing Direct Attention Treatment and Direct Reading/Spelling Treatment in Adults with Learning Disabilities and ADHD", Faculty Mentor: Professor Deborah Insalaco, Speech-Language Pathology

*Continued on page 3*

**Andrew J. Newman**, "All Terrain Vehicles: The Silent Epidemic", Faculty Mentor: Professor James Mayrose, Technology Department

**Katherine H. Schindler**, "Development of a Data Driven Weight Management Program", Faculty Mentor: Professor Tina Colaizzo-Anas, Dietetics and Nutrition

In addition, three Research Foundation employees, Barbara Bardak, Lisa Gatti, and Carol Julian, were recognized for their five years of service to the organization. ■



*Million Dollar Club Members*

## Human Resources Corner By Sandra Cochran, Human Resources Coordinator



The Research Foundation on the Buffalo State College campus employs over 400 people at any one time, and with that comes the responsibility to monitor the benefit and payroll systems to assure compliance with state and federal laws, as well as sponsored program guidelines. The HR department processes a payroll of over \$750,000 on a biweekly basis with over three quarters of that being directly deposited into bank accounts and the remainders are paychecks that employees either pick up in our office (B-14) or receive by email. Along with the RF Assignment form for new employees, our office processes dozens of RF Employee Change forms on a biweekly basis. Timely submission of these forms is essential for a smooth running payroll and to assure that there are no payroll overpayments.

The Research Foundation Change Form is submitted to our office for a variety of reasons. The two most important reasons for submitting a Change Form are when there is a change of salary and an end date to employment. Changing FTE's, changing labor schedules for new changing instructions and a change of

address are other examples in which the Change Form are submitted to the RF HR department. Once the form is received in the HR office it is routed to various individuals that have a specific responsibility for monitoring. For example, Project Director A has an employee that has tendered his or her resignation effective for two weeks from the date he/she received the notification. That notification should trigger the PD to complete the Change Form with the termination of employment date as well as the end date to the labor schedule for the PTAOE (project, task and award). The PD should then obtain the employee's signature on the second page of the termination form attesting to the fact that the employment status is ending. The HR office should be notified by e-mail or phone as well, even if the Change Form hasn't been completed yet.

There are several steps that must be taken once the HR office is informed that an employee is leaving the Research Foundation. The first step is to determine the employee's benefit status. A regular employee (not a student employee) has a 28 day run off for health insurance benefits to cease and must by law be given a COBRA (Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act) letter within 5 days of termination. Next, if that employee has

accrued vacation leave it must be calculated, processed and paid to the employee within 30 days of termination. A complete timesheet must be signed and submitted as soon as possible to the RF HR office in order to process the vacation pay. (The policy states that the RF will pay up to 30 days of accrued vacation upon termination). The change must be recorded in the Oracle system that the RF uses for all of its business systems. If the change is not recorded in the Oracle system by the Tuesday of the payroll week that the employee is leaving, the result could be an overpayment situation that is charged to the project PTAOE initially and must be cleared by the end of that fiscal year. Recouping overpayments is an uncomfortable situation for the RF HR department and the employee. The resulting overpayment also creates extra work for the PD, the RF HR department and the RF Central Office.

It is critical that the Project Director and/or Administrative Staff responsible for RF Change Forms complete and submit the change to the Research Foundation in advance for all of the processes involved to run smoothly. For more information regarding the RF Human Resources office you may contact us at: [payroll@rf.buffalostate.edu](mailto:payroll@rf.buffalostate.edu). ■

# Expert in Grant and Scholarly Writing to Present Workshop

As a result of the joint efforts of several SUNY institutions, an award from United University Professions (UUP) Labor-Management Committee was received to bring a nationally known expert in grant and scholarly writing to campuses across New York State May 2006. Buffalo State will be hosting a half-day workshop entitled, "Scholarly Writing", taught by Dr. Robert A. Lucas, Director of the Institute for Scholarly Productivity in California.

This workshop examines the factors that keep professors from accomplish-

ing their serious academic writing. Topics include: confronting myths about scholarly writing, overcoming the major obstacles to writing and developing supportive writing habits.

The workshop will be held on May 18th from 12:00-4:00 p.m., with the workshop starting promptly at noon. Please note that the facilitator limits this workshop to 20 participants and expects that they will commit to be present for the

entire presentation. As an added incentive, the Research Foundation will offer a \$125 stipend to faculty that complete this workshop.

Attendance at the workshop is being coordinated with each of the Academic Deans' offices. If you are interested in attending please contact him/her at least one week prior to the event. No walk-in registrations on the day of the presentation will be available. ■

## RF Purchasing Buys into Document Imaging

By Linda Dubrawsky, Associate Director, Finance / Grants Management



RF purchasing is about to implement their electronic filing system, joining the RF Human Resources and Grants

Managements Units who moved to a paperless filing system earlier this year. Unlike Grants and HR, however, Purchasing will be using "AnyDoc" which is an Optical Character Recognition (OCR) based software program. This will allow purchasing forms to be automatically processed and eliminate the need for manual indexing. Information will be

automatically extracted as the forms and related documentation are scanned and "filed" electronically.

Whereas the previous implementations were seamless to our Project Directors, the Purchasing Document Imaging System will require that we make some noticeable changes to our current procedures. Although we expect that this will be an easy transition, the use of the AnyDoc software has necessitated that we modify our purchasing forms, and will impact the way purchasing and payment requests are processed.

These forms and requirements are still in the final stages of development. We expect to have our new forms and instructions posted to our website shortly, and we will let you know when they become available. However, if you would prefer a more personalized approach, we plan to offer hands-on mini informational sessions. If you and/or your staff elect this option, you will have an opportunity to see first hand the benefits of moving to a "paperless" environment, and see how this will enable us to serve you better and more efficiently in the future. ■

## INCENTIVE AWARDS

**The incentive funds program administered by the Research and Creativity Council is aimed at supporting faculty research, scholarship and creativity with the goal of generating additional funded programs. Recent recipients of incentive funds include:**

**APPLICANT: Dr. Kimberly Bagley**

*Chemistry Department*

**TITLE:** *Pilot Studies using an NSF-MRI funded step scan FTIR and associated Nd-YAG laser: Approaching the time-resolved domain*

**AMOUNT FUNDED: \$7,000**

**SUMMARY:**

This project will conduct preliminary time-resolved infrared spectroscopic studies on inorganic and bioinorganic systems using a newly acquired step-scan time resolved Fourier transform infrared (TR-FTIR) spectrometer and an associated pulsed Nd-YAG laser that will be installed in Dr. Bagley's laboratory in the summer of 2006. It is noted that the funds to purchase this new instrumentation, which will be housed at Buffalo State, were provided by a Major Research Instrumentation grant from the National Science Foundation that was awarded to Dr. Bagley and Dr. Philip Coppens (UB). The installation of this instrumentation at Buffalo State provides exciting new research directions in Dr. Bagley's laboratory. Dr. Bagley will submit a proposal to the National Science Foundation for research projects requiring the time-resolved capabilities the instrument provides. The incentive funds will be used to complete preliminary experiments for such a proposal.

**APPLICANT: Dr. Ann Colley, English Department**

**TITLE:** *"Transatlantic Stevenson": Request for Funding to Support the Fourth Biennial Robert Louis Stevenson Conference, July 18-20, 2006*

**AMOUNT FUNDED: \$5,150**

**SUMMARY:**

Along with Professor Martin Danahy of Brock University (Canada), Dr. Colley is organizing the Fourth Biennial Robert Louis Stevenson Conference, which is to be held in Saranac Lake, New York, July 18-20, 2006. Funding is requested to help support the conference and to give assistance with the organizers' expenses. This conference will be attended by academics from all over the world, as well as a number of interested community members. This is the first time the Stevenson Conference will be held in the United States.

**APPLICANT: Dr. Timothy Gallineau**

*Student Personnel Administration*

**TITLE:** *Carmen's Home: A Web-based Portal for Enhancing Teaching, Learning and Training in Higher Education and Other Organizational Settings*

**AMOUNT FUNDED: \$7,000**

**SUMMARY:**

The Web-based portal is predicated on the premise that it offers access to content that deepens and clarifies the understanding of instructional and learning information by inviting the application of ready-to-use strategies that are empirically effective in diverse higher education learning and organizational training environments. This project intends to solicit resources for the development of virtual, interactive instructional communities, specifically designed and supported by drawing upon the expertise and experiences of local as well as national practitioners. Through the addition of relevant multimedia learning anchors, discussion stimulants, and concretized learning points, content will be further enriched. The incentive funds will be instrumental in positioning this project for other academic grants and resources. They will help in development of pilot testing of the project and recruitment of new higher education authors and vital assistantship for web development, graduate student research, insertion of relevant media and graphic arts pieces.

**APPLICANTS: Dr. Lin Xia Jiang, Fine Arts; Richard Ross, Design**

**TITLE:** *Capital Normal University/Buffalo State Exchange Grant*

**AMOUNT FUNDED: \$15,000**

**SUMMARY:**

The China Studies Mentoring Program between Buffalo State and Capital Normal University in Beijing has been in existence for the past five years. Each semester, Buffalo State has hosted 2-5 scholars from Capital Normal University. The purpose of the program is twofold: to increase the Chinese scholars' English language skills in order to teach bilingual courses in China and to develop a research project in collaboration with their mentor from Buffalo State which will lead to further faculty/student exchanges.

**APPLICANT: Dr. William Lin, Computer Information Systems**

**TITLE:** *Electronic Commerce – A Comparative Study of Some Practices in the United States and China*

**AMOUNT FUNDED: \$7,000**

**SUMMARY:**

The U.S. is the unquestioned leader in the application and utilization of e-commerce. Chinese users tend to rely on the internet for communications and for accessing news, rather than for business transactions and e-commerce activities. There are signs in China that business-to-business (B2B) activities are gaining rapid acceptance, but that business-to-consumer (B2C) activities are yet to gain wide traction. Given the predicted growth of internet usage in China it is reasonable to assume that the nature of activities will become more diverse. This project aims to provide a better understanding of the role of e-commerce in this dynamic environment, with a particular focus on the B2C segment. The intent is to gather data about current practices in both the U.S. and China. Such knowledge will shed more light on common issues, as well as on those aspects which are distinct to a particular society and environment.

**APPLICANT: Dr. Martha Skerrett, Biology**

**TITLE:** *Structural Differences in the Transmembrane Regions of  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  type Connexins*

**AMOUNT FUNDED: \$7,000**

**SUMMARY:**

This project is aimed at identifying structural differences between connexins that are classified as part of the alpha group and connexins classified as beta group members. Focusing on the membrane-spanning region of the protein, amino acid substitutions will be created in the alpha group connexins (Cx50, Cx43, and Cx40) and beta group members (Cx32, Cx30, and Cx26) and the resulting functional effects analyzed electrophysiologically.

**APPLICANT: Dr. Gregory Dale Smith, Art Conservation**

**TITLE:** *A Laser Based Tool for Color Reversion of Blackened Lead White in Artwork*

**AMOUNT FUNDED: \$6,944**

**SUMMARY:**

Seed money is requested to conduct summer research into the development of a handheld laser tool for color reversal of lead white pigment that has darkened in watercolors, illuminated manuscripts, and pastels. The proposed method will provide

proof-of-concept data for the use of an inexpensive yet powerful laser pointer to construct a stylus for effecting the photochemical conversion of the black degradation product lead(II) sulfide to white lead(II) sulfate. If successful, additional funds will be requested from outside governmental agencies and private foundations for a research-grade Raman microscope to fill both teaching and research needs in the art conservation department. Included in the latter are the further study of this photochemical conversion process, the effects of laser wavelength

and power on the treatment, and safety issues when the degradation phenomenon occurs in mixed pigments or in the presence of mixed media.

**APPLICANT: Dr. Kimberley Zittel-Palamara, Social Work**

**TITLE: Access to Postpartum Depression Care**

**AMOUNT FUNDED: \$7,000**

**SUMMARY:**

The purpose of this project is to conduct preliminary research on access to postpartum depression care in the Greater

Buffalo/Niagara Region of New York. To accomplish this task, three bachelor-level social work students will conduct telephone surveys with individuals identified as currently having and/or having had postpartum depression by their psychiatrist. The collection and analysis of this data will enable the researcher to develop a proposal with preliminary data for funding from the NIH-Women's Mental Health in Pregnancy and the Postpartum Period program.

## AWARDS DECEMBER 2005 – MARCH 2006

### DECEMBER 2005

**Kathleen Contrino – NYS Coalition Against Sexual Assault – NYS Victim's Assistance Academy**  
**\$18,000**

During the upcoming year, the Center for Health and Social Research (CHSR) will continue to coordinate efforts at Buffalo State College to provide academic credit, provide faculty to further develop state-specific curricula and oversee the NYS Victim's Assistance Academy. CHSR will conduct an evaluation of the academy at the end of the initial pilot academy and second year of the academy. Ms. Contrino coordinates all activities pertaining to the implementation of the academy at Buffalo State. This work includes interfacing with Buffalo State staff and agencies in coordination with the NYS Coalition Against Sexual Assault.

### JANUARY 2006

**Elizabeth Pena – National Endowment for the Humanities – Sub-specialties in Conservation Education**  
**\$254,267**

The Art Conservation Department at Buffalo State College is one of only three comprehensive conservation training programs in the United States. They will conduct a two-year program highlighting the conservation sub-specialties of ethnographic, archaeological, book, and photograph conservation. The program will bring to the department prominent experts in those sub-specialties, enhancing our students' training by giving them the opportunity to attend lectures and participate in workshops with these experts. The specialists' visits will contribute to the national scope of our program. Through repeated visits, the specialists will work closely with supervising faculty members, becoming well integrated into the department's instructional program, including growing partnerships with local cultural institutions. The grant

includes funding for student fellowships in these sub-specialties; such student support is important in advancing the field of conservation and ensuring that the next generation of conservators is well trained and able to take care of the nation's cultural and artistic heritage.

### FEBRUARY 2006

**Betty Cappella – Learning Disabilities Association of Western New York -- Family Literacy Program**  
**\$35,000**

Project FLIGHT will provide a Family Literacy Program that will target 40 families from the Buffalo area. The Program will contain three components. The first component will be instituting a family literacy program entitled, "Ready, Set, Read." The second component will be a family literacy diagnostic team which will present teacher-parent workshops that focus on specific educational needs. The third component will include tutors working with the family literacy diagnostic team and Enterprise teachers to help individual parents and their children.

**Sharon Raimondi – Buffalo Board of Education - School Improvement Grant**  
**\$5,750**

State University College at Buffalo will provide consultant and technical assistance to the Buffalo Public Schools Program participation includes meeting with the School Improvement Grant committee and the building teams quarterly, advise and recommend appropriate professional development.

**N. John Popovich – Buffalo Public Schools – Career Fairs for CTE – Spring 2006**  
**\$15,000**

Buffalo State College will provide Integrated Career Fairs to middle school students from the City of Buffalo. These Career Fairs will expose

students to 16 major career clusters representing all career programs offered through the Buffalo Public Schools Career & Technical Education Department while reinforcing Math and ELA standards required in each area.

### MARCH 2006

**David Henry – Dunkirk City School District - Subcontract**  
**\$21,740**

Dr. Henry has received a subcontract from the Dunkirk City School District to serve as the internal evaluator for their Title IIB Math/Science Partnership grant. Dunkirk City School District received a 3-year grant from the New York State Department of Education for a project entitled, "Young Inquiring Scientists Want to Know Project." Dr. Henry's work will involve tracking the formative progress of the project's workscope and providing advice on ongoing data collection.

### APRIL 2006

**SUNY/United University Professions**  
**\$25,991.50**

The SUNY/United University Professions Campus Grants Committee has provided \$25,991.50 in funding to eight SUNY campuses to bring Robert Lucas, Ph.D., nationally recognized Director of the Institute for Scholarly Productivity in California, to New York State from May 15-30, 2006, to present seven workshops to SUNY faculty. Dr. Lucas will present his one-day workshop, "Breaking Through the Barriers in Writing Workshop" to faculty at the following SUNY campuses: Alfred, Brockport, Canton/Potsdam, Cortland and Fredonia. He will also present his workshop, "Scholarly Writing" on the campuses of Buffalo State and Purchase. It is anticipated that 175 faculty from the eight SUNY campuses will benefit from these workshops.

## CONTINUATION AWARDS

**Gordon S. Fraser** – *Erie County Environmental Education Institute – Intern Supervision: 2006 Great Lakes Student Summit (GLSS)*  
**\$2,000**

Dr. Fraser will supervise the activities of a student intern who will assist members of the Erie County Environmental Education Institute in planning and preparation for the 2006 Great Lakes Student Summit (GLSS). The intern will assist the GLSS Coordinator with all aspects of Steering Committee meetings, management of correspondence, recruitment and outreach activities, and administrative and promotional duties to ensure a successful Summit.

The following long-standing projects have received continued funding as noted below:

**Michele Parente** – *U.S. Department of Education – Upward Bound Math Science*  
**\$276,051**

**Sandra Washington** – *U.S. Department of Education – McNair Scholars Program*  
**\$209,368**

**Sarita C. Samora** – *New York State Education Department – Bilingual Special Education University Improvement Project*  
**\$177,693**

**Patrice Cathey** – *New York State Education Department – Liberty Partnership*  
**\$313,959**

## Spotlight on RF Boards and Committees: Jill Norvilitis, Chair of the Institutional Review Board



*Jill Norvilitis*

It is College policy to ensure that the rights and welfare of human participants are protected in research conducted under its auspices. Both Federal and State laws require this protection. In order for the College to fulfill its responsibility, all human participants research conducted under its auspices - funded or unfunded, must receive appropriate approval. The College has authorized the Institutional Review

Board (IRB) to review and approve human participants research. The IRB is a campus-wide committee made up of faculty, administrators, and an off-campus representative.

Dr. Jill Norvilitis, Associate Professor of Psychology and Chair of the Institutional Review Board during the 2005-06 year, will continue to serve in that capacity in 2006-07.

Dr. Norvilitis' research interests include Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder in China and the United States, Foster and Adoptive Parent Training, credit card debt in teenagers and college students, and gender issues. She has extensive experience in grant writing, and grants management. Her successful grants include:

Center for the Development of Human Services Mini-Grants, a Campus Grant, a Buffalo State College Provost Incentive Grant, several Buffalo State

College Research Foundation Incentive Grants, and National Institute of Mental Health Grants including Mental Health Issues in Applied Life Span Development, and Mental Health Issues in Applied Life Span Development.

Dr. Norvilitis says: "All researchers want to conduct ethical studies, but the regulations change from time to time and it can be challenging to stay up to date on all of the requirements. I view the role of the IRB as one designed to help faculty and students keep on top of the guidelines governing human subjects research. We are here to assist researchers as they navigate the process of designing projects that protect human participants. Instead of IRB paperwork being just one more thing that a researcher has to do, the regulations are in place to protect researchers, participants, and the institution as a whole." ■



Buffalo State College  
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Buffalo, NY 14222

THE RESEARCH FOUNDATION  
*The State University of New York*

THE RESEARCH FOUNDATION POST

# National Securities Issues Video Workshop

Broadcast Live on Tuesday, June 13, 2006 • 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.  
Bulger Communications Center – Room 104

This program will address issues involving research that may involve national security concerns. Topics will include export control regulations, involvement of foreign nationals in research, international collaborations, "sensitive but unclassified" data, and security issues related to select agents and bio-containment

laboratories and facilities. Discussion will also include institutional procedures related to export control as well as sensitive research projects, facilities, or activities.

issues, sensitive but unclassified research, contract issues between universities and DOD agencies on biodefense projects, rules on use of select agents and biodefense pathogens and designing a secure facility

**Other areas of consideration include:**

negotiations, contract clauses, visa

**Moderator:**

Susan Sedwick, Associate Vice President for Research and Executive Director, Office of Research Services, University of Oklahoma

**Faculty:**

- Jilda Garton, Associate Vice Provost for Research and General Manager, GTRC, Georgia Institute of Technology;
- Stephen Erickson, Director, Office for Research Compliance and Intellectual Property Management, Boston College;
- David Brady, Industrial Research Contracting Officer, Office of Sponsored Programs, Virginia Tech;
- Elizabeth Scott, General Engineer Technology, Nuclear and Missile Division, Bureau of Industry and Security, US Department of Commerce

If you wish to attend, please contact Gina Game at: [gameg@rf.buffalostate.edu](mailto:gameg@rf.buffalostate.edu)

**RESEARCH FOUNDATION, OFFICE OF SPONSORED PROGRAMS**

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