

# **University Research Committee**

## **Annual Report FY 2009**



**Grants, Contracts and Sponsored Research**

**Oakland University  
Rochester, Michigan**

*August 2009*

**University Research Committee  
Annual Report  
August 15, 2008–August 14, 2009**

This annual report includes a financial summary and itemized description of projects funded by or through the University Research Committee (URC) during the 2008-2009 operating cycle. The majority of the Committee's time was spent on the distribution of contract research funds. The Committee spent \$227,890 to support faculty and student research endeavors as well as Meadow Brook Hall Conference support and faculty reimbursement for books, reprints, and page charges. Most of these funds were for the Faculty Research Fellowship. A breakdown of awards, as well as applications, is in the table below.

Table1. Comparison of applications received and funded by the URC during this funding cycle.

| <b>Applications</b>                      | <b>Approved</b> | <b>Denied</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|------------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|
| Faculty Research Fellowship              | 24              | 26            | 50           |
| Faculty Research Project                 | 11              | 5             | 16           |
| Meadow Brook Hall Conference             | 1               | 0             | 1            |
| Student Research                         | 0               | 0             | 0            |
| Student Travel                           | 11              | 3             | 14           |
| President Colloquium Series              | 1               | 6             | 7            |
| Faculty Research Excellence              | 1               | 1             | 2            |
| Faculty New Investigator Res. Excellence | 1               | 2             | 3            |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                             | <b>50</b>       | <b>43</b>     | <b>93</b>    |

A few observations about this table may be in order. First, one sees that about half of the research fellowships were funded. Many of those that were not funded were incomplete and thus not evaluated. Moreover, the total number of applications was a little less than in 2007-2008. While we express confidence that we funded worthwhile projects, it would be nice to see more applications. To this end, the application and guidelines have been changed to highlight what a complete application would entail and, more significantly, to allow faculty to receive the fellowship (\$8,500) and teach one summer class. In the past, this was not possible and teaching often paid better than the fellowship. It may also be worth considering increasing the amount of the fellowship to \$10,000, which was also raised in last year's report. We hope that this change will increase applications and perhaps draw applications from those who have not asked the URC for funds in the past. We have also made other alterations in the guidelines to respond to lack of clarity/concerns expressed by faculty during this past year. ✓

One can note as well the smaller number of student applications, all of which were folded into 'travel' above. This year we were able to fund, with the \$4000 allotted, all the students deemed worthy of support. I should note that URC members are reluctant to turn down student applications for research and conference travel, and those that were denied were usually incomplete. Increasing the amount allotted to students, so we could fund more in the future, would be our suggestion.

-no mention of  
Provost?

The URC is grateful for the continued support by President Russi for the President's Colloquium Series. In October 2008, the President's Colloquium Series lecture "Running on or From Iraq," was presented by David A. Dulio and Peter F. Trumbore, both from the Department of Political Science. The talk was timely given the 2008 elections and well-attended. Discussion was lively, and feedback from the audience was universally positive. Next year's talk will be by Todd Estes from the Department of History on debates over the constitution and their continued relevance today. We are also thankful for the President's support for the Research Excellence Award and New Investigator Research Excellence Awards. These awards provide a mechanism for the University community to recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of well established and junior faculty members. This year the Research Excellence Award went to Dr. Andrei Slavin, Department of Physics, and the New Investigator Research Excellence Award went to Dr. Huirong Fu from the Department of Computer Science and Engineering.

The URC functioned very well this past year. We worked in a cooperative spirit and tried to reach consensus on the awards. This remains one of the busiest, if not THE busiest, faculty committee of the university, and we all acknowledged the importance of the committee's work. I would like to thank my fellow committee members (Laila Guessous, Department of Mechanical Engineering; Lynne Williams, School of Health Sciences; Natalie Cole, Department of English; Carol Liu, School of Business; Barbara Harrison, School of Nursing; Thomas Pedroni, School of Education and Human Services; Abdi Kusow, Department of Sociology and Anthropology; and Xiangqun Zeng, Department of Chemistry) for their dedication to the URC, as well as T.C. Yih (ex-officio member), Vice Provost for Research, and Susan Willner, Assistant to the VPR, for their support to the URC.

Paul J. Kubicek

2008-2009 Chair, University Research Committee

# UNIVERSITY RESEARCH COMMITTEE

## Award Summary for Fiscal Year 2009

|                                     | Budget            | Awards            | Balance                 |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Faculty Budget Allocation           | 216,000.00        |                   |                         |
| Student Budget Allocation           | <u>4,000.00</u>   |                   |                         |
| <b>Total Budget</b>                 | <b>220,000.00</b> |                   |                         |
| Research Fellowships                |                   | 207,235.24 *      |                         |
| Faculty Research                    |                   | 12,705.00         |                         |
| Student Research/Travel             |                   | 4,136.00          |                         |
| MBH Conference Support              |                   | 3,000.00          |                         |
| Books, Reprints, Page Charges, etc. |                   | <u>813.83</u>     |                         |
| <b>Total URC Awards</b>             |                   | <b>227,890.07</b> | (7,890.07)              |
| Carryover Balance from Prior Years  |                   |                   | 54,632.71               |
| Unused Awards Returned              |                   |                   | 376.07                  |
| <b>Total URC Balance</b>            |                   |                   | <b><u>47,118.71</u></b> |

\* Faculty Research Fellowship Awards \$203,500 plus Fringe Benefits of \$3,735.24

## Faculty Research Fellowship Awards 2009

| Awardees          | Department                                | Project Title                                                                                                                              | Award |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| Bird, Aaron       | Health Sciences                           | Design of Novel Fall Protection Lanyards for Workers in the Construction Industry                                                          | 8,500 |
| Chopin, Edith     | Chemistry                                 | Impact of Vegetation on Element Behavior in the Soil Environment                                                                           | 8,500 |
| Corso, John       | Art & Art History                         | A History of the Sky Ceiling at New York's Grand Central Terminal                                                                          | 8,500 |
| Evans, Susan      | Art & Art History                         | Rekindling the Photographic Legacy: Preserving and Re-contextualizing Historic Photographic Processes While Building Community             | 8,500 |
| Finke, John       | Chemistry                                 | Are Epigenetic Amyloid Structures Different from Toxic Amyloid?                                                                            | 8,500 |
| Gao, Xiaoli       | Mathematics & Statistics                  | A Robust Statistical Method for Detecting Variations in Human DNA                                                                          | 8,500 |
| Grimm, Kevin      | English                                   | Reading the 1634 Morte Darthur: A Bibliographic and Literary Analysis                                                                      | 8,500 |
| Hastings, Derek   | History                                   | Paradoxical Paragon: Ernst Rohm and the Contradictions of Nazi Masculinity                                                                 | 8,500 |
| Khain, Evgeniy    | Physics                                   | Phase Separation in Vibrated Granular Monolayer                                                                                            | 8,500 |
| Knutson, Andrea   | English                                   | Conversion in the Works of Ralph Waldo Emerson                                                                                             | 8,500 |
| Levinson, Lisa    | Linguistics                               | The Neural Correlates of Silent Causation in Verbs                                                                                         | 8,500 |
| Liedka, Raymond   | Sociology & Anthropology                  | The Crime-Control Effect of Incarceration: Scale Effects in Regional Analyses using UCR and NCVS data Sources                              | 8,500 |
| McDonald Fritz    | Philosophy                                | Reason and Right Action: The Metaethics of Moral Constructivism                                                                            | 8,500 |
| Mendoza, Susanah  | Rhetoric Communication & Journalism       | "Savage" Representations in the Academy: Liberal Ideology and the Impossibility of Nativist Longing                                        | 8,500 |
| O'Mahony, Carolyn | Teacher Development & Educational Studies | Investigating the Impact of the New Zealand School Journals on Elementary Teachers' Practices 1947-2007                                    | 8,000 |
| Ostergaard, Lori  | Rhetoric Communication & Journalism       | Extraordinary Measures: Classroom Research at the Oak Park and River Forest Township High School, the Hemingway Years 1913-1917            | 8,500 |
| Qu, Guangzhi      | Computer Science & Engineering            | Multi-Level Information Fusion for Defense against Cyber Attacks                                                                           | 8,500 |
| Rawashdeh, Osamah | Electrical & Computer Engineering         | Power Reduction by Frequency-Content Awareness in Pervasive Computers                                                                      | 8,500 |
| Rooney, Phyllis   | Philosophy                                | Reason, Knowledge, and Politics                                                                                                            | 8,500 |
| Saenz-Roby, Maria | Modern Languages & Literatures            | Foundational Narrative of Juana Manuela Gorriti, Similitude and Difference with the Narratives of Sarmiento, Echeverria and Marmol         | 8,500 |
| Sanders, George   | Sociology & Anthropology                  | Gimmicks and Grief: Amusement Funerals in America                                                                                          | 8,500 |
| Shin, Sunwoo      | Human Development & Child Study           | A Cognitive Therapy Approach for Autism Spectrum Disorders: A Pilot study of the Learning Program for the Development of Autistic Children | 8,500 |
| Stone, Mark       | Music, Theatre & Dance                    | Global Music Suite – Four Compositions Featuring Melodic Percussion from Around the World                                                  | 8,500 |
| Townsend, Janell  | Management & Marketing                    | The Role of Design in Driving Perceptions and Performance in the Automotive Industry                                                       | 8,500 |

Total \$800,500

### Faculty Research Project Awards 2009

| Awardees            | Department             | Project Title                                                                                                                                                         | Award           |
|---------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Baillargeon, Claude | Art & Art History      | Durandelle's Photographic Legacy and the George Eastman House Collection                                                                                              | 1,200           |
| Eisenhower, Laurie  | Music, Theatre & Dance | Motown in Motion with The Contours                                                                                                                                    | 1,200           |
| Harris, Margaret    | Nursing                | Simulation: A Medication Administration Teaching Innovation                                                                                                           | 1,200           |
| Maher, Sara         | Health Sciences        | Application of Exercise Interventions to Improve Function in Industrial Workers: A Pilot Study                                                                        | 1,200           |
| Milne, George       | History                | Father St. Cosme's Baby: French and Indian Relations in the Lower Mississippi Valley, 1699-1706                                                                       | 1,200           |
| Patterson, Gregory  | Music, Theatre & Dance | Blue Ladies                                                                                                                                                           | 1,200           |
| Payette, Jessica    | Music, Theatre & Dance | Atonal Music's Influence on the Rise of Psychoanalysis in the Postwar United States: The Martha Graham-William Schuman Collaboration                                  | 1,200           |
| Pepin, Marie        | Health Sciences        | Comparison of Hold-Relax Stretching, Low Velocity Thoracic Manipulation, and Hold-Relax Combined with Low Velocity Thoracic Manipulation to Improve Thoracic Mobility | 1,200           |
| Pfeiffer, Kathleen  | English                | Brother Mine: The Correspondence of Jean Toomer and Waldo Frank                                                                                                       | 1,200           |
| Towner, Terri       | Political Science      | Facebook and Education                                                                                                                                                | 705             |
| Wiggins, Jackie     | Music, Theatre & Dance | Learning Music – Teaching Music                                                                                                                                       | 1,200           |
| <b>Total</b>        |                        |                                                                                                                                                                       | <b>\$12,705</b> |

### Meadow Brook Hall Award 2009

| Awardees      | Department               | Project Title             | Award |
|---------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|-------|
| Salie, Achmat | Sociology & Anthropology | Religion Peace Conference | 3,000 |

### Student Travel Awards 2009

| Awardees            | Department                        | Project Title                                                                                                                         | Award          |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Anderson, Scott     | Mathematics & Statistics          | Southeastern International Conference on Combinatorics, Graph Theory and Computing in Boca Raton, FL, March 09                        | 400            |
| Averill, Derek      | Chemistry                         | Synthetic Model Studies for Oxalate Degrading Manganese Enzymes                                                                       | 400            |
| Burt, Kathleen      | Women's Studies                   | Feminist 'Zines: An Examination of Activism and Social Change in Contemporary Feminism                                                | 159            |
| Gillett, Carmela    | Reading & Language Arts           | A Workshop on Video Data Analysis for Reading Research to be presented at the National Reading Conference in Orlando, FL, December 08 | 400            |
| Kishelova, Eleonora | Health Sciences                   | The Effectiveness of an Intensive Rehabilitation Program on Recovery of Ambulation in Persons with Spinal Cord Injury                 | 400            |
| Murad, Mohannad     | Electrical & Computer Engineering | Real Time Control of a Novel Adaptive Occupant Safety System Using Intelligent Control Techniques                                     | 400            |
| Oetjens, Matthew    | Biological Sciences               | Helitrons: Their Impact on Maize Genome Evolution and Diversity                                                                       | 377            |
| Preston, Danelle    | Health Sciences                   | A Comparison of Hold-Relax and Active Range of Motion on Thoracic Spine Mobility                                                      | 400            |
| Toma, Susan         | Mathematics & Statistics          | Presenting at a Combinatorics Conference                                                                                              | 400            |
| Trevorrow, Blair    | Psychology                        | Associations Between Event – Related Rumination and Posttraumatic Growth in Japanese Youth                                            | 400            |
| Whittington, Tygre  | Health Sciences                   | The Effectiveness of an Intensive Rehabilitation Program on Recovery of Ambulation in Individuals with Spinal Cord Injury             | 400            |
| <b>Total</b>        |                                   |                                                                                                                                       | <b>\$4,136</b> |