Coffin Grants and Summer Stipends Awarded

Posted 01/28/2016

The Faculty Senate is pleased to announce those who have been awarded 2016–2017 Coffin Grants and 2016 Summer Stipends. Congratulations to all of the recipients — their proposed projects represent a diverse and creative range of scholarly and other professional activities.

VINCENT B. COFFIN GRANTS

– Wayne Edwards, Assistant Professor, Barney School of Business, will use the grant to work on a book entitled Sovereignty and Land Rights of Indigenous Peoples in the United States. The outline of the book includes an Introduction to the Issues, History of the Relationship between Indigenous Peoples and the U.S. Government, Economic Outcomes, the Quest for Self-Determination, Development and the Future of Indigenous Sovereignty in the U.S. Edwards will be using his grant to help offset his travels for research.

– Demaris Hansen, Associate Professor, Graduate Music Education, The Hartt School, will be using her grant to fund expenses related to the 6th Biennial Symposium on Assessment in Music Education in Birmingham, England. The symposium is entitled "Music Assessment across Cultures and Continents: Context Matters." Hansen also anticipates submitting a scholarly research paper for potential presentation at the symposium.

– Lillian Kamal, Associate Professor, Barney School of Business, will be using her grant to attend the Interdisciplinary Business and Economics Conference hosted by the SIBR (Society of Interdisciplinary Business Research) in Hong Kong, which is consistent with her current research entitled “The Role of Women in Economic Development in Sub-Saharan Africa: Evidence and Polity Recommendations.” Kamal will be submitting a summary of her research to the conference and also will be submitting the main version to a journal.

– Andrea Kwaczala, Assistant Professor, Engineering, CETA, will be using the funding from this award to conduct preliminary experimental research to complete a study that addresses biocompatibility and Osseointegration (bone growth) of Additive 3D printed materials with the aim of demonstrating the ability to conduct meaningful tissue engineering research on our campus.

– Ladimer S. Nagurney, Professor, Engineering, CETA, will be purchasing two Universal Software Radio Peripherals (USRPs) for the University of Hartford, to develop applications for use in his Fall 2016 courses.

– Sandra Saavedra, Assistant Professor, Rehabilitation Sciences, College of Education, Nursing and Health Professions, will be using her grant for travel expenses for a meeting in Oswestry.
United Kingdom, where she will be a member of an international team of researchers working to develop training and certification materials for five courses that will allow clinicians (physical therapy) to develop both basic and more advanced skills in administering the Targeted Training approach for children with cerebral palsy.

SUMMER STIPENDS

– Vanessa Bond, Assistant Professor, Music Education, The Hartt School, plans to work on completing a fifth and final case study that she will use in preparation to write a book proposal on music within Reggio Emilia-inspired preschools in the United States.

– Suhash Ghosh, Assistant Professor, Mechanical Engineering, CETA, will be working on a project focusing on the influence of laser power, scanning speed, beam size, and tool path for optimum bend angle. Upon successful completion of the project, he plans gradual dissemination of process modeling and solution using Finite Element Analysis into graduate and undergraduate courses.

– Seth Holmes, Assistant Professor, Architecture, CETA, will be evaluating passive habitability design measures in residential buildings to produce an initial paper for publication in a building science journal, and will also present his work at conferences. This project is the first in a number of resiliency related projects that Holmes is planning in collaboration with other universities.

– H. Kenny Nienhusser, Assistant Professor, Educational Leadership, College of Education, Nursing and Health Professions (ENHP), will be conducting an investigation entitled “Examination of High School Students' High School to College Transition in the U.S.” with a focus on students’ college aspirations and the impact that the cost of college may have on their enrollment decisions.

– Ken Steen, Professor, Composition, The Hartt School, will be engaging in the creative work of composing a new, large-scale sound installation at Visby International Centre for Composers (VICC) in Visby, Gotland, Sweden, where he has been awarded a Residency Fellowship.

– Akin Tatoglu, Associate Professor, Mechanical Engineering, CETA, will be working on research on Autonomous 3D Mapping System. The research aims to build mapping system designed to create highly acute 3D dimension maps fused with color data from cameras to be used in Simultaneous Localization and Mapping (SLAM) process.

– Ke Yang, Assistant Professor, Barney School of Business, will be working on a research project titled “The Impact of Natural Amenities on Residential Property Values: A Nonparametric Analysis,” with the goal of exploring how the proximity of residential property to water bodies and wetlands affects its market value.