

University of Bridgeport new grant program awards \$99,636

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For the first time ever, the University of Bridgeport Division of Graduate Studies and Research and the Faculty Research Council have awarded research grants totaling \$99,636.

The Seed Money Grants were created to support faculty efforts to conduct early-stage research, the results of which will be used to develop grant applications to one or more federal, state, or private funders.

Grants were awarded to 23 projects for the spring and fall 2009 semesters. To see a full list of winners, go to www.bridgeport.edu/gsr.

“With the Seed Grant Program, we are dedicated to helping our faculty secure grants and support they need to pursue vital research. The work of our grant winners not only elevates scholarship at UB, but, we trust, also will make lasting contributions to biology, mathematics, engineering, finance, and other fields that impact society as a whole,” said University President Neil Albert Salonen.

The next call for proposals will be held in the 2009-2010 academic year.

Response to the call for applications was overwhelming, with nearly one-third of full-time faculty applying and six adjunct professors participating, said Dr. Tarek Sobh, vice president for graduate studies and research and dean of the School of Engineering.

"We are extremely pleased with the response in the inaugural year of this program, which provides critical research support here at UB. Faculty has been very excited by the opportunity to advance their research in a variety of fields," Sobh said.

The Division of the Graduate Studies and Research provides leadership, guidance, and management for graduate programming and sponsored research at UB. Support is provided to facilitate grant writing and management of grant awards in order to advance research activities.

The Faculty Research Council is comprised of faculty representatives from the colleges and schools at UB and is responsible for awarding funds for the Seed Money Grant program.

A partial list of spring 2009 grant winners includes:

“The Genetic Basis for Variation in Thermal Tolerance in Natural Populations of *Arabidopsis thaliana*” (Kathleen Engelmann, Biology);

“A Reliability Study of a Multitest System for the Identification of Spinal Joint Dysfunction and a Feasibility Analysis for Future Investigations” (Christopher Good and Paul Sherman, College of Chiropractic);

“Modeling Transport Phenomena and Shield Gas Effects in Gas Metal Arc Welding” (Joyce Hu, Mechanical Engineering);

“Philosophical and Psychological Perspectives on Subjective Well-Being” (Mark Setton, World Religions and Martial Arts Studies);

“Cross-Taiwan-Strait Relations in Washington” (Chunjuan Nancy Wei, IPED);

“An Empirical Evaluation of Chinese Initial Public Offerings” (Congsheng Wu, International Finance); and

“A New Policy-based Management Architecture for Cross-domain Federation” (Zhengping Wu, Computer Science and Engineering).