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Research Update - September 2022

Office of Research

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Office of Research and Sponsored Programs

Monthly Newsletter



Faculty Spotlight

Congratulations to Tara Thiemann and Carla Strickland-Hughes for their grant with UC Davis for the [Pacific Southwest Center of Excellence in Vector-Borne Diseases](#) (PacVec). The center's purpose is to manage and prevent mosquito and tick-borne diseases. Dr. Tara Thiemann (Biology) is the Principal Investigator at Pacific on

this project, and Dr. Carla Strickland-Hughes (Psychology) is a Co-Investigator. Pacific's portion of the grant is \$500,000 over 5 years. One of the goals of the grant is to train students in the knowledge and skills required for careers related to combatting vector-borne diseases. The Thiemann Lab will focus on insecticide resistance in *Culex tarsalis*, a mosquito that transmits West Nile virus in California. They will identify factors that lead to resistance in these mosquitoes, and to collaborate with local Mosquito and Vector Control Districts (MVCDs) to develop effective control strategies for managing resistance. Dr. Strickland-Hughes will bring her social science and assessment expertise to another aspect of the project, working with MVCDs and the California Department of Public Health to evaluate the effectiveness of public education materials and programs in conveying information about the risk of vector-borne diseases.

[Read more](#) |

Internal Call Recipients

Congratulations to three interdisciplinary faculty teams for being selected as the most recent recipients for the internal funding opportunity:

1. Michelle Brady, Kris Himmerick, Deepti Vyas, Tracey DelNero, and Eric Waldon, for the project “Building a Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) Toolkit Utilizing Art, Music, and Literature to Train Health Professional Students in Health Inequities.”
2. Laura Rademacher, Marcia Hernandez, and Elizabeth Basha for the project “Urban Communities and Urban Canopies: Climate, Equity, and Environmental Justice.”
3. Deepti Vyas, Long Wang, Martha Ndungu, and Suzanne Galal for the project “Sustained Effect of an Interprofessional Intervention on Diabetes Related Outcomes in Latino Patients.”

Sustainability Webinars

This month, the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education will host the following webinars:

- Sept. 21 @ 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm EDT: [Innovations in Teaching Sustainable Consumption in Higher Education](#)
This webinar showcases examples of innovative approaches in teaching sustainable consumption.
- Sept. 28 @ 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm EDT: [Assessing Sustainability Literacy & Culture: Innovations & Lessons Learned by Multiple Institutions](#)
This session shares varied approaches to and lessons learned from campus sustainability literacy and culture assessment.

Follow the links to RSVP. University of the Pacific is a member, so we encourage you to create an account using your Pacific email to get member pricing, which is often free.

Call for Interdisciplinary Proposals

Pacific is committed to supporting inter-disciplinary teams of faculty members and students to address complex and pressing societal issues. Therefore, the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs will continue to fund proposals for interdisciplinary research projects that involve at least two faculty or staff from different schools, departments, or disciplines. The awards will average about \$20,000 for 2-year projects.

Funding is available for projects that address the following themes:

- Sustainability
 - Research to understand and promote social, environmental, health, or economic aspects of sustainable development.
- Inequities / disparities / equity
 - Research to understand impacts of social, health, racial, or economic inequities, and promotion of community-based equity and civic action.
- Climate change

- Research to understand impact of climate change, including on water supplies, droughts, wildfires, and agricultural resilience as well as investigating direct or indirect effects of climate change on public health, particularly but not exclusively health equity.
- Pandemics
 - With goal to prepare for future pandemics, research to understand the anti-vaccination movement and role of culture and politics in implementing public health measures as well as research to develop alternative antibiotics or novel treatments for viral infections, and diagnosis and surveillance of pathogens.

More information will be sent soon. Deadlines for submission will be in March 16, 2024, and October 14, 2024.

Contact Us!

If you would like our office staff to come give a presentation on our services, please email Emily Novick at enovick@pacific.edu. Or come visit us on the 3rd floor of the library.