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Research Update - June 2024

Office of Research

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UNIVERSITY OF THE PACIFIC

Office of Research and Sponsored Programs

Monthly Newsletter



Faculty Spotlight

Thomas Pogue (Center for Business and Policy Research) has worked with North Valley THRIVE to release a groundbreaking regional report, a new, first-of-its-kind regional assessment of the North San Joaquin Valley (NSJV). This report reveals critical details about socioeconomic disparities affecting residents' income, education, and access to essential services. The report addresses a longstanding research gap and will help community members and regional experts develop new projects to address systemic inequalities and help harness the region's full potential. Spearheaded by the California Jobs First program, North Valley THRIVE is a new collaborative to steer the NSJV toward a more equitable and sustainable future. Focused on San Joaquin, Stanislaus, and Merced Counties, North Valley THRIVE is a groundbreaking initiative aimed at fostering inclusive economic development and addressing the region's long-standing challenges.



Research Highlights

Congratulations to Seyedeh Fatemeh Khatami Firoozabadi (School of Engineering and Computer Sciences) for being the recipient of a National Science Foundation (NSF) grant entitled “ERI: Toward Early Diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder in Young Children Using Wearable Technology.” Her research will focus on developing a wearable device and accompanying machine-learning model for early diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) in young children.

Congratulations to Cassio Coutinho Almeida da Silva (School of Dentistry) for being awarded a Tobacco-Related Disease Research Program (TRDRP) grant. In this project, he will investigate how tobacco affects infection and inflammation in the oral cavity. He will evaluate levels of infection and inflammation in patients who vape, smoke combustible cigarettes, and/or have periodontitis. His characterization of cellular pathways will help better understand the mechanisms involved in the pathophysiology of tobacco-related periodontitis and may raise the possibility of targeting different proteins therapeutically for treatment of smoking-induced diseases.

Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) Recipients

Congratulations to the following students who are the recipients of SURF funding:

- Emma Garber, mentored by Carla Strickland-Hughes (Psychology) for a project titled, “The Proof is in the Pudding, Pecans, Sliced Ham, Cheese Curls... Coding Recall Order to Measure Strategy Use.”
- Julianna Meneses, mentored by Kumiko Uyeda (Conservatory), for a project titled, “Research into the Preservation of Itneg Music and Dance.”
- Khanh Linh Nguyen, mentored by Vivek Pallipuram (Engineering and Computer Science), for a project titled, “Language without Barrier: A Machine Learning based American Sign Language Analyzer.”

- Zakary Raymond, mentored by Atefeh Rabiee (Pharmacy), for a project titled, “Optimization of Adipogenic Differentiation Ability of Lipedema Origin Adipose-Derived Stem Cell Culture Dynamics.”
- Olivia Silvestre, mentored by Laura Rademacher (College of Pacific), for a project titled, “Effect of Subsurface Structure on Seasonal Groundwater Contributions to Streamflow in an Alpine Catchment.”
- Mackenzie Tobertga, mentored by Elizabeth Orwin (Engineering and Computer Science), for a project titled, “Electrospinning for Corneal Tissue Engineering Applications.”

Cayuse Proposals Rollout

The Office of Research and Sponsored Programs is investigating ways in which we can streamline the process of proposal submission, hoping to make it simpler by removing the need to submit to a variety of federal portal systems. The Proposals (S2S) application within the Cayuse suite is a system-to-system solution for the submission of federal grant applications to Grants.gov. Using Proposals (S2S) we can:

- Download and apply for hundreds of Grants.gov opportunities posted by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), National Science Foundation (NSF), Department of Defense (DoD), and other federal agencies.
- Streamline the development of grant proposals using pre-populated institutional and personnel data and autofill capabilities.
- Track errors, warnings, and informational items with real-time error validations.
- Compile, submit, and store your completed proposal document for future reference.

We will host demonstrations this summer with representatives from the Cayuse team. If you would be interested in participating in meetings to learn more about this application, please contact Emily Novick at enovick@pacific.edu.

Funding Opportunities

The Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation Young Investigator Program provides research support to the most promising young faculty members in the early stages of their academic careers in the chemical and life sciences, particularly to foster the invention of methods, instruments and materials that will open up new avenues of research in science. Projects are normally funded for a period of four years. Grants are in the range of \$600,000 (\$150,000 annually) over the term of the project

The deadline for letters of intent is August 1st, 2024. [Read More](#)

The National Endowment for the Humanities Public Scholars program offers grants to individual authors for research, writing, travel, and other activities leading to the creation and publication of well-researched nonfiction books in the humanities

written for the broad public. Writers with or without an academic affiliation may apply, and no advanced degree is required. The maximum award amount is \$5,000 per month, for six to twelve months.

The deadline is August 28th, 2024. [Read More](#)

Contact Us!

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