OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

The following internal grant programs recently announced program awardees:

**Multidisciplinary Research Group Incubator Program Awardees**
- James Granneman, Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurosciences: “WSU Diabetes and Obesity Team Science;” $900,000
- Melissa Runge-Morris, Institute of Environmental Health Sciences: “Center for Urban Responses to Environmental Stressors;” $900,000

**President’s Research Enhancement Program: Collaborative Program Awardees**
- Donald DeGracia, Physiology: “Nonlinear Dynamics of Cell Injury;” $180,000
- Ming Dong, Computer Science: “EpiView: A Software Tool to Identify and Visualize Clinical Evidence of Human Epilepsy Foci from Electronic Medical Records;” $104,845
- Juri Gelovani, Biomedical Engineering: “Diagnostic PET/CT imaging and therapy of cancers with novel galectin-3 targeted ligands;” $67,155
- Guangzhao Mao, Chemical Engineering and Materials Science: “Polymer nano-coatings to inhibit biofilm formation on the peripherally inserted central catheters;” $187,000
- Bonnie Sloane, Pharmacology: “Next Generation Drug Discovery Platforms: Microfluidics Platforms for High-Content Analysis and Tissue Engineering;” $171,000
- Michael Tainsky, Oncology: “Chemical and structural optimization of peptide aptamer-degron therapeutics;” $180,000
- Yong Xu, Electrical and Computer Engineering: “Next Generation Multifunctional Neural Probes for Brain Mapping, Diagnostics and Therapeutics;” $110,000

**Research Enhancement Program: Arts and Humanities Program Awardees**
- Daniel Aubert, Art and Art History: “Book Project: Life in the Vitic;” $36,928
- Derek Cote, Art and Art History: “Pyramiden: Visualizing the Last Moments of a Soviet Ghost Town;” $25,323
- Chera Kee, English: “And the Dead Shall Walk the Earth: Zombies and the Politics of the Undead;” $17,369
- Krysta Ryzewski, Anthropology: “Unearthing Detroit: Re-Assembling the City’s Cultural Heritage through Museum Collections and Community Archaeology;” $48,405
- Barrett Watten, English: “Learning from Berlin: Post-1945 Exhibitions and the Ruins of History;” $17,002

**RECENT RESEARCH PRESS RELEASES**
- [Wayne State civil and environmental engineering professor wins national new faculty award for dynamic teaching](#)
• Wayne State University chair selected for national leadership program
• Understanding differences in job commitment types can lead to better correctional employees, Wayne State University researcher finds
• Wayne State receives second year funding from the New Economy Initiative to build technology commercialization efforts
• Wayne State University names Joan C. Dunbar as associate vice president of technology commercialization
• Wayne State researcher aims to make STEM education more accessible to Native American students
• Wayne State University researcher’s technique helps robotic vehicles find their way, help humans
• Wayne State University researcher’s technique can help nanoparticles deliver drug treatments
• Wayne State researcher appointed adjunct foreign professor at prestigious Karolinska Institute
• WSU study examines relationship between '91 Gulf War exposure, birth outcomes
• Wayne State professor selected to receive WSU's Career Development Chair Award
• Wayne State professor elected president-elect of the American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics
• Wayne State research finds psychological vulnerable older adults are more susceptible to experience fraud
• Wayne State University biotech startup, Advaita, to participate in new Michigan I-Corps program
• Wayne State University researchers seek calcium channels to target cancer tumors
• Crime rate calculation method due for overhaul, Wayne State University researchers say
• Tipping points: Restaurant service linked to customer demographics, race, Wayne State University researcher finds

**ADDITIONAL OVPR HIGHLIGHTS**

*The OVPR, in conjunction with the University Research Corridor, hosted the Accelerating Materials Innovation Symposium, on June 3. The symposium brought together faculty experts in materials related areas with Michigan businesses to create partnerships that will maximize our state’s R & D potential.

• Wayne State University received the 2012 Organization of the Year award at The Guidance Center’s second annual volunteer recognition dinner, Salute Special Events, for its ongoing partnerships and volunteer initiatives with the non-profit agency and its volunteer program.

• Put together an evaluation team, reviewed the proposal, and drafted letters of support for the NSF Nanotechnology Undergraduate Education training grant submission by Guangzhao Mao

• Successfully completed OVPR facilitation of the Yamasaki Project, with the re-opening of the new reflecting pool and sculpture garden at McGregor Memorial Conference Center (we are transitioning the project over to Jerry Herron and the Honors College)

• Brought together and started two new groups that will develop research and strengthen industry connections: Automotive Safety and Big Data & Business Analytics.

• Brought together a group of researchers to meet with Barbara LeRoy of the Developmental Disabilities Institute, to discuss potential research projects.

• Prepared the vision, purpose, and agenda for the IEHS retreat in June, as well as contacted speakers and attendees.*
• Brought together the Electric-drive Vehicle Engineering (EVE) Advisory Board to review progress and elicit suggestions on continuation of the program. This Board is chaired by VP for Research Hilary Ratner and contains presidents and VPs of battery, energy and alternative energy companies.
• Ran a survey of students in the EVE program to ascertain student satisfaction and elicit input on how the program can be improved.
• Completed the sixth year of PAD seminars, including a special seminar with NIH presenters Howard Gadlin and Michelle Bennett (invited by Julie Thompson Klein) to discuss interdisciplinary research. Currently developing a survey to improve the content and timing of the PAD seminars that are jointly sponsored by OVPR, the Provost's Office and the School of Medicine.
• Developed an informational sheet on core facilities and services that will be used in a new URC portal that will be available to potential industry users.
• Invited keynote speakers and conference presenters to the June 17 EVE conference in Dearborn that is being put on in collaboration with the IEEE.
• Put together the funding announcement for this year's INPHAASE funding and arranged for an informational session that took place at the SOM. This internal funding program provides funding to collaborators from WSU and HFHS. The theme for this year is on interdisciplinary research that responds to a clinical problem.

TECHNOLOGY COMMERCIALIZATION HIGHLIGHTS
• Dr. Joan Dunbar was named associate vice president for technology commercialization after a competitive national search in which she emerged as the transformational leader the university sought. In 2012, Dunbar joined WSU’s Division of Research as interim associate vice president of technology commercialization. In just a year, Dunbar nearly doubled faculty invention disclosures, facilitated the pipeline of nine start-up opportunities with the anticipation of several companies launching in the near future, initiated a mentors-in-residence program, created an innovation fellows program, began the Technology Development Incubator, and strengthened partnerships with WSU’s TechTown. These significant achievements were powered by grant funds, projected to be $2.5 million over a three-year period that Dunbar secured from the New Economy Initiative (NEI).
• Wayne State University received notice of a $820,398 grant from the New Economy Initiative for Southeast Michigan (NEI) that will continue to support the Technology Commercialization Office’s efforts to expand and improve the university’s entrepreneurial culture and technology commercialization results. With this support from NEI, WSU will continue to expand the activities of its Technology Development Incubator to support the validation of early-stage technologies with significant commercial potential, increase licensing staff, and enhance marketing tools to create awareness of the availability of WSU intellectual property assets to industry and the venture capital community.

CENTER FOR MOLECULAR MEDICINE AND GENETICS (CMMG) HIGHLIGHTS
• Dr. Monica Uddin received the Jack Ryan award to facilitate interdisciplinary research. She will be working with Drs. Vaibhav Diwadkar and David Rosenberg in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurosciences.
• Amy Boddy (Wildman lab) defended in February 2013. She is now a postdoctoral fellow in the Center for Evolution and Cancer at the University of California, San Francisco.
• CMMG has four students for the fall 2013 MBG PhD program: Molly Estill (Villanova University); Neeraja Purandare (University of Pune, India); Cynthia Kalita (SUNY Syracuse) and Amara Sugalski (Eastern Michigan University).

• MD/PhD student, Levent Sipahi, (Wildman lab) was awarded a one year license for the use of Ingenuity Pathway Analysis (IPA) from Ingenuity Systems through its inaugural grant competition.

• The Genetic Counseling graduate program has received full accreditation for 8 years.

• Dr. Lobelia Samavati has been promoted to Associate Professor of Internal Medicine and of Molecular Medicine and Genetics.

• Dr. Leonard Lipovich has been promoted to Associate Professor of Molecular Medicine and Genetics and of Neurology.

• Dr. Kezhong Zhang has been promoted to Associate Professor of Molecular Medicine and Genetics and of Immunology and Microbiology.

INSTITUTE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SCIENCES (IEHS) HIGHLIGHTS

IEHS Invited to Submit Research Proposal

• IEHS Deputy Director Bengt Arnetz, MD, PhD, MPH and colleagues were invited by the Swedish Council for Working Life and Social Research to submit a competitive research proposal. This transdisciplinary research team aims to develop a wireless cardiovascular stress sensor as a means to monitor occupational and environmental stress in urban life situations.

IEHS New Publications

• A new research publication from Drs. Runge-Morris and Kocarek of IEHS in collaboration with Dr. Daniel Markovich of the University of Queensland in Australia focuses on sulfation and molecular mechanisms involved in the development of metabolic diseases, such as diabetes, liver and heart disease. Barrett KG, Fang H, Gargano MD, Markovich D, Kocarek TA and Runge-Morris M, “Regulation of murine hepatic hydroxysteroid sulfotransferase expression in hyposulfatemic mice and in a cell model of 3’-phosphoadenosine-5’-phosphosulfate deficiency,” Drug Metab. Dispos. May 14, epub ahead of print, 2013.


INSTITUTE OF GERONTOLOGY (IOG) HIGHLIGHTS

IOG Grants Awarded
• Title: “Developing a Meaningful Life: Social Reintegration of Service members and Veterans with SCI” (PI: Seth Messinger, U Maryland; C. Lysack: Co-Investigator)

IOG Articles Published and Articles Submitted


**IOG Presentations**

- Tom Jankowski presented at Legislative Breakfast sponsored by the Southeast Michigan Senior Regional Collaborative and held at the Alzheimer’s Association Greater Michigan Chapter in Southfield, 1/3/12
- Tom Jankowski presented at a meeting of the Huntington Woods City Commission, 1/18/12
- Dr. Noa Ofen, an assistant professor in the MPSI and IOG Lifespan program and in the School of Medicine's Department of Pediatrics, received high honors in being selected to chair and speak at a major symposium at the Annual Meeting of the Society of Biological Psychiatry in San Francisco. Her symposium, "Memory Systems in Development, Risk and Disease: A Case Study for R-DoC Applications in the Schizophrenia Diathesis" was one of the few selected for presentation.
- González, H.M., Tarraf, W., Mosley, T.H. What’s good for the heart is good for the mind: Neurocognitive function and American Heart Association (AHA) Life’s Simple 7’s: Results from the Hispanic Community Health Study/Study of Latinos. (HCHS/SOL). Epidemiology and Prevention/Nutrition, Physical Activity and Metabolism Scientific Sessions, March, 2013, New Orleans.
- Invited lecture: Hector Gonzalez: Howard University, Medicine 5-6 June 2013

• "The Sequester, Meals on Wheels, and Aging Services." Tom Jankowski presented at the monthly meeting of the Canton Democratic Club, UAW Local 845, Canton, MI, May 15, 2005.

**IOG Awards**

• Peter Lichtenberg received the Leadership Award from the Elder Law of Michigan at the Call to Justice award event on May 7.

• Mark Luborsky has been appointed a six-year term as adjunct foreign professor at the prestigious Nobel Prize-granting Karolinska Institute in Stockholm.

• Donna MacDonald was awarded from the University of Michigan Geriatrics Center has presented an award in memory of Anthony DeVito, to an individual who has provided outstanding service, dedication and commitment to excellence in the field of geriatrics education in Michigan. Nominated by Dr. Peter Lichtenberg.

**IOG Major Community Education and Outreach**

• The outreach department at the IOG has done 38 programs since January 1, 2013 and educated 3100 professionals and seniors. Of those 17 were professional programs that supplied continuing education credits to nurses, social workers, physicians, occupational therapists, physical therapists. 21 programs were designed for senior education in metro Detroit, primary on brain health and positive aging. Total number of programs for academic year 2012-2013 is 97 programs, with over 8100 educated.

• Over 500 professionals participated in the Institute of Gerontology's two day 26th Annual Issues in Aging Conference May 13-14, 2013.

• Over 500 older adults participated in the Institute of Gerontology's 11th annual Art of Aging Successfully on March 26, 2013.

• Over 125 professionals participated in the Merrill Palmer Skillman Institute's 3 half-day Continuing Educations sessions in March, April and May 2013.

**Additional IOG Information**

• Tom Jankowski finalized Calhoun County Senior Millage Community Needs Assessment contract, 9/1/12-3/31/13, $37,998 total cost

• Jeske Damioseaux began her position as Assistant Professor of Gerontology and Psychology on April 23. Jeske is a cognitive neuroscientist with interests in early cognitive decline and Alzheimer’s disease.
Merrill Palmer Skillman Institute (MPSI) Highlights

MPSI Grants Awarded

- Detroit’s Baby Court: A System’s Integration Initiative to Support Infant Mental Health. Funding from the Flinn Foundation (approx. $198,000)
- Valerie Simon received a 2-year grant from Blue Cross Blue Shield Foundation of Michigan entitled "Strengthening Community Services to Reduce the Negative Consequences of Child Sexual Abuse" (June 2013-May 2015)

MPSI Awards

- Dr. Ann Stacks was the recipient of the 2013 Hiriam Fitzgerald Award by the Michigan Association for Infant Mental Health. This is an award honoring those who exhibit excellence in the area of research related to infants, toddlers and their families. She was honored at a banquet at their biennial conference on May 20, 2013.

MPSI Publications

- Steve Ondersma submitted six papers for review.

MPSI Presentations

- 14 presentations (494 people trained). Some highlights include:
  - Presentations on Baby Court
    - Early on Interagency Coordinating Council
    - Wayne Westland Schools
    - The Flinn Foundation
    - The Michigan Association for Infant Mental Health.
    - Community Mental Health Conference
Presentations related to Shaken Baby Syndrome and the Period of PURPLE Crying
  o Wayne Westland Schools
  o Virtual Centers of Excellence

Presentations on Reflective Supervision
  o Macomb Intermediate School District

Presentations on Child Maltreatment
  o Kindercare
  o Michigan Foster Care Review Board

- Steve Ondersma presented for a national training and quality initiative for the Dartmouth Vermont-Oxford Network regarding policy and practice with drug-exposed infants, particularly Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome.
- Valerie Simon chaired symposium at the 2013 Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research on Child Development.

Additional MPSI Highlights
- Steve Ondersma took part in three Federal grant review sessions (two for NIH and one for CDC.)
- Steve Ondersma chaired the search committee for a new Editor in Chief for *Child Maltreatment*, the #1 journal in the area.
- Steve Ondersma had two abstracts accepted at major international conferences (Research Society on Alcoholism and First International Conference on FASD), one as an oral presentation
- Valerie Simon received a scholarship to Penn State University Methodology Center Summer Institute on Innovative Methods (2013).
- Valerie Simon is an invited member of a grant review panel for the National Institutes of Mental Health (NIH) for June 2013.
- Valerie Simon was invited to serve as outside external expert on a dissertation review panel (Griffith University, Australia).