New Awards

Congratulations to the following faculty who have recently received new awards on behalf of the University.

Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR) - Dr. Chandra Franklin - $234,100
The Georgia DNR Coastal Management Program has awarded Dr. Chandra Franklin, Professor, Department of Natural Sciences and Mathematics (DNSM), a $234,100 Coastal Incentive Grant (CIG) for his project, Early Detection of Marsh Dieback and Characterization of Potential Causes. Under this three-year project, Dr. Franklin will conduct research into the symptoms and causes of marsh dieback, train public volunteers to monitor salt marsh dieback, establish 8-10 monitoring stations, develop a protocol for monitoring operations, and conduct public education and outreach.

University of Kentucky Center for Poverty Research (UKCPR) - Dr. Hetty Jones - $49,994
The UKCPR in cooperation with the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, HHS, has awarded Dr. Hetty Jones, Professor, Department of Natural Sciences and Mathematics (DNSM), $49,994 for her Community Obesity Outreach Proposal. This one year program will conduct community outreach and educational workshop and fitness training sessions for members of the public in order to inform low-income, minority populations about the risks of obesity and provide them information about exercise and healthy diets. It will collect and analyze physical health and health attitude data from the participants, with the goal of participants’ achieving health improvements through program interventions. Ms. Mary Jo Fayoyin, Director, Asa G. Gordon Library, is Co-PI for the program.

National Center for Minority Health and Health Disparities (NCMHD), National Institutes of Health (NIH) - Dr. Elissa Purnell - $25,000
The NCMHD/NIH (through the North Texas Health Science Center Export Project) has awarded Dr. Elissa Purnell, Assistant Professor, DNSM, $25,000 for a one year pilot project, Anti-Mullerian Hormone as a Potential Biomarker for Uterine Fibroids in African-American Women. The award will provide funds for equipment, supplies and stipends for student research. Dr. Purnell’s research will be to compare the hormone levels and expression of the AMH receptor
for the study participants, who will be African-American and Caucasian women in the Savannah area who have and have not been diagnosed with uterine fibroids.

**STEP UP Savannah - Dr. Deden Rukmana - $8,370**
Dr. Deden Rukmana, Assistant Professor and Coordinator of the Master of Science in Urban Studies and Planning Program, Department of Political Science, Public Administration, and Urban Studies, has been awarded a $8,370 grant by STEP UP Savannah to conduct a Savannah Community Financial Services Survey. This research is to investigate the access of low-income residents of Savannah to financial institutions. The research will be performed by Dr. Rukmana and two graduate students in the Urban Studies and Planning program.

**Harambee House/Citizens for Environmental Justice - Dr. Deden Rukmana - $3,000**
Harambee House, Inc./Citizens for Environmental Justice (prime awardee for W.K. Kellogg Foundation grant) has awarded Dr. Rukmana a $3,000 subaward for the Tools for Change – Savannah Project. Two student research assistants under the direction of Dr. Rukmana will research the correlation of violence to environmental factors.

**U.S. Army Research Office – Dr. Asad Yousuf - $31,500**
The U.S. Army Research Office has awarded Dr. Asad Yousuf, Professor, Department of Engineering Technology, a $31,500 award to conduct a Junior Engineering Technology Society (JETS) summer camp for 25 area high school students during Summer 2008 on the SSU campus. Dr. Mohamad Mustafa is co-PI of this program. This is the 2nd year the camp has been conducted. During the month-long program, the students will take part in interactive, hands-on engineering training and take field trips to engineering sites. The program objective is to inspire them to pursue engineering and other STEM disciplines in college and as a career. The program is also supported by the SSU Upward Bound program under the direction of Ms. Hope Cranford.

**American Chemical Society Petroleum Research Fund – Dr. Hua Zhao - $5,000**
Dr. Hua Zhao, Assistant Professor, DNSM, has been awarded a $5,000 supplement to his existing $40,000 American Chemical Society (ACS) award. This brings his total funding under the grant to $45,000. The $5,000 supplement will be used by Dr. Zhao to support summer research by Ms. Janet Cowins, SSU chemistry major. The research is to study the effects of ionic liquid properties on enzyme stabilization under microwave radiation.

**Renewal Awards**

**National Institutes of Health – Dr. Chellu Chetty - $84,502**
Dr. Chellu Chetty, Dean, Graduate Studies and Sponsored Research, has received a year 7 renewal of the NIH-Strengthening of MBRS-SCORE Program at SSU, in the amount of $84,502. The focus of this grant is to strengthen the biomedical research infrastructure of SSU and to support the faculty in order to conduct competitive biomedical research. Under this funding, Dr. Zhiyan Song is conducting a NMR investigation of nucleotide interactions with cations and proteins. Several undergraduate students have participated in the NMR research and presented their scientific discoveries at national conferences and are co-authors in journal publications. The grant has partially funded the acquisition of a 300 MHz NMR at SSU.

**U.S. Department of Education – Ms. Hope Cranford - $605,020**
Ms. Hope Cranford, Director, ACCESS Programs, has received a year 5 continuation award from the U.S. Department of Education for the Upward Bound Program. The award to the
University is $605,020, for the 12 month period ending May 31, 2009. The Upward Bound Program provides academic educational assistance and support, including advisement, career exploration, and counseling, to area high school students in order to increase high school retention and graduation rates and to increase the number of students entering and completing college. Last year, the program served 162 students.

**National Science Foundation - Dr. Kuppuswamy Jayaraman - $106,861**

Dr. Kuppuswamy Jayaraman, Chair, Department of Engineering Technology, has received funding of $106,861 for year 3 of the Peach State Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation Program. This is a collaborative program with six other institutions, with UGA as the lead institution. The program provides funds for 35 students in COST to conduct academic year and summer research with their faculty mentors and present their research at conferences. The students are supported with academic year and summer stipends. This year, 25 students presented at conferences and 12 received awards. In addition, to the $106,861 year 3 award, Dr. Jayaraman has received supplemental summer funding of $28,193.

**DOE – Dr. Kenneth Sajwan - $150,000**

Dr. Kenneth Sajwan, Professor, DNSM, has received a renewal grant of $150,000 from the DOE for the Environmental Justice, Community Education, and Advisory Project - Waste Management Education and Enhancing the Environmental Science Program. Program activities include student research internships and a workshop, Teaching Radiation, Energy, and Technology, for school teachers and community leaders to disseminate environmental radiation information. Student research includes the analysis of organic and inorganic contaminants in environmental samples (fish and sediments) and field trips, including to the Savannah River Site.

**New Grant Applications**

Faculty have been extremely active since January 2008 in submitting grant applications. *Congratulations* to the following faculty who have successfully submitted applications since January, which are pending before the funding agencies.

**College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences**

Dr. Ronald Bailey, Distinguished Visiting Professor of Africana Studies and History, Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Building African-American Museum Capacity in Savannah and Southeast Georgia, Institute of Museum and Library Services, $149,884

Dr. Bernita Berry, Chair, Department of Social Work, Title IV-E Child Welfare Program, Georgia Department of Human Resources, $402,760

Dr. Bernita Berry, Chair, Department of Social Work, Curriculum Development Institute Program, Gero-Ed Center, $9,200

Dr. Johnnie Myers, Associate Professor, Social and Behavioral Sciences, Cooperative Agreement for HBCU Center for Excellence in Substance Abuse and Mental Health, SAMHSA, $499,593
College of Sciences and Technology

Dr. Matthew Gilligan, Professor, DNSM, A Study to Determine any Potential Fisheries Impact of Ballast Water Uptake from Liquefied Natural Gas Vessels that Frequent the Savannah Harbor at the Southern LNG-El Paso, Elba Island Facility in Savannah, GA, Southern LNG, $36,000

Dr. Kuppuswamy Jayaraman, Chair, Department of Engineering Technology, Summer Undergraduate Industrial Training for Engineering Students (SUITES), National Science Foundation (NSF), $149,999

Dr. Jonathan Lambright, Associate Professor, Department of Engineering Technology, A Global Business of Engineering Education Model (BEEM), NSF, $100,000

Dr. Carol Pride, Associate Professor, DNSM, Undergraduate Student Research in Ocean Sciences: Piloting the Southeast Regional Transect Program, NSF (through the College of Charleston), $21,140

Dr. Carol Pride, Associate Professor, DNSM, MARC U-STAR Strengthening Biomedical Research Training at SSU, National Institutes of Health (NIH), $1,815,071

Dr. Alex Kalu (PI), Professor, and Dr. Asad Yousuf, Professor, Department of Engineering Technology, Expanding Minorities’ Access to Improved Engineering Technology Education in Georgia and the South Carolina Low Country, U.S. Department of Education, $599,854

Dr. Xiarong Zhang, Associate Professor, DNSM, GEPR: Function of Small RNAs in Biotic Stress Resistance in Rice, NSF (through Colorado State), $209,530

Dr. Hua Zhao, Assistant Professor, DNSM, Regeneration of Cellulosic Biomass from Ionic Liquids Leading to Fast Enzymatic Hydrolysis, NSF, $300,000

Institutional

Dr. Claud Flythe, Vice President of Administration, SSU Proposal for Emergency Management for Higher Education, U.S. Department of Education, $495,968

Lt. Keith Hayes, Department of Public Safety, Bulletproof Vest Program, U.S. Department of Justice

For a complete list of currently active grants and pending applications, please see the OSRA website at http://linux.savstate.edu/osra/index.html.
Title III-Funded Awards for Sponsored Research and Scholarly Activities

Funds for faculty and academic staff to support their sponsored research/scholarly activity are available through the Title III Program. Preference is given to early career faculty from CLASS or COBA. To date, approximately 20 awards have been made. To apply, please see the application information on the OSRA website. Note that three forms are required which must be signed as indicated and submitted to Dr. Chetty for the travel award:

1) Faculty Development Travel Award Application Form (available on OSRA website)
2) Pre-Travel Title III Travel Form (available on Title III website)
3) Request for Authority to Travel Form (available on SSU website)

Please note:

1) The amount available for travel awards has been increased from $750 to $1,000.
2) The deadline for applications to be submitted to Dr. Chetty is July 15.

For assistance in preparing your application, please contact Nancy Riggs at 353-4981.

Funding Opportunities

Savannah State University subscribes to the InfoEd SMARTS data service, whereby employees can receive email alerts when new funding opportunities are announced in their area. To subscribe, contact the OSRA office or go to the OSRA website. In addition, the OSRA website maintains a list of selected opportunities for faculty research grants, student scholarships, and summer research. Contact the OSRA if you need assistance with the SMARTS data service or to discuss funding opportunities.

Human Subjects in Research Protection (IRB)

All research that involves human subjects (including surveys) must be approved by the SSU Institutional Review Board (IRB) before the research begins. Requests for IRB review should be forwarded to Dr. Deden Rukmana, Chair, SSU IRB. Electronic submissions are encouraged in order to facilitate the board’s review. For more information, please contact Dr. Rukmana at (912) 356-3982 or rukmanad@savstate.edu. The OSRA website provides information on IRB review procedures and requirements. The IRB applicant should note the time required for IRB review and submit the request to the IRB accordingly.

Compliance

Grants and awards are received on behalf of the University. In receiving funding from external agencies, it is mandatory that the University remain in full compliance with the federal laws, regulations, and policies, including such areas as allowable costs, time and effort reporting, prior approvals required from the funding agencies, progress reports, research integrity, conflict of interest (financial), IRB, and animal welfare. The OSRA website contains information regarding SSU’s pre- and post-award policies and procedures and compliance obligations. Contact the OSRA if you have any concerns or questions in these matters.
Office of Sponsored Research Administration - Contact Information

The mission of OSRA is to support faculty and staff in their scholarly activity and sponsored research. Contact the OSRA if you need help with funding searches, grant writing or review, budget development, application submissions, budget revisions, and compliance issues. We will be happy to attend departmental meetings or meet with your project team.

Dr. Chellu Chetty
Dean, Graduate Studies & Sponsored Research
Phone: (912) 353-3057
Fax: (912) 353-3093
Email: chettyc@savstate.edu

Nancy Riggs, MBA
Grants Management Specialist
Phone: (912) 353-4981
Fax: (912) 353-3093
Email: riggsn@savstate.edu

Hubert A, Room 105
PO Box 40289
Savannah, GA 31404
http://linux.savstate.edu/osra/index.html