12-9-2013

Internal Funding Newsletter, Academic Year 2012-2013

UNO Office of Research and Creative Activity
University of Nebraska at Omaha

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Dear Colleagues and Friends,

UNO is committed to fostering an environment in which the scholarly activities of our students and faculty can thrive. Over the last three years, UNO has created and invested in an alphabet soup of new internal funding opportunities that include FIRE, FUSE, GRACA, FISS, and FRI. We also continue to support the long-standing UCRCA. During the last academic year, these programs provided $774,273 of support for faculty and student research and creative activity. The projects are as diverse as the interests of the UNO community: the creation of a flute choir album, the organizational analysis of terrorist organizations, and the development of virtual retinas for restoring vision in the blind; these projects received internal funding this past year.

Students involved in these programs get a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to engage with expert faculty mentors as they learn how to explore the world through research and create new knowledge, new art, and new music. Students will carry these experiences into their careers and throughout their lives.

Support for faculty provides opportunities to create new collaborations at home and abroad in a time when academic scholarship is more collaborative than ever before. The results of faculty projects are used to solve real-world problems and are presented in the peer reviewed literature and at conferences, exhibitions, and performances around the globe. Internal funding provides the opportunity to attract resources from outside the university to make scholarly activities sustainable over the long term.

We look forward to working with you over the next year as you explore your interests and contribute your talents to UNO.

Best regards,

Scott D. Snyder, Ph.D.
Associate Vice Chancellor
Chief Research Officer
Office of Research and Creative Activity
To put it simply, Aquatic Toxicologist Dr. Alan Kolok wants to know what’s in our water. He wants to know how land use affects water quality, how water quality relates to human health and how it all ties together to form a more complete picture of the environments in which we live.

Somewhere along the way, he learned that a commonly used herbicide is turning male frogs into females.

Wait, what?
That wasn’t a misprint—a commonly used herbicide is turning male frogs into females.

“My lab is interested in using sentinel organisms to access the health of aquatic environments,” said Kolok, 57. “It’s like the canary in the coal mine. You put the canary in the coal mine to assess the environment. If the canary dies, it’s not safe.”

Kolok, who was given the University’s Award for Distinguished Research or Creative Activity (ADROCA) in March 2012 for this research, has traditionally used fish to assess the quality of water in the area at the Nebraska Watershed Project research station on the Elkhorn River. Kolok, a 15-year UNO veteran, is the director of the Nebraska Watershed Project.

“The way it works,” he said, “is that minnows are put into cages and set into the waterways for a week. After that, we do a biological assessment of the fish to evaluate the water quality.”

Wanting to expand his research beyond the Elkhorn River, Kolok set out to examine the environments in the ephemeral wetlands that alternate between wet and dry seasons. During the dry seasons, much of this land is used to grow row crops using agricultural chemicals.

Only one problem—you can’t use fish on ephemeral wetlands. So Kolok went to Plan B.

“We looked for an alternative, and we discovered that we could use a frog,” Kolok said. “So we’re using a leopard frog. It’s the classic leopard frog that every biology student in high school dissects. The idea was to see if we can use these frogs as sentinel organisms in these ephemeral wetlands.”

Naturally, there aren’t just leopard frogs. There are subspecies all across the country. In this region, there are two subspecies: the plains leopard frog, which is indigenous to the area south of the Platte River, and the northern leopard frog, indigenous to areas north of the Platte.

Kolok and his research partner Dr. Paul Davis received a $27,000 grant from the Fund for Investing in the Research Enterprise (FIRE) to develop the northern leopard frog as a sentinel organism. Their findings, particularly on the effects of the herbicide Atrazine, create a paradox within toxicology.

“When you think of something that is toxic, most people think...
about whole cell disruptors, like poisons that can kill,” Kolok said, adding that this chemical in the environment is forcing a widespread biological shift. “It has become a very hot topic within physiology. It turns toxicology on its head.”

“This is not like ultraviolet rays that come in and beat your cells. This is more subtle. It’s hijacking the system. It’s an exogenous compound masquerading as a natural compound. It’s not toxicology that will kill the frog, but uses the frog’s system to do something completely inappropriate. It causes a completely wrong response.

What we’ve found is when animals in the lab are exposed to Atrazine we get this wrong response. That’s been done. That’s published. We can go to the research station on the Elkhorn River and expose frogs on site to the Elkhorn River water. Unintended femininity in male frogs is one of those ‘wrong responses’.

The cells of frogs exposed to Atrazine send out different messenger RNA compounds than what’s natural. Davis’ research focuses on a new technique that allows researchers to freeze and amplify the transcriptome to identify specifically which messenger RNA has been affected by the chemical agent. The process captures all kinds of genetic information, ultimately allowing scientists like Kolok to use leopard frogs as sentinel organisms.

Davis believes his research colleague Kolok is well positioned going forward to use new methodologies to evaluate potentially harmful components in our water systems. “His recent work with the northern leopard frog demonstrates his 21st Century approach to toxicology and his concern for both the environment and public health.”

So is there a human health risk related to all of this?

“Maybe,” Kolok says. “There may be more going on, though. These frogs are abundant. That’s why they’re used in high school biology classes all over. When we look at the broader picture, the state of many frogs isn’t as solid. Like in Iowa, leopard frogs aren’t doing so well. Frogs as a group are being hammered worldwide right now. We’re losing species of frogs rapidly. That’s not good.”

The use of sentinel animals to measure environments is centuries old, but now the world is learning that these organisms are dying worldwide.

“Are we not going to pay attention?” Kolok asked. “I don’t think that’s responsible. I don’t think we should panic, but we should pay attention.”

Kolok is far from finished with the leopard frog. Once he’s finished examining the northern leopard frog he plans to study the plains leopard frog to compare the sentinel natures of the subspecies.

“Is there different sensitivity between them? Then we can even go on to study other leopard frogs to test the differences and similarities in the potential as sentinel organisms. ‘A frog is a frog’ may not be true. As of right now, we don’t know the differences between these two—or three or four or five—across the country. We also don’t know if a difference between them exists. This answer can have broad implications.”

Dr. Kolok was also a recipient of a 2012-2013 Faculty Research International (FRI) grant.
Family matters to Anna Monardo. But that’s not news to anyone familiar with her writing. Monardo has found a similar sense of family at her current home at University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO), where she is a professor in the Writer’s Workshop department.

In 2013, Anna was selected for the University’s Award for Distinguished Research or Creative Activity (ADROCA). She also received the 2013 Alumni Teaching Award, and in 2012, she was awarded the Nebraska Arts Council Individual Artist Fellowship in creative nonfiction.

Monardo, a graduate of St. Mary’s College in Notre Dame, Indiana and Columbia University in New York City, joined the UNO faculty in 1997, four years after her first novel Courtyard of Dreams was released.

“Courtyard of Dreams is a coming-of-age story of an American girl with an Italian father trying to decide if she’s American or Italian,” Monardo said.

The story, she points out, represents a battle she wrestled with in her own life. She is the first member of her family born in the United States. She also developed a strong relationship with her father.

“It’s somewhat autobiographical. The trials of the girl were similar to my own, but it’s fictionalized in that it’s very different than my own family.”

The Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania native was just a young girl when she first realized she wanted to be a writer. Even then, familial themes played a part—albeit less evolved than her most recent works—in her writing. “The first thing I remember writing was in the fourth grade,” Monardo said by the light of a single table lamp in her office in the Weber Fine Arts Building. “I wrote a novel about a girl who ran away from home to join the circus.”

Monardo remembers spending math class that year—and next—writing poetry.

Monardo’s second novel Falling in Love with Natassia (2006) is the story of a woman who asks her unmarried lover’s parents to watch over their daughter (Natassia) while she pursues a modern dance career. Fifteen years later, she and the other adults in the story re-enter Natassia’s life to try and save her after a mysterious romance ends.

It’s a story that Monardo identifies with in her own life. “In my early 30s I wanted to become a mother,” she said. “I was aware that having a child is a 100 percent commitment, but I had a writing life, which is to some degree a 100 percent commitment. The story in this novel is far from me, but it deals with issues of motherhood vs. career, as well as with cultural identity.”

Her most recent writing effort is a memoir, and an excerpt was published in the October 2012 issue of More magazine, with another excerpt scheduled for release in 2014.

As personal as her two novels became, Monardo said the memoir hits home even more. “In the memoirs, I am challenging myself to revisit the family issues, the family story without the screen of fiction,” she said.

An internal funding grant from the University Committee on Research and Creative Activity (UCRCA) has played an important role in Monardo gaining a greater sense of her own family tapestry.

“I’m working on a creative-nonfiction project that looks into my family’s immigration story. The UCRCA funding helped me travel to Florida to my parents’ home, where I went through files of family documents, mostly papers related to education and military service, as well as old letters, journals and calendars. These documents have provided invaluable scaffolding for the family story I am building.

“I’m grateful for the support I’ve found in the College of Communication, Fine Arts and Media, especially with my Writer’s Workshop colleagues and students. When I moved here from New York, I knew nothing about Omaha. UNO is a fabulous environment to teach students and watch student writers grow.

“When I came here, Writer’s Workshop was the only undergraduate program of its type. It was ahead of its time. I feel really privileged to have been able to come here, to be able to write and to teach in this studio environment. It’s work that feels meaningful.”

Work that feels meaningful around people who feel a lot like family—right where Anna Monardo belongs.

For more information about Anna Monardo and her writing, visit her website: annamonardo.com.
**Graduate Research Corner: Taking Aim at Terrorism**

UNO graduate students Mackenzie Harms and JoDee Friedly are taking aim at terrorist groups around the world through their joint projects, which examine different extremist groups—past and present—through the lens of key performance indicators found in business models.

These violent extremist groups are traditionally gauged only by the lethal aspect of their attacks, but Harms said they wanted to look at them through a different lens. The projects examine various elements, including the impact of attacks to create fear, potential for recruitment from those attacks, and how far out of their specific home regions different groups attack.

“The 9/11 attacks were highly lethal, but there were other aspects of the attacks that were important to examine,” Harms said. “These attacks were original and unique. There are additional elements we looked at. One reason the attacks were so successful was that no one expected the terrorists to use planes as weapons.”

Harms and Friedly coded about 1,400 attacks by 45 different organizations. Such a feat took several months to complete and was aided by their receiving the Graduate Research and Creative Activity (GRACA) grants from the Office of Research and Creative Activity (ORCA) that helped them work on the project through the summer months.

Friedly said this project has had “real world” applications.

“The research helps us rate extremist organizations as to their potential for lethal and innovative attacks based on different key performance indicators. It’s a new way to look at this.”

**Undergraduate Research Corner: Creative Solutions**

A recent UNO graduate was able to use her Fund for Undergraduate Scholarly Experiences (FUSE) grant from the Office of Research and Creative Activity (ORCA) to make a kind of academic stew by pulling together elements that already existed to blend them into a different flavor.

“I did a project on the creative differences of coming up with one (converging) or multiple (diverging) solutions to a problem,” said Taylor Pizinger, who graduated from UNO’s Department of Psychology. “The solutions themselves had already been collected during a previous study. So, I did not have to recruit people for the study. I took the solutions provided: Sorted, rated and analyzed the data with the help of a few graduate students working under Dr. Roni Reiter-Palmon (Psychology).”

Pizinger said at the time she applied for the FUSE grant with this research project, she was working as part of Dr. Reiter-Palmon’s creative research team, adding that this experience kept her continuing research focused.

“In referencing a project I had previously rated data on, we had discussed how it is truly hard to compare convergent and divergent answers to one another because of the manner that they are generally asked in,” Taylor continued. “So we wanted to use a general problem/solution question that would allow us to ask for either one or multiple answers and then compare how creative the solutions were and whether or not it made a difference.”

Pizinger said that her FUSE research experience, as an undergraduate student, was more educational than she’d anticipated.

“It was very rewarding, satisfying, and informational to be able to complete my own research project while still attaining my undergraduate degree,” she said. “The thing I loved the most about the project was that the end result was something I had produced. It was a very educational experience. It gave me a small insight into what graduate school would entail and what it might feel like to work on a dissertation.”

She said that since the data had already been collected, she was able to use the $1,500 FUSE grant as a stipend so that she could complete the research project.

“Without the extra funding I would have never had the time needed to invest in this project,” she said. “So, receiving the FUSE grant allowed me to focus on the research and cut back at work. I did not need hard materials to complete my research, just time.”
2012-2013 Internal Funding Awardees

Faculty Awards

FUND FOR THE INVESTMENT IN THE RESEARCH ENTERPRISE (FIRE)

FIRE grants will support the collection of preliminary data/proof of concept for faculty projects that demonstrate a high potential for attracting substantial extramural funding (>-$250,000 in direct costs over the term of the grant). Awards of $20,000 are available to single investigator FIRE proposals, and multi-investigator, collaborative proposals may request up to $35,000.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College/Dept.</th>
<th>PI Last</th>
<th>Co-Pl(s)</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Award</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AS/PSYC/BIO</td>
<td>Davis</td>
<td>French</td>
<td>Behavioral Effects of Toxoplasma Infection in New World Primates</td>
<td>$35,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPACS/CJUS</td>
<td>Savolainen</td>
<td></td>
<td>Genes, Mind, and Social Behavior: An Interdisciplinary Study</td>
<td>$35,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ED/HPER</td>
<td>Slivka</td>
<td></td>
<td>Myogenic and Proteolytic Gene Response to Exercise and Temperature</td>
<td>$19,940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IST/CS</td>
<td>Lierler</td>
<td></td>
<td>Semantic-based Natural Language Processing</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IST/ISQA</td>
<td>Germonprez</td>
<td></td>
<td>Social Activism in the 21st Century: People, Communities, and Agency</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total FIRE Awards: $129,940

FACULTY INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR SERIES (FISS)

The Faculty International Scholarship Seminar Series is intended to support faculty wishing to add an international component to their research and creative activity. Full participation is limited to faculty without substantial previous international research/creative activity experience. Funding from the seminar series will support seminar materials and international travel.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College/Dept.</th>
<th>PI Last</th>
<th>Co-Pl(s)</th>
<th>Project Title (NA)</th>
<th>Award</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AS/BIOL</td>
<td>Kellar</td>
<td></td>
<td>Faculty International Scholarship Seminar Series</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPACS/SOWK</td>
<td>Bai</td>
<td></td>
<td>Faculty International Scholarship Seminar Series</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ED/TED</td>
<td>Franks</td>
<td></td>
<td>Faculty International Scholarship Seminar Series</td>
<td>$4,944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ED/TED</td>
<td>Wisneski</td>
<td></td>
<td>Faculty International Scholarship Seminar Series</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total FISS Awards: $19,944
## Faculty Research International (FRI)

The Office of Academic and Student Affairs (OASA) sponsors the Faculty Research International (FRI) grant. FRI grants will support the establishment of new research and creative activity partnerships among UNO faculty and international collaborators. Awards of up to $5,000 are available to individual UNO faculty members to support travel-related expenses for UNO faculty, affiliated UNO graduate students, and/or their international partners.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College/Dept.</th>
<th>PI Last</th>
<th>Co-PI(s)</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Award</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AS/BIOL</td>
<td>Lu</td>
<td></td>
<td>Establish International Partnerships Tackling Asian Carp Biological Invasion</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AS/BIOL</td>
<td>Kolok</td>
<td></td>
<td>Water Quality Issues in Chile: Expanding the Nebraska Watershed Network</td>
<td>$3,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AS/PSCI</td>
<td>Neathery-Castro</td>
<td>Kilinc</td>
<td>Gender Inequality in Education: The Case of Turkey</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBA/ECON</td>
<td>Ni</td>
<td></td>
<td>Finance, R&amp;D and Economic Growth</td>
<td>$4,972</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBA/MKTG</td>
<td>Adidam</td>
<td></td>
<td>A Conceptual Research on the Association between Celebrity Endorsement, Brand Image and Brand Equity</td>
<td>$4,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CFAM/COMM</td>
<td>Chao</td>
<td></td>
<td>Conflicts over the Pinnacle Islands: Collective Identities Under Negotiation</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPACS/SOWK</td>
<td>Coyne</td>
<td>Bratiotis; D'Souza; Harder</td>
<td>Researching Techniques for Capacity Building of Social Work Professors in Nicaragua</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ED/HPER</td>
<td>Stergiou</td>
<td></td>
<td>A USA-Greece Partnership to Promote Research in Biomechanics and Motor Control</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ED/SPED</td>
<td>Nordness</td>
<td></td>
<td>Education/Special Education and Communication Disorders</td>
<td>$3,679</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IST/CS</td>
<td>Lierler</td>
<td></td>
<td>Advances in Declarative Programming</td>
<td>$4,225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IST/ISQA</td>
<td>Germonprez</td>
<td></td>
<td>Organizational Participation in Open Source Communities: A Focus on India</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total FRI Awards: $65,676**

**COMING SOON:**

MavGrants

unomaha.edu/orca/mavgrants.php
## UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH AND CREATIVE ACTIVITY (UCRCA)

### Faculty Awards

The purpose of UCRCA is to expand the capacity for research and creative activity at UNO. The UCRCA supports all areas, types and disciplines of research and creative activity by pre- and post- tenured faculty at UNO. The committee places special emphasis on seed grant funding for projects potentially leading to external funding and on grants to new faculty to help them establish programs of research/creative activity.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College/Dept.</th>
<th>PI Last</th>
<th>Co-PI(s)</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Award</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AS/BIOL</td>
<td>Boucher</td>
<td></td>
<td>Using High Resolution X-ray Computed Tomography for 3-D Modeling of Modern and Fossil Termite Burrows in Wood</td>
<td>$972</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AS/BIOL</td>
<td>Cutucache</td>
<td></td>
<td>Effectiveness of nascent methods in science pedagogy in the undergraduate classroom</td>
<td>$4,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AS/BIOL</td>
<td>Rauter</td>
<td></td>
<td>Trade-off Between Reproduction and Immunity: Importance of Microbes</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AS/BIOL</td>
<td>Cutucache</td>
<td></td>
<td>Kinetic Characterization of 4-Hydroxyphenylacetate 1-Hydroxylase</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AS/BIOL</td>
<td>Kreiling</td>
<td></td>
<td>Characterization of Protein Association Domains of the Man6p/IGF2 Receptor</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AS/ENGL</td>
<td>Buchelt</td>
<td></td>
<td>Memory, Speech and Silence in Early Irish Literature</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AS/ENGL</td>
<td>Johanningsmeier</td>
<td></td>
<td>New Voices of American Realism and Naturalism</td>
<td>$4,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AS/FL</td>
<td>Bloom</td>
<td></td>
<td>Intercultural Sensitivity and the Short-term Sojourn</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AS/FL</td>
<td>Carballal</td>
<td></td>
<td>Representation of the Galician Subject in the Works of Alfonso Rodriguez Castelao</td>
<td>$4,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AS/GEO</td>
<td>Bereitschaft</td>
<td></td>
<td>A return to the center: Who is reviving America's downtowns and why? A representative case study of Omaha, NE</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AS/MATH</td>
<td>Helikar</td>
<td>Cutucache</td>
<td>The role of CAV1 in T cell development and signaling</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AS/MATH</td>
<td>Todd</td>
<td>Brittenham</td>
<td>Easy to state, hard to solve: 4-move invariants of Knots and links</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AS/PSCI</td>
<td>Kilinc</td>
<td></td>
<td>State Policies toward Non-Muslim Minorities in Muslim-Majority Countries: Turkey, Egypt, Jordan, and Indonesia</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>AS/SOC</td>
<td>Irwin</td>
<td></td>
<td>Seeing One's Self Through Others: The Role of Social Passing in the Narratives of Transgender Persons</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBA/MKTG</td>
<td>Huq</td>
<td></td>
<td>A better mousetrap for six-sigma implementation: Empirical evidence in support of Competency Based Perspective (CBP)</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCFAM/ART</td>
<td>Mazor</td>
<td></td>
<td>Imagination 2013</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCFAM/MUS</td>
<td>Snyder</td>
<td></td>
<td>Untitled</td>
<td>$947</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCFAM/WKSP</td>
<td>Waggener</td>
<td></td>
<td>The Translation of Los sonetos del diente de oro</td>
<td>$4,845</td>
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<tr>
<td>CPACS/CCJS</td>
<td>Savolainen</td>
<td></td>
<td>Causes and Consequences of Sexual Contact between Youth and Older People</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPACS/PA</td>
<td>Eikenberry</td>
<td></td>
<td>A study of Giving Collaboratives in the U.K.</td>
<td>$4,950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ED/HPER</td>
<td>Jawed-Wessel</td>
<td></td>
<td>Postpartum Sexual Health</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
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</table>
## Faculty Awards (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College/Dept.</th>
<th>PI Last</th>
<th>Co-PI(s)</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Award</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ED/HPER</td>
<td>Slivka</td>
<td></td>
<td>Effect of local muscle temperature on muscle growth and breakdown</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ED/SPED</td>
<td>DeVeney</td>
<td></td>
<td>Expressive language skills of late talking children using picture symbols: Contrast between children with production only versus children with production and comprehension delays</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IST/ISQA</td>
<td>Petter</td>
<td></td>
<td>Examining Influences on Team Silence and Voice in Online Ad Hoc Teams</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IST/SI2</td>
<td>Mahoney</td>
<td>Parakh</td>
<td>A Hardware Implementation of Quasigroup Encryption</td>
<td>$7,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Faculty UCRCA Awards:** $110,464

## 2012-2013 Internal Funding Awardees

### Student Awards

**Fund for Undergraduate Scholarly Experiences (FUSE)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College/Dept.</th>
<th>Student Last</th>
<th>Faculty Mentor</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Award</th>
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### Fund for Undergraduate Scholarly Experiences (FUSE)

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<td>Bhowmick</td>
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<td>Identifying Story Types from Sentiment in Street Harassment Stories</td>
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**Total FUSE Awards**: $194,855

### Graduate Research and Creative Activity (GRACA)

GRACA grants support faculty-mentored graduate student research and creative activity. Grants of up to $5,000 per student are available to UNO graduate students who will be enrolled through fall semester 2014.

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<td>Orally Administered Capsaicin Effects on Rat Taste System Across Development (Taste Receptor Cell Counts)</td>
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<td>Changes in Taste Nerve Functioning Following Neonatal Chorda Tympani Transection</td>
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<td>College/Department</td>
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<td>Pasco</td>
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<td>Germonprez</td>
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<td>Twitter Cases: a Political Network and a Social Network</td>
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<td>Qureshi</td>
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<td>IST/SI2</td>
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<td>Engaging Online Citizens In Civic Works--A Flow Theory Based Approach</td>
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</table>

**Total GRACA Awards:** $204,317
# University Committee on Research and Creative Activity (UCRCA)

## Student Awards

The purpose of UCRCA is to expand the capacity for research and creative activity at UNO. The UCRCA supports all areas, types and disciplines of research and creative activity by pre- and post-tenured faculty at UNO.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College/Dept.</th>
<th>Student Last</th>
<th>Faculty Mentor</th>
<th>Graduate/Undergraduate</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Award</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AS/BIOL</td>
<td>Bristol</td>
<td>Bragg</td>
<td>Graduate</td>
<td>Impact of Deer Herbivory on Eastern Deciduous Forests of Nebraska</td>
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<td>AS/BIOL</td>
<td>Penney-Hall</td>
<td>Bragg</td>
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<td>Fawcett</td>
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<td>AS/BIOL</td>
<td>Knight</td>
<td>Kolok</td>
<td>Graduate</td>
<td>Endocrine disruption in frogs exposed to the Elkhorn River: Is atrazine the cause?</td>
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<td>AS/BIOL</td>
<td>Biodrowski</td>
<td>Wolfenbarger</td>
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<td>The effects of patch burn grazing on breeding grassland birds</td>
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<td>AS/BIOL</td>
<td>Wills</td>
<td>Wolfenbarger</td>
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<td>Effects of an Established Wind Farm on Levels of Stress Response Hormones in Greater Prairie Chickens and Sharp-tailed Grouse</td>
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<td>AS/HIST</td>
<td>Harris</td>
<td>Grigg</td>
<td>Graduate</td>
<td>The Native American Slave Trade of Massachusetts in the Seventeenth Century</td>
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<td>AS/PSYC</td>
<td>Butler</td>
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<td>Graduate</td>
<td>Expatriates’ perceptions of their experiences</td>
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<td>Graduate</td>
<td>Regret Experienced From Workplace Issues</td>
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<td>What Underlies the Pursuit of Missing Information in Negotiations? An Examination of Possible Mediating Processes</td>
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<td>AS/PSYC</td>
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<td>Sollars</td>
<td>Graduate</td>
<td>Changes in Taste Nerve Functioning Following Neonatal Chorda Tympani Transection</td>
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<td>Glasser</td>
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<td>ED/HPER</td>
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<td>Graduate</td>
<td>The Practical Effects of Glenohumeral Repositioning Tape in Division I Baseball Players</td>
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<td>ED/HPER</td>
<td>Spenceri</td>
<td>McGrath</td>
<td>Graduate</td>
<td>The Neuromuscular Consequences of Knee Osteoarthritis</td>
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<td>ED/HPER</td>
<td>Leib</td>
<td>Myers</td>
<td>Graduate</td>
<td>Changes in Elderly Walking while Listening to Chaotic Music</td>
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<td>Rand</td>
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<td>Slivka</td>
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### Student Awards (continued)

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<tr>
<th>College/Dept.</th>
<th>Student Last</th>
<th>Faculty Mentor</th>
<th>Graduate/Undergraduate</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Award</th>
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<tr>
<td>ED/SPED</td>
<td>Wyngaarden</td>
<td>DeVeney</td>
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<td>Phonological profiles of 2-year-olds with expressive-only and expressive and receptive language delay</td>
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<td>ED/SPED</td>
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<td>AS/BIOL</td>
<td>Dahlquist</td>
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<td>Helikar</td>
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<td>CCFAM/MUS</td>
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<td>Beard</td>
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<td>Canadian Flute Convention Presentation</td>
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<td>Brown</td>
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<td>Undergraduate</td>
<td>Performance of Ostinato Pianissimo at the Percussive Arts Society International Convention</td>
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</table>

**Total Student UCRCA Awards:** $13,576
INTERNAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES AND SUMMARY

Fund for Investing in the Research Enterprise (FIRE) - **Deadline is 12/17/2013**

FIRE grants will support the collection of preliminary data/proof of concept for faculty projects that demonstrate a high potential for attracting substantial extramural funding (>$250,000 in direct costs over the term of the grant). Awards of $20,000 are available to single investigator FIRE proposals, and multi-investigator, collaborative proposals may request up to $35,000.

Award for Distinguished Research or Creative Activity (ADROCA) - **Deadline is 12/20/2013**

The award strives to recognize and honor preeminent achievement in research or creative activity by faculty members of UNO.

Graduate Research and Creative Activity (GRACA) - **Deadline is 01/21/2014**

GRACA grants will support faculty-mentored, graduate student research and creative activity. Grants of up to $5,000 per student are available to UNO graduate students who will be enrolled through fall semester 2014.

Faculty Research International (FRI) - **Deadline is 01/31/2014**

The Office of Academic and Student Affairs (OASA) sponsors the FRI program. FRI grants will support the establishment of new research and creative activity partnerships among UNO faculty and international collaborators. Awards of up to $5,000 are available to individual UNO faculty members to support travel-related expenses for UNO faculty, affiliated UNO graduate students, and/or their international partners.

University Committee on Research and Creative Activity (UCRCA) - **Deadline is 02/01/2014**

The purpose of the UCRCA is to expand the capacity for research and creative activity at UNO. UCRCA supports all areas, types and disciplines of research and creative activity by pre- and post- tenured faculty and graduate and undergraduate students.

Fund for Undergraduate Scholarly Experiences (FUSE) - **Deadline is 02/04/2014**

FUSE grants will support faculty-mentored, undergraduate student research and creative activity. Grants of up to $2,500 per student are available to UNO undergraduate students who will be enrolled through fall semester 2014.

### 2012-2013 Internal Funding Program Totals

<table>
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<th>PROGRAM</th>
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<td>FISS Faculty</td>
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<td>FRI Faculty</td>
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<td><strong>Grand Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$774,273</strong></td>
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The University of Nebraska at Omaha does not discriminate based on gender, age, disability, race, color, religion, marital status, veteran’s status, national or ethnic origin, genetic information, political affiliation or sexual orientation.