

FACULTY RESEARCH FUND GRANTS, SPRING 2014

When Awarded	Recipient's Name	Unit	Department	Project Title & Description
Spring 2014	Federique Chevillot	AHSS	Languages & Literature	<p>Supplemental Funds for Purchase of Books Published in French for On-going Research Project on French/Francophone Women Writers and Erotic Literature: My research on eroticism in contemporary French/Francophone women writers addresses the double standard for men and women on issues of sex within French society and its literary institutions. French erotic literature has had a well-established tradition since the Middle Ages; however, up until the turn of the last century, male authors wrote all of it. In their creations, female characters were represented either as deceitful dissolute beings, or submissive sexual slaves, whereas, at the same time, in real life, women were held to suppressive moral and sexual standards. Today, a growing number of female writers have laid claim to the erotic and the sexual in their works. In my book, I argue that, unlike traditional representations of sex and passion, female depictions are more informed by affect and compassion than by power and domination as presented in male erotic texts.</p>
Spring 2014	Amber Engelson	PEN	University Writing Program	<p>Writing with God: Negotiating Religion and Linguistic Imperialism in Indonesia: This ethnographic book project draws from research conducted at the Indonesian Consortium for Religious Studies, a self-described “Indonesian, international, inter-religious Ph.D. program” in Yogyakarta, Indonesia to explore the ways Indonesian scholars negotiate between their Muslim religious identities and their use of English—a language many consider a tool of Western imperialism. By placing historical research on Indonesia’s geopolitical positioning in conversation with program documents, observational research and interviews with faculty and students, this project highlights both English’s ties to the West and the ways that Indonesian writers appropriate the knowledge garnered from English to further social justice—and thus their Muslim religious identities—within Indonesia.</p>
Spring 2014	Jennifer Hoffman	NSM	Physics & Astronomy	<p>Asymmetry is Destiny: New Tools for Identifying Explosive Progenitors: This research program is part of a larger project to investigate the links between massive stars and the ultra-energetic supernovae associated with gamma-ray bursts (GRBs). In this phase of the project, I will extend my existing three-dimensional radiative transfer code to treat more physically realistic scenarios by adding the capability to simulate expanding material. These improvements will result in a tool that is uniquely suited to simulate</p>

				the clumps, shells, and outflows we observe in massive stars and GRBs. Reliable interpretation of these observational signatures will open new windows into the physical nature of these geometrically and dynamically complex objects.
Spring 2014	Rafael Ioris	AHSS	History	<i>Friend or Foe? Images of the United States in Brazil in the Implementation of the Alliance for Progress:</i> The Cuban Revolution (1959) represented a turning point in the way the United States approached Latin America. Trying to regain its traditional influence amidst a rapidly changing environment, US policymakers embarked upon a path of emboldened disbursement of foreign aid to the region by means of the hastily designed Alliance for Progress, launched in 1961. Latin America's largest country, Brazil occupied a leading position in the devised program but contrary to most expectations, the policies pursued deepened political antagonism rather than fostered a positive image of the U.S. in the South American nation. This proposal seeks to uncover the ways in which the implementation of the Alliance for Progress was debated in Brazil in order to assess how the United States was conceived of by key sectors of the Brazilian society in the transformative period of the 1960s.
Spring 2014	Conor McGarrigle	AHSS	Emergent Digital Practices	<i>Walking West:</i> Locative Histories is an academic book project that presents a comprehensive history of Locative Media art, tracing this emergent media art movement from its origins at the Karosta workshops in Latvia in 2003 to its continued influence on new media art and location-aware commercial applications. The book will follow the trajectory of Locative Media through key artists, curators, theorists, and artworks to paint a picture of Locative Media as an exemplary research based practice which illuminates the role of new media art in shaping emergent technologies through critical engagement. This will be achieved with in depth interviews with key individuals, detailed case studies of significant art projects and industry funded artistic research initiatives.
Spring 2014	Kateri McRae	AHSS	Psychology	<i>The role of artistic training in emotion regulation:</i> Expressive suppression is an emotion regulation strategy which involves preventing your face or body from showing what you are feeling. Generally, suppression is associated with a number of negative outcomes, so it is especially important to examine factors that influence the use of suppression, especially those that may decrease its use. Pilot data from my laboratory indicates that individuals who identify as artists use suppression less frequently than individuals who do not. The present research follows up on this finding, to examine whether there are systematic differences in suppression use in individuals who have received advanced artistic training.

Spring 2014	Laura Meyer	GSPP	Graduate School of Professional Psychology	<p><i>The Impact of the Colorado Pet Pantry on Clients' Quality of Life and Social Capital:</i> The Colorado Pet Pantry provides food bank clients with a monthly supply of pet food that allows them to keep their animals rather than relinquish them to a shelter. To investigate the impact of the Pet Pantry's donations on the lives of its clients, the researcher will administer a pre-post survey to capture changes in social capital and pet-related financial anxiety. Interviews of four participants will more deeply explore the meanings they ascribe to pet ownership. The proposed study will investigate the role pets play in enhancing humans' quality of life and social capital under situations of financial hardship.</p>
Spring 2014	Sarah Morelli	AHSS	Lamont School of Music	<p><i>Urban Women's Participation in Music and Dance: Amritsar, India:</i> This study will trace networks for women's participation in music and dance within the northwestern Indian city of Amritsar, Punjab. Utilizing fieldwork methodology, I will engage with women performing in many contexts across a range of music and dance genres focusing on the city as a central site for ethnographic understanding that is multilayered, complex and sometimes contradictory. The varied forms of women's music and dance participation serve as a vital lens for understanding the diversity of women's experiences and forms of agency in contemporary urban India.</p>
Spring 2014	Erika Polson	AHSS	Media, Film & Journalism Studies	<p><i>Digitally managed lives of female expats in Bangalore:</i> Despite making up an increasing percentage of mobile professionals, women's geographic and social mobility continue to be limited, from their safety in public spaces to lingering perceptions of an 'old boys club' guarding access to the top. Based on ethnographic observations and interviews with female expats in Bangalore – the 'Silicon Valley of India' – this research explores tensions between the proliferation of professional opportunities for educated women who are willing to migrate, often alone, and challenges they face based on gender, and considers how a variety of Internet based information sharing and social organizing services are used to navigate these challenges.</p>
Spring 2014	Markus Schneider	AHSS	Economics	<p><i>The Shape of Inequality and its Effects on Health:</i> Since the 1970, income inequality has risen persistently and significantly in the US. My own recent work as shown that this rise has affected different populations quite differently. However, there remains fundamental questions of how to characterize the mechanism by which inequality has increased and what the impacts of rising inequality are. By studying the correlation between inequality and health outcomes, one of the projects below complements and extends the public health literature on this subject. We also hope to reach a broader audience of economists who are aware of the rise in inequality, but are less certain</p>

				<p>about its implications. The second project described below addresses more fundamental issues regarding the measurement of inequality and the characterization of the income distribution. My recent work addresses this in a specific applied context and technical terms, but there is much more that I want to do to generalize the insights and apply the analyses I develop to broader sets of data.</p>
Spring 2014	Sheila Yeh	PEN	University Writing Program	<p><i>3D Adaptive Virtual Exhibit for the University of Denver Digital Collections:</i> Virtual exhibitions allow online users to navigate and observe three dimensional (3D) representations of digital image objects, learn and absorb related information in rich hypermedia annotations, and interact with those objects in creative ways. Virtual presentation goes beyond the limitations of a two dimensional (2D) page viewing and sequential browsing session; it provides an immersive, vivid and adaptive user experience. This is a proof-of-concept project to prototype an innovative virtual exhibition of selected digital image collections from the Museum of Anthropology and the University Libraries. Social media features are integrated to encourage a sense of virtual community.</p>