

List of Awards
Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Grant for Faculty Career Enhancement
Denison, DePauw, Furman, Harvey Mudd, Middlebury, Scripps, Rhodes, Vassar
December 2005

Local Initiatives – 11 Awards

An Ecological Approach to Cultural Psychology: An Exploration of Tools, Artifacts, and Aesthetics

Denison University, Harry Heft, Professor of Psychology

Provides support to enable Professor Heft to devote a semester to a project that takes his scholarship in a new direction. He has become convinced in recent years that any account of visual perception, and the cognitive processes that vision supports, is incomplete without the consideration of two additional, and related, factors: sociocultural processes and affective experience.

Master of Fine Arts (MFA) in Poetry at New England College

Denison University, Kent Maynard, Professor of Sociology/Anthropology and Director of the Honors Program Provides support for Professor Maynard to enroll in a two-year, low residency program that will allow him to complete a Master of Fine Arts (MFA) in Poetry at New England College (NEC) while fulfilling his regular responsibilities at Denison. Project spans a two-year period beginning in July 2006.

Playwright as Director, Voice and Body Integration: (Re) Producing the Play ‘Rhythms’

DePauw University, Chris White, Assistant Professor of English; Tim Good, Assistant Professor of Communication and Theatre

Provides support for a full production of Rhythms at DePauw in the spring of 2007 and offers Professor White, who has trained and worked professionally as a playwright and actor but has limited experience in directing, the opportunity to direct her own script. Provides Professor Good the opportunity to work closely with a playwright and to bring his training in acting techniques to the preparation and development of a colleague who is making the transition from playwright to director. Provides both professors the opportunity to work closely with professional actors and with master craftsman Arthur Lessac in voice and body techniques.

Furman Faculty Seminar and Study Tour

Furman University, John Barrington (Project Co-coordinator), Associate Professor of History; T. Lloyd Benson, Walter Kenneth Mattison Professor; Erik Ching (Project Co-coordinator) Herman N. Hipp Associate Professor of History; Jennifer Davis, Assistant Professor History; Timothy Fehler, Associate Professor of History; Jan Kiely, Assistant Professor of History; William Lavery, Professor and Director of the Center for International Education; Jim Leavell, Herring Professor of Asian Studies; Savita Nair, Assistant Professor of History; Stephen O’Neill, Associate Professor and Director, Center for Study of Piedmont History; David Spear, William E. Leverette Jr. Professor of History; Marian Strobel, William Montgomery Burnett Professor of History; Diane Vecchio, Associate Professor of History

Provides support for a year-long initiative faculty members from Furman to reinvigorate History 11, “The History of the Modern Era” by directly confronting the traditional, monolithic Eurocentric narrative about the origins of modernity through a guest lecture series in spring 2006, a faculty seminar in summer 2006, and a faculty study tour of Mexico in summer 2006

Orchestral Song Cycle and Extended Piano Work

Furman University, Mark Kilstofte, Associate Professor of Music

Provides support for a sabbatical extension for Professor Kilstofte in 2006-07 to complete two projects: a twenty to twenty-five minute orchestral song cycle for soprano Tamara Matthews (Furman University) and Orchestra 2001 (Philadelphia), James Freeman, artistic director and

conductor; and an extended piano work for concert pianist John Kamitsuka (New York City). He will also complete the orchestration of his first symphony.

Cultural Crossroads and Magic Mountains: Southeast Asian Art in Context

Middlebury College, Cynthia Atherton, Professor of Art History

Provides support for equipment in summer 2006 in preparation for travel across South and Southeast Asia from May through July 2007 to research and photographically document numerous important sites of art and architecture that were constructed between the 2nd and 21st centuries.

Geographic Identities and Musical Expression in Central Asia

Middlebury College, Jennifer Post, Assistant Professor of Music

Provides support for Professor Post to travel to Central Eurasia in summers 2006 and 2007 to explore and develop more fully a new research area on the relationship between landscape and the vocal and instrumental musics of Kazakh peoples in Mongolia. This work will play an important role in her continuing education as an ethnomusicologist, provide a new opportunity for her to connect significant portions of this research to classroom teaching by using audio and video field data and learning modules in digitized form, and will be shared with colleagues.

Russian Brooklyn

Middlebury College, Thomas Beyer, Professor of Russian

Provides support from spring 2006 through summer 2007 for Professor Beyer to research and document the phenomenon of the Russian emigration/immigration to New York City that began largely as a result of the 1975 Jackson-Vanick Amendment which received new impetus in the 1990s with the fall of the Soviet Union. The thousands of Russians who came to New York uncannily resemble an earlier emigration in the 1920s that resulted in the well documented phenomenon known as Russian Berlin. Yet the historical record of this late emigration and its rich cultural heritage are in danger of being lost. Funds will be used to support actual material acquisition, several trips to New York, and trips to national repositories for consultation with Slavic librarians and archivists.

The Life Program at Rhodes: Collegial Collaboration in an Interdisciplinary Foundational Curriculum

Rhodes College, Tom Bremer, Assistant Professor of Religious Studies; Ryan Byrne, Assistant Professor of Religious Studies; Patrick Gray, Assistant Professor of Religious Studies; Steve Haynes, Associate Professor of Religious Studies; Luther Ivory, Assistant Professor of Religious Studies; John Kaltner, Associate Professor of Religious Studies; Steve McKenzie, Professor of Religious Studies; Bernadette McNary-Zak, Assistant Professor of Religious Studies; Milton Moreland, Assistant Professor of Religious Studies; Mark Muesse (Project Coordinator), Associate Professor of Religious Studies; Gail Streete, The W. J. Millard Professor of Religious Studies; Elizabeth Webb, Assistant Professor of Religious Studies

Provides support for travel expenses for up to 12 faculty members from the Life Program at Rhodes to participate in a faculty study and research seminar in Israel, Jordan and Egypt in summer 2006. Focus will be on four key themes in preparation for site visits. Those themes include the history and material culture of the ancient Near East, the relationships between Judaism, Christianity, and Islam in the region, civil rights and human rights issues, and ritual and cultural practices.

Faculty College of Music

Scripps College, Jennifer Goltz (Project Co-coordinator), Assistant Professor of Voice and Music Theory; Hao Huang (Project Co-coordinator), Professor of Music/Artist-in-resident; Rachel Vetter Huang, Lecturer in Music; Charles William Kamm, Director of Choirs and Lecturer in the History of Music; YouYoung Kang, Assistant Professor of Music; Willam Alves, Associate Professor of Music, Harvey Mudd College; Alfred W. Cramer, Associate Professor of Music, Pomona College; Katherine Johanna Hagedorn, Associate Professor of Music and Director of Ethnomusicology

Program, Pomona College

Provides funding for faculty members to address the impact of a “new” (and implicitly interdisciplinary) music criticism on all areas of the discipline of music, particularly musicology, ethnomusicology and theory, and establish a basis of common knowledge and understanding for a forward-thinking, sophisticated intellectual music community presently lacking at Scripps College, or indeed, many liberal arts colleges. Activities include the compilation and production of reading anthology and a pre-symposium gathering in spring 2006, a week-long symposium in late summer 2006, and a post-symposium gathering in December 2006.

Recovering Landscape: Transformations in American Literature and Painting

Vassar College, H. Daniel Peck, John Guy Professor of English

Provides support for a sabbatical enhancement that, by providing a full year of uninterrupted scholarly activity, would enable Professor Peck to complete a book titled “Recovering Landscape: Transformations in American Literature and Painting.” This project has been in progress for several years and involves a significant examination of American literature and visual art. The end result will be delivery of the manuscript to a publisher.

Inter-institutional Initiatives – Seven (7) Awards

Enriching Computer Science Faculty Careers through a Graphic Workshop

A summer 2006 workshop that will provide an opportunity for both those who have taught graphics and those who may take on that challenge in the future, the opportunity to participate in a graphics workshop. This would allow for those who are most experienced to share their ideas with those who are new to the field. For the experienced, it would provide an excellent forum for discussing with others important topics such as new textbooks, new hardware and software (which are changing at a rapid rate), how to balance theory and applications, what math prerequisites or co-requisites are sufficient, what homework is reasonable at which stages, and what projects might provide good experiences for students. For the novice, the opportunity to meet with experienced graphics instructors will give them a chance to broaden their background and make it possible to pursue the possibility of teaching a graphics class in the future.

Denison University

Joan Krone (Project Coordinator), Professor of Mathematics and Computer Science

DePauw University

Douglas Harms, Professor of Computer Science

Kelly Van Busum, Instructor of Computer Science

The College of Wooster

Denise Byrnes, Associate Professor of the Mathematical Sciences

The Southern Cone: Dictatorship, Democracy and Globalization

This project entails a group of eight faculty members from the cluster institutions traveling in summer 2006 to Chile, Argentina, and Brazil in order to study the ongoing transition from dictatorship to democracy and towards integration in the global economic system. This trip will offer a great opportunity for the participants to gauge the current state of culture, art, and socio-economic issues during this period of transition in Latin America in general and the Southern Cone in particular. A follow-up gathering for participants is planned for summer 2007.

Denison University

Julio Javier Aguayo, Postdoctoral Fellowship; Mónica Ayala-Martínez (Project Coordinator)

Associate Professor of Spanish and Portuguese; Bernardita Llanos Mardones

Professor of Modern Languages and Women’s Studies Program

DePauw University

Angela Castañeda, Assistant Professor of Anthropology and Latin American and Caribbean Studies

Aaron B. Dziubinskyj, Assistant Professor of Modern Languages – Spanish

Furman University

Adrián Pablo Massei, Assistant Professor of Spanish

Rhodes College

Michael LaRosa, Associate Professor of History

Scripps College

Carlos Gonzalez, Visiting Assistant Professor in Spanish

The World of Byzantium

This project offers participants the opportunity to learn more about the civilization of Byzantium by visiting sites in Istanbul, Cappadocia, Salonica, Ravenna, and Venice in summer 2006. It brings together a group of eleven scholars from five different colleges, most of whom are strictly speaking not Byzantinists, but whose areas of research and teaching intersect (geographically, chronologically, or thematically) with Byzantine culture and society. By enriching our own knowledge and understanding of the eastern Mediterranean during the late antique and medieval periods, we hope to integrate the history of Byzantium into the liberal arts curriculum as well as into our own particular areas of research. A post-trip gathering is planned for spring 2007.

Denison University

Adam Davis (Project Coordinator), Assistant Professor of History

Anthony J. Lisska, Professor of Philosophy

Furman University

David Spear, William E. Leverette Jr. Professor of History

Middlebury College

Febe Armanios, Assistant Professor of History

Louisa Burnham, Assistant Professor of History

Maria Hatjigeorgiou, Visiting Lecturer in Religion

Stefano Mula, Visiting Assistant Professor of Italian

Pavlos Sfyroeras, Assistant Professor of Classics

O. Larry Yarbrough, Pardon Tillinghast Professor of Religion

Rhodes College

Anna Dronzek, Assistant Professor of History

Vassar College

Nancy Bisaha, Associate Professor of History

Promoting and Resisting Westernization: Rethinking the Arts and Literatures of Meiji Japan, 1868-1912 (Phase Two)

Phase one of this project was funded in 2005-06. Phase two includes funding the exhibition of the 80 Japanese woodblock prints by Japanese artist Yoshu Chikanobu. The exhibition is scheduled for fall 2006 through fall 2007.

Core Participants

Denison University

Alexandra Raissa Green (Project Coordinator), Curator of Asian Art
Lisa Morrisette, Instructor of Art History and Asian Studies

DePauw University

Paul B. Watt (Project Coordinator), Professor of Asian Studies

Middlebury College

Cynthia Atherton, Professor of History of Art & Architecture

Scripps College

Bruce A. Coats, Professor of Art History and the Humanities

Vassar College

Andrew Watsky, Professor of Art History

Other Participants

DePauw University

Hiroko Chiba, Associate Professor of Modern Languages (Japanese),

Scripps College

Mary MacNaughton, Associate Professor of Art History

Pomona College

Kyoko Kurita, Professor of Japanese Language and Literature

Leonard Pronko, Professor of Theater

Samuel Yamashita, Professor of History

Vassar College

James Mundy, Director of the Vassar College Art Museum

The Art & Science of Teaching Mathematics

This project includes a planning meeting in summer 2006 and subsequent three-day conference by summer 2007 designed to examine questions (e.g., Is teaching mathematics an art or a science? Are you born a good teacher, or is it something you can learn? How important is personality in teaching? How do you effectively communicate about effective teaching? Why do nationally recognized award-winning teachers sometimes struggle when asked to share the secrets of their success?) while also fostering a cluster-wide community of dedicated mathematics teachers. We hope to attract roughly half of the mathematics faculty members from each of the cluster schools. Six additional guests from outside the cluster will also be invited to the conference to give individual presentations, assist in question and answer panels, and take part in small group discussions. We envision these six guests to be a notable collection of national teaching award winners, mathematics education specialists, and mathematicians known for their interests and work in the teaching of mathematics at the college level.

Denison University

Lew Ludwig, Assistant Professor of Mathematics

Furman University

John Harris, Associate Professor of Mathematics

Mark Woodard, Professor of Mathematics

Harvey Mudd College

Jon Jacobson (Project Coordinator), Howard and Iris Critchell Assistant Professor of Mathematics

Michael Orrison, Assistant Professor of Mathematics

Vassar College

Ben Lotto, Chair and Associate Professor of Mathematics

IC2I: The Inorganic Chemistry Curricular Initiative

How is inorganic chemistry taught? How should it be taught? What are the impacts of the inorganic course on the rest of the curriculum? This project will bring together a group of inorganic chemists to have a series of discussions, seminars, and brainstorming sessions to develop plans for modernizing the inorganic course and laboratory curriculum at each home institution. Participants will gather on three occasions to have a series of formal seminars, informal discussions, and brainstorming sessions to develop plans for modernizing the inorganic course and laboratory curriculum at each home institution. Two of the sessions are scheduled for the days before the national American Chemical Society meetings in Atlanta (March 25, 2006), and in San Francisco (September 9, 2006), while the third is tentatively scheduled at a relatively central location (Chicago) during the summer (June 17, 2006). A final outcome of these meetings is the preparation of a joint National Science Foundation (NSF), Course, Curriculum and Laboratory Improvement (CCLI) proposal.

Denison University

Jordan L. Fantini, Associate Professor & Chair of Chemistry and Biochemistry

DePauw University

Hilary J. Eppley, Associate Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry

Harvey Mudd College

Adam R. Johnson (Project Coordinator), Associate Professor of Chemistry

Middlebury College

James A. Larrabee, William R. Kenan, Jr. Professor of Chemistry

Reed College

Margaret J. Geselbracht, Associate Professor of Chemistry

Scripps College

B. Scott Williams, Assistant Professor of Chemistry

A Watershed Research Consortium for Undergraduate Institutions

Faculty members in chemistry, biology, earth science, geography and urban studies at Vassar College, Furman University, and Middlebury College request funds to support interdisciplinary and intercollegiate research on the impact of urbanization on watersheds. Funds will be used primarily to convene three meetings – one at each campus – to allow faculty to share ideas, discuss research priorities and protocols, and develop further funding proposals to agencies such as the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Between meetings, campus teams will engage in research on their local watersheds, with faculty working together across disciplines in two intensive summer sessions. This inter-institutional initiative which will begin in spring 2006 and continue through summer 2007 is the first step toward the creation of a watershed research consortium for primarily undergraduate institutions.

Full Participation Members

Furman University

Brannon Andersen (Team Leader), Associate Professor of Earth and Environmental Sciences

Weston Dripps, Associate Professor of Earth and Environmental Sciences

Dennis Haney, Associate Professor of Biology

Greg Lewis, Assistant Professor of Biology

Suresh Muthukrishnan, Assistant Professor of Earth and Environmental Sciences

Middlebury College

Molly Costanza-Robinson, Assistant Professor of Chemistry; Patricia Manley (Team Leader), Professor of Geology; Peter Ryan, Associate Professor of Geology & Environmental Studies and Director of Environmental Studies; Sallie Sheldon, Professor of Biology

Vassar College

Pinar Batur, Associate Professor Sociology and Director of Urban Studies
Stuart Belli, Associate Professor of Chemistry
Mary Ann Cunningham, Assistant Professor of Geography
Kirsten Menking (Project Coordinator), Assoc. Prof. of Geology and Director of Environmental Research Institute
Marshal Pregnall, Associate Professor of Biology; Meg Stewart, GIS Specialist, Academic Consulting Services

Affiliated Faculty Members

Furman University

Min-Ken Liao, Assistant Professor of Biology
John Wheeler, Professor of Chemistry
Sandra Wheeler, Adjunct Professor of Chemistry

Middlebury College

Bill Hegman, GIS Specialist and Assistant Professor of Geography
Marc Lapin, Associate Science Instructor in Environmental Studies

Vassar College

Marianne Begemann, Associate Professor of Chemistry
Peter Stillman, Professor of Political Science
Jeff Walker, Associate Professor of Geology