Funding Quarterly for Faculty & Staff Scholarship, March

Grants and Foundation Relations, Illinois Wesleyan University

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A Stargazers Guide to the Universe of Grant-Seeking

Ask Dr. Linda French about her scientific research and she'll tell you it's like being an artist. The old saying, "You're only as good as your last show" translates for her to "you're only as good as your last paper". Soon her manuscript, "Rotation Periods of Small Jovian Asteroids", co-authored with IWU student, Jennifer Sieben '16, will appear in *Icarus*, the official publication of American Astronomical Society's Division for Planetary Sciences. This paper highlights Dr. French's research that has been supported through external grant funding and is sure to be a top notch "show". Turns out, she's been rehearsing for this show for a long time without even knowing it!

Dr. French's career spans decades of teaching; as a postdoc researcher, lecturer and instructor at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), a middle school teacher and science department head, visiting Assistant Professor at Bates College, Associate Professor at Wheelock College and Full Professor at Illinois Wesleyan University.

Her first research grant was awarded in the 1980s while at MIT from the National Science Foundation (NSF) as part of a program to increase research opportunities for women. At that time, Dr. French discovered that there was no research being done on the Jupiter Trojans, commonly called Trojan asteroids, which are a large group of objects that share the orbit of the planet Jupiter around the Sun. That first NSF grant began her grant-funded research on Trojan asteroids and paved the way to receiving a small research grant from NASA. The work done with those 2 grant awards led to writing a proposal, while at Wheelock College, to Research Corporation for Science Advancement (RCSA), an agency devoted to funding research in the physical sciences. It was rejected. After moving to Illinois Wesleyan, she revised the proposal, but instead of submitting it right away, she passed it on to some colleagues for their review. This process proved invaluable; the proposal was successful on the second try. Now, she advises colleagues to have their proposals done early enough for colleagues and peers to review and revisions to be made.

Dr. French regularly involves students in her research which has allowed them to conduct observations in Chile, upgrade the Mark Evans Observatory on campus, and be successful in their graduate school experiences. Of the eight publications since receiving the current award, “Photometric Survey of Jovian Trojans”, half have been co-authored with IWU students.

Passion for teaching was evident to students, faculty and staff at the Faculty Colloquium Dr. French presented on February 6 of this year. By first explaining the orbits and rotation of the Trojans she was able to show how the research data is collected and analyzed to determine the size, shape and density of the “asteroids” (represented by a potato!) as they are moving. Collecting accurate data is the keystone of her research and having enough data has been a challenge. This will hopefully be resolved by a proposal to NASA currently under review to utilize the Kepler spacecraft for planetary observation. If the award is received, Dr. French and her collaborator will be able to analyze 500 data points to find the "spin barrier", the point at which a Trojan would be spinning so fast it would fall apart. This would be a monumental amount of data and could lead to significant discovery. The data could potentially disprove the existing “Nice (theoretical) model” as well as determine the density of the Trojans. The density of the Trojans may prove that they are not, in fact, asteroids, but rather more like comets. This would be a major development in the field.

There are many challenges in balancing research and grant-writing with teaching. Dr. French admits to writing proposals and papers over summers and to living with deferred gratification. In the end, what keeps her going is a love of the work. A point to which her artist counterparts would agree!

“If I’m not getting turned down a few times, I’m not reaching high enough”

Illinois Wesleyan, she revised the proposal and re-submitted it in the next round. It was declined again. Again, she revised and reviewed and re-tooled the proposal, addressing the feedback received previously. She created her mantra, “If I’m not getting turned down a few times, I’m not reaching high enough”. This attitude, along with the revisions worked. On the third try - success!

As the research came to a close under the RCSA funding, Dr. French decided to pursue an NSF award. She applied to the NSF RUI program, “Research at Undergraduate Institutions” and was declined. She took the reviewers' feedback and revised the proposal, but instead of submitting it right away, she passed it on to some colleagues for their review. This process proved invaluable; the proposal was successful on the second try. Now, she advises colleagues to have their proposals done early enough for colleagues and peers to review and revisions to be made.

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See Dr. French’s tips for success, page 4
Counting Measures for Grant Success

This spring, faculty in the School of Music started assessing community-focused programming in order to apply for an Illinois Arts Council Agency program grant.

The School of Music’s community-focused programs have benefits beyond educating Illinois Wesleyan University (IWU) students, such as: preparing kindergarten through high school youth for study and careers in music, supporting music educators with continuing education, exposing the community to opportunities for high-quality music performances, and advancing the careers of Illinois artists from around the state. At the same time, these programs provide undergraduate students at the school with civic engagement opportunities. Programs that have a strong community focus and impact include: 1) Piano Preparatory Program, 2) String Preparatory Program, 3) Cello Camp, 4) Chamber Music Festival, 5) IWU Summer Music Composition Institute, 6) Jazz Festival, 7) Gospel Festival, 8) IWU Civic Orchestra, 9) IWU Civic Orchestra Conductor’s Institute, 10) Symposium of Contemporary Music, 11) New Music Series (Concerts), and 12) Children’s Opera Tour.

For 150 years, the goals for engagement with the public at Illinois Wesleyan University School of Music have remained the same and encompass four broad areas: 1) the intensive and professional training for kindergarten through twelfth grade students so that they can discover the place for music in their lives, 2) the high caliber professional and professionally-directed performing of music for the community in a variety of genre, 3) the advancement of teacher effectiveness through continuing education programming, and 4) the support of Illinois artists as faculty, visiting faculty, and guest artists through performance and teaching opportunities and financial remuneration.

Nationally and internationally-acclaimed artists are regular features in programming. For 60 years, the Symposium of Contemporary Music has introduced the Bloomington-Normal area to a variety of composers and musicians. In 2013, the Symposium featured compositions by visiting guest artist Chinary Ung, professor of composition at the University of California, San Diego. Ung is a recipient of the Grawemeyer Award, which is considered the Nobel Prize for composers. In 2012, visiting guest artist and composer Shulamit Ran joined faculty in a panel discussion on Jewish culture and arts. A concert of Ran’s work featuring Illinois Wesleyan students and faculty followed the panel talk. Ran, currently the Andrew MacLeish Distinguished Service Professor at the University of Chicago, holds a Pulitzer Prize in music and is a former composer-in-residence at the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and Lyric Opera of Chicago.

12 Community-focused Programs, 120 Artists, 17,650 Patrons, 75 Concerts, 8,000 Youth, 150 Years 380 Camp/Workshop Participants

Approximately 17,650 patrons, 8,000 of which are youth, attend more than 75 concerts and performances in a variety of genre. The types of music range from gospel, choral, jazz, orchestral, opera, instrumental, to contemporary. Illinois Wesleyan University School of Music and its program partners like Prairie Fire Theatre company invest almost $350,000 in publicly-focused programming that enriches the lives of those residing in the region while preparing the next generation of Illinois musicians. More than 120 artists are involved in the twelve highlighted public programs, and 82% are guests to campus and the community. At the core of these activities are 10 dedicated, full-time and 37 part-time faculty/staff that form a foundation for instruction, direction, facilitation, and educational delivery.

Each year, public preparatory and music skills development programming provides opportunities for more than 380 elementary, junior high, and high school students to find their passion through making music. This intensive and professional training for young musicians in both one-on-one and ensemble formats gives students the opportunity to learn from and interact with faculty and guest artists of high caliber—something of particular value to students from smaller or more rural communities, who may not have ready access to professional music performances.

Awarding of Illinois Arts Council Agency grants will occur in September. When the data collection was complete for the proposal in March, the numbers were surprising even within the twelve reviewed programs: “The School of Music has, during its entire history, been extraordinarily active in sponsoring a marvelously varied collection of programs, but until gathering all of the requisite data for this particular grant proposal, the great extent to which the School of Music has contributed to community-focused programming was not fully recognized, as it most certainly is now,” said Dr. Pelusi. The School of Music hopes to submit annually for this grant.
Fiscal Year To Date | January - March

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Associate Professor Jason Themanson has submitted a proposal to the National Science Foundation (NSF) entitled “Examining Moderating Factors on Neutral and Behavioral Responses.” Requested: $162,686 (3 yrs); Indirects: $46,764; Date: 1/15/2015; Dept: Psychology

Professor Linda French has submitted a Step 1 proposal to National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) entitled “Decoding the Trojan Puzzle: A Study of Small Jovian Trojan Asteroids.” Requested: PRE; Indirects: $0; Date: 1/16/2015; Dept: Physics

Professor Karen Schmidt has submitted a Letter of Intent to Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries in Illinois (CARLI); Requested: PRE; Indirects: $0; Date: 1/16/2015; Dept: Library

Associate Professor Abigail Kerr has submitted a proposal to the National Science Foundation (NSF) for MRI - Equipment Request. Requested: $103,000 (3 yrs); Indirects: $0; Date: 1/12/2015; Dept: Psychology

Associate Professor Will Jaeckle has submitted a preliminary proposal to the National Science Foundation (NSF) - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration entitled “Using planktonic larvae to document and understand the biodiversity of marine invertebrates.” Requested: PRE; Indirects: $0; Date: 1/22/2015; Dept: Biology

Assistant Dean of Students Matthew Damshroder, Associate Professor Mike Wagner, and Mental Health Counselor Bob Rogers have submitted a proposal to the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) entitled “Wisdom Choices.” Requested: $30,000 (3 yrs); Indirects: $0; Date: 2/13/2015; Dept(s): Dean of Students; Athletics; Counselling Services

Associate Professor Jean Kerr has submitted a grant to the Dr. Scholl Foundation entitled “Empowering Homeless Populations through Storytelling and Theatre.” Requested: $25,000; Indirects: $0; Date: 2/13/2015; School: Theatre Arts

Visiting Professor Bob Mangialardi has submitted a grant to the Illinois Prairie Community Foundation entitled “Opera for All.” Requested: $2,000; Indirects: $0; Date: 2/23/2015; School: Music

Visiting Assistant Professor Lisa Nelson has submitted a grant to the Illinois Prairie Community Foundation on behalf of the IWU School of Music Summer Music Program. Requested: $4,800; Indirects: $0; Date: 2/23/2015; School: Music

Visiting Assistant Professor Lev Ivanov has submitted a grant to the Illinois Prairie Civic Orchestra Conductor’s Institute. Requested: $2,125; Indirects: $0; Date: 2/23/2015; School: Music

Assistant Professor Ann Eckhardt has submitted a proposal to the American Heart Association (AHA) entitled “Fatigue Trajectory after Acute Coronary Syndrome.” Requested: $153,452 (2 yrs); Indirects: $13,500; Date: 1/22/2015; School: Nursing

Assistant Professor Andrew Shallue has submitted a proposal to the Simon Foundation entitled “Constructing Lucas Pseudoprimes.” Requested: $35,000 (5 yrs); Indirects: $5,000; Date: 1/30/2015; Dept: Mathematics

Professor Mario Pelusi and Visiting Assistant Professor Lisa Nelson have submitted a proposal to the Illinois Arts Council Agency for Summer Employment in the Arts. Requested: $2,310; Indirects: $0; Date: 1/30/2015; School: Music

Professor Jim Simeone and Student Rachel Shaffer have submitted a grant to the Illinois Prairie Community Foundation on behalf of the IWU Peace Garden. Requested: $965; Indirects: $0; Date: 2/23/2015; Dept: Political Science

Professor Linda French has submitted a Step 2 proposal to National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) entitled “Decoding the Trojan Puzzle: A Study of Small Jovian Trojan Asteroids.” Requested: $30,000; Indirects: $13,500; Date: 2/27/2015; Dept: Physics

Professor William Munro has submitted a National Science Foundation (NSF) Geology and Social Sciences grant entitled “The New Green Revolution of Africa and Smallholder Food Security: Value Chains and the Re-Scaling of Agrifood Systems.” Requested: $32,601; Indirects: $4,890; Date: 2/27/2015; Dept: Political Science

Several faculty in the School of Music collaborated to submit an Illinois Arts Council agency operations support grant. Requested: Determined by Agency; Indirects: $0; Date: 3/16/2015; School: Music

Kevin Strandberg and Carmen Lozar submitted an Illinois Arts Council agency operations support grant. Requested: Determined by Agency; Indirects: $0; Date: 3/16/2015; School: Art

Professor Carolyn Nadeau has received a national research grant award from the Renaissance Society of America. Award: $4,000; Indirects: $0; Date: 2/12/2015; Dept: Hispanic Studies
INTERNAL ALLOCATIONS OF EXTERNAL FUNDING | DONNOCKER INNOVATION GRANT SUBMISSIONS | January - March 2015

Deborah Halperin, Eileen Galvez, Brandon Common submitted a proposal for a program entitled “Alternative Fall Break: Nation(s) Divided”, a new alternative break experiences for specific target audiences, including a new AFB in October 2015 that will be for first generation college students. Depts: ARC, Student Affairs

Dr. Illia Radoslavov submitted a proposal to fund a CD recording project with performances of Beethoven sonatas for piano and violin with Zanta Hofmeyer. School: Music

Dr. Ellen Furlong, Dr. Gabe Spalding, Chris Kawakita submitted a proposal for the “Summer Scholars Conference”- a conference designed to involve current IWU summer research students as mentors to invited high school students as a recruitment tool. Depts: Psychology, Physics, Admissions

Stephen Sakowski submitted a proposal to purchase efficient theatrical lighting equipment (LED Selador Vivids). School: Theatre Arts

INTERNAL ALLOCATIONS OF EXTERNAL FUNDING | MELLON RE-CENTERING THE HUMANITIES GRANT SUBMISSIONS | January - March 2015

Dr. Mark Criley, Dr. Ellen Furlong - Intuitions, Concepts, and Judgments (tentative title). Team Taught Seminar. Depts: Philosophy, Psychology

Dr. Chris Callahan, Dr. Tina Isabelli - Introduction to Romance Linguistics. Team Taught Seminar. Depts: Foreign Languages, Hispanic Studies


Dr. Mark Criley - Center for Human Rights and Social Justice Undergraduate Human Rights Workshop. Undergraduate Conferences. Dept: Philosophy

Dr. Sonja Fritzsche, Dr. Adam Woodis - Annual German Undergraduate Research Conference. Undergraduate Conferences. Dept: Foreign Languages


Dr. Illia Radoslavov - A series of lectures and performances by Zanta Hofmeyer, a prominent violinist from South Africa. Mainstage Performances. School: Music

Dr. Noel Kerr, Dr. Wendy Kookan, Dr. Mignon Montpetit, Kevin Strandberg - exhibit of paintings by American portraitist William Utermohlen to campus in November 2015. Mainstage Performances. Depts/Schools: Nursing, Psychology, Art


Dr. Sonja Fritzsche - The East German Discofilm: From International Worker’s Struggle to Music Video. Fellowships. Dept: Foreign Languages

Dr. Kristine Nielsen - Representing the Sami: Two Contemporary Artistic Approaches. Fellowships. School: Art

Dr. Cesar Valverde - Humanism in Vargas Llosa’s El sueño del Celta (The Dream of Celt): Race, Colonialism and Sexuality. Fellowships. Dept: Hispanic Studies

Dr. Adam Woodis - Analysis of two literary works by Friedrich Dürrenmatt, a play, Der Besuch der alten Dame (The Visit, 1956), and a novel, Grieche sucht Griechin (Greek Seeking Greek, 1955). Fellowships. Dept: Foreign Languages

Dr. Michael Theune - Strophe, Fulcrum, Torque, Swerve, Center, Volta: Terms for the Turn. Fellowships. Dept: English

Nicholas Berardelli, Dr. Tao Jin - Dhamma and the Hard Problem: A Neurophenomenological Approach. Scholars. Dept: Religion

Anna Lowenthal, Dr. Molly Robey - From Chains to 2 Chainz: Slavery and Black Masculinity in Contemporary American Rap Culture. Scholars. Dept: Religion

DIFFICULT TO FUND STRATEGIES

The Grants Office is committed to look for innovative and new funding sources for all areas of scholarship on campus. In the coming months, the Grants Office will be looking more closely at alumni restricted giving for faculty scholarship and systematic solicitation processes for foundations that do not have open grant programs. Some faculty and staff scholarship areas are more difficult to find funding sources, but with an openness to looking at underutilized, non-traditional sources, support can be secured. A good example of non-traditional funding is illustrated by Dr. Diego Mendez-Carbajo’s Applied Research in Economics projects. With the help of the Grants Office, Dr. Mendez-Carbajo has been creative in grant-seeking by approaching banks. Banks that need to meet Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) criteria are good sources for business, sociology and economics project support. Dr. Mendez-Carbajo has been a past recipient of two PNC Bank Foundation awards to study residential foreclosures: “Statistical Analysis of the Socioeconomic Determinants of Residential Foreclosures in McLean and Peoria Counties, IL (2006-2013)” and “Statistical Analysis of the Socioeconomic Determinants of Residential Foreclosures in Champaign and Sangamon Counties, IL. (2006-2013)” Dr. Diego Mendez-Carbajo continues to look for new funding streams.

DR. FRENCH’S TIPS FOR SUCCESS IN GRANT-SEEKING

Giving presentations and talks is something Dr. French advises other faculty to do whenever possible. It opens doors, builds networks and has the potential for introducing collaborators. Presentations are like rehearsals for the big “show”. They get you comfortable talking about and explaining your research to colleagues and lay people. Other pieces of advice Dr. French gives on grant seeking: 1) see the non-successful proposals as rehearsals. The biggest mistake you can make is to give up after not being funded and not try again. Use the comments given by the grant reviewers to address their concerns, make time to get and use the feedback from colleagues. 2) Be a reviewer for funding agencies (or run for FDC). If you can, attend the review panel meetings, you’ll learn a lot about the process and how proposals are reviewed. 3) Do everything “by the book” with the application process; this is where the Grants Office can help. Make sure all of the regulations and rules are followed so your proposal cannot be thrown out.

Grants and Foundation Relations

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Dr. Diego Mendez-Carbajo