

## University of San Diego Academic Grant Awards –Spring 2012

The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), established by the UN General Assembly, has awarded **Dee Aker**, Director, Women PeaceMakers Program, Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice (IPJ) \$16,920 to support the establishment of a sustainable Regional Network of Women Peace Makers in Asia. These funds were specifically designated to support Women Peace Makers' participation in the organization's third regional summit that was held in Cambodia from Dec 6- 15, 2011.

**Scott Anders**, Director, School of Law, Energy Policy Initiatives Center (EPIC) contracted (\$3,500) with the Yokogawa Electric Corporation of America to provide a content expert presentation and to be a participant in the Corporation's "Whole New World" scenario planning workshop held in February, 2012. Yokogawa has offices around the world, and are advocates of energy saving, environmental, and new energy solutions. The event was held at the GENI Center (Global Energy Network Institute) in San Diego. The GENI Initiative focuses on linking renewable energy resources around the world using international electricity transmission.

**Rae Anderson**, PhD, Physics, received the Young Investigator Research (YIR) Program grant from the Air Force Office of Scientific Research (AFOSR). The Program is open to scientists and engineers at national research institutions who received a PhD, or equivalent, degrees in the last five years and show exceptional ability and promise for conducting basic research. Dr. Anderson's research topic is elucidating the molecular dynamics, conformations, and interactions occurring in complex entangled biopolymer systems via novel single-molecule techniques. The YIR grant allows Dr. Anderson to bring a UC San Diego graduate student to her USD lab as a paid research assistant and gives USD undergraduate students a chance to do research with a graduate student.

**Rae Anderson**, PhD, Physics, was awarded a grant from the Air Force Office of Scientific Research (AFOSR) for the Young Investigator Research (YIF) Program. Scientists and engineers at national research institutions who received PhD, or equivalent, degrees in the last five years and show exceptional ability and promise for conducting basic research are eligible for the award; Anderson earned a piece of approximately \$18 million in AFOSR grant funding. Anderson's research topic is elucidating the molecular dynamics, conformations, and interactions occurring in complex entangled biopolymer systems via novel single-molecule techniques.

The Law School's **Center for the Study of Constitutional Originalism** (CSCO) received a \$250,000 grant from the Hugh & Hazel Darling Foundation. These funds will be used to sustain the center's annual Works-in-Progress Conference, create a fellowship to benefit a CSCO professor's scholarly work in the area of originalism, and support the expansion of the school's constitutional originalism speaker series.

**Timothy Clark**, PhD, Chemistry and Biochemistry, has successfully transferred to USD year two and three of his three-year NIH grant, "Developing the Synthetic Utility of the Copper-Catalyzed Diboration of Carbonyls and Imines." The project funded by NIH proposes to establish the synthetic utility of the resulting diboration products for accessing challenging functional group arrays. Research funds remaining for years two and three total \$353,376.

**Tim Clark**, PhD, Chemistry and Biochemistry, was recently awarded a 5-year, \$400,000, NSF-CAREER award. The Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Program is a Foundation-wide activity that offers the National Science Foundation's most prestigious awards in support of junior faculty who exemplify the role of teacher-scholar through outstanding research, excellent education and the integration of education and research within the context of the mission of their organizations. Dr. Clark's project title is "Substrate-Directed C-H Borylation Reactions." The research plan is designed to probe fundamental questions in organometallic chemistry that will lead to the development of ligand-directed borylation catalysts and is designed to include education and training opportunities for both high school and undergraduate students,

inspiring them to pursue careers in chemistry. A post-doctorate as well as two high school teachers will have the opportunity to gain the research experience integral to the goals of this project.

**Scott Himelstein**, PhD, Director, and **Julie Cramer**, MA, Senior Research Associate, Center for Education Policy and Law (CEPAL), School of Leadership and Education Sciences have been funded \$28,000 from the San Diego Public Library Foundation to assist the Foundation, the City of San Diego, and the Downtown Charter High (DCH) Governing Board in their desire to open a charter high school inside the San Diego New Central Library. CEPAL's participation in the "Strategic Development for Downtown Charter High," will include direction, overall coordination, technical support and guidance to DCH for: Obtaining state and private funding for the planning and implementation of the project; developing the Facilities Memorandum of Understanding and subsequent facilities design; and assisting the DCH Governing Board with the search and selection process for hiring the charter school director.

**Jane Georges**, PhD, Nursing, and Dr. Lori Montross, Assistant Director of Palliative Care Psychiatry Research at San Diego Hospice, have been awarded the MAPI Research Trust 2011 Catherine Pouget Research Award. The Pouget Award is a very prestigious and competitive research grant awarded annually for research contributing to the improvement of the quality of life for the terminally ill. Drs. Georges and Montross will study compassion fatigue and compassion satisfaction in hospice health care.

**Peter Iovine**, PhD, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry subcontracted (\$10,858) with Northern Kentucky University Research Foundation (NKURF), recipient of the National Science Foundation (NSF) prime award, to mentor two students for 10 weeks during summer 2012. The students will be participants in the REU (Research Experience for Undergraduates) program and while working on their synthesis of molecules projects in the lab with Dr. Iovine and other students will develop the lab skills and the knowledge to complete their synthetic project. This is the first of two additional subcontracts for mentoring in the summers of 2013 and 2014.

**Michelle Jacob**, PhD, Ethnic Studies, is the recipient of the Center for Native Health & Culture Faculty Fellowship to begin July 1st. During this \$65,700 one-year award, she will facilitate the development of the Center for Native health & Culture on the Yakama Reservation at Heritage University, Toppenish, Washington. The Center will engage in research, outreach, and partnership building to promote healthy and culturally vibrant Native communities. Dr. Jacob's research agenda is focused on tribal health and well-being, including diabetes, education, and cultural revitalization within the Yakama Nation and across Indian Country.

The Joan and Irwin Jacobs Fund of the Jewish Community Foundation has awarded \$350,000 to **SOLES Mobile Tech Learning Center** (MTLC). The MTLC will seek to collaborate with school districts, postsecondary institutions and research centers to improve the instructional practices of PK-12 leaders and educators using mobile learning technology such as mobile phones, smart tablets and other wireless devices. The goal is to extend and enrich PK-12 student learning.

**Alberto Pulida**, PhD, Ethnic Studies, is the recipient of a \$10,000 award for his project "Living Lowrider Culture in San Diego." The study examines lowrider culture as a cultural expression that is fundamentally relational and communal. It focuses on the "lived relations" that emerge out of lowrider culture and how the activities of building, customizing and driving a lowrider brings forth unique relationships, associations and cultural practices with others, and builds and affirms community. This Community Stories Grant is made possible with support from Cal Humanities, an independent non-profit state partner of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

**Patricia Roth**, EdD, Nursing PhD Director, received a grant from the Health Resources Services Administration for \$2.25 million (2011-2013) for forgivable loans for PhD Nursing students.

**Barbara Sarter**, PhD, Nursing, received a grant from the National Health Association Nutritional Research Project to do a study of DHA and EPA levels (omega-3 fatty acids) in vegans, with a sample of 250 participants.

**Ann Mayo**, DNSc, and **Linda Urden**, DNSc, Nursing, and Linda Searle Leach, UCLA, have been awarded a 2012 Research Seed Grant from the American Organization of Nurse Executives. The research team will study, “Advancing nurse leaders: A study to psychometrically test a measure of leadership development outcomes.”

**Ann Mayo**, DNSc, and **Linda Urden**, DNSc, Hahn School of Nursing and Health Science are the recipients of grant funds from the AONE Foundation for Nursing Leadership Research and Education (American Organization of Nurse Executives). The \$7,200 award supports the implementation of their project, “A Research Study to Psychometrically Test a Measure of Leadership Development Outcomes.” The research team is proposing to conduct psychometric testing on two nurse leadership development outcome surveys, a nurse leader version and an employer version. This research promises to advance the science of nurse leadership development so that outcomes can be measured using a valid and reliable instrument.