

GRANTS IN AID OF RESEARCH AWARDS (GIAR)

March 2024 Grant Cycle
Grant Recipients by Discipline

ANTHROPOLOGY				
First Name	Last Name	Education Status	Institution	Study Title
Austin	Butler	Masters Student	University of North Carolina at Charlotte	Vocal Responses to Olfactory Stimuli in Ruffed Lemurs (<i>Varecia</i> spp.)
Silvia	Carboni	Doctoral Student	University of Calgary	Exploring the Interplay between Olfaction and Microbes in two Sympatric Species of Wild Peruvian Tamarins
Erica	Kilius	Doctoral Student	University of Toronto	Sleep architecture and nighttime vigilance in a rural agropastoral community in South Africa
BEHAVIORAL ECOLOGY				
First Name	Last Name	Education Status	Institution	Study Title
James	Boothroyd	Doctoral Student	University of Florida	The extent of male reproductive trade-offs in dynamic nutritional environments
Jacob	Haney	Doctoral Student	University of Toronto	The influence of plastic pollution on fish behavior in freshwater boreal lakes
Johanna	Nelson	Doctoral Student	The University of Alabama	Parental care and its role in shaping offspring phenotype: does developmental stage of offspring matter?
Claire	O'Connell	Doctoral Student	University of Cincinnati-Main Campus	Quantifying relationship formation between strangers in monk parakeets
Laney	Woynaroski	Undergraduate Student	The University of Alabama	The Effects of Microplastics on Sex Ratios of Mangrove <i>Rivulus</i>
CELL BIOLOGY/BIOCHEMISTRY				
First Name	Last Name	Education Status	Institution	Study Title
Surabhi	Abhyankar	Doctoral Student	Purdue University	APOE4-Induced Mitochondrial Impairment and Kir4.1 Downregulation in Rat Müller Cells

CELL BIOLOGY/BIOCHEMISTRY CONT.

First Name	Last Name	Education Status	Institution	Study Title
Sepideh	Cheheltani	Doctoral Student	University of Delaware	Actin regulation of the Aquaporin 0 water channel in the eye lens
Nicole	Chrysler	Undergraduate Student	University of Toronto	Investigating the Role of CD4+CD57+PD-1+ T Cells in Lung Allograft Dysfunction
Sachin Anil	Ghag	Doctoral Student	Indiana University-Bloomington	Determine the mechanism by which SLC4A11 is trafficked to the lysosomes.
Arnold	Leigh	Doctoral Student	George Washington University	The Efficacy of the Systane iLux System on Preoperative Cataract Patients on Dry Eye Disease as a result of Meibomian Gland Dysfunction
Surya	Marjit	Masters Student	CUNY City College	Sustained-Release Formulation of Adalimumab (SuRFA): Development of Injectable Deposits With Temperature Stability and Extended Drug Delivery
Nolan	McKibben	Undergraduate Student	The University of Alabama	Maternal Supplementation of Lutein on Retinopathy of Prematurity: A Pre-Clinical Study in the Golden Mouse Model for Carotenoid Research
Michelle	Ozaki	Doctoral Student	Oregon Health & Science University	Postpartum liver fibroblasts in driving liver metastasis in young women's breast cancer
Raphael Ren-Yian	Shu	Undergraduate Student	Emory University	Characterizing inflammasome signaling crosstalk in cutaneous skin carcinoma

CHEMISTRY

First Name	Last Name	Education Status	Institution	Study Title
August	Bozarth	Undergraduate Student	Northern Kentucky University	PLAL-synthesized composite Au-TiO ₂ nanoparticles as catalysts for biomass oxidation
Danyang	Liu	Doctoral Student	Saint Louis University	Thermodynamic Characterization of RNA Duplexes Containing Inosine for Improved Structure Prediction

COMPUTER SCIENCE/MATHEMATICS				
First Name	Last Name	Education Status	Institution	Study Title
Anagha	Lokhande	Doctoral Student	Brown University	Developing Race-Specific Artificial Intelligence Risk Models for Glaucoma Progression
Xihan	Qin	Doctoral Student	University of Delaware	Improving Disease Comorbidity Prediction using Biologically Supervised Embedding on Human Interactome
CONSERVATION BIOLOGY				
First Name	Last Name	Education Status	Institution	Study Title
Alexandra	DeLuca	Masters Student	University of North Carolina Wilmington	On Vole Patrol: The Quest for Rock Voles (<i>Microtus chrotorrhinus</i>) in the Spruce-Fir Forests of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park
Shannon	Dixon	Doctoral Student	Ohio State University-Main Campus	Does Underwater Zooplankton Enhancement Light Array (UZELA) Increase Coral Resilience to Bleaching?
Laurel	Field	Doctoral Student	Florida State University	Investigating the drivers of differential coral bleaching event outcomes in Bonaire
Luis	Hurtado	Undergraduate Student	Texas A & M University	Environmental DNA detection of an endangered moss
ECOLOGY				
First Name	Last Name	Education Status	Institution	Study Title
Tess	Avery	Masters Student	University of Delaware	Developing an integrative tool kit for non-invasively assessing the diet of the Sand Tiger Shark and quantifying their effect on managed species in Delaware Bay
Marissa	Calvert	Masters Student	Georgia Southern University	Investigating Impacts of Climate Change on Southeast Coastal Plain Vegetative Phenology
Oleksii	Dubovyk	Doctoral Student	Old Dominion University	Nest type and urbanization level as predictors of foraging decisions in potential nest predators
Oluwatobi	Fijabi	Doctoral Student	The University of Alabama	Wolbachia and Metabolic Fitness in <i>Drosophila</i> : A Natural Diet Narrative

ECOLOGY CONT.				
First Name	Last Name	Education Status	Institution	Study Title
Holly	Gamblin	Doctoral Student	University of Manitoba	Changing biomes: Implications of a rapidly shifting landscape on Arctic foxes
Mehriban	Jafarova	Doctoral Student	Trent University	Unravelling the drivers of atmospheric microplastic pollution across Europe using mosses
Dakota	Lewis	Doctoral Student	University of Florida	Quantifying the Effects of Extreme Heat Stress on Coral Reef Fish Trophic Dynamics
Melissa	Palmisciano	Doctoral Student	Stanford University	Effects of ocean acidification on disease incidence in Posidonia oceanica
Alexandria	Pequeno	Undergraduate Student	Cornell University	Does Barley Yellow Dwarf Virus infection and drought affect aphid fecundity?
Amelia	Ritger	Doctoral Student	University of California- Santa Barbara	Unifying traditional knowledge and climate science to monitor climate change impacts on a cultural keystone species
Emily	Weintraub	Doctoral Student	University of Massachusetts-Boston	Nectar microbial communities and hydrogen peroxide plant defense: have microbes evolved resistance?
Michelle	White	Doctoral Student	Princeton University	Developing a Machine Learning Platform for Field-Based Sweat Bee Species Identification
ENGINEERING				
First Name	Last Name	Education Status	Institution	Study Title
Christopher	Smith	Undergraduate Student	Northeastern University	Investigating the permeability of bevacizumab across the blood-brain barrier for pediatric glioblastomas using vascularized microfluidic models
Amruta Shashikant	Vaghela	Doctoral Student	Iowa State University	Investigating the Molecular Fingerprint of Crenulated Wavy Enamel (CWE) in Hadrosaurid Dinosaurs

GEOSCIENCES				
First Name	Last Name	Education Status	Institution	Study Title
Garrett	Braniecki	Doctoral Student	University of North Carolina Wilmington	Comparing Seasonal Sea Surface Temperatures from Oxygen Isotope Ratios and Clumped Isotopes Recorded in <i>Mercenaria</i> spp. Shells During the Plio-Pleistocene.
Ran	He	Doctoral Student	Pennsylvania State University	Ironstones in the Appalachian Basin: Understanding Siderite Clumped Isotope Solid-state Reordering Kinetics Using Paleozoic Terrestrial Siderite Nodules
Daniel	Sheikh	Doctoral Student	Portland State University	Electron Backscatter Diffraction (EBSD) Study of Pink Spinel Anorthosite (PSA) Clasts in Lunar Dimict Breccia Northwest Africa (NWA) 15500: Constraints on PSA Petrogenesis and Shock Deformation History
PHYSICS/ASTRONOMY				
First Name	Last Name	Education Status	Institution	Study Title
Kester	Anyang	Doctoral Student	Illinois Institute of Technology	Low Mass Particle Dark Matter Detection With Quantum Sensors
Aris	Dakanalis	Doctoral Student	University of College London, United Kingdom	Encoding Astronomy into Engineering: The Antikythera Mechanism
Erik	Solhaug	Doctoral Student	University of Chicago	Deciphering the Hydrogen Ly α Line in Early Universe Galaxies
Andrea	Valentini	Doctoral Student	Technical University of Denmark	Fast-ion phase-space tomography in D-T fusion plasmas at JET
PHYSIOLOGY/FUNCTIONAL MORPHOLOGY				
First Name	Last Name	Education Status	Institution	Study Title
Jonathan	Ballard	Undergraduate Student	Eckerd College	Determining the Impact of Thermal Stress and Hypoxia on adult Stone Crab (<i>Menippe mercenaria</i>) Physiology

PHYSIOLOGY/FUNCTIONAL MORPHOLOGY CONT.

First Name	Last Name	Education Status	Institution	Study Title
Chloe	Chiu	Masters Student	Ohio State University-Main Campus	Uncovering reproductive consequences of seasonal differences in mosquito ejaculate
Hansika	Herath	Doctoral Student	University of Kentucky	Thermotolerance differences among different life stages of the tropical plant <i>Marchantia inflexa</i>
Joshua	Watkins	Doctoral Student	Indiana University-Bloomington	The Effects of Xylazine on Fentanyl-induced Respiratory Depression

PSYCHOLOGY

First Name	Last Name	Education Status	Institution	Study Title
Kamil	Celoch	Doctoral Student	Florida International University	Psychophysiological Regulation During Cycle Ergometry in Low-Tolerant Individuals
Folly	Folivi	Masters Student	College of William and Mary	Utility of EEG-based Neurometrics to Examine Cognitive Processes of Moral Injury and Moral Conviction
Katie	Monske	Doctoral Student	Central Michigan University	Training Self-control in a Rodent Model of ADHD

SYSTEMATICS/EVOLUTIONARY BIOLOGY

First Name	Last Name	Education Status	Institution	Study Title
Joe	Deckhut	Masters Student	East Washington University	Testing geographic isolation or range overlap between two Late Oligocene crocodylians, <i>Australosuchus clarkae</i> and <i>Baru wickeni</i>
Emily	Hillan	Doctoral Student	University of Chicago	Investigating the Genetic Regulation of Pelvic Girdle Development in Zebrafish
Callie	Mauersberg	Masters Student	Georgia Southern University	Long-term microplastic persistence in neural tissues of <i>Danio rerio</i>