



The
Researcher:
HPU Engaged

Fall 2014

OFFICE OF RESEARCH ADMINISTRATION AND SPONSORED PROGRAMS

IN THIS ISSUE

Research on Campus

We have one outstanding team of faculty here at High Point University! We were awarded No. 1 for Best Undergraduate Teaching in Regional Colleges in the South, and in the following quote, Dr. Nido Qubein, HPU president, says that's not by mistake. "HPU students are mentored by dedicated faculty who appreciate their role as enablers of learning,"

However, it's not just the students, or Dr. Qubein who thinks our faculty team is great; we here at RASP appreciate all you do as well! We would love to assist you in furthering your success by supporting you in finding and applying for a grant today! We would love to be your guide through all of the steps along the process, and to help turn your research dreams in to realities.

Let us know if we can help you to start your own research on campus! If you have any ideas or suggestions, or would like to start a grant proposal of your own, please email us at rasp@highpoint.edu. As always, call us if we can be of assistance!

Sincerely,

Director
Research Administration & Sponsored Programs



Interesting Opportunities

➤ [National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship \(NEH\)](#)

Fellowships support individuals pursuing advanced research that is of value to humanities scholars, general audiences, or both. Recipients usually produce articles, monographs, books, digital materials, archaeological site reports, translations, editions, or other scholarly resources in the humanities. Projects may be at any stage of development. Fellowships cover periods lasting from six to twelve months at a stipend of \$4,200 per month. The maximum stipend is \$50,400 for a 12-month period.

Deadline: April 30, 2015

➤ [The Social Psychology Program](#)

The Social Psychology Program at NSF supports basic research on human social behavior, including cultural differences and development over the life span. The scientific merit of a proposal depends on four important factors: (1) the problems investigated must be theoretically grounded. (2) The research should be based on empirical observation or be subject to empirical validation. (3) The research design must be appropriate to the questions asked. (4) The proposed research must advance basic understanding of social behavior.

Deadline: April 30, 2015



Research Spotlight

Dr. Amy MacArthur shares her experience with being recently awarded a \$22,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities under the Enduring Questions program, and how her research is going so far. As well as how preparation for her upcoming class, "What is conscious" is coming for next spring.

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University Research Committee

High Point University has just established a University Research Committee. The URC will assist in the expansion of High Point University's research enterprise by advising on research-related issues and identifying emerging areas of research interest or concern.

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RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT

If anyone knows about the daunting task of applying for a grant, writing a proposal, and waiting until a decision has been made, it's Dr. Amy MacArthur. She recently received the National Endowment for the Humanities under the Enduring Questions Program, and has spent her summer researching the question 'What is Conscience' for an upcoming class she will be teaching next spring. This was Dr. MacArthur's first grant proposal, and it has already produced amazing results so far! Allow her ambitions and accomplishments to inspire you to look into grant proposals as well.

Sponsored research in the humanities can be scant, so she wasn't exactly sure what to expect when she first started out "The process was made much smoother with the aid of Tim Linker in the Office of Research Administration and Sponsored Programs," says Dr. MacArthur, "Grant opportunities in the humanities are very rare so I counted on Tim throughout the process, from notifying me about the grant in the first place, to filling out the paperwork and getting the required signatures, to connecting with my grant coordinator at the NEH."

After discovering the grant, she found that writing the proposal was the most challenging step. "The question 'What is Conscience?' is a big one and I had to decide what I wanted to emphasize about it when constructing the course." Dr. MacArthur explains, "I finally decided on a four-part structure to the course that will approach the topic of conscience from philosophical, religious, historical, and socio-political perspectives.

Despite her hesitation getting started, her research is going well so far "I am currently continuing my research for the course. My aim is to become an expert on this topic not only to be able teach the course with authority but to expand my professional research in this direction as well."



She says "Obviously, it is a topic I am very interested in, so this grant opportunity has served me well on a number of levels. Because I plan to teach this course in the spring, I will be spending the next few months continuing to refine the content of the course as well as arranging some of the outside-the-classroom activities I've planned to accompany the course" These activities include a panel discussion with faculty from various disciplines on the topic of conscience, and a field trip to the International Civil Rights Center in Greensboro.

She has advice for others who are looking at starting their own grant proposals as well "Coming from the humanities, the idea of proposing a grant was both foreign and intimidating," says Dr. MacArthur "However, a few things really helped with the process. First, I would not have thought of applying for a grant if Dr. Stoneking and Dr. Carroll had not suggested it at my fifth-year review. Second, the support of Tim Linker was absolutely essential in providing the motivation and the background work I needed to complete the proposal.

The Office of Research and Sponsored Programs and the availability of the staff and resources within were also vital to her experience. "Tim made the process much less daunting and his encouragement along the way was crucial to keeping me on time, on track, and hopeful about my prospects," says Dr. MacArthur "I would highly recommend his help to any faculty member interested in seeking a grant to fund his/her professional development.

At a minimum, Tim can provide information regarding the kinds of grants available in every field, and beyond that he can take care of all the details involved in proposing a grant, which many faculty may find off-putting when first getting started. I would also suggest that faculty consult previously submitted successful proposals for guidance regarding what those awarding the grant are seeking. Finally, be prepared to invest a lot of time in writing the proposal. Tim will take care of the details involved in the process, but the proposal itself should be well-researched and as polished as possible."

University Research Committee

Mission: To serve as the faculty's voice to executive administration on research-related issues and to identify emerging areas of research, interest, or concern at High Point University.

Responsibilities: To: 1) advise the Vice President of Research and Planning and to Encourage and support the scholarly and research interests of the university. 2) Evaluate and advise on research and administration policies and procedures and to promote their continuous improvement. 3) Develop on-going and long-term plans to develop the research enterprise. 4) To review and recommend the establishment of research centers and institutes; and 5) to assist in the promotion and evaluation of all university-sponsored seed funding programs.



Members:

1. Dr. Brian Augustine, *Professor and Chair of the Department of Chemistry*
2. Dr. Briana Fiser, *Assistant Professor, Department of Physics*
3. Dr. Kevin Ford, *Associate Professor, Department of Physical Therapy*
4. Dr. Daniel Hall, *Assistant Professor, Department of Accounting, Finance, and Economics*
5. Dr. Scott Hemby, *Professor and Chair of Basic Pharmaceutical Sciences*
6. Dr. Amy MacArthur, *Assistant Professor, Department of Religion and Philosophy*
7. Dr. Virginia McDermott, *Associate Professor and Associate Dean, School of Communication*
8. Dr. Sarah Vess, *Assistant Professor, Special Education*
9. Dr. Brad Barlow, *Assistant Professor of Astrophysics*