

**University of North Georgia
2018 Presidential Incentive Awards**

Semester Incentive Awards

**University of North Georgia
2018 Presidential Incentive Awards**

Presidential Summer Incentive Awards

University of North Georgia 2018 Presidential Incentive Awards

Identity at the Margins: U.S. National Parks in the Caribbean and the Pacific Spike, Tamara (Arts & Letters)

Part of the mission of the United States National Park Service (NPS) is to protect and preserve the “cultural resources” of the nation and its lands: in other words, its history. In preserving, curating, and disseminating the history of the United States to the public in and through these parks, the NPS possesses an extremely important and even magnified, voice: in essence, the park visitors’ centers, publicly displayed collections, and interpretative signage speaks on behalf of the government and the nation, and presents an “official” history to American and international visitors alike. This history includes, of course, not only the history of the fifty states and the nation since its foundation, but also the history of the territorial holdings of the U.S. and

**University of North Georgia
2018 Presidential Incentive Awards**

University of North Georgia 2018 Presidential Incentive Awards

Morphostratigraphic Framework of Sapelo Island, GA: The Link Between Pleistocene and Holocene-Aged Barrier Island Evolution

Seminack, Christopher (IESA)

The proposed project will investigate the evolutionary history of Sapelo Island, GA. During the most recent oceanic transgression (10,000 years ago to present day), Sapelo Island has migrated landward and subsequently welded onto a Pleistocene-aged (2.6-0.01 million years ago) barrier island. This geologic setting allows for a unique comparison of barrier-island evolution. Additionally, it allows the opportunity to compare preserved intense storm signatures (i.e., erosional truncations) within the ancient and modern geologic record. A ground-penetrating radar survey will be conducted along the barrier island to image subsurface features. Four 6-m sediment cores will be collected to ground truth the ground-penetrating radar data, in addition to supplying sediment samples for grain-size analysis. Sediment samples will be used to correlate the barrier island stratigraphy. Data collected from this study will ultimately be used to develop a past and future evolutionary model of Sapelo Island. Land-use managers can utilize findings from this study to create proactive strategies for future intense storms and the continued effects of accelerated sea-level rise. The proposed project will be used to collect preliminary data to be included in future proposals for external funding, and will assist in helping achieve the current UNG strategic plan by promoting academic excellence and innovation. Furthermore, undergraduate students will be incorporated into the study to promote a unique, outside-the-classroom learning experience. Finally, results from the proposed study will be presented as an oral presentation at a future Geological Society of

University of North Georgia 2018 Presidential Incentive Awards

Voices on the Air: Sing-Along Radio, Imagined Community, and the Production of American Culture in the 1930s

Morgan-Ellis, Esther (Arts & Letters)

Community singing played a prominent role in American life throughout the first half of the twentieth century. In 1913, music educators launched the community singing movement as a tool to increase public interest in music, encourage literacy, foster the habit of participatory music making, and promote white, middle-class, Protestant values. The Great War transformed the community singing movement from a niche project into a national imperative. Civilian song leaders were installed in all of the Army and Navy training camps, and vast throngs of Americans began to engage in patriotic community singing as part of the war effort. By the time the war had come to a close, most Americans had developed a taste for sing-alongs, and the practice quickly entered the sphere of popular entertainment. Throughout the 1920s, theater organists led community signing as part of the motion picture program. When sound technology and the Great Depression drove organists from their posts in 1929, live song leaders were quickly replaced by sing-along films, which were widespread until World War II again transformed the landscape of popular entertainment.

I have documented and discussed the various components of this narrative in my work. I now

University of North Georgia 2018 Presidential Incentive Awards

most difficult and complex problems. We must begin developing this and future generations as global stewards. The shift from global citizen to global steward is not simply a vocabulary shift, but a culture shift in how we prepare students to take their place as global leaders. As educators, we have a responsibility to our society and our world to prepare our students to be leaders, not simply global citizens, but rather global stewards.

The primary goal of this project is to assess the impact of study abroad programs on students who participate in a variety of structures, focuses, and curricular international programs abroad. We aim to measure the dispositional shift of students participating in three dynamically different study abroad programs at UNG to determine if these factors have any impact on the overall experience of the development of students into global stewards.

The potential impact of this study could be far reaching within the curricular design of study abroad programs at UNG, but also at the national level. The multidisciplinary focus of the study and potential demographic differences in target populations will be highly informative should we find that dispositional shift in the variable population is greater than the control population. This project will directly impact the preparation of both civilian and military students for programs abroad in future years, as well as potentially impact the body of literature for the field. Not only will the impacts of this study impact the practice of teaching and learning related to creating global stewards and preparing our student body to be global leaders, it will offer insight into the critical elements of the transformative nature of programs abroad. This study will also inform the manner in which the Center for Global Engagement prepares faculty members and students for their programs abroad. Additionally, the explicit n

University of North Georgia 2018 Presidential Incentive Awards

The specific flow of immigration from Mexico to the United States is the largest immigration flow in the world, and is one that has been examined widely in the literature. When the undocumented population is the focus, researchers have relied on methods using Census data from the U.S. and Mexico, household survey data such as the Mexican Migration Project, or reported data from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to create estimates for the undocumented population. However, the matrícula consular (consular card) data available through the Instituto de los Mexicanos en el Exterior (IME) presents an opportunity to more accurately portray the undocumented Mexican population in the U.S., connecting immigrants' Mexican states of origin with U.S. states of residence.

The central importance of this proposed project directly relates to the wider importance of quality of data, as rigorous, valid empirical analysis is not possible without first having quality data. Not only will my analysis depict the geography of the undocumented Mexican population in the U.S. more fully and accurately than the literature has previously achieved, it will set the table for subsequent research studying social, economic, and political effects related to this population. Included in the subsequent research that would be made possible by this data analysis is how the undocumented population connects to questions of labor market outcomes, immigration policy from individual U.S. states, and selection on education, among others.

Ethics Diagnostic Initiative

Black, William (Business)

Ethics are frequently discussed in academics and business, but how do we know that our attempts to teach ethics are effective? A collaborative interdisciplinary project examining the impact of teaching ethics supports the vision of the University of North Georgia. The proposed research explores students' perceptions of acceptable business practices in both a longitudinal and training context, by constructing an online diagnostic instrument presenting vignettes related to ethical issues and obtaining responses regarding those vignettes. The research is designed to facilitate exploring relationships within the responses and identify significant patterns in attitudes by respondent characteristics.

The online instrument will be hosted by the BB&T Center for Ethical Leadership in support of its mission to develop ethical leaders and to become a catalyst for ethical thought, analysis and engagement. It will be programmed in Qualtrics by UNG Psychological Science faculty experienced in the development, administration, and support of statistically and structurally valid survey instruments. While it will initially be made available to University of North Georgia faculty for classroom use, further plans are to make it available to other faculty and businesses as well, impacting the teaching of ethics throughout the United States.

Initial project outcomes include the development of the online instrument, online availability through the Center, and the development of an academic paper summarizing the project. Later outcomes could include research such as longitudinal analysis of patterns in responses, cross-sectional analysis, and identification of effective instructional practices. The research team expects that the ethics diagnostic initiative can also be helpful in strengthening connections to the business community.

**University of North Georgia
2018 Presidential Incentive Awards**

How much are students willing to pay for online class and why
Han, Yongseung (Business, Science & Math)

Our project is to conduct a survey of students on UNG's five campuses to determine students'

University of North Georgia 2018 Presidential Incentive Awards

these practices into one interconnected innovative study abroad program? What, if any, change could such a program produce in students? How can these changes be explained? Finally, what are potential short-term effects of these changes for our students? These are precisely the questions that this proposed research project aims to answer.

Developing a teaching and research herbarium for the Gainesville Campus of the University of North Georgia

Diggs, James (Science & Math)

An herbarium is a collection of dried and pressed plant specimens properly labeled with taxonomic information as well as contextual information about how and where that specimen was collected. Herbaria have a long history in the scientific community of being indispensable records of natural history as well as invaluable tools for teaching and research. They are repositories for dried biological tissue, have been used for taxonomic and ecological research, and are frequently used in undergraduate institutions to teach many of the principles of botany, plant physiology, plant morphology, secondary chemistry and plant defense, and many other subjects. The Biology department on the Gainesville Campus has been expanding its natural history museum over the past two years to include facilities for preserved bird, insect, fungal, and plant specimens. We seek to continue developing these resources for the University. We plan to properly mount and label existing high-quality specimens and provide for the continued preservation and maintenance of the collection. We also plan to photograph the collection and establish an accession database for the specimens, and make this resource available online for the use of the public at large.

Biomanufacturing High-Value Furan-Containing Compounds to Expedite The

University of North Georgia 2018 Presidential Incentive Awards

platform is designed to mass-produce precursors for biofuels and biomaterials. As one can imagine, industrial applications of such platform will usher in a new era for the synthesis of furan compounds to meet the needs of industrial biofuel and other biomaterial products via “green chemistry” with less environmental impacts.

This project will provide excellent training and research opportunities at UNG and greatly contribute to increasing the retention of students in STEM fields. The multifaceted nature of this research spans the core disciplines of chemistry,

**University of North Georgia
2018 Presidential Incentive Awards**

**University of North Georgia
2018 Presidential Incentive Awards**

University of North Georgia 2018 Presidential Incentive Awards

fundamental areas of the USG core curriculum: Area C: humanities/fine arts and ethics; Area D: natural sciences, mathematics, and technology; and Area E: social sciences. This course will allow students to develop their Chinese language competence, academic knowledge of environmental studies as well as critical thinking skills that relate to global issues of sustainability.

I can read Mathematics but I cannot write Mathematics

Kim, Minsu (Science & Math)

Developing educational technology improves the student learning environment and pedagogical methods. Online homework systems such as WebAssign, Mymathlab, and WeBWork help UNG students improve their learning in math because of prompt feedback, accessibility, supplemental explanations, and visual materials. Instructors can focus on student progress because of learning management systems on the online homework systems instead of grading homework. Yet most math instructors at UNG have concerns that students' writing in math is getting worse and intermediate students still struggle with learning mathematics. Even though writing in math is an essential component to develop conceptual understanding of content in the learning process, students have limited opportunities to improve their writing in math through the online homework systems, visual materials, and lecture-centered learning. The purpose of this project is to promote student conceptual understanding of mathematics content, engagement, achievement, and critical thinking through the intensive development of writing in mathematics in blended learning. The use of the educational applications, Google Classroom, Mathist, Mathematics, and GeoGebra, will encourage students to develop writing in math and collaborative learning inside and outside class.

Captured Experiences

Rice, Shawn (Health Sciences)

This project aims to capture and catalog experiences using two stereoscopic 360 degree 4k cameras. This content would later be viewed through head-mounted displays (HMDs) such as the Oculus Rift, HTC Vive, windows mixed reality headsets and others. I will then work with UNG IT to create policies and procedures that gives CHSP the chance to bring these high quality experiences to our students. This project could potentially interact with nearly all of CHSP in many different ways. Faculty could create compilations to compare and contrast healthcare discrepancies, such as allowing students to experience hospital waiting rooms in different countries. Students could sit in on surgeries or watch themselves in a simulation from the eyes and ears of the patient. We will be able to bring back experiences from global engagement trips, which could help with recruiting and general support for subsequent trips. We could livestream important events through various channels to increase visibility and allow participation for those who are unable to attend due to distance, injury or illness. Diversity training can bridge boundaries faster by immersing students in situations that they would otherwise have no way of experiencing on their own. We will primarily start by reaching out to faculty and staff for individual and course projects. Once we capture content and faculty are able to experience the effects of this new medium, I believe the demand for content and HMDs will increase dramatically. This will create a desire for research that demonstrates the medium's effectiveness and student feedback. While this is happening, the price of HMDs will be continually going

University of North Georgia
2018 Presidential Incentive Awards

demographic groups. They are also hospitalized three times more than all age group combined. Most importantly, due to natural process of aging, they encounter difficulty in reading, understanding, and acting on drug fact information related to OTC medications. The purpose of this study is to examine the extent to which the problem of comprehension exists in drug fact labels and whether varying the media presentation type (from print text to voice) has an effect in reducing the risks of OTC medications among older adults. Overall, this research attempts to

University of North Georgia 2018 Presidential Incentive Awards

Alliance@Work: Improving Communication and Presentation Skills for Business Students

Kronenberg, Steven (Business)

We all recognize the importance of effective communications and the ability to authentically relate to clients. As both the new Director and a current student in the Cottrell MBA program, I see young professionals struggle in this area and hear from them that they would like to have more opportunities that would support improvement in communication and presentation skills. This project focuses on training that merges the fundamentals of communication and collaboration with the process of creating powerful performance. Working with professional theatre directors and actors, graduate students will learn how to communicate in a focused and