

February 2, 2009

CSUPERB is pleased to announce that 24 Faculty-Student Collaborative Research Seed Grant awards were made in the fall 2008 round of funding. The awards total \$358,205 and were granted to CSU faculty from 13 different universities. CSUPERB received 86 proposals from faculty at 20 different CSU campuses. The Faculty-Student Collaborative Research Seed Grant program aims to increase the overall number of externally funded research investigators at CSU universities and provide biotechnology research opportunities for CSU students.

The following Seed awards were made:

1. **Tzvia Abramson** (Biological Sciences, San José State University)
Award: \$15,000 for the proposal titled "Intestinal inflammation in human is associated with elevated blood alpha4beta7 plasmablasts."
2. **Steve Alas** (Biological Sciences, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona)
Award: \$13,758 for the proposal titled "Inflammatory Response to Experimental Human Prosthetic Metal Alloys."
3. **José de la Torre** (Biology, San Francisco State University)
Award: \$15,000 for the proposal titled "Student Research on the Isolation and Characterization of Thermophilic Nitrifiers."
4. **Jesse Dillon** (Biological Sciences, California State University, Long Beach)
Award: \$15,000 for the proposal titled "Proteomics-based Screening of Halophilic Microorganisms for Novel Enzymes."

5. **Robert Edwards** (Computer Science, San Diego State University)
Award: \$15,000 for the proposal titled “Cell Phone Bioinformatics.”

6. **Rodney Feazell** (Chemistry, California State University, Sacramento)
Award: \$15,000 for the proposal titled “Novel Ruthenium Phosphinite Complexes as Anticancer Drugs.”

7. **Kirsten Fisher** (Biological Sciences, California State University, Los Angeles)
Award: \$14,995 for the proposal titled “Phylogenetic and Physiological Diversity of the Model Desiccation Tolerant Moss, *Syntrichia ruralis*.”

8. **Joy Goto** (Chemistry, California State University, Fresno)
Award: \$15,000 for the proposal titled “Metal Ion Homeostasis and Oxidative Stress in a Fruit Fly Model of Alzheimer’s Disease.”

9. **John Hafernik** (Biology, San Francisco State University)
Award: \$15,000 for the proposal titled “Ecoinformatics of the new California Academy of Sciences 'Green Rooftop'.”

10. **Danika LeDuc** (Chemistry, California State University, East Bay)
Award: \$15,000 for the proposal titled “Elucidating the Molecular Mechanism of Selenium Hyperaccumulation in *Stanleya pinnata*.”

11. **Junjun Liu** (Biological Sciences, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona)
Award: \$15,000 for the proposal titled “Functional study of a novel *Xenopus* polo-like kinase 1 substrate.”

12. **Philip Lukeman** (Chemistry, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona)
Award: \$14,965 for the proposal titled “Positional Photocleavage Control of Nucleic Acid Nanoswitches.”

13. **Alison Miyamoto** (Biological Sciences, California State University, Fullerton)
Award: \$15,000 for the proposal titled “A role for MAGP-2 in ovarian cancer.”

14. **Hendrik Postma** (Physics and Astronomy, California State University, Northridge)
Award: \$15,000 for the proposal titled “Transverse conductance of ssDNA in graphene nanogaps.”

15. **Scott Russell** (Chemistry, California State University, Stanislaus)
Award: \$15,000 for the proposal titled “Rapid detection of plasmid-encoded protein toxins from Bacillus spores via matrix-assisted laser desorption/ionization mass spectrometry.”

16. **Guna Selvaduray** (Chemical and Materials Engineering, San José State University)
Award: \$14,600 for the proposal titled “Fatigue Testing of Metallic Wires for Medical Implants.”

17. **Kevin Sinchak** (Biological Sciences, California State University, Long Beach)
Award: \$15,000 for the proposal titled “Colocalization of proopiomelanocortin and nociceptin receptor mRNA expression in neurons that project to the medial preoptic nucleus.”

18. **Thomas Spady** (Biological Sciences, California State University, San Marcos)
Award: \$14,992 for the proposal titled “Applying biotechnology towards bear conservation.”

19. **Christos Stathopoulos** (Biological Sciences, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona)
Award: \$15,000 for the proposal titled “Characterization of Novel Virulence Factors of *Yersinia pestis*, the Causative Agent of Plague.”
20. **Kwok-Siong Teh** (Engineering, San Francisco State University)
Award: \$15,000 for the proposal titled “Directed Migration of Cells Through the Influence of Metal Oxide nanowires on Lamellipodia Filopodia, and Focal Adhesions.”
21. **Charles Tenney** (Physics, California State University, Fresno)
Award: \$15,000 for the proposal titled “A Staggered Array of Pinhole Cameras for Nuclear Imaging of the Breast.”
22. **Stacey Thompson** (Biological Sciences, California State University, Los Angeles)
Award: \$15,000 for the proposal titled “Risk assessment of trees with novel traits through population genomics.”
23. **Roland Wolkowicz** (Biology, San Diego State University)
Award: \$15,000 for the proposal titled “Construction of a random peptide library for nuclear expression in mammalian cells.”
24. **Yuanxiang Zhao** (Biological Sciences, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona)
Award: \$14,895 for the proposal titled “The Effect of Bisphenol A On The Adipogenic Differentiation of Human Mesenchymal Stem Cells.”

Abstracts describing CSUPERB funded projects are available at www.calstate.edu/csuperb. For more information about CSUPERB grants and awards programs, contact Susan Baxter (sbaxter@mail.sdsu.edu).