Global Education Center Grants Provide Funding to Faculty to Support International Initiatives

Since the fall of 1990, the Global Education Center has provided funds for many successful international projects and initiatives by faculty through its bi-annual Global Education Grants. This special program continues to encourage faculty and staff to internationalize the university and develop global expertise in their disciplines through collaborations, teaching exchanges, development of new partnerships and other initiatives. See http://www.montclair.edu/global-education/connecting-globally/global-education-grants/ for past awards and upcoming Call for Proposals. The following faculty and staff received awards in the Fall 2016 competition.

Livia Alexander received a Global Education grant in the amount of $1,500. Professor Alexander will undertake an exploratory trip to MSU partner institution University of Agder in Norway, with the aim of researching, collaborating with, and developing a three-year student exchange program plan at University of Agder that will greatly expand opportunities for students with majors in the Department of Art and Design while keeping tuition costs low. The trip will build upon the strong relationship that already exists between the two universities.

Yeon Bai received a Global Education grant in the amount of $1,000. Professor Bai’s efforts will focus on a cross-cultural partnership in the works between Montclair State University and South Korea’s Chungbuk National University, and specifically on Veggiecation, an interactive nutrition education and behavior change program geared towards improving the eating habits of young children in South Korea, and to improve overall healthy eating habits. The project entails close, international collaboration between the two institutions, and has been going on since 2014, with plans to continue into 2017.

Amanda Birnbaum and Lisa Lieberman received a Global Education grant in the amount of $3,000. Professors Birnbaum and Lieberman, accompanied by Ann Schurmann (Public Health), will expand a new partnership with the Dominican Republic, specifically with the Dominican Ministry of Higher Education, Science, and Technology (MESCyT), which has an international scholarship program for Dominican professionals to travel abroad to earn master’s degrees. MSU is one of eight participating universities in the program. The grant will enable the team to travel to the Dominican Republic to help build a strong foundation and ensure the long-lasting strength of this new partnership.
This joint proposal received a Global Education grant in the amount of $1,500. The grant will help fund an international collaboration between Montclair State University and Giuseppe Ceraudo, a subject matter expert in Geographical Information Systems (GIS) and aerial photography applied to the study of Roman archaeology. The grant will help fund his visit to Montclair State University where he will participate in the collaboration with Professors Aryamontri, Pope, Renner and Yu. While at MSU, Professor Ceraudo will conduct a three hour workshop for students and faculty in CHSS and CSAM on GIS and aerial photography as applied to archaeological investigation, give a talk for MSU students and faculty in the Center for Heritage & Archaeological Studies, among other collaborations with students and faculty.

Lisa DeLorenzo received a Global Education grant in the amount of $1,200. The grant will help cover Professor DeLorenzo’s costs for participation in a three-week student and community music trip to Ghana, led by Professor Robert Levin, an adjunct professor who has significant experience in Ghanaian music. The trip provides students of the MSU African Drumming and Dance course a chance to see Ghanaian art and music firsthand and study under local musicians.

Beverly Peterson and Roberta Friedman received a Global Education grant in the amount of $1,450. The grant will subsidize the expenses for their travel with Montclair State students to Camaguey, Cuba, for an international film festival. MSU has been fostering a close, vibrant exchange program with filmmakers in Cuba since Fall of 2015. The grant will help to continue this relationship. Professors Peterson and Friedman will be leading the program for a group of students, facilitating a rich learning experience while continuing the close partnership with Cuba.
The joint proposal received a Global Education grant in the amount of $1,500. The grant will subsidize costs for the exploration of a program in partnership with Japan’s Kokugakuin University focused on Sports, Events and Tourism Marketing in anticipation of the 2020 Tokyo Summer Olympics. The proposed partnership would increase academic recognition of MSU in Sports, Events and Tourism marketing. The grant will help fund the expenses for a collaborative research team from MSU to visit Kokugakuin University to lay the groundwork for the partnership, to include the development of new curriculum.

Steven Shapiro and Stefan Robila received a Global Education grant in the amount of $2,500. Sprague Library and the College of Science and Mathematics will be hosting an international conference that will discuss the future of artificial intelligence (AI) and the contrasting visions of AI development from a Japanese and Western perspective. The grant will be used toward costs for visiting scholars at MSU to give talks as well as for lectures, panels, film screenings, digital photo exhibit, concerts and other events that will be taking place on-campus and at local venues. The conference will aim to foster an environment of mutual respect and understanding, promote cultural diversity and bring together members of the university, local communities and international groups.
Maxine Steinman received a Global Education grant in the amount of $700. The grant will cover travel expenses for Professor Steinman, who has been invited to teach a workshop at the University of Guadalajara in the José Limon technique, from May 15-May 28, 2017.

Jacalyn Willis received a Global Education grant in the amount of $2,900 in support of Classrooms Without Walls. Classrooms Without Walls is a program that will build upon the previous successes that the College of Science and Mathematics’ PRISM in the Bristol-Meyers Squib Center and the Rainforest Connection (RFC) have had in connecting New Jersey educators and students with others in their field in locations such as Panama, Belize and Thailand. Classrooms Without Walls will work to build long-lasting, sustainable partnerships between scientists, educators and students in New Jersey, Panama, Madagascar and Kenya. The funds granted to Dr. Willis will support her and two project team members, Katrina Macht and Dorothy Stradford, to travel to Panama in February 2017 to facilitate video conferences and build partnerships.