

Radow College of Humanities and Social Sciences

2021-2022 RCHSS Scholarship Support Grant Recipients Project Summaries

Minhao Dai, Assistant Professor of Communication

Title: Exploring Relationship and Sexual Dynamics among Same-Sex Cis-Gender Male Couples through Dyadic Longitudinal Daily Diary

Summary: This study examines how demographic, relational, sexual, psychological, and social factors may influence romantic partners as a unit and individuals over time. The findings could advance our understanding of relationship dynamics and health outcomes among cis-gender male couples, as LGBTQ+ populations are often understudied and underrepresented in the current literature. Understanding the longitudinal and dynamic influences of same-sex relationships may also aid in future efforts to promote positive sexual and mental health among gay couples. Overall, the project examines a variety of socio-behavioral factors among cis-gender male couples.

Awarded: \$4980

Ordene Edwards, Assistant Professor of Educational Psychology

Gita Taasobshirazi, Assistant Professor of Applied Statistics

Title: Investigating First-Generation Students' Culture-Specific Norms, Perceived Match, and Other Academic Outcomes

Summary: The objective of the proposed research is to investigate the relations among culture-specific norms, perceived match, utility value, belongingness, cognitive and behavioral engagement, and academic intentions across generation status, with a focus on First Generation Students (FGS). The proposed research is predicated on the fact that FGS are at an educational disadvantage compared to Continuing Generation Students (CGS), and the need to understand factors that may impact their motivation and learning is urgent. Our central hypothesis is that FGS' perceived match and culture-specific norms will be associated with their value and sense of belonging and, consequently, affect their engagement and academic intentions.

Awarded: \$5000

Robin Mathis, Assistant Professor of Communication

Title: Women in the world of law: Communicating to navigate the crossroads of masculinity and taint

Summary: Shared work experiences have prompted me to explore women communicating at the crossroads of masculine driven socially dirty work. Socially dirty or tainted workers/professions feel they are providing vital services. For example, executives, attorneys, lobbyist etc. feel that their work is necessary to protect our democracy, rights, and capitalism/retirement; however, they are socially perceived as tainted or judged. The actual analysis procedure of this study will be guided by the following research questions. RQ1: Do women adapt their communication strategies such as (rapport building, conflict in work-clients, male coworkers) to make it their own or assimilate to the masculine practice? RQ2: Do women perceive and/or carry the stigma beyond work into other contexts? RQ3: How do women and men communicate at the crossroad of professional assimilation?

Awarded: \$5000

Paul McDaniel, Associate Professor of Geography

Darlene Xiomara Rodriguez, Associate Professor of Social Work and Human Services,

Title: Welcoming Cities: Place-Branding and Geographies of Care, Inclusion, and Belonging

Summary: This grant will support McDaniel's (PI) work as the lead editor of an edited book volume (including co-authorship of several chapters), in collaboration with co-editor Rodriguez (co-PI), about *Welcoming Cities: Place-Branding and Geographies of Care, Inclusion, and Belonging*. This book, which builds on over a decade of work individually and nearly a decade of work together for the PI/Co-PI, will fill a gap in literatures intersecting urban geography, urban studies, migration studies, and public policy. It will cultivate a new interdisciplinary space for diverse perspectives on this topic.

Awarded: \$5000

Elizabeth Miles, Assistant Professor of Asian Studies and Gender & Women's Studies

Title: Men Who Can't Do: Contemporary Japanese Manhood and the Economies of Intimacy

Summary: How are young, heterosexual Japanese men re-negotiating their masculinity in an era of ongoing socioeconomic instability? Working at the intersections of Japan/Asian studies, gender and sexuality studies, and cultural anthropology, this scholarly monograph book project, based on sixteen months of fieldwork in Tokyo, ethnographically examines the significance of postindustrial shifts on the sites and performance of heterosexual masculinity among young Japanese men.

Awarded: \$3608.28

Alice Pate, Professor of History

Title: The Russian Intelligentsia and the 1917 Revolutions

Summary: The RCHSS Scholarship Support Grant will allow me to travel to the Hoover Institution at Stanford University which houses the Boris Nicolaevsky Collection on the Russian Revolution, microfilm of the Russian Secret Police from 1890-1917 and a significant collection of memoirs and oral histories. Collecting this data will allow me to draft two sample chapters of the book manuscript in preparation for the submission of a book proposal in 2022.

Awarded: \$5000

Amanda Reinke, Assistant Professor of Conflict Management

Title: Disaster Risk Awareness and (Un)Preparedness in Tornado-Affected Rural Middle Tennessee

Summary: Given increased regional risk, why do Tennessean stakeholders choose to prepare and respond to tornadoes in particular ways? How do diverse forms of preparedness contribute to uncertainty? What is the role of communication in disaster preparedness and response in tornado contexts? Based on preliminary data gathered in 2020, this study uses an interdisciplinary community-based approach to investigate 1) how beliefs and behaviors influence choices in tornado preparedness and 2) processes and effects of hazard communication among rural stakeholders impacted by Middle Tennessee's March 3rd, 2020 tornadoes.

Awarded: \$4549

Griselda Thomas, Professor of English and "Interdisciplinary Studies"

Seneca Vaught, Associate Professor of History and

Title: Reckoning with Race Riots: Truth Telling and Social Trauma

Summary: The research question for this proposed project is: In what ways have riots shaped our understanding of race, law, order, and justice in the United States? Particularly, we explore to what extent the phenomenon of race riots have shaped our understanding of whiteness and privilege as well as the broader consequences of a persisting inability to confront these questions authentically and

honestly. Using an interdisciplinary lens of analysis based in theoretical approaches outlined in Sheila Smith McKoy's (2001) *When Whites Riot*, we propose the following outputs: (a) a multi-layered public scholarship project leading to publication of an edited volume on new approaches to the subject, (b) a symposium of scholars working on the subject, and (c) a National Endowment for the Humanities Grant application.

Awarded: \$7500

Linda Treiber, Professor of Sociology

Jenna Shackelford, Assistant Professor of Nursing

Christie Emerson, Assistant Professor of Nursing

Title: Going COVID Alone: Identifying Obstacles to Treatment Adherence and Self-Management of COVID-19 for Single Adults

Summary: To better understand the health and social care barriers and challenges faced by single adults who have been diagnosed with COVID-19 as they navigate medical treatment and self-care. Given the complexities of care in social-structural medical systems and the significant health and fiscal costs of non-adherence and reduced self-management, it is imperative to understand how single adults experience their interactions with medical professionals and health care organizations, manage care and treatment, and navigate the barriers encountered across these processes, often under conditions of limited social support.

Awarded: \$5000.50