

College of Humanities and Social Sciences
2017 Summer Research Grant Recipients Project Summaries

Anja Bernardy, Professor of Spanish and Foreign Language Education

Title: *In the Shadows: A Bilingual Edition of Selected Short Stories by Jose Prats Sariol*

Summary: The purpose of this project is to complete the translation into English of a collection of short stories by the Cuban author Jose Prats Sariol. Two texts will be translated by the end of Fall 2016, another four by the end of Spring 2017, and another four during the grant period, Summer 2017. Fall 2017 will be devoted to the forward and a review. The complete work, *In the Shadows: A Bilingual Edition of Selected Short Stories by Jose Prats Sariol*, will be published by Editorial Casa Vacía in 2018. Awarded \$6,000.

Jiayan Zhang, Professor of History

Title: Dike and Society in Rural China: The Jiangnan Plain, 1788-1998

Summary: The goal of this original research is the conduction of my second book project, an interdisciplinary study centered on the dike systems of the Jiangnan Plain, central China, from 1788 to 1998. No book (in any language) on this topic has been published. Since archival materials is one of the core sources of this research, travel to China to collect these materials is essential to the completion of this book. Most county archives have only been opened to the public recently, researchers rarely used them before. I plan to visit these county archives of the Jiangnan Plain in summer 2017. Awarded \$6,000.

Jun Tu, Associate Professor of Geography

Title: Assessing the Impact of Roads and Traffic on Water Quality in North Georgia

Summary: Nonpoint runoff is the major cause of stream impairment in North Georgia. As a major part of the cause, the contribution from roads/traffic to water pollution is increasing due to urbanization. However, their impact on water quality has not received much attention, and not been studied well. This project will assess their impact on water quality in the watersheds using geospatial technologies. It will develop fresh approaches to discover the relationships between water quality and roads/traffic. It will provide useful results for watershed management, transportation and land use planning, and serve as a pilot study to attract external funds. Awarded \$6,000.

Kyung Hun Jung, Assistant Professor of Psychology, with **Tim Martin**, Associate Professor of Psychology

Title: Automaticity of Judgment of Facial Symmetry: Multi-Tasking Characteristic of Evolutionarily Adaptive Process

Summary: The proposed study tests whether people can judge others' facial symmetry automatically, meaning that they can make the judgment while their minds are busy with another task. This is an important question in evolutionary psychology because facial symmetry is regarded to be positively correlated to facial attractiveness, one's health, and therefore assumed to be judged efficiently. However, the automaticity of facial symmetry judgment has not yet been empirically tested. The principal investigator of this project had studied automaticity of other evolutionarily adaptive processes (e.g., facial attractiveness judgment / facial identification) using behavioral measures such as response time and accuracy. However, in this study, the researchers will utilize physiological measures, too. Specifically, participants' brain waves will be measured using event-related potential (ERP). The use of

both behavioral and physiological data will provide comprehensive evidence regarding automaticity of facial symmetry judgment.

Awarded \$6,000.

Katya Vladimirov, Professor of History

Title: “Trăire in Duhul (Journey of the Spirit)”: Battles of General Nicolae Rădescu, 1940s–1950s

Summary: General Nicolae Rădescu (Călimănești, March 1874–May 1953, New York City), a Romanian army officer and distinguished political figure, served as the last pre-communist Romanian prime minister, from December 1944 to March 1945, when he was ousted and escaped with his life. He spent a few years under British protection, then moved to the United States where he resided until his death in May 1953. While most scholarly studies focus on his government and its unfortunate demise, my work traces his journey from Romania to the US, via a Cyprian camp, and investigates his leadership of the Romanian opposition in exile, through the Romanian National Committee and the League of Free Romanians. In the last century, Romania and its people walked a long arduous path: from monarchy to pro-fascist regime to socialist state to independent state, and finally a member of the European Union, an ally and trade partner of the US and Great Britain. The legacy of Rădescu’s writings, actions, and his charismatic persona laid the foundations for future Romanian successes.

Awarded \$6000.

Letizia Guglielmo, Associate Professor of English

Title: Misogyny in American Culture

Summary: This project explores misogyny in American culture and the ways in which this hatred and distrust of women and girls underlies action, speech, policy, and culture within various areas of American life. Given our current political and cultural climate and the ways in which the 2016 presidential election prompted more frequent and widespread use of the term *misogyny* by various media outlets and among voters, this project has the potential both to contribute to ongoing conversations on the topic and, given its intended audience of advanced high-school/beginning college students, to inform a more recent shift in public conversation on misogyny.

Awarded \$6000.

Na Rae Kim, Assistant Professor of English and Interdisciplinary Studies

Title: Imagining North Korea: Cross-Cultural Collaborations in Literary Production

Summary: This project examines the new trends in the literary production of North Korea from the early 2000s to the present. In this time frame, South Korean and American publishers, North Korean defectors, and translators have come together in producing a body of literatures on North Korea, despite their oftentimes contrasting national, literary and political agenda. Research involves data analysis and interviews of people involved in the literary production in both South Korea and the United States during the summer 2017. This would provide core data for my larger book project on cultural imagination of North Korea in our time.

Awarded \$6,000.

Paul McDaniel, Assistant Professor of Geography

Title: Local Processes of Immigrant and Refugee Receptivity and Integration in the U.S. and Europe

Summary: This multi-phase project explores the genesis and evolution of a “welcoming trajectory” in cities in the U.S. and Europe. Planned work in Spring and Summer 2017 consists of examining immigrant “welcoming” initiatives in Atlanta and Charlotte, and cities in Germany. The goals for the Summer 2017 research grant are for the PI to: (1) continue collecting primary

document sources (media, public statements, plans, policies, proposals) that will begin in Spring 2017 related to immigrant and refugee integration initiatives in the case study cities; (2) conduct a systematic content analysis of the collected documents to uncover *a priori* and *organic* themes. Awarded \$6,000.

Ravi Ghadge, Assistant Professor of Sociology

Title: Farmers' Suicides and Agrarian Distress in Western Vidarbha, India: An In-depth Analysis of its Causes, Consequences, and Redressal

Summary: Since 1995, 296,438 Indian farmers committed suicide amidst unprecedented economic growth in the country. This study seeks to unravel this paradox by analyzing data collected through 40 interviews of farmers and local stakeholders (state officials and community workers) in Western Vidarbha, one of the most distressed regions in India. The study has three overarching goals: 1) To identify factors contributing to rise in farmers' suicides in Western Vidarbha; 2) To assess the socio-economic and health implications of agrarian distress on the local community; 3) To provide an in-depth qualitative assessment of a new rural development project in the region.

Awarded \$6,000.