URC Announces Interdisciplinary Grant Winners

Seven proposals from researchers working together across the university have been selected for funding in the University Research Council's fall 2008 round of interdisciplinary research grants.

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The University Research Council (UCR) has awarded seven grants—each totaling approximately $25,000—through its fall interdisciplinary grant competition. The intent of this program is to bring faculty together from across the university to work on an interdisciplinary research project that will result in applications to federal granting agencies.

Thirty-seven proposals were submitted from a total of 130 faculty representing seven of UC's 16 colleges including allied health sciences, arts and sciences, applied science, business, DAAP, engineering and medicine. Pediatric faculty working through Cincinnati Children's Research Foundation were also represented.

The following faculty and projects were approved for funding:

"The Effect of Repetitive Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation on Post-Stroke Aphasia Recovery"

- Jerzy Szaflarski, Neurology, College of Medicine
- Donald Gilbert, Pediatrics, Division of Neurology, Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center
- Brett Kisseka, Neurology, College of Medicine
- Stephen Page, Rehabilitation Sciences, Allied Health Sciences
- Jennifer Vannest, Pediatrics, Division of Neurology, Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center

"A GIS-based Spatio-Temporal Approach for Traffic Accident Prevention for the Greater Cincinnati Area"

- Changjoo Kim, Geography, McMicken College of Arts and Sciences
- Lin Liu, Geography, McMicken College of Arts and Sciences
- Heng Wei, Civil and Environmental Engineering, College of Engineering
- Gabriel Alungbe, Construction Science, College of Applied Science

"Selective, Nanoparticle-Mediated Delivery of RNA Interference (RNAi) Gene Silencing"
Constructs to Established Human Leukemic Cells In Vivo (A Novel Therapeutic Approach For Blood Malignancies)

- Malak Kotb, Molecular Genetics, Biochemistry and Microbiology, College of Medicine
- Peixuan Guo, Nanomedicine, Colleges of Engineering and Medicine
- Stella Davies, Pediatrics, Division of Hematology/Oncology, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center
- John Perenthesis, Pediatrics, Division of Hematology/Oncology, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center

"Smart Light: A Solar Collection, Conversion and Distribution System for Buildings"

- Jason Heikenfeld, Electrical Engineering, College of Engineering
- Michael Kazmierczak, Mechanical Engineering, College of Engineering
- Billie Jo Zirger, Management, College of Business

"Towards the Discovery of Small Molecule Inhibitors of Myostatin: A Therapeutic Approach to Muscle-Wasting Disease"

- Thomas Thompson, Molecular Genetics, Biochemistry and Microbiology, College of Medicine
- Matthew Wortman, Cancer and Cell Biology, College of Medicine, Genome Research Institute
- Sandra Nelson, Drug Discovery Center, College of Medicine, Genome Research Institute

"A Systematic Experimental and Computational Study of Cultured Neuronal Networks as Information Processing System"

- Ali Minai, Electrical and Computer Engineering, College of Engineering
- Chia-Cho Ho, Chemical and Materials Engineering, College of Engineering
- Eric Gruenstein, Molecular Genetics, Biochemistry and Microbiology, College of Medicine
- Don French, Mathematical Sciences, McMicken College of Arts and Sciences

"Ion Channel Downregulation by Nanoparticles: A Novel Therapeutic Approach to Autoimmunity"

- Laura Conforti, Internal Medicine, College of Medicine
- Mark Schulz, Mechanical Engineering, College of Engineering