



Office of Research
& Sponsored Programs
JACKSONVILLE UNIVERSITY

The 2019 Faculty Summer of Scholarship (SOS) grants provide seed funding to support faculty-initiated research, scholarship, and creative activity. Competitive grants are awarded to assist faculty in developing new lines of inquiry, which may include collecting pilot data, exploring innovative forms of creative expression, writing and publishing original scholarship, exhibitions of original work, and/or developing proposals for external funding. Funding is made possible through a grant from the Arthur Vining Davis Foundations. **A total of \$6,452 was awarded for the following proposals:**

Name	Department / College	Title	Amount
Dr. John Enz	Biology & Marine Science / CAS	Population Dynamics and Movement Patterns of the Gopher Tortoises (<i>Gopherus polyphemus</i>) found on Cumberland Island, Georgia	\$3,000
<p>Abstract: Due to habitat loss, urban sprawl, and overexploitation, the Gopher tortoise is now listed as a Threatened species in much of the southeastern United States and is considered a critical “keystone” species in their habitats as their burrows provide shelter for numerous other species. Therefore, any information regarding the current status, distribution, density, and impacts that may affect this species is critically important to the long term viability of remnant populations. An unstudied population of Gopher tortoises exists on Cumberland Island, Georgia with only anecdotal references to this population being found in history books written about the Island. In order to effectively manage this remnant Gopher tortoise population, accurate population data and movement patterns must be known. The purpose of this study is to use cutting-edge technology (miniature GPS loggers, radio transmitters) to measure and track the movement patterns of the Gopher tortoise population and their activity patterns with the assistance of student researchers. This study will be conducted in summer 2019 and will provide new vital information on this population that is needed to aid in the management of this isolated population, especially due to a proposed new housing development planned on the remaining unoccupied private lands.</p>			
Dr. William Penwell	Biology & Marine Science / CAS	Phenotypic analysis of <i>Elizabethkingia anophelis</i> insertion derivatives generated with a random transposon system	\$2,952
<p>Abstract: <i>Elizabethkingia anophelis</i> has become an emerging pathogen in humans in the past decade that can cause life-threatening infections in patients that are immunocompromised. This pathogen is becoming a major healthcare concern due to resistance to most clinically used antibiotics and also the high mortality rate associated with infections. Research is severely lacking in the identification of virulence factors that lead to a successful infection. This proposal will use insertion mutagenesis to initiate the identification of genes involved in biofilm formation; a process that is correlated to hospital-acquired infections of immunocompromised patients. Random insertion mutagenesis will generate a library of random mutants in <i>E. anophelis</i> that can be used for the study of other virulence-related genes. Successful completion of this proposal will be the first to not only generate a mutant library but also to experimentally identify genes involved in biofilm formation for the human pathogen, <i>E. anophelis</i>.</p>			
Dr. Matthew Unangst	History / CAS	Geographies of Empire: German Colonialism, Race, and Space in East Africa, 1884-1907	\$500
<p>Abstract: Between 1884 and 1907 several different factions within Germany attempted to understand and control the spaces and peoples of East Africa, called Ostafrika in German. The tensions between their visions for East Africa and local geographies combined to create what I call the “colonial border imaginary,” a set of divisions and meanings for East African space that determined administrative approaches through the German colonial period and after. The different groups involved proposed</p>			

different solutions to what Germans approached as a problem of development. Much of the dissension among the different parties was over how to understand the relationship between geographical space and people – in German, Land und Leute. The debate over the relationship between Land and Leute implicitly dominated the first decade of German discussions of the colonization of East Africa; it dictated the possibilities for economics and politics in the region through the postcolonial period and both shaped and was shaped by ideas about race and world geography. It also had important legacies for German racial thinking and later German imaginaries of the relationship between race and space.