Board of Trustees

Research and Innovation,
Legal and Legislative Affairs Committee

August 24, 2023
AGENDA

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

2. Verification of Quorum and Appropriate Notification of Public Meeting

3. Meeting Agenda Approval

4. Review and Approval of Minutes of May 11, 2023

5. Chair's Comments/Announcements

6. Public Comment*

7. University Reports
   a. State Legislative Report
   b. Federal Relations Report
   c. Sponsored Programs Administration Quarterly Report
   d. Faculty Presentation

8. Other Matters

9. Next Meeting Date

10. Adjournment

*Individuals wishing to make an appearance before the Board should consult the Bylaws of the Board of Trustees of Northern Illinois University, Article II, Section 4 – Appearances before the Board. Appearance request forms can be completed online in advance of the meeting or will be available in the Board Room the day of the meeting. For more information contact Crystal Doyle, ccoppel@niu.edu, Recording Secretary to the Board of Trustees, Altgeld Hall 300, DeKalb, IL 60115, 815-753-1273.

Anyone needing special accommodations to participate in the NIU Board of Trustees meetings should contact Crystal Doyle, ccoppel@niu.edu or (815) 753-1273, as soon as possible.
CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 10:14 a.m. by Committee Chair Veronica Herrero. Recording Secretary Crystal Doyle conducted a roll call of the Trustees.

Committee Vice Chair Rita Athas: Present
Trustee Dennis Barsema: Present
Trustee John Butler: Present
Trustee Montel Gayles: Present
Trustee Tim Moore: Present
Board Chair Eric Wasowicz: Present
Committee Chair Veronica Herrero: Present

Also present were President Lisa Freeman; Committee Liaison and Vice President for Research and Innovation Partnerships Gerald Blazey; Vice President and General Counsel and Board Parliamentarian Bryan Perry; Chief of Staff and Liaison to the Board of Trustees Matt Streb; Director of State Relations Katie Davison; and University Advisory Committee members Karen Whedbee and Ismael Montana.

VERIFICATION OF QUORUM AND APPROPRIATE NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

General Counsel Bryan Perry indicated the appropriate notification of the meeting had been provided pursuant to the Illinois Open Meetings Act. Mr. Perry also advised that a quorum was present.

Committee Chair Herrero asked for a motion to allow Trustee Athas to participate in the meeting remotely due to illness. Trustee Barsema so moved and Trustee Gayles seconded. The motion was approved.

MEETING AGENDA APPROVAL

Committee Chair Herrero asked for a motion to approve the meeting agenda. Trustee Gayles so moved, and Trustee Moore seconded. The motion was approved.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 16, 2023

Committee Chair Herrero asked for a motion to approve the minutes of February 16, 2023. Trustee Barsema so moved, and Trustee Moore seconded. The motion was approved.

CHAIR’S COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Committee Chair Herrero reported that Senator Durbin and Representative Underwood visited NIU last month in April. We enjoyed having them both on campus and appreciate their continued support here at NIU.

During the meeting this morning Dr. Catherine Raymond, Professor of Art History, Director of the Center for Burma Studies, and curator of the Burma Art Collection will be giving a presentation. The Center for Burma Studies at NIU is the only center in the world that has a Burma art collection within a university.
We are looking forward to working with Dr. Yvonne Harris when she starts her role as the Vice President of Research and Innovation Partnerships on August 1, 2023.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Committee Chair Herrero introduced the public comment portion of the meeting. General Counsel Bryan Perry confirmed that no public comments were received.

UNIVERSITY REPORTS

Committee Chair Herrero asked Vice President for Research and Innovation Partnerships Dr. Gerald C. Blazey, to provide an update from the Division of Research and Innovation Partnerships. The search for the Director of Federal Relations has ended and Julia Rowe will start in the position in a few days. That position will now report to Dr. Matt Streb in the President’s Office. Dr. Blazey mentioned that Senator Durbin and Representative Underwood visited NIU to celebrate Congressionally directed funding of $1.5M to the College of Engineering and Engineering Technology. Dr. Blazey provided updates on advocacy, legislation, sponsored program administration, and NICCS. Dr. Blazey thanked the trustees for all their support over the years.

Agenda Item 7.a. – State Legislative Report

Katie Davison, Director of State Relations, was on hand to provide a supplemental verbal report to the written report that was submitted.

Agenda Item 7.b. Sponsored Program Administration Quarterly Report

The Committee reviewed the sponsored program administration quarterly written report submitted by Assistant Vice President Dara Little. No questions were raised.

Agenda Item 7.c. – Faculty Presentation

Dr. Catherine Raymond, Professor of Art History, Director of the Center for Burma Studies, and curator of the Burma Art Collection was on hand to provide a verbal presentation.

The trustees thanked her for a wonderful presentation!

OTHER MATTERS

Committee Chair Herrero asked if there were other matters to come before the Committee. The Committee confirmed that there were no other matters to be discussed.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Committee Chair Herrero noted that the next meeting will be held on August 24, 2023.

ADJOURNMENT

Committee Chair Herrero asked for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Butler so moved, and Trustee Barsema seconded. The motion was approved.

Committee Vice Chair Athas asked Ms. Doyle to conduct a roll call vote.

Committee Vice Chair Rita Athas: Present  Trustee Dennis Barsema: Present
Trustee John Butler: Present  Trustee Montel Gayles: Present
Trustee Tim Moore: Present  Board Chair Eric Wasowicz: Present
Committee Chair Veronica Herrero: Present
The motion was approved.
The meeting was adjourned at 11:04 a.m.

Crystal Doyle
Recording Secretary

In compliance with Illinois Open Meetings Act 5 ILCS 120/1, et seq, a verbatim record of all Northern Illinois University Board of Trustees meetings is maintained by the Board Recording Secretary and is available for review upon request. The minutes contained herein represent a true and accurate summary of the Board proceedings.
STATE LEGISLATIVE REPORT

The Spring Legislative Session concluded on May 28th, 2023, at which time the Illinois General Assembly passed a comprehensive FY24 budget that included a seven percent increase in funding for Northern Illinois University. NIU will receive $98,670,300 in FY24 general appropriations. Among the notable highlights for higher education in the budget were a $100M increase in the state’s need-based student grants Monetary Award Program (MAP) and an increase in funding for AIM High merit-based scholarships of $15M.

HB3759 SCH CD-HIGHER ED INFO/RECRUIT (STUART K) Amends the State Board of Education Article of the School Code. Provides that student profile information collected by a specified assessment shall be made available to the State's public institutions of higher education in a timely manner. Amends the School Boards Article of the School Code, in provisions concerning access to high school campuses, provides that State institutions of higher education shall be granted access to high school campuses. Makes conforming changes. Provides that by January 1, 2024, student directory information shall be made electronically accessible through a secure centralized data system for official recruiting representatives of the armed forces of Illinois and the United States, and State public institutions of higher education. Public Act . . . . . . . . . . 103-0204

HB3760 HIGHER ED-UNIFORM ADMISSION (STUART K) Amends the Public University Uniform Admission Pilot Program Act. Provides that, beginning with the 2024-2025 academic year, each institution shall create a 4-year uniform admission system pilot program to admit community college transfer students for each semester of the pilot program. Exempts a university that already has a uniform admission policy for transfer students equal to or less restrictive than that prescribed in the amendatory Act. Sets forth minimum requirements for guaranteeing admission. Provides that institutions may establish or implement less restrictive uniform admission transfer policies. Public Act . . . . . . . . . . 103-0205

HB2878 FA 2 - Certificates of Participation – A contract may be entered into for any period of time deemed to be in the best interests of the State but not exceeding 10 years inclusive, beginning January 1, 2010, of proposed contract renewals; provided, however, in connection with the issuance of certificates of participation or bonds, the governing board of a public institution of higher education may enter into contracts in excess of 10 years but not to exceed 30 years for the purpose of financing or refinancing real or personal property.

In response to the recent decision by the Supreme Court to end race conscious admissions, the chair of the higher education appropriations committee, Representative LaSawn Ford, released the following statement with input from the Governor’s office and the office of the Attorney General.

The recent rulings by the Supreme Court of the United States to narrow universities’ ability to consider race in their admissions decisions has understandably created angst among students, families, and the higher education community. While the ruling upends decades of precedent, it did leave space for universities to consider how an applicant’s lived experiences, including their race, inform their ability to contribute to the university community.
The Illinois Board of Higher Education, the Illinois General Assembly, and Illinois' public universities are united in our commitment to ensure racial and ethnic diversity on our campuses and to promote inclusive learning environments. Diversity, equity, and inclusion in our higher education system are key in fostering a thriving Illinois economy and vibrant campuses, with people from all walks of life. Diverse and inclusive academic communities where everyone feels a sense of belonging are essential to all students’ personal and professional growth and success. In Illinois' system of higher education, we will continue to develop well-rounded, critical thinking citizens of the world.

In the coming weeks, the United States Department of Education, and likely the Department of Justice, will be issuing guidance resulting from the impact of the Court's rulings on affirmative action in college admissions. The Illinois General Assembly is looking forward to reviewing the guidance to determine next steps as we work hand-in-hand with our state's higher education system, Governor JB Pritzker, and Attorney General Kwame Raoul to uphold the commitment to diverse and inclusive student bodies in a manner consistent with the law.
FEDERAL RELATIONS REPORT

This report covers the period of May to August 2023.

In May 2023, Julia Rowe joined Northern Illinois University as the Director of Federal Relations. She has begun meeting with key members of the Illinois Congressional Delegation and D.C. higher education associations and stakeholders. Julia was on the NIU campus in late-May to meet with President Freeman, senior leadership, and key offices with priorities before the federal government.

The Supreme Court

On June 29, the Supreme Court released its decision in “Students for Fair Admissions, Inc. (SFAI) v. President and Fellows of Harvard” and “SFAI v. University of North Carolina”, on use of race in college admissions. The court found that the use of race by Harvard and UNC violated the equal protection clause of the 14th amendment.

On June 30, the Supreme Court released its decision in “Biden v. Nebraska” and “U.S. Department of Education v. Brown”. The court found in “Biden v. Nebraska,” the case brought by six states Attorney General’s, that the State of Missouri had standing and would be harmed if the debt forgiveness plan went into effect.

The court found in “U.S. Department of Education v. Brown” that the two plaintiffs did not have standing and would not suffer harm under the administration's debt forgiveness plan.

The Administration

In light of the Supreme Court decisions on affirmative action and student loan forgiveness, the Biden Administration announced they will hold a national summit this summer with institutional leaders from across higher education to talk about admissions policies and practices that seek to foster diversity. Later this fall the Department of Education is planning to release a report that shares best practices in admissions to the higher education community. Additionally, the Biden Administration and the Department of Education may begin to look at legacy admissions and other practices that advantage those coming from more privileged backgrounds.

Congress

In June, Sen. Bill Cassidy (R-LA) introduced “The Lowering Education Costs and Debt Act” a package of five bills aimed to reign in the cost of college and addresses affordability. The package would prevent colleges from receiving Title IX funds if programs did not meet certain gainful employment earnings thresholds after completion, reduce the number of loan repayment plans from nine to two, standardize student aid offers and limit graduate education borrowing.

The package includes: The “College Transparency Act (CTA)” which reforms college data reporting; the “Understanding the True Cost of College Act”, requires institutions to use a uniform financial aid letter; the “Informed Student Borrowing Act”, reforms disclosure of student loan information to include the duration of loans, expected monthly payment, how much money students are likely making after attending a school and program. It requires borrowers to annually receive information through loan counseling; the “Streamlining Accountability and Value in Education (SAVE) for Students Act” aims to streamline repayment options consolidating the current loan repayment plans in to two. It limits new loans to undergraduate and graduate programs where former students cannot earn more than a high school graduate or a bachelor’s degree.
recipient; and the “Graduate Opportunity and Affordable Loans (GOAL) Act” would end Graduate PLUS loans and limits graduate school borrowing.

The package in its current form is unlikely to move forward in the Democratic controlled Senate. Senator Bernie Sanders (D-VT) introduced the “College for All Act” that would double the maximum Pell Grant, guarantee tuition-free community college for all students, and allow eligible students to attend a four-year college without debt. Sen. Sander’s bill is unlikely to pass the Senate in its current form.

**The Department of Education**

On June 17, the Department of Education released a Notice of Proposed Rule Making on gainful employment (GE). The regulations would limit access to Title IV for programs that fail a debt: earnings measure or in which graduates have earnings no higher than those with only a high school diploma. For public and nonprofit institutions, consistent with the statute defining GE, the regulations would apply to non-degree programs. The Department of Education’s stated goal of the regulations is to increase transparency to the costs and outcomes of all undergraduate and graduate degree programs, by requiring out-of-pocket cost transparency.

The proposed rule also includes changes to three regulatory areas; financial responsibility, administrative capability, and certification procedures, and consensus language on ability to benefit rules from the Spring 2022 negotiated rulemaking session.

The Department of Education expects the rule to be finalized by November 1 with a July 1, 2024, effective date.
SPONSORED PROGRAMS ADMINISTRATION QUARTERLY REPORT

This report presents information on awards received by various units at NIU during Fiscal Year (FY) 2023. By the end of this fiscal year, NIU obtained a total of 398 awards, marking an 8% increase compared to awards received in FY22.

Not including COVID-19 funding, NIU received a total of $57M in externally funded awards. This is an impressive increase of 35% over last year. The distribution of funding is as follows: $16M for research, $7.2M for instruction, and $34M for other sponsored activities (OSA) as shown in Figure 1. Funding for OSA increased a remarkable 74% with research up by 31%. Funding for instructional programs declined by 31% due to some shifting of previously awarded funds by State agencies.

Including COVID-19 relief funds, total sponsored funding for FY23 is $61M (Table 1). Most COVID-19 funding this year is for pandemic related reimbursements from FEMA, GEER, and ARP funding through the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) to support early childhood education and program support for NIU students. As relief funding winds down, future SPA reports will no longer separate this funding, but it is being provided here for previous year comparisons. SPA is happy to provide additional information upon request.

Table 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FY 20</th>
<th>FY 21</th>
<th>FY 22</th>
<th>FY 23</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sponsored Funding</td>
<td>$36,449,284</td>
<td>$38,230,894</td>
<td>$42,362,925</td>
<td>$57,838,970</td>
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<td>Relief Funding</td>
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<td>$41,473,126</td>
<td>$6,267,756</td>
<td>$3,195,289</td>
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<td>Total Sponsored Fund</td>
<td>$43,988,160</td>
<td>$79,704,020</td>
<td>$48,630,681</td>
<td>$61,034,259</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Report represents preliminary FY 2023, information subject to change.
2 Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Governor’s Emergency Education Relief (GEER), American Rescue Plan (ARP)
As these numbers show, this year has been a very successful year for NIU faculty and staff in securing external funding and supporting the management of the university’s sponsored funding portfolio that continues to expand in both volume and complexity. All are commended for their outstanding success and commitment to the university’s research, teaching, and service missions.

This year, the top funders for research at NIU were the National Science Foundation/NSF (15%), Illinois Manufacturing Excellence Center (12%), Office of Postsecondary Education/Department of Education (9%), Argonne National Laboratory (8%), and Office of Science/Department of Energy (6%) (Figure 2). NSF awarded $2.3M this year to support projects across various campus departments and disciplines including Chemistry and Biochemistry ($593K), Earth, Atmosphere and Environment ($372K), Computer Science ($205K), Mechanical Engineering ($199K), Industrial and Systems Engineering ($198K), Biological Sciences ($192K), Mathematical Sciences ($161K), and Anthropology ($5K). NSF consistently provides the largest share of NIU’s research funding.

Of important note this year is the large amount of funding from the Office of Postsecondary Education/Department of Education for research. This $1.5M of federal Community Project Funding will modernize the Microelectronic Research and Development Lab (MRDL) in the College of Engineering and Engineering Technology.

Argonne National Laboratory continues to be a strong partner of NIU supporting students and research personnel for collaborative research projects and faculty joint appointments. These supports, coupled with access to Argonne’s state of the art facilities, enable NIU research beyond that funded by the lab. Departments partnering with Argonne this year for funding and joint appointments include Chemistry and Biochemistry ($463K); Computer Science, ($101K); Earth, Atmosphere and Environment ($52K), and Mechanical Engineering ($45K). Rounding out the top five research funders is the Office of Science/Department of Energy awarding three projects in the departments of Chemistry ($629K) and Physics ($380K).
The top funders for Instructional Programs this year are the Illinois Board of Higher Education (25%), Office of Elementary and Secondary Education/Department of Education (13%), Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services/Department of Education (9%), and Illinois State Board of Education (5%) (Figure 3).

Most of the Illinois Board of Higher Education funding ($1.7M) is for the COVID-19 early childhood program mentioned previously. This program runs through the College of Education with the purpose of providing streamlined paths to degrees, licenses, and credentials to the early childhood incumbent workforce as part of a broader statewide initiative.

Programs funded this year by the Department of Education include continuing support for training programs in Department of Psychology ($1.2M) and Department of Special and Early Education ($400K). The School of Family and Consumer Sciences ($353K) was the sole recipient of Instructional funding from the Illinois State Board of Education to provide comprehensive early learning opportunities for preschoolers in the DeKalb community. The remaining share (48%) of funding largely consists of revenue received directly by various campus departments for experiential learning projects, MBA contract courses and various internship and other graduate student training placements reported by but not managed through SPA.
As noted earlier in this report, funding through SPA for Other Sponsored Activities (not research or instruction) grew significantly this year. Awards for these programs vary widely in terms and conditions and often take the form of contracts rather than grants or financial assistance. This year, the top funders were Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (38%), Illinois State Board of Education (32%), Office of Postsecondary Education/Department of Education (5%), and Illinois Board of Higher Education (4%) (Figure 4).

Consistent with NIU’s service programming, the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services provided the most funding issuing contracts for programs in the following departments: Psychology ($8M), the Center for the Study of Family Violence and Sexual Assault ($2.6M), Family and Consumer Sciences ($2.4M), and the Center for Child Welfare and Education ($1.1M). The Illinois State Board of Education funded over $12M for a wide range of education-related programming in the Division of Outreach, Engagement and Regional Development (Report Cards FY23 and FY24 funding for $10.9M, Education Systems Center ($860K), and P-20 Center ($351K)). The Office of Postsecondary Education/Department of Education awarded funds to the Center for Southeast Asian Studies ($548K), School of Family and Consumer Sciences ($757K), and Precollegiate-Upward Bound ($524K). The Illinois Board of Higher Education awarded six projects including the COVID-19 GEER funding ($1.1M) to the Provost’s Office to provide emotional learning supports for NIU students impacted by the pandemic including African American, Latinx, low-income, first-generation, working adults, or rural students.

Of final important note is that this category includes $500K from the Small Business Administration as part of another NIU championed Community Project Funding initiative to establish the Northern Illinois Food and Workforce Development Project through the Office of Outreach, Engagement, and Regional Development. This project will expand the existing network of gardens, offer community-based training in nutrition and healthy cooking, and develop a mutually supportive local foods culture that unites local farms, restaurants, and consumers in a commitment to equity food.

Table 2 presents the relative differences in funding between FY22 and FY23 for each college/division. Notably, the College of Engineering and Engineering Technology experienced the most substantial increase (257%), followed by Other Academic Units (65%), and Outreach, Engagement, and Regional Development (51%).
### Table 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College</th>
<th>Organized Research</th>
<th>Instructional Programs</th>
<th>Other Sponsored Activities</th>
<th>FY23 Totals</th>
<th>FY22 Totals</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>College of Business</td>
<td>$19,500</td>
<td>$1,718,009</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$1,737,509</td>
<td>$2,103,287</td>
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<td>College of Education</td>
<td>$98,903</td>
<td>$3,186,635</td>
<td>$387,489</td>
<td>$3,673,027</td>
<td>$5,402,519</td>
<td>-32%</td>
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<tr>
<td>College of Engineering and</td>
<td>$4,081,616</td>
<td>$244,145</td>
<td>$34,090</td>
<td>$4,359,851</td>
<td>$1,219,624</td>
<td>257%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Engineering Technology</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College of Health and Human</td>
<td>$479,802</td>
<td>$687,899</td>
<td>$3,884,248</td>
<td>$5,051,949</td>
<td>$3,412,399</td>
<td>48%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sciences</td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>College of Law</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$323,969</td>
<td>$323,969</td>
<td>$0</td>
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<tr>
<td>College of Liberal Arts and</td>
<td>$9,271,063</td>
<td>$1,211,629</td>
<td>$13,284,251</td>
<td>$23,766,943</td>
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<td>Sciences</td>
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<td>College of Visual and Performing</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$10,611</td>
<td>$9,500</td>
<td>$20,111</td>
<td>$49,881</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Outreach, Engagement and Regional</td>
<td>$157,500</td>
<td>$42,945</td>
<td>$16,168,747</td>
<td>$16,369,192</td>
<td>$10,867,566</td>
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<td>Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Academic Units</td>
<td>$1,976,370</td>
<td>$119,341</td>
<td>$2,216,927</td>
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<td>$2,645,578</td>
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<td>Other University Units</td>
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<td>$0</td>
<td>$1,419,068</td>
<td>$1,419,068</td>
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<td>Total</td>
<td>$16,084,754</td>
<td>$7,221,214</td>
<td>$37,728,290</td>
<td>$61,034,257</td>
<td>$48,630,681</td>
<td>26%</td>
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</table>

Note: Totals include COVID $3.7M for FY23 and $6.1M for FY22.

A full listing of all sponsored awards received for this quarter follows.

**BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES**

**Lake County Forest Preserve District for "Blanding's Turtle Reintroduction." Garry Sunter/Callie A Golba.**

Award: $34,741.00.


Reintroduction is a necessary management tool for species recovery. Our objective is to evaluate if head-starting, in which animals are reared in captivity during vulnerable juvenile life stages, can be used for Blanding’s Turtle reintroduction.

**Friends of Nachusa Grasslands for "Identifying Factors that Influence Bison Health." Pallavi Singh.**

Award: $1,850.20.


The goal of this study is to assess the intestinal microbial population of the bison and the various
factors that influence it. These factors include seasonal, temperature, and dietary variations which have direct implications on the animal's health.

CENTER FOR GOVERNMENTAL STUDIES

*Civic Leadership Academy for "Training Courses."* Gregory T Kuhn.

Award: $3,258.10.

July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.

CENTER FOR SOUTHEAST ASIAN STUDIES

*Office of Postsecondary Education/Department of Education for "2022 National Resource Center."* Judy L Ledgerwood.

Award: $256,500.00.

August 15, 2023 - August 14, 2024. (Other Sponsored Activities) Other.

Funds will continue to be used to support the Center for Southeast Asian Studies.

CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF FAMILY VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT

*Illinois Department of Children and Family Services for "FY23 Domestic Violence Intervention Program."* Julie L Crouch.

Award: $573,251.00.


NIU will coordinate and administer the Domestic Violence Intervention Program in conjunction with the DCFS Administrator of the program.

*Illinois Department of Children and Family Services for "FY23 Congregate Care Assessment Program (CCAP)."* Julie L Crouch.

Award: $1,993,571.00.


The Congregate Care Assessment Program (CCAP) is funded through DCFS to conduct independent assessments of youth in care to determine if level of treatment is appropriate.

CHEMISTRY AND BIOCHEMISTRY

*National Science Foundation/NSF for "Collaborative Research: Characterization of Transport Property and Microstructure of Battery Electrolyte via In Situ Spectroscopy."* Tao Li.

Award: $28,249.00. Cumulative $298,787.38.


To develop in situ spectroscopic methods to characterize the transport property and the microscopic structure of battery electrolytes and investigate the correlation between the microstructure and mass transport in operating batteries.

*Argonne National Laboratory for "University to Argonne Joint Appointment - Tao Li"* Tao Li.

Award: $32,784.81. Cumulative $121,119.63.

May 16, 2023 - August 15, 2023. (Organized Research) IPA or Joint Appointment.

The purpose of these funds is to support a joint appointment for Dr. Tao Li with Argonne National
Laboratory.

Argonne National Laboratory for "Materials and Interfaces for Fast Charging Li-ion Batteries FY23." Yingwen Cheng.

Award: $15,001.52.


This project is to develop fast charging Li-ion batteries. Tasks include synthesis of advanced electrode and electrolyte materials, characterize these materials using electron microscope and spectroscopy tools, and assemble coin cells and punch cells.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND FAMILY CENTER


Award: $57,293.50.

May 1, 2023 - September 30, 2023. (Other Sponsored Activities) Public Service.

This grant will provide funding to support the Child Development and Family Center.

Community Coordinated Child Care for "Quality Improvement Funds." Kristin E Schulz.

Award: $6,702.14.

July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.

To select materials to provide children in the infant and preschool classrooms with many and varied developmentally appropriate materials that will allow for quality learning and experiences.

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Apollo Program II, Inc. for "Schaumburg MBA." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.

Award: $10,200.00.

July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.

STM for "Schaumburg MBA." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.

Award: $10,200.00.

July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.

Chase Bank for "Schaumburg MBA." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.

Award: $10,200.00.

July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.

Motorola Solutions for "Schaumburg MBA." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.

Award: $10,200.00.

July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.


Award: $10,200.00.

July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.

Award: $10,200.00.
July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.

*University of Illinois Extension for "Schaumburg MBA." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.*
Award: $10,200.00.
July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.

*Danfoss LLC for "Schaumburg MBA." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.*
Award: $10,200.00.
July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.

*Lakeview Precision Machining, Inc. for "Schaumburg MBA." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.*
Award: $10,200.00.
July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.

*Krex, Inc. for "Schaumburg MBA." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.*
Award: $10,200.00.
July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.

*Hines VA Hospital for "Chicago MBA." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.*
Award: $13,800.00.
July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.

*AbbVie Inc. for "Schaumburg MBA." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.*
Award: $10,200.00.
July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.

*Kenco Group for "Schaumburg MBA." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.*
Award: $7,200.00.
July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.

*Hi-Tech Polymers, Inc. for "Schaumburg MBA." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.*
Award: $10,200.00.
July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.

*Danfoss LLC for "Schaumburg MBA." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.*
Award: $10,200.00.
July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.

*Amazon.com, Inc. for "Chicago MBA." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.*
Award: $13,800.00.
July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.

*Conexiom for "Schaumburg MBA." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.*
Award: $10,200.00.
July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.
Baxter Healthcare Corporation for "Chicago MBA." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.
Award: $13,800.00.
July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.
AT&T for "Schaumburg MBA." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.
Award: $10,200.00.
July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.
Abbott Laboratories for "Chicago MBA." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.
Award: $13,800.00.
July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.
McKesson Corporation for "Chicago MBA." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.
Award: $13,800.00.
July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.
Chicago Board Options Exchange for "Chicago MBA." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.
Award: $13,800.00.
July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.
Turner Construction for "Chicago MBA." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.
Award: $13,800.00.
July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.
Amazon.com, Inc. for "Chicago MBA." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.
Award: $13,800.00.
July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.
Peoplescout/True Blue for "Chicago MBA." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.
Award: $13,800.00.
July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.
Centene Corporation for "Chicago MBA." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.
Award: $13,800.00.
July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.
84.51 Stratum for "Schaumburg MBA." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.
Award: $7,200.00.
July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY

Milwaukee Tool for "Master Research Services Agreement." Donald R Peterson/Simon
**Kudernatsch.**

Award: $13,711.75.


Master testing agreement with task orders for evaluating vibration reducing gloves and resilient materials in accordance with ISO 10819 international standard.

**Milwaukee Tool for "Master Research Services Agreement." Donald R Peterson/Simon Kudernatsch.**

Award: $0.00.


Master testing agreement with task orders for evaluating vibration reducing gloves and resilient materials in accordance with ISO 10819 international standard.

**COLLEGE OF LAW**

**AccessLex Institute for "Diversity Scholars Program." Melody B Mitchell.**

Award: $142,000.00.

August 1, 2023 - December 31, 2024. (Other Sponsored Activities) Other.

The NIU College of Law Diversity Scholars Program is a pipeline initiative that seeks to increase the number of academically qualified diverse students enrolled in law schools by establishing a pipeline program though formal agreements with colleges.

**COMPUTER SCIENCE**

**Argonne National Laboratory for "Supplemental Request for Bharat Kale Summer 23." Michael E Papka.**

Award: $4,969.15.


The Subcontractor shall work as a member of the appropriate Argonne Leadership Computing Facility (ALCF) group. The work will be primarily done remotely from the NIU campus during the school year and at Argonne National Laboratory during the breaks.


Award: $125,000.00. Cumulative $320,094.04.


The goal is to develop automated evolutionary techniques between pairs of software artifacts in response to software's internal changes, as well as malicious and non-malicious external changes of the software's operational environment.

**COUNSELING AND HIGHER EDUCATION**

**National Express, LLC for "Schaumburg MBA." Anthony W Preston/Burim Ramadani.**

Award: $10,200.00.

July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.
CENTER CHILD WELFARE AND EDUCATION

Award: $1,117,892.00.
The overall purpose of the Educational Access Project (EAP) is to promote academic success and improve opportunities for graduation for youth who are in the care in the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services.

Award: $52,530.00. Cumulative $205,530.00.
July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2023. (Other Sponsored Activities) Public Service.
This project is looking to ensure the rights of youth in care around issues of representation, with the PEP Program focused on permanency and disproportionality of African American youth.

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

Grow Your Own Teachers for "Grow Your Own Rockford." Sally R Blake/Eric R Junco.
Award: $20,000.00.
The purpose of this planning grant is to develop a collaboration with partners from the Rockford area to develop a pathway for elementary education teacher candidates for schools considered hard-to-staff.

EARTH, ATMOSPHERE AND ENVIRONMENT

University of California, San Diego for "How Will Climate Change Impact Landfalling Atmospheric Rivers?." Allison C Michaelis.
Award: $67,617.90.
Atmospheric rivers (ARs) are critical providers of water resources for regions around the world, including the western U.S. Here, we hope to elucidate the role of climate change on the dynamics and impacts associated with U.S. West Coast ARs.

Columbia University for "IODP Expedition 397 Support (Viviane Dos Santos Rocha)." Justin P Dodd.
Award: $8,278.00.
This award provides 3 months of salary support for shipboard science party participation (sedimentologist) on IODP Expedition 397: Iberian Margin Paleoclimate aboard the JOIDES Resolution.

Columbia University for "Salary Support for Justin Dodd's Participation on IODP Expedition 395 (Reykjanes Mantle Convection and Climate) Aboard the JOIDES Resolution." Justin P Dodd.
Award: $42,937.00.
Research will be conducted as a shipboard scientist on the research vessel JOIDES Resolution of the coast of Iceland.

*National Science Foundation/NSF for "Collaborative Research: REU Site: Water Resources and Quality in the Riviera Maya, Mexico." Melissa E Lenczewski.*
Award: $372,594.00.
September 1, 2023 - August 31, 2026. (Organized Research) Research Training.
To provide an international research opportunity for STEM undergraduates interested in water sciences to conduct lab & field research under the supervision of faculty mentors from NIU, Northeastern Illinois University, Southern Illinois University and CICY.

**EDUCATION SYSTEMS CENTER**

*Illinois State Board of Education for "Support for Developing Regional/Local Data Reports & Systems for ECCE." Benjamin Y Boer.*
Award: $175,000.00.
May 17, 2023 - December 30, 2023. (Other Sponsored Activities) Public Service.
Implement state-of-the art Early Childhood Integrated Data System for more accurate local/regional data reports & systems for ECCE. Provide project management and data governance development support.

Award: $200,000.00.
May 17, 2023 - December 30, 2023. (Other Sponsored Activities) Public Service.
Connect ISBE workforce data (EIS & ELIS) to CloudPak data environment. Create integrated dataset; create project charter and necessary legal agreements. Import data and work with INCCRRA to integrate ISBE educator data and gateways data.

Award: $583,520.00.
May 8, 2023 - December 31, 2024. (Other Sponsored Activities) Public Service.
Design and implement a process to develop a Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Racial Justice Plan for the newly created Division of Early Childhood (DEC) within the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS).

**ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING**

Award: $1,500,000.00.
June 1, 2023 - May 31, 2024. (Organized Research) Equipment.
This project updates technology and equipment to transform an existing microchip lab space into a modern engine for workforce development and innovation in microchip research, design, workforce development and small business innovation and prototyping.

**ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY**

*National Institute of Food and Agriculture/Department of Agriculture for "Pipeline Hydro-Transport of Biomass Feedstock for Biofuel Production Purposes." Mahdi Vaezi.*

Award: $648,581.00.

May 1, 2023 - April 30, 2027. (Organized Research) Applied Research.

Funds are requested to study the feasibility of replacing truck delivery by pipeline hydro-transport in large-scale long-distance transport of forest/agricultural residue biomass to improve the capacity of biofuel and bioenergy facilities.

**ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES**


Award: $16,087.86.


**FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES**

*Illinois Department of Children and Family Services for "Northern Region Simulation and Learning Center." Thomas W Pavkov.*

Award: $2,410,011.00.

July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2025. (Other Sponsored Activities) Public Service.

This project funds the Northern Region Simulation and Learning Center in collaboration with DCFS.

**INDUSTRIAL AND SYSTEMS ENGINEERING**


Award: $24,000.00.


The goal is to identify potential measurements for patient handling tasks during the pilot testing of exoskeleton applications.


Award: $198,572.96.


The goal is to advance the understanding of automated High-DOF Manufacturing processes planning by exploring a novel Artificial Intelligence (Reinforcement Learning) -based manufacturing process planning (AIPP) framework considering a dynamic environment.
**Werner Co. for "Improving Manufacturing Operations and Developing Automation Solutions." Purushothaman Damodaran/Niechen Chen.**

Award: $38,467.84.


The project aims to analyze an assembly line to identify and mitigate bottlenecks. The project also will aim at implementing automation solutions for some of the operations.

**Woodward, Inc. for "Lean Six Sigma Training." Purushothaman Damodaran.**

Award: $23,400.00.

July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.

**Suncast Corporation for "Senior Design Project." Purushothaman Damodaran.**

Award: $7,500.00.

July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.

**SPX Flow for "Senior Design Project." Purushothaman Damodaran.**

Award: $7,500.00.

July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.

**Werner Co. for "Senior Design Project." Purushothaman Damodaran.**

Award: $7,500.00.

July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.

**DHL for "Dock Management." Purushothaman Damodaran/Christine V Nguyen.**

Award: $99,476.57.


The project under study is to review current dock management process at DHL’s terminals and propose solutions to modernize it.

**Motorola Solutions for "Senior Design Project." Purushothaman Damodaran.**

Award: $7,500.00.

July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023. (Instructional Programs) Instructional Programs.

**University of Houston for "Development of Equipment Rental Schedule for Illinois." Ziteng Wang.**

Award: $18,026.00.


The objective of this study is to develop a user-friendly, web-based equipment rate schedule maintained by IDOT.

**MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES**

**National Science Foundation/NSF for "Design and Analysis of Algorithms for Structured Optimization." Yunier Bello Cruz.**

Award: $161,259.00.
The interest of the project lies in the analysis and development of advanced tools to investigate algorithms for solving modern structured optimization problems.

MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Taza Aya for "Toward a More Resilient Domestic Food Infrastructure: Protecting Workers from Communicable Diseases During Meat and Poultry Processing." Eric M Lee.
Award: $88,058.00.

This present proposal is aimed at the development of a testing setup for the evaluation of catalysts for the optimization of ozone minimization system in the Direct Air Treatment Module (DATM) of Taza Aya LLC for airborne pathogen inactivation.

National Science Foundation/NSF for "Integration of Multiscale Modeling and Machine Learning for Clot Mechanics." Jifu Tan.
Award: $199,728.00.

Funds are requested to investigate clot response under different loading conditions through integration of mesoscale simulations with machine learning.

University of Iowa for "Great Plains Center for Agricultural Health." Ting Xia.
Award: $29,991.00.

The proposed study aims to validate an innovative, kinematics-based balance assessment method in examining slips, trips, and falls in agricultural settings.

Award: $24,000.00.

Funds are requested to conduct a preliminary human subject testing (n<=9) on knee savers during deep knee squatting tasks based on the protocol developed by NIOSH.

NORTHERN PUBLIC RADIO

Corporation for Public Broadcasting for "2023 Community Service Grant." Staci Hoste.
Award: $260,304.00.

October 1, 2022 - September 30, 2024. (Other Sponsored Activities) Public Service.

NURSING

Award: $5,000.00.

The purpose of the study is to develop the concept of pain hygiene using a Delphi study approach. The views and opinions of pain management nurses on the concept will be studied to help develop a pain hygiene tool for future studies.

**P-20 CENTER**

*Illinois State Board of Education for "FY23 Title I Summer Migrant Education Program." Susana A Das Neves.*

Award: $141,813.72.

April 1, 2023 - March 31, 2024. (Other Sponsored Activities) Public Service.

The Rochelle Migrant Program has service eligible children of migrant/farmworkers for more than 15 years. This program will deliver summer educational, medical, and ancillary services across several counties with funding from ISBE.

**PHYSICS**

*Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory for "Detectors for High-granularity Dual Readout Calorimetry." Corrado Gatto.*

Award: $31,500.00.


R&D on new technologies for calorimetric detection of radiation in nuclear and particle physics.

*National Science Foundation/NSF for "Searches for New Phenomena in the Higgs Sector at the LHC." Jahred A Adelman/Dhiman Chakraborty.*

Award: $400,000.00. Cumulative $1,050,000.00.


Funds are requested to search for physics beyond the Standard Model using the ATLAS detector at the Large Hadron Collider.

*Argonne National Laboratory for "Ionic Conductors - GRA Support." Omar H Chmaissem.*

Award: $40,068.00.

May 16, 2023 - May 15, 2024. (Organized Research) Basic Research.

Ionic Conductors - GRA Support.

*Argonne National Laboratory for "GRA Support - Emily Frame." Philippe Piot.*

Award: $18,000.28.


GRA Support - Emily Frame.

*Argonne National Laboratory for "Application of Machine Learning to Particle-Accelerator Control." Philippe Piot.*

Award: $10,011.96. Cumulative $60,416.96.


Funding is requested for GRA to work on the Application of Machine Learning to Particle-Accelerator Control.
Argonne National Laboratory for "University to Argonne Joint Appointment - Xueying Lu"
Xueying Lu.
Award: $20,782.44. Cumulative $91,836.44.
May 16, 2023 - May 15, 2024. (Organized Research) IPA or Joint Appointment.
The purpose of these funds is to support a joint appointment for Dr. Xueying Lu with Argonne National Laboratory.

Argonne National Laboratory for "University to Argonne Joint Appointment - Zhili Xiao"
Zhili Xiao.
Award: $67,654.44. Cumulative $179,214.11.
May 16, 2023 - August 15, 2023. (Organized Research) IPA or Joint Appointment.
The purpose of these funds is to support a joint appointment for Dr. Zhili Xiao with Argonne National Laboratory.

PRECOLLEGIATE-UPWARD BOUND
Department of Education for "Northern Illinois University Upward Bound Program." Felicia R Bohanon.
Award: $586,603.00. Cumulative $1,150,644.00.
June 1, 2023 - May 31, 2024. (Other Sponsored Activities) Public Service.
Funds will be used to identify, select, and serve 120 low-income, potential first generation high school students who lack adequate preparation and need academic support.

Office of Postsecondary Education/Department of Education for "Student Support Services Program - Regular." Felicia R Bohanon.
Award: $261,888.00. Cumulative $1,047,552.00.
September 1, 2023 - August 31, 2024. (Other Sponsored Activities) Student Service.
This primary purpose of this award is to provide services to low-income, first-generation and/or disabled students to foster flexible and affordable paths to obtaining knowledge and skills in college.

PRESIDENTS OFFICE
Award: $1,102,441.61.
September 1, 2020 - June 30, 2022. (Other Sponsored Activities) Other.
Reimbursement for university COVID 19 surveillance testing.

Award: $157,820.46.
August 21, 2020 - August 20, 2021. (Other Sponsored Activities) Other.
Reimbursement for university COVID-19 required short term alternative housing costs.
PSYCHOLOGY

Baylor College of Medicine for "Leveraging Passive Objective Assessment Methods of Preschooler's Media use to Examine Multiple Paths of Influence on Sleep, Executive Function and Weight Status." David J Bridgett.

Award: $38,500.00.


Explores the longitudinal associations of preschoolers' technology and digital medial (TDM) use and Executive Functioning, creating a mechanism linking TDM with young children's weight status.


Award: $25,760.02.


This project will examine the reciprocal relationships between parent engagement and child ADHD symptoms, and how these relationships influence academic and social-emotional outcomes over time.

Illinois Department of Children and Family Services for "FY23 Integrated Assessment." Laura D Pittman/Matthew E Skarbek.

Award: $8,046,824.00.


Funds support the Integrated Assessment (IA) Program, which provides clinical screening and assessment services to children under the care of DCFS in the northern, central, and southern IA Program regions.

REPORT CARDS


Award: $2,856,400.00.

July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024. (Other Sponsored Activities) Public Service.

Creation and posting of data onto the Illinois Report Card website.

SCHOOL OF HEALTH STUDIES


Award: $19,160.00.


The project involves implementing the data collection, analysis and manuscript writing of qualitative evaluation, and creating the plan for at least one other one.

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign for "A Comprehensive Public Health Approach to Asthma Control Through Evidence-Based Interventions." Arlene M Keddie.

Award: $15,883.00.
This project will support evaluation for the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), Office of Health Promotion's project "A Comprehensive Public Health Approach to Asthma Control Through Evidence-Based Interventions."

**University of Illinois System for "Developing a Human Resources Tool for Intellectual and Developmental Disability Service Agencies." Jinsook Kim/Jennifer A Gray.**

Award: $25,428.00.

This project will develop a human resources tool for intellectual and developmental disability service agencies by integrating the perspectives of the service agency managers and direct support professionals who work in the service agencies.

**STUDENT AFFAIRS**

**Illinois Board of Higher Education for "FY23 MHEAC Mental Health Early Action on Campus Act." Clint-Michael Reneau.**

Award: $118,606.00.

The goal of this project is to address gaps in mental health services on college campuses across Illinois through training, peer support and community-campus activities.

**UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES**

**Ohio University for "LuceSEA with CORMOSEA/UM." Hao N Phan.**

Award: $7,700.00.

Funding will help to strengthen digital collections on Southeast Asian studies through the documentation of Cham religious rites, digitization of selected palm leaf manuscripts, and development and updating of online language and cultural materials.


Award: $65,457.00.

The project is an open educational resource on the pedagogy of college-level photography that focuses on how to scaffold learning and incorporate information and visual literacy instruction in order to foster critical thinking in studio art students.
FACULTY PRESENTATION

Dr. Thomas Skuzinski, Associate Professor, Public Administration in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and Director of Institute for the Study of Environment, Sustainability, and Energy will provide a verbal presentation.