

## GRANTS IN AID OF RESEARCH AWARDS (GIAR)

October 2025 Grant Cycle

### Grant Recipients by Discipline

| ANTHROPOLOGY              |            |                  |   |   |
|---------------------------|------------|------------------|---|---|
| First Name                | Last Name  | Education Status | Institution   | Study Title   |
| Tabitha                   | Dentice    | Masters Student  | Georgia, University of Georgia                      | Examination of Weaning Practices at Himera: Isotopic Analysis of Permanent Dentition  |
| Maggie                    | Duris      | Doctoral Student | New York, Binghamton University                     | Does Feeding in Infancy (Breast Milk vs Formula) Affect Milk Content in Adulthood? An Exploratory Study   |
| BEHAVIORAL ECOLOGY        |            |                  |   |   |
| First Name                | Last Name  | Education Status | Institution   | Study Title   |
| Darcy                     | Chang      | Doctoral Student | Rhode Island, Brown University                      | Testing the Role of Conditioning in the Movement and Behaviors of Client Fish in Cleaning Interactions  |
| Zachary                   | Hagen      | Masters Student  | Ohio, Bowling Green State University-Main Campus    | How does anthropogenic noise pollution affect foraging behavior in fragmented ecosystems?   |
| Ravi                      | Timsina    | Doctoral Student | Illinois, Illinois State University                 | Social resurrection: Exploring if social interactions restore disturbed beneficial microbial communities of bumble bees   |
| CELL BIOLOGY/BIOCHEMISTRY |            |                  |   |   |
| First Name                | Last Name  | Education Status | Institution   | Study Title   |
| Samson                    | Adeboye    | Doctoral Student | Nigeria, Covenant University                        | Unravelling permethrin-induced shifts in <i>Anopheles gambiae</i> gut microbiota to understand links with insecticide resistance and <i>Plasmodium</i> transmission |
| Jiniya                    | Chakradhar | Doctoral Student | Delaware, University of Delaware                    | Functional characterization of the cataract-linked RNA-binding proteins Celf1 and Elavl1 in lens development and cataract   |
| Jennifer                  | Crainic    | Doctoral Student | Washington, University of Washington-Seattle Campus | Cysteine Scavenging of Covalent Inhibitors Drives Drug Resistance in NRF2-activated Cancers   |
| Emily                     | Delle      | Masters Student  | Virginia, James Madison University                  | Determining Ontogeny of Intrinsic Iridial Photoreceptors in Vertebrates   |
| Bijeta                    | Gautam     | Masters Student  | Massachusetts, University of Massachusetts-Boston   | Determining the role of <i>Hmx1</i> in photoreceptor fate decisions and opsin expression in zebrafish   |
| Han-Yin                   | Jeng       | Doctoral Student | Texas, Baylor College of Medicine                   | The inflammatory cytokines TNF- $\alpha$ and IL-1 $\alpha$ promote retinal ganglion cell survival and axon regeneration   |

| CELL BIOLOGY/BIOCHEMISTRY CONT. |                  |                       |   |  |
|---------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|---|--|
| First Name                      | Last Name        | Education Status      | Institution   | Study Title  |
| Aasim                           | Khan             | Undergraduate Student | South Carolina, College of Charleston                     | Structural and functional characterization of YloC, a novel bacterial nuclease   |
| Shannon                         | Lyons            | Doctoral Student      | West Virginia, West Virginia University                   | Using Reactive Oxygen Species (ROS) Probes to Analyze Subcellular Phenotypes of Light-Stress in Mouse Rod Photoreceptors |
| Neda                            | Malekikhas       | Doctoral Student      | Ohio, Miami University-Oxford                             | Protective Roles of Estrogen and GLP-1 Receptor Agonists in Obesity-Associated Colorectal Cancer                         |
| Colin                           | Raddant          | Undergraduate Student | North Carolina, University of North Carolina at Charlotte | Investigation of the third domain of copper chaperone for superoxide dismutase   |
| S M                             | Rakib Uz Zaman   | Doctoral Student      | Delaware, University of Delaware                          | Investigating the mechanisms by which Gremlin1 regulates fibrotic lens disease   |
| CHEMISTRY                       |                  |                       |   |  |
| First Name                      | Last Name        | Education Status      | Institution   | Study Title  |
| Punnya                          | Anil Kumar Jeeja | Doctoral Student      | North Carolina, University of North Carolina at Charlotte | Bacterial OMV-coated MSNs for combined chemo and immunotherapy for the treatment of triple negative breast cancer        |
| Saikiran                        | Motati           | Undergraduate Student | California, Stanford University                           | Probing Extracellular Domain Dynamics in Ligand Binding and Activation of Class B GPCRs                                  |
| COMPUTER SCIENCE/MATHEMATICS    |                  |                       |   |  |
| First Name                      | Last Name        | Education Status      | Institution   | Study Title  |
| Naji                            | Sarsam           | Doctoral Student      | North Carolina, Duke University                           | Singularity Suppression and Formation in Porous Media Fluid Flows  |
| CONSERVATION BIOLOGY            |                  |                       |   |  |
| First Name                      | Last Name        | Education Status      | Institution   | Study Title  |
| Lucia                           | Martinez Retta   | Doctoral Student      | Argentina, Universidad Nacional del Comahue               | The landscape of fear as a tool for mitigating invasive species impacts  |
| Matthew                         | Naczi            | Undergraduate Student | Connecticut, Western Connecticut State University         | Natural History and Diversity of Fen-Specializing Beetles of the Northeastern United States.                             |
| Mason                           | Polencheck       | Masters Student       | Minnesota, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities            | Characterizing the Effects of Natural and Artificial Barriers on the Genetic Diversity of the Common Mudpuppy            |

| ECOLOGY     |               |                       |   |   |
|-------------|---------------|-----------------------|---|---|
| First Name  | Last Name     | Education Status      | Institution   | Study Title   |
| Mary        | Adebote       | Doctoral Student      | Virginia, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University | Illuminating Hidden Harvests: Fishers' Ecological Knowledge and Coastal Small-Scale Fisheries in Lagos State, Nigeria       |
| Torri       | Bradley-Mowat | Undergraduate Student | United Kingdom, University of Glasgow                         | Resource Limitation in Ant-Plants: Consequences for Mutualistic Interactions  |
| Erin        | Brosnan       | Doctoral Student      | Florida, University of Central Florida                        | Fulfilling Koch's postulates to establish amphibian-Perkinsea as a causative agent of mortality                             |
| Holly       | Gamblin       | Doctoral Student      | Manitoba, University of Manitoba                              | Changing biomes: Implications of a rapidly shifting landscape on Arctic fox dynamics  |
| Arina       | Martin        | Doctoral Student      | Oregon, Oregon State University                               | Demographic and evolutionary consequences of non-consumptive predator effects on marine prey populations                    |
| Luke        | Stoeber       | Masters Student       | South Carolina, Clemson University                            | Investigating the Influence of Structural Complexity on Cryptofauna Communities   |
| Andrew      | Veselka       | Doctoral Student      | Colorado, University of Colorado Boulder                      | Distinguishing the Effect of Fragmentation and Megafire in a Long-Term Experiment   |
| Mel         | Walker        | Masters Student       | South Carolina, Clemson University                            | Linking Feeding Ecology to PFAS and Mercury Contaminant Loads in Sharks   |
| ENGINEERING |               |                       |   |   |
| First Name  | Last Name     | Education Status      | Institution   | Study Title   |
| Brianna     | Samson        | Masters Student       | Nova Scotia, Dalhousie University                             | Biomechanical Characterization of the Human Retina  |
| Kurt        | Schalper      | Doctoral Student      | Connecticut, University of Connecticut                        | CRISPR-Programmable Gold Nanoparticle Surface Modulation for Semi-Quantitative Colorimetric Detection                       |
| Emily       | Song          | Undergraduate Student | North Carolina, Duke University                               | Injectable Polypeptide Scaffold to Promote Vascularization and Neurogenesis in Spinal Cord Injuries                         |
| GEOSCIENCES |               |                       |   |   |
| First Name  | Last Name     | Education Status      | Institution   | Study Title   |
| Tiana       | Dinham        | Undergraduate Student | North Carolina, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill   | Neodymium Isotopes as Tracers for Phosphate Rock Sources  |
| Lorenza     | Ferrari       | Doctoral Student      | Nebraska, University of Nebraska-Lincoln                      | From Topology to Petrography: A multiproxy framework for fracture-controlled CO <sub>2</sub> storage in the Teton Anticline |
| Isabelle    | Rein          | Doctoral Student      | Indiana, Purdue University-Main Campus                        | Filtered geochemical constraints on the environmental drivers and timing of early animal extinction                         |

| GEOSCIENCES CONT.                |                 |                       |  |   |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|--|---|
| First Name                       | Last Name       | Education Status      | Institution  | Study Title   |
| Ariana                           | Rivera          | Masters Student       | Montana, Montana Technological University          | Fire effects on ponderosa pine forest soil low-molecular-weight organic acids   |
| PHYSICS/ASTRONOMY                |                 |                       |  |   |
| First Name                       | Last Name       | Education Status      | Institution  | Study Title   |
| Jodie                            | Kiyokawa        | Doctoral Student      | Wisconsin, University of Wisconsin-Madison         | Reverberation Mapping of Distant Black Holes at the Peak of Cosmic Growth   |
| PHYSIOLOGY/FUNCTIONAL MORPHOLOGY |                 |                       |  |   |
| First Name                       | Last Name       | Education Status      | Institution  | Study Title   |
| Ilemona                          | Ameadaji        | Doctoral Student      | Missouri, Washington University in St Louis        | The Effects of Chronic and Acute Fibroblast Growth Factor Receptor Inhibition on Osteocyte Survival and Bone Integrity          |
| Annalise                         | DiCicco         | Undergraduate Student | Pennsylvania, Swarthmore College                   | Verifying stimulatory effects of glucocorticoids on metabolic rate: a causation study   |
| Eva                              | Greco           | Masters Student       | California, California State University-Northridge | Have Island Fence Lizards Adjusted their Thermal Biology to Compensate for the Cooler Climates of the Northern Channel Islands? |
| Randolph                         | Kwaw            | Doctoral Student      | Texas, University of Houston                       | Dose Optimization of Tetrodotoxin for Effective Treatment of Monocular Deprivation Amblyopia in Primates                        |
| Mycha                            | Van Allen       | Doctoral Student      | Texas, Texas A & M University-College Station      | Immunotoxic Effects of Pesticides on Wildlife Health: Sublethal Impact on Immune Function in Free-Ranging Lizards               |
| PSYCHOLOGY                       |                 |                       |  |   |
| First Name                       | Last Name       | Education Status      | Institution  | Study Title   |
| Meet                             | Parikh          | Doctoral Student      | Missouri, University of Missouri-Columbia          | Underlying mechanism behind sleep disturbances in post-traumatic stress disorder  |
| Madeline                         | Uretsky Resnick | Doctoral Student      | Connecticut, University of Connecticut             | Neuropsychological Assessment of Stunt Performers   |

| SYSTEMATICS/EVOLUTIONARY BIOLOGY |                |                  |  |   |
|----------------------------------|----------------|------------------|--|---|
| First Name                       | Last Name      | Education Status | Institution                                      | Study Title   |
| Arushi                           | Gupta          | Doctoral Student | Florida, University of Miami                     | Unveiling the role of maternal factors in regulating egg polarity and Wnt/β-catenin signaling during early embryogenesis in the cnidarian <i>Nematostella</i> |
| Gregory                          | Pandelis       | Doctoral Student | Texas, The University of Texas at Arlington      | How to eat a snail: convergence and divergence in skull shape among a sympatric assemblage of snail-eating snakes   |
| Patricia                         | Sotelo Chavira | Masters Student  | New Mexico, University of New Mexico-Main Campus | History Provides Clues to Future Persistence of Montane Shrews in the Southwest   |