

## GRANTS IN AID OF RESEARCH AWARDS (GIAR)

October 2025 Grant Cycle  
Grant Recipients by State/Country

<b>CALIFORNIA</b>					
First Name	Last Name	Education Status	Institution	Field of Research	Study Title
Eva	Greco	Masters Student	California State University-Northridge	Physiology/Functional Morphology	Have Island Fence Lizards Adjusted their Thermal Biology to Compensate for the Cooler Climates of the Northern Channel Islands?
Saikiran	Motati	Undergraduate Student	Stanford University	Chemistry	Probing Extracellular Domain Dynamics in Ligand Binding and Activation of Class B GPCRs
<b>COLORADO</b>					
First Name	Last Name	Education Status	Institution	Field of Research	Study Title
Andrew	Veselka	Doctoral Student	University of Colorado Boulder	Ecology	Distinguishing the Effect of Fragmentation and Megafire in a Long-Term Experiment
<b>CONNECTICUT</b>					
First Name	Last Name	Education Status	Institution	Field of Research	Study Title
Matthew	Naczi	Undergraduate Student	Western Connecticut State University	Conservation Biology	Natural History and Diversity of Fen-Specializing Beetles of the Northeastern United States.
Kurt	Schalper	Doctoral Student	University of Connecticut	Engineering	CRISPR-Programmable Gold Nanoparticle Surface Modulation for Semi-Quantitative Colorimetric Detection
Madeline	Uretsky Resnick	Doctoral Student	University of Connecticut	Psychology	Neuropsychological Assessment of Stunt Performers
<b>DELAWARE</b>					
First Name	Last Name	Education Status	Institution	Field of Research	Study Title
Jiniya	Chakradhar	Doctoral Student	University of Delaware	Cell Biology/Biochemistry	Functional characterization of the cataract-linked RNA-binding proteins Celf1 and Elavl1 in lens development and cataract
S M	Rakib Uz Zaman	Doctoral Student	University of Delaware	Cell Biology/Biochemistry	Investigating the mechanisms by which Gremlin1 regulates fibrotic lens disease
<b>FLORIDA</b>					
First Name	Last Name	Education Status	Institution	Field of Research	Study Title
Erin	Brosnan	Doctoral Student	University of Central Florida	Ecology	Fulfilling Koch's postulates to establish amphibian-Perkinsea as a causative agent of mortality
Arushi	Gupta	Doctoral Student	University of Miami	Systematics/Evolutionary Biology	Unveiling the role of maternal factors in regulating egg polarity and Wnt/β-catenin signaling during early embryogenesis in the cnidarian Nematostella

GEORGIA					
First Name	Last Name	Education Status	Institution	Field of Research	Study Title
Tabitha	Dentice	Masters Student	University of Georgia	Anthropology	Examination of Weaning Practices at Himera: Isotopic Analysis of Permanent Dentition
ILLINOIS					
First Name	Last Name	Education Status	Institution	Field of Research	Study Title
Ravi	Timsina	Doctoral Student	Illinois State University	Behavioral Ecology	Social resurrection: Exploring if social interactions restore disturbed beneficial microbial communities of bumble bees
INDIANA					
First Name	Last Name	Education Status	Institution	Field of Research	Study Title
Isabelle	Rein	Doctoral Student	Purdue University-Main Campus	Geosciences	Filtered geochemical constraints on the environmental drivers and timing of early animal extinction
MASSACHUSETTS					
First Name	Last Name	Education Status	Institution	Field of Research	Study Title
Bijeta	Gautam	Masters Student	University of Massachusetts-Boston	Cell Biology/Biochemistry	Determining the role of Hmx1 in photoreceptor fate decisions and opsin expression in zebrafish
MINNESOTA					
First Name	Last Name	Education Status	Institution	Field of Research	Study Title
Mason	Polencheck	Masters Student	University of Minnesota-Twin Cities	Conservation Biology	Characterizing the Effects of Natural and Artificial Barriers on the Genetic Diversity of the Common Mudpuppy
MISSOURI					
First Name	Last Name	Education Status	Institution	Field of Research	Study Title
Illemona	Ameadaji	Doctoral Student	Washington University in St Louis	Physiology/Functional Morphology	The Effects of Chronic and Acute Fibroblast Growth Factor Receptor Inhibition on Osteocyte Survival and Bone Integrity
Meet	Parikh	Doctoral Student	University of Missouri-Columbia	Psychology	Underlying mechanism behind sleep disturbances in post-traumatic stress disorder
MONTANA					
First Name	Last Name	Education Status	Institution	Field of Research	Study Title
Ariana	Rivera	Masters Student	Montana Technological University	Geosciences	Fire effects on ponderosa pine forest soil low-molecular-weight organic acids

NEBRASKA					
First Name	Last Name	Education Status	Institution	Field of Research	Study Title
Lorenza	Ferrari	Doctoral Student	University of Nebraska-Lincoln	Geosciences	From Topology to Petrography: A multiproxy framework for fracture-controlled CO <sub>2</sub> storage in the Teton Anticline
NEW MEXICO					
First Name	Last Name	Education Status	Institution	Field of Research	Study Title
Patricia	Sotelo Chavira	Masters Student	University of New Mexico-Main Campus	Systematics/Evolutionary Biology	History Provides Clues to Future Persistence of Montane Shrews in the Southwest
NEW YORK					
First Name	Last Name	Education Status	Institution	Field of Research	Study Title
Maggie	Duris	Doctoral Student	Binghamton University	Anthropology	Does Feeding in Infancy (Breast Milk vs Formula) Affect Milk Content in Adulthood? An Exploratory Study
NORTH CAROLINA					
First Name	Last Name	Education Status	Institution	Field of Research	Study Title
Punnya	Anil Kumar Jeeja	Doctoral Student	University of North Carolina at Charlotte	Chemistry	Bacterial OMV-coated MSNs for combined chemo and immunotherapy for the treatment of triple negative breast cancer
Tiana	Dinham	Undergraduate Student	University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	Geosciences	Neodymium Isotopes as Tracers for Phosphate Rock Sources
Colin	Raddant	Undergraduate Student	University of North Carolina at Charlotte	Cell Biology/Biochemistry	Investigation of the third domain of copper chaperone for superoxide dismutase
Naji	Sarsam	Doctoral Student	Duke University	Computer Science/Mathematics	Singularity Suppression and Formation in Porous Media Fluid Flows
Emily	Song	Undergraduate Student	Duke University	Engineering	Injectable Polypeptide Scaffold to Promote Vascularization and Neurogenesis in Spinal Cord Injuries
OHIO					
First Name	Last Name	Education Status	Institution	Field of Research	Study Title
Zachary	Hagen	Masters Student	Bowling Green State University-Main Campus	Behavioral Ecology	How does anthropogenic noise pollution affect foraging behavior in fragmented ecosystems?
Neda	Malekikhlas	Doctoral Student	Miami University-Oxford	Cell Biology/Biochemistry	Protective Roles of Estrogen and GLP-1 Receptor Agonists in Obesity-Associated Colorectal Cancer
OREGON					
First Name	Last Name	Education Status	Institution	Field of Research	Study Title
Arina	Martin	Doctoral Student	Oregon State University	Ecology	Demographic and evolutionary consequences of non-consumptive predator effects on marine prey populations

PENNSYLVANIA					
First Name	Last Name	Education Status	Institution	Field of Research	Study Title
Annalise	DiCicco	Undergraduate Student	Swarthmore College	Physiology/Functional Morphology	Verifying stimulatory effects of glucocorticoids on metabolic rate: a causation study
RHODE ISLAND					
First Name	Last Name	Education Status	Institution	Field of Research	Study Title
Darcy	Chang	Doctoral Student	Brown University	Behavioral Ecology	Testing the Role of Conditioning in the Movement and Behaviors of Client Fish in Cleaning Interactions
SOUTH CAROLINA					
First Name	Last Name	Education Status	Institution	Field of Research	Study Title
Aasim	Khan	Undergraduate Student	College of Charleston	Cell Biology/Biochemistry	Structural and functional characterization of YloC, a novel bacterial nuclease
Luke	Stoeber	Masters Student	Clemson University	Ecology	Investigating the Influence of Structural Complexity on Cryptofauna Communities
Mel	Walker	Masters Student	Clemson University	Ecology	Linking Feeding Ecology to PFAS and Mercury Contaminant Loads in Sharks
TEXAS					
First Name	Last Name	Education Status	Institution	Field of Research	Study Title
Han-Yin	Jeng	Doctoral Student	Baylor College of Medicine	Cell Biology/Biochemistry	The inflammatory cytokines TNF- $\alpha$ and IL-1 $\alpha$ promote retinal ganglion cell survival and axon regeneration
Randolph	Kwaw	Doctoral Student	University of Houston	Physiology/Functional Morphology	Dose Optimization of Tetrodotoxin for Effective Treatment of Monocular Deprivation Amblyopia in Primates
Gregory	Pandelis	Doctoral Student	The University of Texas at Arlington	Systematics/Evolutionary Biology	How to eat a snail: convergence and divergence in skull shape among a sympatric assemblage of snail-eating snakes
Mycha	Van Allen	Doctoral Student	Texas A & M University-College Station	Physiology/Functional Morphology	Immunotoxic Effects of Pesticides on Wildlife Health: Sublethal Impact on Immune Function in Free-Ranging Lizards
VIRGINIA					
First Name	Last Name	Education Status	Institution	Field of Research	Study Title
Mary	Adebote	Doctoral Student	Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University	Ecology	Illuminating Hidden Harvests: Fishers' Ecological Knowledge and Coastal Small-Scale Fisheries in Lagos State, Nigeria
Emily	Delle	Masters Student	James Madison University	Cell Biology/Biochemistry	Determining Ontogeny of Intrinsic Iridial Photoreceptors in Vertebrates
WASHINGTON					
First Name	Last Name	Education Status	Institution	Field of Research	Study Title
Jennifer	Crainic	Doctoral Student	University of Washington-Seattle Campus	Cell Biology/Biochemistry	Cysteine Scavenging of Covalent Inhibitors Drives Drug Resistance in NRF2-activated Cancers

WEST VIRGINIA					
First Name	Last Name	Education Status	Institution	Field of Research	Study Title
Shannon	Lyons	Doctoral Student	West Virginia University	Cell Biology/Biochemistry	Using Reactive Oxygen Species (ROS) Probes to Analyze Subcellular Phenotypes of Light-Stress in Mouse Rod Photoreceptors
WISCONSIN					
First Name	Last Name	Education Status	Institution	Field of Research	Study Title
Jodie	Kiyokawa	Doctoral Student	University of Wisconsin-Madison	Physics/Astronomy	Reverberation Mapping of Distant Black Holes at the Peak of Cosmic Growth

#### International Grant Recipients By Country

ARGENTINA					
First Name	Last Name	Education Status	Institution	Field of Research	Study Title
Lucia	Martinez Retta	Doctoral Student	Universidad Nacional del Comahue	Conservation Biology	The landscape of fear as a tool for mitigating invasive species impacts
CANADA					
First Name	Last Name	Education Status	Institution	Field of Research	Study Title
Holly	Gamblin	Doctoral Student	University of Manitoba	Ecology	Changing biomes: Implications of a rapidly shifting landscape on Arctic fox dynamics
Brianna	Samson	Masters Student	Nova Scotia, Dalhousie University	Engineering	Biomechanical Characterization of the Human Retina
NIGERIA					
First Name	Last Name	Education Status	Institution	Field of Research	Study Title
Samson	Adeboye	Doctoral Student	Covenant University	Cell Biology/Biochemistry	Unravelling permethrin-induced shifts in <i>Anopheles gambiae</i> gut microbiota to understand links with insecticide resistance and <i>Plasmodium</i> transmission
UNITED KINGDOM					
First Name	Last Name	Education Status	Institution	Field of Research	Study Title
Torri	Bradley-Mowat	Undergraduate Student	University of Glasgow	Ecology	Resource Limitation in Ant-Plants: Consequences for Mutualistic Interactions