



PRESS RELEASE: The Ferris Foundation Has Awarded More Than \$400,000 in Grants Since 2001

Sandy C Gholston to: Archive

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Included below is a press release highlighting The Ferris Foundation's Exceptional Merit Grant Program. The program has awarded more than \$400,000 in grants for a variety of innovative projects since 2001. The Foundation is currently accepting applications from faculty and staff to continue a tradition of financial support for innovative approaches to enhancing the educational experience of students. Any media requests regarding this release can be directed to Sandy Gholston, News Services and Social Media Manager.

To read the online version of this story, visit:

<http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/news/archive/2014/january/foundation.htm>

VIDEO: Associate professor of Biology Bradley Isler discusses his work and the role The Ferris Foundation played in introducing young students to higher education possibilities at a younger age: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DQZUhFhae-Q#t=20>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BIG RAPIDS – Ferris State University faculty and staff can request funding for projects that fuel university goals through The Ferris Foundation's Exceptional Merit Grant Program. The deadline for proposal submissions is Friday, Feb. 28.

The Foundation has awarded more than \$400,000 in grants to support a variety of innovative projects since 2001.

“The Ferris Foundation is pleased to provide Exceptional Merit Grant Awards to faculty and staff who share in the university's vision to advance its mission through innovative and collaborative projects,” said Carla Miller, executive director of The Ferris Foundation.

Up to \$7,500 per project is available to support pilot programs, purchase equipment dedicated to program objectives, match grant expenses, fund research with students and other endeavors.

Last year, the Foundation extended \$27,725 in Exceptional Merit Grand Awards to five

applicants. Awards included \$7,500 to Bradley Isler, associate professor of Biology for enrichment of an academic camp, STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) education and undergraduate recruitment using advanced personalized medicine; \$7,500 to David McClendon, assistant professor of Mathematics, for a student center and technology-based reform in Calculus; \$5,000 to Arinze Nkemdirim Okere, assistant professor of Pharmacy, for the Pilot Study: The Role of Alpha Lipoic Acid for the Treatment of Diabetic Retinopathy; \$4,725 to Michael Berghoef, professor of Social Work, for a virtual museum collaboration with the university's Academic Service Learning partner in El Salvador; and \$3,000 to Tara Braun, study abroad/events coordinator in the Office of International Education, for Festival of Nations.

Grant recipients are chosen by the Foundation's Gifts and Grants Committee, which is made up of Foundation directors, faculty and staff members.

The 2013-14 grant awards will be announced Monday, April 7.

For more information on grant guidelines and an application, contact Kim Erickson at (231) 591-2365 or visit: <http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/foundation/Merit-Grant-Calendar.htm>.

The Foundation's Gifts and Grants Committee develops policies and procedures, and recommends additional resources for Exceptional Merit Grants and Foundation for Excellence Scholarships.

The committee also monitors scholarship awards for compliance with donor specifications, recommends and monitors grant disbursement, and recommends student scholarship recipients for the Foundation Scholarship.

For more information or to make a gift to Ferris State University, call The Ferris Foundation at (231) 591-2365 or visit <http://www.ferris.edu/foundation/>.

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