

# FUNDAMENTALS

FALL 2011

## Faculty Improvement Grants

### Short Term

Short term grant awards support registration fees, travel and per diem related to non-credit workshops or training programs 1-14 days in length. They do not support attendance at annual meetings or professional conferences. Funds not available until a MOA between IFO and MnSCU is in place. Therefore, check the website for updated information.

### Long Term

Research grant awards support research and other scholarly activities. These faculty improvement grant applications are currently under revision. Please continue to check the website for the application due date, application format and types of activities funded.

### Research

Research grant awards support research and other scholarly activities. These faculty improvement grant applications are currently under revision. Please continue to check the website for the application due date, application format and types of activities funded.

Applications for faculty improvement grants are available on our website at [www.stcloudstate.edu/osp/internal/improvementgrants.asp](http://www.stcloudstate.edu/osp/internal/improvementgrants.asp)

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### New Researcher Awards

Up to \$4,000 will be granted to probationary faculty and staff in their first five (5) years of service to SCSU for research and scholarly activity. Funds should be used to move the applicant towards the peer-reviewed dissemination of their work or in the submission of a proposal for external funding. Awarded funds must be used exclusively for the work outlined in the application's proposal narrative and may include supplies, equipment, travel or student help. A \$2,000 honorarium plus \$740 (37%) fringe can be included. Interdisciplinary projects with multiple principle investigators may include an additional stipend (salary + fringe 37%) for each co-investigator. Requested stipends must coincide with proposed project activities. Maximum award for interdisciplinary projects is \$9,000. The honorarium will be released upon submission of the final report which clearly demonstrates the work has moved the applicant towards the peer-reviewed dissemination of their work or in the submission of a proposal for external funding. Final reports are due by June 30, 2012. Maximum of one award every two years per principle investigator. [www.stcloudstate.edu/osp/internal/newResearcherFunds](http://www.stcloudstate.edu/osp/internal/newResearcherFunds)

**Application deadline: October 20, 2011**

### University Researcher Awards

Up to \$5,000 for individuals seeking external funds of \$25,000 or more for research, scholarly or creative activity. Funding is available to probationary and tenured faculty and staff. The purpose of the University Researcher Funds is to provide a multi-faceted support system to help individuals develop and hone the skills needed to be successful in seeking at least mid-level funding from external sources. Interdisciplinary projects with multiple principle investigators may include an additional stipend (salary + fringe 37%) for each co-investigator. Requested stipends must coincide with proposed project activities. Maximum award for interdisciplinary projects is \$10,000. All funds should be spent in the fiscal year awarded. The following criteria will be used for evaluating applications: feasibility and sustainability of the project, potential for extramural funding, integration of faculty/student research and potential to advance knowledge. Applicants can receive only one University Researcher or New Researcher Award any given fiscal year.

[www.stcloudstate.edu/osp/internal/researchersfunds](http://www.stcloudstate.edu/osp/internal/researchersfunds)

**Application deadlines: September 30 and November 30, 2011; January 31 and March 30, 2012**

### Student Research Funds and Colloquium

Student research funds support academic research and creative activity by SCSU undergraduate and graduate students under the direction of a SCSU faculty member. Funds are awarded up to \$1,500 per project with the average award being \$550. Approximately 50-60 awards will be made each year. Supporting activities include: materials and supplies, travel to conduct research or to present at a conference, or any other reasonable need directly associated with research/creative projects. All students accepting an award agree to present their project at the Student Research Colloquium on April 17, 2012.

[www.stcloudstate.edu/src/funding](http://www.stcloudstate.edu/src/funding)

**Application deadline: October 4, 2011 and January 31, 2012**

### IRB News

Upcoming meetings and deadlines for full review submissions

Fall 2011

<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
9/19/11	9/6/11
10/17/11	10/3/11
11/14/11	10/31/11



## Working with Aphasic Stroke Survivors in India – A Fulbright Experience

By: G.N. Rangamani

A 45-year-old, teary eyed, gentleman walked into Dr. Rangamani's office in India at the beginning of October, 2010, while his young wife reported that the doctor had informed them that the chance of regaining his lost speech and language functions for communication after a stroke was very minimal, if not impossible. Encouraged by reading Dr. Rangamani's article on "Aphasia" that was published in the health section of a local newspaper, and with much trepidation, they expressed a desire to participate in Dr. Rangamani's Fulbright research project. The young gentleman was enrolled in the research project and received intensive speech-language therapy.

"Aphasia" – a chronic communication disorder that results from a stroke - can limit a stroke survivor's ability to express and/or understand one's needs, thoughts and feelings across all modalities of expression (e.g. speaking, writing and signing). Such impairments in turn affect the individual's ability to participate in everyday activities, such as communicating with family members and friends, socializing,

functioning effectively in employment and business transactions, and partaking in the communicative acts of daily living. This often leads to social isolation and other psychological conditions such as depression. It is critical that such individuals receive speech language therapy. Speech language therapy aims to restore and/or compensate for the lost communicative functions of individuals with aphasia using evidence based treatment approaches. The interest in the role of bilingual issues and different orthographic systems in Aphasia and Dyslexia (reading / writing disorder resulting from stroke), led Dr. Rangamani to pursue a research project with bi-/multi- lingual stroke survivors in India, funded by the Fulbright-Nehru Senior Specialist Research Scholarship.



Fulbright Scholar, Dr. Rangamani



Dr. Rangamani conducting group therapy with stroke survivors

in India using current evidence based treatment methods has been extremely rewarding personally to Dr. Rangamani and also to the affected individuals and their families. Dr. Rangamani has conducted intensive individual therapy and group therapy sessions for stroke survivors with aphasia and has modeled various evidence based therapy approaches to the undergraduate, graduate and doctoral students of AIISH. The stroke survivors and their care partners who have attended

As a Fulbright Scholar during FY11, Dr. Rangamani was based at the All India Institute of Speech and Hearing (AIISH), one of the premier institutions of India in Mysore. In addition to research, serving stroke survivors with aphasia

the intensive individual aphasia treatment sessions and group therapy session for the first time ever, have expressed a deep sense of gratitude over the positive changes that the stroke survivors have undergone. Some of them remark that they had lost all hopes of recovery as they were told by their doctors that they would never speak again. After a follow-up with the neurologist in early December, 2010, the 45-year-old gentleman who received intensive individual therapy for about 9 weeks, laughingly told Dr. Rangamani that the neurologist was totally awe-struck to see him speak and wanted to know what he had been doing to regain his communication skills.



Group therapy with stroke survivors



Dr. Rangamani volunteering in service activities at various centers in Mysore

including lectures to students (undergraduate, graduate and doctoral) and faculty members across various centers in India, public education projects and social

Dr. Rangamani's work has been featured in the local Indian newspapers. She has also been involved in additional activities service volunteer projects in Mysore orphanages and old-age homes.

## **Innovative Partnership Connects IT Students with Major Corporations to Develop and Test Software**

**By: Jim Chen**

MnSCU and Maverick Software Consulting have launched a first-of-its-kind partnership, bringing together top Information technology students from four campuses, including St. Cloud State University, with corporations that are seeking local software development and software testing.

Maverick is in the process of signing their fourth client, a local IT company, with plans to hire 10 SCSU students to work with them starting in the fall at a site located on campus. Professor Dr. Jim Chen has played an integral role in finding office space to house the program and facilitating the launch of the future site.

Minnesota State University Mankato, Metropolitan State University and Winona State University are also participating in the unique partnership, sponsored by Advance IT Minnesota. The program, developed and managed by Maverick, gives IT students real-world experience working in the field with cutting-edge technology and typically a job offer prior to graduation, while providing major corporations with top student talent as a successful, proven option for cost-effective software development and testing services and an experienced workforce after graduation.

Minneapolis-based Maverick is gaining a national reputation as the first IT staff-augmentation company to develop a successful academia-meets-corporate America business model. The Minnesota State University Mankato location has been open for business since 2006, providing software services to Eagan-based Thomson Reuters. Based on this model, each of the other locations can be opened and running within four to eight weeks with the commitment of a corporate partner. Additional MnSCU colleges will be added as the program continues to grow.

“It sounds like a cliché, but it really is a win-win-win program,” says Maverick president Marty Hebig, who first launched Maverick Software Consulting as a one-man operation in 1999. “The clients get a flexible, cost-effective and enthusiastic IT staff; the students gain extremely valuable experience; and the universities are able to give their students a real-world classroom in which to continue their education.” For more information, visit [www.MaverickSoftware.com](http://www.MaverickSoftware.com).

## **Learning and the Brain: A Faculty Learning Community**

**By: Lalita Subrahmanyam**

In this unique project, a multidisciplinary Faculty Learning Community (FLC) comprising six faculty members obtained a MnSCU Faculty Developer Travel Grant to attend the "iGeneration: How the Digital Age is Altering Brains, Learning and Teaching" conference in February 2011. The grantees were Wendy Bjorklund (Communication Studies), Marlene DeVoe (Psychology), Kathy Johnson (Special Education), Marge Pryately (Communication Studies), Luz Triana-Echeverria (Spanish) and Lalita Subrahmanyam (CETL



Director). Since their return, they have been working together to plan and implement a series of workshops for faculty and staff across the MnSCU system, to demonstrate and reflect upon the impact of their experiences on their teaching and learning.

The first workshop was a panel presentation on April 28, 2011, via Adobe Connect and face to face in Centennial Hall. The purpose of this session was to give an overview of the most important ideas we learned at the conference as well as a short description of our upcoming Fall 2011 workshops. All of the panelists focused on one session of the conference in which she felt she had experienced the most intense learning. The panel was moderated by Lalita Subrahmanyam. The Webinar was attended face to face by 25 students and around 7 faculty members. Online attendance included 35 participants from SCSU and other system colleges and universities.

A lively discussion ensued with the audience via virtual and face-to-face participation. Issues and questions tackled included: characteristics of today's "digital natives and immigrants," does the brain really "multi-task," impact of emotions on learning, cultural elements in learning, how to motivate the brain to learn, physical exercise and its impact on the brain and learning, etc. The audience enjoyed the new information shared as well as its practical implications.

A recording of the webinar is posted on the CETL website at <http://www.stcloudstate.edu/teaching/events/LearningandtheBrain.asp>. Information about upcoming workshops will be shared with faculty and staff in SCSU and throughout the MnSCU system.



Student researchers Jamie Hanson (Left) and Kayla Malone (right)

## Invasive Plant Species Management

By: Jorge Arriagada

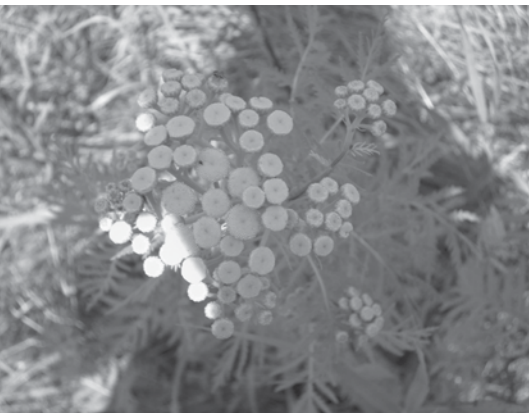
In 2002, an agreement was signed between SCSU and the Minnesota Department of Military Affairs for the development of a sustainable management plan for invasive plant species at two military training sites in Minnesota - Camp Ripley and Arden Hills Army Training Site. Over the past nine years, students from SCSU have helped to prevent the introduction of invasive species, control and monitor existing populations, conduct research, promote public education, and restore invaded areas within these training sites.

These activities are in accordance with Executive Order 13112 which mandates each federal agency to address invasive species on federal lands. An invasive species is



Spotted Knapweed, an invasive species

defined by the order as “an alien species whose introduction does or is likely to cause economic harm or harm to human health.” The invasive species of concern in this site are terrestrial plant species. Invasive plants reduce the capacity of invaded ecosystems to provide goods and services needed by people, alter ecological processes, and can displace desirable species (Masters and Sheley, 2001). These species have been introduced into Camp Ripley by both human created disturbances and wildlife movement. These two species are of special concern due to their highly aggressive and opportunistic nature and large distributions at Camp Ripley.



The Common Tansy, an invasive species

Initial research by graduate students Jill Babski, Joe Eisterhold, Alan Einck, and Joe Carlyon at these sites has produced distribution maps of the invasive plant species present and treatment options for control of these invasive species. As of spring



Kayla Malone assisting on a study site incorporating prescribed fire as a treatment strategy to reduce Spotted Knapweed

2011, large-scale efforts are being put into effect by graduate students Jamie Hanson and Kayla Malone to control the spread rate of Spotted Knapweed (*Centaurea stoebe* ssp. *micranthos* [Gugler] Hayek) and Common Tansy (*Tanacetum vulgare* Linnaeus). Information gathered during summer 2010 regarding soldier training and land use will be used to efficiently schedule and carry out treatments in the form of mechanical removal and herbicide application. Ultimately, the goal of spring/summer is to begin to reduce target terrestrial species' infestation size and severity across Camp Ripley. Future efforts will be to continue this reduction, while determining treatment options for other invasive plant species that exist on site. In addition to these efforts, research by Jamie Hanson addresses the effectiveness of using successional theory as a means of restoring Minnesota prairie areas dominated by Common Tansy and Spotted Knapweed. The objective of this project is to determine which combination of integrated land management practices best restores, via specific methods, degraded habitats into becoming ecologically sound areas.

## EXTERNAL GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

### FOUNDATIONS

#### U.S. Bancorp Foundation

U.S. Bancorp contributes to the strength and vitality of communities through the Foundation charitable contributions program. It seeks to build strong partnerships and lasting value in communities by supporting organizations that improve the educational and economic opportunities of low- and moderate-income individuals and families and also those that enhance the cultural and artistic life. In the area of education it supports: innovative programs that help low-income and at-risk students succeed in school and prepare for post-secondary education, financial literacy training, and effective mentoring programs. Priority is given to programs that reach a broad number of students, bring together community resources, support curriculum innovation, and can, if successful, be replicated. For more information please visit: [www.usbank.com/cgi\\_w/cfm/about/community\\_relations/grant\\_guidelines.cfm](http://www.usbank.com/cgi_w/cfm/about/community_relations/grant_guidelines.cfm)

**Application Deadline:** Online applications accepted anytime.

#### Foundation Funding

For more information on these foundations as well as other Minnesota foundations visit [www.stcloudstate.edu/osp/external/search.asp](http://www.stcloudstate.edu/osp/external/search.asp). The Office of Sponsored Programs subscribes to multiple grantmaker and RFP databases. By using the resources, you can familiarize yourself with foundations throughout the state. These resources provide valuable information such as foundation mission, funding priorities, funding history, deadlines, and much more!

## FEDERAL GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

All grant opportunities are posted in detail on [www.Grants.gov](http://www.Grants.gov). Select **Find Grant Opportunities - Basic Search**, enter the grant **Funding Opportunity Number** provided below each funding opportunity, click **Search** and click on the funding opportunity title. Postings provide eligibility information, objectives, and deadlines.

For more information contact [osp@stcloudstate.edu](mailto:osp@stcloudstate.edu).

#### Publishing Historical Records



The National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC), a part of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), supports projects that promote the preservation and use of America's documentary heritage essential to understanding our democracy, history, and culture. This funding category has two application deadlines. This announcement is for Colonial and Early National Period Projects (those preparing publications whose documents fall predominantly prior to 1820). An additional funding opportunity is published for New Republic through the Modern Era Projects (those preparing publications whose documents fall predominantly after 1820). The Commission seeks proposals to publish historical records of national significance. Projects may focus on the papers of major figures from American life or cover broad

historical movements in politics, military, business, social reform, the arts, and other aspects of the national experience. The historical value of the records and their expected usefulness to broad audiences must justify the costs of the project. Grants are awarded for collecting, describing, preserving, compiling, editing, and publishing documentary source materials. Eligible activities include: scholarly documentary editions in printed and bound volumes; scholarly documentary editions in online and other formats; image editions in online, microfilm, and other formats; conversion of existing print and microfilm editions to electronic publications; combinations of the above. Cost sharing is required and is the financial contribution the applicant pledges to the cost of a project. Cost sharing can include both direct and indirect expenses, in-kind contributions, non-Federal third-party contributions, and any income earned directly by the project. The Commission ordinarily provides no more than 50 percent of total project costs for Publishing Historical Records projects.

**Application Deadline:** October 6, 2011

Funding Opportunity Number: **PUBLISHING-201110**

#### Grant Resource Center

GRC GrantSearch is a comprehensive resource tool that was developed to not only make finding federal and private foundation grant information accessible, but to find additional academic oriented activities. GRC allows the user to search the funding opportunity database using five criteria: academic subject, activity, funding sponsor, deadline month, and text.

Please contact our office for more information.

## FEDERAL GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

### National Science Foundation National Robotics Initiative



Hydrologic Sciences focuses on the flow of water and transport processes within streams, soils, and aquifers. Particular attention is given to spatial and temporal heterogeneity of fluxes and storages of water, particles, and chemicals coupling across interfaces with the landscape, microbial communities, and coastal environments, to upscaling and downscaling given these heterogeneities and interfaces and how these processes are altered by climate and land use changes. Studies may address aqueous geochemistry as well as physical, chemical, and biological processes within water bodies. These studies commonly involve expertise from many basic sciences and mathematics, and proposals often require joint review

with related programs.

**Application Deadline for Regular Research:** December 5, 2011

Funding Opportunity Number: [09-538](#)

### National Science Foundation National Robotics Initiative



The goal of the National Robotics Initiative is to accelerate the development and use of robots in the United States that work beside, or cooperatively with, people. Innovative robotics research and applications emphasizing the realization of such co-robots acting in direct support of and in a symbiotic relationship with human partners is supported by multiple agencies of the federal government including the National Science Foundation (NSF), the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). The purpose of this program is the development of this next generation of robotics, to advance the capability and usability of such systems and artifacts, and to encourage existing and new communities to focus on innovative application areas. It will address the

entire life cycle from fundamental research and development to industry manufacturing and deployment. Methods for the establishment and infusion of robotics in educational curricula and research to gain a better understanding of the long term social, behavioral and economic implications of co-robots across all areas of human activity are important parts of this initiative. Collaboration between academic, industry, non-profit and other organizations is strongly encouraged to establish better linkages between fundamental science and technology development, deployment and use.

**Application Deadline for Regular Research:** October 1, 2011 & Annually Thereafter

Funding Opportunity Number: [11-553](#)

### Sign-up for **FREE** automatic Federal Grant Notifications!

1. Visit [www.infoed.org/home/officemenu.asp](http://www.infoed.org/home/officemenu.asp)
2. Click GENIUS SMARTS from the list and then click Create New Profile.
3. Follow the step-by-step process of completing your profile.

Once your profile is setup, you will begin receiving personalized emails from InfoEd identifying opportunities that are within your personalized profile criteria. Update your profile as needed.

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