The LMU Mini-Grants Program was instituted during the 07-08 academic year as a way to encourage research and scholarly activities by faculty. Many faculty seek support for pilot studies or projects in hopes that these funds will facilitate their efforts to compete on a national level for larger grants from state and federal agencies. While the application deadline for this academic year has ended, faculty from all schools and all departments are encouraged to talk to their chair or dean about applying for this program next year. Mini-grant applications become available each year on or around December 1.

This year, eight mini-grants were awarded to LMU faculty. Details on the awardees and their proposed research can be found below. Anyone with questions regarding the LMU Mini-Grants program is encouraged to contact Dr. Dennis Kiick, chair of the University Research Committee or the ORGSP.

**Dr. Ron Caldwell** for his project entitled “Terrestrial Mollusca (Land Snail) Biodiversity in Northern and Central Belize, Central America”

**Dr. Charles Faulkner** for his project entitled “Endoparasitic Infections of Malagasy Lemurs: Investigation of Host-Parasite Distributions”

**Dr. Earl Hess** for his project entitled “Howard’s Civil War – Selected Letters of Major General Oliver Otis Howard”

**Dr. James Hoelscher** for his project entitled “Mortgage Loan Officer Compensation and Potential Loan Defaults”

**Elissa Graff** for her project entitled “Appalachia and Maya Craft: Experiential Practices and Preservation”

**Dr. Gary Peevely** for his project entitled “Will the Current K-12 Funding and Education Programming Models of the Tri-State School Districts Facilitate Their Future Students’ Success at LMU?”

**Dr. John Hoellman** for his project entitled “Cambaridae (freshwater crayfish) Biodiversity in Southern Belize (Toledo District), Central America”

**Dr. Charles Hubbard** for his project entitled “The Letters of Benjamin Trail: African-American Civil War Soldier”
The Blue Ridge Undergraduate Research Conference (BRURC) was held March 30th at Maryville College. The BRURC is designed to encourage undergraduates to conduct research projects by providing a high quality, low pressure forum for presentations. Faculty and students from all disciplines are invited to attend and participate. Fourteen LMU students participated and presented at this year’s conference on a wide variety of topics.

Caroline Chadwell: “Attachment styles in children from divorced families and attitudes toward marriage”

Amanda Wilson: “The Art of Quilting”

Kacey Chumley: “The Mozart effect: Using music as the basis of a neurological breakthrough”

Aaron Johnson: “The origin and advancement of the banjo”

Sara Collins: “Comparisons between micro land snail assemblage patterns and three different vegetative regimes in Belize”

Annalyse Moncrief: “GIS substrate habitat mapping of selected reaches of the Powell River, Tennessee”

Brandon Sharp “Investigation and preparation of a polyaniline/graphene composite film for conductivity testing”
Tyler Jenkins, Aaron Johnson, Jamie Mihalko, & Lucas Wilder, Geography of Appalachian panel presentation-Dying to serve? An examination of Appalachian soldier stereotypes”

Joshua Caldwell: “Moonshine-Mountain liquor-Mountain lightning-Grandma's cough syrup”

Tyler Jenkins: “Fishing and fly tying in southern Appalachia”

Charles Byrge: “The history of canning”

John Trent: “The Trail of Tears: A shameful scar”

John T. Bellows: “Do White-Tailed Deer, Odocoileus virginianus, bucks respond differently to commercially prepared attractants?”

Robby Curtis: “Survey of expression and function of flagella in clinical and environmental strains of Pseudomonas aeruginosa”

Anthony Derrick Lindsay: “Myxomycete niches in northern Thailand”

Kylee Payne: “Relationship of physical attractiveness and results of criminal lineups”
The Claiborne County RTTT STEM Initiative, which consists of math and science teachers grades 3-12 in collaboration with the math and science departments of Lincoln Memorial University, hosted a BBQ cookout on Thursday, April 12 at LMU’s Powell River Aquatic Research Station. The group met from 4:30-7:30, and in addition to some terrific food, participants were given the opportunity to learn more about the research station from Dr. Ron Caldwell.

Mr. Don Oakley, Director of the Well Being Foundation, gave information on his facility located on the Powell River and opportunities for teachers to use it as an outdoor classroom and for field trips. He also offered the Well Being Foundation’s Conference Center for meetings.

The purpose of this informal gathering was to discuss the grant possibilities intended to foster the collaboration between LMU and the Claiborne STEM teachers. Greg Snyder presented the idea of funding STEM Kits that would be directly linked to Tennessee math and science standards and placed in each Claiborne County School. Martha Scheidler, Director of Foundations, gave an overview of grants available for STEM projects.

Dr. Aggy Vanderpool presented STEM updates on a National level. She explained that the scientific and business community is reeling from the statistics that are now coming out about the incredible deficit we are going to have in math and science literacy for the U.S. workforce over the next couple of decades – and it’s anticipated to only get worse. Lots of conversations are in play at the federal level about how to turn this trend around so that the U.S. can stay competitive in a global economy. If any federal funding is going to be directed at education over the next four years, it will come in the form of STEM funding.

Also in attendance were Dr. Amiel Jarstfer, Dean of Arts and Science and Dr. Martin Sellers, Dean of Research and STEM Initiatives from LMU.

The partnership between LMU and Claiborne County Schools is a collaborative effort to vertically integrate math and science instruction for our students. The goal is to generate more interest and increase student performance in the STEM subjects. The group is going to meet again in June to begin the grant writing process.
Louisville poet Erin Keane visited LMU for a three-day mini residency funded in part by South Arts with funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Erin offered a free poetry writing workshop to the community on Sunday, April 15. She visited Dr. Tony Maxwell’s 4th graders at Middlesboro Intermediate School and Mr. Evan Robinson’s creative writing class at Middlesboro High School on Monday, April 16. Erin also made an impromptu visit to the community writing class that night and offered feedback and encouragement to the group. Her visit culminated in a reading of her poetry at Carnegie Vincent Library on Tuesday, April 17.

Erin Keane is the author of two collections of poetry, Death-Defying Acts (WordFarm, 2010) and The Gravity Soundtrack, (WordFarm, 2007). Her chapbook, The One-Hit Wonders, is a small collection of poems about rock and roll. Her poems, essays, and reviews have appeared in such publications as Salon, The Courier-Journal, LEO, Sou’wester, The Louisville Review, Redivider, PANK, The Lumberyard, Nimrod, Phoebe, Now & Then and Louisville Magazine.

Keane earned her MFA in creative writing at Spalding University. A recipient of a fellowship from the Kimmel Harding Nelson Center for the Arts and the Al Smith Fellowship from the Kentucky Arts Council, she serves on the editorial boards of Strange Horizons and The Heartland Review and teaches in the MFA program at National University. She is also covers Arts and Humanities for the Louisville NPR affiliate, WFPL.

Dr. Jacques Debrot, Assistant Professor, English/Chair, Department of English, had a story entitled “Sky Burial” accepted for publication in the literary journal Pear Noir. Contributors to Pear Noir include the Pulitzer Prize winning poet, Mark Strand, as well as other well-known contemporary authors such as Lydia Davis, Robert Olen Butler, and Russell Edson.
It has been a busy spring season for writer-in-residence Darnell Arnoult. On March 17, Arnoult was the keynote speaker for the Southern Writers Symposium luncheon and participated in a panel discussion on publishing at Methodist University in Fayetteville, NC. On March 20, she provided a one-day workshop on writing fiction for the North Carolina Center for the Advancement of Teaching, Cullowhee, NC. On March 21, Arnoult held a reading and book signing as part of the Western Carolina Literary Festival at Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, NC. She held another reading and book signing on April 10 at Union College, Barbourville, KY.

On April 12, she spoke to LMU Southwest Virginia Alumni Chapter on creative writing programs at LMU.

She also conducted a reading and two poetry workshops on April 13 at the Harriette Arnow Conference, Somerset Community College, Somerset, KY. On April 18, Arnoult taped a guest visit on Tom Amis’s TV show and on April 19 was the featured speaker at the Women of Service Luncheon. April 20 she was a guest speaker for the Upper Cumberland Education Association meeting for Bell, Knox, Whitley, Laurel, and Clay school districts, along with the independent districts in those counties. This audience included mainly librarians.

May 6-11, Arnoult will be leading a week-long fiction writing workshop at John C. Campbell Folk School entitled “Building Character.”
Fulbright Fellows Visit Lincoln Memorial University

Dr. Adam W. Rollins (Department of Biology) hosted two Fulbright Fellows during the period of October 25-30, 2011. The visitors were Dr. Thomas Edison dela Cruz from the University of Santo Tomas, Manila, Philippines and Dr. Hanh Thi My Tran from Ho Chi Minh International University, Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam. The Fulbright Fellows presented public lectures, interacted with LMU research students, and conducted research with Dr. Rollins.

Dr. Cruz and Dr. Tran each presented public lectures at the auditorium of the Abraham Lincoln Library and Museum. Dr. Cruz talked about his slime mold research in the Philippines within the context of that country's exceptionally rich biodiversity and Dr. Tran discussed her research on slime molds in Thailand and their potential applications in the production of biofuels. Approximately forty students attended the lectures. Preceding the lectures the Department of Biology held a "meet and greet" at the Cumberland Mountain Research Center (CMRC) where faculty and students were able to have some snacks and talk with the visitors one-on-one.

In addition, Dr. Cruz and Dr. Tran worked with Dr. Rollins in his laboratory at the CMRC and in the field at both the Cumberland Gap National Historical Park and the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Despite the fact that it was late in the season the researchers were able to find slime molds fruiting under natural conditions in the field. Furthermore, the group discussed ideas for potential collaborative projects and future grant proposals, one which is currently being written.

(A) Dr. Cruz and Dr. Tran enjoying the Fall weather and campus decor, (B) Dr. Cruz's lecture, (C) Dr. Tran's lecture, (D) Fulbright Fellows interacting with faculty and students at the "meet and greet", (E) research in the Smoky Mountains, and (F) Dr. Tran displaying slime molds collected from the Cumberland Gap.
Every three years experts as well as amateur enthusiasts worldwide assemble in one place to talk about — well — slime molds. Slime molds are rather fascinating microscopic amoebae that spend part of their lives moving through their environment as predators ingesting bacteria and the other part producing reproductive structures that superficially resemble small mushrooms. This dual nature between "animal-like" and "plant-like" life stages has both perplexed and fascinated biologists for ages, yet relatively few people study these organisms. The afore mentioned international gathering of "slime mold fanciers" is called the International Congress on the Systematics and Ecology of Myxomycetes (ICSEM) and the most recent meeting took place in Recife, Brazil from September 11-16, 2011. Dr. Adam W. Rollins (Department of Biology) participated in this congress.

Dr. Rollins presented a co-authored poster entitled, "Dictyostelid cellular slime molds of Kenya" which provided a preliminary report concerning his research (supported by the National Science Foundation) on this group of organisms from this region. In addition, Dr. Rollins was an invited speaker setting the stage for a roundtable discussion entitled, "Filling in the blank spots on the map: where future studies of Myxomycetes need to be carried out". As part of this roundtable he delivered a presentation about the current state as well as the future direction of slime mold research in grassland ecosystems. Overall, the round table and the meeting were well received and very productive.
Director of NA Concentration Presents at AANA Meetings

Ken Kirsner, Director, Nurse Anesthesia Concentration, recently gave two talks for the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA). The first was entitled “Why Publish?” and was presented by Kirsner during the AANA Journal Writers Workshop at the AANA Annual Meeting in Boston, August 2011. The second, entitled “Credentialing: Living our Lives on the Front Page” was given at the AANA Assembly of School Faculty in San Diego, February 2012.

In addition, Kirsner, in conjunction with his colleague Chuck Biddle, had a recent article entitled “Production Pressure: Consequences of its ‘Normalization’” published in *Current Reviews for Nurse Anesthetists*, Lesson 22, Volume 34 (3/15/2012).

School of Nursing Grant Applications

Dr. Mary Anne Modrcin—Application submitted to the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Advanced Education Nursing Traineeship (AENT) Program for project entitled “AENT for Rural Appalachia”

Dr. Mary Anne Modrcin—Application submitted to the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Nurse Anesthetists Traineeship (NAT) for project entitled “NAT for Rural Appalachia”

Pictured is Dr. Mary Anne Modrcin, Dean of the Caylor School of Nursing

Pictured above is Kirsner during a recent trip to Haiti.
Division of Health Sciences News Continued

Dr. Stephen Miller Contributor to Osteopathic Guide on COPD

Dr. Stephen J. Miller, Assistant Professor of OPP/Family Medicine, Chair of Family Medicine LMU-DCOM, was recently published in the Osteopathic Physicians Guide: COPD with his article entitled “Osteopathic Principles and Practice in Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease”. Dr. Miller earned his DO from Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, Pennsylvania and is Board certified, American Osteopathic Board of Family Practitioners. Dr. Miller came to LMU-DCOM in 2009 from Lehigh Valley Hospital and Health Network where he was the Osteopathic Program Director for Family Medicine Residency.

Medical Librarian Receives Express Digitization and Conservation Award

Lisa Travis, Medical Librarian LMU-DCOM, received a grant for an Express Digitization and Conservation Award through the National Networks of Libraries of Medicine (NNLM). The goal of the Express Library Digitization Award is to enable libraries to digitize historical materials or a unique collection to increase its accessibility within and without the institution. The grant is for the digitization of two collections and creation of an institutional repository. The first collection consists of approximately 12,000 slides in 24 non-archival binders that were donated to the library in June 2011 by a dean emeritus of a school of dentistry; the collection consists of pathology, dermatology, and other images that are not limited to oral diseases and conditions. The second collection consists of images and documents related to LMU’s first medical school, which existed briefly in the early twentieth century.

Dr. Natalie Shirley Submits Grant to National Institute of Justice

On the heels of her recent grant award from the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), Dr. Natalie Shirley has submitted a grant application entitled “Evaluation of Osteometric Measurements in Forensic Anthropology” to the NIJ in the category of Applied Research and Development in Forensic Science for Criminal Justice Purposes. According to Dr. Shirley, many methods and techniques in forensic anthropology employ osteometric measurements as their basis, but little work has been done to investigate the error rates of these measurements themselves. The proposed research will provide the forensic anthropology community with observer error rates for standard osteometric measurements, use these error rates to evaluate the efficacy of these measurements, and evaluate alternatives for problem measurements.
It has been a productive year for Ann Callahan, PhD, MSSW, LCSW, Assistant Professor of Social Work. Among her accomplishments are multiple publications and workshops. Dr. Callahan’s work includes issues such as diversity, social awareness, justice and equality and end of life issues. Overall her goal is to make the world a better place through kindness and understanding.


Callahan, A. M. (2011, December). Awarded a *Salzburg Global Fellowship* for international education and $500 for work in Human Diversity and Social Justice class to conduct a diversity initiative at Lincoln Memorial University through the *Appalachian College Association/Salzburg Global Seminar*.


Callahan, A. M. (2011, October). *Relational spirituality: When professional helping enhances life meaning*. Workshop presented for Fort Sanders Regional Medical Center Ethics Conference in Knoxville, TN.
School of Business Publications in Refereed Journals


School of Business Books Published


School of Business Peer Reviewed Journal Articles Accepted for Publication


McCann, J, Graves, D. & Dillon, M. authored (2012) “The Adult Student Priorities Survey™: An analysis at a private central Appalachian university” and it has been accepted for publication in the *Journal of Multidisciplinary Research, 2012.*

Dr. Jack McCann, Dr. Suhanya Aravamudhan, Dr. Don McCarren, Okenyi Oke, co-authored: "The Antecedents to Micro lending as Corporate Strategy." The *International Journal of Business Competition and Growth* (IJBCG), informed the authors that their paper has been accepted for publication in IJBCG Volume 2, Number 1 2012, but will be available on their website in November 2011.

Pictured above is Dr. Dave Hinkes. Photo provided University Advancement
School of Business News Continued

School of Business Presentations Made


Research entitled “The Adult Student Priorities Survey™: An analysis at a private central Appalachian university” was presented at the SAM International Business Conference held in Las Vegas, Nevada, March 29-April 1, 2012 and included in the conference proceedings. Authored by Drs. McCann, Graves, and Dillon.

Dr. Dan Graves presented “The Adult Student Priorities Survey™: An analysis at a private central Appalachian university” at the 2012 SoTL Commons Conference in Macon, GA. Authored by Drs. McCann, Graves, and Dillon.

Drs. McCann and Holt (2011) presented their research entitled “Perceived leadership integrity in the manufacturing industry,” at the SAM International Business Conference held in Las Vegas, Nevada, March 29-April 1, 2012 and included in the conference proceedings.

Information provided by Dr. Jack McCann
Dr. Steve A. Davidson, Director of EdD Program & Assistant Professor of Graduate Education/EdD Program, was selected by the Tennessee Department of Education to serve on the 2012 TCAP Writing Assessment Pilot Prompt Bias Review Committee in March. By looking at the common core standards and viewing the prompts and stimulus material that may be used to elicit student writing, the committee’s task was to review proposed prompts for potential bias issues.

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

Dr. Pat Murphree, Professor, Graduate Education, co-published an article, "Algebra at Any Age---Anytime" with a former Virginia colleague, Cindy Norton, in the Spring, 2012 Tennessee Educational Leadership Journal.

Dr. Pat Clark, Assistant Professor, Graduate Education, and Dr. Deborah Hayes, Assistant Professor, Graduate Education, co-published an article, “Art for Art’s Sake” in the Spring, 2012 Tennessee Educational Leadership Journal.

Dr. Michael Burger, Assistant Professor of Graduate Education, has drafted a concept paper that proposes creating a research project in the School of Education that can help educational practitioners in the Appalachian region served by LMU to implement standards-based instructional student-centered instructional programs while enhancing (not limiting) the abilities of those practitioners to practice and develop their professional skills and better meet the needs of each student. In order to do this, they need to be able to manage the tremendous amounts of information that is associated with any program that is highly accountable, student-centered, and responsive to all stakeholders. Among other goals, the project would focus on meeting that need.

The goal includes improving the extent to which decisions at all phases of the instructional process are informed and improved, and building a research database that can be analyzed to help identify what works and therefore can be used as a foundation for "knowledge engineering." Information gleaned from the repository would help the LEAs implement continuous improvement processes that are data-driven and informed by data unobtrusively obtained as an artifact of actual practice. Findings would then be shared within a common database (consortium-wide repository) so what appears to work in one district or school system can be shared with, and tested by, any other district in the consortium.
FACULTY PRESENTATIONS

**Dr. Michael Burger** held a 2-hour Webinar on February 23rd showing how a district with which he is consulting is implementing standards-based student progress and performance reporting for their elementary school. Administrators and program coordinators from four districts attended the Webinar. The four districts included a) Glenpool Public Schools, Glenpool OK (co-sponsor of the Webinar), b) Sergeant Bluff-Luton School District, Iowa, c) MOC-Floyd Valley School District, Iowa, and New Franklin School district, MO. As a result, a collaborative web site has been established in Google Docs to provide a mechanism for the districts to share ideas and products that they have developed to help them transition from traditional grading to data-driven, standards-based reporting of student progress and performance. Each district is interested in moving toward true standards-based reporting, so the topics of interest moving forward center mostly around staff development and how to prepare the parents for the transition.

**Dr. Judy Arnold** is co-authoring a paper entitled "Where the Girls Are: Women, Education, and Prison," with Dr. Betty Standifer. The paper is scheduled to be presented this September at the International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences (IAUES) Conference in Naples, Italy.

FACULTY PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

**Dr. Michael Burger** has submitted a proposal to Broken Arrow Public Schools, Oklahoma, to help them implement a management and tracking system for their faculty evaluation program.

**Dr. Michael Burger** been invited to submit a proposal to Madera County Office of Education, California, to help them implement a credentialing and qualifications management and tracking system for the professional development programs they offer to districts that they serve. He is waiting for a requirements document from them.

**Dr. Michael Burger** participated in recent book signing events for his book, "Ice Flowers: A Call to Worship." The first was held on Saturday, April 7 at Hastings Books in Maryville, TN. The second was on Saturday, April 28 at the Wild Wing Café in Knoxville, TN.
The Second Civil War Symposium for the Sesquicentennial: War in the Mountains II was held on Saturday, April 21 from 9 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Sessions included:

**Dr. John Inscoe**, Albert B. Saye Professor of History, University of Georgia  
*Guerrilla War and Remembrance*

**Dr. Earl Hess**, the Steward McClelland Distinguished Professor in Humanities  
Lincoln Memorial University  
*Civil War Soldiers and Appalachia*

**Dr. Steven Nash**, Assistant Professor of History, East Tennessee State University  
*Roguish Yankees and Rascally Freedpeople: The Civil War and emancipation within Cornelia Henry’s Household*

**Dr. Charles Hubbard**, Executive Director of the Abraham Lincoln Institute for the Study of Leadership and Public Policy, Lincoln Memorial University.  
*Question and Discussion Session*

Following the sessions, Michelle Ganz, ALLM Archivist, provided a tour of the research collections at the ALLM and Tom Mackie, ALLM Director, led a hike in Cumberland Gap National Historical Park to Civil War sites and ruins.
Reminder From the LMU Institutional Review Board

Please remember that all research proposals and projects involving human subjects, must have IRB approval prior to the presentation of any information gathered during the course of the research.

Under federal policy, the IRB cannot grant retroactive IRB approval.

For more information regarding the LMU IRB, please visit http://www.lmunet.edu/curstudents/ORGSP/IRB.shtml.

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If your grant award, application, presentation, or publication has not been mentioned in this edition, please forward your information to us using the contact information listed.

The ORGSP is located in Duke Hall, Suite 304

As a reminder, all applications for external funding must first begin by contacting the ORGSP.

Thank you!

The ORGSP staff would like to thank everyone for their submissions to the newsletter!