

## New Faculty Research Program for Support in the Humanities Awards First Grants

The scholarship and research activities of faculty in the humanities enhance FIU's reputation and visibility. Since her appointment in 2015 as a Faculty Fellow in the Office of the Provost, Rebecca Friedman, PhD, Associate Professor of History, has strived to support and showcase the scholarly productivity of FIU's faculty in the humanities. Among the numerous humanities-related initiatives that Dr. Friedman has spearheaded successfully during her first year as a Faculty Fellow, one of the most exciting is the Faculty Research Support Program in the Humanities.

The Faculty Research Support Program in the Humanities awards small grants for highly meritorious faculty research projects and interdisciplinary endeavors that have the potential to garner national and international attention, heightening FIU's profile and prestige and perhaps leading to external funding support. In its inaugural round of funding, eight outstanding proposals were selected from a highly competitive field of more than 40 applications. The six faculty members who received individual research grant awards and the titles of their successful proposals are as follows:



**April Merleaux, PhD**  
Associate Professor  
History:  
*An Environmental and Agrarian  
History of the War on Drugs*



**David Rifkind, PhD**  
Associate Professor  
Architecture:  
*Modern Ethiopia: Architecture, Urbanism  
and the Building of a Nation*

Recognizing that interdisciplinary inquiries are likely to yield broader visions and increase research vitality, the Faculty Research Program in the Humanities also made two awards for interdisciplinary collaborations among the humanities faculty and between humanities faculty and faculty in other disciplines. The team of **Whitney A. Bauman, PhD**, Associate Professor of Religious Studies, and **Nathaniel Cadle, PhD**, Associate Professor in the Department of English, received funds to establish the *Environmental Humanities Working Group*.



Whitney Bauman



Nathaniel Cadle

**Martin Palous, PhD**, Director, Vaclav Havel Center for Human Rights and Diplomacy, and colleagues **Jennifer Fu**, Founding Director of FIU Library Geographic Information Systems Center and Head of Remote Sensing Center, and **Jamie Rodgers**, Assistant Head of Digital Collections, were awarded a grant to support the *Havel Human Rights Dialogues Project*.



**Jessica Adler, PhD**  
Assistant Professor  
History and Health Policy &  
Management:  
*War and Health: Veterans' Policies  
and Perspectives*



**Heather Blatt, PhD**  
Assistant Professor  
English:  
*Forgotten Materialities of  
Medieval Book History*



**David Dolata, PhD**  
Associate Professor  
Musicology:  
*First Recording of Only Handel  
Arias Never Before Recorded*



**Eric Lob, PhD**  
Assistant Professor  
Politics & International Relations:  
*Construction Jihad: Rural Development  
and Regime Consolidation in Revolutionary  
Iran (1979-2013)*



Martin Palous



Jennifer Fu



Jamie Rodgers

July 2016

Upcoming Events  
(page 2)

Awards Received  
in May 2016  
(page 2)

Funding  
Opportunities  
(Excel file attached)

Contact Us  
(page 12)