Last month, FIU received a prestigious endowment award from the National Institute of Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) that will expand FIU’s capacity to address pressing health problems in vulnerable populations. Specifically, the $9.5 million grant will be used to create and support the Florida International University-Health Disparities Initiative (FIU-HDI), which will serve as the overarching infrastructure for community-based prevention, treatment, and outcome research focused on HIV, substance abuse, diabetes, obesity and other chronic illnesses that disproportionately impact African Americans, Hispanics, Haitians, and other underserved communities in South Florida and the Caribbean region.

NIMHD’s endowment will also enable specialized research education and training in minority health issues for FIU’s medical students. To maximize the potential impact of FIU-HDI, the project’s investigators will meet regularly with other minority health experts and community stakeholders to explore additional ways in which the project may contribute to the well-being of residents of South Florida and the Caribbean. The long-term goal of FIU-HDI is to conduct research and support education and training that improves minority health, reduces health disparities, and advances NIMHD’s vision of ensuring that all people have equal opportunities for long, healthy, productive lives.

To achieve this goal, the funds that NIMHD awarded to FIU-HDI will be invested to 1) increase the number of faculty conducting research in minority health and health disparities at FIU, 2) establish one of the nation’s most robust doctoral training program in health disparities research, and 3) increase the number of medical students who pursue research careers targeting the elimination of health disparities. Preliminary plans are to hire approximately three faculty members to be dedicated to a doctoral program concentration in the social and cultural determinants of health. Additional resources from the endowment will be committed to enhance the minority health-related content of the curriculum at the Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine (HWCOM) and provide health disparities research training experiences for medical students. Graduating more doctoral and medical students interested in careers in minority health will broaden the pool of investigators and intensify research efforts to eliminate health disparities.

The endowment grant award reflects NIMHD’s confidence in FIU’s commitment to minority health and recognition of the expertise of FIU’s research faculty. The remarkable success of FIU’s NIMHD-funded P20 Exploratory Center of Excellence grant: C-SALUD (P.I.: Mario De La Rosa, PhD) and other academic departments at the university engaged in minority-health related research and training, including the Health Promotion and Disease Prevention (Stempel), Medical and Population Health Sciences Research (HWCOM), Psychology (CASE), and Biomedical Engineering (CEC), laid the foundation for FIU-HDI. With the additional resources afforded by the NIMHD endowment grant, FIU is poised to contribute to major advancements in the elimination of health disparities by preparing the next generation of researchers, increasing the number of investigators, and disseminating research findings.
Upcoming Events

- **June 1, 1 to 2 pm, webinar,** Toward Sea Level Rise Solutions in South Florida—Envisioning and Adaptation for the Future of the Natural Built Environment, [https://connect.fiu.edu/IssfJune2016/](https://connect.fiu.edu/IssfJune2016/), please [RSVP](mailto:Mercedes.rodriguez@fiu.edu)
- **June 4, 4 to 6 pm, The Wolfsonian-FIU,** Havana Mañana: Cuba in the American Imagination, a lecture by Gustavo Perez Firmat
- **June 10, 6 to 8 pm, The Kampong,** 8th International Color Conference, sponsored by the Tropical Flowering Tree Society, [registration ($70) required](mailto:Mercedes.rodriguez@fiu.edu)

Awards Received—April 2016

FIU researchers were awarded $4,905,903 in April 2016. Below is a listing of awards received.

**PI:** Priyanka Alluri  
**CIVIL AND ENVIRON ENGINEERING**  
**Award Action Type:** Initial  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** University of North Florida  
**TITLE:** Evaluation of Project Processes in Relation To Transportation  
**AWARD:** $125,000

**PI:** Priyanka Alluri  
**CIVIL AND ENVIRON ENGINEERING**  
**Award Action Type:** Initial  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** Florida Department of Transportation  
**TITLE:** Generation of 2011-2014 Input Data for Safety Analyst  
**AWARD:** $25,000

**PI:** Jose R Almirall  
**CHEMISTRY**  
**Award Action Type:** Initial  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** National Institute of Standards & Techno  
**TITLE:** Analysis of Nicotine in the Breath of Smokers as a Surrogate  
**AWARD:** $14,786

**PI:** Lorraine Bahrick  
**PSYCHOLOGY**  
**Award Action Type:** Initial  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** Child Health and Human Development  
**TITLE:** Intersensory Processing, Developmental Trajectories, and Logitudinal  
**AWARD:** $530,372

**PI:** Kevin Mershon Boswell  
**BIOLOGY**  
**Award Action Type:** Increase  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** Nova Southeastern University  
**TITLE:** DEEPEND: Deep-Pelagic Nekton Dynamics of the Gulf of Mexico  
**AWARD:** $160,104

**PI:** Kevin Mershon Boswell  
**BIOLOGY**  
**Award Action Type:** Pre-Award  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** University of Miami  
**TITLE:** Ecology of Forage Fishes in the Arctic Nearshore  
**AWARD:** $15,000

For updates, corrections, suggestions, and/or general comments, please email [Mercedes.rodriguez@fiu.edu](mailto:Mercedes.rodriguez@fiu.edu)
PI: Heather Bracken-Grissom
**BIOLOGY**
**Award Action Type:** Pre-Award
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** Nova Southeastern University
**TITLE:** DEEPEND: Deep-Pelagic Nekton Dynamics of the Gulf of Mexico  
**AWARD:** $40,874

PI: Heather Bracken-Grissom
**BIOLOGY**
**Award Action Type:** Increase
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** Nova Southeastern University
**TITLE:** DEEPEND: Deep-Pelagic Nekton Dynamics of the Gulf of Mexico  
**AWARD:** $163,497

PI: Heather Bracken-Grissom
**BIOLOGY**
**Award Action Type:** Initial
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** Cave Research Foundation
**TITLE:** Evolution in the underworld: Molecular insights from subterranean waters  
**AWARD:** $2,600

PI: Luther G Brewster
**COM HUMANITIES HLTH AND SOC**
**Award Action Type:** Initial
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** South Florida Regional Planning Council
**TITLE:** Healthy Happens Here Corner Store Conversions  
**AWARD:** $35,000

PI: Fabian Gonzalo Cevallos
**CIVIL AND ENVIRON ENGINEERING**
**Award Action Type:** Initial
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** University of South Florida
**TITLE:** Safe and Accessible Pedestrian Facilities Inventory Model (SAPFIM)  
**AWARD:** $94,274

PI: Michael Cheng
**SCH OF HOSP AND TOURISM MGMT**
**Award Action Type:** Initial
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** U.S. Department of Agriculture
**TITLE:** Cochran Fellowship Program Latin America and Caribbean  
**AWARD:** $30,000

PI: Jonathan S Comer
**PSYCHOLOGY**
**Award Action Type:** Initial
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** Andrew Kukes Foundation Social Anxiety
**TITLE:** Harnessing Technology to Extend the Reach of Supported Care for  
**AWARD:** $100,000

PI: Jose Miguel Cruz
**LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIB CTR**
**Award Action Type:** Initial
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** U.S. Department of State
**TITLE:** The new face of street gangs: The gang phenomenon in El Salvador  
**AWARD:** $174,895

PI: Ruogu Fang
**COMPUTER INFO SCIENCES**
**Award Action Type:** Initial
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** National Science Foundation
**TITLE:** CRII: SCH: Characterizing, Modeling and Evaluating Brain Dynamics  
**AWARD:** $174,991
PI: Rebecca Friedman
PROVOST AND EXEC VP ACAD AFF
Award Action Type: Initial
AWARDING SPONSOR: European Commission
TITLE: BILAT USA 4.0
AWARD: $ 30,607

PI: Kenneth G Furton
PROVOST AND EXEC VP ACAD AFF
Award Action Type: Increase
AWARDING SPONSOR: Association of Public & Land-Grant Univ
TITLE: University Transformation through Teaching (UT3) Phase II
AWARD: $ 60,000

PI: Evelyn Gaiser
SEAS
Award Action Type: Increase
AWARDING SPONSOR: National Science Foundation
TITLE: LTER: FCE LTER III - Coastal Oligotrophic Ecosystems Research
AWARD: $ 29,000

PI: Cheng-Tin Gan
CIVIL AND ENVIRON ENGINEERING
Award Action Type: Initial
AWARDING SPONSOR: TransAction Associates Inc
TITLE: 2016 Data Update and Maintenance for Rural INTDAS System
AWARD: $ 20,812

PI: David B Garber
CIVIL AND ENVIRON ENGINEERING
Award Action Type: Initial
AWARDING SPONSOR: Florida Department of Transportation
TITLE: Florida Slab Beam Bridge with Ultra-High Performance Concrete
AWARD: $ 322,380

PI: Stavros Georgakopoulos
ELEC AND COMPUTER ENG
Award Action Type: Initial
AWARDING SPONSOR: Air Force Office of Scientific Research
TITLE: Highly Efficient Wireless Power Transfer and Data Transmission Methods
AWARD: $ 200,000

PI: Paulo Graziano
PSYCHOLOGY
Award Action Type: Initial
AWARDING SPONSOR: Children's Trust
TITLE: Comprehensive School Readiness Summer Treatment Program for Pre-K
AWARD: $ 172,088

PI: Tomas R Guilarte
ROBERT STEMPEL CPHSW DEANS OFF
Award Action Type: Pre-Award
AWARDING SPONSOR: Environmental Health Sciences
TITLE: Molecular and Behavioral Effects of Low Level Manganese Exposure
AWARD: $ 40,106

PI: Tomas R Guilarte
ROBERT STEMPEL CPHSW DEANS OFF
Award Action Type: Initial
AWARDING SPONSOR: Environmental Health Sciences
TITLE: Pb Grant: NMDA Receptor Function in Lead Neurotoxicity
AWARD: $ 40,600
PI: Pedro Pablo Hernandez  
**OFFICE OF RSCH AND ECO DEVELOP**  
Award Action Type: Initial  
AWARDING SPONSOR: Oak Ridge Associated Universities  
TITLE: SBIR/ STTR workshop  
AWARD: $ 3,800

PI: Sundararaj Sitharama Iyengar  
**COMPUTER INFO SCIENCES**  
Award Action Type: Initial  
AWARDING SPONSOR: Army Research Office  
TITLE: STIR: Scientific Exploration of Cyber-Driven Dynamic, Distributed Big Data Forensics Systems  
AWARD: $ 49,984

PI: Ranu Jung  
**ENGINEERING DEANS OFFICE**  
Award Action Type: Increase  
AWARDING SPONSOR: FIU Foundation  
TITLE: Eminent Chair.  
AWARD: $ 19,556

PI: Hilary C Landorf  
**ACAD PLAN AND ACCOUNTABILITY**  
Award Action Type: Initial  
AWARDING SPONSOR: Comparative & International Education So  
TITLE: Comparative and International Education Society Executive Directorship  
AWARD: $ 10,308

PI: Christine Lisetti  
**COMPUTER INFO SCIENCES**  
Award Action Type: Increase  
AWARDING SPONSOR: National Science Foundation  
TITLE: CHS: Small: Advanced Design Principles for Computer Simulated Agents  
AWARD: $ 16,000

PI: Mark A Marine  
**ARCHICT AND THE ARTS DEANS OFF**  
Award Action Type: Initial  
AWARDING SPONSOR: City of Parkland  
TITLE: Parkland Library Renovation + Addition  
AWARD: $ 15,000

PI: Mark A Marine  
**ARCHICT AND THE ARTS DEANS OFF**  
Award Action Type: Initial  
AWARDING SPONSOR: Miami-Dade Police Department  
TITLE: Miami-Dade Police-Youth Community Dialogues  
AWARD: $ 52,900

PI: Dana Lynn Mcmakin  
**PSYCHOLOGY**  
Award Action Type: Initial  
AWARDING SPONSOR: Pediatric Specialists of America  
TITLE: Dr. Dana McMakin's Clinical Work with Nicklaus Children's Hospital  
AWARD: $ 22,500

PI: Dana Lynn Mcmakin  
**PSYCHOLOGY**  
Award Action Type: Pre-Award  
AWARDING SPONSOR: National Institute of Mental Health  
TITLE: Treatment Development Targeting Positive Affect Function  
AWARD: $ 10,584
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PI: Alexander Mebel</th>
<th>AWARD Action Type: Continuation</th>
<th>AWARDING SPONSOR: University of Hawaii</th>
<th>TITLE: A Combined Experimental and Theoretical Study on the</th>
<th>AWARD: $60,000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PI: Osama A Mohammed</td>
<td>AWARD Action Type: Continuation</td>
<td>AWARDING SPONSOR: Office of Naval Research</td>
<td>TITLE: Physics-Based Modeling of Power Electronics Converters</td>
<td>AWARD: $161,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PI: Madhavan P Nair</td>
<td>AWARD Action Type: Initial</td>
<td>AWARDING SPONSOR: National Institutes of Health</td>
<td>TITLE: Cocaine in the Neuropathogenesis of HIV infection: Role of HDAC-2</td>
<td>AWARD: $364,122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PI: Margaret Sibley</td>
<td>AWARD Action Type: Continuation</td>
<td>AWARDING SPONSOR: National Institute of Mental Health</td>
<td>TITLE: Effectiveness of MI Enhanced Behavior Therapy for Adolescents with ADHD</td>
<td>AWARD: $450,319</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PI: Matthew T Sutherland</td>
<td>AWARD Action Type: Continuation</td>
<td>AWARDING SPONSOR: National Institutes of Health</td>
<td>TITLE: Impact of HIV and cannabis on brain function: Regions, networks</td>
<td>AWARD: $165,256</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PI: Berrin Tansel</td>
<td>AWARD Action Type: Initial</td>
<td>AWARDING SPONSOR: University of Central Florida</td>
<td>TITLE: KSC Technology Development and Commercialization Program</td>
<td>AWARD: $25,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**PI:** Tiffany Troxler  
**SOUTHEAST ENV RESEARCH CTR**  
**Award Action Type:** Initial  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** University of Florida  
**TITLE:** Mechanisms of peat collapse in Everglades coastal ecosystems  
**AWARD:** $100,000

**PI:** Tiffany Troxler  
**SOUTHEAST ENV RESEARCH CTR**  
**Award Action Type:** Initial  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** South Florida Water Management District  
**TITLE:** Surface water-groundwater interactions in Everglades tree islands  
**AWARD:** $87,350

**PI:** Nikolaos Tsoukias  
**BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING**  
**Award Action Type:** Initial  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** University of Vermont  
**TITLE:** K+ sensing & electrical signaling by Kir channels in brain vasculature  
**AWARD:** $30,000

**PI:** Susan E Webster  
**OFFICE OF RSCH AND ECO DEVELOP**  
**Award Action Type:** Initial  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** IREX  
**TITLE:** Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI)  
**AWARD:** $145,000

**PI:** Jonathan A Zawislak  
**EARTH AND ENVIRONMENT**  
**Award Action Type:** Initial  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** NASA Goddard Space Flight Center  
**TITLE:** The Relationship between Precipitation and Environmental Forcing  
**AWARD:** $87,226

**PI:** Yuying Zhang  
**BIOLOGY**  
**Award Action Type:** Initial  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** University of Florida  
**TITLE:** Impacts of stock spatial structure and connectivity  
**AWARD:** $16,797

**PI:** Ioannis Zisis  
**CIVIL AND ENVIRON ENGINEERING**  
**Award Action Type:** Initial  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** Florida Department of Transportation  
**TITLE:** Assessment of the performance of vehicular traffic signal assemblies  
**AWARD:** $271,845

**Funding Opportunities**

The funding opportunities are in a separate excel file, which includes a filter for agency, date and opportunity number.
## Limited Submissions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Institutional Submission Limits</th>
<th>Internal Proposal Deadline</th>
<th>Agency Deadline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NEA</td>
<td><strong>NEA Research Labs, FY 2016</strong></td>
<td>Only one application per organization</td>
<td>6/8/2016</td>
<td>July 12, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSF</td>
<td><strong>Physics Frontiers Centers (PFC) (NSF 16-561)</strong></td>
<td>No more than two preliminary proposals may be submitted by any one institution.</td>
<td>6/10/2016</td>
<td>Agency LOI/Prelim Deadline: On or around 8/01/2016 Agency Proposal Deadline: 01/30/2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSF</td>
<td><strong>Improvements in Facilities, Communications, and Equipment at Biological Field Stations and Marine Laboratories (FSML)</strong></td>
<td>Only one application per facility per round of FSML competition</td>
<td>9/9/2016</td>
<td>December 9, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NFVF</td>
<td><strong>National Film and Video Foundation Fund (Marketing and Distribution)</strong></td>
<td>Only one application per organization, individual or company will be considered during a particular financial year.</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>The NFVF will receive proposals for film funding throughout the year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NFVF</td>
<td><strong>National Film and Video Foundation Fund (Production Funding)</strong></td>
<td>Only one application per organization, individual or company will be considered during a particular financial year.</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>The NFVF will receive proposals for film funding throughout the year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NFVF</td>
<td><strong>National Film and Video Foundation Fund (Development Funding)</strong></td>
<td>Only one application per organization, individual or company will be considered during a particular financial year.</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>The NFVF will receive proposals for film funding throughout the year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NFVF</td>
<td><strong>National Film and Video Foundation Fund (Education and Training)</strong></td>
<td>Only one application per organization, individual or company will be considered during a particular financial year.</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>The NFVF will receive proposals for film funding throughout the year.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Contact ORED Senior Leadership

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Email Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Andrés G. Gil</td>
<td>Vice President for Research &amp; Economic Development</td>
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<td>Pedro Hernández</td>
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<tr>
<td>Susan Webster</td>
<td>Director, <strong>Training &amp; International Research Initiatives</strong></td>
<td><a href="mailto:Susan.webster@fiu.edu">Susan.webster@fiu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Office of Research and Economic Development

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[http://research.fiu.edu](http://research.fiu.edu)

For updates, corrections, suggestions, and/or general comments, please email [Mercedes.rodriguez@fiu.edu](mailto:Mercedes.rodriguez@fiu.edu)