

FIU's International Center for Tropical Botany poised for preeminence in its field

September 2015 Issue

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With climate change, habitat loss, and overharvesting threatening thousands of tropical plant species, FIU's International Center for Tropical Botany (ICTB) launched earlier this year with a great sense of urgency. The ICTB, a collaboration between FIU and the National Tropical Botanical Garden (NTBG), creates the infrastructure for multidisciplinary programs of research, education, and outreach in tropical botany, a field in which FIU has earned global recognition. In partnership with investigators around the world, FIU faculty affiliated with the ICTB are studying three critical areas:

- Processes generating and maintaining tropical plant diversity
- Products and services generated by tropical plants
- Conservation and management of threatened tropical plant species and habitats



Professor Baraloto at The Kampong

FIU was very fortunate to recruit Christopher Baraloto, Ph.D., to serve as Director of the ICTB. With an impressive track record of scholarly research in tropical botany, community ecology and conservation, and more than 80 peer-reviewed publications, Dr. Baraloto is exceptionally well qualified to lead the ICTB's large-scale research agenda. Prior to joining FIU, Dr. Baraloto spent eight years as a research scientist in Community Ecology at INRA-France.

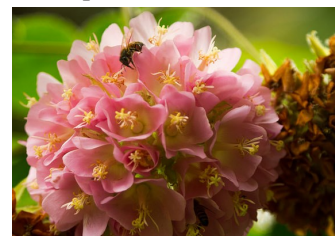
Construction plans for the new building that will be home to the ICTB have been drafted. The building, to be located imme-

diately adjacent to The Kampong in Coconut Grove, will feature indoor and outdoor spaces specially designed to facilitate research and education in tropical botany. Consistent with the ICTB's mission, the overall design of the building and landscapes ensures minimal loss of existing native and specimen trees, improves the biodiversity of the site with native plant species, and integrates seamlessly into a botanic garden landscape.



The Kampong

The momentum and progress made in establishing this new center's research infrastructure are matched by the acceleration in research-related activities in tropical botany. Research collaborations involving the NTBG gardens in Hawaii are underway, and the ICTB and the NTBG are co-hosting a research symposium in Miami this fall. Collaborative research opportunities are being explored with tropical botany experts at several universities in China and expanded in Peru, Brazil, Colombia, East Africa, and the Caribbean. Remarkably, since January, FIU faculty affiliated with the ICTB have published more than 30 papers, including two in the *Proceedings of the Natural Academy of Sciences*, one in *Nature*, and one in *Current Biology*. As it hires additional faculty, cultivates global research partners and intensifies its collaborative research, and moves its operations into dedicated, state-of-the-art space, the ICTB is poised for preeminence in the field of tropical botany.



Upcoming Events

September 2015

- **September 11, 9 to 10 am, EC 2300**, *An Amputee Prosthetic's 40 Year Perspective on Human Upper and Lower Limb Prosthesis*, presented by [Kevin Garrison](#), Garrison's Prosthetic Services
- **September 11, 3 to 4 pm, SIPA #103**, *Uranium from Seawater* presented by [Costas Touris](#), part of ARC's Distinguished Lecture Series
- **September 14, 3:30 to 4:45 pm, GC 243**, Faculty Mentor Program Orientation Workshops—if interested, please contact email mentor@fiu.edu or visit <http://mentor.fiu.edu>
- **September 15, 3:30 to 4:45 pm, AHC4 #402**, Faculty Mentor Program Orientation Workshops—if interested, please contact email mentor@fiu.edu or visit <http://mentor.fiu.edu>
- **September 17, 2 to 5 pm, MARC Pavilion**, *Proposal Writing Strategies and Funding Opportunities*, presented by Dr. Ivette Pearson Weatherton and Dr. Karen Crosby, **NSF Program Directors**. RSVP required—coming soon
- **September 18, 9 am to 12 noon, MARC Pavilion**, *Proposal Writing Strategies and Funding Opportunities*, presented by Dr. Ivette Pearson Weatherton and Dr. Karen Crosby, **NSF Program Directors**. RSVP required—coming soon
- **September 18, TBD, TBD**, *Feasibility of Using Virtual Reality as a Platform for Low Vision Orientation and Mobility Training*, presented by [Lei Liu](#).
- **September 18, 2 to 3 pm, MARC Pavilion**, *Engineering for Humanity: A Broader View of Broader Impacts*, presented by Dr. Ivette Pearson Weatherton, **NSF Program Director**. RSVP required—coming soon
- **September 24, 11 am to 1:15 pm, AHC4 #402**, *Horizon 2020 Workshop*, presented by [Olaf Heilmayer](#)
- **September 24, 12 to 1 pm, AHC5 #401**, *The Scripps Research Institute—A Risk Management Perspective*, presented by [Peter Norris](#)
- **September 25, 2 to 3 pm, ECS 241**, presented by [Edmund M. Clarke](#), details forthcoming

October 2015

- **October 2, 9 to 10 am, EC 2300**, *Construction of Convenient Biosensors Based on Optical Techniques*, presented by [Qiaoli Yue](#)
- **October 2, 2 to 4 pm, GC 140**, [Faculty Mentor Program](#)—*Tips to Tenure and Promotion Workshop*
- **October 5, 3 to 4 pm, WC 130**, *Sweet on Anti-sweeteners: From Taste to Endocrine System*, presented by [Emeline Maillet](#)
- **October 6, 4:30 to 6 pm, Faculty Club**, *Women Faculty Networking Event*—specific details will be forthcoming for this event and available at sish.fiu.edu
- **October 7 and 8, Faculty Club**, *Faculty Mentor Program Networking Lunch*—RSVP to mentor@fiu.edu
- **October 14, 1 to 2 pm, AHC2 #170**, *Novel Contrast Mechanisms for MR Imaging of Cancer*, presented by [Gigi Galiana](#), additional information available at <http://biomolecular.fiu.edu>
- **October 16, 9 to 10 am, EC 2300**, *Intra-Operative OCT Imaging Devices for Clinical Translation*, presented by [Yu Chen](#)
- **October 23, 9 to 10 am, EC 2300**, *Democratization of Next-Generation Imaging, Sensing and Diagnostics Tools through Computational Photonics*, presented by [Aydogan Ozcan](#)

November 2015

- **November 6, 9 to 10 am, EC 2300**, *Combining EEG and fMRI to Study Epileptic Foci and Networks*, presented by [Jean Gotman](#)
- **November 13, 9 to 10 am, EC 2300**, *Optical Clearing of Biological Tissues*, presented by [Bernard Choi](#)
- **November 20, 9 to 10 am, TBD**, *Microfluidic Devices and Systems: Biomedical Engineering from the Bottom Up*, presented by [Abraham Lee](#)

December 2015

- **December 4, 9 to 10 am, TBD**, *Probing the Nano-Architecture of Biological Tissues Using Light*, presented by [Steve Jacques](#)

Awards Received—July 2015

FIU researchers were awarded \$4,842,780 in July 2015. Below is a listing of awards received.

PI: Hesham A Ali CIVIL AND ENVIRON ENGINEERING Award Action Type: Increase AWARDING SPONSOR: Florida Department of Transportation TITLE: Long Term Aging of Asphalt Binders used with Reclaimed Asphalt Pavement	AWARD: \$ 81,575
PI: Priyanka Alluri CIVIL AND ENVIRON ENGINEERING Award Action Type: Initial AWARDING SPONSOR: University of Florida TITLE: Statewide Training of SafetyAnalyst in Florida	AWARD: \$ 20,000
PI: Shekhar Bhansali ELEC AND COMPUTER ENG Award Action Type: Initial AWARDING SPONSOR: Florida Agricultural and Mechanical Univ TITLE: Bridge to doctorate 2015 Cohort	AWARD: \$ 6,911
PI: Shekhar Bhansali ELEC AND COMPUTER ENG Award Action Type: Initial AWARDING SPONSOR: Florida Agricultural and Mechanical Univ TITLE: Bridge to doctorate 2015 Cohort: Participant Support	AWARD: \$ 486,000
PI: Deron Burkepile BIOLOGY Award Action Type: Initial AWARDING SPONSOR: Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation TITLE: Impacts of sedimentation on herbivory and the control of algal	AWARD: \$ 25,000
PI: Helen Z Cornely NURSING AND HLTH SCI DEANS OFF Award Action Type: Initial AWARDING SPONSOR: Health Resources & Services Administrati TITLE: Scholarship for Disadvantaged Students	AWARD: \$ 600,000
PI: Jeannette Cruz MULTICULTURAL PROGRAMS MMC Award Action Type: Initial AWARDING SPONSOR: Office of Postsecondary Education TITLE: Student Support Services 2015-2020	AWARD: \$ 220,000
PI: Mario R De La Rosa CRUSADA Award Action Type: Initial AWARDING SPONSOR: National Institutes of Health TITLE: Influence of Adult Latina Daughters on Older Latina Mothers HIV	AWARD: \$ 36,720

PI: George S Dulikravich MECHANICAL AND MAT ENGINEERING Award Action Type: Increase AWARDING SPONSOR: Georgia Institute of Technology TITLE: Multi-Objective, Multi-Disciplinary Design Optimization of	AWARD: \$ 29,996
PI: Brian Fonseca ARC APPLIED RESEARCH CENTER Award Action Type: Initial AWARDING SPONSOR: CACI International Inc TITLE: CERDEC Flight Activity (CFA) System Engineering Support	AWARD: \$ 20,000
PI: James Fourqurean SOUTHEAST ENV RESEARCH CTR Award Action Type: Initial AWARDING SPONSOR: National Park Service TITLE: Florida Bay Mudbank Vulnerability Assessment	AWARD: \$ 20,000
PI: James Fourqurean BIOLOGY Award Action Type: Increase AWARDING SPONSOR: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admin TITLE: MOU between DOC, NOAA, NOS, ONMS & FKNMS	AWARD: \$ 1,052,592
PI: Ismail Guvenc ELEC AND COMPUTER ENG Award Action Type: Increase AWARDING SPONSOR: DOCOMO Innovations Inc TITLE: Compressive Sensing for Improving Accuracy of Fingerprint	AWARD: \$ 10,000
PI: Mohammed A Hadi CIVIL AND ENVIRON ENGINEERING Award Action Type: Initial AWARDING SPONSOR: URS Corporation TITLE: FITSEVAL Training, Review and Coordination with FDOT District 5	AWARD: \$ 10,198
PI: Katie Hart CENTER FOR CHILDREN AND FAM Award Action Type: Initial AWARDING SPONSOR: Children's Trust TITLE: Read to Learn Summer Reading Explorer's Program	AWARD: \$ 536,811
PI: Kathryn Elizabeth Brogan Hartlieb DIETETICS AND NUTRITION Award Action Type: Continuation AWARDING SPONSOR: Wayne State University TITLE: Patient-Provider Communication to Promote Health Behavior	AWARD: \$ 19,069
PI: Maria Ilcheva METROPOLITAN CENTER Award Action Type: Initial AWARDING SPONSOR: City of Miami TITLE: City of Miami Annexation Feasibility Study, 2015	AWARD: \$ 9,954

PI: Sundararaj Sitharama Iyengar COMPUTER INFO SCIENCES Award Action Type: Initial AWARDING SPONSOR: Army Research Office TITLE: Cyber Science, Biometrics and Digital Forensics: Workshop on	AWARD: \$	11,660
PI: Sundararaj Sitharama Iyengar COMPUTER INFO SCIENCES Award Action Type: Initial AWARDING SPONSOR: Army Research Office TITLE: Cyber Science, Biometrics and Digital Forensics: Workshop on	AWARD: \$	20,340
PI: Xia Jin CIVIL AND ENVIRON ENGINEERING Award Action Type: Initial AWARDING SPONSOR: University of Florida TITLE: STRIDE Summer Internship 2015	AWARD: \$	4,350
PI: Konstantinos Kavallieratos CHEMISTRY Award Action Type: Initial AWARDING SPONSOR: Savannah River Nuclear Solutions LLC TITLE: Development of an Alternative Solvent Extraction Technology for	AWARD: \$	297,935
PI: Purnima Madhivanan EPIDEMIOLOGY Award Action Type: Increase AWARDING SPONSOR: Merck & Co. Inc. MSD Phamaceuticals Priv TITLE: Survey of predictors of HPV vaccination among parents of	AWARD: \$	25,977
PI: Mark A Marine ARCHICT AND THE ARTS DEANS OFF Award Action Type: Initial AWARDING SPONSOR: City of Miami Beach TITLE: City of Miami Beach Fly-over Bridge	AWARD: \$	7,000
PI: Wasim Maziak EPIDEMIOLOGY Award Action Type: Continuation AWARDING SPONSOR: National Institutes of Health TITLE: Tobacco Control Research and Capacity Building	AWARD: \$	301,297
PI: Ali Mostafavidarani CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT Award Action Type: Initial AWARDING SPONSOR: National Science Foundation TITLE: Assessment of Cascading Failures and Collective Recovery	AWARD: \$	49,962
PI: Norman D Munroe OSAS ENGINEERING AND COMPUTING Award Action Type: Initial AWARDING SPONSOR: Florida Department of Transportation TITLE: NSTI Summer Camp 2015 (FLAME)	AWARD: \$	38,517

PI: Rajamani S Narayanan

PHYSICS

Award Action Type: Initial

AWARDING SPONSOR: National Science Foundation

TITLE: Lattice Field Theory and Hadronic Physics

AWARD: \$ 101,658

PI: Adly Norelus

STUDENT AFFAIRS VICE PRES OFF

Award Action Type: Increase

AWARDING SPONSOR: Florida Department of Agriculture and Co

TITLE: Summer Food Service Program

AWARD: \$ 12,922

PI: Mark Padilla

LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIB CTR

Award Action Type: Increase

AWARDING SPONSOR: University of Puerto Rico

TITLE: Physicians and Health Related Services for Male-to-Female Transgender

AWARD: \$ 10,768

PI: Jeremy W Pettit

CENTER FOR CHILDREN AND FAM

Award Action Type: Continuation

AWARDING SPONSOR: National Institute of Mental Health

TITLE: Attention Bias Modification Training in Youth with Subthreshold

AWARD: \$ 182,030

PI: Eliane E Ramos

COMM SCIENCES AND DISORDERS

Award Action Type: Initial

AWARDING SPONSOR: Health Resources & Services Administrati

TITLE: Scholarship for Disadvantaged Students

AWARD: \$ 150,000

PI: Naphtali D Rishe

COMPUTER INFO SCIENCES

Award Action Type: Increase

AWARDING SPONSOR: National Science Foundation

TITLE: I/UCRC Phase II: Center for Advanced Knowledge Enablement

AWARD: \$ 16,000

PI: Mauricio Rodriguez-Lanetty

BIOLOGY

Award Action Type: Initial

AWARDING SPONSOR: National Science Foundation

TITLE: CAREER: Exploring Immunological Priming in a Basal Metazoan

AWARD: \$ 150,000

PI: Michael C Sukop

SOUTHEAST ENV RESEARCH CTR

Award Action Type: Initial

AWARDING SPONSOR: Colorado State University

TITLE: Urban Water Innovation Network (U-WIN): Transitioning

AWARD: \$ 44,682

PI: David K Twigg

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Award Action Type: Continuation

AWARDING SPONSOR: Defense Intelligence Agency

TITLE: Program in National Security Studies

AWARD: \$ 121,145

PI: Feion M Villodas**CENTER FOR CHILDREN AND FAM****Award Action Type:** Initial**AWARDING SPONSOR:** Children's Trust**TITLE:** After-school support program for youth at-risk for behavior problems**AWARD:** \$ 2,961**PI:** Changwon Yoo**BIOSTATISTICS****Award Action Type:** Continuation**AWARDING SPONSOR:** National Institutes of Health**TITLE:** Identifying Key Genes that cause Aggressive Brain Cancer**AWARD:** \$ 108,750

Limited Submission Funding Opportunities

Below are limited submission opportunities with upcoming internal deadlines. Other limited submission funding opportunities are at <http://research.fiu.edu/funding/pages/limited-submissions.html>.

Agency	Program	Institutional Submission Limits	Internal Deadline	Agency Deadline
NSF	ADVANCE: Increasing the Participation and Advancement of Women in Academic Science and Engineering Careers (ADVANCE) (NSF 14-5734)	One proposal per eligible organization for Institutional Transformation Catalyst	IT Catalyst: 9/5/2015	LOI: 10/5/2015 Agency Deadline: IT Catalyst: 11/3/2015
NIMHHD	Building Population Health Research Capacity in the U.S. Affiliated Pacific Islands (U24) (RFA-MD-15-011)	One application per organization	9/9/2015	LOI due 11/09/2015 Agency Deadline: 12/19/2015
NSF	ADVANCE: Increasing the Participation and Advancement of Women in Academic Science and Engineering Careers (ADVANCE) (NSF 14-5734)	One proposal per eligible organization for Institutional Transformation.	Institutional Transformation (IT): 10/5/2015	Prelim deadline: Institutional Transformation (IT): 11/05/2015 Agency Deadline: Institutional Transformation (IT): 01/20/2016
NSF	National Science Foundation Research Traineeship (NRT) Program (NSF 15-542)	3 proposals per organization	10/26/2015	LOI due 12/22/2015; proposal due 2/22/2016

Funding Opportunities

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

Contact ORED Senior Leadership

Name	Title	Email Address
Andrés G. Gil	Vice President for Research	Andres.gil@fiu.edu
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