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## A MESSAGE FROM THE ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR RESEARCH AND FACULTY DEVELOPMENT, SUSAN D. MCMAHON, PHD

There are so many exciting research-related events, honors, opportunities, and successes in the College of Science and Health. Here are a few highlights.

- Kenshu Shimada, our 2016 CSH Excellence in Research Award recipient, discovered a new extinct shark – come listen to his talk at the college meeting on October 18<sup>th</sup>.
- We have several new external grant awards over \$100k, including Molly Brown (Psychology, \$466k), Beth LeClair (Biology, \$443k), Doug Bruce (Health Sciences, \$168k), Mayra Guerrero (Psychology, \$136k), Orson Morrison (Family & Community Services, \$116k), and Carolyn Narasimhan (STEM, \$100k).
- We welcome 8 new tenure-track and 8 term faculty across 6 departments, and 1 new staff in the College.
- We published the 2016 edition of DePaul Discoveries (Volume 5, Issue 1) that includes 21 articles led by our undergraduate summer research program recipients. Our DePaul Discoveries journal yielded 4,440 downloads in the past year from 791 institutions and 118 countries.
- We developed a structure for a Corporate Affiliates Program and have begun working with Corporate Relations to identify potential partners that may provide additional funding for student research. We also submitted a SRAC proposal to grow funding for undergraduate student research and internships.
- We conducted a review of 2015 scholarly work for the upcoming HLC accreditation, and our data reveal that CSH published 236 journal articles (263 publications total) and gave 419 scholarly presentations.
- We are consistently improving our internal research programs – check out new and improved forms and instructions on [csh.depaul.edu](http://csh.depaul.edu).

Congratulations to our CSH faculty, staff, and students for your many accomplishments! Please take a look at the newsletter to learn more about the many achievements, events, and opportunities going on in CSH.

## UPCOMING STUDENT AND FACULTY RESEARCH DEADLINES

**October 14-** Vincentian Endowment Fund Grant Cycle Deadline Applications due by 5 PM.

The Vincentian Endowment Fund provides funding for faculty, staff, and student projects that enhance the university's Catholic and/or Vincentian identity. Apply [here](#).

**October 15 –** University Research Council (URC)

Applications for this grant are accepted twice a year with deadlines of October 15<sup>th</sup> and March 15<sup>th</sup>. Applications should be submitted through Campus Connect. Find more information [here](#).

**October 17-** Undergraduate Research Assistant Program Winter and Spring 2017 Applications due by 5 PM.

The Undergraduate Research Assistant Program (URAP) provides undergraduate students the opportunity to become actively involved conducting scientific research with a DePaul faculty mentor. Apply [here](#).

**November 7-** Faculty Summer 2017 Research Grant Applications due by 5 PM.

The College of Science and Health awards summer grants to support ongoing research and new research and to help faculty become more competitive for external resources. Apply [here](#).

**December 9 -** Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science Research Pilot Grant Program- Round IV

As a part of the alliance between DePaul University and Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science the two universities are now accepting applications for our inter-institutional funding for collaborative research projects between DePaul and RFUMS investigators that result in high-impact peer review publications and see larger, long-term extramural funding by federal or private granting agencies. If you are interested in applying, contact Dr. Lawrence Hamer for more detail. Letters of intent are due by Friday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, and final applications are due January 13<sup>th</sup>.

### Faculty Summer Research Grant Success

Douglas Bruce was awarded a 2-year (2016-2018) R03 grant from National Institute on Drug Abuse titled, "Motives for Heavy Cannabis Use among Young Men who Have Sex with Men Living with HIV/AIDS."

The study will use a two-phase mixed methods approach to investigate therapeutic uses, recreational uses, and stress alleviation motives. Qualitative interviews will assess motives for daily use at individual, interpersonal, and community levels. An epidemiologic survey will describe the distribution of cannabis motives among the target population, analyze multi-level factors associated with daily cannabis use, and estimate effects of multi-level factors and cannabis use on key indicators of the HIV care continuum. Doug will serve as principal investigator of the grant and will collaborate with colleagues at the University of Chicago and University of Colorado in carrying out the aims of the grant.

**We encourage all faculty to apply for FSRG grants, hoping that they will lead to these types of successes in external funding.**



National Institute  
on Drug Abuse

## UPCOMING STUDENT AND FACULTY RESEARCH EVENTS

### October 14 – See Science Differently

What can you do with a degree in science? Much more than you think! CSH faculty will be discussing opportunities you may not think of when you consider professions in the sciences. This is a part of DePaul's Family Weekend. You can view the schedule of Family Weekend Events [here](#).

### October 14 & 15 – 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Midwest ECO Conference Building Diverse Communities for Change

The conference theme is "Building Diverse Communities for Change," focusing on engaging and building diverse perspectives with the goal of social action and change.

Diversity is emphasized in the stakeholders involved—practitioners, community members, academics, and others—, the identity characteristics welcomed and acknowledged for their strengths, as well as the diverse systems and ideologies mobilized.

This year's conference emphasizes sharing ways in which we enlist the collaboration of entities that may have different beliefs and experiences, incorporating knowledge of the context in which diverse groups function, and ways in which we work together despite differences and find common ground. Find more details [here](#).

### October 17 – Psychology Colloquium 1:30-2:30 pm Byrne 401

Dr. Kelsey Dean from the University of Auckland, New Zealand, will give a talk "Social Justice and the Evidence-Based Movement: Disparate Ideals?"

### October 18- 11th Jeanne LaDuke Women in Mathematics, Science, and Technology Lecture

This lecture has been postponed.

### October 28- SVdPP Application Information Session 1:00-2:00 pm, McGowan South Room 418

Members of the Society of Vincent de Paul Professors will hold an information session about the membership application process. We will discuss the elements of the process, the necessary components of the application, and the criteria for selection of new members. Members will also respond to questions about the Society and the application process.

### November 4 - The 14th Annual Sciences, Mathematics, and Technology Undergraduate Research Showcase. Find more information [here](#).

### November 9 – Physics Colloquium 3:00PM

We will welcome Dr. Giles Novak, professor of Physics and Astronomy of Northwestern University





## FACULTY, STAFF, AND DEPARTMENT AWARDS AND HONORS



**Michele Shade-McCay**, Teaching Assistant Professor in Health Sciences and **T. Kyle Petersen**, Associate Professor in

Mathematics were given the Quality of Instruction Council Excellence in Teaching Award.



**Lauren Paez**, Associate Director of Academic Advising was named Supervisor of the Year by the office of Student Employment.



Advisors **Erin Berkowitz** and **Faye Harris** received the Gerald Paetsch Academic Advising Award.



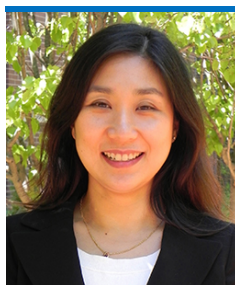
**Joe Ferrari**, Psychology Professor was the recipient of the 2016 Distinguished Italian American Award from the Italian American Psychological Society (IAPS). Joe was also named a Fellow of APA Division 8.



**Jillian Kobow** and **Casey O'Donovan** received DePaul University Staff Recognition Awards.



**Susan McMahon**, Associate Dean for Research and Faculty Development, was elected president of the Society for Community Research and Action, Division 27 of APA. Her official role as President began in August, 2016 at the American Psychological Association in Denver, Colorado.



**Jingjing Kipp**, Biology professor, was elected as Chair of the Nominating Committee of Women in Endocrinology, the Endocrine Society. One of the major roles of this committee is to select and provide nominations for Endocrine Society's most prestigious Laureate Awards.



CSH faculty **Kathy Grant** and **Susan McMahon**, are among the five new Vincent DePaul Distinguished Professors at the university.



**Jesús Pando** was elected President of the National Society of Hispanic Physicists. He was also appointed to the Committee on Minorities of the American Physical Society.



DePaul's **Psi Chi Chapter (Psychology)** won a model chapter award and is one of only four regional chapter awards for the 2015-2016 academic year.

Additionally, **Jennifer Zimmerman** received a Psi Chi Faculty Advisor Research Grant.

# SAY HELLO TO MEGALOLAMNA PARADOXODON

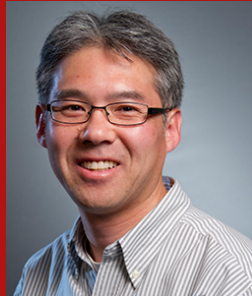
Kenshu Shimada and his colleagues have identified and named a new extinct shark. Fossilized teeth belonging to the extinct shark species were found in Japan, Peru, North Carolina, and California.

"*Megalolamna paradoxodon* is the name of a new extinct shark described by an international research team who based their discovery on fossilized teeth up to 4.5 centimeters (1.8 inches) tall.

The newly identified fossil shark lived during the early Miocene epoch about 20 million years ago and belongs to a shark group called Lamniformes, which includes the modern-day great white and mako sharks.

More specifically, it belongs to Otodontidae, which contains the iconic extinct superpredator 'megalodon' or the 'megatoothed' shark, and as an otodontid, *Megalolamna paradoxodon* represents a close cousin of the megatoothed lineage, said Kenshu Shimada, a paleobiologist at DePaul University and research associate at the Sternberg Museum in Kansas." – DePaul Newsroom Press Release. You can read the rest of it [here](#).

You can also read the paper announcing this discovery [here](#).



Kenshu Shimada was selected as the recipient of the CSH Excellence in Research Award.

## Internal Grant Recipients

### Quality of Instruction Council Grants:

- Jason Bystrainsky and Kyle Grice
- Eiron Cudaback and Rebecca Feinberg
- John Dean
- Eric Landahl and Bernhard Beck Winchatz

### University Research Council Grants:

- Sandra Virtue and Timothy French
- Joanna Brooke
- Molly Brown
- Jason Bystrainsky
- Sarah Connolly
- Pablo Gomez
- Jalene LaMontagne
- Kimberly Quinn
- Margaret Silliker
- Timothy Sparkes
- Jessica Vogt
- Joseph Ferrari
- Windsor Aguire

## WHERE THE DEAN'S UNDERGRADUATE FELLOWSHIP STUDENTS SPENT THEIR SUMMER

- Adler Planetarium, Far Horizons program
- Argonne National Laboratory, Advanced Photon Source
- Brookfield Zoo, Animal Nutrition
- Chicago Department of Public Health, HIV/AIDS Unit
- The Field Museum, Pritzker DNA Lab
- The Field Museum, Botanical Collections
- Lincoln Park Zoo, ZooMonitor program
- Lincoln Park Zoo, Urban Wildlife Institute
- Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum, Butterfly Conservation
- Lurie Children's Hospital, Peptide Synthesis Core
- Rush University Medical Center, Autism Assessment, Research, Treatment and Services Center
- Shedd Aquarium, Horticulture program

Through CSH's Dean's Undergraduate Fellowship program, 12 students paired with organizations across Chicago put their existing knowledge to work and learned more about their prospective fields. Find more information [here](#).

## FACULTY EXTERNAL GRANT AWARDS

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development awarded **Molly Brown**, Psychology, \$466,520 to conduct a randomized trial of two models of Housing First for individuals experiencing chronic homelessness. The impact of concentrating individuals with lived experience of homelessness and disabling conditions in Housing First versus providing integrated Housing First apartments is poorly understood in the current literature. Research has not yet addressed which subsets of the homeless population would prefer, or fare better in, one setting over another. Drawing from person-environment fit theory, identification of individual-level moderators of housing stability, residential satisfaction, and community integration in SINHF and SCAHF settings will inform who might benefit the most from these two interventions. The proposed mixed methods randomized trial will examine the effects of concentrated and integrated Housing First models.

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The National Institutes of Health has awarded **Elizabeth LeClair**, Biology, \$443,089 for "Follow That Cell: Motility Analysis of L-Plastin Mutant Zebrafish." Cell motility is a common aspect of both health and disease. Motile cells are critical for the immune system, which protects us. Conversely, aberrant cell motility is a hallmark of malignant tumors, which can be lethal. How cells regulate their movements is therefore an important issue. This study will explore the genetics of cell motility by experimentally manipulating in zebrafish a key component of the cytoskeleton: the actin-bundling protein L-plastin.

"This is our fourth NIH R15 grant, and the third different Institute that has funded our work. Cumulatively, we have received over \$1.1 million NIH grant dollars, since inception.

I would also like to point out that the preliminary work on this project was completed during a Paid Leave in 2014-2015. Without the opportunity to do full-time research on leave, I do not think the research proposal would have been as strongly viewed as it was." – Elizabeth LeClair

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The National Institutes of Health has awarded \$168,845 to **Douglas Bruce**, Health Sciences, for a project entitled "Motives for Heavy Cannabis Use among Young Men who have Sex with Men Living with HIV/AIDS." This study will investigate the range of motives (recreational, therapeutic or medical, and stress-related) associated with heavy cannabis use among young men who have sex with men living with HIV/AIDS. The degree to which HIV-related stressors may drive heavy cannabis use among this population is not well defined. An ecological approach will assess individual, interpersonal, community-level, and societal factors associated with cannabis use among this group and estimate associations between heavy cannabis use and a range of HIV care continuum outcomes.

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The Chicago Board of Education has awarded \$116,100 to **Orson Morrison**, Psychology. Family & Community Services (College of Science & Health), for social emotional learning services provided to a number of CPS schools. DePaul Family and Community Services will offer these schools a range of direct social, emotional and behavioral learning services including trauma treatment, anger management, general social work, and behavioral health support.

Fourth Presbyterian Chicago Lights—Summer Day, has awarded \$2,300 to **Orson Morrison** for implementation of a "Social Emotional Learning Curriculum." DePaul's Family and Community Services will implement a program-wide social emotional learning curriculum. As a result, students will learn and practice social emotional skills that are developmentally appropriate; and teachers and staff will have resources and curricula to support their students' successful coping and conflict resolution. Students' successful coping will lead to increased on-task behavior and learning in the classroom.

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The CME Group Foundation has awarded \$100,000 to **Lynn Narasimhan**, Mathematical Sciences, for an “Elementary Math Specialist Pilot.” DePaul University, in partnership with the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) and the University of Chicago will collaborate to finalize the development of the Math Specialist Program and pilot the introductory course with CPS elementary teachers. The Math Specialist Program is designed to provide elementary school teachers with the knowledge, confidence, and tools for teaching mathematics to young children.

The Mathematical Association of American has awarded **Lynn Narasimhan** a grant of \$5,980 for “Expanding the Math Circles of Chicago in High Need Areas.” This award will enable the Math Circles of Chicago to intensify its outreach to motivated students in two high-needs areas of Chicago: Bridgeport and Pilsen.

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The National Aeronautics and Space Administration has awarded \$43,000 to **Suzanne Bell**, Psychology, for “A US-Russian Collaborative Proposal for Data Collection.” Long-duration space exploration missions (LDSEM) will require crews diverse in national origin, gender, and professional background to live and work in prolonged isolation and confinement for extended periods of time. This research project, carried out in collaboration with a team of Russian scientists, will help address the need to understand the key threats, indicators, and life cycles of crews composed for LDSEM; and to identify psychological and psychosocial measures and factors that can be used in selecting individuals most likely to maintain team function.

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The Simons Foundation has awarded \$35,000 to **Christopher Drupieski**, Mathematical Sciences, for a research project entitled “Cohomology and Support Varieties.” This research project focuses on the representation theory and cohomology of algebraic (super) groups, Lie (super) algebras, finite (super) group schemes, and related algebraic structures. Other topics include cohomology calculations in categories of functors (namely, strict polynomial functors, and strict polynomial superfunctors), and the application of these results to prove that various cohomology rings are finitely-generated algebras.

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**Jesús Pando**, Physics, was awarded \$21,000 grant from Sloan Digital Sky Survey (SDSS) FAST Program to support students’ research in astrophysics.

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The National Institutes of Health, via a subaward from Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine, has awarded **Dorothy Kozlowski**, Biology, \$20,510 for a project entitled “Nep-like endopeptidases in traumatic brain injury and the associated dementias.” This collaborative research will be carried out in a laboratory at Rosalind Franklin which has transgenic mice that express (or not) an enzyme thought to play a role in the expression of the pathological protein A-beta in Alzheimer’s disease. Traumatic brain injury (TBI) also results in the expression of A-beta. This project will explore whether the enzyme that assists in removing A-beta in Alzheimer’s disease may so do so in TBI and whether it may be a new therapeutic target.

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The Jonas Center for Nursing and Veterans Healthcare has awarded \$10,000 to **Joseph Tariman**, Nursing, for the “DNP Jonas Nurse Leader Scholar” scholarship. The Jonas Nurse Leader Scholar program supports doctoral nursing students pursuing both PhD and DNP degrees. The goal of this program is to increase the number of doctorally-prepared faculty available to teach in nursing schools nationwide, as well as the number of advanced practice nurses providing direct patient care.

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The U.S. Department of Agriculture has awarded \$7,854 to **Christie Klimas**, Environmental Science and Studies, via a subaward from the Morton Arboretum. This project will develop new tools and maps focused on identifying communities underserved by urban forest green infrastructure, evaluating resilience under future scenarios, and optimizing management strategies to mitigate disparities and risks.

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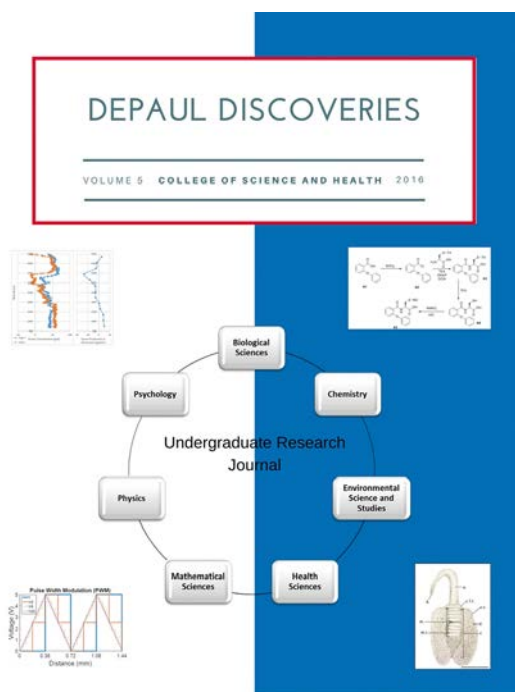
The Huron Mountain Wildlife Foundation has awarded a grant of \$2,000 to **Jalene LaMontagne**, Biological Sciences, for a project entitled "Mast-seeding Dynamics in the Southern Range of Boreal Forest Species." Mast seeding is the synchronous and highly variable production of seed crops by a plant population. It is an important phenomenon in forest communities because annual seed production can have dramatic effects on the population of other organisms that depend on the seed as food, and it influences forest regeneration. The overall goal of this project is to understand the causes and consequences of individual variation in seed production on the population phenomenon of mast-seeding, and the influence of climate change on white spruce (*Picea glauca*) seed production, as well as seedling growth and survival near its southern range limit.

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The Society for Personality and Social Psychology has awarded \$1,500 to **Kimberly Quinn**, Psychology, for a research project entitled "Physical Environment Connectedness and Wellbeing." Self-other connectedness promotes a variety of positive outcomes, but what happens when the "other" is the physical environment? This experiment will test the hypothesis that while walking and listening to music (to promote self-expansion), participants who attend to the physical environment will show greater sense of place and higher well-being than participants in baseline self-focus or baseline conditions, and that this relationship will be mediated by a sense of physical self-environment connectedness.

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## DEPAUL DISCOVERIES



The most recent version of DePaul Discoveries was published on July 20<sup>th</sup>. It has 21 articles in this volume, which can be accessed [here](#). DePaul Discoveries is accessed from all over the world, and has been downloaded 4,449 times in the last year, 10,427 overall.

**Thank you to the editorial board listed below, faculty mentors, and students who contributed!**

### 2016 DePaul Discoveries Editorial Board

**Susan D. McMahon**, PhD., Department of Psychology, Editor in Chief  
**Joanna Brooke**, PhD, Department of Biological Sciences  
**Jocelyn Carter**, PhD, Department of Psychology  
**Gabriela Gonzalez Aviles**, PhD, Department of Physics  
**Kyle Grice**, PhD, Department of Chemistry  
**Craig Klugman**, PhD, Department of Health Sciences  
**Carolyn Martineau**, PhD, Department of Biology  
**Mark Potosnak**, PhD, Department of Environmental Sciences and Studies  
**Bridget Tenner**, PhD, Department of Mathematics

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## ALUMNI AND STUDENT SUCCESSES

**Darrin M. Aase, Ph. D**, a graduate of our Clinical-Community Psychology doctoral program, has received an excellence award at Governors State University, an award that is given yearly to only 3 people for scholarship/teaching/service.

**Katrina Roundfield, Ph. D**, a graduate of the Clinical-Community Psychology doctoral program, was awarded a Ford Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship.



**Sarah Callahan, Ph. D.**, graduate of our Community Psychology doctoral program, was written up in the DePaul University student newspaper as one of five graduates who have made a big impression on campus for her work places young homeless LGBTQ women in high schools and jobs.

<http://depauliaonline.com/2016/05/30/five-depaul-graduates-class-2016/>

**Mayra Guerrero**, Community Psychology doctoral student, has just received a Minority Supplement for \$136,899 from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism for the years 2016-2019. We congratulate Mayra for securing this competitive award. She will be involved in the collection and the analysis of cross-sectional data representing the social networks of military veterans and non-veterans within recovery homes called Oxford Houses (the largest self-help residential program for people in recovery, with over 2,000 homes nationally, and serving over 25,000 people last year). The parent five year NIH grant was awarded to Leonard Jason and is titled: Emergent social environments as predictors of recovery resident outcomes.

**Jaclyn Houston**, Community Psychology doctoral student, has accepted a position with the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority. She will be supervising a team, conducting research on violence and victim services, and working with victim service providers to engage in self-evaluation.

**Shannon Williams**, Community Psychology doctoral student, was accepted as the Illinois member of the "Emerging Leaders Institute" for the Educational Opportunity Association 2016-17 cohort at the regional level within our national TRiO Programs.

**Liz McConnell**, Clinical-Community Psychology doctoral student, was recently awarded with a three-year NRSA pre-doctoral fellowship (F-31) through NIH/NIDA. The title of the grant is "Race-related Social Contextual Factors, Substance Use, and HIV." The project is primarily housed at the Institute for Sexual and Gender Minority Health and Wellbeing (ISGMH) at Northwestern, although the award is managed by DePaul.

**Jarrett Lewis**, Clinical-Child Psychology doctoral student, was selected to receive The MFP MHSAS predoctoral fellowship awarded through a federal grant to APA from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). This fellowship is extremely competitive with a selection rate of approximately 7% of applicants. It is uniquely tailored to provide Jarrett with support and training beyond what is offered by most fellowship programs and other institutions.

**Tyree Mitchell**, I-O Psychology doctoral student, received recognition and a monetary award to be used at his discretion to further his research from the Greenleaf Center for Servant Leadership.

**Neal Outland**, I-O Psychology doctoral student, was selected for the 2016-2017 NASA's National Space Grant Consortium and Fellowship Program Doctoral Fellowship.

**Jesse Hacker**, MS student in Biology, received a research grant from the Illinois Ornithological Society for \$1000 for his project: The effects of urbanization on neophobic behavior and problem-solving performance in American crows.

**Abigail Leeper**, BS student in Biology, received an Illinois Space Grant (ISGC) Scholarship of \$3,000 for the 2016 - 2017 academic year and a \$1500 research award from the Western Ag Innovations Research Award Competition.

**Danielle Leppert-Simenauer**, sophomore Physics major, conducted Nano and materials engineering research at University of Connecticut as part of a Research Experience for Undergraduates.

# WELCOME, NEW FACULTY AND STAFF!

## Tenure Track Faculty



**Dr. Margaret Bell (Biology)** received her BA in Biology from Boston University and her PhD in Neuroscience from Michigan State University. She is broadly interested in the ways in which environmental stressors affect brain development and later adult phenotypes, but currently focuses on the

effects of early life exposure to PCBs, which are environmental contaminants known to affect hormone function. She is teaching Cell Biology, Human Anatomy and Physiology, and Endocrinology this year and is really enjoying getting to know DePaul students.



**Dr. Charles Rubert Perez (Chemistry)** has been teaching at DePaul since the summer of 2016. Research in the Rubert Lab will specialize in synthesizing short peptide sequences and small molecules designed to self-assemble into supramolecular polymers

through non-covalent forces such as aromatic stacking, salt-bridges and metal-ligand interactions. These materials have shown to have unique properties for applications in cell culture, anti-bacterial coatings and catalysis. Dr. Rubert is originally from Puerto Rico and in 2007 he moved to the U.S. to earn his Ph.D. degree in organic chemistry and chemical biology at Purdue University.



**Dr. Bala Chaudhary's (Environmental Science)** research focuses on plant-microbe interactions, specifically how plant-fungal symbioses like mycorrhizae can improve plant health in ecosystem restoration, urban agriculture, and green roofs. Her work employs multivariate statistical

modeling and meta-analysis, and she will be teaching courses in Environmental Data Analysis and Plant Ecology. Dr. Chaudhary has a B.A. from the University of Chicago and an M.S. and Ph.D. from Northern Arizona University; prior to DePaul, she was on the faculty at Loyola University Chicago.



**Dr. Shannon D. Simonovich's (Nursing)** program of research focuses on food insecurity, maternal child health promotion and public health services. She completed her doctoral studies at the University of Washington in Seattle where she had the opportunity to conduct health promotion research utilizing mixed methods approaches

including systems-level analyses, survey development, qualitative interviewing and GPS data collection. She serves as an active member of the American Public Health Association (APHA), as the Illinois representative to the Alliances of Nurses for a Healthy Environment (ANHE), and as North America's representative to the International Catholic Committee of Nurses and Medico-Social Assistants (CICIAMS).



**Dr. Joanna Buscemi (Psychology)** is an Assistant Professor in the Clinical Psychology Program (Child Track) in the Department of Psychology. Her research focuses on developing sustainable, community-based obesity prevention interventions for children

at highest risk for obesity including children of low-income families and children of ethnic and racial minority groups.



**Dr. Yiou Li (Mathematics)** received her Ph.D. in Applied Mathematics from Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT) in August 2014 and her M.S. in Mathematical Finance also from IIT in 2009. She taught at DePaul's Mathematics Department as an adjunct faculty in 2013-14 and as a visiting assistant professor in

2014-15 before she was hired as a tenure-track assistant professor. She received her B.S. in Information Engineering in 2007 from Zhejiang University, China. Her research interest is regression analysis.



**Dr. David Sher (Mathematics)** received his Ph.D. in Mathematics from Stanford University in June 2012 and his M.A. in Mathematics from John Hopkins University in 2007. He had a post-doctoral appointment at McGill University/ Centre de Recherches Mathematiques, Canada, in 2012-13 and an

RTG Post-doctoral assistant professor position at the Department of Mathematics, University of Michigan, 2013-15. His research area is spectral geometry at the intersection of partial differential equations and geometric analysis.



**Dr. Katherine Thompson (Mathematics)** is a new hire to the mathematics department; her area of mathematics is number theory. An Atlanta native, Kate earned her Ph.D. in 2014 from the University of Georgia (go, dawgs!) and was a postdoc at Davidson College before moving to Chicago. In her free time Kate

likes to read, listen to music, practice yoga, and update her food blog.

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## Term Faculty



**Robert Gutierrez (Psychology)** is a new faculty member in the Psychology department. He received his doctorate in community psychology from DePaul University. His research

interests include racial identity and ideology, social justice, and community development. His teaching includes courses on culture, applied psychology, service learning, and research methodology.



**Dr. Ivan Hernandez (Psychology)** is a professional lecturer in the Psychology department. He graduated from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with a Ph.D in Industrial Organizational Psychology, and completed a Post-Doctoral research position at Northwestern University. He teaches undergraduate and graduate courses related to statistics, methodology, and Industrial Organization theory.



**Alfredo Gomez-Beloz (Environmental Science)** is a new faculty member in the Environmental Science department. He is a native of Chicago. His area of interests lie in uses of plants by humans,

particularly in edible and medicinal plants and their role in human, environmental, and public health.



**Dr. Amanda Baum-Wagner (Chemistry)** is a new faculty member in the Chemistry Department here at DePaul. Amanda received her bachelors in chemistry from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and recently concluded her Ph.D. studies in inorganic chemistry at Marquette University in Milwaukee. When she isn't teaching, her favorite hobbies include cheering for the Badgers,

enjoying live music and road tripping with her husband.



**Kenya Hemingway (Nursing)** is a Family Nurse Practitioner and Advanced Public Health Nurse. She completed both her BSN and MSN dual degree from Rush University and is currently a Doctoral student here at DePaul.

She has been a Nurse Practitioner for 5 years and enjoys working with underserved populations. Her previous nursing experience was in the Emergency Department at RUSH University Medical Center.



**Dr. L. Cricel Molina de Mesa (Health Sciences)** Her research and teaching interests include public health and aging, racial and ethnic disparities in health, cultural influences on health, and qualitative and mixed methodologies. Recent graduate from the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health.

## Staff



**Amanda Copeland** is a new staff member in the College of Science and Health Dean's Office. She is a North Carolina native and new transplant to Chicago. She has a bachelor's degree

in Women's and Gender Studies. She attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill but still does not care about basketball. She does care about education policy, television, and puppies.

## 10<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference on Procrastination Research

July 13-15, 2017

DePaul University O'Hare Campus

<http://tandf.msgfocus.com/c/1SA7nzcd1JDsPR7iBjkyI3>

We invite ALL scholars interested in presenting a research-based Oral Paper and/or Poster to this meeting.

We would like to thank you for your contributions to the Department, College, and University! We will be taking ideas for features, honors, awards, events, and news regarding what is happening in the college on an ongoing basis. The information you send will be included in the CSH newsletters and Annual Report. If you have items you would like included, please send them to [cshresearch@depaul.edu](mailto:cshresearch@depaul.edu).



**DEPAUL UNIVERSITY**

**COLLEGE OF  
SCIENCE AND  
HEALTH**

Research and Faculty Development Autumn 2016 Newsletter