The 2012-2013 Graduate Student Research Challenge Grants:
Building Research Partnerships Across Disciplines

The Graduate School and the Office of Research and Innovation are pleased to announce the selected proposals for the 2012-2013 Graduate Student Research Challenge Grants: Building Research Partnerships Across Disciplines. These one-year projects are designed for students to develop research skills that will allow them to excel in their chosen fields. It is part of the mission and strategic plans of USF and the graduate school to build leaders through excellence in collaborative graduate education and research. Each proposal was submitted by a team of four students, where at least two of the students were from two different colleges. All of the projects advance the students’ academic programs and were signed and approved by the student mentors & Colleges.

Congratulations to the awardees, and we ask that all students and faculty keep checking this website for information about future research opportunities!

Funded Proposals:

1. **Title**: A Non-Communicable Disease Profile and Explanatory Models of Obesity in High Risk Refugee Communities of South Florida: A Mixed Method Approach to Understanding Barriers and Behaviors Related to Chronic Disease
   
   **Research Team**:
   - Ethel Saryee (Team Leader)—College of Arts & Sciences—Anthropology
   - Gino Collura—Colleges of Arts & Sciences—Anthropology
   - Ashley Gallentine—Colleges of Arts & Sciences and Public Health—Anthropology and Community & Family Health
   - Nicole Falk-Smith—Colleges of Arts & Sciences and Public Health—Anthropology and Community & Family Health

2. **Title**: Variation in Hippocampal-Dependent Behaviors and Neurogenesis During a Range Expansion
   
   **Research Team**:
   - Andrea Liebl (Team Leader)—College of Arts and Sciences—Integrative Biology
   - Justin Trotter—Morsani College of Medicine—Molecular Pharmacology & Physiology
   - S. Leilani Kellogg—College of Arts and Sciences—Psychology
   - Tina Fiorelli—Morsani College of Medicine—Molecular Medicine

3. **Title**: Reevaluating the Impact of Urban Agriculture on Food Accessibility through GIS Modeling: An Assets-Based Approach to Food Desert Research
   
   **Research Team**:
   - Margeaux Chavez (Team Leader)—College of Arts & Sciences—Anthropology
   - David Godfrey—College of Arts & Sciences—Anthropology
   - Susan Tyler—Colleges of Arts & Sciences and Public Health—Anthropology and Community & Family Health
   - Lorraine Monteagut—College of Arts & Sciences—Geography, Environment & Planning

4. **Title**: Evaluating Maternal Nutrition in the North-Central Andes of Peru: Opportunity for Assessment and Action
   
   **Research Team**:
   - Allison Cantor (Team Leader)—College of Arts & Sciences—Anthropology
   - Kristina Baines—College of Arts & Sciences—Anthropology
   - Isabella Chan—Colleges of Arts & Sciences and Public Health—Anthropology and Global Health
   - Curtis DeVetter—College of Public Health—Global Health
5. **Title:** Exploring Fetal Origins of Diabetes: Associations between Maternal Stressors during Pregnancy and Birth Outcomes in the Population of Puerto Rico  
Research Team:  
   o Juan Pablo Arroyo (Team Leader)—College of Arts & Sciences—Anthropology  
   o Coralia Vázquez-Otero—College of Public Health—Community & Family Health  
   o Eunae Cho—College of Arts & Sciences—Psychology  
   o Charlotte Noble—College of Arts & Sciences—Anthropology

6. **Title:** Exploring Tampa Bay’s Greener Future: Estimating Air Pollution Emissions from Transportation Networks in Two Urban Planning Scenarios  
Research Team:  
   o Haofei Yu (Team Leader)—College of Public Health—Environmental & Occupational Health  
   o Sashikanth Gurram—College of Engineering—Civil & Environmental Engineering  
   o Aiah Yassin—College of Arts & Sciences—Geography, Environment & Planning  
   o Tomohiko Music—College of Arts & Sciences—Geography, Environment & Planning

7. **Title:** Integration of a Brain-Computer Interface with Intelligent Machine Vision to Control a Robotic Arm and Enhance Quality of Life for Persons with Disabilities  
Research Team:  
   o Anthony Murphy (Team Leader)—College of Arts & Sciences—Psychology  
   o Siri-Maria Kamp—College of Arts & Sciences—Psychology  
   o Karan Khokar—College of Engineering—Mechanical Engineering  
   o Glen Forester—College of Arts & Sciences—Psychology  
   o Indika Pathirage—College of Engineering—Computer Science & Engineering

8. **Title:** Towards Sustainability in Food Service: Food Waste Reduction and Recycling for Energy and Fertilizer Use at an Environmental Charter School  
Research Team:  
   o Robert Bair (Team Leader)—College of Engineering—Civil & Environmental Engineering  
   o Onur Ozcan—College of Engineering—Civil & Environmental Engineering  
   o Steven Williams—College of Arts & Sciences—Anthropology  
   o Rebecca Loraamm—College of Arts & Sciences—Geography, Environment & Planning  
   o Herby Jean—College of Engineering—Civil & Environmental Engineering