

Grants & Gifts

A Selection of Grants and Gifts Received from Private and Public Foundations, Corporations, and Individuals

College of Arts & Sciences

The National Science Foundation

(NSF) has awarded the School of Natural and Behavioral Sciences and Mathematics, within the College of Arts and Sciences, more than \$450,000 in research funding. Professors Angela Biselli, PhD, and John Miecznikowski, PhD, will each spearhead new initiatives to engage undergraduate students in cutting-edge research experiences in the fields of chemistry, biochemistry, and physics.

Physics professor Dr. Biselli was recently awarded a \$148,413 grant for a three-year research study on the fundamental structure of protons and neutrons. The study, which will be conducted in collaboration with the Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility in Virginia, will examine how quarks, the sub-particles of protons and neutrons, directly affect the particles' macroscopic properties.

Throughout the study, Dr. Biselli will travel to Jefferson Lab, where she and her fellow researchers will take shifts running experiments and analyzing findings that will impact scientists' fundamental knowledge of what matter is made of.

"I am deeply honored to receive this grant and am happy I can share this opportunity to conduct research in a nuclear physics lab with our undergraduate students," Dr. Biselli said. "Not all undergraduate institutions can offer this type of research to their students, and the skill sets they gain will be very valuable for any science or technology related job they have in the future."

Associate professor of chemistry and biochemistry John Miecznikowski, PhD, with the support of his colleagues Matthew Kubasik, PhD, Jillian Smith-Carpenter, PhD, Aaron Van Dyke, PhD, and Lawrence K. Steffen, PhD, received a \$306,950 Major

Research Instrumentation grant from the NSF to acquire a Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) spectrometer for the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry.

One of the most powerful tools available to chemists carrying out frontier research, the NMR spectrometer will be used by Fairfield chemistry and biochemistry faculty and students to identify unknown substances, characterize the arrangements of atoms within molecules, and study the dynamics of interactions between molecules in solution. The ability to carry out these experiments is essential to the study of biologically relevant species, as well as research studies that require the acceleration of chemical reactions.

H.W. Wilson Foundation has awarded \$50,000 to Fairfield University in support of a Veteran's Scholarship Fund to support the education of five veteran students in the College of Arts and Sciences.

The Lawrence I. & Blanche H. Rhodes Memorial Fund has renewed its support of the Mathematics Department, with a \$3,500 scholarship for a student in financial need.

Marion Peckham Egan School of Nursing & Health Studies

The Health Resources Services

Administration has given \$51,394 in support of the Nurse Anesthetics Traineeship Program led by Nancy Moriber, PhD, CRNA, to provide educational support for eligible Fairfield University and Bridgeport Hospital Nurse Anesthesia Program students through financial assistance. This assistance will help support the full-time status of nurse anesthesia students and allow them to enroll,

participate, progress, and successfully graduate from the Egan School graduate program. Through the partnership with Bridgeport Anesthesia Associates and Bridgeport Hospital, students have the opportunity to serve in workforce areas with populations that are medically underserved and classified as low-income population zones.

The Southwestern CT Agency on Aging has given \$15,956 in support of *A Matter of Balance* ©, an evidence-based program designed to reduce the fear of falling and increase activity levels among community-dwelling seniors. The program will be given at 12 community-partner sites to 10-12 participants at each site; three programs will be given in Spanish. 24 nursing students will be trained as program coaches and six Spanish majors will be trained as coaches and interpreters. Outreach will be targeted toward seniors of greatest social and economic need, particularly those in Bridgeport. One faculty member and one Spanish-speaking community member will be educated as master trainers.

The C.R. Bard Foundation has given \$25,000 to support the C. R. Bard Nursing Scholars Initiative, which provides financial assistance for nursing students, enabling them to reach their greatest potential as they acquire the knowledge and skills that will shape the future of healthcare in sustainable ways.

The CVS Health Foundation has awarded a \$3,000 scholarship for a student in financial need.

Charles F. Dolan School of Business

The Smith Richardson Foundation has awarded \$20,000 to Fairfield University in support of Bloomberg Terminals in the B.E.S.T (Business Education Simulation and Trading) Classroom, enabling students to