Sponsored Programs Foundation Distributes $1.1 Million to HSU Research Community

Humboldt State University’s Sponsored Programs Foundation (SPF) is distributing $1.1 million to faculty, staff, and departments this year, based on their grant activity. Funds are intended to stimulate and incentivize externally sponsored research. The SPF Board of Directors approved the funding at the September meeting. SPF is a non-profit auxiliary of the University, and it exists to administer externally funded grants and submit proposals to funding agencies on behalf of HSU. It receives revenue by collecting indirect costs in each proposal that is submitted through SPF. Each year after SPF’s operating costs are met, previously unallocated indirect revenue is available to be distributed back to the campus research community.

The purpose is to provide funding that can be applied to further research and student success at HSU. These funds can be used by faculty and staff researchers to expand opportunities for students to participate in undergraduate research, help identify and pursue potential sources of research grants, engage in scholarly and creative activity, or develop their research facilities.

The funds help to support the research goals outlined in HSU’s strategic plan, which include developing a campus-wide focus on externally funded research and to foster supportive collaborations for grant writing and research.

8th Annual PI Celebration at HumBrewns in Arcata

Annually, the Office of Research & Sponsored Programs hosts an event to celebrate staff, faculty and student researchers. This yearly event is put on to show our support to all the campus researchers and staff who work on all facets of research conducted here at Humboldt State. Due to the power outage, we had to reschedule the event to:

October 30, 2019
4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Thank you for supporting us in the past and we hope to see you all there!
Pre-Award Corner

Are you interested in obtaining grant funding?
SPF is available to assist you at each step along the way. If you are looking for funding sources, please see our resources for finding funding available on our [website](https://example.com).

Our Pre-Award Specialists

Erika Wright  
(707) 826-5166

Pia Gabriel  
(707) 826-5203

Pivot is LIVE!

We are very excited to announce that SPF has subscribed to Pivot, a unique and powerful platform widely used in academia for searching and matching funding opportunities, which will soon be available to the entire HSU community! Pivot is intuitive and easy to use. It is designed for researchers - anyone from corporate to academia (faculty, staff researchers, and students) can benefit from using it.

Pivot combines the globally most comprehensive, editorially maintained database of funding opportunities with a unique database of pre-populated scholar profiles, drawing from Community of Scholars and Community of Science profiles. The search engine has a proprietary algorithm that will compile pre-populated researcher profiles unique to HSU and match them to current funding opportunities. Any HSU researcher will be able to create or claim a pre-existing profile; the database will be updated regularly to add new information associated with a scholar’s profile and drop off expired opportunities.

You can access it now via your myHumboldt portal. Look for announcements in the near future associated with training opportunities with our office!

Winter Grant Submissions

The second half of fall semester is a busy time, and the holidays will be here before you know it… Are you thinking about applying for any grants with submission deadlines close to the holidays & winter break (December through early February)? If the answer is yes, please come talk to your Pre-Award Specialist now, so we can create a realistic submission roadmap that takes your holiday plans into account, as well as the campus & SPF holiday closure periods.

Are your Students Looking for Career-Related Experience?

HSU Students who return home for summer 2020 and are looking for a great career-related experience have the opportunity to apply for paid, for-credit, summer internships across Northern California. If you know of interested students, please help spread the word to attend an open informational session hosted as part of HSU’s Internship Week. They can come learn about internship opportunities for students in Business, Economics, Political Science, Marketing, Accounting, Environmental Management, Journalism, Graphic Design, AND MORE! In addition to being paid, those who enroll in and complete ECON 480 during Spring 2020 can also earn 3 Units.

Applications are due November 4, 2019
Research on Newly Discovered Flying Squirrels Species in Humboldt

A student came into Barbara Clucas’ office two years ago and asked if he could do a senior wildlife project on flying squirrels. Her first reaction was “I’m not sure…” as flying squirrels are difficult to study due to being only active at night. However after a bit of research, she found that they can be successfully surveyed with novel technologies—camera traps. And so, research began in Humboldt County.

The Humboldt’s flying squirrel (*Glaucomys oregonensis*) is a newly described species of flying squirrel in North America. This species was previously thought to be part of the geographically widespread Northern flying squirrel (*Glaucomys sabrinus*) but recent molecular studies show that flying squirrels in California, Oregon and Washington are a distinct species. In California and the Pacific Northwest, flying squirrels are important prey species for Northern spotted owls and fishers, which are species of conservation concern.

Flying squirrels also play a role in mycorrhizae dispersal (i.e., fungal spore dispersal such as truffles), which is important for growth in young trees, forming a symbiotic relationship among the squirrels, fungi and trees.

They started their investigation at a preferred habitat: old growth forests. The survey methodology consisted of using an extendable ladder to set up camera traps on trees paired with peanut butter suet bait, then waiting time. A week later they went back to the first site and pulled out the SD card from the camera. They all held their breath as they opened the data…. and saw photos of Humboldt’s flying squirrels! In fact, they saw flying squirrels at nearly every site they set up in the old growth forest.

This research is ongoing and they are working to develop additional methods to survey for this cryptic, nocturnal species including using ultrasonic recorders similar to those used for bats. Because if flying squirrels weren’t unique enough, they also emit ultrasonic vocalizations!
The Impact of Schatz Center’s Microgrid during the 2019 Power Outage

After reviewing weather models, PG&E made the decision to power down power lines in Northern California. This decision affected many counties – including Humboldt County. While the Humboldt State community was impacted by this outage – one area remained lit. The Blue Lake Rancheria Tribe’s main campus remained up and running when Humboldt County went dark, thanks to its fully integrated solar+ storage microgrid developed by the Schatz Energy Research Center at Humboldt State.

One of the greatest concerns during power outages is the possible impacts on people whose medical needs require ongoing access to electricity. During the power shutoff, the Rancheria also housed eight people with acute medical needs in its hotel, by request of the County Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). DHHS credited the Rancheria with saving their lives, due to their critical needs for power. Emergency diesel was also provided to United Indian Health Services to power the backup generators that keep perishable medicines cold.

The Schatz Center’s current microgrid projects include installation of final components, testing, and commissioning of the solar+ system at the Blue Lake Rancheria’s gas station — which will be operational this fall — and development of the Redwood Coast Airport microgrid for deployment in 2021. To watch a short video and read more about this, click here!

Reminder: Purchasing Hazardous Materials

Risk Management and Safety Services (RM&SS) has proved the campus with procedures and processes to insure safe, legal, efficient and ecologically wise disposal of hazardous waste material. Guidelines set forth by the RM&SS affect all of HSU including auxiliaries.

When purchasing hazardous materials with a Procard, campus policy requires entering all chemicals into HSU’s inventory database. This purchase can only be made by persons delegated by their role as having oversight and management responsibility of the hazardous materials inventory in their department. You can learn more about HSU’s chemical inventory procedure by clicking here and the chemical labeling requirements by clicking here!
Looking for Funding? Here Are a Few Upcoming Deadlines for Internally Funded Competitions...

**Agricultural Research Institute (ARI) Grants** are available to all tenured, tenure-track faculty, or research associates engaging in agricultural research. The match requirement is 100% of the requested amount and at least 25% from cash and the remainder in-kind. Preliminary indications are that approximately $250,000 will be available for allocation in fall 2020; this amount is subject to change depending on the budget. Proposals can request up to $150,000 max. **Application Deadline: Thursday, December 12, 2019**

**Incentives Program for Grant Proposal Development** is requesting applications for assigned time funding for the Fall 2020 and Spring 2020 semesters. In addition to assigned time, we are also extending funding for summer salary/overload pay during the summer 2019 session. The purpose of the HSU Incentives Program is to stimulate tenured/tenure-track faculty members to develop and submit full proposals to external funding agencies and organizations for research and educational projects. Open to all faculty in any discipline. **Application Deadline: Friday, January 17, 2020**

**The CSU Student Research Competition** is held to promote excellence in undergraduate and graduate research and scholarly and creative activity, by recognizing outstanding student accomplishments throughout the 23 campuses of the California State University (CSU). Each campus may select up to 10 entries to send to the final round, which will be held at CSU East Bay on April 24 and 25, 2020. To be considered at the HSU level, a student will need to submit a written summary of their presentation. **Deadline for Submissions: Friday, January 31, 2020.**

**Registration Opening Soon:** 2020 ideaFest!

The Office of Research, HSU Library, and MarCom, would like to invite you & your students to participate in the 7th Annual HSU ideaFest! More than 400 students and faculty from HSU will showcase research, performances, creative projects, and more. HSU's 2020 ideaFest will be held on Friday, May 8th, 2020 from 2:00-5:00pm.

If you or your students are interested in presenting, registration for ideaFest 2020 will open soon. [Click here](#) for more information!

### HSU's 2018/19 Research Impact

During the 2018-19 fiscal year, the University received 194 new awards, totaling $36.4 million. HSU SPF currently manages 566 active projects with a total award value of $87.8 million.

“We’re excited to have achieved this milestone with the HSU research community,” says Kacie Flynn, Executive Director of HSU SPF. “Humboldt State University hosts world-class researchers that conduct a wide range of innovative local, national, and international projects that continue to support student success. We’re proud to work alongside our faculty, staff, and student researchers to help make it happen.” To read more, [click here](#)!
SBDC Moving to New Eureka Space

HSU’s Northern California Small Business Development Center (Norcal SBDC) will be moving its headquarters to a newly redesigned space on Third Street in Eureka. The 2,600-square-foot space, located in the former Third Street Gallery location in Eureka’s historic Greyhound Hotel, gives the center a larger and more efficient office to help its continued growth. Construction is anticipated to begin this fall and the lease will continue until 2026. To read more about the changes, click here!

HSU Students Develop New Software to Help with Research

Combing through multiple sources has long been considered an integral, strenuous part of the research process. This past summer, a team of HSU students were hard working at creating a software to help other students with this process. To read more click here!

DocuSign’s Environmental Impact

Since we’ve implemented DocuSign, an electronic signature system, it has helped to increase efficiency and communication all while contributing positively to the environment. Here is a snapshot of our environmental savings last year:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Humboldt State University Sponsored Programs Foundation’s Environmental Savings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5,803 lb of wood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15,522 gal of water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13,056 lb of CO2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>856 lb of waste</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 trees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 of a backyard pool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 cars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 trash cans</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Helping the Planet and Your Bottom Line

Paper based processes do not just cost us time. They can have a significant environmental impact. HSU SPF is committed to helping both with our use of DocuSign. To learn more Click Here.
Rosemary Sherriff (Geography) and Lucy Kerhoulas (Forestry & Wildland Resources) recently teamed up at HSU to combine their shared interest in forest ecology and biogeography in an investigation of how diverse conifers are responding to drought in the Klamath Ecoregion. The three-year study is funded by the National Science Foundation uses a dual analysis of growth and stable isotope ratios in tree-rings, and provides hands-on field, and lab-based research experiences and employment for multiple graduate and undergraduate students each year.

Having been at HSU since 2009, Dr. Sherriff’s research has focused on western forests ranging from Alaska, the Rockies, to northern California. Recent research themes in her Dendroecology Lab include: stand dynamics and tree-growth response to climate, disturbance and forest management practice in redwood, oak and mixed conifer forests of northwest California to name a few.

Dr. Kerhoulas, herself an HSU double alumna (2006 BS Botany, 2008 MS Biology), was thrilled to return to HSU to start her professorship in 2016. Since being back, she has jumpstarted her research program with gusto, quickly securing numerous grants to build her lab and study tree physiology in western forests. Her current research projects investigate canopy ecology, oak woodlands, forest restoration, sudden oak death, and tree physiology. She is currently a featured scientist at the California Academy of Sciences in San Francisco and earlier this year she received the HSU McCrone Promising Faculty Scholar Award.

The team is having a great time working collaboratively across two colleges and learning from each other about various research methods, tree growth patterns, and stable isotope ecology. “It’s been fun getting to work with another female scientist,” says Kerhoulas of Sherriff, “I’m really learning a lot from Rosemary about grant writing, how to co-lead a project, how to advise, how to handle paperwork at SPF, and also about forest ecology and tree-rings!” Sherriff laughs, especially about the SPF paperwork part.

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Congratulations on your nomination from the SPF Staff for our Fall 2019 PI Spotlight. Keep up the great work!
**Front Office Corner**

Our Front Office staff acts as the first point of contact to assist faculty, staff, and students.

We strive to offer excellent customer support to direct you in whichever services you may be seeking from our office.

**Our Front Office Staff**

Nalee Yang  
(707) 826-5169

Angel Lomeli  
(707) 826-4189

Sally Hang  
(707) 826-4190

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**CA Minimum Wage Increase**

**Effective January 1, 2020**, the California minimum wage will be increased from $12.00 to **$13.00/hr**. If you have employees currently appointed at less than this new minimum, you must submit a new Appointment Document (it does not happen automatically). Please contact our office before you submit January payroll to re-appoint those affected by this change.

Additionally, any changes to you/your employee’s appointment (including increases in hourly rates, changes to time base, new category, etc...) must be submitted at least **one pay period** prior to the effective date. This is to ensure our staff has adequate time to process your requested changes, and update the employees’ information in KRONOS for accurate payroll processing. You can access these policy changes [here](#).

**KRONOS Quick Tips**

If you need to **change your address**, you can submit that address change directly via your KRONOS profile. You only need to indicate “Pick-Up Check” if you do not have direct deposit. However, we recommend signing up for direct deposit as it is a more efficient way to receive your SPF paycheck. You can sign up for direct deposit by visiting [this link here](#) and submitting that form to our office! Sign up today!

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**HSU SPF Services Survey**

Our primary mission is to provide the Humboldt State University community with professional and accessible Pre- and Post-Award grant and contract services. We are always looking for new ways to help you be successful in furthering your research goals.

We invite you to participate in a quick survey (at the below link) to let us know how we’re doing and share your feedback on any areas we can improve upon.

To take the survey, click below:

[HSU SPF Services Survey](#)

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*This survey is completely confidential; any published results will be anonymous. Your participation in any study is entirely voluntary and you may decline to participate or may withdraw from it at any time without jeopardy. If you have concerns with this study or questions about your rights as a participant, contact the Institutional Review Board for the Protection of Human Subjects at irb@humboldt.edu or (707) 826-5165.*

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*Interested in keeping up with the latest research at Humboldt State? Reach us from anywhere in the world!*

*Follow us on our Instagram to see how local research can have a global reach!*  

[hsu_spf](#)  
#hsuspf #researchathusu
Travel Advance? Talk to your Grant Analyst!

Always send Travel Advances to your Grant Analyst First
Travel advances should always be sent to your SPF Grant Analyst for processing. Please do not send directly to Accounts Payable. Your Grant Analyst will help process your advance by checking your award’s budget and making sure your previous advances have been cleared. This needs to be done before it’s sent to the SPF Executive Director for approval.

Clear your Travel Advances… Or, it will cost you! $$$
Did you know that if you don’t clear your travel advances within 120 days of the end of your trip, then it could become taxable wages? Per CSU Policy, “If an employee fails to substantiate expenses and return any unused travel cash advance amounts within 120 days of the end of a trip, the University is obligated under IRS regulations to consider such amounts as income to the employee, regardless of the amount.”

How to Clear Travel Advances
To receive a travel advance from HSU SPF, you must request the advance a minimum of two weeks before your trip. Once your trip has ended, you must complete a Request for Payment Form and Travel Expense Claim within 30 days of returning. Your final Travel Expense Claim should include all actual expenses related to your trip. If the actual cost of the trip exceeds the amount of the advance, you will receive a reimbursement check for the remainder. Your paperwork will look similar to this:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Line Item Name</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Account</th>
<th>Fund</th>
<th>Dept. ID#</th>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Project</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clearing Travel Advance</td>
<td>$1,020.25</td>
<td>606001</td>
<td>S3137</td>
<td>D20042</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>S03137</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advance</td>
<td>$998.40</td>
<td>107001</td>
<td>S3137</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Amount: $21.85

Explaination: In this case, the employee took an advance of $998.40. The actual cost of the trip came to $1020.25. HS SPF owes the traveler $21.85.

If the actual cost of the trip is less than the amount of the advance, you must pay back the difference at the Cashier’s office (SBS 285) with cash, debit card, or personal check prior to submitting this paperwork. Then attach the receipt you receive from the Cashier’s office, along with the rest of your original receipts. In that case, your paperwork will look similar to this:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Line Item Name</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Account</th>
<th>Fund</th>
<th>Dept. ID#</th>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Project</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clearing Travel Advance</td>
<td>$900.00</td>
<td>606001</td>
<td>S3137</td>
<td>D20042</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>S03137</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advance</td>
<td>$998.40</td>
<td>107001</td>
<td>S3137</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Return of Funds</td>
<td>$98.40</td>
<td>250002</td>
<td>69999</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Amount: $0.00

Explaination: In this case, the employee took an advance of $998.40. The actual cost of the trip came to $900.00. The employee returned the remaining $98.40 to the HSU Cashier’s Office (cash of personal check)

Did you know…?

Federal law requires employees to complete Section 1 of their I-9 by their first day of work. The employer then completes Section 2 by the third business day after the employee’s position start date.

Ensure you are in compliance and your employees do not begin work on a project unless they are officially appointed.
An HSU student took home a second place award at the 33rd Annual California State University Student Research Competition at CSU Fullerton.

Gabriel Goff won second place for “Graduate Student in the Biological and Agricultural Sciences” category. Goff, a Forestry major, won for his project “Physiological responses of *Quercus garryana* to conifer encroachment and removal in Northern California.” Forestry Professor, Lucy Kerhoulas, advises him.

Goff is amongst 11 HSU students who competed with the other 23 CSU campuses for research awards in discipline-based categories. “These students are all passionate about their research, which represents the academic rigor of all three colleges at HSU,” says Kacie Flynn, Interim Executive Director of HSU’s Office of Research & Sponsored Programs Foundation. Flynn also praised the students’ faculty advisors. “HSU faculty are dedicated to integrating research into the students’ education and serve as mentors to our students.” The other students who competed in the 33rd Annual CSU Student Research competition were:

- **Jessie Armendariz**, Graduate in Kinesiology
  Faculty advisor: Taylor Bloedon, Assistant Professor, Kinesiology

- **Adrien Bouissou** and **Ian Cullimore**, Undergraduates in Biological Sciences
  Faculty advisor: Erik Jules, Professor, Biological Sciences

- **Chant’e Catt, Sonya Woody, Ashley Bradshaw, and Katelyn Harris** Graduates in Social Work
  Faculty Advisor: Jen Maguire, Associate Professor, Social Work

- **Andrew Hahn**, Graduate in Kinesiology
  Faculty advisor: Young Sub Kwon, Assistant Professor, Kinesiology & Recreation

- **Angel Lomeli**, Graduate in Kinesiology
  Faculty advisor: Justus Ortega, Professor, Kinesiology

- **Spencer McLintock**, Graduate in Environmental Resources Engineering
  Faculty advisor: Margarita Otero-Diaz, Assistant Professor, Environmental Resources Engineering

- **Carrisa Pritchard**, Graduate in Anthropology
  Faculty advisor: Marissa Ramsier, Chair, Anthropology

- **Nathan Hernandez**, Graduate in Kinesiology
  Faculty advisor: Young Sub Kwon, Assistant Professor, Kinesiology & Recreation

The Office of Research & Sponsored Programs was proud to underwrite the travel costs of these students. Another call for student research submissions is now available, and we hope to involve even more students in the **2020 CSU Student Research Competition**.
Environmental Sustainability Grant

The goal of the Environmental Sustainability program is to promote sustainable engineered systems that support human well-being and that are also compatible with sustaining natural (environmental) systems. These systems provide ecological services vital for human survival. Accepted proposals typically consider long time horizons and may incorporate contributions from the social sciences and ethics.

Application deadline: Continuous

Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activities (RSCA)

This year’s Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activities (RSCA) competition was extremely competitive. We received 38 applications requesting a total of $148,513. Since the available funding allocation from the Chancellor’s Office was only $51,750, this made the selection process very competitive, as we had many worthwhile proposals submitted. Please help us in congratulating the following 12 awarded faculty:

- Catalina Cuellar-Gempeler, Biological Sciences, Project: Diversity effects on specific ecosystem functions in pitcher plant associated bacteria
- James Woglom, Art, Project: Studio School Expansion: Pilot of a Discrete, After School Arts Instruction Model for Aesthetically Underserved Elementary Schools in Rural Humboldt County, California
- Tesfayohanes Yacob, Environmental Resources Engineering, Project: Interdisciplinary student competition for the designing, testing, and prototyping of Gel Transilluminator boxes between Biology and Engineering
- Alexandru Tomescu, Biological Sciences, Project: Enhancing HSU student research output and success in the job market through a high-impact training practice – field work to collect scientific samples and data
- Laura Levy, Geology, Project: Climate change in northern California: evidence from the height of the last ice age to today
- Jennifer Marlow, Environmental Science Management, Project: Preemptive relocation of spent nuclear waste at Humboldt Bay Nuclear Power Plant
- John Steele, Biological Sciences, Project: Examining the mechanisms of cellular survival during prolonged nutrient deprivation in cultured human cells
- Nicholas Purdue, Geography, Environmental & Spatial Analysis, Project: Humboldt Geographic
- Amber Gaffney-Wasdyke, Psychology, Project: Fight For the American Prototype: Hard Left and Hard Right
- Ronnie Swartz, Social Work, Project: Lived Experience and Online Social Work Student Success Project
- Kaitlin Reed, Native American Studies, Project: The Creation of Water Rights in California
- Marisol Cortes-Rincon, Anthropology, Project: 3D Virtual Interactive Archaeology Landscape Project

If you were not funded this year, we do want to encourage you to re-apply for the next round of RSCA. Another call for applications should be distributed late summer 2020, based on the Chancellor’s Office continued support of this program. We would like to thank everyone for participating in the Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activities Program and wish you luck in your future research and creative endeavors.
The Office of Research wants to congratulate all of our PI’s and their amazing Staff on their many accomplishments and notable awards this year.