Spring 5-2016

May 2016 ORED Communicator

Office of Economic Research and Development, Florida International University

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April was a very busy month for eight FIU I-Corps teams who participated in 4-hour workshops during each of the five Friday’s in April. Each FIU I-Corps team included an Entrepreneurial Lead (EL), a business mentor (M) and a Principal Investigator (PI).

Instructors from the University of Central Florida included Dr. Thomas O’Neal, Associate Vice President for Research and Commercialization, and Mr. Oscar Rodriguez, Director of Startups. Peter Hernández, Director of Technology Management and Commercialization, and Ms. Elizabeth Garami, Licensing Manager, served as instructors from FIU. Each team was supported by individuals with business experience from the community or within FIU who served as the mentors.

The FIU mini I-Corps program covered topics such as conducting customer discovery interviews, using the business model canvas collection tool (which is part of the Lean Launchpad methodology), developing value propositions, and determining product-market fit. The teams learned that they need to “Get Out of the Building” in order to determine whether their technologies can be commercialized.

Each week, the teams were required to conduct a certain number of customer discovery interviews in order to understand better the “pains and gains” of customers, and determine whether their respective technologies could help alleviate any “pains” or create some “gains” for the potential customers. The team’s EL presented what was uncovered during customer discovery interviews and whether a pivot was indicated relative to the team’s original business hypothesis.

The five-week FIU mini I-Corps program concluded with a final day presentation by each team’s EL and a two-minute video prepared by each team. At the conclusion of the training, each team received a mini-grant of $2,550 to conduct additional interviews or develop a Minimal Viable Product (MVP). These small grants also create alignment with the NSF, enabling the teams to apply to the national NSF I-Corps teams program.

Although it was a challenging program, talking to numerous potential customers provided each team with a keener understanding of how their respective technologies could fit in the marketplace.

Immediately following the completion of the FIU mini I-Corps training program, one team started the application process for the national NSF I-Corps teams program, which awards $50,000 for use in conducting additional customer discovery or developing a MVP. At the national level, teams receive more comprehensive training on the entire business model canvas components.

The technologies explored in the mini-program were very diverse, including a cashless tipping mobile app, a preterm imaging optical system, a tissue engineering bioreactor, an alcohol sensor system, a biosensor for agricultural pathogens, an edema quantification system, a device for sample collection, and yeast strains that can be used to lower the alcohol level content of wines.

For more information on the NSF I-Corps program, please contact Peter Hernandez, Director of the Office of Technology Management and Commercialization at (305) 348-30151 or via email at pphernan@fiu.edu.
**Upcoming Events**

**May 2016**
- **May 10, 8 am to 5 pm**, *South Florida Child Psychology Research Conference*, deadline for submissions is April 8, 2016, [additional information](#).
- **May 13, 12:45 to 2:30 pm, AHC 4 #402**, *Eli Lilly Open Innovation Drug Discovery (OIDD) Program Webinar*, kindly RSVP as seating is limited.
- **May 17, 1 to 3 pm, AHC 4 #402**, *IRB Part 2—Managing your Approved Protocol*, please contact molinac@fiu.edu to register.
- **May 18, 8 am to 12 noon, MARC Pavilion**, *Southern HIV and Alcohol Research Consortium (SHARC) Conference*, registration is required.
- **May 19 and 20, MARC Pavilion**, *3rd Scientific Symposium of the Society for Personalized Nano-Medicine*, registration is required.

**Awards Received—March 2016**

FIU researchers were awarded $6,714,388 in March 2016. Below is a listing of awards received.

**PI:** Christopher Jon Baraloto  
**BIOLOGY**  
**Award Action Type:** Initial  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** U.S. Department of Agriculture  
**TITLE:** Research Support Agreement with USDA-ARS SHRS  
**AWARD:** $66,172

**PI:** Shekhar Bhansali  
**ELEC AND COMPUTER ENG**  
**Award Action Type:** Continuation  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** PicoCal Inc  
**TITLE:** Biosensors- Effect of design on efficacy of sensors  
**AWARD:** $11,617

**PI:** Eric Bishop-Von Wettberg  
**BIOLOGY**  
**Award Action Type:** Initial  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** National Institute of Food & Agriculture  
**TITLE:** Next-Generation Genebank Management of Mangifera indica  
**AWARD:** $79,000

**PI:** Werner Boeglin  
**PHYSICS**  
**Award Action Type:** Increase  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** U.S. Department of Energy  
**TITLE:** Hadronic Physics with Electromagnetic Probes  
**AWARD:** $458,000

**PI:** Kevin Mershon Boswell  
**BIOLOGY**  
**Award Action Type:** Initial  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** University of Miami  
**TITLE:** Ecology of Forage Fishes in the Arctic Nearshore  
**AWARD:** $28,768

**PI:** Eric Thomas Brewe  
**TEACHING AND LEARNING**  
**Award Action Type:** Pre-Award  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** National Science Foundation  
**TITLE:** Graduate Research Fellowship Program  
**AWARD:** $46,000
PI: Fabian Gonzalo Cevallos
CIVIL AND ENVIRON ENGINEERING
Award Action Type: Initial
AWARDING SPONSOR: Florida Department of Transportation
TITLE: Safe and Accessible Pedestrian Facilities Inventory Model (SAPFIM) AWARD: $ 100,000
PI: Erika K Coles
PSYCHOLOGY
Award Action Type: Initial
AWARDING SPONSOR: Children's Trust
TITLE: A summer program for children with or at risk for serious behavior problems AWARD: $ 481,005

PI: Todd Crowl
SOUTHEAST ENV RESEARCH CTR
Award Action Type: Increase
AWARDING SPONSOR: University of New Hampshire
TITLE: Luquillo CZO: the role of hot spots and hot moments in tropical landscape AWARD: $ 55,949

PI: Matthew DeGennaro
BIOLOGY
Award Action Type: Continuation
AWARDING SPONSOR: National Institutes of Health
TITLE: Identifying Mosquito Receptors that Detect Human Odor AWARD: $ 108,000

PI: Hai Deng
ELEC AND COMPUTER ENG
Award Action Type: Initial
AWARDING SPONSOR: Ohio State University
TITLE: VLSI Chip Design for Liquid Crystal Lens Driver AWARD: $ 25,000

PI: Nazira El-Hage
COM IMMUNOLOGY
Award Action Type: Continuation
AWARDING SPONSOR: National Institutes of Health
TITLE: Role of Autophagy in Microglia-induced NeuroAIDS in Substance Abuse AWARD: $ 358,875

PI: Mark Alan Finlayson
COMPUTER INFO SCIENCES
Award Action Type: Continuation
AWARDING SPONSOR: University of California Los Angeles
TITLE: Narratives in the Informational Patient Society AWARD: $ 65,000

PI: Brian Fonseca
J GORDON INS PUB POL AND CITI
Award Action Type: Initial
AWARDING SPONSOR: Global Affairs Canada
TITLE: Cybersecurity Panel at the 1st Annual Hemispheric Security Conference AWARD: $ 3,745

PI: James Fourqurean
BIOLOGY
Award Action Type: Initial
AWARDING SPONSOR: Environmental Protection Agency
TITLE: Seagrass monitoring in the Florida Keys National marine Sanctuary AWARD: $ 200,000

For updates, corrections, suggestions, and/or general comments, please email Mercedes.rodriguez@fiu.edu
PI: Stacy Lynn Frazier  
**PSYCHOLOGY**  
*Award Action Type:* Initial  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** University of Illinois Chicago  
**TITLE:** Leaders@ Play for Chicago's Youth: Professional Development  
**AWARD:** $11,761

PI: Kenneth G Furton  
**PROVOST AND EXEC VP ACAD AFF**  
*Award Action Type:* Increase  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** Association of Public & Land-Grant Univ  
**TITLE:** University Transformation through Teaching (UT3) Phase II  
**AWARD:** $50,000

PI: Raul Gonzalez Jr  
**PSYCHOLOGY**  
*Award Action Type:* Initial  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** National Institute on Drug Abuse  
**TITLE:** Decision-Making and Episodic Memory in Trajectories to Cannabis Addiction  
**AWARD:** $420,513

PI: Tomas R Guilarte  
**ROBERT STEMPEL CPHSW DEANS OFF**  
*Award Action Type:* Initial  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** Environmental Health Sciences  
**TITLE:** Molecular and Behavioral Effects of Low Level Manganese Exposure  
**AWARD:** $6,417

PI: Mary Helen Hayden  
**SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK**  
*Award Action Type:* Increase  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** University of Central Florida  
**TITLE:** FIU Child Welfare Education Program  
**AWARD:** $6,000

PI: Zahra Sana Hazari  
**TEACHING AND LEARNING**  
*Award Action Type:* Initial  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** Harvard University  
**TITLE:** Outcome Programs and Science Career Intentions (OPSCI)  
**AWARD:** $10,001

PI: Michelle Hospital  
**SISH**  
*Award Action Type:* Initial  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** Ware Foundation  
**TITLE:** Examining Equine Facilitated Psychotherapy (EFP) as a Complement  
**AWARD:** $150,000

PI: Sundararaj Sitharama Iyengar  
**COMPUTER INFO SCIENCES**  
*Award Action Type:* Increase  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** Army Research Office  
**TITLE:** A game theoretic approach to self-configuring, non-cooperative  
**AWARD:** $12,000

PI: Pamela Ann Izvanariu  
**SIPA**  
*Award Action Type:* Initial  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** Service Employees International Union  
**TITLE:** Healthcare and Living Wage in Miami-Dade and Broward Counties  
**AWARD:** $20,215
PI: Ranu Jung  
ENGINEERING DEANS OFFICE  
Award Action Type: Initial  
AWARDING SPONSOR: Emory University  
TITLE: Naturalistic Investigation of Brain Neuroplasticity in Children Born Pre-Term  
AWARD: $ 12,500

PI: Sakhrat Khizroev  
ELEC AND COMPUTER ENG  
Award Action Type: Pre-Award  
AWARDING SPONSOR: University of California Berkeley  
TITLE: Physics of Spin Switching in Sub-10-nm Spin-transfer-torque agnetic  
AWARD: $ 45,629

PI: John Kominoski  
BIOLOGY  
Award Action Type: Initial  
AWARDING SPONSOR: National Science Foundation  
TITLE: DISSERTATION RESEARCH: Sea level rise, vegetation regime shifts  
AWARD: $ 16,380

PI: Grover L Larkins  
ELEC AND COMPUTER ENG  
Award Action Type: Continuation  
AWARDING SPONSOR: Air Force Office of Scientific Research  
TITLE: Potentially Useful and Novel Properties of Doped 2-Dimensional Materials  
AWARD: $ 150,000

PI: Kingsley Lau  
CIVIL AND ENVIRON ENGINEERING  
Award Action Type: Initial  
AWARDING SPONSOR: Florida Department of Transportation  
TITLE: Susceptibility of Bridge Steel and Concrete Components to  
AWARD: $ 200,000

PI: Mark A Marine  
ARCHICT AND THE ARTS DEANS OFF  
Award Action Type: Initial  
AWARDING SPONSOR: City of Miami Beach  
TITLE: Miami Beach Convention Center  
AWARD: $ 3,877

PI: Kalai Mathee-Narasimhan  
COM HUMAN AND MOL GENETICS  
Award Action Type: Initial  
AWARDING SPONSOR: Sanofi Pasteur SA  
TITLE: Global Health Consortium, Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine  
AWARD: $ 50,000

PI: Kalai Mathee-Narasimhan  
COM HUMAN AND MOL GENETICS  
Award Action Type: Initial  
AWARDING SPONSOR: Sanofi Pasteur SA  
TITLE: Global Health Consortium, Herbert Wertheim College of  
AWARD: $ 80,000

PI: Dwayne McDaniel  
ARC APPLIED RESEARCH CENTER  
Award Action Type: Increase  
AWARDING SPONSOR: Office of Naval Research  
TITLE: Development of a Novel Health Monitoring System for Adhesively  
AWARD: $ 174,832
**PI:** Laura Crego Miller Mcpherson  
**PHYSICAL THERAPY**  
**Award Action Type:** Initial  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** Northwestern University  
**TITLE:** Effect of Neural Constraints on Movement in Stroke  
**AWARD:** $27,366

**PI:** Maria Jose Miguez Perez  
**SISH**  
**Award Action Type:** Initial  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** Florida Department of Health  
**TITLE:** Biobehavioral Intervention For Smokers Living With HIV  
**AWARD:** $1,411,322

**PI:** Madhavan P Nair  
**COM IMMUNOLOGY**  
**Award Action Type:** Initial  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** National Institutes of Health  
**TITLE:** 3rd Annual Personalized NanoMedicine Symposium  
**AWARD:** $43,500

**PI:** Madhavan P Nair  
**COM IMMUNOLOGY**  
**Award Action Type:** Continuation  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** National Institutes of Health  
**TITLE:** Multifunctional Nanocarrier to Eradicate HIV from latently  
**AWARD:** $358,875

**PI:** Steven Oberbauer  
**BIOLOGY**  
**Award Action Type:** Initial  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** National Science Foundation  
**TITLE:** Collaborative Research: Understanding the effects of increased  
**AWARD:** $407,424

**PI:** Mesut Ozgen  
**MUSIC**  
**Award Action Type:** Initial  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** Miami-Dade County Cultural Affairs  
**TITLE:** 2016 Miami International GuitART Festival  
**AWARD:** $5,000

**PI:** Yannis Peter Papastamatiou  
**BIOLOGY**  
**Award Action Type:** Initial  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** National Geographic Society  
**TITLE:** Coexistance at an ocean oasis: what supports the abundance  
**AWARD:** $20,000

**PI:** Niki J Pissinou  
**COMPUTER INFO SCIENCES**  
**Award Action Type:** Initial  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** National Science Foundation  
**TITLE:** REU SITE: ASSET: Research Experiences for Undergraduates in  
**AWARD:** $84,000

**PI:** Niki J Pissinou  
**COMPUTER INFO SCIENCES**  
**Award Action Type:** Initial  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** National Science Foundation  
**TITLE:** REU SITE: ASSET: Research Experiences for Undergraduates in  
**AWARD:** $276,000
PI: Jennifer Rehage  
**EARTH AND ENVIRONMENT**  
Award Action Type: Initial  
AWARDING SPONSOR: South Florida Water Management District  
TITLE: Role of Florida Bay coastal embayments as fish habitat: nursery  
AWARD: $ 85,000

PI: Jennifer Rehage  
**EARTH AND ENVIRONMENT**  
Award Action Type: Increase  
AWARDING SPONSOR: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
TITLE: Role of Marsh-Mangrove Interface Habitats as Aquatic Refuges  
AWARD: $ 81,000

PI: Leonard Scinto  
**EARTH AND ENVIRONMENT**  
Award Action Type: Initial  
AWARDING SPONSOR: South Florida Water Management District  
TITLE: Settling and entrainment properties of STA particulates  
AWARD: $ 122,423

PI: Leonard Scinto  
**EARTH AND ENVIRONMENT**  
Award Action Type: Initial  
AWARDING SPONSOR: South Florida Water Management District  
TITLE: Subproject: Settling and entrainment properties of STA particulates  
AWARD: $ 112,577

PI: Shimelis Setegn  
**ENVIR AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH**  
Award Action Type: Initial  
AWARDING SPONSOR: Dream in Green Inc  
TITLE: Green Schools Challenge: Evidence-based Practice  
AWARD: $ 6,500

PI: Casey Steadman  
**THE WOLFSONIAN**  
Award Action Type: Increase  
AWARDING SPONSOR: FIU Foundation  
TITLE: Knight Museum of Ideas Fund  
AWARD: $ 85,000

PI: Oren B Stier  
**RELIGIOUS STUDIES**  
Award Action Type: Increase  
AWARDING SPONSOR: Robert Russell Memorial Foundation  
TITLE: Developing an Online Holocaust Studies Certificate  
AWARD: $ 3,000

PI: Markus L Thiel  
**POLITICS AND INTL RELATIONS**  
Award Action Type: Decrease  
AWARDING SPONSOR: European Commission  
TITLE: Outreach Projects with the Scientific and Business Miami Communities  
AWARD: $ 11,144

PI: Sabri Tosunoglu  
**MECHANICAL AND MAT ENGINEERING**  
Award Action Type: Initial  
AWARDING SPONSOR: University of Central Florida  
TITLE: FIU NASA Student Launch Competition  
AWARD: $ 2,000
**PI:** Diana Valle-Riestra  
**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**  
**Award Action Type:** Initial  
**AWARDING SPONSOR:** Able Trust  
**TITLE:** Project Panther LIFE: Preparing for Employment  
**AWARD:** $65,000

### 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Email Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Andrés G. Gil</td>
<td>Vice President for Research &amp; Economic Development</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Andres.gil@fiu.edu">Andres.gil@fiu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tonja Moore</td>
<td>Associate Vice President, <strong>Strategic Planning &amp; Operations</strong></td>
<td><a href="mailto:Tonja.moore@fiu.edu">Tonja.moore@fiu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luis P. Salas</td>
<td>Associate Vice President, <strong>International Research, Space Optimization and Compliance</strong></td>
<td><a href="mailto:Luis.salas@fiu.edu">Luis.salas@fiu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mirtha Alberto</td>
<td>Director, <strong>Budget &amp; Cost Analysis</strong></td>
<td><a href="mailto:Mirtha.alberto@fiu.edu">Mirtha.alberto@fiu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henry Artigues</td>
<td>Director, <strong>External Partnerships &amp; Economic Development</strong></td>
<td><a href="mailto:Henry.artigues@fiu.edu">Henry.artigues@fiu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Driesbach</td>
<td>Assistant Vice President, <strong>Research Information Systems</strong></td>
<td><a href="mailto:David.driesbach1@fiu.edu">David.driesbach1@fiu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christopher Grayson</td>
<td>Director, <strong>Research Integrity</strong></td>
<td><a href="mailto:Christopher.grayson@fiu.edu">Christopher.grayson@fiu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emily Gresham</td>
<td>Assistant Vice President, <strong>Innovation &amp; Economic Development</strong></td>
<td><a href="mailto:Emily.gresham@fiu.edu">Emily.gresham@fiu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Gutierrez</td>
<td>Assistant Vice President, <strong>Research Development &amp; Pre-Award</strong></td>
<td><a href="mailto:Robert.gutierrez@fiu.edu">Robert.gutierrez@fiu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pedro Hernández</td>
<td>Director, <strong>Technology Management &amp; Commercialization</strong></td>
<td><a href="mailto:Pedro.hernandez7@fiu.edu">Pedro.hernandez7@fiu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maureen Pelham</td>
<td>Director, <strong>Research Development</strong></td>
<td><a href="mailto:Maure.pelham@fiu.edu">Maure.pelham@fiu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aida Reus</td>
<td>Director, <strong>Post-Award</strong></td>
<td><a href="mailto:Aida.reus@fiu.edu">Aida.reus@fiu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horatiu Vinerean</td>
<td>Director, <strong>Laboratory Animal Research: Attending Veterinarian</strong></td>
<td><a href="mailto:Horatiu.vinerean@fiu.edu">Horatiu.vinerean@fiu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Susan Webster</td>
<td>Director, <strong>Training &amp; International Research Initiatives</strong></td>
<td><a href="mailto:Susan.webster@fiu.edu">Susan.webster@fiu.edu</a></td>
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</tbody>
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