

UConn IDEA Grant
imagine / develop / engage / apply



Spring 2013 UConn IDEA Awards

The Office of Undergraduate Research announces the recipients of UConn IDEA Grants in the inaugural competition conducted in Spring 2013. This is first round of the new award program, which provides funding of up to \$4,000 for entrepreneurial ventures, community service, traditional research, or other creative endeavors. Proposals for the UConn IDEA Grants represented a variety of disciplines, ranging from fine arts to physics. Congratulations to the eleven undergraduates who have been offered UConn IDEA Grants!

Virtual Hartford

Ryan Allen '14 (CLAS) will research and analyze the historical and lasting effects of the Civil Rights Movement on the city of Hartford, CT. His work will be documented on a new website, as part of a larger project about the history of Hartford.

Mentor: Associate Professor Micki McElya, History, CLAS

Past Perfect Interference

Antonio Campelli '15 (SFA) plans to use a variety of artistic modes to design a series of art books to use as the basis of exploration of the page as a method of relaying information, at a time when digitization is transforming how information is communicated in our society.

Mentor: Associate Professor Ray DiCapua, Art & Art History, SFA

The Effects of Visitors on the Behavior of River Otters and Snow Leopards in Zoos

Christine Conte '14 (CLAS) will research how visitors impact the behavior of different animals living in zoos, and study other aspects of the welfare of these species in captivity.

Mentor: Associate Professor Chris Elphick, Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, CLAS

Yoga as an Innovative Stress Reduction Intervention

Makayla Davis '14 (CLAS) will collect and analyze data which compares the effectiveness of taking yoga classes to participation in a standard stress management course in reducing anxiety in college students.

Mentor: Professor Crystal Park, Psychology, CLAS and Elizabeth Cracco, Director/Coordinator of Clinical Services

Investigation of the Fuel Potential of Bioliqoid Derived through Pyrolysis of Recycled Coffee Grinds

Ari Fischer '15 (ENGR) is going to investigate how recycled coffee grounds may be converted to fuel.

Mentor: Assistant Professor George Bollas, Chemical, Materials & Biomolecular Engineering, ENGR

Navigating the Educational Upgrade: Establishing Effective Online Writing Center Strategies through Cybernetic Analysis of Tutoring Practices at American Universities

Erik Holtz '14 (CLAS) will study innovative tutoring techniques in order to develop effective online writing center strategies.

Mentor: Associate Professor Tom Deans, English, CLAS & Director, University Writing Center

Searching for the White Rose

Peter Logue '14 (CLAS) is planning to travel to Germany to investigate a Holocaust resistance movement known as "The White Rose," and produce a short documentary and narrative upon his return.

Mentors: Assistant Professor Oliver Hiob and Associate Professor Sebastian Wogenstein, LCL, CLAS

Project Notice

David Pereira '15 (SFA) plans to direct a documentary which contrasts the tragic lives of victims of human trafficking with the lives of college students.

Mentor: Associate Professor Cathy Schlund-Vials, English, CLAS; Director, Asian American Studies Institute; and Director, Humanities House Living Learning Community

Systemic Inquiry into the Potential of iPad for Teaching and Learning

Jake Sippel '14 (CLAS) will conduct workshops for teachers at K-12 school districts on the creative use of iPads in the classroom. In collaboration with these schools and the NEAG School of Education, his plans also include designing a set of iBook Manuals, and the creation of a set of iMovies which record the process and share results of the project.

Mentor: Associate Professor Jae-Eun Joo, Educational Psychology, NEAG and Director, NEAG Online Programs

Evaluation of Micro-lending Programs in the Entrepreneurial Empowerment of African Women

Natalia Svirshchevsky '14 (BUSN) will travel to Ghana to learn first-hand how micro-lending programs influence the entrepreneurial empowerment of African Women.

Mentor: Associate Professor and Acting Department Head Susan Spiggle, Marketing, BUSN

Babelation Dramaturgy

Anna Woodruff '14 (SFA) will use the grant for research and dramaturgy for Michael Bradford's play, "Babelation." As part of the production team, she will share her findings with producers, actors, and directors.

Mentor: Associate Professor Michael Bradford, Dramatic Arts, SFA

Thank you to the faculty members who have agreed to supervise the UConn IDEA Grant students in their projects. Thank you as well to the faculty members and program directors who served as the initial UConn IDEA Grant Proposal Review Committee!

Office of Undergraduate Research

June 7, 2013