

San José State University
Research Foundation

Focus

WINTER 2012



Inside:

- Allocations to Academic Units
- Human Resources Brief
- Meet the Central Office Ambassador



SAN JOSÉ STATE
UNIVERSITY

RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Lionel Cheruzel and Lili Luo Honored at First Annual Celebration of Sponsored Research

The first annual SJSU Celebration of Sponsored Research took place in the Barrett Ballroom on October 18. The event honored all faculty who have applied for or have been awarded a sponsored research grant during the past fiscal year.

Exhibits at the event highlighted five of the University's prominent research

projects, ranging from planet discovery to cyber-security to film production.

The Early Career Investigator Awards (ECIA) were also presented at the event. The first went to Professor of Chemistry Lionel Cheruzel (College of Science), who has been tremendously productive in his field of

Clockwise from left:

- 1) Dr. Lili Luo, School of Library and Information Science, College of Applied Sciences and Arts, presents her research.
- 2) SJSU President Mo Qayoumi presents the Early Career Investigator Award to Dr. Lionel Cheruzel, Department of Chemistry, College of Science.
- 3) SJSU Provost Ellen Junn welcomes San Jose City Councilman Kansen Chu (right) and Dr. Alejandro Garcia (Department of Physics & Astronomy) to the "Celebration of Sponsored Research" event.

Continues on page 2

Photos by Robert Bain

Early Career Investigator Awardees Honored

From page 1

bioinorganic chemistry. He leads an active research group comprised of eight undergraduates and one graduate student focused on Cytochrome P450 and the synthetic potential for biotechnological applications.

Also receiving the 2012 award was Dr. Lili Luo, who has been an active researcher in the areas of reference services, online learning, and research methods education. Dr. Luo's scholarly activities include a partnership with the SJSU School of Social Work, where she is conducting joint research to explore how librarians and social workers can collaboratively improve access to information on local



Dr. Lionel Cheruzel describes his work at the Celebration of Research event.

and Dr. Luo have achieved exceptional levels of success in all of these areas.

social services resources. She has also published eight journal articles since joining the faculty, and in 2010 received the Outstanding Teacher's Award from the School of Library and Information Science.

The ECIA award recognizes SJSU tenure-track faculty who excel in research, scholarship and creative activity, and who have secured funds for research early in their careers.

Both Dr. Cheruzel

"It is immensely interesting to explore the interaction between information, information users, and information professionals (e.g., librarians)."

- Dr. Lili Luo



President Mo Qayoumi presents the 2012 Early Career Investigator Award to Dr. Lili Luo.

"Research requires a lot of work, passion and dedication, but also provides excitement and fun."

- Dr. Lionel Cheruzel



SAN JOSÉ STATE
UNIVERSITY

RESEARCH FOUNDATION

210 N. 4th Street, Suite 400 | San José, CA 95112
408.924.1400 | www.sjsufoundation.org



From left: former Research Foundation COO Mary Sidney; Dr. Roy Okuda, Department of Chemistry; and Maureen Scharberg, AVP, Student Academic Success Services.

Guests Mingle at Research Celebration



Above, Dean Charles Bullock (College of Applied Sciences & Arts) with Journalism & Mass Communications Professor Diane Guerrazzi and Peter Young, director of the Silicon Valley Center for Global Studies at SJSU. Guerrazzi and Young shared information about their work bringing modern journalism to Afghanistan.

Below, Dr. Kevin Jordan with Research Foundation Sponsored Program Analyst Luann Chu, Associate Director for Pre-Award Programs Jeanne Dittman, and NASA Researcher Quang Dao. Dr. Jordan displayed a computer-based interactive "Cockpit Situation Display" at the event.



Jerri Carmo Named Interim COO

Jerri Carmo has been appointed Interim Chief Operating Officer (COO) for the SJSU Research Foundation. Previously, Jerri served the Research Foundation as Deputy Chief Operating Officer and Director of Sponsored Programs.

Carmo began her professional career at the SJSU Research Foundation as a Grants and Contracts Analyst in 1985 and moved into progressively higher administrative positions. In addition to her new duties as COO, she will continue directing the Office of Sponsor Programs, Enterprise Programs, and Intellectual Property Management. Carmo will also continue to help manage SJSU's federal advocacy efforts.

Allocations to Campus Top \$1.8 Million

Research Foundation Facility & Administrative (F&A) allocations to academic units for FY2011-12 provided \$1,862,061 in additional research funding to colleges, departments, and faculty project directors engaged in research.

F&A funds support the business infrastructure necessary to conduct externally sponsored programs, such as sponsored projects administration, Human Resources, finance, legal, audit and other general services. Within academic units, allocated F&A funds are used to pay for faculty release time, travel and student stipends in order to further research.

HUMAN RESOURCES BRIEF

Services for Employees

The Research Foundation Human Resources team provides personal, virtual, and offsite services to those employed on its projects and programs located off campus in downtown San Jose, Mountain View, Monterey County, and Sacramento County.

VSP partners with Costco

The Research Foundation's vision benefit through VSP, Inc. has partnered with Costco. Starting this year, Research Foundation employees can access Costco for their vision benefits, including frames and contacts. Costco will direct-bill VSP for the services, reducing the administrative burden for the employee.

New for 2013: Aetna Dental

In its continuing commitment to enhancing employee benefits while also

reducing costs, the Research Foundation Human Resources department is pleased to announce a partnership with a new provider of dental benefits, Aetna.

Aetna Dental replaces The Guardian as the provider of dental benefits to Research Foundation employees, effective January 1, 2013.

The new Aetna dental plan increases the annual maximum benefit to each employee and dependent by \$250 per year. Also enhanced is Aetna's coverage for Out-of-Network dental care, which will also increase by \$250 per year.

Aetna's extensive network will support our employees across our many locations. More information will be posted on the Research Foundation web site no later than December 21, 2012, so stay tuned!

Save more for retirement!

For year 2013, the IRS has increased the 403(b) retirement plan elective deferral limit to \$17,500 per year. Employees may defer up to \$729.16 per semi-monthly pay period (\$17,500 divided by 24 pay periods) for retirement, if they choose to do so.

"Catch Up" contributions for employees age 50 and over remain at \$5,500 per year (in addition to the previously mentioned \$17,500).

Elective deferrals not only maximize your retirement savings, they may also reduce your income taxes.

For details about enrolling in retirement programs, please call TIAA-CREF at (800) 842-2776, call the HR department at (408) 924-1409, or send an e-mail inquiry to Ranjit Kaur at ranjit.kaur@sjsu.edu.

MEET THE CENTRAL OFFICE STAFF

Ranjit Kaur: Ambassador Extraordinaire

"Doing whatever it takes to get the job done... enhancing the relations and reputation of the organization, as attested to by our customers."

These are the standards for the Research Foundation's "Ambassador of Customer Service" award, presented annually to the employee who best personifies the criteria stated above.



The 2012 awardee was the Human Resources Department's Benefits Lead, Ranjit Kaur (left). Ranjit was honored for her commitment to providing Research Foundation employees with an outstanding level of service, helping them to fully understand and utilize their benefits programs.

"Ranjit's dedication to serving her customers is demonstrated by her strong work ethic and her ability to communicate important benefit information to Research Foundation employees on a daily basis," stated Senior Director of Human Resources Cheree Aguilar-Suarez.

Ranjit is also committed to professional growth, seeking to increase her abilities to support Research Foundation employees. She attained her Certified Benefits Professional (CBP) designation in July 2012. The Research Foundation is most pleased to recognize Ranjit's significant accomplishment in reaching this career milestone, and extends its congratulations to her.

The SJSU Research Foundation is Here to Help

Our services include:

- Identifying funding sources
- Developing grant/project plans
- Budget planning and management
- Application completion and submission to funders/sponsors
- Recruit/hire/manage project research team
- Project closeouts and audit support
- Intellectual property management
- Customized workshops

Please contact Jeanne Dittman at (408) 924-1434 for more information.