

San José State University
Research Foundation

Focus

WINTER-SPRING 2012



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- **Allocations to Academic Units Way Up**
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Ivano Aiello and Marjorie Freedman Honored at Research Foundation Annual Dinner

Nutrition and geographic oceanography were the featured topics at the 2011 SJSU Research Foundation annual Board of Directors dinner in October, where two SJSU associate professors were honored for their accomplishments.

Receiving the Early Career Investigator Award (ECIA) at the event was Dr. Ivano Aiello, College of Science, who

specializes in marine geology, specifically the relationships between deeply buried marine sediments and microbial habitats.

Also receiving the 2011 Award was Dr. Marjorie Freedman, whose research focuses on the environmental correlates of food choices, obesity, nutrition labeling, portion sizes community nutrition and nutrition education.

Clockwise from left:

1) SJSU President Mo Qayoumi, Provost Gerry Selter, ECIA winner Marjorie Freedman and Dean Charles Bullock (College of Applied Sciences & Arts) .

2) Dean Michael Parrish (College of Science) introduces Ivano Aiello, Department of Meteorology.

3) Ivano Aiello is presented with his congressional commendation by Provost Selter and Mary Sidney.

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Early Career Investigator Winners Honored

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The ECIA award recognizes SJSU tenure-track faculty who excel in research, scholarship and creative activity, and have secured funds for research early in their careers. Both Dr. Aiello and Dr. Freedman have achieved exceptional levels of success in all of these areas.

In addition, their work has forged partnerships with the larger community outside the university. Dr. Aiello has been awarded special funding to deliver talks about the U.S. Deep Sea Drilling Program at universities across the country, thus becoming the program's national spokesman. He is also an internationally recognized speaker in geological oceanography, in the subdiscipline of paleoceanography and the deep biosphere.

Closer to home, Dr. Aiello has transformed and energized the Geological Oceanography program at Moss Landing Marine Laboratories, attracting new and talented students and engaging other faculty in multidisciplinary studies. He has developed new courses, including Field Mapping using computer controlled Lidar technology.

"Curiosity and passion... those are really the two first and fundamental characteristics of a scientist, and a student."

- Ivano Aiello

Dr. Freedman's work has had significant impact in the public policy arena. Along with former city councilmember Ken Yeager, she successfully advocated to effect 100% healthy vending machine policies in City of San José libraries and 50% healthy vending policies in the City of San José. Here at SJSU, she helped create and expand the "Healthy San José State" initiative, which includes the Spartan Smart Cart.

With obesity being the most significant public health issue of our time, Dr. Freedman's research provides critical data to inform policy development at the national level as well. Since coming to SJSU, she has authored 17 publications in peer-reviewed journals, and she frequently presents papers at national conferences. Her work significantly contributes to the research effort, impact and reputation of San José State University.



From Left: Research Foundation COO Mary Sidney, College of Science Dean Michael Parrish, ECIA winner Ivano Aiello, SJSU President Mo Qayoumi, Provost Gerry Selter, ECIA Winner Marjorie Freedman, CASA Dean Charles Bullock.



Recognized for their multi-disciplinary collaboration and achievements related to the “Green Ninja” productions were Ellen Metzger, Department of Geology (front), David Chai, Animation/Illustration Program (center), Babak Sarrafan, Radio, Film & Television (right) and Eugene Cordero, Meteorology & Climate Science (not pictured).



\$2.7 MILLION TO CAMPUS UNITS

F&A Discretionary Allocations Continue Climb

Research Foundation Facility & Administrative (F&A) allocations to academic units for FY2010-11 increased 28% over the prior year, providing \$2,743,662 in discretionary funding to colleges, departments and faculty project directors engaged in externally-funded research. The increase reflects growth in sponsored programs both on the SJSU Main Campus and at the Moss Landing Marine Laboratories located 60 miles to the south.

F&A indirect funds support the business infrastructure necessary to conduct externally-sponsored programs including sponsored projects administration, human resource services, accounting and finance services, payroll, legal, CSU and sponsor audit, building and equipment depreciation, utilities, mail and janitorial services. These indirect cost funds are also used for a range of faculty and student expenses including release time, travel, and student stipends.

Twice each year the Research Foundation distributes F&A revenue remaining after general operating costs. The goal of the allocation process is to provide both support and incentive to the faculty and academic units who direct the University's \$59 million annually in externally-sponsored work funded from over 141 different public and private agencies.



Research Records

- 7.6% increase to \$59.7 million in total SJSU grant and contract activity as of 6/30/2011, the 4th consecutive year of growth.
- 4.6% increase in revenue, totaling \$72.8 million for FY2010-11.
- Ranked 2nd in total grant and contract activity across the CSU for FY2011.
- \$223 million in funding/assets under management as of 6/30/2011.

HUMAN RESOURCES BRIEF

VSP partners with Costco

The Research Foundation's Vision benefit through VSP, Inc. has partnered with Costco. Starting in 2012, Research Foundation employees can access Costco for their vision benefits, including frames and contacts, and Costco will direct-bill VSP for services, avoiding additional administrative burdens to the employee.

W-2 Forms go out January 31

W-2 forms will be mailed out by January 31, 2012. Reminder to all employees: to keep personal information current with HR.

Credit Union Benefits

The County Federal Credit Union offers tremendous benefits to Research Foundation employees, including:

- Free checking and savings accounts
- ATM access at many 7-11 convenience stores.
- Conveniently located branches in north county, south county, Campbell and downtown San José areas.
- Low interest rates on mortgages and auto loans
- Valuable discounts for museums, amusement parks and travel.

Additional details about credit union services can be found at

www.sccfcu.org

Add more to your retirement!

For year 2012, the IRS has increased 403 (b) retirement plan elective deferral limits to \$17,000 per year. "Catch Up" contributions for employees age 50 and over remain at \$5,500 per year. Elective deferrals not only maximize your retire-

ment savings, they may also reduce the amount of taxes you owe.

For details about enrolling in Research Foundation retirement accounts, please contact the HR department at (408) 924-1400 or e-mail Ranjit Kaur, Benefits Lead, at ranjit.kaur@sjsu.edu.

If you are enrolled in a retirement account and wish to discuss your retirement strategies, contact TIAA CREF directly by logging into your account. If you have not yet set up online access, you may do so at:

enroll.tiaa-cref.org/sjsufoundation

E-Verify

The Research Foundation became an E-Verify employer as of June 1, 2011. We are now required to use the system to verify the employment eligibility of all new hires, regardless of their location and work site within the U.S.

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.

MEET THE CENTRAL OFFICE STAFF

Jeanne Dittman: Ambassador Extrordinaire

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

These are the criteria for the Research Foundation's

"Ambassador of Customer Service" award, presented annually to the employee who best personifies the criteria.

The 2011 awardee was OSP Manager Jeanne Dittman.

"Jeanne is somebody who is

completely service oriented while bringing a full knowledge based skill set around issues of compliance," said Pam Stacks, SJSU AVP for Graduate Studies and Research. "I find Jeanne to be an incredible asset and resource for my office."

Deputy COO Jerri Carmo stated, "Jeanne is exemplary in demonstration of customer service and will go out of her way to make sure our clients are being served."



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