PSC-CUNY Research Award Program: Enhancing Research at Kingsborough
In the Spotlight: Assistant Professor Jacob Mey, Physical Sciences

In 2010, the PSC-CUNY and the University jointly released new guidelines for the PSC-CUNY Research Award Program, a research award program that is governed by the PSC-CUNY’s collective bargaining agreement. That year, an agreement was reached according to which a three-year pilot program was created. The structure of the award was changed such that eligible members of the faculty could apply under one of three categories: Traditional A, providing funding up to $3,500; Traditional B, providing funding from $3,600 to $6,000; and Enhanced C, providing funding between $6,500 and $12,000.

In 2012, KCC Physical Sciences professor Dr. Jacob Mey received the Enhanced C (ENHC) award. The ENHC award is designed to support “significant scholarly or creative projects.” It is a new addition to the PSC-CUNY Research Award Program, being tested out as part of the three-year pilot that began with the PSC-CUNY cycle 42. Dr. Mey is the second KCC faculty member to receive an ENHC grant.

As a doctoral candidate, Dr. Mey conducted research on Barbadian drowned reefs, which exist from 100 to 40 meters below the surface in a ring surrounding Barbados. These reefs are stacked in a complicated puzzle dating back to the end of the last glacial period and beyond. Dr. Mey’s research involved collecting bathymetric data – observations of the depth of the water and topography of the reefs. However, the data he collected has not been fully processed and analyzed. With support from the PSC-CUNY Research Award Program, Dr. Mey will create a computational facility with the capacity to process his collected data, create a 3-D representation of the drowned reefs, and model the reefs’ accretion history – how it grew over time. This will offer important insights into the interaction between sea level change and reef building characteristics since the last glacial maximum – the period in time when the earth’s glaciers were at their peak extension – and perhaps as far back as 100,000 years.

“The PSC-CUNY grant is very important, allowing me to process the large amounts of data I collected in Barbados,” says Dr. Mey. “The results will benefit a large group of scientists interested in sea level change studies that rely on ancient coral reefs as proxies for past sealevel change.”

Once Dr. Mey has created the 3-D model and accretion history, the results will aid in understanding where the most desired samples for a plethora of science questions can be found. Such projects include tracing variations in sea level with time and calibrating the carbon 14 curve used in dating carbon rich materials. In addition, this project will benefit the coastal management effort of the Barbadian Government, which is collaborating with Dr. Mey on his project. “Once I have a real model of the internal structure of the reefs it will be easier to convince funding agencies that we can find the right samples and go back and drill the drowned reefs – that in itself is very exciting because I will get answers whether my models are correct - no living coral reefs will be affected”.

The PSC-CUNY Research Award Program is accepting applications for Cycle 44 awards starting in September 2012. If you are interested in applying for a grant to support your research, please review program guidelines at: http://www.rfcuny.org/rfwebsite/research/content.aspx?catID=1190. Contact Antonio Thompson, Associate Director of Development, if you decide to apply.
CURRENT FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

American Council of Learned Societies
http://www.acls.org/programs/comps/
The American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) has released its schedule of 2012 deadlines, including the ACLS Fellowships, ACLS Digital Fellowships, and ACLS Collaborative Research Fellowships. Scholars in the Humanities are encouraged to review the schedule, available at the link above, and guidelines to determine eligibility for one of these opportunities.

American Philosophical Society
http://www.amphilsoc.org/grants
The American Philosophical Society (APS) offers several grants and fellowships, descriptions of which may be found using the link above. Two opportunities are highlighted here.

The APS Franklin Research Grants provide grants to “help meet the costs of travel to libraries and archives for research purposes; the purchase of microfilm, photocopies, or equivalent research materials; the costs associated with fieldwork; or laboratory research expenses.” The deadline for submissions is October 1, 2012.

The APS Philips Fund for Native American Research provides grants “for research in Native American linguistics, ethnohistory, and the history of studies of Native Americans, in the continental United States and Canada.” The deadline for submissions is March 1, 2013.

The Coordinating Council on Women in History
http://theccwh.org/awards.htm
The Coordinating Council on Women in History (CCWH) seeks submissions for the Catherine Prelinger Memorial Award, “a $20,000 award given to a scholar whose career has not followed the traditional path through secondary and higher education and whose work has contributed to women in the historical profession.” Please see the link above for a complete description of this opportunity and information on additional grants available through the CCWH. The deadline for submission is September 19, 2012.

Grammy Foundation: Grants in Music Research and Preservation
http://www.grammy.org/grammy-foundation/grants
The Grammy Foundation awards research grants “to organizations and individuals to support research on the impact of music on the human condition” and awards preservation grants “to organizations and individuals to support efforts that advance the archiving and preservation of the music and recorded sound heritage of the Americas.” Grants are awarded for up to $20,000.

John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation
http://www.gf.org/applicants/the-united-states-canadian-competition/
The John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation is currently accepting applications for its 2013 fellowship program for scholars in the United States and Canada. Fellowships are awarded to scholars in all fields with the exception of performing arts. The deadline for submissions is September 19, 2012.

From their website: “Guggenheim Fellowships are intended for men and women who have already demonstrated exceptional capacity for productive scholarship or exceptional creative ability in the arts.” This includes the natural sciences, social sciences, humanities and creative arts.

National Endowment for the Arts
http://www.nea.gov/grants/apply/LitTranslation/index.html
Individual translators are eligible to apply for the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Literature Fellowships: Translation Projects, FY2014. These fellowships are granted to “published translators…for the translation of specific works prose, poetry, or drama from other languages into English.” Please see the link above for complete guidelines and information on how to apply. The deadline for submission is January 3, 2013.

National Endowment for the Humanities:
Enduring Questions
http://www.neh.gov/grants/education/enduring-questions
The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) is currently accepting grants from faculty members to teach and develop “a new course that will foster intellectual community through the study of an enduring question.” Please see the link above for complete guidelines and information on how to apply. The deadline for submissions is September 13, 2012.

Planning to submit a federal grant?
Kingsborough Community College requires the use of Cayuse424 to submit federal proposals. Contact the Office for College Advancement to receive logon information and schedule an orientation to the use of Cayuse424.

Not finding what you’re looking for? COS Pivot may be able to help! Find funding sources and collaborators using this powerful online tool.
http://pivot.cos.com/
Go online, claim your profile, and start connecting!
The Academic Publishing Grant offers grants of up to $250 for non-members and $1,000 for members “to cover expenses incurred in publishing print academic journals and books.” The Contract Review Grant for First-Time Textbook Authors offers grants of up to $250 for non-members and $1,000 for members “to cover the cost of hiring an intellectual property attorney to provide assistance in negotiating a textbook contract.”

If you are interested in applying for a grant, please contact Kirstin Swanson, Director of Development or Antonio Thompson, Associate Director of Development, to discuss your proposed project.

**RECENT AWARDS**

**Anna Becker**  
Performing Arts Center  
Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation  
$3,270  
New York City Department of Cultural Affairs  
$26,200  
Performing Arts Center

**Professor Varattur Reddy**  
National Science Foundation: Nanotechnology in Undergraduate Education: $20,000  
*Unifying Nanotechnology at CUNY Community Colleges*

**Michael Rodriguez**  
Men’s Resource Center  
Sovereign Bank Foundation  
$5,000  
*Black Male Initiative*

**Professor Loretta Taras**  
Biological Sciences  
National Science Foundation: Advanced Technological Education  
$899,799  
*On-Campus Discoveries in Science: A Science Preparation Program in Biotechnology in Support of New York City Teachers and Students*

**Michael Weisberg**  
Physical Sciences  
NASA  
$375,000  
*Petrologic-Geochemical Studies of Reduced Solar System Materials*

**Brian Mitra**  
Office of Career Services, Transfer, Scholarships, and New Start  
New York State Higher Education Services Corporation  
$50,490  
*College Access Challenge Grant*

**Lawrence Pero**  
Office of Collaborative Programs  
New York State Education Department  
$991,785  
*Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Grant*

**Sandra Ramos**  
College Discovery  
New York State Higher Education Services Corporation  
$16,596  
*College Access Challenge Grant*