IN THE SPOTLIGHT:

HAROLD C. CONNOLLY JR.: ON A MISSION FOR NASA

We see it in science fiction movies. A vehicle lands on a near-earth asteroid. The mission: blow up the asteroid to prevent earth’s imminent destruction. Professor Harold C. Connolly Jr., from the Physical Sciences department, would shudder to see such a mission. His goal in landing an unmanned probe on an earth-crossing asteroid is to take a sample from that asteroid and bring it back to earth for further study.

Why?

It’s very hard to see inside the cloud that surrounds the spinning, dusty disk that is a forming solar system. “Asteroids are our only witnesses to the formation of planetary systems – our planetary system in particular,” says Prof. Connolly. “Until now, we could only study meteorites – those asteroids which travel through the earth’s atmosphere and make it to the ground. The OSIRIS-REx project will enable us to look at the composition of an asteroid, bringing us one step closer to understanding what the solar system was like before the earth-like planets were formed. We will be bringing a sample of this asteroid back to earth for detailed investigations by an international team of dedicated scientists.”

OSIRIS-REx (The Origins Spectral Interpretation Resource Identification Security-Regolith Explorer), headquartered at the University of Arizona’s Lunar and Planetary Laboratory, with Prof. Michael Drake as PI, was selected as one of three finalists in NASA’s competition to send a probe to a carbonaceous asteroid – one rich in prebiotic compounds considered to play a role in the origins of life. Prof. Connolly, who serves as an adjunct associate professor of planetary science at the Lunar and Planetary Laboratory, is a Science Team member for the mission and serves as the Head of Mineralogy. He is one of the scientists in charge of the initial phase of sample analysis, and most such analysis is filtered through him.

The OSIRIS-REx project is a big step forward in Prof. Connolly’s research program, which focuses on constraining the origins of the solar system. Prof. Connolly currently serves as PI for grants in two different NASA programs and is committed to involving undergraduates in his research program. He also teaches within the Earth and Environmental Sciences program where he mentors Ph.D. students.

CURRENT FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

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

AETNA FOUNDATION

The Aetna Foundation supports research, project, and policy projects in obesity, racial and ethnic healthcare equity, and integrated health care.

For more information and how to apply: http://www.aetna.com/about-aetna-insurance/aetna-foundation/aetna-grants/grants-for-2010-and-beyond.html

FINRA INVESTOR EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Funds research and educational projects (or a combination of both) that support its mission of providing underserved Americans with the knowledge, skills and tools necessary for financial success throughout life. Applications are considered on a rolling basis.

For more information and how to apply: http://www.finrafoundation.org/grants/general/

UNITED STATES – ISRAEL BINATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION (BSF)

The U.S.-Israel Binational Science Foundation (BSF) promotes scientific relations between the U.S. and Israel by supporting collaborative research
projects in a wide area of basic and applied scientific fields, for peaceful and non-profit purposes. Applications must be submitted by one Israeli and one American scientist.

**CURRENT CALL FOR PROPOSALS:**
Transformative Science grant. Pre-proposal must be submitted not later than May 11, 2010; full proposals are due October 12, 2010.

For more information on this and other BSF grants, and to retrieve guidelines, visit the BSF website: [http://www.bsf.org.il/](http://www.bsf.org.il/)

**THE GLADYS KRIEBLE DELMAS FOUNDATION**
The Foundation recognizes and supports the humanities and performing arts in New York City. Letters of inquiry are accepted at any time.

For more information and how to apply: [http://www.delmas.org/programs/index.html](http://www.delmas.org/programs/index.html)

**THE ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON FOUNDATION**
The Healthy Eating Research program supports research on environmental and policy strategies with strong potential to promote healthy eating among children to prevent childhood obesity, especially among lower-income and racial and ethnic populations at highest risk for obesity.

**CURRENT CALL FOR PROPOSALS:**
Round 5 grants, rapid-response grants and New Connections grants.


**THE SPENCER FOUNDATION**
The Foundation supports high-quality investigation of education through its research programs and strengthens and renews the educational research community through its fellowship and training programs and related activities.

For more information and how to apply: [http://www.spencer.org/content.cfm/research](http://www.spencer.org/content.cfm/research)

**RECENT AWARDS**

David Gomez – Vice President, Academic Administration and Program Planning and Development
Tortora Silcoox Foundation
$190,000
Title: Expansion of President’s Prep Program

Joanne Lavin – Chair, Dept of Nursing
Ambrose Monell Foundation
$50,000
Title: Ambrose Monell Foundation Scholarship Fund

Jay Mancini –Dept of Physical Sciences
Igor Balsim - Dept of Mathematics and Computer Science

Stuart Schulman – Executive Director, Center for Economic and Workforce Development
Coney Island Development Corporation
$600,000
Title: Coney Island Hospitality Project

New York State Department of Labor
$137,500
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[http://www.kbcc.cuny.edu/sub-other/sub-news/news_items/pdfs/Grant_Fellows_Announcement.pdf](http://www.kbcc.cuny.edu/sub-other/sub-news/news_items/pdfs/Grant_Fellows_Announcement.pdf)

Kingsborough has revised its grant submission manual.

Please contact the Office of College Advancement to discuss changes to the manual and any questions you have on the grants submission process.