At the fall 2013 Faculty-Staff meetings, UNG President Bonita Jacobs announced the creation of Presidential Summer Scholar Awards, the Presidential Professional Engagement Awards, and the Presidential Academic Innovation Awards. These presidential awards were the first of their kind at UNG following the consolidation and the economic recession that depleted grant opportunities for professors across the nation. The initiative represents an investment of $200,000 toward faculty and staff support and advancement of the university.

**Presidential Professional Engagement Award**

*(25 awards up to $2,000 for faculty to remain state of the art in their disciplines)*

Irfan Bagci (MATH) –
Integral Bases for Equivariant Map (Super) Algebras
>This award will fund the recipient’s participation at the American Mathematical Society conference in Baltimore, MD and the Algebra Seminar at the University of Georgia. His research involves infinite dimensional Lie algebras and Lie super-algebras.

Terri Becker (THEA) –
The Broadway Lighting Master Classes (BLMC)
>This award will fund the recipient’s participation in the “Broadway Lighting Master and Projection Master Classes” in NYC. By sharing her experience with fellow instructors, the Theatre Department will be better able to provide programming, class structures and goals that engage and inspire students.

Tanya Bennett (ENGL) –
2014 International Conference for the Study of Narrative
>This award will fund the recipient’s participation in the 2014 International Conference for the Study of Narrative in Boston. After receiving feedback of her presentation, she will submit her paper for publication to the association’s journal.

Martin Blackwell (HAP) –
Memoirs and the Return of Soviet Power to Kiev, Ukraine after the Nazis
>This award will fund the recipient’s participation at the Association for Slavic, Eastern European, and Eurasian Studies conference in San Antonio. He will present his research about Kiev, Ukraine’s history after the Nazi occupation.

Renee Bricker (HAP) –
Challenges of Teaching Environmental History across Cultural, Disciplinary, and Ideological Divides
This award will fund the recipient’s participation at the American Society for Environmental History Conference in San Francisco. She will present a paper about engaging history students in project-based environmental studies.

Maria Guadalupe Calatayud (SPAN) – MLA Convention in Chicago – Panel of the Women’s Caucus for the Modern Languages
This award will fund the recipient’s participation at the Modern Language Association conference in Chicago. As President for Feministas Undias Organization, she will be a panel member of the Women’s Caucus for the Modern Languages which will analyze women’s works in the arts and humanities.

Sanghee Choi (Tchr. Ed) – Study of Pre-service Teachers’ Use of Academic Language in Science Teaching and its Impact on Student Science Understanding in the context of Field Experiences
This award will fund the recipient’s investigation of classroom discourse of science content in P-12 classrooms. The results of this research will be utilized to develop teaching and learning materials for the UNG teacher preparation program.

Michael Marling deCuellar (DOVA) – 42nd Annual Southern Graphics Council International Printmaking Conference – Bridges: Spanning Tradition, Innovation, and Activism
This award will fund the recipient’s participation at the Southern Graphics Council International Printmaking Conference in San Francisco. As the curator for the Southern Printmaking Biennale that will be hosted by UNG in fall 2014, his attendance at this conference will bring additional national prestige to university.

Shannon Gilstrap (ENGL) – The Infusing Institute (East-West Center Summer Institute’s Asian Studies Development Program)
This award will fund the recipient’s participation at the Infusing Institute, which is a part of the East-West Center Summer Institute’s Asian Studies Development Program. He plans to weave Asian studies into current literature classes.

Joanna Kim (MUSC) – Applying to Become a Steinway Artist
This award will fund the recipient’s participation in the “Steinway Artist” application program. As a “Steinway Artist”, she will bring additional prestige to the UNG music program.

Sara Mason (Soc. & HS) – American Sociological Association Annual Meeting
This award will fund the recipient’s participation at the American Sociological Association in San Francisco. During the conference, she will attend a meeting for the Public Understanding of Sociology Award selection committee of which she is a member.

Michallene McDaniel (Soc. & HS) –
Becoming a State-of-the-Art in Qualitative Data Analysis
This award will fund the recipient’s participation at the NVivo training for qualitative data analysis in Boston. The software permits the discovery of relationships between variables that may not emerge as readily through traditional hand-coding of data.

Marnie Phipps (MATH) –
Texas Instrument Annual T3 International Conference
This award will fund the recipient’s participation at the Texas Instrument Annual Conference in Las Vegas. The hands-on technology sessions will demonstrate graphing representations and algebraic representations strategies that are student-centered.

Karen Redding (ENGL) –
Campbell Conference and Intensive English Institute
On the Teaching of Science Fiction at the University of Kansas
This award will fund the recipient’s participation at a two-week intensive seminar - “The Gunn Institute for the Study of Science Fiction” - at the University of Kansas. Consequently, she plans to prepare at least one new literature course and conduct seminars with faculty members to explore the creation of new interdisciplinary projects.

Austin Riede (ENGL) –
Ireland, Wales, and the First World War: Interdisciplinary Conference at Cardiff University, Wales to present a paper “W. B. Yeats and National Elegy: Evaluating Sacrifice in an English War and an Irish Rebellion”
This award will fund the recipient’s participation at the Ireland, Wales, and the First World War Conference in Cardiff, Wales. He will present a paper about W. B. Yeats.

Hashim Saber (MATH) – $2,000.00
Animated 3-Dimensional Wire Frame and Pressure Volume Model of the Left Ventricle Contractile Performance
This award will fund the recipient’s project to construct wire frame models of the heart. After completion of this research, he will author a paper about the development of surface and pressure-volume diagram models.

Azamat Sakiev (PS & IA) –
Inter-Institutional Research Project on Forecasting Crises and Societal Threats
This award will fund the recipient’s multi-institutional research about “Forecasting Crises and Societal Threats” based in the Moynihan Institute of Global Affairs at Syracuse University, NY. He will contribute his data of Central Asia’s governance units in Post-Soviet era to an edited volume.

Ray-Lyn Snowden (CMJ) – $2,000.00
This award will fund the recipient’s research of mediation principles and strategies for practice and application in intercollegiate mediation competitions. Consequently, she will revise a text titled “The Mediation Playbook”.

Linda (Elaine) Taylor (NURS) –
Pediatric Expertise to Support the UNG Nursing Curriculum through Faculty Professional Development
This award will fund the recipient’s participation at the annual convention of the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners in Boston. By attending this conference, she will earn continuing education units in pharmacology which is required to maintain her Pediatric Nurse Practitioner certification.

Elisabeth Teal (Business Mgt., MIS, Mktg.) –
Center for International Business Education and Research at the Univ. of Colorado and Brigham Young University (2014 India Faculty Development)
This award will fund the recipient’s participation in the Centers for International Business Education and Research Faculty Development in International Business in India. She will present a workshop to the business faculty about her experience.

Anastasia Turner (ENGL) –
American Comparative Literature Association Conference
This award will fund the recipient’s participation at the American Comparative Literature Association annual meeting in New York City. She will present a paper describing the pedagogical strategies that she employs in ENGL 2160 (Multicultural Literature).

Charles (Trey) Wilson (PS & IA) –
Social Justice Training Institute
This award will fund the recipient’s participation at the Social Justice Training Institute workshop in Springfield, MA. He will integrate this training into his political science courses.

Terri Worthey (NURS) –
The Puffy Hat Society: Sharing Nursing Knowledge and Promoting Scholarly Engagement
This award will fund the recipient’s development of an UNG Puffy Hat Society to encourage scholarly research within the Department of Nursing. Her goal is to develop new nursing knowledge and implement best practices within didactic and clinical teaching experiences.

Ben Wynne (HAP) –
Book Project: General Irascibility – The Life and Times of Henry Stuart Foote, 1804-1880

This award will fund the recipient’s research to write a 200-250 page manuscript titled “General Irascibility: The Life and Times of Henry Stuart Foote (1804-1880)”. This work will contribute to existing historical scholarship on nineteenth century American political, economic, and social history.

Jianjun Yang (CS) –

Development of a Simulator to Achieve Students’ Success in the First Programming Course

This award will fund the recipient’s participation in the development of computerized simulations to enhance students’ engagement in their first programming courses.

Presidential Summer Scholar Award
(6 awards up to $10,000 to support meaningful research, scholarly and creative activities)

Andy David (MUSC) –

David Brothers Jazz Trio

The summer scholar funding will enable the recipient to create a studio recording that will be shared with jazz critics and jazz studies scholars throughout the world.

Chris Dockery (DOVA) –

Farm School Meaning and Memory: Recalling the Lynn Bachman School and its Contributions to the Education of Mountain Youth in the Southern Highlands

The summer scholar funding will enable the recipient to conduct an ethnographic arts-based study to document the significance of the Lynn Bachman School to the Appalachian Mountain region in North Carolina and Tennessee.

Victoria Hightower (HAP) –

Nature of Ruler-ship in 19th Century Persian Gulf

The summer scholar funding will enable the recipient to investigate the influence of the British Empire on nineteenth century Persian Gulf.

Johanna Luthman (HAP) –


The summer scholar funding will enable the recipient to complete a book titled “I came no beggar- A Biography of Frances Coke Villiers, Viscountess Purbeck (1600-1645)”.

Tim May (HAP) –

Mongol Empire
The summer scholar funding will enable the recipient to analyze the effects of Chinggis Khan’s (1206-1227) commercial and military interactions on the Mongol Empire’s conversion to Islam.

Glen Smith (PS & IA) –
   Effects of Partisan Cable News Outlets on Public Attitudes Toward Political Leaders
   The summer scholar funding will enable the recipient to research whether partisan media increases polarization among viewers in regards to their attitudes of political leaders.

**Presidential Academic Innovation Award**
(10 awards up to $5,000 and 40 awards up to $1,000 to focus on academic innovations and partnerships that promote institutional practices that support student success)

Lee Barrow ($5,000) (MUSC) –
   Integration of Electronic Delivery and Experiential Learning in MUSC 3230: Introduction to Music Technology
   This award will fund a hands-on project in music technology that will address the creation, acquisition, manipulation, and teaching of music through electronic means.

Mary Carney and Laura Ng ($5,000) (ENGL & CTLL) –
   Fostering Academic Innovation: Faculty Academy in the Scholarship Of Teaching and Learning
   This award will fund the development of a two-year Faculty Academy that will focus on using quantitative and qualitative data to analyze pedagogical practices in the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning.

Joe Covert and Paul Baldwin ($5,000) (Tchr. Ed) –
   Taking Content to the Classroom: Using the Science Learning Essentials To Bridge the Theory-Praxis Gap in Science Education
   This award will fund a study to study the benefits of combining a science content with a methods course on pre-service teachers’ understanding of earth science content in sixth grade classrooms.

Bryan Dawson ($1,000) (PSYC) –
   Using Podcasts to Improve Vocational and Graduate Awareness in Psychology Majors
   This award will fund a project to create podcast resources about vocational and continuing education opportunities in the psychological sciences.
Angela Fain and Deborah Hartman ($1,000) (Tchr. Ed) –
SPED Master’s Program
This award will fund a survey to assess the need to create a master’s degree in special education in addition to the current bachelor degree in Early Childhood Education/Special Education Dual Certification program.

Dee Gillespie, Terry Easton, and Sara Mason ($5,000) (HAP & ENGL & SOC) -
Teaching Beyond the Classroom: Using Oral History and Community Engagement to Enhance Student Learning
This award will fund research using an oral history methodology that may result in an expansion of interdisciplinary undergraduate research, service learning, and community engagement opportunities.

Jennifer Graff ($1,000) (DOVA) –
Power of the Critique for Student Feedback
This award will fund research to study the use of “critique through dialogue” feedback in a variety of courses that employ the “flipped classroom” strategy.

Sheri Hardee (GC) and Kelly McFadden (DC) ($5,000) (Tchr. Ed) –
Developing Gender and Orientation Curricula to Reduce Bullying
In K-12 Institutions: A YES Institute and UNG Collaboration
This award will fund a collaborative partnership between the College of Education and the YES Institute of Miami, FL to develop curriculum for gender and gender identity issues for children between the ages of four and eleven.

Valerie Havill and Diane Cook ($1,000) (PSYC) –
Intergenerational Engagement: The Use of Interactive Gaming to Connect Older Adults with College Students
This award will fund a service learning project in PSYC 2103 (Human Growth and Development) that will promote students’ engagement with older adults.

Yunjuan He ($1,000) (MCL) –
Classroom-based Games for Teaching Chinese as a Foreign Language
This award will fund a project to design and identify bilingual games in Chinese and English to help college students practice their language skills.

Minsu Kim ($1,000) (MATH) –
Making Professional Connections Through Constant Student Generated Reviews Using Google Plus and Blogs in Calculus II
This award will fund a project using Google Plus and blogs in MATH 2460 (Calculus II) to enhance students’ engagement and collaborative learning.

Judit Kovacs and Jim Konzelman ($5,000) (CHEM & BioCHEM) –
Engaging and Enabling Students through the Development of an Interdisciplinary Laboratory: Isolation, Separation, and Determination of Leaf Pigment Content
This award will fund an interdisciplinary laboratory to explore commonalities of basic properties of matter inherent within materials including polarity, light absorption, and solubility throughout all disciplines.

Evan Lampert ($5,000) (BIOL) –
Carotenoids and Caterpillar Color: Ecological Implications of Accessory Pigment Sequestration
This award will fund a project in biology and chemistry courses that will use live insect models to demonstrate how plant natural products influence animal behavior, growth, and vulnerability to predators.

Steven Lloyd and Ryan Shanks ($5,000) (PSYC & BIOL) –
Behavioral Neuroscience in the Classroom, Laboratory, and Classroom Laboratory
This award will fund a research-based laboratory experience in biology and psychology courses so that undergraduate students will conduct behavioral neuroscience experiments to investigate the long-term effects of prescription stimulant exposures during adolescence using a model of ADHD misdiagnosis or Ritalin/Adderall abuse.

Terri Millard, Jon Mehlferber, and Alison Alhadeff ($5,000) (PT & DOVA) –
3-D Printing of Low Cost Adaptive Devices for Disabled Children to Participate in Extra-curricular Activities
This award will fund a project to design, develop, and install adaptive devices created with a 3D printer that allow children with motor impairments to participate in extracurricular activities or age appropriate play alongside typically developing peers.

Jeanelle Morgan and Gina Reed (($5,000) (BIOL & MATH) -
Microbiology and Statistics Learning Community
This award will fund a student learning community in BIOL 2500 (Microbiology for Allied Health Professions) and MATH 2040 (Statistics) that will demonstrate interrelatedness of scientific inquiry of collecting and analyzing data.

Heather Murray ($1,000) (HAP) –
Teaching Cloth Making of the Proto-Industrial Age
This award will fund an experiential learning project to increase student understanding of the economic and social systems of the proto-industrial era by using unprocessed, seed-in cotton, cotton cards, lap spindles, and table looms.

Beth Rauhaus ($1,000) (PS & IA) –
Georgia State Legislative Analysis: A Campus to Community Connection
This award will fund a field trip to the Georgia State Legislature for students enrolled in POLS 3106 (State and Local Politics).

Carly Redding and Anjana Freeman ($5,000) (SOC & PSYC) –
UNG Maternal Attachment and Development Program
This award will fund a project as part of UNG’s study abroad trip to Goa India so that faculty members and students will learn about human trafficking.

Mark Spraker and April Nelms ($1,000) (PHYS & Tchr. Ed) – 
Developing a Physics Education Undergraduate Concentration with a 
STEM Emphasis within the Secondary Education Program

This award will fund a learning opportunity to train educators in STEM education.

Catharine Whiting (($5,000) (BIOL) – 
Development and Implementation of Teaching Assistant Training Modules
And an Analysis of the Effectiveness of Teaching Assistants in
Anatomy and Physiology

This award will fund the development of training modules for teaching assistants in BIOL2120 and 2130 (Human Anatomy and Physiology I & II) so that they provide more individualized and specific feedback to students.