

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GAPSA/Provost Announce Winners of 2008 Award for Interdisciplinary Innovation

Provost Ronald Daniels and GAPSA Chair Dan Grabell are pleased to announce the eight team and individual graduate and professional student recipients of the 2008 Award for Interdisciplinary Innovation.

In spring 2005, a partnership between GAPSA and the Office of the Provost led to the creation of the Award for Interdisciplinary Innovation. The Award program enables graduate and professional students to engage in a project of their own design to explore, research, and act on critical societal issues. Students were selected based on the quality of their application and funding status, six applicant teams or individuals will receive a \$2,000 monthly fellowship from June through August for this work. This funding will be awarded to the Project Leader in each instance but can be dispersed among project team members.

The GAPSA-Provost's Award for Interdisciplinary Innovation encourages the collaboration of student scholars from different University departments and/or schools and is jointly funded by GAPSA and the Office of the Provost.

Associate Provost Andrew Binns comments, "We are pleased to be able to co-sponsor these awards as part of our ongoing partnership with GAPSA to provide support to graduate and professional students. Penn students continue to consistently produce outstanding and innovative proposals for interdisciplinary work, and we look forward to seeing the fruit of their projects at the poster session in the fall."

GAPSA Chair Dan Grabell added, "The GAPSA-Provost Interdisciplinary Awards fill an important gap in summer funding for projects that cross multiple disciplines. I am excited about the range of topics and global impact the winners will have on their field and society as a whole."

The winning teams and individuals will submit a report at the end of the summer and participate in a poster session in the fall at the Graduate Student Center. The poster session will provide a venue for fellows to present their work, receive feedback from the larger Penn academic community, and encourage future interdisciplinary collaborations.

Awards Granted With Funding (6)

Project Leaders: Itay Greenspan, PhD Candidate, SP2
Project Member: Cassondra Giombetti, Ph.D. Candidate, GSE
Project: How Big Is My Backyard? Donating Time and Money To Environmental Organizations as Reflections of Environmental Concern

Project Leader: Matthew Erie, JD Candidate, Law
Project: The Professionalization of Chinese Attorneys: The Rise of Critical Reasoning in Legal Education

Project Leader: Kristie Thomas, Ph.D. Candidate, SP2
Project Member: Rosemarry Frasso-Jaramillo, Ph.D. Candidate, SP2
Project: Patterns of Shelter Use Among Women Victims of Intimate Partner Violence: Analysis of an Integrated Database of Domestic Violence and Emergency Homeless Shelters

Project Leader: Weiyu Zhang, PhD Candidate, The Annenberg School
Project Member: Dalei Jie, PhD Candidate, School of Arts and Sciences
Project: Political Elites, New Media, and Young Citizens: A Comparative Study on China vs. Taiwan

Project Leader: Jordan Pickrell, PhD Candidate, SAS
Project: Borderland Ethnicity and Class in the 19th Century American West: A Proposal for Archaeology at Boggsville, Colorado

Project Leader: Marc Korczykowski, M.Biotech Student, SEAS
Project: 5HR Transporter Gene Quantitative Voxel-Based Morphometry of Hippocampus & Amygdala: A Novel Genomic Neuroimaging Study

Awards Granted Without Funding (2)

Project Leader: Emily Ogden, PhD Candidate, SAS
Project: The Utopian Malady: Nostalgia and the Novel After of the American Civil War

Project Leader: Pierre Yong, PhD Candidate, MED
Project Member: Cabral Bigman-Galimore, PhD. Candidate, Annenberg School
Project: Tell Me About the Black Box: Medical Reporting of FDA Drug Warnings