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| Shepherd University Board of Governors  [Month Date, Year]  Agenda Item No. [x] |
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| **PRESIDENT’S REPORT** |
| *FY2021 Pending Grant Proposals to Date: December 2020*  Submitted and awaiting decision on award.  Total current pending proposals to date: $323,652 |
| **AVAV - Association of Reptile and Amphibian Veterinarians, Kevin Wright Memorial Grant: $1,724 for 1 year: January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021**  ***The Influence of Husbandry on Shell Disease in Painted Turtles***  Funds would support a study on shell disease, a bacterial infection commonly experienced by turtles. The results of this research will provide recommendations about changes in husbandry, specifically whether small tank size or the lack of a basking platform are common causes to turtle shell disease. Project Director/Primary Investigator: Dr. John Steffen, Assistant Professor in the Department of Biology. |
| **Maier Foundation: $102,154 for 1 Year: January 1, 2021 – December 31 , 2021**  ***All-Steinway Campaign***  The funding amount would purchase a new Steinway B grand piano, piano cover, artists bench and engraved plaque thanking the Maier Foundation. The remaining funds would be reserved for ongoing maintenance of the instrument. Over the past three years, Shepherd has received two Steinway B and four Boston UP-126PE pianos. Successful completion of this campaign will bring the piano inventory up to the quality of instruments needed in an excellent institution such as Shepherd University. Project Director/Primary Investigator: Ms. Sherri Janelle, Exectutive Director of Development for the Foundation. |
| **Maryland Humanities Mini Grant: $1,200 for 1 Year: January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021**  ***The Maryland Loyalist Project***  Funding would make valuable primary historical resources from the American Revolution available for study and publication, while training undergraduate students in critical digital humanities skills for the twenty-first century marketplace. In this phase, the project is creating a digital archive of 82 loyalist women and men from Maryland who petitioned Parliament for financial compensation after the war. Project Director: Dr. Benjamin Bankhurst, Assistant Professor of History. |
| **Morris Animal Foundation: $44,872 for 1 Year: January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021**  ***An Evolution-Based Approach to Management of Captive Breeding and Reintroduction Efforts through Genome Sequencing: The Andean Condor Genome Project***  Funds would enable Principal Invetsigator to import tissue samples from Andean condors and genome sequence these birds to uncover signatures of natural selection, measure adaptation and genetic variability in captive breeding programs, and identify and publish a collection of genetic markers as a resource for conservation biologists. Principal Investigator: Dr. Sher Hendrickson-Lambert, Associate Professor of Biology. |
| **NIAF - The National Italian American Foundation: $10,000 for 1 Year: January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021**  ***Digital Sicily: A Virtual Exploration of Historic and Cultural Sites of Medieval Norman-Arab Sicily***  Funding would support the creation of an interactive web application that allows users to navigate the historic sites and examples of Norman art and architecture of Sicily while illuminating the history of the Norman warrior adventurers whose kingdom became a mosaic of intellectual dynamism, cultural diversity, and creative artistic expression. Project Director: Dr. Sally Brasher, Chair of the History Department. |
| **Proctor and Gamble, P&G Community Fund: $20,000 for 1 year: January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021**  ***Shepherd University Digital Writing Pioneer Lab: Innovating Curriculum and Promoting Equity***  Funds would create two-digital writing labs focused on innovative undergraduate education. We train leaders for today’s workplace, which requires creative communicators for online environments. The labs’ writing courses would engage students of all majors in digital writing. The labs promote inclusivity for students who lack access to the technology needed to support their studies. Project Director/Primary Investigator: Dr. Christy Wenger, Director of Academic Innovation Initiatives, Associate Professor in the Department of English and Modern Languages and Director of Writing and Rhetoric. |
| **State Farm, Good Neighbor Citizenship Company Grant: $8,750 for 1 year: January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021**  ***Center for Financial Education (CFE)***  Funds would create paid, on-campus internships with local organizations such as banks and insurance companies, to recruit students into the Rural Financial Education program, support the academic curriculum at Shepherd (specifically the CFP® program), support financial workshops, lectures, and pop-up classes. Project Director: Dr. Ben Martz, Dean of the College of Business. |
| **USDA - United States Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Program, Distance Learning and Tele-Medicine: $110,697 for 3 years: November 1, 2020 – October 31, 2023**  ***Pathways to Postsecondary Education for Rural Students: Dual Enrollment Distance Learning at Shepherd***  Funding would provide for the purchase of hub and end-user telecommunication for bringing live-streamed, synchronous distance learning courses offered through Shepherd’s dual enrollment program to high school students at Martinsburg and Jefferson High Schools. Project Director: Dr. Christy Wenger, Director of Academic Innovation Initiatives and Associate Professor of English. Co-Principal Investigator's: Dr. Ben Martz, Dean of the College of Business, Director of the Shepherd Entrepreneurship and Research Corporation (SERC), Dr. Jeff Groff, Chair of the Department of Environmental and Physical Sciences and Associate Professor of Physics, and Dr. Chiquita Howard-Bostic, Associate Vice President of Diversity, Equity and Inclusivity and Chair for Sociology. |
| **WV HC - West Virginia Humanities Council, Teacher Institute Grant: $24,255 for 1 year: January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021**  ***Voices from the Misty Mountains, Reclaiming Our Story for a New Appalachia***  Funds would support a teacher institute designed to engage 20 regional K-12 teachers in exploration of cultural identity through the lens of "story"telling - - that is, through history, literature, orature and music, in order to bring Appalachia's and West Virginia's rich cultural and historical story to children and provide the possibilities for educational transformation. Project Director/Primary Investigator: Dr. Sylvia Shurbutt, Professor of English and Director of the Center for Appalachian Studies and Communities. |
| *FY2021 Awarded Grant Proposals to Date: December 2020*  Total FY2021 projected grant revenue: $2,644,414 |
| **AIG Insurance Via University of Pittsburgh, National Consortium for Teaching About Asia (NCTA): $4,650 for 1 year: January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020**  Awarded funds will be used to host a seminar focused on Asian Studies. Project Director: Dr. David Gordon, Professor of History. |
| **Carlson Family Foundation: $10,000 for 1 year: January 2020 – December 2020 *Shepherd Success Academy (SSA)***  Awarded funds enable the SSA to provide students with scholarships to purchase needed materials such as books, online resources, laptops, or tablets to use in their classes. Principal Investigator: Holly Morgan Frye, Vice President for Student Affairs. |
| **Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation Grant: $78,000 for 1+ years: January 2020 – June 2021 *SSA***  Awarded funds enable expansion to the SSA. The Academy will hire an additional fulltime Success Coach, an additional graduate student, double the number of students served, and implement a peer mentor program, purchase tablets and laptops to assist Academy students, and partner with local high schools by sharing resources and assisting with college preparation. The peer mentor program will consist of five former members of the Academy; each will be paid a stipend. Principal Investigator: Holly Morgan Frye, Vice President for Student Affairs. |
| **DOE - Department of Education, TRIO Student Support Services Program: $1,265,160 for 5 years: September 1, 2020 – August 31, 2025; FY2021: $261,888**  ***TRIO Student Support Services***  Funding is to support staff salaries and programmatic offerings for Shepherd students who meet criteria for need. The program offers mentoring, academic counseling and tutoring services for participating students to support their good academic standing while increasing retention and graduation rates. Project Director: Cynthia Copney M.A., Director of TRIO Programs. |
| **DOE - TRIO Upward Bound Program: $1,287,500 for 5 years: September 1, 2017 – August 31, 2022; FY2021: $340,947  *TRIO Upward Bound Program***  Awarded funds expand efforts by the existing federally-funded TRIO Student Support Services staff to create a pipeline to Shepherd for high school students in the region through a summer residential program on campus and weekend programs throughout the academic year. Nationally, Upward Bound programs demonstrate success in creating a path to college attendance for first-generation college students. Typically, more than half of Upward Bound participants enroll at their host campus after graduating from high school. This proposed program extends the purview of TRIO staff from just retention efforts to outreach and recruitment of future Shepherd students. Project Director: Cynthia Copney M.A., Director of TRIO Programs. |
| **EWVCF - Eastern West Virginia Community Foundation, Two Rivers Giving Circle: $1,200 for 1 year: January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021**  ***Seeding Your Future Earth Day Celebrations***  The Seeding Your Future Initiative (SYFI) is an education outreach program aimed at keeping middle school-aged girls and high school students engaged in science, technology, engineering, art and math (STEAM) fields. The grant funds Earth Day celebration workshops for students in grades 4-12 during the month of April. The workshops will offer hands-on learning activities focusing on environmental conservation. Events may include: a tree and pollinator planting, construction of a sculpture with reclaimed materials, and/or a recycled metal casting workshop. Project Director/Primary Investigator: Dr. Cecilia Melton, Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies. Co-Principal Investigators: Ms. Kay Dartt, 3-D Fabrication Manager, Dr. Sytil Murphy, Associate Professor of Physics, Dr. Jacquelyn Cole, Associate Professor and Chair of the Chemistry Department and Dr. Courtney Campany, Assistant Professor of Biology. |
| **EWVCF - Eastern West Virginia Community Foundation, Youth and Education Grant: $3,000 for 1 year: January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021**  ***Martinsburg Center Dual Enrollment Scholarships***  Funding will provide direct financial support to approximately 16 high school students in Spring 2021 to eliminate the cost of one three-credit Dual Enrollment Course as well as offset the cost of text books. Grant was requested and secured by Mr. Jim Klein, Director of the Martinsburg Center. |
| **Foundation for Photobiomodulation (PBM): $470,000 for 3 years: March 1, 2020 – February 28, 2023; FY2021: $180,000 *Center for PBM Excellence in Nursing (CoPEN)***  Funding supports the creation of a PBM education and training center in the School of Nursing. This project includes equipment purchases, hiring of faculty, appointing a director, and enlisting an instructional design team to develop online curriculum. PBM, the application of low-level lasers or light-emitting diodes to the surface of the body to improve tissue repair and reduce pain and inflammation, can be used as an alternative to opioids in treating some pain-causing medical conditions. Co-Directors: Dr. Kelly Watson Huffer, Associate Professor of Nursing, and Dr. Praveen Arany, Assistant Professor for the School of Dental Medicine at the University of Buffalo and President of World Association of Laser Therapy. |
| **GEERF - Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund: $250,000 for 2 years: October 1, 2020 – September 30, 2022; FY2021: $125,000 *Stubblefield Institute's Listen/Learn/Engage Initiative***  This initiative is an interdisciplinary program for students in health and education related majors to be better prepared to shape and debate public policies, and to support training programs preparing them for community leadership roles in a COVID-19 pandemic era. The Initiative initially targets students majoring in Nursing, Social Work, and Education. Project Director: Dr. Stephanie Slocum-Schaffer, Associate Professor of Political Science. Project management is being handled by David Welch, Director of the Stubblefield Institute. |
| **HHOMA - The Herbert Henderson Office of Minority Affairs, Building Resources in Diverse Geographic Environment (BRIDGE): $10,000 for 1 year: January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020**  ***Voices from the Misty Mountains, Reclaiming Our Story for a New Appalachia: An Appalachian Institute for Community Leadership***  Awarded funds support Shepherd faculty, Spring Mills High School administrators and teachers, and invited speakers to lead a 12-week seminar for Eastern Panhandle teachers and community leaders. The program trains high school, middle school and elementary public school teachers and community leaders to become mentors and advocates for the diverse stories of the youth and children living in this unique region of the country. Project Director: Dr. Sylvia Shurbutt, Director of the Center for Appalachian Studies and Communities. |
| **HHS - Department of Health and Human Services, Title IV-E Human Services Grant: $325,289 for 1 year: July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021**  Awarded proposal renews funding for an existing subsidy for the Social Work program at Shepherd that trains future workers in the Foster Care and Adoption programs in West Virginia. Principal Investigator: Dr. Craig Cline, Professor of Social Work. |
| **HRSA - Health Resources and Services Administration's Nursing Education, Practice, Quality, and Retention (NEPQR) Behavioral Health Integration Grant (sub-award through Valley Health): $25,000 for 1 year: July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021**  ***Project TRIUMPH (Train, Respect, Integrate, and Understand Mental Health for Public Health)***  The purpose of Project TRIUMPH is two-fold: 1) to increase access to behavioral health, substance abuse, and suicide prevention services through three Valley Health primary care clinics and their community partners in the rural, underserved communities of Martinsburg and Hedgesville, West Virginia; and 2) to develop the primary care practices as clinical education sites to train and prepare the future nursing and social work workforce in those communities through an academic-practice partnership with two Shepherd faculty: Dr. Brenda Johnston, Assistant Professor of Nursing Education and Dr. Karen Green, Department Chair, Associate Professor of Social Work and Director of Field Education. |
| **HRSA - Advanced Nursing Education Workforce Program (ANEW): $2,697,023 for 4 years: July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2023; FY2021: $679,109**  ***Innovative Modalities for Rural Nurse Practitioner Education and Collaboration to Transcend Health Disparities (IMPACT) Program***  Provides funding to support 15 scholarships and stipends (totaling $20,000 per student) per year for Doctor of Nursing Practice students, salary support for participating faculty, travel support and equipment purchases, enabling Shepherd to establish clinical training partnerships in the region that will provide longitudinal experiences delivering care to rural and underserved patient populations. The project includes experiential training delivering alternative pain management through Photobiomodulation (PBM) and delivering/expanding patient care access via cutting-edge telemedicine modalities. Principal Investigator: Dr. Kelly Watson Huffer, Assistant Professor in the School of Nursing. |
| **NASA - National Aeronautics and Space Administration's West Virginia Space Grant Consortium Extension and Public Outreach Program (EPO): Two grants totaling $20,700 for 1 year: May 1, 2020 – April 30, 2021**  (1) Education and Public Outreach funding to support the Seeding Your Future annual conference hosted at Shepherd to engage and inspire middle school girls to pursue studies in the College of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) ($3,700). Project Director: Dr. Sytil Murphy, Associate Professor of Physics.  (2) Faculty Research Enhancement Awards and Undergraduate Scholarships ($17,000). Project Director: Reza Mirdamadi, Assistant Professor of Computer and Information Sciences. |
| **NEH - National Endowment for the Humanities, CARES Cultural Organizations Program: $109,004 for 6 months: July 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020**  ***Humanities Hub at Shepherd: Surviving the Coronavirus Crisis***  Funding is to increase instructional capacity and offer smaller class sizes in the Shepherd Humanities departments, as required to keep students and faculty safe throughout the COVID-19 health crisis, by providing emergency salary support for faculty in History, English, and Foreign Languages. Funding will also provide salary support to make additional online programming possible through the George Tyler Moore Center for the Study of the Civil War. Project Director: Dr. Christy Wenger, Director of Academic Innovation Initiatives and Associate Professor of English. |
| **NPS - National Park Service: $56,749 for 3 + years: September 5, 2018 – December 31, 2021; FY2021: $18,916**  ***Historic Resource Study of the Blackford House, Ferry Hill and Bridgeport Community African American History***  Funding is to produce a Historic Resource Study of the Blackford House, Ferry Hill, and Bridgeport Community focused on African American History. Project Director: Dr. James Broomall, Associate Professor of History and Director of the George Tyler Moore Civil War Center in collaboration with National Park Service staff. Co-Principal Investigators: Dr. Keith Alexander, Associate Professor of History, and Dr. Ben Bankhurst, Assistant Professor of History. |
| **NSF - National Science Foundation's Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) Summer Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE): $129,180 for 3 years: January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2023;** **FY2021: $43,060** ***Shepherd Opportunity to Attract Research Students IV (SOARS IV)***  Funding supports stipends for 10 students to participate in summer research projects. This project is the third SURE project at Shepherd, building on remarkable previous success. Project Director: Dr. Robert Warburton, Dean, College of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. |
| **NSF - National Science Foundation's Office of Advanced Cyberinfrastructure: $99,999 for 1 year: July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021**  ***Shepherd University Cyberinfrastructure and Regional Connectivity Planning***  The goal of this planning grant is to identify and develop the most cost effective way to connect our campus to Internet2 national backbone. ​ ​Options to be explored include CAAREN Points Of Presence (POPs), WVNet, operated by WVU, MAX, operated by the University of Maryland at College Park, and MARIA operated by Virginia Polytechnic Institute. The enhanced connectivity would allow the University to expand its research and educational offerings in the STEM disciplines. The planning grant will also feature a collaboration with The George Washington University, operator of a Regional Optical Network covering the Washington DC area, and operator of a POP in proximity of Shepherd’s campus. Project Director: Dr. Robert Warburton, Dean, College of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. Co-Principal Investigator: Jason Miller, Assistant Professor of Computer Science. |
| **University of Oslo Collaboration: $35,000 for 3 years: June 1, 2018 – May 31, 2021; FY2021: $11,667**  ***The Role of Small RNAs in Genomic Imprinting and Hybrid Barriers***  Shepherd entered into a collaborative research project with the University of Oslo that provides support for Jason Miller, Visiting Professor of Computer and Information Sciences, and students to perform bioinformatics analyses critical to the research. |
| **USDA - United States Department of Agriculture's Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Conservation Technical Assistance Program: $300,000 for 5 years: May 1, 2018 – April 30, 2023; FY2021: $60,000 *Veterans to Agriculture Program at Shepherd***  Funding provides equipment, supplies and salary support for agricultural training programs at Tabler Farm (Shepherd University Agricultural Center). Courses to be developed include agricultural science, technology, marketing and business management to complement existing degree programs and create new certifications. This program targets veterans in need of retraining opportunities, but is available to the general public and Shepherd students. Project Director: Dr. Peter Vila, Associate Professor, Institute of Environmental and Physical Sciences. |
| **USFS - United States Forest Service: $15,000 for 1+ years: September 1, 2019 – December 31, 2020**  ***Monongahela National Forest Red Spruce Restoration Project***  Funding provides travel costs, supplies and materials for Shepherd faculty and students to perform data collection using unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) in the Monongahela National Forest to inform USFS plans for red spruce restoration in the area. Project Director: Dr. Sytil Murphy, Associate Professor in the Institute of Environmental and Physical Sciences. |
| **Villanova University, Albert Lepage Center for History in the Public Interest: $5,000 for 1+ years: November 1, 2020 – June 30, 2020**  ***Locked Down II: An Oral History of the COVID Virus in West Virginia's Eastern Panhandle***  Funds supports collection of stories about how the global pandemic shapes the lives of people in our local communities. This is the second phase of the project with an aim of 20 new interviews. Transcripts will be housed by the Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education, and The Historic Shepherdstown Commission. Project Director/Primary Investigator: Dr. Julia Sandy, Associate Professor of History. Co-Principal Investigator: Dr. Keith Alexander, Associate Professor of History. |
| **WV DEP - WV Department of Environmental Protection's Rehabilitation Environmental Action Plan (REAP): $17,306 for 1+ years: January 1, 2020 – February 28, 2021 *Glass Crusher Acquisition and Implementation***  Funding was used to purchase GL Sand Glass Crusher. Purchase of GL Sleeve (Sand Sifter/Sorter) and the cost of shipping were included. Device and accessories allow facilities department to recycle post-consumer glass waste (bottles, etc.) into a safe-to-handle product (sand) with the possibility of achieving at least a 90% volume reduction of glass waste and providing useful material for construction and maintenance projects. Project Director: Madge Morningstar, Director of the Office of Sponsored Programs. |
| **WV DOE - WV Department of Education: $14,209 for 1 year: August 1, 2020 – July 31, 2021**  ***Professional Development Schools***  Funding is to support programmatic expenses to back the partnership between Shepherd and Berkeley County Schools and will offer classroom training and mentorship for Shepherd students preparing to become K-12 teachers. Project Director: Dr. Dori Hargrove, Assistant Professor of Education. |
| **WV DNR - West Virginia Department of Natural Resources Cooperative Agreement: $8,965 for 1+ years: August 1, 2019 – December 31, 2020  *Supporting Projects to Research, Protect and Enhance West Virginia’s Natural Resources***  Funding supports Shepherd faculty pursuing regional archeological projects that support WV DNR initiatives and Shepherd’s research and educational objectives. Project Director: Dr. David Hixson, Adjunct Professor of Archeology. |
| **WV FRIS - West Virginia Foundation for Rape Information and Services: $3,000 for 1 year: July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021**  Funding provides interpersonal violence intervention services and prevention programs for students. Project Director: Annie Lewin, Director of Social Equity, Inclusion and Title IX. |
| **WV INBRE - WV IDeA Network of Biomedical Research Excellence, Cancer Biology Grant: $43,486 for 1 year: January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021** ***Optimizing the Effect of Immune Checkpoint Inhibition Combined with Chemotherapy on Tumor Growth***  The objective of this project is to develop a predictive simulation platform to improve cancer management by manipulating dose, timing, and sequencing of the therapies in the combined immune checkpoint inhibition and chemotherapy based on a cancer model calibrated against experimental data. Project Director: Dr. Qing Wang, Professor of Computer Science and Mathematics. |
| **WV HC - WV Humanities Council CARES Emergency Relief Grants: $10,000 for 6 months: July 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020 *Locked Down I: An Oral History of the Corona Virus in West Virginia’s Eastern Panhandle***  Funds support collection of evidence about how the global pandemic shapes the lives of people in our local communities in order to document how ordinary individuals in these vulnerable Appalachian communities are dealing with the evolving crisis caused by the coronavirus. Project Director: Dr. Keith Alexander, Associate Professor of History. Co-Principal Investigator: Dr. Julia Sandy, Associate Professor of History. |
| **WV HC - WV Humanities Council CARES Emergency Relief Grants: $10,000 for 1 year: December 1, 2020 – November 30, 2021**  ***Locked Down III: An Oral History of COVID-19 in West Virginia’s Eastern Panhandle***  Funds support phase III of a project which has collected evidence about how the global pandemic impacts the lives of people in our region. It began in May 2020 to document how ordinary individuals in these vulnerable Appalachian communities are dealing with the evolving crisis. The goal of the third phase is to continue broadening the project geographically and socioeconomically. Project Director/Primary Investigator: Dr. Keith Alexander, Associate Professor of History. Co-Principal Investigator: Dr. Julia Sandy, Associate Professor of History. |
| **WV HC - WV Humanities Council CARES Emergency Relief Grants: $10,000 for 6 months: July 1, 2020 –December 31, 2020 *Remote, Public Programming at the George Tyler Moore Center for the Study of the Civil War (GTMC)***  Funds support the transition from in-person to online programming at the GTMC during the coronavirus crisis. Budget includes increases in administrative staff hours, paid student internships and purchase of cameras, microphones and other hardware. Project Director: Dr. James Broomall, Associate Professor of History and Director for the George Tyler Moore Center for the Study of the Civil War. |
| **WV HEPC - WV Higher Education Policy Commission: $3,000 for 1 year: January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021 *Student-Centered Innovation: Using Open Educational Resources (OER) to Increase Value for Students***  Open educational resources are materials that are either in the public domain or have been released under a license that allows them to be used, changed, or shared with others. Shannon Holliday, Director of First-year Experience and Coordinator for Students in Transition, Dr. Arnetta Fletcher, Assistant Professor of Family and Consumer Sciences, and Dr. Amy DeWitt, Professor of Sociology, each received a $1,000 grant. Assistant Librarians Rhonda Donaldson and Rachel Hally have spearheaded efforts on campus to encourage the adoption of OER. |
| **WV HEPC - WV Higher Education Policy Commission: $13,000 for 7 months: May 31, 2020 – December 31, 2020 *Academic Affairs Mini-Grant***  Funding will be utilized to hold Summer Technology Workshops for faculty with a focus on distance learning. Project Director: Dr. Laura Renninger, Dean of Teaching, Learning and Instructional Resources. |
| **WV HEPC - WV Higher Education Policy Commission, Diversity for Equity Grant Program: $5,000 for 1 year: August 15, 2020 – June 30, 2021 *Multicultural Events Programming***  Funding supports events and social justice initiatives coordinated by the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs to build cultural and identity awareness, cultivate appreciation for others, celebrate differences and build a community of acceptance for all individuals at Shepherd. Project Director: Crystal Tharp, Coordinator for Multicultural and Accessibility Services. |
| **WV HEPC - WV Higher Education Policy Commission, Diversity for Equity Grant Program: $4,917 for 1 year: August 15, 2020 – June 30, 2021 *WISE (Wisdom Inspires Student Excellence)***  Funding supports pilot of a high-impact mentoring and early intervention program in the fall/spring of 2020-2021. The primary goal is to improve student retention, enhance social and cultural capital, improve access to textbooks and course materials, and boost academic achievement of non-traditional students. WISE will empower and prepare incoming students and mentors as advocates for social change. Project Director: Dr. Chiquita Howard-Bostic, Associate Vice President of Diversity, Equity and Inclusivity. |
| **WV HEPC - WV Higher Education Policy Commission, Division of Health Sciences: $25,000 for 1 year: May 15, 2020 – May 14, 2021**  ***Psychology Lab Construction Phase III***  Funds provided for construction of two new electrically and acoustically shielded rooms in the recently renovated space in White Hall. Project Director: Dr. Chris Lovelace, Associate Professor and Chair, Department of Psychology. |
| **WV HEPC - WV Higher Education Policy Commission, Science and Research Innovation Grants Program: $29,723 for 6 months: January 1, 2021 – June 30, 2021**  ***Portable Photosynthesis System***  Funds are to acquire a portable infrared gas analyzer to measure plant leaf gas exchange. This instrument will vastly increase the student learning experience in biology courses by allowing hands-on exploration of photosynthesis. This instrument will also provide a new avenue for undergraduate students to explore research in plant biology, global change, ecology and agricultural sciences. Project Director/Primary Investigator: Dr. Courtney Campany, Assistant Professor of Biology. |
| **WV HEPC - WV Higher Education Policy Commission, Science and Research Instrumentation Grants Program: $19,379 for 1 year: January 1, 2021 – June 30, 2021**  ***Supercritical Fluid Extraction System for Research and Application of Botanical Compounds***  Funds are to purchase a supercritical fluid extraction system which uses non-toxic CO2, as opposed to liquid solvents, and a milling instrument for uniform grinding of extractable tissues, thus providing better variable control and producing more reliable data. These instruments will increase students’ competency with scientific instrumentation in six or more chemistry and environmental studies courses and increase opportunities for participation in research. Ultimately, we seek to increase their competitiveness when pursuing a career in STEM. Project Director/Primary Investigator: Dr. Cecilia Melton, Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies. Co-Principal Ivestigator: Dr. Jacquelyn Cole, Chair of Chemistry Department. |
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