

# Cornerstone

Transformational Scholarship at Azusa Pacific University

Office of Research and Grants | Spring 2019



## Faculty Spotlight

**Dr. Stephen Martin**  
College of the Arts (COTA)  
(on pages 3 & 5)

3



## Alumni Spotlight

**Summer Batterbee**  
School of Theology  
Practical Theology '18  
(on page 2)

2



## Recent Achievements

**Grant Funding, R2 Designation, FRC UG/M and Doctoral Awards & SURE Awards**  
(on page 2)

2



## Calendar and Events

**Upcoming ORG Events & Deadlines**

3



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<http://www.apu.edu/researchandgrants/>



## Faculty Mentoring in Research and Grants 18 Months Later

Congratulations to Jennifer Buck (SOT), Joshua King (CLAS), Jennifer Payne (BAS), and William Whitney (BAS)! This June, they successfully complete the first 18-month Jr. Faculty Research and Grants Mentoring program under the leadership of Marta Cenac-Mehedinti, Director of Sponsored Research. This novel initiative uses a five-layer mentoring scheme described in the [Winter 2018 Cornerstone](#). What perspectives did our first set of graduates offer?

There was wide acclamation about value of the program. One comment was, "Overall, the ORG Mentoring Program was an extremely positive experience for me, and surpassed my expectations." Another mentee stated, "My research mentor exceeded my expectations. . . (and) helped me greatly in giving me specific goals, areas to work on, and regular support and accountability." Yet another exclaimed, "It was really a privilege to be a part of the inaugural cohort for the Junior Faculty Research and Grants Mentoring program. I had the opportunity to work closely with two outstanding senior faculty members, one here at APU and the other as an external research mentor." One mentee noted the effect APU's unusually trying year had on faculty research aspirations, yet also remarked on how helpful the program's components were. The four mentees were, of course, already high-performing faculty, yet saw the mentoring cycle push them to new ground. William Whitney cited significantly enhanced understanding of the grant process and experience in grant writing. Highlights for Dr. Whitney include him being awarded funding for a grant by the Louisville Institute and gaining confidence in collaborating with other scholars in research and pursuing resources for such. Through Jennifer Buck's interactions with her research mentor, she identified a gap of peer-reviewed journal articles in her academic portfolio. This resulted in Dr. Buck submitting a new round of papers to journals, with two being accepted for publication already!

Joshua King was also able to overcome publishing barriers with advice from his senior mentor. The result was...

*(Article continued on Page 4)*

# Congratulations!

## Recent grant funding (February 2019 – May 2019)

**Chris Adams (SOT).** *Supporting the Formation of a Positive Pastoral Identity in the Early Stages of Ministry Preparation and Engagement.* Funded by the Kern Family Foundation. (\$936,262)

**Rachel Castaneda (BAS).** *Training and Technical Assistance Services (Substance Use Disorder Services).* Funded by Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (LACDPH). (\$349,844)

**Keith Reeves (SOT).** *The Good Society Grant.* Funded by Acton Institute (AI). (\$1,000)

**Louis Tuthill (BAS).** *City of Duarte: Evaluation and Mentoring Programs.* Funded by the City of Duarte (\$142,745)

**Diane Viera (SON).** *Neighborhood Wellness Center.* Funded by the City of Hope (COH). (\$5,000)

## Faculty Research Council – 2019-20

### UG/M Awardees

Cristian Aguilar, Justin Ashworth, Grace Bahng, Matt Berezuk, Charles Chen, Phil Cox, Joshua Dexheimer, James Fujitani, Veronica Gutierrez, Jon Milhon, BJ Oropeza, Windy Petrie, Megan Prosser, Abbylin Sellers, Paul Shrier, Sandor Volkan-Kacso, Kathleen Tallman

### Doctoral Awardees

Maria Fongwa, Ana-Maria Gallo, Alexander Jun, Christopher Newman, Laurie Schreiner, Young Kim

## Scholarly Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE) - Summer 2019

### Faculty-Student Awardees

Jennifer Buck & Moriah Lorris  
John Burdett & Olivia Huizar  
Kevin Huang & Amelia Gray  
Alexander Koops & Miguel Álvarez-Díaz  
Bryan Lamkin & Kevin McDaniel  
Joshua Rasmussen & Bell'aria Sarian  
Ethan Schrum & Elissabeth Buckles  
Chong Ho Yu & Lydia Gaid

# Alumni Spotlight

## Summer Batterbee

### SOT, Practical Theology '18

When I first started at APU, I wasn't sure what I would end up studying by the time I finished. After time spent discerning God's calling on my life, I eventually pursued studies in Practical Theology. What a surprise! Early on, ministry was never where I thought I would end up vocationally, but I was, and still am, confident this is the right call for me.



For our senior year in the Practical Theology department, we are required to be in a small group as a part of the internship class. These groups are co-led by someone with a background in vocational ministry along with a person who has a psychology background. This is where I met Jenn Graffius, the Associate Director for the Center for Vocational Ministry at APU. Before working at APU, Jenn had worked as a youth pastor at a local church. Jenn had a significant influence on my life, including helping me navigate being a woman in student ministry.

While being mentored by Jenn, she mentioned the Vocāre program that she was helping launch. Vocāre is a five-year bachelors to master's degree program, and though reluctant at first, I agreed to participate. I began my Masters of Arts in Pastoral Studies in spring 2018 and graduated in December 2018 having completed the degree.

Being the first one to complete the program has been exciting. It set me up for success in many ways; through the academics, mentoring, and opportunities that have come through this unique program. I now find myself confident in my ability to be in vocational ministry. Four years ago, I would have never thought I would be in vocational ministry, but I am beyond thankful to have a mentor like Jenn and the Vocāre program to help me get to where I am.



*"Summer Batterbee is a strong leader. She is funny, intelligent, and cares deeply about student ministry. I have watched her grow as a pastor to students over this past year and I am very excited about the ministry she is part of at Flipside Church. She is working toward raising up another generation of leaders and is making a significant impact in doing that. It is a joy to know Summer!"*

*Rev. Jennifer Graffius, PhD  
Associate Director,  
Center for Vocational Ministry  
School of Theology*



## R2 Designation for APU

We are pleased to report APU's current designation as a R2: Doctoral University by the recent Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education. This classification scheme was first published in 1973 and has been updated eight times since inception. The Carnegie classification includes three levels of doctoral universities, (1) R1: Doctoral University - Very high research activity, (2) R2: Doctoral University - High research activity, and (3) D/PU: Doctoral/Professional Universities.

Carnegie's website states, "The first two categories include only institutions that awarded at least 20 research/scholarship doctoral degrees and had at least \$5 million in total research expenditures (as reported through the National Science Foundation (NSF) Higher Education Research & Development Survey (HERD))". APU's recent R2 classification is a snapshot of its research profile as revealed by the 2016-17 data. While the step to R2 from the previous D/PU status comes, in part, from carefully documenting institutional faculty research units assigned in recent years, it also attests to the long-term growth and maturation of research at APU.





## Faculty Spotlight

*COTA Faculty and Director of Music and Worship, Dr. Stephen Martin recently received a grant award of \$999,304 from the Lilly Endowment, Inc. to fund the Angeles Worship Initiative (AWI). Cornerstone is pleased to approach Dr. Martin with a few questions.*

**ORG:** Stephen, you have been active as an educator, conductor, composer, and music pastor for over 20 years. Tell us a little bit about your professions and passion for worship music.

**SM:** For me, music is one of God’s great gifts. It can communicate things that can otherwise be difficult to understand, and it provides a unique way of connecting with our Creator. Music is unique in the sense that it activates our mind in ways that no other substance can.

However, over the years I have learned that each of the art forms bring something unique to the table. Film, dance, art, theater, poetry, all help to bring worship alive in particular ways. We are not merely intellectual creatures. Rather, there is something about artistic imagination and expression that we as fully embodied human creatures need in our worship.

**ORG:** Describe one or two accomplishments that bring you the most satisfaction.

**SM:** It brings me great joy to see students grappling with difficult questions and to come out on the other side of those questions with greater resolve and commitment to God, neighbor, and faith. I am privileged to join in these conversations with students and to be part of their growth. It also brings me great joy to see many of our alumni out in the world, helping to shepherd others and guide them toward Christ. Graduates from our program are now working as full-time singer/songwriters, worship leaders, music directors, and artistic leaders.

**ORG:** Congratulations on recently receiving a significant grant award from the Lilly Endowment! It is a well-deserved recognition of your efforts. Talk about your project goals and what excites you the most in this endeavor.

**SM:** Yes, we are very excited about this project and what it means for the future. The project itself is designed to place churches on the front lines of innovation, granting them financial and structural support as they imagine new possibilities in intergenerational worship. We are really interested in breaking down silos between youth and adults in worship, while utilizing music and the arts to help achieve this. This can play out in many different ways, depending on the church and its needs. For example, one church might decide to develop a Coffee House event involving music and the arts, designed for all generations to be involved with. Another church might decide to utilize 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays (when those months take place) to feature an intergenerational worship team. Others might develop an intergenerational arts project that involves inner city work and ministry, or invest in a new ensemble that is cross-generational. These are only a few examples, and the possibilities are nearly endless.

**ORG:** What motivated you to submit this grant request for external funding?

**SM:** Recent research indicates the desire for youth to be mentored by adults and to be involved in the leadership of worship in the church. The research has also found that youth are more likely to stay involved in the church long term... *(Article continued on Page 5)*



*“Research refreshes and stimulates learners, both young and old, and gives students a unique look at the dynamic nature of our Body of Knowledge.”*

*Donald Isaak, PhD  
ORG Executive Director*

## Calendar & Events

### Events/Workshops

#### Skill Development

*Grants Academy*

June 17, 2019 *Pivot Workshop*  
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. | VIP Room

June 21, 2019 *Grants Academy Day 2*  
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. | Wilden 119

*SAS Training*

August 15-16, 2019

West Campus, Building 1

[August 15](#), 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

[August 16](#), 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

See links for information and registration.

### Research Ethics Deadlines

#### IRB (Research with human subjects)

[June 5](#), 2019: Full Board Review

Application deadline for June meeting

[July 3](#), 2019: Full Board Review

Application deadline for July meeting

[August 7](#), 2019: Full Board Review

Application deadline for August meeting

#### IACUC (Research involving animals)

[June 12](#), 2019: Protocol or amendment deadline for June meeting

[July 10](#), 2019: Full Board Review

Application deadline for July meeting

[August 14](#), 2019: Full Board Review

Application deadline for August meeting

## Important Links

**ORG Google Site**  
[grants.apu.edu](https://grants.apu.edu)

**New Pivot link**  
(funding opportunities database)  
[pivot.proquest.com](https://pivot.proquest.com)

**Cayuse SP/424**  
(grants administration pre and post-award)  
[apu.cayuse424.com](https://apu.cayuse424.com)



(Mentoring article, continued)

... his single-authored paper being accepted in a top political science journal. Dr. King was enthusiastic about two grants awarded to him by the Institute for Humane Studies. These resources allowed Dr. King to bring in premier political science academicians, so students could engage with them along with difficult readings, all leading to challenging, but fruitful, conversation about race, religion, and the U.S. Constitution. Jennifer Payne is not exactly new to the world of grants as she was a previous recipient of a prestigious Templeton award. Nevertheless, Dr. Payne highlighted the confidence her participation in the program engendered when she stated, "One change is that I am much bolder, and I have much more courage. For instance, I am much more willing to apply for a NIH grant than in the past."

*Advice for future program mentees?* Our first graduating cohort brought up an unsurprising theme – beware of time! Indeed, one suggestion was to include a time management component to the program. Other advice was to be confident, think big, and go big. Future mentees are also encouraged to be diligent in seeking out opportunities with senior mentors, i.e., experienced APU faculty person who can help navigate APU systems and speak into faculty desires to pursue both teaching and scholarship with excellence.

*What comes next?* To be sure, program deliverables include having submitted two applications for external funding, identified three additional grant opportunities to pursue, completed many hours of grant training, and drafted an individual five-year plan for research and grants. Thus, the mentees are motivated and equipped to pursue new research and grants opportunities. Indeed, that is what comes next!



(Thanks to the Provost Office and Academic Cabinet for generous support of the Jr. Faculty Research & Grants Mentoring program.)

## On Campus

### Faculty and Student Achievements

**Veronica Gutierrez** (CLAS, History and Political Science) received the American Postdoctoral Fellowship from the American Association of University Women (AAUW). This award will support her book project on *Converting Quetzalcoatl's City: Appropriating the Sacred in Cholula, 1519-1648*

**Sarah Richart** (CLAS, Biology and Chemistry) and **Hannah Valencia**, biology student, received an extremely competitive undergraduate fellowship award with the American Society for Microbiology. **Livvy Peterson**, another student working with Dr. Richart's, was accepted to a summer research program at Carlson College of Veterinary Medicine, Oregon State University.

**Abebow Yohannes** – The *Pulmonology Advisor* features an interview with APU's Dr. Yohannes discussing his February [publication in Chest](#) titled Psychiatric Collaborative Care for Patients with Respiratory Disease.

**Drew Brown** (MA English grad) won the Most Promising New Writer Award at the Mount Hermon Christian Writers Conference. The book proposal bringing him this major award attracted strong interest from editors and agents.

### Recent Events On Campus

Kudos to many departments on campus that hosted and organized outstanding events celebrating scholarship and research at APU.

[March 19-21, 2019] Center for Research in Science: Brain Awareness Week

[March 21, 2019] Social Work Month Event: Social Justice in the Criminal Justice System

[March 29, 2019] CLAS History and Political Science: Institute for Human Studies Distinguished Speaker Colloquia

[April 4, 2019] School of Nursing: Research Symposium - Transforming Nursing through Research

[April 23, 2019] Social Work Student Showcase

[April 24, 2019] Physical Therapy Research Night

[April 26, 2019] College of the Arts Premiere Night



## Big Data Discovery Summit

### *Understanding the World Around Us Through Big Data*

March 16, 2019

#### 104 Total Attendees

64 non-students, 40 students  
52 non-APU, 52 APU

#### 4 Featured Presentations

- Candice Hodge, PhD (APU)
- Pavel Ferreri, MBA (IBM)
- Ying Zhao, PhD (Naval Postgrad School, Monterey, CA)
- Shawn Kohrman, CISSP, C/EH, CPT and colleagues (APU)

#### 24 Contributed Presentations



*(Faculty Spotlight article, continued)*

... when they have a real job to do or role to play in worship. We have also been hosting a Worship Arts Lab on campus for the past few years that is designed to help develop young worship leaders, musicians, and artists, along with their adult mentors. This program will continue to serve as one of the central events for Angeles Worship Initiative. The success of Worship Arts Lab, combined with our research findings and feedback from those who are currently working in the field, provided strong motivation for this project. Also, being a father to three wonderful children who are all currently teenagers has given me greater resolve for this project.

**ORG:** One cool thing about your project is that it involves multiple collaborations, some of which are interdisciplinary. Can you talk about the benefit of those collaborations?

**SM:** Yes, this is particularly exciting for us. Our primary collaboration has been with the Center for Vocational Ministry (CVM). In fact, Worship Arts Lab was initially conceived by Chris Adams, through CVM and supportive funding from Lilly Endowment.

We are particularly excited about what this partnership means long term, as we continue to support conversations around church leadership, worship, theology, and the arts. I think we have only begun to scratch the surface of what is truly possible. We have a wealth of resources here at APU, including a robust School of Theology and comprehensive College of the Arts (COTA). Each area is capable of supporting those in ministry and the arts, but when these two areas are strategically combined, I believe this capacity grows exponentially. When pastors become conversant in the arts, and when worship leaders become conversant in theology, amazing synergy can take place.

**ORG:** Do you find it difficult to manage time demands between faculty duties, administrative duties as the Director of Worship and Music, scholarly activities, and now managing this large grant? What one or two tips might you give to project leaders?

**SM:** I suppose the best suggestion I can provide would be: Lean into the strengths of others. Grants are designed to be collaborative. From that perspective, they remind us of the beauty of true community and relationship in our work. Yes, it is certainly challenging. Fortunately, I have been blessed with a wonderful team. Chris Neal and Jaime Fahey have already provided tremendous support and strategic insights for this project. I also have help from administrative oversight and support in COTA, and a good portion of the grant was designed to hire administrative help as needed. I couldn't do it without these pieces in place.

**ORG:** What advice would you offer those that are just starting in their grant writing efforts?

**SM:** Hopefully, those who are writing grant proposals will have a bit more time than we did! Normally, a project like this would take anywhere from 6-9 months to prepare. We had 2 ½ months. At the same time – even a shorter time period to write the grant proposal can be fruitful. I would suggest finding a good co-writer. Our Associate Dean of Graduate Studies, John Simons, was particularly helpful in this process. He really helped to coalesce this particular proposal, and asked probing questions regarding the grant purpose and its various activities. Also, lean into our Office of Research and Grants. Audrey Yeoh and Marta Cenac-Mehedinti were amazingly supportive, and we have a tremendous network here at APU. There are individuals who have been down this road before and desire to see you succeed. I also found it helpful to take a posture of learning in the grant writing process. It was helpful to gain insights from published research and from those who are working in this field. The more people are on board with the proposal, the more support we will have once the grant is up and running. It is worth asking the difficult questions up front: What is this grant truly about? Does the proposal truly meet a need in the academic or vocational area? Are there imaginative ways of writing the proposal that will help it stand out in a stack of other grant proposals?

**ORG:** Besides writing successful grants, what are some fun facts about Stephen Martin?

**SM:** In my spare time, I enjoy biking, reading, photography, and hanging out with my amazing family. My wife, Shannon, and our three children, Hannah, Rayna, and Micah, have stood by my side through a heavy schedule. I am truly grateful for such a loving and supportive family.



## NEH Summer Stipends

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) offers a competitive grant for faculty who are working on an advanced research project in the humanities. Specifically the Summer Stipend Program provides \$6,000 in support of full-time work on the research project for two consecutive months in the summer of 2020.

Summer stipends are awarded to individual scholars. APU can nominate two applicants. If you are interested in being considered for nomination by APU, a one-page summary of the proposed project together with a two-page vita should be submitted to [mcenac@apu.edu](mailto:mcenac@apu.edu) by **July 22, 2019**.

### Grant Snapshot

**Maximum award amount**

\$6,000

**Open to**

Individuals (Humanities Faculty)

**Expected output**

Book; Article; Digital Material & Publications; Archaeological Report; Translation; Edition; Other Scholarly Resource

**APU nomination contact**

[mcenac@apu.edu](mailto:mcenac@apu.edu)

**Project start date**

May 1, 2020

**Period of performance**

2 months

### Important Dates

NEH Application available

**June 1, 2019**

APU Application for Nomination Due

**July 22, 2019**

APU Notification Date

**August 9, 2019**

NEH Application due

**September 25, 2019**

Expected notification date

**March 2, 2020**

Details and instructions regarding this funding announcement are available at <https://grants.apu.edu/funding-funding/funding-opp-focus>

