

## **Diversity Grant Proposals Funded for 2006**

Eight grant proposals are funded for the new Diversity Grants Program by The Office of the Provost. Over \$80,000 in grant funding was requested, and 18 quality proposals were received which emphasizes the faculty and staff interest in this program. Funding priority was based on a broad dissemination and significant impact to support faculty researching diversity to leverage national funding; interdisciplinary research related to diversity; enrichment or development of courses on topics related to diversity issues; lectures by national diversity leaders and role models; leadership programs in diversity for faculty, students, and staff; and support for faculty and staff to present scholarship on diversity at conferences.

### **Funded Proposals:**

Beth Herbel-Eisenmann (PI), Curriculum & Instruction, Center for Excellence in Science and Mathematics Education, with Katherine Richardson Bruna, Corey Drake, Lori Norton-Meier, and Jennifer Seymour for "Building Bridges/Haciendo Puentes: Latino Students and the ISU Tradition" to provide seed money to organize an NSF grant submission to research the transition of Latino English Language Learner students from high school and community colleges to Iowa State University.

Sidner Larson (PI), American Indian Studies Program, Center for American Intercultural Studies, with Rosemary White Shield, Cecil White Hat, Dennis Kelley, and Eugenio Matibag for "Implementation of Current American Indian Studies Materials and Pedagogy" to redesign a course in American Indian Studies to increase course accessibility for undergraduate students and to expand the course for graduate students.

Adela Licona (PI), English/Women's Studies, with Jamie Lee and Miguel Licona for "Agua miel; secrets of the agave" which will create a film documentary about women's lives on the U.S./Mexican border with impact for the Latino transition in Iowa, disseminated scholarship, and commentary by viewers.

Marta Maria Maldonado (PI), Sociology and U.S. Latino/a Studies, Center for American Intercultural Studies, with Adela Licona for "Changing Demographics and Reciprocal Integration: Latinos/as in Iowa and Best Practices" to research an Iowa community to determine how the Iowa community is responding and how the Latino community is coping with integration into that community. The experiences of both will be shared with university and community audiences.

James McShay (PI), Department of Curriculum and Instruction, University Studies 150: Dialogues on Diversity, with Warren Blumenfeld for "Iowa State University Intergroup Dialogues on Diversity Campus Series" to create new venues on campus for ISU students to engage in dialogue sessions between different social identity groups. A goal is to help students identify, critique, and change social practices that may limit social interactions.

Ross O'Hara (PI), Psychology, Social Psychology Program, with Frederick Xavier Gibbons for "Studying Factors that Predict Retention" to extend the development of a model of social and

individual difference factors to predict retention at ISU at the one-year level and beyond for under-represented groups, especially minorities. Once these predictors are known, intervention strategies can be implemented for enhanced retention.

Nana Osei-Kofi (PI), Educational Leadership & Policy Studies, Higher Education, with Nancy Evans for “Social Justice and Social Change in American Higher Education” to create a core graduate course in the newly developed social justice in higher education graduate program. This course will prepare students to be well-informed, pro-active leaders of positive change for equity and access in higher education. Also, students will use action-based projects to accomplish their goals, followed by dissemination of this work to the campus community.

Derrick Rollins (PI), Chemical & Biological Engineering, with Steve Martin for “An Initiative to Enhance Collaborative Research with Florida A&M University” to fund scientists in top ranked engineering programs from Florida A&M University to give lectures, serve as role models, work with scientists and students at ISU, and extend this activity as joint grant proposal submissions.