
Grants Awarded 2018

Doctoral New Investigator

Starter Grants Awarded to Faculty in Ph.D.-Granting Departments

Dr. Milad Abolhasani, North Carolina State University, Fundamental Studies of Switchable Hydrophilicity Solvents: An Energy-Efficient Strategy for Continuous Oil Extraction and Distillation-Free Solvent Recovery, \$110,000.

Dr. Claribel Acevedo-Velez, University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez, Effect of Surface Chemical Heterogeneity on Nanoparticle Adsorption at the Oil-Water Interface, \$110,000.

Dr. Jacqueline Austermann, Columbia University, Combining Data and Models of the Centralian Superbasin to Investigate Cratonic Basin Formation, \$110,000.

Dr. Hessam Babaee, University of Pittsburgh, Reduced Order Modeling of Filter Density Function of Reactive Turbulence, \$110,000.

Dr. Carlos R. Baiz, The University of Texas at Austin, Interfacial Solvation in Reverse Micelles: Ultrafast 2D IR Spectroscopy of Surfactants, \$110,000.

Dr. Christopher J. Barile, University of Nevada, Reno, Selective Electrocatalytic CO₂ Reduction to Synthetic Fuels Using Membrane-Controlled Proton Transport, \$110,000.

Dr. Bhuvnesh Bharti, Louisiana State University, Understanding the Effect of Nanoconfinement on the Assembly and Temperature Induced Demixing of Surfactants, \$110,000.

Dr. Eric D. Bloch, University of Delaware, Methane Storage with Metal-Organic Polyhedra-Based Materials, \$110,000.

Dr. Laura Bradley, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Patterned Coatings for Responsive Surface Cleaning, \$110,000.

Dr. Johnathan N. Brantley, The University of Tennessee, Metathesis Polymerizations of Cumulated Bonds, \$110,000.

Dr. Carson J. Bruns, University of Colorado at Boulder, Colloidal Rotaxanes: Polymer Particles with Mechanical Bonds, \$110,000.

Dr. Ya-Wen Chang, Texas Tech University, Phase Transfer Catalyst-Assisted Pickering Emulsification, \$110,000.

Dr. Steven Chemtob, Temple University, Microtextural Controls on Silica Diagenesis in Organic-Rich Siliceous Shales: An Experimental Approach, \$110,000.

Dr. Zheng Chen, University of California, San Diego, Design and Understanding of Novel Carbon-Based Electrocatalysts for Hydrogen Peroxide Synthesis to Enable Partial Methane Oxidation, \$110,000.

Dr. Huanyu Cheng, The Pennsylvania State University, Controlled Mechanical Buckling: A Perfect Platform for Designing Multifunctional 3D Surface Structures, \$110,000.

Dr. Sujit Datta, Princeton University, Connecting Pore-Scale Dynamics and Oil Mobilization by Polymers in 3D Porous Media, \$110,000.

Dr. Luc Deike, Princeton University, Break-Up and Transport of Oil Droplets by Shear and Turbulence, \$110,000.

Dr. Keary Mark Engle, The Scripps Research Institute, Copper-Catalyzed Oxidative Functionalization of Unactivated Alkenes, \$110,000.

Dr. Jeremy Feldblyum, State University of New York at Albany, Pervaporative Separation of Refinery Streams by Membranes from Exfoliated Two-Dimensional Metal-Organic Frameworks, \$110,000.

Dr. Melodie E. French, Rice University, Frequency-Dependent Attenuation of Elastic Waves in Fault Zones, \$110,000.

Dr. Thomas L. Gianetti, University of Arizona, Design of Late-Late Transition Metal Bimetallic Complexes for CO₂ Reduction, \$110,000.

Dr. Burcu Gurkan, Case Western Reserve University, The Role of Ionic Liquids on the CO₂ Electroreduction Reaction, \$110,000.

Dr. Will R. Gutekunst, Georgia Institute of Technology, Controlling Polymer Microstructure and Degradation with Cyclic Thiocarbonyl Monomers, \$110,000.

Dr. Martin F. Haase, Rowan University, Liquid Fibers for Continuously Operated Liquid-Liquid Extraction, \$110,000.

Dr. Lilian C. Hsiao, North Carolina State University, Combining Experiments and Simulations to Understand the Glassy Rotations of Frictional Particles in Slurry Flow, \$110,000.

Dr. Todd K. Hyster, Princeton University, Chemoenzymatic Dynamic Kinetic Resolution Using Radical Intermediates to Epimerize Challenging Stereocenters, \$110,000.

Dr. Nan Jiang, University of Illinois at Chicago, Probing the Catalytic Properties of Bimetallic Surfaces at the Nanometer Length Scale, \$110,000.

Dr. Amirmasoud Kalantari Dahaghi, University of Kansas, Statistical Deep Learning-Based Model (SDLM) for Direct, Fast, and Accurate Pore-Scale Modeling of Multiphase Flow in Porous Media, \$110,000.

Dr. Piran R. Kidambi, Vanderbilt University, Tailoring Sub-Nanometer Pores in Atomically Thin Membranes for Petrochemical Separation, \$110,000.

Dr. Coleman Kronawitter, University of California, Davis, Determining the Reaction Mechanism for Aqueous Electrochemical Partial Oxidation of Methane to Methanol to Establish Anode Catalyst Design Principles, \$110,000.

Dr. Henry S. La Pierre, Georgia Institute of Technology, Molecular Analogs of Metal-oxide Supported Catalysts, \$110,000.

Dr. Frank A. Leibfarth, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Photocatalyzed Fluoroalkylation of Aromatic Polymers, \$110,000.

Dr. Justin M. Lopchuk, H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute, The Design of Novel Stable, Strained Diazirines for Functionalization in Organic Synthesis., \$110,000.

Dr. Andrew J.D. Magenau, Drexel University, Elucidating Alkylborane Initiation for Rapid and Oxygen-Tolerant RAFT, \$110,000.

Dr. Amin Mehrabian, The Pennsylvania State University, Poromechanics Solutions for Subsurface Stress Evolution around Hydrocarbon Reservoirs, \$110,000.

Dr. Siddharth Misra, University of Oklahoma, Microscale Connectivities of Wetting and Non-Wetting Fluid Phases in Liquid-Rich Shales and Their Effects on the Propagation of Diffusion Front, \$110,000.

Dr. Miguel A. Modestino, New York University, Ionic Liquid-Polymer Gel Electrolytes for Electrochemical Olefin Separations, \$110,000.

Dr. Veronica Morales, University of California, Davis, Predicting the Probability and Degree of Preferential Flow in Porous Media from Pore-Network Geometric and Topologic Properties, \$110,000.

Dr. Christopher Muhich, Arizona State University, Preventing the H₂S Poisoning of H₂ Separating Pd Membranes via an Applied Electric Field - A First Principles Investigation, \$110,000.

Dr. Shankar Narayanan, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Separation of Oil-Water Emulsions Using Nanoengineered Surfaces, \$110,000.

Dr. Jaap Nienhuis, Florida State University, Filling of Incised Valleys: How Long Does a Sea-Level Highstand Need to Last?, \$110,000.

Dr. Alex Nikulin, State University of New York at Binghamton, Unconventional Seismic Imaging in Unconventional Reservoir Characterization: A Passive-Source Seismic Investigation of the Marcellus and Utica Shale Plays, \$110,000.

Dr. Melanie A.R. Reber, University of Georgia, Ultrafast Transient Absorption Spectroscopy of Hydrocarbon Radicals, \$110,000.

Dr. Jerome R. Robinson, Brown University, Cation-Responsive Catalysis for Sequence-Controlled Oxygenated Copolymers, \$110,000.

Dr. Simon A. Rogers, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Towards Determination of Polymer Architecture by Nonlinear Rheology, \$110,000.

Dr. Aaron S. Rury, Wayne State University, Unraveling the Structural Basis for Cavity-Controlled Molecular Photo-Physics, \$110,000.

Dr. Joseph Samaniuk, Colorado School of Mines, Connecting the Dynamics of Interfacial Gas Hydrate Films with Bulk Hydrate Rheology, \$110,000.

Dr. Alina M. Schimpf, University of California, San Diego, Tuning Reactivity and Lewis Acidity in Molecule-Based Porous Metal Oxides for Alkane Dehydrogenation, \$110,000.

Dr. Thomas P. Senftle, Rice University, Modeling the Effects of Sulfate and Phosphate on the Performance of Iron-based Catalysts for Propane Dehydrogenation, \$110,000.

Dr. Francesca Serra, The Johns Hopkins University, Liquid Crystal Topological Defects as Self-Assembled Optical Components, \$110,000.

Dr. Christo S. Sevov, The Ohio State University, Electrically-Driven, Catalytic C-C Bond-Forming Reactions: Strategies, Methods, and Mechanisms, \$110,000.

Dr. Sufei Shi, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Vertical Grown Two-Dimensional Semiconductors for Oxidative Dehydrogenation of Propane, \$110,000.

Dr. Zachary P. Smith, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Elucidating the Anomalous Solubility Behavior of Small Molecules in Fluoropolymers, \$110,000.

Dr. Elizabeth Swanner Smith, Iowa State University, Determining the Mechanism(s) of Sedimentary Pyrite Formation from Anoxic (Pore) Waters, \$110,000.

Dr. R. Mitchell Spearrin, University of California, Los Angeles, High-Temperature Carbon Isotope Spectroscopy for Chemical Kinetic Studies of Fuel Blends, \$110,000.

Dr. Nicholas Stadie, Montana State University, Tuning the Thermodynamics of Adsorbed Natural Gas via Heteroatom Doping, \$110,000.

Dr. Jianwei Sun, Tulane University, Understanding the Asymptotic Dependence of Van Der Waals Density Functionals for Heterogeneous Catalysis, \$110,000.

Dr. J. Ryan Thigpen, University of Kentucky, Integrating Restorations, Forward Finite Element Modeling, and Microstructural Analyses to Understand Strain Accommodation in Contractual Salt Systems, \$110,000.

Dr. Lee M. Thompson, University of Louisville, Elucidation and Design of Metallophotocatalytic Pathways for Partial Oxidation of Methane, \$110,000.

Dr. Douglas R. Tree, Brigham Young University, The Role of Nucleation in Melt-Memory Effects in Semi-Crystalline Polymers, \$110,000.

Dr. Emily Y. Tsui, University of Notre Dame, Alumosiloxide Complexes: Protonation and Dioxygen Reactivity for C-H Bond Activation, \$110,000.

Dr. Renske M. van der Veen, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Ultrafast Carrier and Structural Dynamics in Plasmon-Enhanced Heterogeneous Photocatalysis, \$110,000.

Dr. Matthias M. Waegele, Boston College, Leveraging the Structure-Specificity of Transient IR Spectroscopy to Elucidate Reaction Mechanisms in Visible Light-Driven Photocatalysis, \$110,000.

Dr. Wei Wei, Wichita State University, Template-free Synthesis of 3D Hydrogen Incorporated Carbon Materials for Catalysts and Catalyst Supports, \$110,000.

Dr. Cathy Y. Wong, University of Oregon, Simulating Asphaltene Aggregation Using a Coarse-Grained Model and *in Situ* Measurements, \$110,000.

Dr. Lauren D. Zarzar, The Pennsylvania State University, Hydrate Formation and Agglomeration in Pickering Emulsions, \$110,000.

Dr. Shiyu Zhang, The Ohio State University, Methane Oxidation with Unsymmetrical Bimetallic Catalysts, \$110,000.

Dr. Yige Zhang, Texas A&M University, Neogene Evolution of Organic Carbon Burial in the Global Ocean, \$110,000.

Dr. Weiwei Zheng, Syracuse University, Growth of 2-Dimensional Nanoplatelets from the Surface Ligand-Mediated Assembly of 1-Dimensional Nanorods, \$110,000.

New Directions

Awards for Fundamental Research

Dr. Shahriar Afkhami, New Jersey Institute of Technology, The Study of Hele-Shaw Viscoelastic Two-Phase Flows, \$110,000.

Dr. Matthew J. Allen, Wayne State University, Electrochemical Control of U(III) Using Coordination Chemistry, \$110,000.

Dr. Mikhail A. Anisimov, University of Maryland, Thermodynamics of Fluids with Interconversion of Molecular States, \$110,000.

Dr. Masoud Babaei, University of Manchester, A Better Understanding of Noble Gas Fractionation during Natural Gas Migration in Tight Rock and Water-Saturated Crust through Two Phase Flow Modelling, \$110,000.

Dr. Reza Barati, University of Kansas, Understanding the Underlying Mechanisms of the Effect of Water Composition Modification on COBR Properties in Carbonate Limestone Rocks, \$110,000.

Dr. Darrin Bellert, Baylor University, Earth Abundant Transition Metal Oxides and Carbides as Super-Atom Molecular Analogs to Platinum, \$110,000.

Dr. Simon B. Blakey, Emory University, Oxidative Functionalization of Feedstock Chemicals: Generating Complexity Following Green Chemical Principles, \$110,000.

Dr. Roman Boulatov, University of Liverpool, Photoactuating Polymers of Stiff Stilbene, \$110,000.

Dr. Arthur E. Bragg, The Johns Hopkins University, Photothermal and Charge-Transfer Dynamics of Aluminum Nanomaterials for Plasmon-Sensitized Photocatalysis, \$110,000.

Dr. Jeffery A. Byers, Boston College, Iron-based Catalysts for Suzuki-Miyaura Cross-coupling and C-H Functionalization Reactions, \$110,000.

Dr. Cathleen M. Crudden, Queen's University, Preparation of Novel Soluble Metal Nanoclusters Stabilized by N-Heterocyclic Carbene Ligands for the Oxidation of Methane to Methanol, \$110,000.

Dr. Michael A. Duncan, University of Georgia, Photochemical Synthesis and Spectroscopy of Large Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons, \$110,000.

Dr. Michael R. Fisch, Kent State University, Development and Understanding of Mixed Lyotropic Liquid Crystals, \$110,000.

Dr. Ellen R. Fisher, Colorado State University, Exploring Fundamental Chemistry in Plasma Aided Ignition and Combustion Systems, \$110,000.

Dr. Danna E. Freedman, Northwestern University, Harnessing Spin-Orbit Coupling to Tune Chemical Reactivity, \$110,000.

Dr. Haifeng Gao, University of Notre Dame, Regioselective Polymerization of A₂ and B₄ Monomers for Synthesis of Linear and Ladder Polymers Using Friedel-Crafts Hydroxyalkylation Reaction, \$110,000.

Dr. Geoffrey M. Geise, University of Virginia, Fundamental Permittivity Properties of Hydrated Polymers, \$110,000.

Dr. Hadi Ghasemi, University of Houston, Fundamental Studies on Growth Kinetics of Gas Hydrates and Solid-Hydrate Interactions, \$110,000.

Dr. William P. Gilhooly, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, Roots, Weathering, and the Terrestrial Phosphorus Cycle of the Late Devonian, \$110,000.

Dr. W. Ashley Griffith, The Ohio State University, The Relationship between Strain Rate and Fracture Density under 2D Isotropic Tension, \$110,000.

Dr. Stanislav Groysman, Wayne State University, Heterobimetallic Homogeneous Catalysts for CO Oxidation, \$110,000.

Dr. Anju Gupta, Rochester Institute of Technology, Fundamental Research on Controlled Porous Surfaces To Enhance Nucleate Boiling of Pure and Binary Mixtures, \$110,000.

Dr. Jie He, University of Connecticut, Polymeric Foldamers Containing Multicopper Sites for Phenol Hydroxylation under Aerobic Conditions, \$110,000.

Dr. Matthias Ihme, Stanford University, Fundamental Understanding of Stochastic Pre-Ignition and Super-Knock of Hydrocarbon Fuels, \$110,000.

Dr. Sadhan C. Jana, The University of Akron, Emulsion-Templated Organo-Gel Constructs for Oil-Water Separation, \$110,000.

Dr. Friederike C. Jentoft, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Identification and Design of Sites for Methane Conversion to Higher Alkanes under Mild Conditions, \$110,000.

Dr. Clark M. Johnson, University of Wisconsin-Madison, The Origin of Illite in Sedimentary Basins as Determined by K, Si, Fe, and Mg Isotope Analysis: New Tools for Basin Analysis, \$110,000.

Dr. David Johnston, Harvard University, Linking Oxygen Isotopes and Pyrite Weathering to Long-Term Organic Matter Burial, \$110,000.

Dr. Tadanori Koga, State University of New York at Stony Brook, Structure and Dynamics of a Nanoparticle Network for Mechanical Reinforcement of Polymer Nanocomposites, \$110,000.

Dr. Michelle A. Kominz, Western Michigan University, Thermal Modeling of the Michigan Basin: Why are Hydrocarbons Mature?, \$110,000.

Dr. Tonya Kuhl, University of California, Davis, Rational Design of Cement Dispersants for Improved Flow and Rheological Properties, \$110,000.

Dr. Oleg Larionov, The University of Texas at San Antonio, Development of Selective C-C Bond Forming Reactions of Petroleum-Relevant Organosulfur Compounds, \$110,000.

Dr. Yiannis A. Levendis, Northeastern University, Reduction of Laminar Burning Velocities of Liquefied Petroleum Gas Components by Blending with CO₂, \$110,000.

Dr. Yusong Li, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Nanoparticles Diffusion and Dispersion in Confined Pore Spaces with Oil Residuals, \$110,000.

Dr. Christopher Y. Li, Drexel University, Crystallization-Driven Porous Polymers, \$110,000.

Dr. Mian Liu, University of Missouri-Columbia, Formation of Rocksalt Diapirs: A Numerical Study, \$110,000.

Dr. Stephen Maldonado, University of Michigan, Electrochemical Liquid-Liquid-Solid Syntheses of Pd-Based Intermetallic Single-Crystalline Films for Catalytic Hydrogenations, \$110,000.

Dr. David W. McCamant, University of Rochester, Probing Exciton Dynamics in Molecular Dimers with Femtosecond Stimulated Raman Spectroscopy, \$110,000.

Dr. Ognjen S. Miljanic, University of Houston, Cyclobenzoin: Hosts for Small Gases and Precursors to Curved Aromatics, \$110,000.

Dr. Marcello Minzoni, University of Alabama, Water Chemistry Controls on Carbonate Factories and Reservoir Quality Distribution in the Jurassic Smackover Formation: Implications for Exploration in Carbonate Ramp Plays, \$110,000.

Dr. Yifei Mo, University of Maryland, Exploring Novel Mixed-Anion Materials for Petroleum-Related Applications, \$110,000.

Dr. Valeria Molinero, University of Utah, Nucleation of Model Zeolites through Molecular Simulations, \$110,000.

Dr. Vahid J. Niasar, University of Manchester, Pore-Scale Investigation of Wettability Impacts on Mixing in Two-Phase Porous Media: Implications for Modified Salinity Waterflooding, \$110,000.

Dr. Fernando Pacheco de Resende, University of Washington, The Role of Supercritical Ethylene on Oligomerization Reactions with Nickel-based Heterogeneous Catalysts, \$110,000.

Dr. Emily Pentzer, Case Western Reserve University, Exploiting Small Molecule Building Blocks To Architect Polymers with Enhanced Performance as Dielectric Materials, \$110,000.

Dr. Dong Qin, Georgia Institute of Technology, Revitalizing Silver Nanocrystals as a Catalyst toward Hydrogenation by Tuning the Electronic Structure with an Isocyanide-Based Compound, \$110,000.

Dr. Jeffrey D. Rimer, University of Houston, Probing the Intrinsic Kinetics of Elementary Steps in Zeolite Catalysts by Temporal Analysis of Products, \$110,000.

Dr. Victor Ryzhov, Northern Illinois University, Fundamental Properties of Mono- and Binuclear Metal Ion Complexes as Homogeneous Catalysts Investigated via Mass Spectrometry and Theoretical Chemistry, \$110,000.

Dr. Richard J. Saykally, University of California, Berkeley, Characterization of the Liquid Phase of Carbon by X-Ray Scattering with Free Electron Lasers, \$110,000.

Dr. Michael Shatruk, Florida State University, Discovery of New Petroleum Reforming Catalysts via Investigation of Complex Metallic Alloys Aided by Deep Learning Methods, \$110,000.

Dr. Kevin H. Shaughnessy, University of Alabama, Cooperative Bond Activation Promoted by Metal Complexes of Ligands Containing Proximal Basic Sites, \$110,000.

Dr. Michael R. Shirts, University of Colorado at Boulder, Engineering Molecular Selectivity in Self-Assembled Nanostructured Membranes, \$110,000.

Dr. Vinod Srinivasan, University of Minnesota, Efficient Atomization of Non-Newtonian Fluids Using a Novel Counterflow Nozzle, \$110,000.

Dr. Gila E. Stein, The University of Tennessee, Melt Processable Vinyl-Added Polynorbornenes for Advanced Thermoplastics, \$110,000.

Dr. Holly J. Stein, Colorado State University, Elemental and Isotopic Partitioning of Mercury in Source Rocks and Oils, \$110,000.

Dr. Daniel R. Talham, University of Florida, A New Mechanism Influencing Phase Behavior in Hybrid Layered Materials, \$110,000.

Dr. Uttam K. Tambar, The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, New Directions in Photoredox Catalysis, \$110,000.

Dr. Benjamin M. Tutolo, University of Calgary, Is there an Organo-Silica Complexing Mechanism for Carbonate Reservoir Silicification?, \$110,000.

Dr. Randall L. Vander Wal, The Pennsylvania State University, Microwave Driven Pyrolysis: Comparative Heating Rates and Reactive Plasma Assessments, \$110,000.

Dr. Mark W. Vaughn, Texas Tech University, Capillary Condensation in Nanoporous Media, \$110,000.

Dr. Patrick J. Walsh, University of Pennsylvania, New Reactions of Petroleum Derived Feedstocks, \$110,000.

Dr. Dunwei Wang, Boston College, Rh Single Atom Catalysts Dispersed on TiO₂ for Selective Photocatalytic CH₄ Transformation to CH₃OH, \$110,000.

Dr. Chao Wang, The Johns Hopkins University, Coke-Resistant Dehydrogenation of Light Hydrocarbons Using Single-Atom Platinum Catalysts, \$110,000.

Dr. Mary F. Wheeler, The University of Texas at Austin, Computational Investigation of Acid-Rock Interactions in Matrix Acidizing and Acid Fracturing, \$110,000.

Dr. Jeffery L. White, Oklahoma State University, Self-Diffusion and Interactions of Multicomponent Fluids in Model Reservoir Solids, \$110,000.

Dr. Benjamin Wiley, Duke University, Exploring the Limits of Electroorganic Synthesis Productivity with Flow-Through Nanowire Electrodes, \$110,000.

Dr. Florence J. Williams, University of Alberta, Intramolecular Nitrene-Mediated Modification of Simple Alcohols, \$110,000.

Dr. Angela K. Wilson, Michigan State University, Mechanistic Insights and Radical Reaction Rates in the Oxidative Coupling of Methane, \$110,000.

Dr. John C. Wright, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Applications of Fully Coherent Multidimensional Spectroscopy to Organic and Inorganic Synthesis, \$110,000.

Dr. Lei Zhang, University of Alaska, Fairbanks, Defect-Engineered Metal-Organic Frameworks for the Storage of Acetylene, \$110,000.

Undergraduate New Investigator Starter Grants Awarded to Faculty in Non-Ph.D.-Granting Departments

Dr. Ted A. Brzinski, Haverford College, Investigation of Velocity Fluctuations and Correlations during the Sedimentation of Dense Granular Dispersions, \$55,000.

Dr. Michael G. Campbell, Barnard College, The Importance of Nuclearity in the Redox Chemistry of Silver: New Mechanistic Pathways for Hydrocarbon Oxidation, \$55,000.

Dr. Maria Carroll, Providence College, Influence of Redox Active Ligands on Substrate Selectivity of Iron Carbonyl Complexes in Electrocatalytic Reactions, \$55,000.

Dr. Allyson M. Fry-Petit, California State University, Fullerton, Optimization of Oxygen Exchange Membranes through Unraveling the Contribution of Structural Rigidity via Neutron Diffraction Studies, \$55,000.

Dr. Daniel R. Griffith, Lafayette College, Tropone Iron Tricarbonyl as a Platform for the Synthesis of aza-Polycyclic Molecules, \$55,000.

Dr. James P. Grinias, Rowan University, Broadening Mechanisms in Size-Based Separations for Polymer Characterization Using Superficially Porous Particles, \$55,000.

Dr. Lawrence J. Hill, Western Kentucky University, Degradable Antioxidant Polymers from Petroleum-Derived Monomers, \$55,000.

Dr. Ivan Dempsey Hyatt, Adelphi University, Hypervalent Iodine-Guided Electrophilic Substitution, \$55,000.

Dr. Steven E. Kalman, Stockton University, Air-Stable, Bifunctional Ruthenium Catalysts for Base-free Transfer Hydrogenation, \$55,000.

Dr. Catherine E. McCusker, East Tennessee State University, Development of Zinc(II) Dipyrrin Sensitizers for Photocatalytic Carbon Dioxide Reduction, \$55,000.

Dr. Maosheng Miao, California State University, Northridge, Structure and Stability of Oxyfluorides and Oxychlorides and Their Relations to Catalytic Activities in Oil Refining Reactions, \$55,000.

Dr. Raul Navarro, Occidental College, Development of a Catalytic Asymmetric Addition Reaction to ortho-Quinone Methides, \$55,000.

Dr. Rachel E. O'Brien, The College of William and Mary, Fragmentation and Functionalization: Characterizing Condensed Phase Autoxidation of Hydrocarbons, \$55,000.

Dr. Andrew Petit, California State University, Fullerton, Using Computational Chemistry to Achieve a Mechanistic Understanding of the Intramolecular Cyclization of Oxime and Oxime Ether Radical Cations, \$55,000.

Dr. Scott M. Simpson, St. Bonaventure University, Using Density Functional Theory to Predict Heterogeneous Catalysts for the Selective Formation of cis-2-Butene from 1,3-Butadiene, \$55,000.

Dr. Srinivasa Rao Singamaneni, The University of Texas at El Paso, *In Situ* Electron Spin Resonance Studies of Defects in 2-Dimensional VS₂ Nano Layers for Advanced Catalysis, \$55,000.

Dr. Justin R. Sparks, Muhlenberg College, Accessing New Catalyst Chemistries via Light-Matter Strong Coupling, \$55,000.

Dr. Kathryn Tamulonis, Allegheny College, Relationship between Rome Trough Reactivation and the Distal Stratigraphy and Reservoir Quality of the Devonian Marcellus and Burket Formations of the Appalachian Basin, \$55,000.

Dr. Sarah Z. Tasker, Franklin and Marshall College, Synthesis of Oxetanes via a Formal Formylation, \$55,000.

Dr. Fangyuan Tian, California State University, Long Beach, Designing Surface Supportive Zeolitic Imidazolate Frameworks for Purifying Natural Gas, \$55,000.

Dr. Cheng Zhang, Long Island University Post, Direct Methane Oxidation to Methanol at Low Temperature Using Bismuth-Polyoxometalates on Silicon Carbide, \$55,000.

Undergraduate Research Awarded to Faculty in Non-Ph.D.-Granting Departments

Dr. Kuppuswamy Arumugam, Wright State University, Controlling Sequential Arrangement of Monomers in Triblock Copolymers with Ruthenium Catalysts Containing Tetrathiafulvalene N-Heterocyclic Carbenes, \$70,000.

Dr. Karin Goldberg, Kansas State University, High-Resolution Sequence Stratigraphy in Mudrock-Dominated Successions: The Chattanooga/Woodford Shale (Late Devonian, Midcontinent Basin), \$70,000.

Dr. Elmer B. Ledesma, University of St. Thomas, Effect of Ethane, Propane, and *n*-Butane on the Non-Catalytic Partial Oxidation of Methane at High Equivalence Ratios, \$70,000.

Dr. Harmon D. Maher, University of Nebraska-Omaha, Characterizing and Understanding within-Unit Fracture Pattern Variability, \$70,000.

Dr. Emily C. McLaughlin, Bard College, New Methods for Nitrene Generation and Transfer in the Selective Aziridination of Alkenes, \$70,000.

Dr. Arsalan Mirjafari, Florida Gulf Coast University, Click Synthesis and Physicochemical Characterization of Amphiphile Ionic Liquids with Enhanced Fluidity and Diverse Functionalities, \$70,000.

Dr. Peter N. Njoki, Hampton University, Microwave Assisted Synthesis of Non-Precious Bimetallic Heterogeneous Nanoparticle Catalysts, \$70,000.

Dr. Abby R. O'Connor, The College of New Jersey, Development of Fe Pincer Complexes for CO₂ Reduction, \$70,000.

Dr. Sara B. Pruss, Smith College, Testing Links between Marine Anoxia and Mercury Enrichments during the Late Cambrian SPICE Event, \$70,000.

Dr. Dipendu Saha, Widener University, Adsorptive Separation of Light Paraffin and Olefins in Ag(I) and Cu(I) Grafted Microporous Carbons, \$70,000.

Dr. Sophia Suarez, City University of New York, Brooklyn College, Studies of the Dynamics in and the Effect of Surfactants on Gas Hydrates Formation and Agglomeration, \$70,000.

Dr. Aleksey N. Vasiliev, East Tennessee State University, Superacidic Catalysts for Alkylation of Benzene by Olefins, \$70,000.

Dr. Trent P. Vorlicek, Minnesota State University Mankato, Advancing the Vanadium Paleoredox Proxy: Defining the Chemistry Controlling Vanadium Speciation in Sulfidic and Polysulfidic Natural Waters, \$70,000.

Dr. Katsuyuki Wakabayashi, Bucknell University, Chain Length and Architecture Modification and Characterization of Polyolefins via Mechanochemistry with Solid-State Shear Pulverization, \$70,000.

Dr. Yanjie Zhang, James Madison University, Thermodynamic and Spectroscopic Studies of Ion Interactions with Model Heteroatomic Compounds in Crude Oil, \$70,000.