



OFFICE OF FACULTY
DEVELOPMENT

INTERNAL GRANTS 2024-2025 Academic Year

Course Development

Tony Eseke (Associate Professor of Communication) – To develop a new course HONR 497 aimed at presenting a top-of-mind intellectual and spiritual synthesis of what it means to be Christian and member of the Body of Christ, the Church, in a modern world with all its social and cultural complexities.

Janet Matanguihan (Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences) – To support the course development of IDEG 300 as part of the Ethics and the Common Good requirement in the new general education curriculum.

Gladys Robalino (Professor of Spanish) – To develop a translation course that will be added to the Spanish Program curriculum within the Language, Literature and Writing Department.

Teaching Enhancement

Joanna Behm (Assistant Professor of Occupational Therapy) – To integrate virtual reality experiences to address learning outcomes related to soft skills, such as professional communication, problem solving, and active listening, as well as topics such as ethics, internal bias, and microaggressions.

Vanessa Lee (Assistant Professor of Physical Therapy) – To implement game-based quizzing (using GimKit) on student performance and self-reported anxiety and preparedness.

Leanne Rutt (Associate Professor of Occupational Therapy) – To implement anatomy in clay learning system to replace cadaver dissection lab pedagogical design.

Scholarship

Sarah Brant-Rajahn (Assistant Professor of Counseling) – To explore how experiences of racism in U.S. public schools influence Black student identity development and the implications for school counselors.

Olivia Ellis (Associate Professor of Music, Piano) – To support a recording project that will highlight an underrepresented composer, bring unfamiliar music to the forefront, and promote the Messiah University music department and faculty to prospective students and the broader community.

Erik Forst (Associate Professor of Music, Percussion) – To support the commission and video/audio recording of a new work for marimba by Sean Connors, *Third Coast Percussion*, in collaboration with Messiah University students and Philadelphia-based Four/Ten Media Productions.

Nancy Frank (Associate Professor of Nursing) – To support completion of a grounded theory study exploring nursing faculty understanding of themselves and their students as scholarly writers.

Niklas Hellgren (Professor of Physics) – To provide synthesis and characterization of thin films and nanolaminated materials as part of research in the Materials Design Division in the Department of Physics, Chemistry and Biology at Linköping University, Sweden.

Scott Kieffer (Professor of Health and Exercise Physiology) – To research the genetic influences of circulating BDNF following moderate exercise.

Abaz Kryemadhi (Professor of Physics) – To investigate the potential connection between particle accelerator beam anomalies, referred to as Unidentified Falling Objects (UFOs), and dark matter consisting of axion quark nuggets.

Devin Manzullo-Thomas (Assistant Professor of American Religious History and Interdisciplinary Studies) – To conduct archival research at the Wheaton College Special Collections in Illinois and record oral histories with Hispanic Brethren in Christ pastors in and around Miami, FL.

Carol McGinnis (Associate Professor of Counseling) – To conduct research related to Furry Convention participants on their life experience with bullying, ostracism, social injustice, anger, and spiritual elements to help counselors gain insight for furry-identified clients.

Obed Mfum-Mensah (Professor of Education) – To study qualitative field data collection exercises to examine the extent to which grassroots social movements, local activism, and international activism affect curriculum reforms.

Bernardo Michael (Professor of History) – To research materials on religious and environmental in Nepali archives to develop the writing of speculative borderland histories.

David Pettegrew (Professor of History and Archeology) – To support research in Greece related to new archaeological initiatives on the Isthmus of Corinth and to capture drone photographs of a newly discovered Byzantine fortress.

Pete Powers (Professor of English) – To better understand the functioning of liberal education in a non-European and non-American setting via interviews with students and faculty, class observations, and research in Ghanaian libraries and archives regarding institutional history.

Krystal Robinson-Bert (Associate Professor of Occupational Therapy) – To research the effectiveness of specific dosing of Modified Constraint Induced Movement Therapy on upper extremity motor recovery after stroke.

Jennifer Thomson (Professor of Biopsychology) – To support the dissemination of an original research article in Sage Open, an open access journal.

Cynthia Wells (Professor of Higher Education) – To compose two chapters associated with a book-in-progress, *Flourishing at the Core*.

Service Learning

Kimberly Duetsch (Assistant Professor of Occupational Therapy) – To create sustainable occupation-based health promotion activities and programming to support residents and staff at Cumberland Vista through a multi-step assignment for students in OCCU 573: Health Promotion.

Mindy Smith (Assistant Professor of Applied Health Science) – To fund the production of student-designed practical curriculum and learning activities to support health areas identified by our community partner, Brethren Housing Association, as part of APHS 210: Health Promotion Management.

Scholarship of Teaching & Learning (SoTL)

Vanessa Lee (Assistant Professor of Occupational Therapy) – To examine the impact of game-based quizzing (using GimKit) on student performance and self-reported anxiety and preparedness and disseminate the results of this research.

Stella Ye (Professor of Chinese) – To research the effectiveness of the total physical response (TPR) teaching method that scaffolds five steps to learn Chinese characters advances students' ability to master Chinese.

Teaching Conference Attendance

Kaitlin Gill; Lilly Conference Evidence-based Teaching & Learning

Megan Gross; National League of Nursing (NLN) Summit

Laura McNear; Conference on Teaching and Learning in Accounting (CTLA)

Teaching Intern (professor/student)

Daniel Inouye; Solangie (Sunny) Almeyda

Smith Scholar Interns (professor/student)

David Pettegrew; Emmy Varner

Stella Ye; Elaina Eibeck

Riegsecker Gender Studies Grant

Olivia Ellis (Associate Professor of Piano) – To conduct and disseminate research on the female composer Augusta Holmés, including uncovering music by Holmés that is currently not widely available.

Maya Georgieva (Associate Professor of Counseling) – To support research related to Bread Therapy for mothers and daughters