UConn IDEA Grant
imagine / develop / engage / apply

Fall 2013 UConn IDEA Grant Recipients

Congratulations to the nine undergraduates who have been awarded UConn IDEA Grants in the second award cycle of this new program coordinated by the Office of Undergraduate Research (OUR)!

The UConn IDEA Grant program provides funding of up to $4,000 for self-designed projects including entrepreneurial ventures, community service initiatives, traditional research projects, or other creative endeavors. Proposals for the UConn IDEA Grants represented a variety of disciplines, ranging from history to mechanical engineering.

Rosse Gates '16 (Mechanical Engineering, ENGR)
Autonomous Navigation Systems and Algorithms

- Rosse will work to develop an autonomous quadcopter that can track its position in relation to the environment and survey disaster areas in GPS-devoid environments.

Dillon Jones '15 (Computer Science Engineering, ENGR)
Gentleman's Gantry Machine

- Dillon will work to build a "*Gentleman's Gantry Machine*," a general purpose, computer controlled positioning system of his own design that will enable multiple forms of manufacturing on one device.

Saher Kazi '16 (Biological Sciences, CLAS; Journalism, CLAS)
Assessing the Relationship between Acculturative Stress and Depressive Symptoms in Connecticut Migrant Farm Workers

- Saher will be investigating the prevalence of acculturative stress in relation to depressive symptoms among Migrant Farm Workers in Connecticut as part of the beginning steps to establishing mental health clinics for this community. She will be working in partnership with the Connecticut Area Health Education Center's Migrant Farm Worker Clinics, and the University of Connecticut Health Center.

Kiersten Kronschnabel '16 (Biological Sciences, CLAS)
POWER: Providing Optimal Strategies for Patient Retention While Transitioning from Pediatric to Adult Care

- Kiersten will be evaluating the success of the Children's Diagnostic & Treatment Center, a comprehensive care clinic in Fort Lauderdale, FL, in implementing the national guidelines for transitioning HIV-positive adolescents from pediatric to adult care.

Katelyn McFadden '15 (Animal Science, CANR)
Effects of Poor Maternal Nutrition on Liver Development in Lambs

- Katelyn's project builds on a collaborative study in the Department of Animal Science evaluating the effects of poor maternal nutrition on the growth of offspring in sheep. Katelyn will analyze liver samples in lambs to understand the mechanisms at work affecting offspring growth and development.

Amoolya Narayanan '16 (Psychology, CLAS)
Investigating the Use of Natural Antimicrobials to Control Urinary Tract Infections in a Mouse Model

- Amoolya will investigate the potential of trans-cinnamaldehyde, a natural antimicrobial molecule contained in cinnamon, as an antimicrobial coating on urinary catheters to control urinary tract infections.

Zachary Raslan '15 (History, CLAS)
Historic GIS Mapping of Hartford, CT

- Zachary is partnering with a larger research project, *Virtual Hartford*, to acquire and digitize the earliest maps of Hartford, CT. He will apply GIS software to create maps that detail the evolution of the city and show changes to the physical landscape after significant historic events.

Aaron Rosman '16 (Natural Resources, CANR)
Elatine Ambigua and Elatine Triandra

- Aaron will conduct research on invasive plant species *Elatine Ambigua* and *Elatine Triandra* to clarify the species boundaries and provide insights on their source and vector of introduction in the U.S.

Rachel Winsor '15 (Biomedical Engineering, ENGR)
Project XX (Award Declined)