The main objective of the Committee on Research is to encourage student research and creative activity on campus and to enhance that aspect of the educational mission of the College. The Committee sponsors the Student Grant Program for Research and Creative Activity, and supports Student Research and Creative Activity (SRCA) Day.

A total of $56,350 was allocated to the student grants and awards programs for 2015/16 (see Table 1). As part of its outreach efforts, Committee members led evening ‘drop-in’ information sessions on the student grant process both semesters, held in the Hunt Union several weeks before each grant deadline. The fall 2015 session was very well attended (~20 students); the spring 2016 session was not well attended (1 student).

During the fall 2015 semester, the Committee received 33 applications requesting a total of $55,048 to review. A total of $38,464 in grants were awarded to support 28 student projects (with 32 student participants). For the spring 2016 grant round, the Committee received 14 submissions requesting $25,500 to review. A total of $17,834 in grants were awarded to 11 projects (all single authored proposals). In summary, 39 research/creative activity projects were funded in 2015/16, totaling $56,298. Successful proposals were submitted from a wide variety of disciplines, ranging from creative art projects to research projects in the natural and social sciences, as well as the humanities. A full listing of funded projects is included in Appendix 1 of this report.

Table 1. Funding sources for the Student Research and Creative Activity Grant Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>College at Oneonta Foundation (income from unrestricted endowment)</td>
<td>$49,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Gary Holway Scientific Achievement Award fund (College Foundation)</td>
<td>$4,350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alumni Association</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$56,350</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The 2016 SRCA Day was held on April 20, featuring 134 student projects representing the work of over 180 students and 65 faculty sponsors. The SRCA Keynote Address, *A Journey from Apprentice to Master: Science, Research, and Teaching* was delivered by Dr. Kenneth R. Carter (class of 1985), Professor of Polymer Science & Engineering at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. SRCA Day has become one of the signature events spotlighting student scholarly effort at SUNY Oneonta. The full program, including student project abstracts, is available on the Grants Development Office website: [http://www.oneonta.edu/advancement/grants/SRD.asp](http://www.oneonta.edu/advancement/grants/SRD.asp).

Prior to SRCA Day, faculty sponsors were asked to nominate students presenters for the annual *College at Oneonta Foundation Awards for Excellence in Student Research & Creative Activity*. A group of faculty and staff that included members of the Research Committee reviewed and ranked all nominations to name the finalists, this year totaling 13 (11 undergraduate students and 2 graduate students). On SRCA Day, these finalists presented to a panel of judges comprised of Emeritus Faculty (Drs. Jane Grastorf, Bruce Knauer, and William Pietrafesa). Following deliberation and ranking, five students were selected as awardees, and received $300 prizes (their faculty sponsors received $100). The remaining student finalists received Honorable Mention prizes of $100 each. Prizes are funded by the College at Oneonta Foundation through philanthropic gifts to the College. The five awardees made oral presentations at the final Faculty Convivium of the year on April 27, and were honored at the Academic Achievement Awards on May 4. A listing of finalists and awardees are included in Appendix 2 of this report.
APPENDIX 1

Student Grant Program for Research & Creative Activity – 2015/16 Award Recipients

Fall 2015 Awards

**Rose Biggerstaff** (Andrew Kahl, Theatre): Bare – A Pop Opera ($2,086)

**Bridget Boland, Mark Crosby** (James Ryder, Mathematics, Computer Science & Statistics):
Implementation of NAO into Communication-Based Therapies ($600)

**Peter Booth** (Les Hasbargen, Earth & Atmospheric Sciences): Drone Mapping without Ground Control Points using RTK ($1,770)

**Daniel Bucci** (Fred Zalatan & Tami LaPilusa, Biology): Identification of Bacteria in Otsego Lake using the Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) Technique ($1,350)

**Nicholas Byrnes** (Les Hasbargen, Earth & Atmospheric Sciences): Geomorphic Effects of Large Woody Debris Dams in Silver Creek ($1,150)

**Bridget Chartrand, John Beach** (Hugh Gallagher, Jr., Physics & Astronomy): What Makes a Spark? ($1,162)

**Jordan Cole** (Sallie Han, Anthropology): Observing Politeness in Children ($600)

**Elsie Dedrick** (Florian Reyda, Biology): Description of a New Species of Rhinebothridian Tapeworm from Stingrays from Borneo ($1,420)

**Marie Dowd** (Nancy Bachman, Biology): Mouse Neuro 2a Cells: A Model for Cell Differentiation ($2,096)

**Melissa Fine** (Oscar Oberkircher, Human Ecology): FineBites Granola ($1,350)

**Samantha Fontaine** (Donna Vogler, Biology): Disease Assessment of the Wood Turtle (*Glyptemys insculpta*) in New York State ($1,550)

**Thomas Franzem** (Dan Stich, Biology): Factors Impacting Amphibian Populations in Anthropogenic Vernal Pools

**Anna Graziosi** (June Tyler, Art): Ghost Stories ($600)

**Lynne Haynes** (Jeffrey Heilveil, Biology): Genetic Diversity among *Polydrusus sericeus* (Schaller) in Otsego County, NY ($1,738)

**Abigail Hogan** (Wendy Lascel, Geography & Environmental Sustainability): Student Awareness of the Sustainability Initiatives at SUNY Oneonta ($1,000)

**Emily LaLonde, Autumn Smith** (Theresa Loomis, Human Ecology): Understanding the Barriers to Registered Dietitians Practicing in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit ($900)

**Valerie Matedero** (Keith Schillo, Biology): Effects of Short, High-Intensity and Longer, Low-Intensity Exercise on Metabolism ($2,100)

**Kelsey McKeighan** (Tracy Allen, Geography & Environmental Sustainability): Lake Atitlán: Securing Water, Sustaining Development ($737)

**Jerrad Pacatte** (Thomas Beal, Susan Goodier, Omar Dphrepaulezz, History): A Peculiar 'Picnic' – Revisiting the April 1878 Execution of Samuel Streenburgh ($950)

**Colleen Parker** [graduate student] (Kiyoko Yokota, Biology): Monitoring of Mercury in Catskill Region Fish ($1,600)

**Aaron Phillips** (Jill Fiellhaber, Biology): Assessing the Link between inducible Nitric Oxide Synthase and *C. difficile* ($2,100)
Committee on Research 2015/16 Report

Alexander Robillard [graduate student] (Donna Vogler, Biology): Identifying Temporal Changes in the Genetic Landscape of the Wood Turtle (Glyptemys insculpta) in New York State ($1,600)

Alyssa Rothfuss (Jeffrey Heilveil, Biology): Genetic Analysis of Sisyridae ($2,100)

Michael Schonning (Kelly Gallagher, Chemistry & Biochemistry): Determination of the Oligomerization State of Endoplasmic Reticulum Membrane Protein Complex Subunit 8 [EMC8] ($1,600)

Tiffany Taylor (Fred Zalatan, Biology): Quantitative Analysis of Yeast Ty1 Retrotransposon Activity in Clathrin Mutants ($1,495)

Jessica Tyler (Sven Anderson, Art): The Art of the Poster ($1,400)

Jenna Vecchio (Kevin Gray, Art): The Artists Creation Myth ($750)

Xiaoyi Zeng, Joanne Wong (Jian Cui, Art): Little Monk ($1,520)

Spring 2016 Awards

Claire Anderson (Jill Fielhaber, Biology): Examining How Amino Acids Impact Apoptosis during the Immune Response to Infection ($1,946)

Hailey Ahearn (Allan Green, Chemistry & Biochemistry): Regulation of ATGL by Insulin and Glucose ($2,070)


Kimberly Cushman (Michael Faux, Physics & Astronomy): Cosmic Axion Spin Precession Experiment [CASPER] ($1,900)

Margaret Doolin [graduate student] (Florian Reyda, Biology): Molecular Prospecting for Species of the Thorny-headed Worm, Neoechinorhynchus ($2,100)

Andrew Edwards (Elizabeth Seale, Sociology): The Impact of Gender, Race, and Class on Networking ($900)

Haley Fallon (Maria Montoya, Foreign Languages and Literatures): Decentralization in Columbia: Life after Healthcare Reform ($1,300)

Lyndsey Farrar (Leigh Fall, Earth & Atmospheric Sciences): Trilobite Body Size and Abundance Along a Depth Gradient: Trenton Group, Middle Ordovician, Central New York ($1,045)

Kate Moore (Keith Brunstad, Earth & Atmospheric Sciences): Chemical and Mineralogical Control on Two Goat Rocks Volcano Lava Flow Volumes, Effusion Rates, and Lengths South-central Cascade Range, Washington ($1,600)

Emilie Richard (Pragnyadipta Sen, Earth & Atmospheric Sciences): Environmental Baseline Study for Managed Sediment Release from the Lower Reservoir, Oneonta Creek, Oneonta, NY ($1,291)

Patrick Wilson (Joshua Nollenberg, Physics & Astronomy): P.C.O.S.S. (Photography of Celestial Objects in our Solar System ($1,600)
APPENDIX 2

2016 College at Oneonta Foundation Awards for Excellence in Student Research & Creative Activity

AWARDEES

Allyson Church (Psychology) / Faculty Nominator: Andrew Gallup (Psychology)
"The effects of intranasal oxytocin on contagious yawning"

Elsie Dedrick (Biology) / Faculty Nominator: Florian Reyda (Biology)
"Examination of a new species of Rhinebothriidean cestode from Dasyatis margaritella (Pearl stingray)"

Janine Militello (Psychology) / Faculty Nominator: Andrew Gallup (Psychology)
"The effect of oxytocin on contagious yawning in budgerigars (Melopsittacus undulatus)"

William O’Connell (Biology) / Faculty Nominator: Donna Vogler (Biology)
"Wood turtle (Glyptemys insculpta) annual ring comparison"

Gwendolyn Temple (Environmental Science) / Faculty Nominator: Tyra Olstad (Geography & Environmental Sustainability)
"Influence of Shintoism on environmental management and perceptions of Lake Biwa, Japan"

HONORABLE MENTION

Peter Booth (Geography) / Faculty Nominator: Les Hasbargen (Earth & Atmospheric Sciences)
"Improving UAV terrain model accuracy using real time kinematics"

Kaitlynn Connington (Earth Science Education) / Faculty Nominator: Paul Bischoff (Secondary Education)
"Are there differences in the numbers and diversity of naked amoebae in Japanese Knotweed and non-invaded control sites?"

Samantha Fontaine (Biology) / Faculty Nominator: Donna Vogler (Biology)
"Disease assessment of the wood turtle (Glyptemys insculpta) in New York State"

Luke Gervase (MS, Lake Management) / Faculty Nominator: Willard Harman (Biology)
"Millsite Lake: A case study of aquatic plant management"

Alejandro Reyes (MS, Lake Management) / Faculty Nominator: Kiyoko Yokota (Biology)
"Survey of Brant Lake's zooplankton assemblage and early detection of aquatic invasive species"

Emilie Richard (Geology) / Faculty Nominator: Tsitsi McPherson (Biology)
"SUNY Oneonta ecological footprint assessment survey"

Neil Rosenfeld (Chemistry) / Faculty Nominator: Jacqueline Bennett (Chemistry & Biochemistry)
"Greener synthesis of electroluminescent compounds and metal ion detection in water samples"

Erika Stopler (Chemistry) / Faculty Nominator: Jacqueline Bennett (Chemistry & Biochemistry)
"Greener synthesis of thiosemicarbazones and the development of a qualitative tyrosinase inhibition assay"