REVIEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS:
Gerardo Aldana, Department of Chican@ Studies
Glenn Beltz, College of Engineering (Chair)
Julie Carlson, Department of English
Richard Duran, Gevirtz Graduate School of Education
Annie Torsiglieri, Department of Theater and Dance

~List of FOG Awards (2015)~

1. **School Kids Investigating Language in Life and Society (SKILLS): Program Evaluation, Analysis, and Sustainability**

   Mary Bucholtz
   Dept. of Linguistics

   Dolores Inés Casillas
   Dept. of Chican@ Studies

   Jin Sook Lee
   Gevirtz Graduate School of Education

   Award: $16,000

   SKILLS teaches Santa Barbara County high school students from minoritized linguistic, cultural, and economic backgrounds to conduct original linguistic research and social change projects on language use in their families, peer groups, and local communities. The project provides students with experience in hands-on learning and making original contributions to research and to society, trains them in skills needed to do academic work at the college level, gives them college credit for their participation in the program, motivates them to pursue a college degree, and fosters their appreciation for their own and others’ linguistic abilities. FOG funds will enable the co-PIs to evaluate the program at this crucial point, to implement needed changes, and to develop a sustainable model for continued partnerships with area schools and youth serving organizations.

2. **Strengthening STEM Initiatives through Nanotechnology Education**

   Sumita Pennathur
   College of Engineering

   Award: $11,000

   These projects, with age appropriate material for grades 3-5, 7, 8 and 9, focus on important STEM concepts such as the scientific method, basic fluid mechanics, laboratory safety, as well as cutting edge subjects such as nanotechnology, through hands-on experiments within the classroom, as well as follow-up assignments and tours to UCSB labs. This FOG seed funding will permit the PI a chance to train a long-term staff member on all the projects, allowing the four outreach projects to efficiently continue in the future. Additionally, we will partner with the Office of Education
Partnerships to establish evaluation criteria and with the Center for Science and Engineering Partnerships to reach out to Santa Barbara County K-12 schools with historically underrepresented students so that at the end of the fiscal year we will have the data based evidence necessary to apply for government funding to transform these projects into curricula across the country. Finally, being led by a prominent woman in the engineering field who is dedicated to mentoring other young women, this project will hold the potential to inspire.

3. **Kids In Nature**
Susannah Porter  
Dept. of Geology

Jennifer Thorsch  
Cheadle Center for Biodiversity and Ecological Restoration  
Award: $11,000

Kids in Nature (KIN) is a yearlong, place-based, hands on environmental program developed to (1) promote the aspirations and achievements of students in underserved schools (2) provide underserved schools with quality environmental science education, (3) recruit and train undergraduates for careers in K-12 science education, (4) provide professional development opportunities for teachers who have inadequate undergraduate preparation in science and who lack the resources for teaching science content in the classroom, and for both students and teachers, (5) create and encourage personal connections to the natural world, which will foster an interest in becoming stewards of the environment. The 2015-16 KIN program will provide two 5th grade classes at Franklin Elementary School and one 5th grade class from Adelante Charter School with a total of eleven events to the Cheadle Center for Biodiversity and Ecological Restoration (CCBER), the REEF program, Storke Wetlands, Coal Oil Point Reserve, Arroyo Hondo Preserve and the Botanic Garden.

4. **Teaching the Next Generation of Innovators: Computer Programming and the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)**
Danielle Harlow  
Gevirtz Graduate School of Education

Diana Franklin  
Dept. of Computer Science  
Award: $8,200

This project seeks to augment the research and curriculum development work done by the NSF Funded project Developing Elementary (Learning) Progressions to Integrate Computational Thinking (DEPICT) with outreach to provide support to students and teachers in Santa Barbara. During the past two years, we have developed a computer science curriculum for upper elementary school students as a vehicle to study how children learn computer science. It has been piloted with 1000s of elementary students across California, including schools in Goleta, Santa Barbara, and Ventura. We will develop resources to support teachers in implementation of computer science education, create more extensive teacher training for Goleta, Santa Barbara and Ventura teachers,
and support these teachers in their classrooms.

5. **SciTrek**
   Norbert Reich
   Dept. of Chemistry
   Award: $7,800

SciTrek is a science outreach program involving UCSB Chemistry and Biochemistry faculty, education faculty, and UCSB graduate and undergraduate students. Our goal is to expose K-12 students and teachers to the scientific process, including critical thinking, evidence-based learning, and an understanding of how argumentation is essential. In this FOG proposal, we seek to expand the SciTrek program into the 7th and 8th grades, to include all classrooms at La Colina JHS and Santa Barbara JHS which will reach nearly 2000 additional students.

6. **Teatro Workshop and Tour**
   Carlos Morton,
   Dept. of Theater and Dance
   Award: $6,000

Using techniques inspired by El Teatro Campesino and the San Francisco Mime Troupe San Marcos high school students will be exposed to a minimum of four hours per week of different theatrical activities during Fall 2015 and Winter 2016. High school students under the guidance of a UCSB graduate director and undergraduate students will attend classes in improvisation and theater games that will inspire them to create skits or “actos” that address issues of concern to at risk youth. They will learn how to utilize their “instruments,” namely their voice and body that teaches them to speak in public in front of live audiences.