

# RESEARCH @ FSW

Research @ FSW has been created to update Florida SouthWestern faculty and staff on exciting new developments in faculty research, creative expressions, research publications, and other highlights. This quarterly publication is the primary tool for faculty to share research successes with colleagues. If you have items for a future newsletter, contact Jennifer Young, Public Relations and Marketing Associate for Academic Affairs, at [Jennifer.Young@fsw.edu](mailto:Jennifer.Young@fsw.edu) or x-11101 (Thomas Edison Campus).

## Faculty Research Profile

**Dr. Robert Furler, Microbiology**

**Project Title: HIV Proteins Interfere with Normal Migration of T Cells**



Globally, over 30 million people are currently infected with HIV/AIDS and close to 40 million have died with this disease over the past three decades. Anti-retroviral therapy has been instrumental in delaying disease progression, however the high financial burden and physical side effects of these medicines warrants a functional cure to HIV/AIDS. Current medicines target early steps in the viral replication cycle (entry, reverse transcription, integration) with a dearth of medicines targeting the late stages of HIV replication (assembly and budding). The goal of this project is to define the late stages of HIV assembly and budding in the context of cell polarization during chemotaxis.

The ARC grant will help us to create a biosafety level 2 lab, which will allow our students to do tissue cultures, work with blood, and investigate the virus.

## Provost/VPAA Corner

The Academic Research Council held its inaugural meeting on October 16 and considered applications for grant funding. The ARC moved their recommendations forward to me and in the end a total of \$61,000 was awarded to the following faculty for the 2015-2016 fiscal year. Congratulations to these faculty who will offer insights into their accomplishments during Professional Development Days next fall. This is beginning of an exciting time for enhancing faculty research and student engagement in research. The next ARC meeting will be in mid-November.

### Faculty Member and Project Title

**Marty Ambrose** (English) - Claire's Summer: A Novella

**Thepp Ayudhya** (Chemistry) - Novel Cross-Link Polymers for Fuel Storage

**Robert Furler** (Microbiology) - HIV Proteins Interfere with Normal Migration of T Cells

**Gabe Gaidos, Peggy Romero, Marcella Trevino** (Biology) - Nectar and Host Plant Preferences of Native SW Florida Butterfly

**Qin Liu** (Chemistry) - Computational Chemistry

**Jonathan McKenzie** (Biology) - Investigating the Structure and Dynamics of Near-Shore Coastal Sharks

**Michael Witty** (Biology) - Microbial Gas Emissions

**Di Xue** (Chemistry) - Analysis of Nutritions by Visible Spectrometry and Potentiostat

## Recent PhDs and EdDs

**Laura Antczak**-Assistant Vice President, Enrollment And Student Success

Florida Atlantic University, Dissertation Title: "Community College Baccalaureate Transitions in Florida: Student Affairs' Perspectives"

**Bruno Baltodano**-Professor, Political Science

Washington State University, Dissertation Title: "Constructing A Multi-Ethnic State: Challenges to Nationalism and Political Autonomy in the Atlantic Coast of Nicaragua"

**Sara Dustin**-Professor, English

University of Florida, Dissertation Title: "'Dress Was Her Passion': British Women Writers and the Revolution in Fashion"

**Tonia East Phanor**-Professor, Speech

Georgia State University, Dissertation Title: "Entertainment-Education to Increase Self-Efficacy and Reduce Counterarguing: HIV/AIDS Prevention and African Americans"

**Julia Kroeker**-Professor, Education

University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Dissertation Title: "Indoor and Outdoor Play in Preschool Programs: A Mixed Methods Study."

**Melissa Rizzuto**-Director, Faculty Development and Training

University of Florida, Dissertation Title: "Design and Evaluation of Self-paced Online Faculty Development"

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