

Call for Proposals: ACPA Senior Scholars Grant Program for our 40th Anniversary September 12, 2023

The American College Personnel Association (ACPA) and the Senior Scholars are committed to making policy programmatic decisions based on quality research about the experiences of students, administrators, staff, and faculty at colleges and universities nationally and internationally.

With this announcement, ACPA and the Senior Scholars continue a research grant initiative to encourage practitioners and faculty researchers to initiate original scholarship and research efforts designed to study critical issues impacting student affairs and/or higher education systems. All grant proposal narratives must demonstrate direct connection/s to the [ACPA Strategic Imperative on Racial Justice and Decolonization](#). Also review the [ACPA Senior Scholars Statement of Action](#). We are pleased that awardees will be selected during the 40th Anniversary of Senior Scholars and invited to convention events related to the anniversary (*connection to the anniversary, optional*).

ACPA Senior Scholars will award **one or more grants up to \$10,000 of total funding** for the 2023-2024 calendar year to practitioners and/or faculty to conduct studies that benefit our understanding of the transformative nature of student affairs and higher education in direct relation to the ACPA Strategic Imperative. [Past recipients](#) have typically received between \$3,000-\$5,000. Grant recipients are expected to present their research at the ACPA Convention in 2025 session sponsored/submitted by the ACPA Senior Scholars.

Proposals will be judged on *originality, feasibility, clarity, potential impact, and connection to the ACPA Strategic Imperative*. The final work will belong to the researcher/s / practitioner/s and they will be encouraged to submit for publication in an ACPA publication outlet (i.e., *JCSD, About Campus, Developments*). Only current members of ACPA are eligible to be Principal Investigator (PI) on the grant proposal.

Proposal Format

Please merge the following components into one coherent document.

1. **Cover Page** - The title of the proposal along with the name, title, address, email, and phone number of the PI and all researchers.
2. **Proposal Narrative** - The proposal narrative should be detailed but concise (2,000 words or fewer are encouraged for this section), should include peer-reviewed sources where appropriate, demonstrate congruence/cohesion (with your own chosen design/approach), and must include the following elements:
 - a. Problem statement identifying the research question(s) or the transformative conditions that the research is designed to address.
 - b. Indicate which topic on the PI's research / practitioner agenda this proposal addresses.
 - c. Theoretical or Conceptual framework - Discuss and illustrate the theory/ theories underlying the project. The research must be grounded in the literature with a clear connection between theory and practice as well as the Strategic Imperative. There should be specific outcomes that will be measured / explored / performed and a potential implications section.
 - d. Data, methodology, and/or methods (or equivalent) section - Research studies can incorporate qualitative, quantitative, mixed and/or historical approaches. This section should include an explicit description of the methods for data collection (i.e., dataset(s), criteria for selecting data/participants, research instrument or design, including arts-based elicitation), the methods for data analysis (congruent with the chosen

design), and methods for trustworthiness (or methods congruent with the chosen design).

- e. Campus-level programming, performance, interactive exhibition, policy and/or practice implications section - The proposal should clearly identify, create, and/or support potential specific programs, policies, and/or practices at the institutional level that have the potential to be adopted or adapted at a range of institutions. In other words, how might findings and implications be shared beyond the ACPA Convention presentation.
3. References - Appropriately reference the works cited throughout the proposal narrative using APA 7th edition.
4. Timeline for the various aspects of the proposed research that coordinates with the timeline below.
5. Proposed budget and budget justification - Grants may be used for research travel, data collection, incentives for participants, transcription, equipment, and miscellaneous expenses such as software and books. Funds cannot be used for salaries, research assistants, tuition and fees, or institutional indirect costs. Funded projects will be required to submit records of expenses to ACPA as part of the final grant reports. The budget should include a justification not to exceed one page.
6. Biosketch - Brief biographies of the PI and collaborators working directly on the grant.
7. Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval - The researchers are responsible for completing all institutional review board procedures from the PI's university as well as for any other campuses included in the research process. The proposal must include a brief description of the institution's IRB process and the timeline for submitting the research proposal for review.

Funding Disbursement

Grant funds will be provided to the PI in the full amount. The PI will provide receipts for all expenditures, a mid-year report on the budget and research project (Wednesday, May 1, 2024 deadline), and a final report and budget at the end of the research funding year.

Timeline

- September 12, 2023 - Announcement of grant program
- Monday, October 23, 2023 - Webinar with Q/A discussion session for recipients (i.e., the grant process, incorporating the Strategic Imperative in a SS grant proposal) (*optional*)
 - Noon-1pm (ET) / 9-10am (PT); [Zoom Link](#)
 - Recording will be posted within a week on the [ACPA Senior Scholars Website](#)
- Friday, November 10, 2023 - Proposals due by 5pm (PT/pacific)
- The week of November 27, 2023 - SS Grant Committee meets to select recipients
- The week of December 4, 2023 - Announcement of ACPA Senior Scholar Grant Recipients
- End of the calendar year - ACPA dispurses grant funds to recipients
- Monday, May 1, 2024 - Mid-Year Project Update to Senior Scholars
- Friday, December 1, 2024 - Research completed and report submitted to the Senior Scholars
- ACPA Convention, 2025 - Present Research (session hosted by ACPA SS; recipients do not need to submit a program proposal)

Emerging Scholar / Senior Scholar Eligibility

Interested scholars may apply to both the SS Emerging/Senior Scholar program *and* this SS Grant Program in the same year, although recipients may only be awarded up to one at a time. Awards will not be given to current Emerging Scholars or current Senior Scholars; ES and SS/diplomates become eligible after the term has concluded.

Please submit completed proposals or send questions to: Ximena Zúñiga (xzuniga@educ.umass.edu), Rishi Sriram (Rishi_Sriram@baylor.edu) and Penny A. Pasque (pasque.2@osu.edu).

Past ACPA Senior Scholar Grant Recipients

2017-2018

Susan D. Longerbeam

University of Louisville

Contribution of Student Affairs Preparation Programs to Undergraduate Student Success: Influences of Mentoring on Campus Racial Climate and Sense of Belonging

Natesha L. Smith

University of Binghamton

Engaging Cross-Cultural Impressions: An Exploration of Student Affairs Practices in the Gulf Region

2018-2019

Sosanya Jones

Howard University

HBCU and PVI Diversity Professionals: Training, Roles, Challenges, and Strategies of Entry

Susana Muñoz

Colorado State University

Understanding Undocumented and DACA Community College Students' Experiences during Turbulent Political Times

2019-2020

Robert Schwartz

Florida State University

George F. Zook and Higher Education in the United States: An Untold Story of Access and Inclusion

TJ Stewart

Iowa State University

Navigating Place and Space: Exploring the Realities of Fat-bodied Students on Campus through Photovoice Methodology

2020-2021 - no grant funding due to Covid-19.

2021-2022 - no recipients awarded. A direct connection to the Strategic Imperative required.

2022-2023

Chelsea Gilbert

The Ohio State University

Co-theorizing with Women of Color Postsecondary Staff to Disrupt Systemic Barriers

Trisha Shalka

University of Rochester

A Mixed Methods Investigation of How College Student Trauma Shapes Faculty-Student Interactions in Academic Environments