

College of Humanities and Social Sciences

2020-2021 Scholarship Support Grant Recipients Project Summaries

Dr. Jack T. Labriola, Assistant Professor of Technical Communications in the Department of Technical Communication & Interactive Design

Title: Developing a Driver-Training Program Using Simulators

Summary: Scenarios of Autonomous Vehicle Malfunctioning/Incapability. Using their driving simulator, they will study the transfer of control from an autonomous vehicle driving itself to the human driver behind the wheel. They plan to develop a driver-training program to improve the monitoring and handling ability of drivers of autonomous vehicles.

Awarded: \$15,000

Dr. Kyung Hun Jung, Assistant Professor of Psychology in the Department of Psychological Science

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Dr. Shane Peterson, Assistant Professor of German in the Department of Foreign Languages

Title: The Efficacy of a High-Frequency Vocabulary Approach

Summary: Second language acquisition research suggests that learning the 1,000 most frequently used word families facilitates comprehension of 70-90% of contemporary written and spoken language. The most widely used introductory German textbooks commonly introduce a mere 530-640 of these words. This project assesses the first introductory German textbook with a systematic, vocabulary frequency approach and its impact on student learning.

Awarded: \$8,000

Dr. Milad Minoie, Assistant Professor of Communication in the School of Communication and Media,

Title: How Audiences, social media and Traditional Media Interact to Set the Public Agenda on 'Medicare for All'

Summary: Dr. Minoie and Dr. Taylor will study how traditional media messages, social media messages and audiences' personal beliefs and biases interact to shape the public opinion on "Medicare for All" in the 2020 presidential election cycle.

Awarded: \$15,000

Dr. Benjamin Taylor, Assistant Professor of Political Science in the School of Government and International Affairs

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Awarded: \$15,000

Dr. Katarina Gephardt, Professor of English in the Department of English, for the project

Title: Gender, Genre and Geography: British Women Travel Writers on the Frontiers of Europe, 1880-1914

Summary: British women travel writers who explored Central and Eastern Europe at the turn of the twentieth century. The region, which was relatively uncharted by tourists, provided spaces for the women writers to explore their gender identities as well as opportunities for experimentation with travel writing.

Awarded \$8,000