

**Abstracts of 2015-2016 Sabbatical Proposals for the Chancellor and Governing Board  
Approved by the District Sabbatical Leave Committee, January 2015**

**Cuyamaca ESL Acceleration Pathway Project**  
**Guillermo Colls**

I propose to develop the blueprint for an accelerated pathway in our ESL program. I will collect the data on the success of acceleration in ESL departments throughout the state of California and summarize the elements of this research and integrate them into our curricular program. I will then compose a flowchart diagramming how an accelerated pathway can fit into and parallel our traditional ESL sequence in such a way that students are given more opportunity to advance at a quicker pace, complete ADT degrees faster, and demonstrate student success in much greater capacities than are seen now. I will closely work with colleagues at Laney College who have launched a similar program in their district, and consult with the leaders of the California Acceleration Project throughout my sabbatical project. Finally, I will develop the comprehensive outlines with the requisite student learning outcomes to make this pathway a reality.

**Distribution and Habitat Use of Important Fauna of the Cuyamaca College Nature Preserve**  
**Kim Dudzik**

The purpose of this project is to conduct field research on the identification, distribution, and habitat use of at least three animal groups within the Cuyamaca College Nature Preserve. The project will provide the Biology Department, Cuyamaca College, and the District with a detailed report with maps outlining the distribution and habitat use of animals within the preserve and with the first official Cuyamaca Nature Preserve Field Guide. This information will serve as a strong foundation for future curriculum, restoration plans, management plans, and community access plans, while satisfying state and federal environment regulations.

**Integrating Adult Reading and Learning Development and Strategies into Accelerated English Composition Course (English 99) and Compressed English Composition Courses (English 98 and 109): Designing Tutor Training Unit to Support Adult Learning and Reading Across the Curriculum**  
**Mary Graham**

Historically, the majority of students who have assessed below transfer-level English have had reading levels of 9th grade and below. The accelerated and compressed composition programs have proven highly effective at addressing issues of equity and getting students to and through transfer-level English, but faculty are concerned that these courses are not currently providing key reading instruction needed for success in content area courses that do not include reading instruction. I will complete the 12 unit graduate certificate in Post-secondary Reading and Learning from CSU Fullerton, design a plan for integrating adult learning theory and reading strategies into accelerated and compressed composition courses, and design tutor training units for all campus tutors to help them recognize and address student reading challenges. These interventions will create greater reading preparation for composition students and greater campus support for all reading challenges, ultimately securing greater student preparedness without lengthening the basic skills pathway.

## **Incorporating Ultraviolet-Visible Spectroscopy into the Chemistry Laboratory Curriculum**

**Laurie Le Blanc**

The proposed sabbatical leave project includes the study and training in the use of the Beckman Coulter Ultraviolet-Visible Spectrometer (UV-Vis). Using this instrument in the classroom will demand instructor proficiency in the theory and practical use of the instrument. I will attend professional workshops to obtain the most current information on the operation of the instrument, and I will collect resource material from a variety of written and online resources, training seminars offered through Beckman Coulter, and the local technical representative from Thermo Scientific. Among the many benefits of this project will be professional growth gained through mastery of the instrument, development of appropriate laboratory lab exercises, and an introduction to real-world technology for our students with an engaging forensic chemistry scenario to go along with it. A final goal will be to compile these newly developed lab exercises into a laboratory manual of forensic chemistry laboratory exercises to include other lab exercises using both instrumentation and wet laboratory methods that can be shared with faculty in chemistry for use at various levels of chemistry instruction.

## **Web Development Technical Retooling**

**Jodi Reed**

Focused time and attention is necessary to keep up with the substantial change in the web development field. In this sabbatical leave, I plan to explore advanced web technologies and apply them to practical projects, including websites useful to the college and students. The main areas of focus will be cloud-based form processing, advanced coding & scripting, HTML-based mobile application development, eCommerce tools, and development tools. These technologies will feed into the curriculum, providing students with state-of-the-art knowledge and skills to encourage students to complete degrees and certificates and help them find jobs. Deliverables will include: 1. A curriculum enhancement plan to share with industry advisors; 2. A revised website for my courses that incorporates modern web technologies; and 3. A revised professional development site that will function once our existing web server goes, providing faculty and staff with efficient processes and a backend that can be easily maintained by staff.

## **A Novel Plan: Practicing the Writing Craft in International Communities”**

**Ryan Griffith**

This sabbatical is needed to improve my currency and expertise in the writing craft, especially to offer more informed instruction and to enhance existing literary arts programs. As a teacher of creative writing and advanced composition at Grossmont College, my instructional knowledge is founded on my own writing practice; however, my teaching and paper grading commitments make it impossible to exercise the very process and skills I require of my students. Consequently, during my sabbatical I intend to practice the writing craft as I complete my novel, working in community with other writers, artists, filmmakers, and performers in artistic residencies in Iceland, Turkey, and Slovenia (all of which were competitive slots). In addition to improving my knowledge of writing, this sabbatical connects me to organized international artistic communities, allowing me to bring the spirit of cross-cultural and cross-disciplinary collaboration back to my students, department, college, and community. The outcomes of this work will be improved instruction and student success, new ideas for global, multicultural instruction and collaboration, and a deeper emphasis on world arts and culture in campus readings and lectures. Achievement of these goals will be measured through the completion of a novel manuscript, assessment of relevant Student Learning Outcomes, and the production of readings and lectures of greater artistic and cultural scope.

## **Creating a Customized Textbook and Accompanying PowerPoint Files for HIST 103 Twentieth Century World History**

Robert Henry

For this project, I will write a customized textbook for HIST 103 Twentieth Century World History. Having taught this course for seven years, I have yet to find a satisfactory textbook suitable for my students since most of these texts are written primarily for university upper-division students. I therefore wish to write a textbook specifically geared toward the academic level of my lower-division students. The evidence I will submit to verify this goal will be producing the actual published textbook. The rigor and process to write the textbook will directly contribute to my professional growth since I will enormously enhance my knowledge of this historical area. Students taking this course will benefit from reading and using a specifically focused and purposeful textbook. I will share with my department the process of how to produce such a customized textbook if anyone wishes to similarly pursue this and discuss any new information I find in my research of 20th century history. I will then determine if my textbook improves student success for institutional effectiveness. Through this class and its new textbook, my students will now be able to understand better complex geopolitical events through a 20th century lens. In turn, the community and institution would benefit from students who, in the words of Grossmont College's mission statement, become "enlightened leaders and thoughtful citizens for the global community."

## **Image Transfers onto Clay Surfaces**

Jeff Irwin

The basis for my sabbatical proposal is to investigate, research, experiment, test and gain a level of proficiency in the various ways which one can transfer imagery or patterns onto a clay surface. The investigation will utilize books, magazines, internet sources and attending a twelve-day workshop at the Anderson Ranch Center for the Arts. The class is titled "Get Flat; A Print Making and Ceramics Intensive." I will then spend large amounts of time experimenting, testing and practicing the techniques I have learned. At this point I will focus on deciding which of these processes would be best suited and incorporated into my ceramics one, two, three and four classes for Spring 2016. Finally I will create a booklet of all my research, experiments and tests that will be available to my students as a hardcopy and the public at large through the Grossmont College Ceramics website.

## **PetraForge**

Gary Jacobson

This project aims to improve student success in classifying rocks and in explaining how rock-forming processes determine rock properties by developing browser-based, exploration-driven learning modules for each of the three rock families. In each module students must select a rock from a list and then attempt to "make" it by choosing from an evolving set of geological processes which affect earth materials on their way to becoming rocks. Through sequential graphics and animations students see the result of their choices on both macro and microscopic scales, thus strengthening their grasp of cause and effect relationships. The project will: fill the need for meaningful assignments in petrology; update my own understanding of geological processes; keep Grossmont College at the forefront of teaching innovation; and by providing the time necessary to reach my creative potential as an instructor, replenish my enthusiasm for teaching.

## **Create a Series of Podcasts for HUM 110: Principles of Humanities Online Course**

Pete Schmidt

My sabbatical will be used to create a series of podcasts for the HUM 110 Principles of Humanities online course to provide aural presentations about important people, places, things and ideas of the course. They will enhance student success by using sound and music to engage students in an otherwise text-based course, providing an additional engaging, avenue of learning. They will benefit my department and college because they would have wider application in other humanities, history, and art history courses. Given my full-time teaching load, the extensive research, writing, and production of the podcast places the project outside my current abilities. Once completed, the podcasts will be placed on Grossmont's website and uploaded to podcasting services for access to all students, faculty, and community. Knowledge and experience gained through the process will be shared with other faculty through professional development talks.

## **A Field Study of Oceanic and Native American Art**

Malia Serrano

Excellent teaching of art history is predicated on the first-hand study of artworks and an ability to convey with enthusiasm a personal knowledge of these primary sources. This sabbatical plan is designed to strengthen instruction through a series of research trips to prestigious museum collections and heritage sites in North America. It is specifically organized to support the teaching of Oceanic and Native American art in two general education courses with combined enrollments of 200 to 300 students annually. Research will include Polynesian temples, Puebloan settlements, Northwest Coast masks, Mississippian temple mounds, and Iroquois beadwork, for example. Didactic aids such as photographs, maps, field notes, and video clips will be collected throughout the sabbatical. The sabbatical outcomes include a clearly delineated list of specific lecture topics that will be enriched by this content.

## **Develop Hybrid and Online ASL Courses**

Jamie Shatwell

The purpose of the sabbatical project is to research and establish the first online/hybrid American Sign Language class in San Diego at Grossmont College. Developing an online/hybrid ASL course will better accommodate students' busy schedules and different learning styles, making ASL more accessible and increasing enrollment in GC's ASL program. My goal is to pioneer such classes in San Diego and gain recognition for GC. Creating online classes will require extensive research to determine the best mode to translate visual learning online. I will meet with ASL professors in and out of San Diego to gain knowledge about existing resources and best practices. I will work closely with GC's IS Department to create a mock course aligned with IS guidelines, which I will present to the ASL Department for review and then develop a pilot program. Success will be determined by comparing pre/post student enrollment numbers and student satisfaction measurements via evaluations.