



# FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

Ferris State University Senate Faculty Research Grant (SFRG) Committee  
2020-2021 Faculty Research Committee Final Report  
May 28, 2021

Dear Ferris State University Academic Senate,

This academic year, the committee consisted of twelve faculty members from throughout the university:

Michael E. Klepser (Chair)  
Evan R. Watts  
Jonathan J. Taylor  
Cecil Queen  
Sonali Kurup  
Alison M. Konieczny  
David Petillo  
Changqi Zhu  
Matt Moresi  
Anne Hawkinsbadge (Laboratory Safety, Ex-Officio)  
Thomas C. Dowling (Ex-Officio)

A total of three meetings were held, with relatively good attendance. We collected applications in two cycles for this past academic year: Spring 2021 (for cycle 1) and Spring 2021 (May 14 for cycle 2). This final report will describe the major activities and accomplishments of the Senate Faculty Research Committee (SFRC).

- For **Spring cycle 1**, there were a total of four submissions. All were deemed fundable.
  1. Comparison of BinaxNOW and BD Veritor SARS-CoV-2 antigen tests among asymptomatic individuals” by **Daniel de Regnier**. Funding amount: \$5,000.00
  2. “Vaccination trends during COVID-19” by **Emmanuel Jadhav**. Funding amount: \$4,880.00
  3. “Comprehensive Testing of Autonomous Vehicles open source package OpenPilot” by **Mohamed Abusharkh**. Funding amount: \$5,000.00
  4. “Dual EGFR/AURK inhibitors for resistant lung cancers” by **Sonali Kuru**. Funding amount: \$5,000.00

During this cycle, a total of \$19,880.00 was awarded. Owing to additional funds being available, the committee decided that a second round of grants would be sought.

- For **Spring cycle 1**, there were a total of two submissions. Both were deemed fundable.
  1. “Using fruit fly as an animal model to study the neuroprotective functions of the fly Activin signaling” by **Changqi Zhu**. Funding amount: \$4,882.00
  2. “Impact of pharmacy-based SARS-CoV-2 testing programs during the COVID-19 pandemic” by **Michael Klepser**. Funding amount \$5,000.00.

During this cycle, a total of \$9,882.00 was awarded.

COLLEGE OF PHARMACY  
PHARMACY PRACTICE DEPARTMENT

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In summary, although the pandemic created an uncertain backdrop across campus, we received six high-quality research proposals from a diverse collection of faculty. In total, the committee awarded \$29,762.00 in research funding. At this time, we recommend that the budget for next be held at \$30,000.00.

The committee also to thank Ferris State University for its commitment to supporting faculty research endeavors. This commitment has allowed faculty to gain funding for seed projects and provide research opportunities for students across campus.

Thank you for your time and consideration.  
Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. E. Klepser", written over a horizontal line.

Michael E. Klepser, Pharm.D., FCCP, FIDP  
Professor of Pharmacy  
Chair, Senate Faculty Research Committee  
Ferris State University College of Pharmacy

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