**2004-2007 EPSCoR RII Award**

**Title:** INSTEP – Infrastructure via Science and Technology

Enhanced Partnerships

**Budget:** $9,000,000 over 3 years

50% cost match required

 $4,500,000 from state MBRCT (Montana Board of Research and

Commercialization Technology)

**PI:** Chuck Thompson (UM)

**Co-PI:**  Mark Young (MSU)

**Program Staff:** Angie Solvie (2004-2005), Susie Couch (MSU)

Kristen O’Toole (MSU) 2005-2006

Martha Peters (MSU) 2006-2007

Gay Allison, Rhonda Stoddard (UM)

**Themes:**  Biomolecular Structure and Dynamics (UM), Neuroscience (UM and MSU), Bioengineering (MSU), Bioinspired Nanomaterials (MSU)

**Milestones and Accomplishments (from Final Report)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Initiative** | **04-07 Grant Total** |
| New Faculty Hires | 43 (but 44 listed below) |
| Graduate Students | 141 |
| Undergraduates | 674 |
| Tribal College Partners | 7 |

**New Faculty Hires:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Dept.** | **Start Date** |
| Julia Baldwin | Geology (UM) |  |
| Rebecca Bendick-Kier | Geology (UM) |  |
| Brian Bothner | Chemistry and Biochemistry (MSU) |  |
| Bruce Bowler | CBSD (UM) |  |
| Creagh Breuner | Division of Biological Sciences (UM) |  |
| Klara Briknarova | Chemistry (UM) |  |
| Joan Broderick | Chemistry and Biochemistry (MSU) |  |
| Lillian Calderon-Garciduenas | BMED (UM) |  |
| Ross Carlson | Chemical and Biological Engineering (MSU) |  |
| Michael Ceballos | Division of Biological Sciences (UM) |  |
| Natesh Chander | Biomedical Engineering (Mt Tech) |  |
| Xi Chu | Chemistry (UM) |  |
| Doug Coffin | BMED (UM) |  |
| Robert Cramer | Veterinary and Molecular Biology (MSU) |  |
| Cathy Cripps | Plant Sciences and Plant Pathology (MSU) |  |
| Vanessa Ezenwa | Division of Biological Sciences (UM) |  |
| Matthew Fields | Microbiology (MSU) |  |
| John Gerdes | BMED (UM) |  |
| Robin Gerlach | Chemical and Biological Engineering (MSU) |  |
| William Halford | Veterinary and Molecular Biology (MSU) |  |
| Solomon Harrar | Math (UM) |  |
| Li Huang | Plant Sciences and Plant Pathology (MSU) |  |
| Kristen Intemann | History and Philosophy (MSU) |  |
| Darrell Jackson  | BMED (UM) |  |
| Rajendra Kumar Kasinath | Biomedical Engineering (Mt Tech) |  |
| Robb Larson | Mechanical Engineering (MSU) |  |
| Lucy Marshall | Land Resources and Environmental Sciences (MSU) |  |
| Anneke Metz | Cell Biology and Neuroscience (MSU) |  |
| Carla Nappi | History and Philosophy (MSU) |  |
| Cara Nelson | Forestry (UM) |  |
| Hien Nguyen | Chemistry and Biochemistry (MSU) |  |
| Brent Peyton | Chemical and Biological Engineering (MSU) |  |
| Mary Poss | Division of Biological Sciences (UM) |  |
| Lisa Rew | Land Resources and Environmental Sciences (MSU) |  |
| Sandy Ross | Chemistry (UM) |  |
| Mark Skidmore | Earth Sciences (MSU) |  |
| Stephen Sprang | Division of Biological Sciences (UM) |  |
| Diana Six | Forestry (UM) |  |
| Emily Stone | Math (UM) |  |
| Kent Sugden | Chemistry (UM) |  |
| Robert Szilagyi | Chemistry and Biochemistry (MSU) |  |
| Sally Thompson | Continuing Education (UM) |  |
| Jovanka Voyich | Veterinary and Molecular Biology (MSU) |  |
| Cathy Whitlock | Earth Sciences (MSU) |  |

**Other Infrastructure/Broader Impacts Accomplishments:**

Worked with INBRE to have new faculty hires at Tribal Colleges:

EPSCOR SUPPORT

--Fort Belknap College: New faculty science hire was completed for Dr. Liz McClain in 2004. Dr. McClain teaches Anatomy and Physiology, Restoration Ecology, and Bio-medical Ethics.

--Fort Peck Community College: Funding supports science instructor, Julene McCurry. Ms.

McCurry teaches Introduction to Microbiology and Organic and Biological Chemistry and began at Fort Peck Community College Fall 2007. Funds were also used for 13 student stipends for summer research projects and maintenance of scientific equipment.

--Stone Child College: Funding was provided for the purchase of laboratory equipment and

supplies to improve the teaching labs in the Natural Resources Department and to provide student research internships to conduct research during the year.

INBRE SUPPORT

--Little Big Horn College: New faculty science hire was completed for Dr. Jack Plaggemeyer.

--Chief Dull Knife College: New faculty science hire was completed for Dr. Jim Bertin.

--Blackfeet Community College: New faculty science hire was completed for Betty Matthews.

Other initiatives under this grant:

* 2007- first year of support of the Molecular Biosciences program
* Partnership with Master of Fine arts in Science and Natural History Filmmaking
* Helped start PhD program in History of Science and Technology at MSU
* A research or creative experience is now required (as of Fall 2004) of all undergraduate students at MSU, effectively institutionalizing this program.
* **spectrUM:** The primary goal for this Montana NSF EPSCoR program has been to design, develop and create by 2008 an anchor science center in Missoula. With the October 2007 grand opening of The University of Montana spectrUM Discovery Area, both program goals have been achieved. Located on the first floor of UM’s College of Health Professions and Biomedical Sciences, the Discovery Area occupies 1,000 square feet of interactive space and also shares a distance-education classroom and neighboring lecture hall with the College. It offers regular public hours and field trips as well as an array of outreach programming.