After thorough review by a panel of Distinguished University Professors, thirty four proposals were selected for the 2019 USF Nexus Initiative (UNI) Awards. This cycle of UNI awards includes faculty from all three campuses and was made possible by funding from Provost Ralph Wilcox and Regional Chancellors Martin Tadlock and Karen Holbrook.

Congratulations to all Awardees!

Redwan Alqasemi
Achieving Full Robotic Autonomy through Human Demonstration, Robot Observation, and Deep Learning
Ratchatin Chancharoen, Ph.D. | Chulalongkorn University (Thailand)
Gridsada Phanomchoeng, Ph.D. | Chulalongkorn University (Thailand)
Witaya Wannasuphorasit, Ph.D. | Chulalongkorn University (Thailand)

Dario Arena
Exploring Ultrafast Spin Dynamics in Ferrimagnets with a University-Based Laser System
Olle Eriksson, Ph.D. | Uppsala University (Sweden)
Olof Karis, Ph.D. | Uppsala University (Sweden)

Venkat Bhethanabotla
Printing of Electronic and Optical Components on Flexible Substrates
Ravinder Dahiya, Ph.D. | University of Glasgow (United Kingdom)

Tiffany Chenneville
US-South Africa Pediatric and Adolescent HIV Research Collaborative
Janan Dietrich, Ph.D. | University of the Witwatersrand (South Africa)
Stefanie Hornschuh, M.A. | University of the Witwatersrand (South Africa)

Michael Decker
Health in History Database
Didier Raoult, Ph.D. | Aix-Marseille University (France)

Dmitry Goldgof
Automated Assessment of Pain in Neonates
Mark Last, Ph.D. | Ben-Gurian University (Israel)

Amanda Huensch
Intelligibility, Comprehensibility, and Accentedness in Second Language Spanish
Charlie Nagle, Ph.D. | Iowa State University (Iowa)

David Jacobson
Multi-Scale and Integrated Analysis for Predicting the Risk of Urban Violence
Subhranit Guhathakurta, Ph.D. | Georgia Institute of Technology (Georgia)
Haesun Park, Ph.D. | Georgia Institute of Technology (Georgia)
Barry Drake, Ph.D. | Georgia Institute of Technology (Georgia)
Torkel Brekke, Ph.D. | University of Oslo (Norway)
Evrim Acar Ataman, Ph.D. | SIMULA (Norway)

Jean Kabongo & Thomas Becker
The Resilience of Entrepreneurs in Developing Economies: Implications for Organizational and Regional Effectiveness
James Abugre Baba, Ph.D. | University of Ghana (Ghana)
Janatti Kyogabirwe Bagorogoza, Ph.D. | Makerere University (Uganda)
Shepherd Dhliwayo, Ph.D. | University of Johannesburg (South Africa)

Changhyun Kwon
Market Design Approaches for Fashion Goods Distribution
Young Jae Jung, Ph.D. | Korea Advanced Institute of Science & Technology (South Korea)

Maria Leite
Unraveling the Logic Governing Neural Control of Breathing with a Novel Boolean Framework
Alona Ben-Tal, Ph.D. | Massey University (New Zealand)
Yunjiao Wang, Ph.D. | Texas Southern University (Texas)

Jody McBrien
Interventions for Successful Refugee Integration: Welcoming America in New Zealand (Welcoming Communities)
Fred Bemak, Ph.D. | George Mason University (Virginia)

Jill McCracken
Adolescent Sexual Health Education and Research (ASHER) in Liberia
Daniel Gray, M.S. | African Methodist Episcopal Zion University (Liberia)
Mosoka Fallah, Ph.D. | National Public Health Institute of Liberia (Liberia)
Jermoh Kamara, M.P.H., C.H.E.S.| Clark University (Massachusetts)

David Merkler
Production of Recombinant and Semi-Synthetic Forms of Human Glycine N-Acyltransferase Like-2
Philip Cole, M.D., Ph.D. | Harvard University (Massachusetts)

Lon Mitchell
Study of the Behavior of Colin de Verdière’s Matrix-Based Graph Invariant μ under Joins of Graphs
Shaun Fallat, Ph.D. | University of Regina (Canada)

Mehran Mozaffari Kermani
Active Side-Channel Attacks and Countermeasures for Lightweight Cryptography
Erkay Savas, Ph.D. | Sabanci University (Turkey)
**Fawn Ngo**  
A Cross-National Comparative Study on the Effectiveness of Formal and Informal Responses to the Crime of Stalking  
José Agustina, Ph.D. | UIC Barcelona (Spain)

**Ivan Oleynik**  
Mineral Physics of the Lunar Core  
Anatoly Belonoshko, Ph.D. | Royal Institute of Technology (Sweden)

**Beatriz Padilla**  
The Venezuelan Humanitarian Crisis: Migration, Trauma, and Resilience  
Cecilia Melella, Ph.D. | University of Buenos Aires (Argentina)  
Magdalena Lopez, Ph.D. | University Institute of Lisbon, ISCTE-IUL (Portugal)

**Roger Peters**  
Examining Treatment Needs and Alternatives to Incarceration among Substance-Involved Women in the Justice System  
Diane Lesme Romero, Ph.D. | Catholic University of Asunción (Paraguay)  
Graciela Barreto Castro, Ph.D. | Catholic University of Asunción (Paraguay)  
Cecilia Munoz, M.S. | Catholic University of Asunción (Paraguay)

**Joan Reid**  
Detecting Predictors for Sexual Assault Lethality Using Computational Techniques  
Eric Beauregard, Ph.D. | Simon Fraser University (Canada)

**Lindsey Rodriguez**  
Problematic Alcohol and Other Substance Use among Women and Links to Mental, Physical, and Relational Health  
Sherry Stewart, Ph.D. | Dalhousie University (Canada)

**Wendy Rote**  
Cross-Cultural Equivalence of Overparenting Behaviors among Adolescent Youth  
Skyler Thomas Hawk, Ph.D. | Chinese University of Hong Kong (China)

**Taryn Sabia**  
Hillsborough Community Vulnerability Study: Peril of Flood 2100  
Steffen Nijhuis, Ph.D. | Delft University of Technology (Netherlands)

**Ehsan Sheybani & Giti Javidi**  
Modeling of Blockchain, Internet of Things (IoT), and 5th Generation (5G) Wireless Technologies for Smart Cities Development  
Stavros Katsoopoulos, Ph.D. | University of Patras (Greece)  
Dimitrios D. Vergados, Ph.D. | University of Piraeus (Greece)

**Shivendu Shivendu**  
Impact of Multi-Platform Strategies on Effectiveness of Targeted Online Advertising  
Yue Wei Thoo, Ph.D. | City University of Hong Kong (China)  
Alan Ran Zhang, Ph.D. | City University of Hong Kong (China)

**Brian Space**  
An Iterative Design Process for Functional Porous Materials: Modeling Meets the Laboratory  
Bu Xian-He, Ph.D. | Nankai University (China)

**Elias Stefanakos**  
Development of Stable, Microencapsulated Thermochromic Materials for Energy Efficient Buildings  
Mattheos Santamouris, Ph.D. | University of New South Wales (Australia)

**Arash Takshi**  
Rapid Electrochemical Copper Deposition for Integration of Electronics into Fabrics  
Javad Foroughi, Ph.D. | University of Wollongong (Australia)

**Kimberly Walker**  
Development of an Online HPV Vaccination Decision-Making Tool for Parents of Children Ages 9-18  
Gregory Zimet, Ph.D., H.S.P.P | Indiana University, Bloomington (Indiana)

**Michael Cai Wang**  
Elastocaloric/Thermoelastic Effects via Strain-Induced Phase Transitions in Nanoscale 2D Materials for Next Generation Solid-State Cooling and Refrigeration Technologies  
Chandra Veer Singh, Ph.D. | University of Toronto (Canada)

**Christian Wells**  
Improving Water and Sanitation Infrastructure in Marginalized Communities  
Matthew E. Verbyla, Ph.D. | San Diego State University (California)

**Jack Wilkins**  
The Saxophone Legacy Project  
Jeremy Brown, D.M.A | University of Calgary (Canada)

**Libin Ye**  
Deciphering Tamoxifen-Resistant Breast Cancer Signaling  
Maofu Liao, Ph.D. | Harvard University (Massachusetts)