



HIGHLIGHTS

2ND QUARTER 2018

NSF EPSCoR

IMPACT OF WRITING RETREAT



Dr. Kelly Ai-Sun Tseng, UNLV participated in the Early-Career Faculty Proposal Writing Retreat hosted by Nevada EPSCoR, through the NSF EPSCoR Solar Energy-Water-Environment Nexus in Nevada project (IIA-1301726) in January, 2018. Dr. Tseng has been awarded a Nevada INBRE Developmental Research Project (DRP) award (\$150,000, 2 years).

"This award is based on the grant proposal that I worked on during the writing retreat. It was very helpful to have the dedicated time and get feedback for my proposal."--Dr. Kelly Ai-Sun Tseng

ANDREA DARBY WINS FIRST PRIZE

Andrea Darby, UNLV, NEVADA EPSCoR undergraduate scholar, won first prize in the Science Slam competition at the 59th Annual Drosophila Research Conference in Philadelphia. She was also invited to present her research in the Microbiome Workshop at the conference (the only undergraduate invited to do so). Great Job Andrea!

Pictured on the right, Andrea relaxing as she and other volunteers restore plant life along the Las Vegas Wash.



-- Christian K. Lee/Las Vegas Review-Journal

BRYAN REMICK, WESTERN NEVADA COLLEGE



Bryan Remick, WNC, NEVADA EPSCoR undergraduate scholar, presenting his research at the Nevada Undergraduate Research Symposium at UNR this past spring. Bryan's research is *Understanding Water Quality in Carson City Using GIS Mapping*.

Mentor, Chris Ryan, WNC

NASA SPACE GRANT

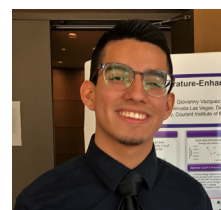
NEVADA STUDENTS AWARDED NASA SUMMER INTERNSHIPS

Nevada NASA Space Grant sponsored two students to intern with NASA laboratories this summer by providing the stipend for their ten-week Academy experience. Congratulations Ed Friesma and Giovanni Vazquez!



Ed Friesma, UNLV graduate student is interning at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California. His mentor is

Jonathan Murphy of the 312D-Advanced Design Engineering group. He will be part of an engineering team that rapidly designs and evaluates mission concepts in the early stages of mission formulation.



Giovanni Vazquez, UNLV undergraduate student is a Research Associate (RA) at the Propulsion Academy

at the Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama this summer. His mentor is Jonathan Jones. He will work on the research project "Launch Vehicle Control System Design and Testing". In addition to laboratory work he will receive training in special seminar sessions.

"My life goal is to perform research to aid not only in the endeavors that drive us to the stars but to those that ultimately benefit the planet we all share."

--Giovanni Vazquez

NSHE ANNOUNCEMENT

NEVADA NSF EPSCoR RII TRACK-1 PROGRAM

Researchers should start forming preliminary teams now!

Nevada will be eligible to submit a new proposal to the NSF EPSCoR, Research Infrastructure Improvement Program Track-1 (RII Track 1) program in 2019.

The Track-1 research theme must: 1) be a topic that is identified as a priority in the 2015 Nevada Science and Technology Plan; 2) be a topic normally funded by NSF; and 3) leverage the current strengths of DRI, UNLV, and UNR. It is strongly encouraged that the research area is in alignment with one or more of NSF's 10 Big Ideas.

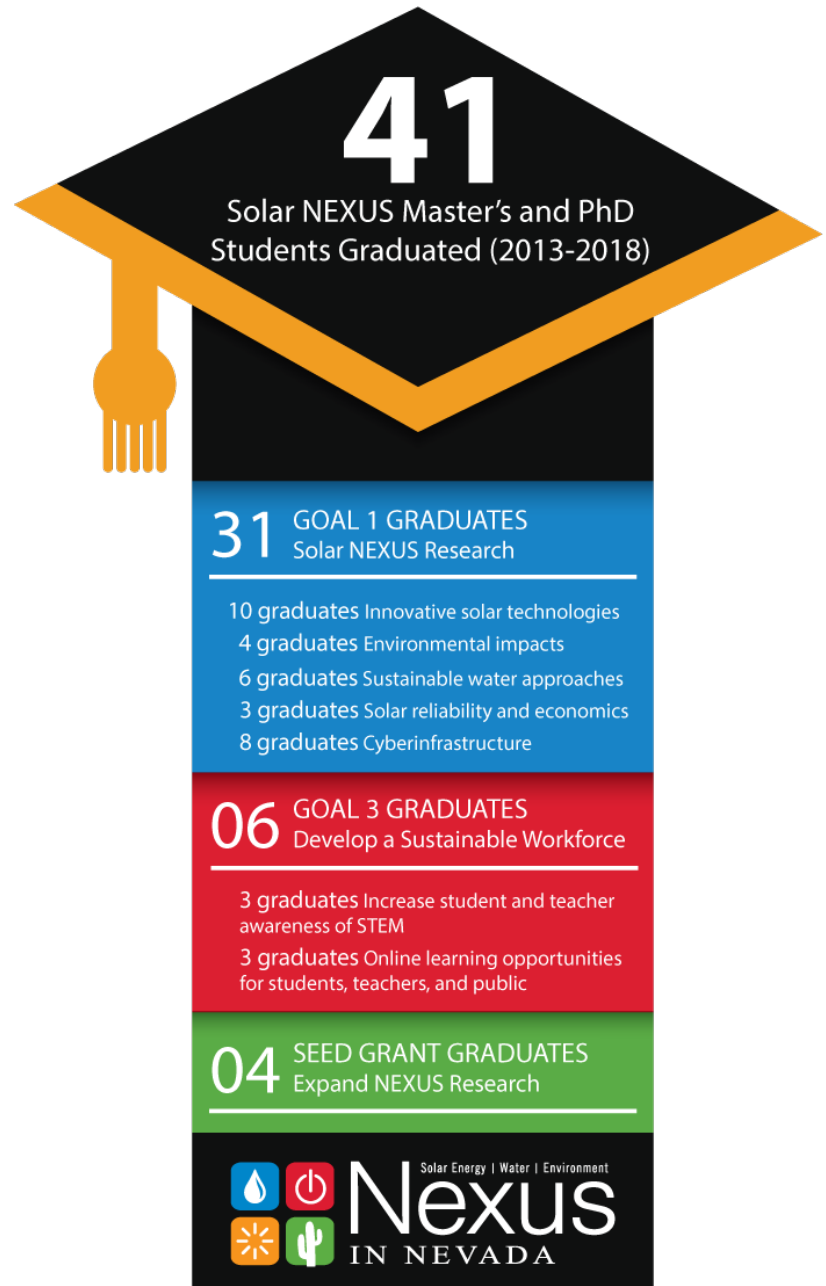
More details on the research theme will be announced in the Request for Pre-Proposals, which will be released in mid-August 2018. Submitted pre-proposals will be peer-reviewed and one pre-proposal will be selected to move forward to full proposal development starting in January 2019. Proposal submission to NSF is expected to be in late July 2019.

In preparation for submitting a pre-proposal, NSHE researchers should start discussions and form preliminary teams now to develop concepts, research questions, and expected impacts on strategic research topics. Since this is a statewide program, teams should be well represented with researchers from UNLV, UNR, and DRI. Working as an integrated team is essential!

Interested in joining or starting a team? Connect with other institutions through posts on the [Discussion Forum](#).

NSF EPSCoR

SOLAR NEXUS PROJECT GRADUATE STUDENT SUCCESS



Congratulations MinSun Park, MHA, CRA

MinSun Park recently attained her Certified Research Administrator (CRA) designation from the Research Administrators Certification Council (RACC). MinSun is a Research Administrator for the Nevada System Sponsored Programs and EPSCoR office. She is responsible for overseeing the Nevada GEAR UP subgrant awarded to NSHE institutions in the amount of over one million annually. Congratulations MinSun!



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