



# James H. Brickley Endowment for Faculty Professional Development and Innovation **Fall 2021 Award Winners**



The James H. Brickley Endowment for Faculty Professional Development and Innovation was established by Anthony and Lois Evans in 2016. The purpose of this award is to facilitate faculty professional development and innovation through a broad range of activities, including research and scholarly/creative work, curriculum development, community service, professional travel and training. This award cycle funded 8 projects totaling \$76,442. Twelve faculty will be supported representing four colleges: College of Arts and Sciences (seven), the College of Health and Human Services (two), the College of Education (two), and the College of Engineering and Technology (one).

***We congratulate the following faculty for  
their Brickley Award projects!***



**Joel Schoenhals (School of Music and Dance). "Sandpaintings for Piano: The Navajo Piano Music of Connor Chee". \$7,000.** Over the past year, Dr. Schoenhals has been learning all of Navajo pianist and composer Connor Chee's music. Connor Chee is known for combining his classical piano training with his Native American heritage. Funding will support recording a double CD of Connor Chee's music for publication. With public concerts and master classes cancelled around the world, Dr. Schoenhals recently turned his creative activity toward producing more recordings. Dr. Schoenhals is eager to expose students, audiences, pianists, and teachers to Chee's music and Navajo culture.

**Mary-Elizabeth B. Murphy (Department of History). "Policing Passengers: Black Women, Bus Corporations, and Racial Violence in the Great Migration". \$6,000.**

Dr. Murphy aims to fill crucial gaps in her research to complete her book, a chronicle of the history of African American women and bus travel between 1920 and 1948. Dr. Murphy has uncovered the stories and lawsuits of 210 Black women who contested their treatment on buses between 1920 and 1948. Funding will support travel to the legal archives to gather full text of these cases, including affidavits, arguments, and dissents. Dr. Murphy will travel to Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, Alabama, and Louisiana to gather the full text of five important court cases on bus segregation.



**Surabhi Jaiswal (Department of Physics and Astronomy). "Development of Low Temperature Plasma Facility for Interdisciplinary Research and Teaching at EMU". \$12,000.**

Dr. Jaiswal aims to develop a new low temperature plasma facility in the Department of Physics and Astronomy at Eastern Michigan University. This facility would broaden the research capabilities of Eastern Michigan University and connect various departments, such as science, engineering, environment science, and society. Dr. Jaiswal wants to develop advanced diagnostic capabilities and analysis techniques to characterize low temperature plasma for the application of environmental studies such as waste water treatment, sterilization and synthesis of nanoparticles. Funding will support the purchase of a high resolution camera to advance these diagnostic capabilities.



**Cassandra Barragan (School of Social Work). "Development of a Collaborative International Relationship with Pai Chai University in South Korea". \$5,500.**

Dr. Barragan aims to formalize a partnership between Eastern Michigan University and Pai Chai University located in Daejeon South Korea. In August 2018, representatives from the Gerontology program at Pai Chai University visited EMU to learn more about our Age-Friendly University Global affiliation. This partnership aims to provide high-quality academic programs taught by faculty deeply committed to student success as well as expand our strong external partnerships and facilitate learning beyond the classroom. Funding will support Dr. Barragan's travel expenses for an on-site visit to Pai Chai University in Daejeon, South Korea.





**Muhammad Ahmed (School of Engineering Technology). "Teaching Problem-solving and Innovation Process to Underserved School Students". \$10,228.**

Dr. Ahmed aims to help overcome the barriers disadvantaged and underserved students face by developing an afterschool program. Multipurpose programs offer homework help, recreation activities, enrichment, snacks, and meals. Specialty programs provide a specific set of experiences or develop a particular set of skills. These programs are often fee-based and thus target youth from middle and upper-income families excluding lower income children. Dr. Ahmed realized the lack of participation from the disadvantaged schools districts during the first EMUiNVENT competition in 2019. Funding will support coaching sessions at local schools for low income students as well as help each student identify a problem, develop a prototype, and present their solution at EMUiNVENT.

**Danny Bonenberger, Nancy Bryk, and Matthew Cook (Department of Geography and Geology). "99 Pine Street Project". \$16,300.**

Professor Bryk, Dr. Bonenberger, and Dr. Cook acknowledge that historic and cultural sites relating to people of color have long been unrecognized. Sites of protest, civil rights, segregation, or resourcefulness and perseverance are inadequately documented and, often due to poor condition, are lost or razed at an alarming rate. 99 Pine Street in Manistee, Michigan was the family home of Raymond and Annie Mae Smith. The house was purchased in 1935 by the couple originally from Thomasville, Georgia. They were the only Black family to live in Manistee for many years and were the only African American family in town for many years. This historic site remains intact but requires careful preservation planning and work prioritization so the building can remain standing. The household includes hundreds of family artifacts, letters, photographs, postcards, and legal documents. The items must be inventoried, and the most important ones digitized and rehoused to prevent further deterioration. Funding will support four EMU faculty/instructors, and about 12 graduate students, to plan and implement the research, documentation, and interpretation of the 1935 household.





**Heather Hutchins-Wiese and Claudia Drossel (School of Health Sciences and Department of Psychology).**

**"Development of an Innovative Intervention for Better Living with Osteoarthritis". \$12,914.**

Dr. Hutchins-Wiese and Dr. Drossel aim to develop an innovative intervention for better living with Osteoarthritis.

Osteoarthritis (OA) is an inflammatory chronic condition that impacts an estimated 54.4 million. Common treatments such as weight loss, increase in physical activity, and self-management skills have been rarely put into practice. To overcome barriers to implementing OA management guidelines, the proposed project will develop an innovative telehealth intervention program that translates from research to community settings. The project aims to develop a novel intervention for the delivery of behavioral health, nutrition, and physical activity services to adults 60 years and older. The project also aims to evaluate the feasibility and acceptability of this innovative program, with the long-term goal of obtaining external funding for a pilot effectiveness trial. Funding will support reassigned time to carry out program development and conduct project activities, including training and overseeing student-participant interactions.



**Quentin Hunter and Devika Dibya Choudhuri (Department of Leadership and Counseling). "Validation and Development of an Instrument to Assess Historic Trauma". \$6,500.**

Dr. Hunter and Dr. Choudhuri aim to develop an instrument to assess historic trauma. Historic trauma includes psychological wounding due to the histories of slavery, genocide, colonization, and losses due to cultural membership. Dr. Hunter and Dr. Choudhuri want to develop effective interventions across impacted communities. To quantify this a scale to measure the degree of traumatization and change is necessary. Funding will support the validation of the Historic Trauma Scale, using expert review for face validity, pilot testing the instrument and conducting focus groups to review experience of the instrument and items. They will then survey participants with a revised instrument with other comparison instruments (e.g., Trauma-Related Cognitions Scale) to determine reliability, factor structure, and variables.