

# University of Bridgeport Awarded National Institutes of Health Grant

By **Staff Writer** - August 15, 2016



The University of Bridgeport announced that it has been chosen by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to receive the first yearly award of a planned five-year, \$447,252 grant to support its “Enhancing Research Administration at an Emerging Research Institution in Urban, Southwest Connecticut” project. UB is only one of two U.S. universities awarded a grant in the competition.

Through the project, UB seeks to create a shared culture of research collaboration by using the funding to build research administration capacity and support faculty engagement in biomedical and biobehavioral research. Plans are already underway to work closely with UB administrators and engage faculty in critical professional development and on-campus programming.

Christine Hempowicz, Ed.D., Director of the Office of Sponsored Research and Programs, and Ruba Deeb, Ph.D., Director of Biomedical Research Development and Research Associate Professor of Bioengineering, will be the project’s principal leaders. As part of the grant, Dr. Hempowicz attended intensive, two-week residency training at NIH in May 2016.

“We are thrilled by this very significant achievement that will help UB continue to grow its research initiative,” said Tarek M. Sobh, Ph.D., P.E., Senior Vice President for Graduate Studies and Research and Dean of the

School of Engineering at the University of Bridgeport, who will act as senior advisor. "Through this program, we expect to better prepare faculty to write, submit, and garner an increased number of competitive research proposals, while also providing opportunities for underrepresented student participation in research."

NIH, agency component of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, is the primary federal agency conducting and supporting medical research.

The grant was provided by NIH's Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health & Human Development of the National Institutes of Health under award number G11HD088111.

The content is solely the responsibility of the authors and does not necessarily represent the official views of the National Institutes of Health.

---