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## NEWS

# FSU awarded \$12.8 million NIH grant to diversify early career researchers | Campus Notes

**Byron Dobson** Tallahassee Democrat

Published 11:41 a.m. ET Oct. 17, 2021

## FSU awarded \$12.8 million NIH to diversify early career researchers

A team of Florida State University researchers from the College of Nursing, College of Medicine and College of Arts & Sciences has received a \$12.8 million National Institutes of Health grant to build a diverse community of early career researchers committed to improving mental health and chronic disease prevention and management.

The university will use the funding to create the FLORIDA-FIRST BRIGADE, a program designed to support new tenure-track assistant professors and build a research community committed to diversity and inclusive excellence.

Frankie Wong, McKenzie Endowed Professor in Health Equity Research in the College of Nursing and Founding Director of the Center for Population Sciences and Health Equity will lead the project along with Sylvie Naar, Distinguished Endowed Professor in the College of Medicine and founding director of the Center for Transitional Behavioral Science, and Pamela Keel, Distinguished Research Professor in the Department of Psychology in the College of Arts and Sciences.

The project is supported by co-investigators in the FSU College of Nursing (Associate Professor Eugenia Millender) and the University of Hawai`i at Mānoa (Professor Jack Barile).

The project team plans to promote inclusive excellence in research and develop an innovative model for the next generation of FSU health-science faculty by recalibrating processes for minority recruitment, advancement and retention at FSU.

## **FSU team earns \$3.1M NIH grant to study racial inequities in health care**

A second team of Florida State University researchers has received a National Institutes of Health Director's Transformative Research Award worth \$3.1 million to investigate racial inequities in the nation's health-care system.

The award is the first of its kind to be administered by the National Institute of Minority Health and Health Disparities, part of the NIH.

FSU College of Medicine Distinguished Endowed Professor Sylvie Naar is principal investigator for the five-year grant, along with Assistant Vice President for Research and Academic Affairs Norman Anderson, a member of the National Academy of Medicine, and College of Social Work Associate Professor Carrie Pettus.

The research award is an example of the NIH moving in a new direction, providing funding specifically to investigate behavioral and social issues leading to racial inequities in the health-care system.