



SLOAN SCHOLARS MENTORING NETWORK

AN INITIATIVE OF THE ALFRED P. SLOAN FOUNDATION
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH COUNCIL

Announcing the Fall 2018 SSMN Grantees

The Social Science Research Council, with the support of the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, is pleased to announce our fall 2018 Sloan Scholars Mentoring Network grantees. All SSMN grantees are PhD alumni of the Sloan Minority PhD Program.

Grants were awarded in three grant categories:

- conference travel (up to \$1,500)
- mentor/mentee (up to \$5,000)
- seed grants (up to \$10,000)

The grants in this three-tier grant program are designed to assist Sloan Scholar PhDs in promoting their work (conference travel grants), seeking collaborative and learning opportunities to expand their skills (mentor/mentee grants), and initiating projects that expand their research (seed grants)—all with the potential benefit of helping these PhDs become more established in their fields.

Competition dates are announced on the SSMN listserv, social media, and website.

Conference Grants (up to \$1,500)



HILSAMAR FELIX

Assistant Professor, **University of Puerto Rico**

Sloan Scholar PhD in chemistry,
University of Puerto Rico

American Chemical Society National Meeting at Chemical Education Symposium in Orlando, FL



LORNA JARAMILLO-NIEVES

Professor, **University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus**

Sloan Scholar PhD in physical sciences,
University of Colorado-Boulder

Geographical Society of America in Indianapolis, IN



NEKESHA WILLIAMS

Assistant Professor, **Saint Mary's College of California**

Sloan Scholar PhD in environmental and earth sciences,
University of South Florida

Association for the Sciences of Limnology and Oceanography (ASLO) Aquatic Sciences



JESSYE TALLEY

Assistant Professor, **Morgan State University**

Sloan Scholar PhD in industrial and systems engineering,
North Carolina A&T State University

INFORMS Annual Meeting, Phoenix, AZ



REGINA POPE-FORD

Assistant Professor, **Bradley University**

Sloan Scholar PhD in industrial and systems engineering,
North Carolina A&T State University

SACNAS (Society for Advancing Chicanos/Hispanics & Native Americans in Science) Conference in San Antonio, Texas



Alfred P. Sloan
FOUNDATION



SSRC

History of SSMN

Since 1995, the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation has been providing support for underrepresented minorities through its Minority PhD and Sloan Indigenous Graduate Partnership programs, which aim to increase the diversity of higher education in STEM fields. These efforts have increased the number of underrepresented minorities with PhDs in the STEM fields by almost 1200 Sloan Scholars to date.

In partnership with the Sloan Foundation, the Social Science Research Council has developed the Sloan Scholars Mentoring Network (SSMN) to:

- increase the numbers and status of underrepresented populations in the academy,
- establish a Sloan Scholars brand that raises the public profile and prestige of the MPhD program for the benefit of the Scholars and,
- strengthen a Sloan Scholar community committed to mentorship, as well as identifying and nurturing leaders to foster more inclusive and supportive cultures within academic institutions.

This multi-pronged program serves the Sloan Scholar community through a strategic mix of professional development, mentoring, networking, and leadership training opportunities.

Mentor/Mentee Grants (up to \$5,000)



KANDY VELAZQUEZ-FIGUEROA

Postdoctoral Researcher, **University of South Carolina**

Sloan Scholar PhD in pathology, microbiology & immunology, **University of South Carolina**

"Using electrophysiological techniques to investigate novel analgesic therapies for cancer pain" at the University of Connecticut in Dr. Bin Feng's lab

Seed Grants (up to \$10,000)



DAMENA AGONAFER

Assistant Professor, **Washington University in Saint Louis**

Sloan Scholar PhD in mechanical engineering & materials science, **University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign**

"Fundamental Transport Mechanisms of Microdroplet Evaporation from Nanocoated Microporous Structures for Low and High Surface Tension Liquid"



CORIE COBB

Associate Professor, **University of Washington**

Sloan Scholar PhD in mechanical engineering, **University of California-Berkeley**

"Towards Scalable, Additive Manufacturing of Solid-State Batteries"



PAUL HURTADO

Assistant Professor, **University of Nevada, Reno**

Sloan Scholar PhD in mathematics & statistics, **Cornell University**

"Incorporating More Flexible Delay Distributions Into Ordinary Differential Equations (ODE) Models"



CESUNICA IVEY

Assistant Professor, **University of California-Riverside**

Sloan Scholar PhD in chemical and environmental engineering, **Georgia Institute of Technology**

"Characterization of Air Quality Disparities in Inland Southern California"



DANIEL RIVERA-VAZQUEZ

Assistant Professor, **Northwestern State University of Louisiana**

Sloan Scholar PhD in biological and physical science, **University of Puerto Rico**

"Synthesis and characterization of metal sulphide nanostructures"