

Faculty receive FORWARD grants

Four faculty received Leap Laboratory Renovation awards through NDSU's Advance FORWARD project. The grants were funded with Office of Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research money, provided through the Vice President for Research, Creative Activities and Technology Transfer Office. Grant recipients are Birgit Pruess, assistant professor of veterinary and microbiological sciences; Sangita Sinha, assistant professor of chemistry and biochemistry; Annie Tangpong, assistant professor of mechanical engineering; and Yechun Wang, assistant professor of mechanical engineering. Sinha's award will fund lab renovations that support her plan to establish the first macromolecular crystallography lab in North Dakota. Her proposal includes renovations to one lab in IACC and two in Dunbar. The space in IACC will be changed to a "wet research" lab space with the installation of overhead lab shelving and an extra-wide countertop to accommodate a centrifuge. In Dunbar, one lab will be reconfigured to accommodate a diffractometer and an emergency power backup will be installed. In the other Dunbar lab, three cubicles with blackout curtains will be added. The lab renovation award for Tangpong provides replacements for two air conditioners in her lab/teaching space in Dolve Hall. Wang's award will be used to improve a lab in Dolve, including a new lab sink, fume hood, chemical resistant experimental countertop and supporting cabinets. The air makeup facility in the lab area also will be upgraded.