



# Rudy Ruggles STEM Interdisciplinary Research Award

Western Connecticut State University Sigma Xi Chapter

## Award Description:

Successful research approaches and problem solving often require diverse skill sets. There is increasing recognition that STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) innovation is stronger when it includes expertise from multiple disciplines. The Rudy Ruggles STEM Interdisciplinary Research Award is a competitive grant to incentivize and promote partnerships between scientists from diverse disciplines, job sectors, and career levels to collaborate on STEM research.

**Award Launch Date:** February 2025

**Award Amount:** \$1,000

**Award Frequency:** One per year

## Award Eligibility:

- Each submission should include at least one Sigma Xi member from the northeast region.
- Each submission should have at least two individuals representing at least two different STEM disciplines. Submissions can also include individuals in disciplines outside of STEM and such inclusion is encouraged.

Team members can represent any career level (e.g., student, professional, retired), any job sector (e.g., academia, government, industry), and STEM discipline. Teams that represent diverse career levels and job sectors are encouraged.

## Award Requirements:

Award applications will be evaluated by the WCSU Sigma Xi Awards Committee.

Applicants should submit the following in their award application:

- 1–2-page description of proposed project. Description should include project background, why the project is needed, clear statement of research goal, how interdisciplinary cooperation strengthens the project, and how funds will be used.
- CVs for each team member.

The award winner will be required to present at a Sigma Xi meeting by the spring following the award distribution to provide an update on the research and how the interdisciplinary nature of the project enhances the success of achieving project goals.

All application materials should be submitted as a single PDF and emailed to [prietoj@wcsu.edu](mailto:prietoj@wcsu.edu)

**Award Submission Due Date:** March 31, 2025

**Award Winner Announcement Date:** April 2025 (at the spring seminar presented by the 2024 Rudy Ruggles STEM Interdisciplinary Research Award winners).

**Award Distribution Date:** June 1, 2025

