



Internal Grants Awardees Selected

Boca Raton, Fla. (April 13, 2018) – We are pleased to announce the recipients of our second annual internal grants program through the Division of Research, as part of a new initiative to stimulate external research funding.

We sought proposals to grow multidisciplinary collaborations that lead to externally funded research programs in the Sensing and Smart Systems pillar.

We are distributing among awardees all \$100,000 available under this program. We issued two calls for proposals and have granted two awards, both from the first call. The second batch of submissions are under review. Here's a summary of the awards.

Human Aspects of Autonomous Driving

PI: Mehrdad Nojournian, Ph.D.

Co-PI: Dimitris Pados, Ph.D.

Amount: \$25,570

Description: The investigators will explore how to establish, sustain and rebuild (in the case of incidental failures) trust between humans and autonomous systems. They will perform experiments and look at the interaction between humans and their autonomous testbeds under the lens of trust in a controlled setting. They will develop a reflective module with three operation modes in the software system that controls the autonomous system.

A Sensor-Based, Dynamical Systems Approach to Guiding Therapeutic Interactions

PI: Paul Peluso, Ph.D.

Amount: \$20,313

Description: This research project is an extension of observational research into the therapeutic relationship that relies on the notion of synchrony to quantify emotional valence on both sides of the relationship. The Department of Counselor Education-based project aims to provide insights into the dynamics of therapist-client interactions, and ultimately, to guide those interactions to successful outcomes.

###