

**TWO NSF GRANTS  
APPROVED FOR USI**



## **NEWS RELEASE**

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The National Science Foundation has approved two matching grants totaling \$67,538 for new equipment in the University of Southern Indiana School of Science and Engineering Technology, requested in order to increase experimentation capabilities for students and encourage their continued study in the fields of biology and chemistry.

A \$33,117 grant was approved for Dr. Marlene V. Shaw, professor of biology, and her co-director, Dr. Jeanne C. Barnett, assistant professor of biology, on a project to enhance upper-level undergraduate experiences in molecular biology. Dr. Shaw said the project allows them to improve the required genetics course by increasing student access to its hands-on recombinant DNA component and to add a molecular biology techniques course. Students will be able to get more hands-on experience in the genetics laboratory, as well as do a wider range of experiments, Dr. Shaw said.

A \$34,421 grant approved for Dr. Kevin W. McLaughlin, assistant professor of chemistry, will upgrade curriculum and instrumentation capabilities in chemistry, permitting students hands-on experience with mainstay (FTIR) equipment in chemistry in general, and physical and polymer chemistry in particular. The Physical Science Department plans to introduce polymer chemistry-related experiments throughout the curriculum. In preparation, Dr. Marie G. Hankins, department chair, spent the summer of 1991 at the University of Southern Mississippi, working on the FTIR and NMR characterization of polymers.

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