I lead a research project funded by the National Science Foundation to compare ecotourism projects in Botswana, Brazil, Nicaragua, and the Peruvian Amazon. With three of my students, we are studying how varying levels of community participation in ecotourism are associated with different outcomes for wildlife conservation.

I used a portion of my Montague-CTE award to purchase a high-quality camera and telephoto lens. The equipment has been invaluable for sharing my field research with the undergraduate students in my class “Development and Management of Protected Areas.” Our goal in the course is to understand interactions between social systems and ecosystems, and to discuss different approaches to conservation, including national parks, indigenous reserves, and ecotourism.