

7-1-2012

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Georgia Southern University Professors Receive \$360,000 Grant from the Office of Naval Research

July 1, 2012

Weihua (Marshall) Ming, Ph.D., Georgia Southern University Associate Professor in Chemistry and Distinguished Chair in Materials Science at Georgia Southern, was awarded a three-year, \$360,000 grant by the Office of Naval Research.

The grant, "Smart Coatings for Detection of Early Metal Corrosion and Self Healing Corrosion Protection", will allow researchers at Georgia Southern to develop sophisticated, smart corrosion-detecting and anti-corrosion coatings. The coatings, which will be used on ships, aircraft and more, are expected to potentially save billions of dollars in maintenance costs for the U.S. Navy.

Ming, who joined Georgia Southern in 2011, serves as principal investigator on the grant along with co-investigator John DiCesare, department chair and professor of organic chemistry at Georgia Southern.

The grant builds on the University's multidisciplinary research team in Materials Science which is focusing on Polymers/Coatings, Biologically-Inspired Materials, and Hybrid (Nano) composite Materials.

Prior to joining Georgia Southern, Ming served as research associate professor in materials science at the University of New Hampshire and as Assistant Professor in Polymer Chemistry and Coatings Technology at Eindhoven University of Technology in The Netherlands. His research has focused on multifunctional, nanostructured polymer materials and coatings.

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