

## **FACULTY RESEARCH FUND**

**Award Date:** Fall 2021

**Proposal Title:** Acquiring Competencies and Knowledge for Mental Health Professionals through Machine Learning, Natural Language Processing and Virtual Reality

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### **ABSTRACT**

Virtual reality (VR) related technology, Natural Learning Processing (NLP) and Machine Learning (ML) have long permeated various parts of our society, including education. However, VR, ML and NLP have not saturated the mental health field nearly to the same degree in practice or training. The authors of this project seek to change that through the software under development described in this proposal. This technology would allow students and/or trainees to build their basic facilitative skills and receive immediate feedback using machine learning and natural learning processing through virtual reality simulated scenarios. Furthermore, educators could provide an effective and efficient way to build and sharpen students' skills to better prepare them for their work with real clients.

*Keywords:* Mental Health, Virtual Reality, Natural Learning Processing and Machine Learning