



Diversity Outlook

TOGETHER, WE CAN ALL MAKE A DIFFERENCE

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A WORD FROM THE VICE PROVOST



Fred Rodriguez,
Vice Provost for
Diversity & Equity

Nearly 150 KU faculty, staff, and graduate students participated in the 3rd Annual Spring Symposium on the Scholarship of Diversity. The two nationally known speakers—James Johnson of the UNC-Chapel Hill faculty and Syracuse University’s Chancellor, Nancy Cantor—provided compelling information and discussed challenges facing higher education in the near future. Several of your KU colleagues also shared insight from their research and scholarship in smaller breakout sessions. I want to thank all of our KU presenters and those who joined us for this annual symposium. The two keynote presentations will be on the D&E website soon for those who were unable to attend.

Weather forced rescheduling of the Langston Hughes Visiting Professor lecture by Professor David Holmes. Please join us April 9th at 3:30 in the Kansas Room for his talk and the reception that follows.

Additionally, the LHVP professorship moves to the fall semester rather than what has been a spring-semester appointment. The call for nominations led to the LHVP committee offering the fall 2013 LHVP to Professor Matt Pettway from Bates College in Maine. His appointment will be in the Department of Spanish & Portuguese, and plans call for him to make an early May visit to meet with department colleagues, students, and administrators; coordinate his teaching load; view the housing arrangements; and briefly tour the campus and Lawrence. These visits have proven to be extremely valuable as they allow the visiting professor to get familiar with the department and campus and begin to connect with colleagues. Upon their subsequent arrival to campus for the semester, all is not foreign to them.

On April 19th, the offices of Diversity & Equity and Multicultural Affairs team up with four student groups—Asian American Student Union, Black Student Union, First Nations Student Association, Hispanic American Leadership Organization (HALO)—to sponsor a panel discussion on immigration issues and their implications for higher education; details on pg. 2.

As always, I welcome your comments or questions at fredrod@ku.edu.

See • Campus spotlights
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for • Events calendar

RESCHEDULED SPRING 2013 LANGSTON HUGHES LECTURE

“Occupy This: Presidential Rhetoric, Prophetic Voices, and the Contested Rhetorical Legacies of the Civil Rights Movement”



As the 24th Langston Hughes Visiting Professor, David G. Holmes gives the public lecture (titled above) **Tues., April 9, 3:30 p.m.**, in the Kansas Room of the Kansas Union; a reception follows.

Professor of English and Director of African American Studies at Pepperdine University, Holmes’ interests include African American expressive culture, political rhetoric and theology, religious rhetoric, and rhetorics of racism. He is the author of *Revisiting Racialized Voice: African American Ethos in Language and Literature*, and his major research project focuses on remapping the rhetorical narratives of the Birmingham mass meetings of 1963.



YOU ARE INVITED!

The fifth anniversary of the Sabatini Multicultural Resource Center will be celebrated with a reception April 25, 4-5:30. Come recognize the past, enjoy the beautiful space, and preview the future. **R.S.V.P. by April 19 to the Office of Multicultural Affairs: 864-4350.**



BEYOND THE HILL 13th Annual Student Research Symposium

Sponsored by the KU Office for Diversity in Science Training, this is a yearly opportunity for undergraduate and graduate students at Haskell and KU to present posters of their science and engineering research. The public is invited to Tecumseh Hall on the Haskell campus, **Tues., April 16, 4-6 p.m.**, to peruse the posters, talk with the students, and enjoy refreshments. Past topics have included genetics, plant research, biomedical studies, societal relations, and much more; this year’s posters will be as diverse as the students presenting them.

WEIGH IN ON THE DIVERSITY SYMPOSIUM

If you attended last week's diversity symposium and haven't given your evaluation, please go to <http://diversity.ku.edu/symposium-eval> and provide feedback to help us improve future collaborations.

Below, James Johnson of UNC-Chapel Hill, conducts a breakout session after being the first of two keynote speakers.



OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS IMMIGRATION ISSUES

KU joins a network of U.S. colleges and universities to bring attention to the topic and issues surrounding immigration: Specifically, the impact immigration policy (or lack of) has on higher education and the U.S. economy. A panel of KU faculty and staff will present perspectives and there will be opportunity

for Q&A and dialogue at this one-hour event. Beverages and light snacks will be provided.

Four student groups, the Office of Multicultural Affairs, and the Office of D&E are sponsoring the event.

Friday, April 19 2:00–3:00
Big 12 Room, Kansas Union
 Open to all students, staff, faculty

SCHOLARSHIP OF DIVERSITY: A SYNOPSIS

Attracting the missing students

A study reported in December revealed that most low-income, high-achieving high school students aren't applying to a single competitive college. Further, the study found that many colleges are searching for these students at a very small number of U.S. high schools and in the process are missing lots of talent.

Nearly 40,000 students were tracked for the study, with an emphasis on high-achieving, low-income students who were *not* enrolled at high schools where many students go on to the most competitive colleges. These students received a series of interventions in the form of the kind of information similar to what wealthier students receive or addressing concerns poor families might have; these included customized information. For example, the materials showed that the more selective colleges generally have higher success rates than do those institutions to which these students commonly apply or that the actual cost of attending more-selective colleges is less than that of attending less-selective colleges for lower income students.

The results of these interventions were dramatic:

- Students in the program submitted 19% more applications to college, on average, than did comparable students not receiving the interventions, and were 27% more likely to submit five or more applications.
- The students were significantly more likely to apply to "peer" institutions and 31% more likely to be admitted to one. They also were significantly more likely to enroll at a peer college.
- Once admitted, the students who enroll at the competitive colleges did as well or better than similar students who attended less competitive institutions.

Read more about this successful intervention (at a cost of \$6 per student), the reasons more colleges aren't doing this, data resources available, and more, plus a link to the original study.

Synopsis by Scott Jaschik, on Inside Higher Ed www.insidehighered.com, April 1, 2013; report by Caroline M. Hoxby & Christopher Aver, *NBER Working Paper No. 18586*, Dec. 2012.

The University of Kansas prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, religion, sex, national origin, age, ancestry, disability, status as a veteran, sexual orientation, marital status, parental status, gender identity, gender expression and genetic information in the University's programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Director of Office of Institutional Opportunity & Access, IOA@ku.edu, 1246 W. Campus Road, Room 153A, Lawrence, KS, 66045, (785)864-6414, 711 TTY.

UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL

- 9 24th Langston Hughes Visiting Professor Lecture**
David Holmes (Pepperdine) 3:30, KS Room, KS Union
- 9 KU Women's Recognition Banquet**
6 p.m., Kansas Union Ballroom; [email for more information](#)
- 9 The Tuskegee Airmen: "Red Tails" examined by Kevin Willmott** 7:30, Dole Institute of Politics
- 9–11 1st Annual Persian Culture Fest**
various locations; [click for program flier & co-sponsors](#)
- 13 The Big Event** volunteer opportunities; [click for details](#)
- 13 Spring Powwow** 1 p.m., Robinson Center; sponsored by the First Nations Student Association
- 16 Annual Student Research Symposium** Haskell, see pg. 1
- 17–20 Africa World Documentary Film Festival**
Wescoe Hall, rm 3139 & 3140; [click for program schedule](#)
- 19 Discussion on Immigration** see boxed item to left
- 25 OMA 5-year celebration** reservations, please; see pg. 1
- 29 Naismith Lecture "Beyond Bikini Medicine: A Sex and Gender Approach to Women's Health"**
Kim Templeton, MD; 252 Robinson Center, 5 p.m.

COLLEAGUE IN THE SPOTLIGHT



Sonja Heath's Jayhawk credentials include formerly driving buses on campus as well as three degrees. For two years she has been the Assistant Director at the Emily Taylor Center for Women & Gender Equity, where she provides sexual violence prevention and education services. This includes coordination of Sexual Assault Awareness Week, making presentations, and working with the staffs of IOA and Student Affairs to evaluate and revise relevant campus policies. The Overland Park native earned a B.A. (English), B.S.J., and M.S.E. in Higher Education Administration, all from the University of Kansas.

PROGRAM IN THE SPOTLIGHT

The Beach Center on Disability is a multi-disciplinary research and training center committed to making a significant and sustainable positive difference in the quality of life of individuals and families affected by disability and the professionals who support them. Affiliated with KU's Life Span Institute and the Dept. of Special Education, the BCD provides service internationally as well as at the national, state, and local levels.