# Research & Graduate Studies @ KU

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**April 2012** 

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## **April 28 Event Begins a Bold Vision for KU**



Far Above: The Campaign for Kansas will publicly launch on April 28. "With support from the entire KU community — alumni, friends, faculty, staff, students and parents — the campaign will ensure that KU will excel in every measure," according to KU Endowment. "It will benefit every

campus as well as The University of Kansas Hospital with one shared vision: to raise the expectations we have for ourselves, the aspirations we have for our state, and the hopes we have for our nation. The campaign builds on the strengths of the university and hospital, and their distinction in the state, throughout the Heartland and around the globe." For more information, the initial KU Endowment campaign piece is available online: Glorious to View.

## KU Research Continues to Grow, but Funding Challenges Loom

Research at the University of Kansas made a major impact on the state's economy last year, in addition to finding cures, discovering new technology and benefiting Kansans everywhere.

Research expenditures at all KU campuses grew to \$240.1 million in fiscal 2011, a 6.9 percent increase over 2010. That figure included all externally funded research, training and service from all sources. It is a record amount for KU and the fourth consecutive annual increase.

"A vital part of our mission as the state's flagship university is to conduct research that benefits our state and society," said Chancellor Bernadette Gray-Little. "The resources our faculty and staff bring to Kansas are helping us improve lives and foster prosperity."

Federally funded science and engineering research – a key segment of KU's overall total that affects national rankings – grew to \$159.1 million in fiscal 2011, a 15.7 percent increase over 2010. However, part of that increase came from short-term, one-time awards under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, a stimulus program that has now expired. Last year, federal agencies accounted for 81.5 percent of KU's research funding.

"I'm pleased with the 2011 results, but there's a red flag as well," said Steve Warren, vice chancellor for research and graduate studies. "KU and all other research universities face significant funding challenges in the years ahead. We're already seeing the effects of the end of the stimulus program and the uncertain federal budget outlook. The likelihood of flat or declining federal funding for research is one reason we are ramping up efforts to obtain more support from industry and private foundations."

Gray-Little pointed to the new Bold Aspirations strategic plan as another example of KU sharpening its research focus. "By making targeted investments – new hires, new infrastructure, and new graduate student support – in high-priority fields, we'll be more successful in bringing research funds, and the resulting benefits, here to Kansas," she said.

## Nick Stevens, Others Promoted in Research and Graduate Studies



Nick Stevens, director of research information systems in the Office of Research and Graduate Studies, took on additional duties recently and was named assistant vice chancellor. Pat Kuester, director of post-award services, was also promoted and now reports to him, along with Robert Kerley as the newly promoted manager of research information systems.

Post-Award Services involves the management of awards in the KU Center for Research. Research Information Systems includes application support and training, data integrity and reporting, and technical services.

Pre-Award Services (Barbara Earl) and Contract Negotiations (Lucille Marino) continue to report to Joanne Altieri, director of research administration, as assistant directors.

Both Stevens and Altieri report directly to Vice Chancellor Steve Warren. An updated organizational chart reflecting this new structure is available online.

#### NCURA Video Reviews Post-Award Research Administration Issues

The Office of Research and Graduate Studies is hosting a video presentation on Thursday, April 12 that reviews post-award issues for pre-award research administrators and departmental administrators. "It Takes a Village to Manage Awards" will take place from 1-4:30 p.m. in the Auditorium at Simons Biosciences Research Labs on West Campus.

The video was produced by the National Council of University Research Administrators (NCURA). There is no charge to attend, but registration is requested. Handouts will be distributed by email to those who register by 4 p.m. on April 11<sup>th</sup>. To register, email resadmin-events@ku.edu with your name, title and department. (The NCURA video presentation takes the place of this month's Thursday Research Topics training session. Future sessions are scheduled for the second Thursday of the month, with topics to be announced in advance.)

Participants in the pre-recorded NCURA video presentation will develop a better understanding of, and a resource toolkit for, addressing the following aspects of contract negotiation:

- Explore key compliance issues impacting departmental, pre-award and post-award functions
- Identify best practices to facilitate efficient and effective award management

Moderator is Samantha J. Westcott, manager, Sponsored Projects Team, Children's Hospital Los Angeles. Panelists are Kerry Peluso, associate vice president for research administration, Emory University; Jerry

Pogatshnik, associate vice president for research and dean of the Graduate School, Eastern Kentucky University; and Tamara Lucas, specialist, contracts and grants, Departments of Pathology, Medical and Research Technology, University of Maryland, Baltimore.

## **New F&A Rates Take Effect at Lawrence Campus**

Externally funded research awards include both the direct costs of the project and the indirect facilities and administrative (F&A) costs. The latter is a negotiated reimbursement to the university of part of the institution's costs that cannot be identified readily and specifically with a particular sponsored project. These include libraries, student services, campus operations and maintenance, administration, and depreciation of buildings and equipment.

KU's current F&A rates for the Lawrence Campus took effect in fiscal year 2007. New F&A rates were negotiated recently with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and will be used on all non-industry proposals submitted with a beginning date of July 1, 2012 or later. Currently active awards will not be affected by the new rates unless and until the project enters a competitive cycle.

The new rates, and the effective dates, are as follows:

Category	New Rate	Effective Date
On-Campus Research	47%	July 1, 2011
On-Campus Research	49%	July 1, 2012
On-Campus Research	49.5%	July 1, 2013
On-Campus Research	50%	July 1, 2014
On-Campus Instruction	50%	July 1, 2012
Other Sponsored Activities	33%	July 1, 2012
Off-Campus, All Programs	26%	No change

The On-Campus Research rate will increase incrementally as shown above from our current rate of 47%. The On-Campus Instruction rate increased effective July 1, 2011 from 47%, but RGS will not implement any change in current projects until July 1, 2012. Other Sponsored Activities and all non-industry Off-Campus programs will continue through 2015 with the rates currently in effect. Approval is pending for a new rate for industry research projects. In practice, the recovery of indirect costs varies from the posted F&A rates, depending on the funding agency and other factors.

The determination of the university's F&A rate is a complicated process, involving precise space calculations and categories of allowable and unallowable costs as defined by the federal government (OMB Circular A-21). Leadership of the most recent negotiation was provided by Beth Ridenour and Mariana Traetta under direction from the Comptroller's Office and with assistance from many individuals across campus. Immediate questions affecting current projects can be addressed to Barbara Earl in Pre-Award Services, 864-7781, or Pat Kuester in Post-Award Services, 864-1267.

## Five Researchers to Receive University Scholarly Achievement Awards May 8











Five faculty members have been named recipients of the University Scholarly Achievement Awards, which recognize mid-career scholars who have made significant scholarly or research contributions to their fields. The awards are presented in four categories and recipients are chosen by a panel of their peers. The 2012 recipients are (left to right):

- Cory Berkland, associate professor of chemical and petroleum engineering, and of pharmaceutical chemistry (science, technology and math);
- Russell Swerdlow, professor of neurology, molecular and integrative physiology, biochemistry and molecular biology, and director of the Alzheimer's Disease Center; jointly awarded with
- **Jeffrey Burns**, associate professor of neurology, and co-director of the Alzheimer's Disease Center (clinical science);
- Donna Ginther, professor of economics (social science and professional programs); and
- Jeffrey Moran, associate professor of history (arts and humanities).

More information about the recipients is available online. A ceremony and reception in the recipients' honor is scheduled for Tuesday, May 8, from 4:30-6 p.m. in The Commons at Spooner Hall.

## KU Book Publication Awards Go to Corteguera, Fowler

Luis Corteguera, associate professor of history, is the 2012 recipient of the annual Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Studies Book Publication Award, a program that assists the publication of meritorious book manuscripts resulting from humanities research by KU faculty members. The award is sponsored by RGS and administered by the Hall Center for the Humanities.

The award is for Corteguera's upcoming book, *Death by Effigy: A Case from the Mexican Inquisition*, to be published by the University of Pennsylvania Press. The book centers on a scandal that took place in 1578 in the Mexican town of Tecamachalco. His study is a story of dishonor and revenge. It traces the four years during which inquisitors conducted nine trials and interrogated dozens of witnesses, revealing a vivid portrait of friendship, love, and hatred in a Mexican colonial town.

The Hall Center also announced that Doreen Fowler, professor of English, is the 2012 recipient of the Friends Book Publication Award, sponsored annually by Friends of the Hall Center. Her forthcoming book is *Drawing the Line: Boundary Negotiation in Faulkner, Wright, O'Connor, and Morrison*. It offers a nuanced model of psychoanalytic boundary formation, arguing that a boundary is common ground, a site that is both the one thing and the other, and that boundary-formation always involves mediation. Her work applies this model to literary texts and to American cultural history, illustrating both the way psychoanalytic theory can be used to interpret fiction and cultural history, as well as the ways that literature and history can reshape theory.

## **Doctoral Student Named Outstanding International Woman Student at KU**



**Sylvia Nwosu**, a doctoral student in chemical and petroleum engineering, was honored April 3 as KU's Outstanding International Woman Student for 2012. Nwosu, a native of Nigeria, will receive her Ph.D. degree later this year. She is actively involved with KU's Center for Environmentally Beneficial Catalysis, one of more than 60 graduate students who've done research there since 2003.

Her citation read, in part: "Sylvia has an unending enthusiasm for research and for sustainable chemical engineering. She is passionate about her work and she inspires new undergraduate and graduate students to work hard to solve grand challenges facing our society today. In addition, Sylvia is a caring mentor for not only students at KU but also inner-city high school students struggling to understand math and science. . Her graduate work at [CEBC] captures her

passion for a greener and more sustainable industry in Nigeria."

Also at the ceremony, **Debra Kamps** was inducted into the KU Women's Hall of Fame. She is senior scientist for the Juniper Garden's Children's Project and director since 2008 of the Kansas Center for Autism Research and Training. She received master's and doctoral degrees at KU and was the recipient of the 2009 KU Research Achievement Award, presented by the Office of Research and Graduate Studies.

**Cynthia Carroll** was also inducted into the KU Women's Hall of Fame. She is CEO of Anglo American PLC, a global mining group and FTSE 20 company headquartered in London. *Forbes* magazine selected her as the fourth most powerful woman in the world. Her academic background includes an M.S. degree in geology from KU in 1982.

These and other awards were presented by the Emily Taylor Women's Resource Center, the Commission on the Status of Women, and the Office of Diversity and Equity.

## New Association is Organized for KU Postdoc Researchers, Associates

A University of Kansas Postdoctoral Association (KPA) was formed recently, with financial assistance from the Office of Research and Graduate Studies. The purpose of KPA is "To support postdoctoral scholars at KU and improve their postdoctoral training in all aspects of professional research and career development, [and] to promote interactions and develop a community of KU postdoctoral scholars on campus to promote scientific, academic, social and cultural interactions."

RGS funding will pay for travel scholarships, invited speakers, lunches, and a symposium. Leadership of KPA is provided by Dyan Morgan and Jamie Alan, postdocs in Molecular Biosciences. Help in forming the group – which already has 50 participants – came from Unclassified Senate and the chair of its Professional Development Committee, Claudia Bode of CEBC, and Susan Sloop at the Higuchi Biosciences Center.

KPA meets at noon on the final Friday of each month. The next meeting is April 27. Lunch is provided, and the location will be announced via email. The meeting information will also be available on Twitter (@KUpostdocs) and the LinkedIn page (University of Kansas Postdoctoral Association). All KU postdocs and research associates are welcome. Erik Lundquist, professor of molecular biosciences, is the adviser. For more information, contact <a href="mail.com">kupostdocs@gmail.com</a>, follow @KUpostdocs on Twitter, or visit the LinkedIn page.

## Nine KU Students, Alumni Receive NSF Fellowships



The National Science Foundation has awarded nine of its Graduate Research Fellowships for 2012-13 to KU students and alumni. Regarded among the premier awards in the sciences, each fellowship provides an annual \$30,000 stipend for three years of graduate study and a \$10,500 allowance to the institution for research expenses.

The funding supports students in the early stages of their research-based master's or doctoral degree program. Eligible areas of study are the mathematical, physical,

biological, behavioral, or social sciences; engineering; the history of science; the philosophy of science; or research-based doctoral degrees in science education. To be considered for a fellowship, each applicant submitted a research proposal for review by scientific experts in the field.

The KU-related recipients are alumni Deborah Lyn Kirk and Terra Kachina Lubin, as well as current undergraduates:

- Brandie LeNae Rhodes, Aerospace Engineering
- Emily Madonna Owens, Behavioral Neuroscience
- Elizabeth Grace Mahoney, Chemical Engineering
- Matthew Robert Hiatt, Civil Engineering
- Natalie M. Freeman, Dance
- Jessica Renee Brooks, Environmental Studies
- Joshua Taylor Williams, Linguistics

In addition, eight students were cited for honorable mention, along with nine alumni.

Thomas Heilke, dean of graduate studies, said, "The Office of Graduate Studies is working with faculty and students to encourage applications for prestigious national fellowships. The success of these students demonstrates the high quality of student research at KU."

## **Doctoral Hooding Ceremony Scheduled for May 12**

This colorful annual event, the highlight of Commencement Weekend at KU, will begin at 3:30 p.m. in the Lied Center. All August, December and May doctoral degree candidates are eligible to participate in this ceremony. Only doctoral candidates who have satisfied all of their degree requirements by the deadline for graduation in May are allowed to participate in the Doctoral Hooding Ceremony. More information is available online.

## **KU-Haskell Student Research Symposium is April 17**

Now in its 12th year, the University of Kansas – Haskell Indian Nations University Student Research Symposium includes undergraduate and graduate student presenters from various programs at both universities. Poster presentations will cover such topics as biochemistry, cell biology, chemical engineering, civil engineering, environmental studies, microbiology, and psychology. The event is scheduled for 4 to 6 p.m. in historic Tecumseh Hall on the Haskell campus. A brief presentation will begin at 4:30 p.m. For more information about KU's Office for Diversity in Science Training, which supports this program and others involving KU and Haskell, call (785) 864-3641, odst@ku.edu.

## John Colombo Steps Down as HSCL Chair, Succeeded by Bruce Frey



After 19 years as chair of the Human Subjects Committee, Lawrence Campus (HSCL), John Colombo, professor of psychology and director of the Life Span Institute, will relinquish that role on April 30. He will be succeeded by Bruce Frey, associate professor of psychology and research in education and a long-time member of the HSCL, the institutional review board (IRB) for the campus.

"This is longer than anyone should be allowed to do anything," said Colombo, jokingly. "In my defense, I have tried to quit four times but have been dissuaded each time by different administrators who appealed to [my] sense of guilt and duty." He joined the

HSCL in 1989 and became chair in 1993.

In reviewing his time on the HSCL, Colombo observed that it "has moved from an adversarial and reactive impediment to research at KU to a proactive and facilitative role; in so doing, I really do believe that the human subjects who participate in research at the University of Kansas (as well as the university itself) have become better protected. I have first-hand experience with other IRBs across the U.S., and I am pretty sure that the HSCL is probably the best of all of them."

The Office of Research Integrity is hosting a reception on Thursday, April 26 in appreciation of Colombo's service as chair of the HSCL. The event is planned for the Adams Alumni Center from 3:30 to 5 p.m.

## Etzel-Wise, Iles, and Griffith Join Research Integrity Staff

Three vacancies in the Office of Research Integrity were filled in March, returning the staffing in that office to full strength. The new staff are:

- Diane Etzel-Wise is associate compliance coordinator for Research Integrity and the Human Subjects Committee, Lawrence Campus (HSCL). She has served in her position as a temporary employee since September. She has a background in social welfare, and has worked in the mental health field, other service positions, and as a university instructor. In her new position, she will work with the HSCL and other areas of research integrity, with a particular focus on compliance outreach and conflict of interest reporting and management.
- **Kim Iles** is assistant compliance coordinator for Research Integrity and the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC). She has a background in public service program leadership and management, most recently developing and coordinating mental health program services. She has also worked in compliance auditing, and with IACUC she will track compliance metrics and other aspects of research integrity.
- Chris Griffith is assistant coordinator for HSCL. He is a recent graduate of the KU Law School and is quickly learning about the various laws and regulations that govern human subjects research.

## Susan MacNally Selected for Exchange Program to Denmark



Susan MacNally, director of research integrity in the Office of Research and Graduate Studies, is the recipient of an NCURA-EARMA International Research Management Fellowship. She will spend two weeks in Denmark attached to the Research Support Office of Aarhus University/Aarhus University Hospital. After that, she will attend the International Network of Research Management Societies' 2012 Congress May 13-16 in Copenhagen.

NCURA is the National Council of University Research Administrators and EARMA is its European counterpart. This is the second year of their competitive staff exchange program. MacNally is one of four applicants chosen to receive a \$2,000 fellowship. Objectives of the

program are to advance the training of research administrators and managers and their understanding of international research collaboration.

Aarhus University is the second largest in Denmark, with nearly 43,000 students enrolled.

#### Hall Center Announces 2012-13 Humanities Lecture Series

The Hall Center for the Humanities has announced five speakers for its 2012-2013 Humanities Lecture Series. These presentations are free and open to the public. More information about each speaker is available online.

- Nikky Finney: "Making Poetry in Our Anthropocene Age" September 6, 2012, 7:30 p.m. Kansas Union, Woodruff Auditorium
- Sarah Vowell: "An Evening with Sarah Vowell"
   October 10, 2012, 7:30 p.m.
   Kansas Union, Woodruff Auditorium
- Robin Rowland: "From Hope to Audacity: The Evolution of President Barack Obama's Rhetoric and the 2012 Presidential Campaign"
  October 24, 2012, 7:30 p.m.

Kansas Union, Woodruff Auditorium

- Stephen Greenblatt: "The Swerve: How the World Became Modern" November 14, 2012, 7:30 p.m.
  The Commons at Spooner Hall
- Edwidge Danticat: "An Evening with Edwidge Danticat" March 13, 2013, 7:30 p.m. Kansas Union, Woodruff Auditorium

## **Upcoming West Campus Road Closings Will Affect Access**

Researchers and others who drive to Youngberg Hall, Nichols Hall, and the Research Circle should note that KU will be completing road construction on West Campus this summer. Plans call for Constant Avenue (including intersections) to be closed from May 14 to August 1 between 19<sup>th</sup> Street and Irving Hill Road. As a result, north-south vehicular through-traffic on West Campus between Bob Billings Parkway, Iowa Street, and Clinton Parkway will not be possible during the construction.

Direct access to campus buildings will be maintained or provided via detour routes. For example, access to the parking lots for KU Endowment will be provided by a temporary connection with Lot 206 east of Nichols Hall. Access to the north part of West Campus will be entirely from the intersection of Bob Billings Parkway and Crestline Drive. Access to the south part of West Campus will be from the 21st and Iowa entrance near the Higuchi Biosciences Center or the Park and Ride entrance at Clinton Parkway and Crestline.

Note that other road projects on West Campus may also take place this summer if funding permits. A map of all proposed construction impacts is available online. For further information, contact Steve Scannell, Design & Construction Management, 864-5649, sscannell@ku.edu.

## **Upcoming Events**

News of interest to the research community. Additional details are available at the KU Calendar.

#### March 24 - July 20

"Cryptograph: An Exhibition for Alan Turing" Spencer Museum of Art, Gallery 318 North

#### April 12

NCURA Video Presentation:

"It Takes a Village to Manage Awards"

1 - 4:30 p.m.

Simons Biosciences Research Labs, Auditorium

#### April 17

Annual KU-Haskell Student Research Symposium 4 – 6 p.m.

Tecumseh Hall, Haskell Indian Nations University

#### April 24

Graduate Student Awards Ceremony

4 p.m.

Kansas Union, Ball Room

#### April 26

Reception for John Colombo

3:30 – 5 p.m.

Adams Alumni Center

#### April 27

KU Postdoctoral Association Meeting

Noon

Location TBA

#### April 28

15th Annual Undergraduate Research Symposium

11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Kansas Union

#### May 8

University Scholarly Achievement Awards Ceremony 4:30 p.m. – 6 p.m.

Spooner Hall

#### May 12

**Doctoral Hooding Ceremony** 

3:30 p.m.

Lied Center