

Research & Graduate Studies @ KU

News of Interest to the University Community

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February 2012

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KU Seeks Director of Undergraduate Research

As part of the implementation of the *Bold Aspirations* strategic plan, KU invites applications for the position of Director of Undergraduate Research. This is a new unclassified professional staff position, reporting to Sara Rosen, senior vice provost for academic affairs. It will support initiatives in experiential learning, with a goal of increased undergraduate student participation in research experiences on campus.

The director will ensure that students benefit fully from attending a research-extensive university by providing them with mentored research opportunities and programs that specifically introduce students to research and its context through orientations, interactive web sites, workshops, undergraduate research journals, and events.

The position requires an earned doctorate, teaching and research experience, experience mentoring undergraduate student research, and experience managing research projects, identifying research possibilities, and collaborating with faculty. For more information, and to apply, go to jobs.ku.edu and search for position 00209528. The application review date is March 7.

Research and Graduate Studies Again Increases United Way Support



Steve Warren, vice chancellor for research and graduate studies, is shown accepting a certificate from Colleen Gregoire of United Way of Douglas County, recognizing a second consecutive year of

increased RGS support. The percentage of participation rose nearly 50%, from 12.13% in 2010 to 18.14%, and the dollar amount increased from \$19,827 to \$24,197. Also present, from left, were Sara Rosen, KU Campaign chair and senior vice provost for academic affairs; Valerie Moreau, Kansas Geological Survey; Edith Bond, Biodiversity Institute; Judy Kasson, RGS; Val Stella, Douglas County Campaign Chair, Pharmaceutical Chemistry; and Kristi Billinger, Life Span Institute.

KU Research Achievement Award Nominations Deadline Approaches

The Office of Research and Graduate Studies is seeking nominations for its annual KU Research Achievement Award. The award, established in 2006, honors an outstanding academic staff researcher from KU's Lawrence Campus. The 2011 recipient was Daryl Mellard in the Center for Research on Learning. The 2012 award recipient will be recognized at a late spring semester ceremony and will receive a plaque and \$10,000 in research funds.

Only individuals who are appointed as full-time academic staff researchers working within a KU Lawrence Campus academic department or research center are eligible for the award. The individual's research should be characterized as having significant influence in his or her field and/or as representing a productive record of important research that has expanded intellectual or societal insights. A substantial portion of the work for which the award is given must have been done at KU.

Nominations must include a one-page letter of recommendation that addresses:

- The significant contribution(s) to her/his field;
- Why or how they are significant;
- What impact the contributions have made (i.e. to the field/department/university/other);
- A very brief explanation of the discipline's expectations for the particular area/field – (the form(s) in which the research is communicated and of these forms which is the most prestigious or recognized by colleagues);
- A curriculum vita or résumé for the nominee; and
- A list of names and complete contact information for at least two references familiar with the nominee's work and its significance.

Letters of support should be written in a manner that is understandable to reviewers who may not be experts in the specific field of research of the nominee.

Deadline for Submissions: Wednesday, February 15, 2012

For more information, and to submit nominations electronically, contact Teresa Kopsa at tkopsa@ku.edu, (785) 864-3567.

Strategic Initiative Summit Reports Available



All four Strategic Initiative Summits, part of the *Bold Aspirations* planning process, have now taken place. Complete information about each summit is available online at the [Provost's Strategic Initiatives web site](#).

Photos above are from the "Building Communities, Expanding Opportunities" summit on January 20. They show Derrick Darby addressing the group, structured discussions taking place around tables, and Steve Fawcett moderating one of the breakouts.

Eight to Represent KU-Lawrence at Annual Graduate Research Summit

Congratulations to the following KU-Lawrence graduate students, who have been named to participate in the 9th Annual Capitol Research Summit on February 16 in Topeka. They will join peers from Kansas State, Wichita State, and the KU Medical Center in presenting research projects in poster board format to legislators, other state officials, and the public. Presentations will take place from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the State Capitol. An awards ceremony will follow, sponsored by KansasBio and the participating institutions.

- **A.J. Mellott, Bioengineering:** “Approaching Inner Ear Hair Cell Regeneration Through Non-Viral Gene Therapy”
- **Clayton Wauneka, Health, Sport and Exercise Sciences:** “Stroke Survivor Rehabilitation: How Much Effort is needed for Recovery?”
- **Dennis Eck, Geography:** “Towards an Enhanced Understanding of Preferential Soil Water Flow”
- **Jeffrey Lamping, Bioengineering:** “Effects of Negative Pressure to Induce Bone Growth into Porous Titanium Implants”
- **Juli Pitzer, Film and Media Studies:** “Preserving the Past: Topeka's Jayhawk Theatre”
- **Laura Dean, Political Science:** “Leading Kansas? Determinants of Policy Variation in the United States and the Case of Kansas”
- **Madhav Ghanta, Chemical and Petroleum Engineering:** “Ethylene Epoxidation by Hydrogen Peroxide Conserves Feedstock and Minimizes Carbon Footprint”
- **Molley McVey, Mechanical Engineering:** “Biomechanical Analysis of Postural Instability in Parkinson's Disease”

Please Respond to FDP Faculty Workload Survey of Federally Funded PIs

The Federal Demonstration Partnership (FDP), a cooperative initiative hosted by the National Academies, is conducting a national survey of federally funded principal investigators to explore the impact of federal regulations on the time faculty spend pursuing active research. KU is a member of FDP and has provided them with a list of PIs who were on federal grants and contracts during the 2010-11 academic year.

Invitations to take the survey have begun to arrive. Eligible PIs are encouraged to open the link and respond to the survey promptly. The senders of the invitation are Susan Wyatt Sedwick of UT-Austin and Sandra L. Schneider of South Florida, chair and vice chair of the FDP.

The purpose of the survey is to obtain the first-hand input needed to work effectively with the Office of Management and Budget and federal agencies to increase the efficiency of research administration and reduce the workload of researchers. The data obtained from the survey will provide the basis for understanding how regulations influence research in your area of study, and can be an important factor in influencing grants administration policy.

The survey takes just 15 to 30 minutes to complete. To ensure confidentiality, it is being conducted by an independent research company, Survey Sciences Group LLC. A high rate of participation will enhance the validity and impact of the results.

If you have questions about the FDP or the Faculty Workload Survey, please contact Joshua Rosenbloom at rosenbloom@ku.edu or Joanne Altieri, KU's administrative representative to FDP, at jaltieri@ku.edu.

National Science Foundation: Non-compliant Letters of Collaboration

Investigators proposing to the National Science Foundation (NSF) in recent months may have noticed that guidelines regarding letters of collaboration have become more stringent. RGS has received feedback from program officers after proposal submission that non-compliant letters may need to be revised, or even removed in order for the proposal to be reviewed.

As specified in the [Grant Proposal Guide](#):

“ . . . Unless required by a specific program solicitation, letters of support should not be submitted, as they are not a standard component of an NSF proposal.”

Non-compliant letters include those that go beyond statements of commitment by the individual or organization writing the letter that affirm a willingness to collaborate in the conduct of the project, and instead, argue for support of the project by articulating in detail what activities the collaborator will undertake and/or by elaborating reasons for supporting the project. Such additional text may be included in the project description of the proposal but not in the supplementary documents. Including letters that go beyond specifying a willingness to collaborate effectively circumvents the NSF restrictions on the length of the project description.

For your assistance, [RGS has provided a template](#) you may want to use for NSF collaborators. If you have any questions, please contact Pre-Award Services at kucrpmgmt@ku.edu.

RGS Posts Three Positions in Research Integrity

The Office of Research and Graduate Studies is currently seeking to fill three positions in the Office of Research Integrity. The application deadline for each is February 15. Job titles, and quick links to the application instructions and other details, are provided below.

- [Associate Coordinator](#)
- [Assistant Coordinator – Research Integrity and Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee \(IACUC\)](#)
- [Assistant Coordinator – Human Subjects Committee of Lawrence \(HSCL\)](#)

Hall Center Humanities Lecture Features KU's Jeff Moran

Jeff Moran, an associate professor in the Department of History at KU, is the next speaker in the Hall Center Humanities Lecture Series. His presentation on "The Antievolution Controversies and American Culture" is scheduled for Thursday, February 16, at 7:30 p.m. in The Commons at Spooner Hall. The event is supported by the Friends of the Hall Center and co-sponsored by Kansas Public Radio.

Moran is the author of *Teaching Sex: The Shaping of Adolescence in the Twentieth Century* (2000), a groundbreaking history of sex education in the U.S. He is also the author of *The Scopes Trial: A Brief History with Documents* (2002), an undergraduate textbook that won wider notice for its interpretation of the trial and its inquiry into hitherto unexamined aspects of the antievolution controversy. A third book, [American Genesis: The Evolution Controversies from Scopes to Creation Science](#) was published this month by Oxford University Press.

Langston Hughes Visiting Professor to Present Lecture February 22



Tammy L. Kernodle, an associate professor of musicology at Miami University, is the 2012 Langston Hughes Visiting Professor at KU during the spring semester. On Wednesday, February 22, she will make a public presentation at 3:30 p.m. in the newly renovated Alderson Auditorium in the Kansas Union. Her topic is “On the Battlefield: Black Women Musicians and the ‘Voicing’ of the Civil Rights Movement.” A reception will follow in the Mallott Room.

Kernodle’s scholarship and teaching has stretched across many different aspects of African American music, with an emphasis on the effects that gender, race, sexuality, and regional identity have had on the creation, performance and reception of that music. Her academic background includes a Ph.D. degree in music history/musicology from Ohio State University. She is the author of *Soul on Soul: The Life and Music of Mary Lou Williams*, and served as associate editor of the 2010 three-volume *Encyclopedia of African American Music*.

The [Langston Hughes Visiting Professorship](#) was established in 1977 in honor of the African American poet, playwright, and fiction writer who lived in Lawrence from 1903 to 1916. Over the years, the visiting professorship has attracted prominent or emerging ethnic minority scholars to the KU campus, involving a broad range of disciplines and academic departments/schools. The recipient teaches two courses during the semester.

Hall Center Hosts Annual “Celebration of Books”

The creative work of 35 KU faculty and staff will be recognized on March 8 from 4-6 p.m. at the annual Hall Center for the Humanities “Celebration of Books Published by Humanities, Social Sciences, and Arts Faculty in 2011.” There will be a reception, a display of books, and a brief program featuring faculty authors who will talk about their recent books and take questions from the audience.

The “Celebration of Books” will be at the Hall Center and is open to the public, with sponsorship by the Friends of the Hall Center. RSVP is required by March 1 at hallcenter@ku.edu. A complete list of the authors and their works can be found in the spring edition of the Hall Center’s [Communique newsletter](#). KU authors, co-authors, editors and performers to be recognized are:

- Alexander, Shawn Leigh
- Anatol, Giselle Liza
- Bhala, Raj
- Caminero-Santangelo, Byron
- Cigler, Allan J.
- Clowes, Edith W.
- Eggleston, Ben,
- Golash-Boza, Tanya
- Graham, Maryemma
- Grund, Peter J.
- Harrington, Joseph
- Harris, Susan K.
- Head, John W.
- Shirley A. Hill.
- Hoopes, John W.
- Laird, Paul R.
- Loomis, Burdett A
- Marco, Margaret
- Meyer, Kate
- Mielke, Laura L.
- Mihesuah, Devon
- Miller, Timothy
- Myers, Garth
- Omelicheva, Mariya Y.
- Pirnat-Greenberg, Marta
- Rosenbloom, Joshua L.
- Rury, John L.
- Tibbetts, John C.
- Sivan, Hagith
- Tuozzo, Thomas M.
- Vasquez, Jessica M.
- Versteeg, Margot
- Warf, Barney
- Weber, Jennifer L.
- Zahn, Molly M.

KU Edwards Campus to Open BEST Building on March 2



A celebration of the grand opening of the Business, Engineering, Science and Technology (BEST) Building is scheduled for Friday, March 2, from 5-7 p.m. The campus is located at 12600 Quivira Road in Overland Park. The free, family-friendly event will include interactive learning stations, a kid's activity corner sponsored by the KU Alumni Association, and a KU Athletics pep rally. Athletics director Sheahon Zenger will speak at 6 p.m. and the KU Spirit Squad and Baby Jay will attend.

The BEST Building is 75,000-square-foot, \$25 million addition, consisting of classrooms, a business conference center, computer labs, and faculty/staff offices. It will enable Edwards Campus to offer 10 new degree programs and increase enrollment to increase by 1,000 students. The building is funded by the Johnson County Education Research Triangle, a unique partnership involving Johnson County, KU, and K-State. In 2008, voters approved a 1/8 cent sales tax to fund various Triangle initiatives. The goal of the program is to create economic stimulus and a higher quality of life through additional degree opportunities and new facilities for research.

KCALSI Annual Dinner to Focus on Translational Research



Livingston

to register to [attend](#), go to the [KCALSI website](#).

The Kansas City Area Life Sciences Institute (KCALSI) will hold its 2012 annual dinner on Tuesday, April 10 at the Sheraton Kansas City Hotel at Crown Center. The theme of the event is "Better, Smarter, Faster: The Need for Translational Research." The keynote speaker will be [David M. Livingston](#), Deputy Director of the Dana-Farber/Harvard Cancer Center and the Emil Frei Professor of Genetics and Medicine at Harvard Medical School. Livingston is a recognized champion for the importance of translational research and its significant impact on the future of medicine in our region and nation. KU is a stakeholder institution in KCALSI and a sponsor of the annual dinner, which brings together academic and industry leaders from throughout the region. For more information about the [dinner](#), or

Entrepreneur Education Series Continues March 9 at the BTBC

The Bioscience & Technology Business Center (BTBC) at KU, located at 2029 Becker Drive on the Research Circle, will hold the second program in Entrepreneur Education Series on Friday, March 9 with a presentation by Don Colbert of the Kansas Bioscience Authority on "SBIR Grants: Secrets to Creating a Winning Application." The 4-5 p.m. program is free and open to the campus and community, but please register [online](#).

Presentations in the series are given by highly successful, entrepreneurially minded executives and cover a range of topics relevant to starting and running a business. More information is available [on-line](#) or by contacting the BTBC at (785) 832-2110 or by [email](#). The rest of the 2012 schedule is as follows:

May 18

"Successfully Raise Early Stage Capital: Key Tactics Every Entrepreneur Should Know"

Matt McClorey, president, Bioscience & Technology Business Center

July 20

"Technology Doesn't Sell Itself: Build a Successful Strategy to Launch Your Product"

Michael Johnson, President, Ingenium Partners and Miller Heiman

September 21

“Protecting Your Intellectual Property: When and How Do I Protect My Ideas?”

Kyle Elliott, Partner, Spencer Fane Britt & Browne LLP

November 16

“Strategic Planning: Putting Your Business Plan into Action”

Shane Jones, Chief Executive Officer, The Astra Group

Kansas Bioscience Authority Hosts Free NIH SBIR/STTR Funding Webinar

Federal funding from the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and the Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs provides critical support in the commercialization process. To help Kansas companies compete more effectively for this support, the Kansas Bioscience Authority is offering a free webinar designed to connect participants directly with experts from the federal agencies that provide SBIR and STTR funding.

The webinar is scheduled for Friday, February 24, from 10-11 a.m. Access to the program is via the internet in your office or anywhere else with a web connection.

The principal presenter will be Dr. Lenka Fedorkova, assistant program manager for the SBIR/ STTR programs at the NIH. She has numerous responsibilities centered on providing resources and access to critical information to small business communities interested in obtaining federal funding. She also oversees commercialization assistance programs for current SBIR award recipients. She has a long-standing interest in the biomedical innovation enterprise and over the years worked to develop and expand her knowledge of core issues that small businesses face.

Fedorkova will discuss specific and general NIH priority areas of interest, current and anticipated NIH participation in omnibus solicitations, expansion and fast-track program offerings, and any Phase III assistance that may be available. A discussion of potential future program evolution will also be provided and a Q&A session will follow.

[Webinar registration is free and online](#). For more information, contact you have any questions, you may contact Don Colbert, federal commercialization funding expert at the KBA, (913) 397-8300, colbert@kansasbioauthority.org

Kansas Bioscience Authority Hosts Programs and Processes Workshop

The Heartland Bioventures Team at the Kansas Bioscience Authority offers a quarterly “Introduction to KBA Programs & Processes” workshop, designed to meet the needs of Kansas bioscience companies, researchers, and entrepreneurs in helping them understand the programs and processes available through the KBA. The next workshop is Wednesday, February 15, from noon to 1 p.m. at the Kansas Bioscience Park Venture Accelerator, 10900 S. Clay Blair Boulevard, Olathe. Keith Harrington, Heartland Bioventures director of commercialization, will make the presentation. Participation is limited. Lunch is provided and a \$10 registration fee is payable at the door. Please register at events@kansasbioauthority.org or by calling (913) 397-8300.

Upcoming Events

News of interest to the research community. Additional details are available at the [KU Calendar](#).

February 15

Deadline: Submission of Nominations
KU Research Achievement Award

Kansas Bioscience Authority Workshop:
Keith Harrington
"Introduction to KBA Programs and Processes"
Noon-1 p.m.
Kansas Bioscience Park Venture Accelerator, Olathe

February 16

9th Annual Capitol Graduate Research Summit
10 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
State Capitol, Topeka

Ligand Pharmaceutical Celebration Event
[by Invitation]
4-5 p.m.
Bioscience & Technology Business Center

Hall Center Humanities Lecture Series: Jeff Moran
"The Anti-Evolution Controversies
and American Culture"
7:30 p.m.
The Commons, Spooner Hall

February 22

Langston Hughes Visiting Professor:
Tammy L. Kernodle
"On the Battlefield: Black Women Musicians and
the 'Voicing' of the Civil Rights Movement"
3:30 p.m.
Alderson Auditorium, Kansas Union
Reception: Mallott Room, Kansas Union

Advocacy Event: "KU at the Capital"
5:30-7:30 p.m.
Ramada Convention Center, Topeka

February 24

Kansas Bioscience Authority Webinar:
Lenka Fedorkova, NIH
"NIH SBIR/STTR Funding"
10-11 a.m.

March 2

Opening Celebration: Business, Engineering,
Science and Technology (BEST) Building
5-7 p.m.
KU Edwards Campus, 12600 Quivira Road,
Overland Park

March 8

Hall Center Celebration of Books
4-6 p.m.
Hall Center for the Humanities

March 9

Entrepreneur Education Series: Don Colbert
"SBIR Grants: Secrets to Creating a
Winning Application"
4-5 p.m.
Bioscience & Technology Business Center,
2029 Becker Drive

March 27

Staff Tour: Center for Design Research
3:45-5 p.m.
Westbrooke Circle, West Campus

April 10

Kansas City Area Life Science Institute Annual Dinner
"Better, Smarter, Faster: The Need for
Translational Research"
Speaker: David M. Livingston, Deputy Director,
Dana-Farber/Harvard Cancer Center
Sheraton Kansas City Hotel at Crown Center

June 18-21

2012 BIO International Convention
Boston Convention & Exhibition Center