

KU Discovery & Innovation

News from KU Research

June-July 2015

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KU Researchers Try 'Speed Dating' June 22



Graphic: Jeffrey McKee, Spencer Museum of Art

Opening night of the **Free State Festival** in Lawrence (see story on page 3) will feature a different but very fun kind of professional presentation by a diverse group of KU researchers.

From 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Monday, June 22, participants in "**KU Research: Speed Dating Edition**" will have 10 minutes at a series of tables to learn about a different researcher's area of expertise. The researchers will talk about their work and respond to questions. Then, "time's up" and you move to the next table and topic and begin again.

The location for "KU Research: Speed Dating Edition" is the Cider Gallery, 810 Pennsylvania. Admission is \$10. Beer, wine and appetizers are provided. Registration is available online.

Participating KU experts include Whitney Baker, conservator, KU Libraries; Kate Meyer, assistant

curator of works on paper, Spencer Museum of Art; David Frayer, professor emeritus of anthropology; Richard Glor, associate professor of ecology and evolutionary biology; Chris McKitterick, lecturer in English and director, Gunn Center for the Study of Science Fiction; Sara Sack, senior scientist and director, Assistive Technology for Kansans Program, Life Span Institute; and Jonathan Brumberg, assistant professor of speech-language-hearing.

Program sponsors are the Spencer Museum of Art, the KU Natural History Museum, the Life Span Institute, KU Libraries and the KU Office of Research.

Kansas DNA Day Part of Science Events Conference



Photo: Kevin Boatright, KU Research

The first "Kansas DNA Day" event in April, organized by KU's Office for Diversity in Science Training, reached nearly 1,100 Kansas high school students in 48 classes at 14 schools. A group of 52 volunteer ambassadors – graduate students and postdoctoral researchers – presented on genomics and related topics, as well as the importance of STEM education.

Kansas DNA Day co-director Sonia Hall, near left, shared information about the program June 1 during the expo at the **International Public Science Events Conference** at MIT in Cambridge, MA. Shown with Hall is Roxanne Truhn Witcher of the Michigan State University Science Festival.

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THE GROWING RISK OF ZOOONOTIC & VECTOR-BORNE DISEASES



The [Kansas City Area Life Sciences Institute](#), in cooperation with the KC Animal Health Corridor and the veterinary schools at the University of Missouri and Kansas State University, will present a [two-day animal health research symposium August 30-31](#) on zoonotic and vector-borne diseases. The event will take place at the Kansas City (MO) Convention Center, 301 West 13th Street. Registration by August 1 for both days is \$199, or \$50 any time for students and postdoctoral researchers.

[A full agenda is online](#). Speakers include Lee Norman, senior vice president and chief medical officer at the University of Kansas Hospital. His topic is “Humans, Ebola, and Domestic Animals: What are the Risks?”

McCullum Brothers Portraits Relocated



Photo: Jackie Hosey, Pharmacy

When [McCullum residence hall is razed](#) this summer, portraits of the building’s namesakes will be safe and sound in new settings. Twin paintings of Elmer and Burton McCullum – acclaimed KU alumni with distinguished careers in scientific research – hung for nearly 50 years in the lobby. “Elmer” (shown above with Gene Hotchkiss, senior associate dean, and Ken Audus, dean) is now on display in the Pharmacy Building. “Burton” is awaiting a final location at the Kansas Geological Survey. Both 1966 paintings are by noted Kansas City artist Daniel MacMorris. Thanks to KU Student Housing for making the relocations possible.

Strong KU Presence at 2015 TechConnect

Nine technologies invented and developed by 13 researchers at KU will be featured June 14-17 at the [TechConnect World Conference and Expo](#) in Washington, DC. The event is the world’s largest showcase and accelerator for industry-vetted emerging technologies ready for commercialization.

Selection for TechConnect World is a competitive, peer-reviewed process. Participants include several national laboratories, federal agencies, U.S. and international universities, and early-stage start-up companies.

The goal of the event is to match promising emerging technologies with corporate, government and investment partners. [KUIC will present the following technologies](#) at an exhibition space staffed by licensing associates Aswini Betha and Shantanu Balkundi:

- **Occlusive Central Venous Catheter Securement Dressing**, Stephen Waller, Infectious Diseases, KU Medical Center.
- **Treatment for Alopecia**, Peter Rowe, The Kidney Institute, KU Medical Center; Laird Forrest, Pharmaceutical Chemistry.
- **Microsphere-Based Gradient Plugs for Osteochondral Regeneration**, Michael Detamore, Chemical and Petroleum Engineering.
- **Compounds for the Treatment of Alzheimer's Disease**, Shirley ShiDu Yan, Pharmacology and Toxicology.
- **Boron-Based Integrin-Linked Kinase Inhibitors for Therapeutic and Diagnostic Uses**, Bhaskar Das, Hematology/Oncology, KU Medical Center.
- **Novel LKB1-AMPK Activator for Therapeutic Use in Polycystic Kidney Disease**, Bhaskar Das, Hematology/Oncology, KU Medical Center.
- **Small Molecule Inhibitors of RNA-Binding Protein Musashi for Cancer Treatment**, Liang Xu, Molecular Biosciences.
- **Air Data Sensor Probe**, Saeed Farokhi, Shawn Keshmiri, Ray Taghavi, Aerospace Engineering.
- **Low-Altitude Laser Altimeter to Assist UAV Autoland**, Christopher Allen, Rongqing Hui, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science; Trenton Shuey, EN Engineering, Overland Park.



KU Faculty, Staff Part of Festival in June

The University of Kansas will have a strong presence at the **second annual Free State Festival**, scheduled for June 22-28 at the Lawrence Arts Center and other locations in the Lawrence Cultural District. The complete program includes at least eight events in the Festival's "Ideas" category that include KU-related presenters and hosts.

Health Information Technology and Privacy

Monday, June 22, 6 – 7:15 p.m.

Lawrence Arts Center, 940 New Hampshire

- Norbert Belz, Clinical Assistant Professor and Director, Department of Health Information Management, KU Medical Center
- Lauren Pulino, Clinical Assistant Professor, Department Health Information Management, KU Medical Center

KU Research: Speed Dating Edition (with Nerd Nite Lawrence)

Monday, June 22, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Cider Gallery, 810 Pennsylvania

- Whitney Baker, Conservator, KU Libraries
- Kate Meyer, Assistant Curator of Works on Paper, Spencer Museum of Art
- David Frayer, Professor Emeritus of Anthropology
- Richard Glor, Associate Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
- Chris McKitterick, Lecturer in English and Director, Gunn Center for the Study of Science Fiction
- Sara Sack, Senior Scientist and Director, Assistive Technology for Kansans Program, Life Span Institute
- Jonathan Brumberg, Assistant Professor of Speech-Language-Hearing

Writing Murder, Kansas-Style

Monday, June 22, 7:30 – 8:45 p.m.

Lawrence Arts Center, 940 New Hampshire

- Laura Lorson, Host and Producer, Kansas Public Radio

Kansas Start Up Culture

Tuesday, June 23, 7:30 – 8:45 p.m.

Lawrence Arts Center, 940 New Hampshire

- G.R. Underwood, President and Chief Operating Officer, Bioscience & Technology Business Center at KU
- Wally Meyer, Director of Entrepreneurship Programs, School of Business

Science LIVE!

Wednesday, June 24, 6 – 8 p.m.

US Bank Pavilion, 900 Massachusetts

Science LIVE! is the science fair for adults offered by the KU Natural History Museum. Check out science demonstrations that range from astronomy to chemistry, geology to physics.

Under the Lens: Voyeurism, Surveillance, and Cinema

Friday, June 26, 4:30 – 5:45 p.m.

TownePlace Suites, 900 New Hampshire

- Robert Hurst, Associate Professor in Film and Media Studies
- Christina Hodel, Ph.D. Candidate in Film and Media Studies
- Matt Jacobson, Associate Professor in Film and Media Studies

Science Fiction & Surveillance

Friday, June 26, 6 – 7:15 p.m.

TownePlace Suites, 900 New Hampshire

- Chris McKitterick, Lecturer in English and Director, Gunn Center for the Study of Science Fiction
- James Gunn, Professor Emeritus of English
- Philip Baringer, Professor of Physics

Creativity, Collaboration, Commercialization:

From Artist to Entrepreneur

Friday, June 26, 6 – 8 p.m.

Lawrence Creates Makerspace, 512 E. 9th

- Will Katz, Director, KU Small Business Development Center
- Barbara Kerr, Williamson Family Distinguished Professor of Counseling Psychology
- Charlotte Tritch, Associate Director of Entrepreneurship Programs, School of Business

Private Eyes: Drones in History, Politics, and Art

Friday, June 26, 7:30 – 8:45 p.m.

TownePlace Suites, 900 New Hampshire

- Aaron Long, Ph.D. Candidate in English
- Kathryn Conrad, Associate Professor of English
- Terilyn Johnson Huntington, Ph.D. Candidate in Political Science

Reminder: NIH Requires New Format

All biosketches on NIH applications submitted on or after May 25, 2015 must be formatted per the instructions in the **NIH Grants & Funding Application Guide**.

NIH has an **example of the new biosketch format online**.

Failure to follow the new policy on submissions on or after May 25th may result in **NIH withdrawing the application from consideration without review**.

Please contact **Megan Todd** or **Bob Szrot** in Pre-Award Services if you have questions about this NIH requirement.

Four Proof of Concept Awards Funded

Four KU inventions that are near the commercialization stage have been awarded up to \$50,000 each through the university's **Proof of Concept (POC) Fund**.

This is the third year for the fund, which is administered by KU Innovation and Collaboration (KUIC). Awards support research and development for up to one year in any area of innovation and technology, including electronics, software, communications, life sciences and engineering. The inventor then works to make the patent-protected technology more attractive for licensing.

"Our goal is to identify technologies with commercial potential and translate them to companies to create products," said Julie Nagel, interim associate vice chancellor for innovation and entrepreneurship. "We have a number of highly promising technologies in our portfolio, so it's a highly competitive process."

The four Proof of Concept Fund awards for 2015-16 are:

- **Low Impedance Piezoelectric Composites for Long Bone Reconstruction Implants**

Lisa Friis, Mechanical Engineering, and Paul Arnold, Neurosurgery, KU Medical Center. The invention uses direct current electrical stimulation to accelerate bone fusion and healing. A recent pilot study using sheep was successful. The POC award will be used to improve manufacturing methods and help identify other targeted orthopedic applications.

- **NanoTor**

Laird Forrest, Pharmaceutical Chemistry. The invention, nano-hyaluronan rapamycin (NanoTor), targets breast cancer stem cells and delivers an anticancer agent with unique efficacy. These cells resist conventional chemotherapy and radiation, which causes recurrence after treatment. NanoTor treats tumors and also prevents metastasis. The POC award will support additional research and development.

- **Multichannel Sense-and-Avoid Radar for Small UAVs**

Christopher Allen, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science. The invention is a miniature radar-based device for use in unmanned aerial vehicles and designed to prevent airborne collisions. The POC award will be used to overcome hardware limitations, such as processing power and detection range, and support continuing commercialization development.

- **Wound Closure Device for High-Tension Wounds**

Stephen Waller, Infectious Diseases, KU Medical Center. The invention uses anchored, adjustable wires attached adhesively to the skin to close large wounds. This reduces the risk of the wound re-opening. It also promotes healing and reduces surgical scarring. The POC award will support research, pre-production prototypes and testing.

Researcher Kudos

- **John Rury**, professor of educational leadership and policy studies, received a **Collaborative Research Fellowship from the American Council of Learned Societies**. Rury will conduct research and write for a book project – *The Color of Mind: Why the Origins of the Achievement Gap Matter for Justice* – co-authored with former KU faculty member Derrick Darby.
- The Schoolwide Integrated Framework for Transformation (SWIFT) Center, led by **Wayne Sailor**, has become the **Life Span Institute's 14th affiliated center**. The national K-8 technical assistance center was funded in 2012 with a \$24 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education.
- **Vincent Francisco** will succeed **Stephen Fawcett** in August as **director of the Work Group for Community Health and Development**, one of 14 affiliated research centers of the Life Span Institute. Francisco returns to KU after 11 years at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, where he was an associate professor of public health education.
- **Benjamin Rutt** and **William Sanders** received the 2015 Marnie and Bill **Argersinger Prize for Outstanding Doctoral Dissertations** in May. Rutt graduated in psychology and research in education. Sanders graduated in mathematics.
- **Neal Kingston**, director of the Achievement and Assessment Institute, received the National Association of Assessment Directors' **2015 Award for Outstanding Contributions to Educational Assessment**.
- A KU video featuring history major **Paul Fowler III** is **currently featured on the AAU web site** in a new section titled "Undergraduate Stories: Hands-On Research Makes a Difference." Fowler received an Undergraduate Research Award and studied the African-American history of Lawrence.

NASA Awards SBIR Grant to Lei Shi



A new KU investment in training and support for startup companies formed from university research is already beginning to pay off.

Lei Shi, left, an entrepreneur and doctoral candidate in electrical engineering, has received a grant from NASA to further develop an unmanned aircraft system collision avoidance radar co-invented with his faculty adviser, Christopher Allen, professor of electrical engineering. The amount of the grant is not yet final, but its goal is to help advance the invention into the marketplace.

The NASA award came through its Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program. Federal agencies that fund external research are mandated to have SBIR programs, including the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation. Awards are made to small companies to develop products for the marketplace. In Shi's case, the company is one he launched in 2014 through the KU Catalyst student entrepreneurship program: UAVradars, LLC. The startup is located in the Bioscience & Technology Business Center (BTBC) on KU's west campus.

KU Innovation and Collaboration (KUIC) has been working hard to promote SBIR proposals. Earlier this year, KUIC launched an SBIR Assistance Program funded by the Kansas Department of Commerce to assist KU entrepreneurs in leveraging SBIR grants to fund companies. The program features intensive workshops held three times a year to help qualified KU startups prepare and submit SBIR proposals.

More than 60 KU researchers and BTBC entrepreneurs have now attended two workshops. Assistance has been extended to eight companies in submitting SBIR proposals. Shi's company was a pilot for the program and his NASA award is its first tangible result.

Julie Nagel, interim associate vice chancellor for innovation and entrepreneurship, is pleased with the early success of the SBIR Assistance Program.

"Shi was a great candidate for SBIR funding, since his research aligns so well with NASA's priorities," says Nagel. "What he needed was objective external advice from knowledgeable experts, and some help navigating the application process with NASA. The SBIR award both validates what he's doing and provides the boost he needs to launch his company and continue product development toward bringing his invention to the marketplace."

Research Notes

Galindo Named Core Labs Financial Manager



Rose Galindo, left, is the new financial manager for **Core Services Labs and Research Services** in the Office of Research. She succeeds Elizabeth Monroe, who was promoted to assistant director of budgets and administration. She reports to Gina Cregg, director of budgets and financial services.

Galindo brings more than 30 years of higher education experience to her new position. Since 2013 she was director of business operations for KU Information Technology. She previously held positions in academic, administrative, financial, grant administration and personnel management at the University of Texas-Pan American, Abilene Christian University, the University of Texas-San Antonio and the University of Maryland-European Division.

Her background includes a B.S. in business management from the University of Maryland and an M.A. in administrative management from Bowie State (MD) University. She started work at Youngberg Hall June 8.

Save the Dates for "Research Administration 101"

The annual 10-week **RA 101 introduction to research administration** is scheduled for Wednesday, September 16 through Wednesday, November 18. All sessions will be held 2:30 – 4:30 p.m. on Wednesdays in the Ron Evans Apollo Auditorium at Nichols Hall. More information will be provided as the date approaches.

Jay Darnell Retires at KU Center for Research



Jay Darnell, left, manager of business services, retired from KU in May. A reception in his honor was held June 1 at Nichols Hall. Darnell started working at the KU Center for Research in May 1973 while enrolled as a student at KU. He joined the staff in 1975 and served for 40 years in financial services-related positions. An internal search for his successor is currently under way. Congratulations, Jay!

KU Research to Host NCURA Webinars

The Office of Research will host two free webinars in mid-June. The programs are presented by the National Council of University Research Administrators (NCURA). No RSVP is necessary to attend.

Uniform Guidance: The Challenges of Implementation

June 17, Noon - 2:30 p.m.

Simons Labs Auditorium

Half way through the first year of Uniform Guidance, what have we accomplished? What was postponed? What about all those questions that still need answers? Major issues still under discussion include subrecipient monitoring, the disclosure statement, procurement, the Utility Cost Adjustment, Research Terms and Conditions, and more.

Moderator:

- Kim Moreland, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Panel:

- Michelle Christy, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Mark Davis, Attain
- Cindy Hope, University of Alabama
- David Kennedy, Council on Governmental Relations
- Jim Luther, Duke University

The Right Metrics: Choosing, Measuring and Evaluating Metrics to Drive Performance Success in Your Office

June 18, 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

Simons Labs Auditorium

This webinar will cover strategies for identifying, organizing and prioritizing the key metrics to track; strategies for evaluating how best to capture this information; strategies for communicating research administration metrics; and strategies for helping others to understand why metrics are important.

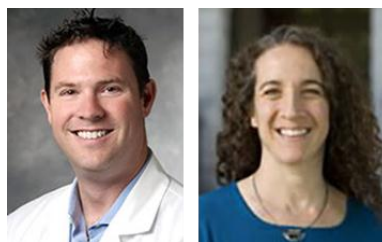
The presenter is Kerry Peluso, who has more than 24 years of experience in research and grants administration. She is the associate vice president for research administration at Emory University, where she is currently responsible for the Office of Sponsored Programs and the Office of Grants and Contracts Accounting. In this role at Emory, Kerry has led the development of a comprehensive structure for monitoring research administration performance.



KCALSI to Present First Bioinformatics Conference October 15-16 at UMKC

The Kansas City region has a robust mix of bioinformatics expertise, capabilities and capacity within research organizations and the private sector. While these assets compare well to established bioinformatics hubs in the country, the region is challenged by the geographic distribution of expertise and infrastructure.

On Thursday, October 15, and Friday, October 16, the area's **First Annual Midwest Bioinformatics Conference** will be held at the University of Missouri-Kansas City's (UMKC) Volker Campus. Its purpose is to bring together bioinformatics-minded researchers from academia and industry to discover capabilities, share tactical approaches to problem solving, explore synergies and launch potential collaborations.



Keynote speakers at the conference, left, will be Christopher Longhurst, chief medical information officer for Stanford Children's Health, and Jessica

Tenenbaum, associate director, bioinformatics, Duke Translational Medicine Institute.

Additionally, the Conference provides an opportunity for bioinformatics students to learn about employment opportunities within the region and employers to meet prospective candidates.

The conference is presented by the **Kansas City Area Life Sciences Institute**, in collaboration with UMKC. More information and online registration will be available as the date approaches.

Information on NIH Salary Cap

Key Facts to Know:

- The NIH salary cap is written into the NIH Appropriations Act approved by Congress each year. This is a matter of law, not policy. This law limits annual compensation paid from NIH funds and the University must abide by this federal law.
- The annual salary cap for the federal FY15 (January 11, 2015 to September 30, 2015) is \$183,300 for a 1.0 FTE, 12-month appointment (calculates to \$502.19 daily).
- Any salaries paid by NIH funds or NIH-flowthrough funds are limited to receiving this amount of compensation from the federal funds.

How It Affects You (and Your Investigators):

- Any compensation over the salary cap should be paid with non-federal funds – this “over-the-cap” compensation is not considered cost share.
- Our University must have a consistent process for calculation of this salary cap, so that we can ensure all individuals paid from NIH and NIH-flowthrough are in compliance.
- To ensure this consistency, a daily rate based on the \$183,300 cap has been calculate. This rate cannot be exceeded when paying someone with NIH/NIH flowthrough.
- Regardless of an individual’s appointment type (9 months or 12 months), they cannot be paid more than \$502.19 per day from NIH/NIH flowthrough funding; this is based on the calculation $183300/365*14 = \$7030.68$ biweekly, which breaks down to the daily rate of \$502.19. For your reference, NIH has examples of how to use this calculation.
- To simplify this calculation, the rate has been determined on a 12-month appointment, with a 14-day schedules per pay period.
- Departments are responsible for ensuring all payroll forms are submitted with appropriate salary allocations for those being paid from NIH or NIH-flowthrough.
- KU Office of Research payroll staff ensures compliance with salary cap and will push back any payroll form showing compensation in excess of the cap.

For More Information:

See <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-15-049.html> or contact [Kara Wozniak](#) or [Anita Abel](#) in Post-Award Services.

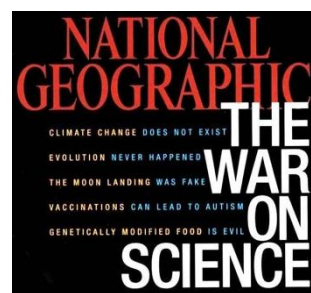
NSF CAREER Notice of Intent by June 29

The NSF Faculty Early Career Development Program (CAREER) will accept proposal submissions on July 21-23. The program is the NSF’s “most prestigious award in support of junior faculty who exemplify the role of teacher-scholars through outstanding research, excellent education and the integration of education and research within the context of the mission of their organizations.”

Principal Investigators must meet all of the following eligibility requirements:

- Hold a doctoral degree by the deadline date in a field supported by NSF;
- Be untenured until October 1 following the deadline;
- Have not previously received a CAREER award (prior or concurrent Federal support for other types of awards or for non-duplicative research does not preclude eligibility); and
- Be employed in a tenure-track (or tenure-track-equivalent) position as an assistant professor or equivalent title by October 1st following the deadline.

Pre-Award Services is requesting that eligible PIs who are planning to propose to this popular program submit a notice of intent to kucrprengmt@ku.edu by June 29. This will help ensure adequate staffing for these very busy deadlines. Additional information about the CAREER program is [available online](#).



National Geographic March 2015

Joel Achenbach
Washington Post Science Writer

“We live in an age when all manner of scientific knowledge – from the safety of fluoride and vaccines to the reality of

climate change – faces organized and often furious opposition. . [S]cience tells us the truth rather than what we’d like the truth to be. Scientists can be as dogmatic as anyone else – but their dogma is always wilting in the hot glare of new research. In science it’s not a sin to change your mind when the evidence demands it. For some people, the tribe is more important than the truth; for the best scientists, the truth is more important than the tribe.”

Upcoming Events

Additional events and details are available at the [KU Calendar](#).

JUNE 17

NCURA Webinar: "Uniform Guidance: The Challenges of Implementation"

Noon - 2:30 p.m.

Simons Labs Auditorium

JUNE 18

NCURA Webinar: "The Right Metrics: Choosing, Measuring and Evaluating Metrics to Drive Performance Success in Your Office"

1 - 2:30 p.m.

Simons Labs Auditorium

JUNE 22-28

Lawrence Free State Festival

9th Street Corridor and Lawrence Cultural District Venues

JUNE 22

Free State Festival: "KU Research: Speed Dating Edition"

6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Cider Gallery, 810 Pennsylvania

JUNE 24

Free State Festival: "Natural History Museum Science LIVE!"

6 - 8 p.m.

US Bank Pavilion, 900 Massachusetts

JULY 31 - AUGUST 3

Annual Meeting and Symposia: Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles, and Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation

Kansas Union, KU Biodiversity Institute and Natural History Museum, Fitch Natural History Reservation at the KU Biological Field Station

AUGUST 30-31

KCALSI Animal Health Symposium: "The Growing Risk of Zoonotic and Vector-Borne Disease"

Kansas City (MO) Convention Center

SEPTEMBER 16 - NOVEMBER 18

"Research Administration 101"

Wednesdays, 2:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Nichols Hall, Ron Evans Apollo Auditorium

OCTOBER 15-16

KCALSI: First Annual Midwest Bioinformatics Conference

University of Missouri-Kansas City Student Union

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