

In this issue...

- 1 Chancellor Speaks Out on Impact of Growing U.S. "Innovation Deficit"
- 1 KU to Host Week-Long International Symposium on Radioglaciology
- 2 Jacob Dorman Receives Book Award
- 2 "Islam in Post 9/11 America" is First Humanities Lecture Series Topic
- 2 Graduate Studies Seeks Faculty Fellow
- 3 Spencer Museum Exhibition Reflects on America's "Worst Hard Time"
- 3 Libraries Remember Robert Vosper
- 4 Register Now for Annual 10-Week "Research Administration 101"
- 4 September 12 TRT: "Cost Share"
- 4 KU Initiative on Water Will Focus on a Research Grand Challenge
- 4 KU Postdoc Luncheon is August 30
- 5 Summer Undergraduate Researchers Present Science Posters at Union
- 5 Upcoming Events, Workshops Welcome Graduate Students
- 6 Kansas NSF EPSCoR Plans Annual Meeting in Lawrence October 7-8
- 6 Lawrence Launches "1 Million Cups"
- 6 New Personnel Join RGS
- 7 UPCOMING EVENTS

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Chancellor Gray-Little, National Peers Urge Action on U.S. "Innovation Deficit"



The Association of American Universities (AAU) and the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities (APLU) launched an advocacy effort in August to urge Congress and the President to close an "Innovation Deficit" caused by a waning federal commitment to funding for research and higher education

The effort began with an open-letter in *Politico*, a national political newspaper, signed by Chancellor Bernadette Gray-Little and more than 165 other university presidents from all 50 states. **AAU and APLU have also created a website** containing talking points, a fact sheet, links to media coverage, and other information.

The talking points document concludes:

"The answer to our nation's fiscal woes must include sustained strategic federal investments in research and student financial aid to close the innovation deficit and bolster our nation's economic and national security for decades to come. Congress should reject unsound budget cuts and recommit to strong and sustained investments in research and education. Regardless of overall federal spending levels, increased investments in research and higher education can and should still be made because they are the drivers of innovation, future economic growth, and job creation."

KU to Host Major Radioglaciology Symposium

Researchers from 14 countries will gather at KU September 9-13 for an **International Symposium on Radioglaciology**. The symposium will discuss many of the latest technological innovations in radar and signal processing techniques for investigating glaciers and polar ice sheets.

The symposium is taking place under the auspices of the International Glaciological Society and is co-sponsored at KU by the Center for Remote Sensing of Ice Sheets, the School of Engineering, the Office of Research and Graduate Studies, and the National Science Foundation.

Richard Alley, a renowned geologist and the Evan Pugh Professor of Geosciences at Penn State, is the keynote speaker for the symposium. All sessions, as well as 32 poster presentations, will take place at the Kansas Union. Participants will also enjoy local excursions and a closing night banquet at the Adams Alumni Center.

Jacob Dorman Receives Hall Center's 2013 Byron Caldwell Smith Book Award



The 2013 **Byron Caldwell Smith Award**, established at the bequest of Kate Stephens, one of KU's first women professors, will be presented on September 19 to Jacob Dorman (left), an assistant professor of history at KU. The \$1,500 award is given biennially to a Kansan who has written an outstanding book published in the previous two years. Dorman is the author of *Chosen People: The Rise of Black Israelite Religions*, published in 2013 by Oxford University Press. He will speak about his book at the presentation ceremony, scheduled for 7:30 p.m. at the Hall Center. The event is open to the public, and a book-signing and reception will follow.

In his book, Dorman (who joined the KU faculty in 2007) documents the influence of Israelite practices and philosophies in the Holiness Christianity movement of the 1890s, the emergence of the Pentecostal movement in 1906 and the rise of black Israelite synagogues in the northern cities of America. This intellectual journey continues with the black nationalist movement that led a group of African-Americans to migrate to Ethiopia in 1930, and moves to Jamaica with the rise of Rastafarianism.

Humanities Lecture Series to Open With "Role of Islam in Post 9/11 America"



Arsalan Iftikhar (left), an international human rights lawyer, author and founder of the popular TheMuslimGuy.com, is the first speaker in KU's **2013-14 Humanities Lecture Series**, presented by the Hall Center for the Humanities. Iftikhar will speak on September 12 at 7:30 p.m. in Woodruff Auditorium at the Kansas Union. The title of his lecture is "The Role of Islam in Post 9/11 America." The presentation is free and open to the public.

Iftikhar is a regular commentator on National Public Radio's "Tell Me More" program and a contributor to CNN, Esquire and other publications. His most recent book, *Islamic Pacifism: Global Muslims in the Post-Osama Era*, argues for a pacifist alternative to religious extremism, advocating for a nuanced understanding of Islam in the face of religious extremism, racism and violence.

Iftikhar's funny, incisive commentary and writing has earned him a reputation as one of the most effective and thoughtful ambassadors for a critical understanding of the post-9/11 Muslim experience, "giving voice to the vast majority of Muslims who see violence as an abomination and a sacrilege."

Office of Graduate Studies Seeks Faculty Fellow for 2013-14 Year

The Office of Graduate Studies is seeking a faculty member to serve a **one-year term as a Faculty Fellow** (with possibility of renewal). Application materials are due by August 30th and the term will begin this fall.

The Fellow will work with Graduate Studies staff, graduate program directors, and faculty partners on programming and new initiatives for faculty associated with *Bold Aspirations* Goal 2: "Elevating Doctoral Education." Responsibilities are based on the Fellow's background, interests, and experiences, as well as the needs of Graduate Studies. The main focus is development of faculty training and resources for recruitment, mentoring and placement of doctoral students. This may include identifying and disseminating best practices in graduate mentoring and developing related workshops and web resources for faculty.

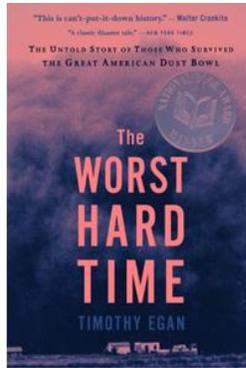
In general, the Fellow will commit an average of four hours per week during the appointment, with some activities occurring during the summer term. The Fellow will receive a \$7,500 stipend next summer, as well as \$1,500 yearly in travel funds to attend a conference related to his or her duties as Fellow.

The Fellow position is open to KU tenured and tenure-track faculty. Interested applicants should submit (electronically) a current CV, a letter describing interest in the position, and a brief statement describing experience in mentoring graduate students and working with other faculty to facilitate good mentoring practices. Applications and inquiries should be directed to Roberta Pokphanh, Assistant Dean, Graduate Studies, pokphanh@ku.edu.

Spencer Museum of Art Exhibition Reflects on America's "Worst Hard Time"



Left, from the Spencer Museum collection, Arthur Rothstein's 1936 photograph of Vernon Evans en route from South Dakota to a new start in Oregon.



In conjunction with the selection of Timothy Egan's *The Worst Hard Time* (left) as KU's "Common Book" for 2013-14, the Spencer Museum of Art is presenting a series of objects through December 15 that chronicle the 1930s Dust Bowl and its aftermath.

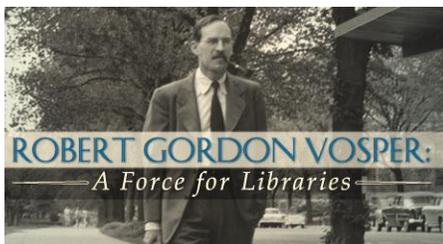
"Conversation XV: Dust" brings together works by John Steuart Curry, Thomas Hart Benton, Dorothea Lange, Arthur Rothstein, and others. It also features a recent work by artist Scott Jost of Bridgewater College, whose *A Book of Nine Februarys* chronicles Jost's effort to remember a 1994 dust storm near Salina a year after witnessing its devastation.

The exhibition opened August 3, along with a display of posters created by KU graphic design students to reflect the findings of the Biofuels and Climate Change: Farmers' Land Use Decisions research team. The poster series – *1 Kansas Farmer* – draws inspiration from the art, science, and history of the Dust Bowl for a better understanding of the realities facing Kansas today, asking such complex questions as whether we could experience another Dust Bowl and what "stewardship" means to Kansas farmers today.

Free, public events this fall related to "Conversation XV: Dust" and *The Worst Hard Time* include:

- Gallery Talk with "Dust" Curator Kate Meyer
September 26, 10-11 a.m., Spencer Museum of Art
- An Evening with Author Timothy Egan: Remarks and Book Signing
September 26, 7:30 p.m., Lied Center
- Coffee and Conversation with Author Timothy Egan
September 27, 9 a.m., The Commons (Spooner Hall)
- Lecture: Curator Kate Meyer, "Art and the Dust Bowl"
October 2, 5:30 – 6:30 p.m., Spencer Museum of Art
- Conversation with Artist Scott Jost
November 13, 5-6 p.m., Spencer Museum of Art

Exhibition Remembers Influential KU Dean as "A Force for Libraries"



An [exhibition of photographs and papers associated with Robert Vosper](#), KU dean of libraries from 1951 to 1960, opened on the main floor at Watson Library on July 12, the centennial of Vosper's birth. Many friends and KU colleagues, as well as the family of Robert and Loraine Vosper, gathered to share memories and discuss Vosper's impact on KU and the profession.

Vosper was known for his courageous defense of intellectual freedom, notably mounting an exhibition on banned books during the height of the McCarthy era with strong support from then-Chancellor Franklin Murphy. Vosper was named one of the top 100 most important people in 20th century librarianship by *American Libraries*, a publication of the American Library Association, and was lauded "as a force for libraries and for the rights of librarians as partners in scholarly enterprise . . . [whose] commitment to the library as an intellectual sanctuary was an inspiration to many." The exhibition continues through August 31.

Register Now for 10-Week “Research Administration 101” Program

“**Research Administration 101**,” a free, annual, 10-session professional development course presented by the Office of Research and Graduate Studies, begins September 11 and continues each Wednesday through November 13. The program educates administrators and support staff about the management of externally-sponsored grants or contract accounts at KU.

The two-hour sessions address a wide range of issues, including submitting grant proposals, award spending and monitoring, intellectual property issues, and the responsible conduct of research. The course is also an opportunity to develop contacts across campus.

All Research Administration 101 sessions are scheduled from 2:30 to 4:30 in the auditorium at Simons Biosciences Labs on West Campus. To enroll, send an e-mail with your name, affiliation, phone, and e-mail to resadmin-events@ku.edu. Topics for each session are posted on the KU Calendar. Past participants are welcome to drop in on any session for a brush-up on that day's topic. Members of the university community who complete the entire course will receive a certificate of completion, and participation will be noted in their personnel files. For more information, contact Bill Sharp at wsharp@ku.edu, (785) 864-7430.



RA-101 provides a valuable introduction to key topics (2012 above).

September “TRT” Session to Address Cost Share

The Office of Research and Graduate Studies offers a monthly “Thursday Research Topics” program that’s open to all interested persons. The topic for the September 12 session is “Cost Share: Implications After the Award is Received.” The presentation will be led by Elena Semyonova-Smith of Post-Award Services. TRT begins at 11:10 a.m. and concludes at 11:50 a.m. in the auditorium at Simons Biosciences Labs. All TRT presentations are recorded and available online.

KU Initiative on Water to Begin with Workshop on Critical Issues, Funding

A grass roots faculty working group has formed for the purpose of promoting collaborative water-related research at KU. The group is holding a half-day workshop on Friday, September 13 that will launch the KU Initiative on Water. Its goal is to focus on the development and support of a community of KU researchers interested in multidisciplinary projects involving water resources and sustainability. The workshop will open with remarks by Provost Jeff Vitter and Vice Chancellor Steve Warren, with a keynote presentation by Karen Flournoy, Director of the Water, Wetlands and Pesticides Division for Region 7 of the Environmental Protection Agency. Two break-out sessions will help participants identify critical issues relating to water. Attention will also be given to sources of federal and foundation funding, resources for proposal development, and opportunities to form or join research groups.

The workshop will take place at The Commons in Spooner Hall from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Lunch will be provided. To RSVP, e-mail Tricia Bergman at the Office of Research and Graduate Studies, tricia.bergman@ku.edu.

KU Postdoc Association to Hold Year’s First Luncheon Meeting August 30

The KU Postdoc Association will hold its first meeting of the academic year at noon on Friday, August 30 in the Relays Room at Burge Union. Free pizza will be provided. Thomas Taylor, Roy A. Roberts Distinguished Professor in the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology and a member of the National Academy of Sciences, will speak on “The Art of Becoming a Professional Scientist.” Please RSVP by August 23 at the [KU Postdoc Association website](#).

Summer Undergraduate Researchers Present Science Posters at Kansas Union



Poster session presenters included Anna Petrosky of UC-Berkeley (left) and Kaya Matson of Grinnell College (right).

The **Madison and Lila Self Graduate Fellowship**, part of the Office of Graduate Studies, sponsored a well-attended two-hour poster session on July 26 at the Kansas Union (above) for many of the 90 undergraduate students who conducted scientific research at KU this summer. The presenters were students at KU and 50 other U.S. institutions.

Participants conducted research under the direction of the following departments and programs: Aerospace Engineering; Atmospheric Science; Center for Bioinformatics; Center for Environmentally Beneficial Catalysis; Center for Remote Sensing of Ice Sheets; Chemical and Petroleum Engineering; Chemistry; Civil, Environmental, and Architectural Engineering; Ecology and Evolutionary Biology; Economics; Electrical Engineering and Computer Science; Kansas-INBRE; Mechanical Engineering; Medicinal Chemistry; Molecular Biosciences; Office for Diversity in Science Training, Pharmaceutical Chemistry; Pharmacology and Toxicology; and Psychology. Some programs were supported through funding provided by the National Science Foundation and the National Institutes of Health.

Upcoming Events, Workshops Welcome New and Returning Graduate Students

A variety of events in August and September are planned specifically for new and returning KU graduate students:

- On August 19, from 8 a.m. to noon, **KU's Center for Teaching Excellence** will present "About Teaching: New GTA Conference" at 130 Budig Hall. The program is part of the training process for new graduate teaching assistants.
- Also on August 19, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., the "Jayhawk Welcome and Information Fair" will be held in the Kansas Union Ballroom. Representatives of campus offices will be on hand to answer questions and provide information.
- On August 29, from 4 to 6 p.m., graduate students from all disciplines are invited to "Graduate Student Night at the Spencer Museum of Art." This social event is an opportunity to network and brainstorm about research projects.
- On September 20, from 1:30 to 3 p.m., Spencer Museum of Art will host a workshop that introduces graduate students to opportunities available for object-based teaching, learning, and research through collaborative partnerships with the museum. Chip Badley, a GTA in the Department of English, will lead the workshop.

The **Office of Graduate Studies** is also offering the following grant application workshops for graduate students:

- **NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Application Workshop**, September 6, noon-1 p.m., Kansas Room, Kansas Union. *Registration is required.*
- Ford Foundation Fellowship (Predoctoral, Dissertation, Postdoctoral Fellowships) Application Workshop, September 13, noon-1 p.m., Centennial Room, Kansas Union. *Registration is required.*
- NIH F31 and F32 Fellowship Application Workshop, September 20, noon-1 p.m., Centennial Room, Kansas Union. *Registration is required.*

Kansas NSF EPSCoR Plans Annual Meeting October 7-8 in Lawrence



Kansas NSF EPSCoR, headquartered at KU and directed by Kristin Bowman-James, University Distinguished Professor of Chemistry, will hold its annual meeting October 7-8 at the Oread Hotel in Lawrence. All researchers associated with the major initiative, *Climate Change and Renewable Energy*, are welcome to attend,

including scientists from all Kansas Regents universities. In addition, NSF staff, legislators, and members of the Kansas Board of Regents are invited to participate.

The agenda for the meeting is being finalized but will include research updates from the interrelated projects within the major research initiative: *Nanotechnology for Renewable Energy and Biofuels and Climate Change Mitigation*. The event will also feature a poster session so that scientists and students can highlight their research. Check the [Kansas NSF EPSCoR website](#) for agenda and registration updates as they become available, or direct questions to Doug Byers at dbyers@ku.edu, or (785) 864-3227.

Lawrence Launches Local "1 Million Cups" Entrepreneurship Program



On August 7, Lawrence became the 11th city nationwide to launch "1 Million Cups," an informal local program designed by the Kauffman Foundation to engage and connect entrepreneurs. The inaugural session was standing-room-only and received extensive [media coverage from TV-6](#) in Lawrence. The program is ongoing on Wednesdays at 9-10 a.m. at the Cider Gallery, 810 Pennsylvania St. It is free and open to the public.

The "1 Million Cups" format is simple: offer two local entrepreneurs an opportunity to present their startups to a diverse audience of mentors, advisers and entrepreneurs. Presenters prepare a six-minute educational presentation and engage in 20 minutes of feedback and questioning after they present.

Entrepreneurs gain insight into possible ways to improve their businesses, as they gather real-time feedback and connect with a community that truly cares about their progress. The audience also learns from the presentations and can engage more deeply with the entrepreneurs in a casual setting.

The Lawrence Chamber of Commerce encouraged and aided local organizers in bringing the program to the city, but it is run by an independent group of business people and entrepreneurs. For details on the program, contact [Kirsten Flory](#) of Colliers International at (785) 865-5100.

New Personnel in Research and Graduate Studies

Ivo Montes de Oca joined RGS in July as Assistant Director for Financial Analysis and Planning. He reports to Chief Financial Officer Linda Sadler, along with Debbie Mitra, John Luther, Linda Kerr, and Jay Darnell. Ivo has 29 years of professional experience with budgeting, forecasting, planning, accounting, finance, auditing and business/process analysis. He spent more than 21 years with Hill's Pet Nutrition and three years as an auditor with KPMG Peat Marwick, and was most recently Director of Accounting for Freeman Holdings. A native of Cuba, Ivo grew up on Long Island and received a degree in accounting from Hofstra University. He and his wife, Susie, have three sons: one at KU, another at Baker University, and a third at Lawrence High School.

Elsewhere in RGS, **Jenni Wiles** returned to Youngberg Hall recently as a Grant Specialist in Pre-Award Services. She was previously on the staff of the KU Center for Technology Commercialization but comes to KU from the Iowa State University Research Foundation, where she was a technology transfer specialist, responsible for invention disclosures and patent applications.

Upcoming Events

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

August 19

Jayhawk Welcome and Information Fair
1:30 – 3:30 p.m.
Ballroom, Kansas Union

August 23

Orientation: KU Directors of Graduate Study
9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Kansas Room, Kansas Union

August 26

[Animal Health Research Symposium](#)
[Animal Health University/Industry Tech Transfer Event](#)
[Animal Health Corridor Homecoming Dinner](#)
7:30 a.m. – 9 p.m.
Kansas City (Mo.) Convention Center

August 30

[KU Postdoc Association Luncheon Meeting](#)
Relays Room, Burge Union
Noon

September 9-13

[International Glaciological Society](#)
International Symposium on Radioglaciology
All Day
Big 12 Room, Kansas Union

September 11-November 13 (Wednesdays)

“Research Administration 101”
2:30 – 4:30 p.m.
Auditorium, Simons Biosciences Labs

September 12

Thursday Research Topics: “Cost Share:
Implications After the Award is Received”
11:10 – 11:50 a.m.
Auditorium, Simons Biosciences Labs

[Humanities Lecture Series](#): Arsalan Iftikhar
“The Role of Islam in Post 9/11 America”
7:30 p.m.
Woodruff Auditorium, Kansas Union

September 13

[KU Initiative on Water Research Workshop](#)
8 a.m. – 1 p.m.
The Commons, Spooner Hall

September 19

[Byron Caldwell Smith Award Lecture](#): Jacob Dorman
“Chosen People: The Rise of Black Israelite Religions”
7:30 p.m.
Hall Center for the Humanities

October 1

[KCALS I Annual Dinner](#)
Speaker: John Wilbanks, Sage Bionetworks
Sheraton Kansas City (Mo.) Hotel at Crown Center

October 7-8

[Kansas NSF EPSCoR Annual Meeting](#)
All Day
Oread Hotel, Lawrence, KS

October 10

Thursday Research Topics: TBA
11:10 – 11:50 a.m.
Auditorium, Simons Biosciences Labs

October 24

[Quarterly RGS Grant Coordinators Meeting](#)
10:30 a.m.
Auditorium, Simons Biosciences Labs

November 1

[Deadline: Strategic Initiative Grants Level I Proposals](#)

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