

Research@KU

Updates on the Lawrence campus from the Vice Provost for Research

Forums discuss postdoctoral training

More than 40 faculty, postdoctoral researchers, and university administrators met May 4–5 to discuss postdoctoral training on the KU Lawrence campus.

“Postdoctoral training is an important component of the research mission at a place like KU” said Jim Roberts, vice provost for research. “We are committed to making the Lawrence campus a good place to do postdoctoral training.”

Issues discussed at the two forums included benefits given to postdoctoral researchers, the various types of training, and the appropriate length of that training.

“There are really three different types of postdocs,” said John Augusto, research training coordinator. “The first are postdoc employees who are employed by the university and who work for a faculty researcher. The second are postdoc fellows who are supported by an outside agency (NIH, for example) through a fellowship and the training fellowship is paid through KUCR. The third are those postdocs who are paid a fellowship directly by the funding agency. We want to make sure KU addresses the issues of all three types of postdoctoral training,” says Augusto.

Based on the feedback gathered in May, a working group will convene this summer to review policies and procedures directly related to postdoctoral training on the Lawrence campus. This group will make a formal set of recommendations in the fall.

Participate in Community of Science

Dan Coonfield and Alicia Reed, grant specialists in Proposal Services, are KU’s coordinators for Community of Science (COS), an international, on-line resource that connects researchers in all fields to potential collaborators and grant opportunities. Creating or updating your individual COS profile is free and easy to do. The COS website at www.cos.com has all the information you need. Questions? Contact **Dan** at 864-7404 or **Alicia** at 864-7771.

Research Administration

Grants.gov FAQs available online

Contact: **Amy Patty**, Grant Officer, Proposal Services, 864-7423.

Proposal Services has posted answers to commonly asked questions about Grants.gov. The online FAQs discuss how federal funding agencies are implementing Grants.gov and what Proposal Services can do to assist KU investigators. The website will be updated as new developments in the Grants.gov initiative occur. The FAQs can be found at http://www.research.ku.edu/kucr/policy/proposals/grants_gov_faq.shtml.

Cost share verification forms past due

Contact: **Susan Archer**, Manager, Sponsored Program Administration, 864-7463.

Verification forms for cost share through March 31 are past due. If you have not already done so, please return the completed forms to KUCR Sponsored Program Administration as soon as possible. In this F&A base year, it’s crucial to keep these verifications current. Questions regarding outstanding forms should be addressed to Susan Archer.

OVPR staff changes

The following staff changes occurred during May and June:

- Sherry Draper, Grant Specialist, Proposal Services
- Maile Fincher, Grant Specialist, Proposal Services
- Susan MacNally, Compliance Coordinator, Research Integrity
- Stephanie Martin, Contracts Specialist, Contract Negotiations

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Upcoming Events

A Message from Jim Roberts, Vice Provost for Research

Research@KU is produced by the Office of the Vice Provost for Research. For more information, please contact Christine Foshier, OVPR Research Communications, cfoshier@ku.edu.

Upcoming Events

June 13

National Council of University
Research Administrators (NCURA)

Video Workshop on National
Security Issues

10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Simons Auditorium

Higuchi Biosciences Center

RSVP jgood@ku.edu

August 28

Andrei Codrescu

Humanities Lecture Series

7:30 p.m.

Woodruff Auditorium

Kansas Union

September 12

National Council of University

Research Administrators (NCURA)

Video Workshop on Technology Transfer
for the Research Administrator

10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Simons Auditorium

Higuchi Biosciences Center

RSVP jgood@ku.edu

Researchers in the News

Joe Heppert speaks on evolution at the Dole Institute

<http://www.kansan.com/stories/2006/may/10/evolution/>

The chemistry professor and chair's speech concluded the Dole Institute's "Science, Education and the Public" lecture series.

Kathy Mitchell receives \$150K for umbilical cord research

http://www2.ljworld.com/news/2006/may/22/umbilical_cord_research_receives_lastminute_fundin/?ku_news

The KU assistant professor and founding fellow of the Midwest Institute for Comparative Stem Cell Biology at KSU received the funding from state appropriations.

Kris Krishtalka to research climate change

<http://www.oread.ku.edu/Oread06/May15/climate.shtml>

The Natural History Museum and Biodiversity Research Institute director will collaborate with KSU and FHSU investigators with funding from the NSF EPSCoR office.

HUD funds KCK-KU Partnership Center

<http://www.oread.ku.edu/Oread06/Apr10/neighborhoods.shtml>

The \$400,000 in federal start-up funds will allow students, faculty, staff from Lawrence and Edwards campuses to collaborate with Kansas City, Kansas, representatives on community development projects.

Bob Honea named director of Transportation Institute

<http://www.news.ku.edu/2006/june/2/honea.shtml>

Honea, a former director of the National Transportation Research Center at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, is the institute's first director.

Help Wanted: A Navigator for Business

The KU Center for Research is searching for a director of business relations and development, someone who will help the university strengthen its connections with the state and local business community. The goal is to provide a point of entry for persons seeking assistance from KU, while engaging us even more in the economic development efforts of Kansas and the Greater Kansas City area.

KU is doing a great deal in this area now, but we're probably not getting enough credit for it. We also need greater coordination of these efforts. The new director will report to me and will work out of Youngberg Hall, but will have a campuswide role. Funding for the new position is provided by the Office of the Provost, and we hope to have someone in place this fall.

The director will function as a navigator for businesses and organizations that don't always know how to take advantage of existing KU resources, such as faculty members, research capabilities, and programs. The person will have close relationships with KU academic units, as well as the Office of Technology Transfer and Intellectual Property, led by Jim Baxendale.

We intend to connect KU to business, not turn KU into a business. The fact is we have a lot to offer the business community and they have a lot to offer us. This new director can help organize and lead our efforts, but one person alone can't do everything. To be successful, we'll need commitment and support from the whole university. It's an exciting prospect.

The initial review of candidates begins June 16. For more information, go to www.ku.edu/employment.

Jim Roberts
Vice Provost for Research