

Research@KU

Updates on the Lawrence campus from the Vice Provost for Research

Mary Lee Hummert Moving to Provost's Office

Mary Lee Hummert, associate vice provost for research since 2004 and professor of communication studies, has been named vice provost for faculty support at KU, effective September 1. She succeeds Sandra Gautt and reports to the senior vice provost.

As associate vice provost for research, Mary Lee worked closely with several research centers, including CRL, LSI, the Hall Center, the Institute for Policy & Social Research (formerly PRI), CReSIS, and the new Transportation Research Institute. She also administered internal research funding programs. In addition, she had administrative oversight of the research training programs, coordinated by John Augusto, and the Office of Research Integrity, directed by William Sharp.

In the Provost's Office, Mary Lee will develop programs to help new faculty prepare for the promotion and tenure process, and will develop programs to support department chairs in their administrative duties.

An internal search for a successor to Mary Lee has begun. Tenured faculty members who wish to be considered should send a letter of interest, a current vita, and three professional references to Angie Loving, Office of the Vice Provost for Research, 108 Youngberg Hall, by August 18. Nominations are also encouraged.

New Name for Policy Research Institute

Effective August 1, KU's Policy Research Institute (PRI) has a new name that better describes the full scope of its activities. The new name is Institute for Policy & Social Research (IPSR).

An event in celebration of the institute is planned for Thursday, October 5 from noon to 6 p.m. at the KU Alumni Association. Joseph Steinmetz, new dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, will make keynote remarks at an opening luncheon for the event, which will explore the future of policy and social research through two panel discussions. One session will discuss the challenges and opportunities of multidisciplinary social science research, while the other will showcase IPSR research. The panel discussions are open to the campus community, as is the reception that follows at 4:30 p.m.

Save the date: IPSR's annual Kansas Economic Policy Conference is scheduled for Thursday, October 26 at the KU Memorial Union. Conference program and registration information will be available soon at <http://www.ipsr.ku.edu>.

Online Conflict of Interest Reporting to Begin August 23

Kansas Board of Regents policy requires all full-time faculty and unclassified staff, and many part-time faculty and unclassified staff, to make an annual declaration of time and interests and to disclose details when a real or apparent conflict exists.

The annual online conflict of interest (COI) reporting begins August 23. All affected employees will receive an email with instructions for filing the online declaration.

There are changes in this year's reporting procedures. As before, employees who are new to the university or who have changes to report will be required to print a hard-copy declaration and obtain the signatures of their chair/director and dean/vice provost. However, for those persons who have no changes to report, the process is concluded with the online confirmation.

Faculty and unclassified staff COI reports are due via online confirmation or in paper form by September 15. Persons with a new declaration or a change from their last declaration must submit hard-copy forms to the unit head for review and signature by September 15.

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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.

KU
RESEARCH
The University of Kansas

Upcoming Events

August 11

URA Fund Applications Due

More info: John Augusto, jaugusto@ku.edu

August 23

Online COI reporting begins

More info: William Sharp, wsharp@ku.edu, or Susan MacNally, sumac@ku.edu

August 28

Andrei Codrescu

7:30 p.m.

Humanities Lecture Series

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

September 13

Research Administration 101

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

Apollo Room

Nichols Hall

To enroll: William Sharp, wsharp@ku.edu

September 22

Art at MRB Opening and Reception featuring works by KU faculty

4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

Multidisciplinary Research Building (MRB)

More info: Kevin Boatright,

kboatright@ku.edu

September 30

"Invention to Venture" (I2V) Workshop

8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation

4801 Rockhill Road, Kansas City, MO

Registration required

(785) 864-7783 (Kansas)

(816) 235-6429 (Missouri)

www.invention2venture.org

Please note that the Kansas Legislature approved a change in the scope of state employees required to file a "Statement of Substantial Interests" and, as a result, many KU faculty were required to file a disclosure with the State of Kansas for the first time in the spring of 2006. This separate reporting procedure is sometimes confused with the Board of Regents Conflict of Interest reporting requirement. Having filed a State of Kansas "Statement of Substantial Interests" does not change the obligation of faculty or staff to submit a conflict of interest declaration to the vice provost for research at least annually.

Questions regarding conflict of interest policies or declaration procedures should be directed to William Sharp, director of research integrity, wsharp@ku.edu or 864-7430, or Susan MacNally, compliance coordinator, sumac@ku.edu or 864-7189.

90 Undergraduate Students Receive Research Certification

The university recently certified 90 undergraduate students as completing the **Research Experience Program (REP)**.

The REP is a new undergraduate certification program established in 2005. Student interest in the program is increasing.

"I was surprised by the number of students who participate in undergraduate research on this campus," says John Augusto, research training coordinator. "REP is more than just completing the research; it certifies students who are willing to take discipline-specific coursework to ground their research training. Each student must complete the research and present the research/scholarship to a larger audience."

A formal list of the students and their disciplines will be released later this month. For more information on the REP, contact John Augusto, research training coordinator, jaugusto@ku.edu or 864-7351.

MPPG Funds Help KASC Secure \$1.5 Million in Federal Funding

KU's **Kansas African Studies Center (KASC)** received notification of \$1.5 million in funding over four years to support center activities and student fellowships.

Funding comes from Title VI of the Higher Education Act, administered by the U.S. Department of Education. Successful applicants, such as KASC, receive the elite designation of National Resource Center (NRC).

The program is highly competitive. That's why KASC director John Janzen and associate director Garth Myers turned to KUCR's **Major Project Planning Grant (MPPG)** program for assistance in preparing for their proposal submission.

The MPPG program provides financial assistance to investigators to develop proposals for interdisciplinary research centers or projects that enhance KU's competitiveness and prestige, as well as target new research leadership.

When asked how the MPPG program assisted the application process, Dr. Janzen replied, "Quite simply, the MPPG permitted the Kansas African Studies Center to hire a student assistant who conducted research on KU's program in African Studies that gave our proposal far more depth than it would otherwise have had. We are now one of 11 funded National Resource Centers for African studies in the U.S."

All Lawrence campus faculty and professional staff in every field of study are eligible to apply for an MPPG. The program has a rolling deadline so that there is flexibility to respond to various agency proposal due dates.

Mary Lee Hummert, associate vice provost for research, has overseen the project since 2004. "We congratulate the Kansas African Studies Center on its award, and are pleased that we were able to play a part in their success through the MPPG program," she said. "Hopefully, other faculty will take advantage of the MPPG program to bring additional prestigious centers to our campus."

Information is available on the funding opportunities website at <http://www.research.ku.edu/kucr/fundops/mppg.shtml>.

Ice Cream and Inquiry at the Multidisciplinary Research Building (MRB)

More than 100 faculty, staff, and student researchers gathered at the MRB's second floor collaboration area on July 11 for a poster session and ice cream social. Each research group created at least one poster for the event.

"A poster session is an opportunity for the different groups to present their research and interact with others in the MRB," said Teri Herberger, MRB facility manager and member of the steering committee. "The research performed in this building, which spans several disciplines, is the combined effort of expert faculty, knowledgeable staff, and student researchers. We're thrilled by the event's success."

Special guests at the poster session included Provost Richard Lariviere and Associate Vice Provost for Research Jim Roberts.

The research groups left the posters out for viewing following the event. KU Center for Research (KUCR) staff was invited to the MRB on July 12 to learn more about the science going on within the building.

TRIPS (Travel of Research Investigators to Potential Sponsors) to Washington, D.C., Schedule Released

Chancellor Hemenway is again making a university airplane available to researchers who can benefit from face-to-face meetings with funding officials in Washington, D.C. There is no charge to the researcher for the flight; the only requirement is that the researcher has a scheduled meeting with program officers to discuss the possibility of funding for a future sponsored project.

The following flights are scheduled for the upcoming academic year:

September 5, 2006
October 5, 2006
November 30, 2006
February 13, 2007
March 28, 2007
April 25, 2007

Space on each flight is limited and is open only to faculty or faculty-equivalent researchers actively seeking funding. Flight details are available online at <http://www.research.ku.edu/kucr/events/travel.shtml>.

Contact Meredith Porter, executive assistant to the vice provost for research, mvp@ku.edu or 864-7336, to reserve a seat on one of these flights. To receive electronic notification of future trips, please e-mail Meredith.

Researchers in the News

Robert Goldstein named Energy Research Center co-director

<http://www.kgs.ku.edu/ERC>

Dr. Goldstein, Merrill W. Hass Distinguished Professor and chair of the Department of Geology, joins co-director G. Paul Willhite and executive director Lynn Watney in leading the center.

Clifton Pye receives federal grant to study endangered language

http://www2.ijworld.com/news/2006/jul/20/ku_prof_receives_grant_study_mayan_language

The associate professor of linguistics will receive more than \$300,000 for his project, "Documenting Mayan Language Acquisition."

Research Administration

Research Administration 101 sessions to begin in September

This fall, for the sixth consecutive year, the Office of the Vice Provost for Research is offering a free intramural course titled, "Research Administration 101: A Guide to the Administration of Sponsored Projects at the University of Kansas."

"RA 101" is designed to help educate campus administrators and support staff involved in the management of externally-sponsored grants or contract accounts. The course, which begins September 13th, is organized into 10 two-hour sessions, meeting every Wednesday from 2:30-4:30 p.m. until November 15th.

Sessions will address issues related to research projects, including grant proposal submission, award spending and monitoring, intellectual property issues, the responsible conduct of research, and how research funding is measured at KU. Classes will be held in the Apollo Room in Nichols Hall on West Campus.

The course also provides an excellent opportunity to develop contacts with people from a number of departments and disciplines across campus. Members of the university community who complete the course receive a certificate of completion.

Contact William Sharp, director of research integrity, wsharp@ku.edu or 864-7430, to enroll or to learn more about the course.

Travel rate changes

Effective August 1, the following per diem rates will apply to travel with KUCR funds:

- Domestic (US and Canada): \$44 per day / \$11 per quarter day.
- International: \$48 per day / \$12 per quarter day.

Meals provided by a third party will reduce the per diem claim by the following amounts:

	Domestic	International
Morning Meal	\$8.00	\$8.00
Mid Day Meal	\$12.00	\$12.00
Evening Meal	\$24.00	\$28.00

International travelers can claim reimbursement based on actual meal receipts or on a per diem basis. Only one reimbursement method may be used per trip.

KUCR travel procedures are designed to provide a fair reimbursement for business travel with a reporting process that is efficient to manage for both the traveler and administration. These rates and additional travel information can be found on the KUCR website at <http://www.research.ku.edu/kucr/policy/admin/travel/schedul.shtml>.

Specific travel questions may be directed to Jay Darnell, manager of business services, jdarnell@ku.edu or 864-7775, or Anita Abel, assistant manager, aabel@ku.edu or 864-7780.

OVPR staff changes

The following staff changes occurred during August:

- Aaron Crim, contracts specialist, contract negotiations.
- Michelle Ginavan, assistant to the director, research administration.

Seeking funding opportunities? The August Funding Opportunities Bulletin is available online at: http://www.research.ku.edu/kucr/fundops/bulletin/2006/fob06_08.pdf.