

# Research@KU

Updates on the Lawrence campus from the Vice Provost for Research

## **KU Research Awards Increase 13 Percent in Fiscal Year 2006**

Research awards at the University of Kansas soared 13 percent to a record \$218 million in the past fiscal year, a nearly 50 percent increase in just the past five years.

KU was propelled to the new record by a 15 percent hike in research awards from the National Institutes of Health, to a record \$86 million. The NIH is KU's largest single source of research funding, and KU accounts for 85 percent of all NIH funding in the state of Kansas.

"Research is discovery," said Chancellor Robert Hemenway, "and research is education. That's why we do it, to keep expanding what we know so we can share it with others and improve the quality of life in Kansas and elsewhere.

"Research is also economic development," he said. "Grants enable KU to employ researchers, purchase equipment and even build buildings. Research awards have a major impact on the economy of our state, radiating outward in the form of jobs, tax revenue, Main Street business and a better-educated workforce."

Jim Roberts, vice provost for research, noted that "Nationally, the budget for NIH research has been flat the past three years. It's a tough, rough environment going forward. So the growth in NIH awards to KU last year is impressive. We'll do all we can to ensure KU stays ahead."

NIH awards grew by more than 21 percent at the KU Medical Center last year, said Paul Terranova, senior associate dean for research and graduate education at the medical center. "At both campuses," he said, "KU researchers are very competitive and very successful when it comes to seeking and winning these kinds of high-profile, federally funded, science and engineering grants"

Roberts noted that the NIH success rate at the Lawrence campus — grants awarded vs. proposals submitted — was 23 percent in 2005, the most recent year available. "The national rate was 18 percent," he added, "another indicator that KU researchers can compete with anyone in the country."

Roberts and Terranova attributed KU's awards growth to three factors: more proposals being submitted, larger proposals being submitted and a strong success rate.

## **KU Celebrates Entrepreneurship with Burge Union Fair Feb. 27**

Ever have a creative idea for a new product? Ever get an itch to start your own business? Ever want to do both, turning that new product into a new company? If so, you may be an entrepreneur, and KU is about to celebrate the people whose courage — or craziness — makes the U.S. market economy so dynamic.

**Entrepreneurship Week USA** is a national observance, planned for Feb. 24 through March 3. KU is participating by hosting an Entrepreneurship Fair on Tuesday, Feb. 27, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Relays and Courtside rooms on level three of Burge Union. There's no charge for attending, and refreshments will be served.

More than 20 KU-related companies, services, and technologies — some still in the embryonic stage — will be on display at the E-Fair, according to Jim Baxendale, director of **KU's Office of Technology Transfer and Intellectual Property**. Participants will showcase an actual product or an emerging idea with commercial potential. Visitors are invited to walk through the E-Fair and learn more about the inventors and their ideas.

"KU has spun off 11 new companies in recent years," says Baxendale, "and KU now has license agreements for a number of patents that grew out of KU research. Technology transfer is not the reason we do research, but it can be a very beneficial outcome for society, the university, and the inventor."

It's been a good year locally for entrepreneurship awareness, says Baxendale. In September, an "Invention to Venture" workshop at the **Kauffman Foundation** — co-hosted by KU and

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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](mailto:cfoshier@ku.edu).

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The University of Kansas

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the University of Missouri at Kansas City — drew more than 175 participants, many of them students. Also last fall, Lisa Friis, an assistant professor of mechanical engineering, was named one of 10 members of the **Kansas Technology Enterprise Corporation's (KTEC)** charter class of PIPELINE innovators. The program selects individuals who have shown a commitment to technology innovation in Kansas and matches them with best-in-class training, resources and mentors. Another KTEC PIPELINE innovator is George Laurence, a recent KU M.B.A. graduate

In November, a multidisciplinary “E-Club” was formed on campus, focusing on developing entrepreneurial skills and networks for KU students, staff, and faculty. Among those working with the club are Friis and Wally Meyer, director of entrepreneurship programs in the **School of Business**.

Nationwide, Entrepreneurship Week USA observances will include high school competitions, academic gatherings, town hall meetings, and a national policy summit. More than 700 organizations are planning activities in all 50 states. National sponsors are the Kauffman Foundation, the New York Times, and Inc. Magazine.

E-Fair participants include:

- Lawrence Regional Technology Center
- KCBioMedix (a KU medical device start-up)
- KU Small Business Development Center
- CyDex (a KU start-up)
- Flint Hills Scientific (a KU Medical Center start-up)
- HiPer Technology (KU student project)
- Radio Frequency ID (a KU faculty technology)
- Viking LLC (a KU aeronautical faculty start-up)
- Xenotech (a KU Medical Center start-up)

## **Restricted Research Policy Now in Effect**

Last spring the faculty senate approved a new policy which was ultimately put into place last fall: the statement on restricted research. The statement on restricted research replaces an earlier policy, the statement on classified research. While the university is fundamentally committed to maintaining an open environment in which researchers experience the freedom to participate in research and to publish or otherwise disseminate their research results, the new policy recognizes that “in limited cases the pursuit of knowledge may involve critically important but sensitive areas of inquiry where the immediate publication or dissemination of research results may not be in the best interest of the involved parties or society.”

While it is the practice of the office of the vice provost for research to attempt to resolve restrictions on publication or access to the research process or facilities through negotiations with external sponsors, the restricted research policy permits exemptions, that is, restrictions on publication or access, so long as the research has very substantial scholarly or educational benefits, involves unique university capabilities, or constitutes a very substantial public service.

To apply for an exemption under the policy, an investigator must submit an application to the restricted research committee, a faculty committee which makes recommendations to the vice provost for research as to whether a proposed research project meets these criteria. The university will not accept any grant or contract which includes restrictions on publication or access unless an exemption is approved by the restricted research committee or by the vice provost for research. Information regarding the procedures for applying for an exemption, as well as the policy itself, may be found on the Research Integrity Web site at <http://www.rcr.ku.edu>.

Recommendations made by the restricted research committee are posted by university governance at <http://www2.ku.edu/~unigov>.

## **Researchers in the News**

### **KU professor, student find new variable in common drug therapy problem**

<http://www.news.ku.edu/2007/february/12/dosage.shtml>

Jeffrey P. Krise, assistant professor of pharmaceutical chemistry and the principal investigator for the study, and Ryan S. Funk, in his sixth year of KU 's doctor of pharmacy program, published the study in *Molecular Pharmaceutics*, a journal of the American Chemical Society.

### **Kansas Biological Survey: Water taste linked to algae in Clinton Lake reservoir**

<http://www.news.ku.edu/2007/february/12/watertaste.shtml>

A study released by the Kansas Biological Survey has found that an increased level of an organic compound called geosmin is the root of the problem in the Clinton Lake Reservoir.

## Upcoming Events

February 15

**KansasBio Speaker Series “Discover Today’s BIG Thinkers”**—4:15 p.m.

Tom Thornton, President and CEO, Kansas Bioscience Authority

University of Kansas Medical Center  
Biomedical Research Center

3901 Rainbow Blvd., Kansas City, KS

RSVP: <http://www.kansasbio.org>

**Grant/Fellowship Workshop**

6:00–8:00 p.m.

Simons Auditorium, Higuchi Biosciences Center

“Introduction to Proposal Development” for Graduate Students in the Humanities, Social Sciences, Arts, Architecture, and Journalism

Hall Center Conference Room

Hall Center for the Humanities

Contact: HGDO, [hgdo@ku.edu](mailto:hgdo@ku.edu)

February 20

**Ralph N. Adams Distinguished Professor of Chemistry Inaugural Lecture**—5:30 p.m.

Professor Susan Lunte presents “The Incredible Shrinking Laboratory”

Summerfield Room, Adams Alumni Center

February 22

**2007 Takeru Higuchi Memorial Scientific Lecture**—9:30 a.m.

Brian J. Druker, M.D., presents “Imatinib (Gleevec) as a Paradigm of Targeted Cancer Therapy”

130 Budig Hall

Sponsored by the Takeru Higuchi Memorial Lecture Fund

**2007 Takeru Higuchi Memorial Public Lecture and Award Ceremony**—5:30 p.m.

Brian J. Druker, M.D., presents “Cancer Therapy in the 21st Century”

Simons Research Laboratories Auditorium, West Campus

Sponsored by the Takeru Higuchi Memorial Lecture Fund

February 27

**KU Entrepreneurship Fair**

11 a.m.–2 p.m.

Burge Union

Contact: Ankur Dayal, [adayal@ku.edu](mailto:adayal@ku.edu)

<http://www.entrepreneurshipweekusa.com>

March 6

**National Council of University Research Administrators (NCURA) video workshop on Effort Reporting**—10:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m.

Simons Auditorium, Higuchi Biosciences Center

Register at <http://hbc.ku.edu/NCURAreistration.shtml>

## Research Administration

### Justifications for cost transfers

A cost transfer is an expense that is transferred between sponsored projects and other accounts after the expense is posted in the financial accounting system. The PI, authorized representatives, or administrative personnel from centers and departments should provide the following information when requesting cost transfers, including retroactive fund adjustments (RFAs):

1. Describe in detail the expenditure(s) to be transferred (research supplies, travel, GRA salary, etc.).
2. How will the transfer benefit the project being transferred to?
3. How did the error occur?
4. Why is the error correction late? (If more than 60 days late.)
5. What steps are being taken to ensure that this error will not reoccur?

If the correction is more than 90 days late, the PI and department head should sign the cost transfer request. Questions? Contact Susan Archer, KUCR Sponsored Program Administration, [sarcher@ku.edu](mailto:sarcher@ku.edu) or 864-7463.

### Cost share verification forms due

Verification forms for cost share through December 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. Questions regarding outstanding forms should be addressed to Susan Archer, manager, KUCR Sponsored Program Administration, [sarcher@ku.edu](mailto:sarcher@ku.edu) or 864-7463.

### NIH offers new online training tools for electronic submission of grant applications

The NIH Office of Extramural Research has posted new training resources on its electronic submission Web site. Detailed information regarding “Electronic Submission of Grant Applications” (including the process, common errors and frequently asked questions) may be found at <http://era.nih.gov/ElectronicReceipt>.

### Change in fringe benefit rates for proposal budget submissions effective Feb. 15

Effective Feb. 15, fringe benefit rates included in all budgets for proposal submissions will be increased from 28% for faculty/staff to 32%. No other fringe benefit rates will be adjusted at this time. For more information on current fringe benefit rates, please see [http://www.kucr.ku.edu/depts/proposals/start/budgets/budget\\_prep.shtml](http://www.kucr.ku.edu/depts/proposals/start/budgets/budget_prep.shtml).

### KUCR Business Services welcomes Brandi Cornett

Brandi Cornett joined the KUCR Business Services staff on December 18, 2006. Brandi is the Business Services point of contact for several KUCR research units and is also assisting with KUCR cash receipts and deposits.

### Mileage reimbursement rate change effective Jan. 1

The personal vehicle mileage reimbursement rate for KUCR funded travel is \$.485 per mile effective Jan. 1.

### U.S. Department of State Travel Warning List reminder

Traveling outside the USA? Remember to monitor the U.S. Department of State Travel Warning List. University of Kansas has specific guidelines for travel to countries on the warning list. See <http://www.oip.ku.edu/Facstaff/dangeroustravel.shtml> for details.

## Big XII Sponsored Programs Conference April 11–13

The University of Nebraska will host the Big XII Sponsored Programs Conference April 11–13 at the Embassy Suites in Lincoln, Nebraska. The conference will include a presentation on the International Polar Year, a session on responsible conduct of research, breakout sessions with pre- and post-award tracks, and a Washington, D.C. update. For more information and to register, please visit [www.unl.edu/research/BigXII](http://www.unl.edu/research/BigXII). Questions may be directed to contact Jeanne Wicks at [jwicks2@unl.edu](mailto:jwicks2@unl.edu) or via phone at (402) 472-1825.

### *Message from the Vice Provost for Research*

#### **Research Summit a Success**

I want to thank everyone who participated in the KU Research Summit on January 16. Nearly 175 faculty and staff braved the arctic weather that morning. I hope you felt it was time well spent.

We received a lot of useful feedback from the session facilitators, and excellent evaluations from participants. We are still reviewing all of this material, because it offers productive guidance for KU in general and the Office of the Vice Provost for Research in particular.

A number of observations and suggestions were offered at the summit. One has already been implemented. Paul Terranova, my counterpart at the KU Medical Center, and I are creating a bi-campus task force to identify and eliminate remaining barriers to research collaboration and integration. One outcome will be a handbook, available electronically and updated regularly.

Other useful suggestions include:

- Develop a mentoring infrastructure for junior faculty who are seeking and managing their first grant;
- Encourage faculty to incorporate more undergraduate research in the classroom;
- Seek more funding for graduate education from all sources, including KU Endowment; and
- Work to overcome any negative image problem the state of Kansas has in other parts of the country.

The summit grew out of a discussion last November at the KU Research Convocation. The Faculty Senate proposed the idea and was most helpful in organizing the meeting in a short period of time. Thanks to Ruth Ann Atchley, Rick Hale, Jack Brown, and Molly Mulloy for their support and involvement. Joshua Rosenbloom, Kevin Boatright, Meredith Porter, and Megan Gannon assisted from my staff.

I also wish to thank Provost Lariviere, who gave the opening remarks, and the session facilitators, who introduced each of the 24 sessions and helped guide the discussion: Ruth Ann Atchley, John Augusto, Mary Banwart, Jim Baxendale, Ron Borchardt, John Colombo, Joe Evans, Hume Feldman, Victor Frost, Susan Gauch, Rick Hale, Paul Hanson, Bob Hanzlik, Roy Jensen, Susan Kemper, Stan Lombardo, Erik Lundquist, Steven Maynard-Moody, Tom McDonald, Wally Meyer, Joane Nagel, Carey Novak, Jim Orr, Bill Sharp, Joe Steinmetz, Steve Warren, Judy Wu, and Keith Yehle.

The reaction to the summit was so strong and so positive that we intend to continue the conversation next January, right before the start of classes. We will work with the Faculty Senate and the KU Medical Center and will share more information later in the year.

*Jim Roberts*

*Vice Provost for Research*

The February Funding Opportunities Bulletin is available online at  
[http://www.research.ku.edu/kucr/fundops/bulletin/2006/fob06\\_12.pdf](http://www.research.ku.edu/kucr/fundops/bulletin/2006/fob06_12.pdf).