

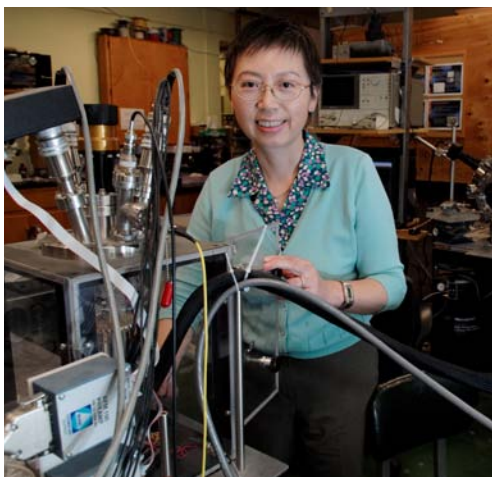
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7 UPCOMING EVENTS

KU Faculty, Alumni Among 150 "Science in Kansas" Honorees



Judy Wu, in her Malott Hall Lab

Kansas will observe the 150th anniversary of statehood on January 29, and KU's contributions to science and innovation are part of the yearlong celebration.

Starting in January and continuing through December, the Ad Astra Kansas Initiative in Hutchinson is releasing 150 on-line trading cards that recognize past and present scientists and engineers with connections to the state.

These include university researchers, inventors, and others whose contributions to science and technology have had an impact on Kansas and the world. Nominations were submitted last fall by universities and other organizations.

The principal audience for the trading cards is K-12 students in Kansas. The goal is to help teach students about the importance of science and innovation and the role they play in the history and future of the state.

The first distribution of 12 cards features four individuals with KU connections:

- **Judy Wu**, University Distinguished Professor of Physics and Astronomy;
- **Hamilton Perkins Cady** (1874-1943), Professor of Chemistry and co-discoverer of the element helium;
- **Walter Sutton** (1877-1916), KU School of Medicine faculty member and pioneer in the use of x-ray localization; and
- **Brian McClendon**, KU engineering graduate (1986) and co-inventor of the Google Earth search tool.

"I feel greatly honored to be selected for this recognition," said Wu, who joined the KU faculty in 1993 after receiving a Ph.D. in physics at the University of Houston. "I hope my experience provides some inspiration for students and encourages them to pursue their dreams in science."

Eight additional KU-related individuals are scheduled for recognition with Ad Astra's February and March posting of trading cards, including:

- Current faculty members **Kristin Bowman-James** in Chemistry and **Prasad Gogineni** in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science;
- Historical faculty members **Cora Downs** and **Creighton Hardin**;
- Alumnus (1936, 1939) **Clyde Tombaugh**, discoverer of Pluto;
- Alumnus (1903) **Elmer McCollum**, discoverer of Vitamins A, B and D;
- Alumnus (1940) **Otis Ray McIntire**, inventor of Styrofoam; and
- Alumnus (1969) **Alan Mulally**, president and CEO of Ford Motor Company.

For more information about the project, and to download the cards, go to www.adastra-ks.org.

Graduate Student Research Events Coming Up in February, March

The Office of Research and Graduate Studies invites graduate students to apply to participate in the 2011 Graduate Student Research Competition, scheduled for March 16 at the Kansas Union. KU graduate students will present their research to faculty judges and peers from across the University. Students can apply to give a poster presentation or an oral presentation. Prizes will be awarded.

More information and the application form are available on-line at www.graduate.ku.edu/08-04_research_competition.shtml. The application form requires an abstract of no more than 250 words. To be eligible, completed forms must be sent via e-mail to graduate@ku.edu no later than 5 p.m. on Friday, January 28.

Also coming up is the 8th Annual Capitol Research Summit, scheduled for Topeka on Thursday, February 17. Eight Lawrence campus KU students will be selected to make presentations, along with peers from the KU Medical Center, K-State, and Wichita State. Participating students will present their research in poster board format to legislators and other members of state government. Awards are sponsored by KansasBio and the participating institutions.

IAMI Announces 2011-12 Graduate Fellowship Program

KU's Institute for Advancing Medical Innovation (IAM) focuses on education and research that advances medical innovations. An important element is the graduate fellowship program that promotes technology commercialization education for students and post-docs.

The IAM Graduate Fellowship is open to master's students and doctoral candidates from the KU Schools of Business, Pharmacy, and Engineering, as well as all applicable clinical health science disciplines at the Lawrence or Medical Center campuses. Fellowships are awarded for an initial period of one year. Fellows are expected to participate on a translational research project and to develop a research and commercialization plan on the project topic. Yearly competitive renewal awards will be considered based on program participation and quality of the commercialization plan.

Tangible yearly benefits for IAM Graduate Fellows include:

- Graduate research assistantship of \$24,500 per year;
- Full tuition and fees coverage;
- Up to \$1000 for travel;
- \$500 textbook allowance; and
- Two potential \$1000 achievement-based bonuses.

Fellows must make a commitment to 1) fully engage in a translational research project, 2) complete the required research and commercialization plan deliverables, and 3) participate in all required fellowship activities, which equal approximately 80 hours of professional development and mentoring from industry adjunct faculty each year.

The application deadline is February 15. More information and the application form can be found at www2.kumc.edu/iami/fellowship.html. Applicants submit the form and their résumé to the fellowship director, Lisa Friis, at IAMIFellows@kumc.edu. A signed access/waiver form (part of the application) should also be sent to this address and copied to each of two referees, who should address the applicant's technical abilities and entrepreneurial potential. The references are also due on February 15.

Discover the Discoverer of Pluto at His Birthday Party

Come celebrate the 104th anniversary of the birth of astronomer Clyde Tombaugh (see above) during a special evening of free events on Thursday, February 3 at the Kansas Union.

A guided astronomy display, including Tombaugh artifacts, will be available for viewing at 6:30 p.m. in the Ballroom. At 7:30 p.m., novelist Michael Byers, author of *Percival's Planet*, a 2010 work of historical fiction about Tombaugh, will speak. He will be introduced by Steven Hawley, former astronaut and current professor of physics and astronomy. Byers will sign copies of his book and cake will be served, followed by a telescope observing session on the sixth floor deck from 8:30-9:30 p.m.

Byers' novel follows Tombaugh (actually born on February 4, 1906) from his life on a Kansas farm to his historic work at the Lowell Observatory in Arizona. Tombaugh discovered Pluto (now classified as a "dwarf planet") on February 18, 1930. He later received bachelor's and master's degrees at KU and enjoyed a distinguished career prior to his death in 1997. KU's Clyde Tombaugh Observatory is named in his honor.

The Tombaugh celebration is co-sponsored by the KU Bookstore, KU Memorial Unions, the KU Department of Physics and Astronomy, the Hall Center for the Humanities, and The Commons.



Clyde Tombaugh and a Newtonian telescope

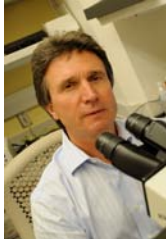
Four KU Researchers to Speak at Legislative Luncheons in February

For the second year in a row, a series of luncheons is scheduled that will introduce legislators and their staff members to aspects of research at KU. The theme of the four-session series is "Science Serving Kansas," with emphasis on how a research initiative affects the health and economy of the state.

Scheduled for the upcoming series are:



Jeff Aubé, Professor of Medicinal Chemistry,
"New Tools for Fighting Rare and Neglected Diseases"
(Feb. 7)



Peter Smith, Professor of Molecular and Integrative Physiology,
“Rewiring the Nervous System – For Better or For Worse”
(Feb. 14)



Shrikant Anant, Kansas Mason Professor of Cancer Research,
“Colon Cancer Research and Prevention”
(Feb. 21)



Judy Wu, University Distinguished Professor of Physics and Astronomy,
“Nanotechnology for Renewable Energy”
(Feb. 28)

All presentations take place from noon to 1 p.m. at 783 Docking State Office Building in Topeka and include an opportunity for dialogue between legislators and researchers.

KU to Host NSF Research Communications Workshop in January

KU will host a free, full-day NSF regional workshop January 27 on the topic of “Science: Becoming the Messenger.” The goal is to help PIs, early-career faculty and postdocs – particularly those working in the sciences, technology, engineering and math – become better public communicators about their research and its value to others. University staff who write about research topics will also attend and interact with the researchers.

The registration deadline was January 14, but it may still be possible to register on-line at www.nsf.gov/events/event_summ.jsp?cntn_id=118266&org=NSF. The event is scheduled for the Oread Hotel in Lawrence, and meals are provided. Kansas is the first EPSCoR state chosen by NSF to host this workshop, which will be offered later elsewhere in the country. For more information, contact Jill Giele at Kansas NSF EPSCoR, (785) 864-6120, jgiele@ku.edu.

Landmark Hart-Risley Research Inspires New Studies

National Public Radio carried a story January 10 that focused on new applications of groundbreaking research conducted at KU’s Life Span Institute over a period of years by Betty Hart, associate professor emeritus, and the late Todd Risley. Their research, published in 1995, centered on the number of words children hear by age four. This led to further work on the effect hearing words has on vocabulary, IQ and school success. Research indicated that hearing more words had a beneficial effect in all these areas.

The whole NPR story, broadcast during the “Morning Edition” program, is available on-line at www.npr.org/2011/01/10/132740565/closing-the-achievement-gap-with-baby-talk. You can listen to the audio, including comments by Hart, as well as read the complete transcript. An excerpt:

"[Since 1995] people in child development have seized on the idea that, to reduce the educational achievement gap between rich and poor kids, we must find a way to teach poor parents how to talk to their babies like rich parents. And so all over the country programs have cropped up designed to intervene at the moment of birth and teach low-income parents things like how to talk to your baby while playing with a toy. Or how to talk to your baby while walking down the street. One of those programs was designed by a man named Alan Mendelsohn, an associate professor of pediatrics at New York University School of Medicine. This month in the journal the Archives of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine, he published a study that, he says, proves his program has been successful."

One of Mendelsohn's findings is that "Babies don't absorb words very well from watching television." TV is no substitute for real people talking.

Kansas Bioscience Day is January 24

The Kansas Bioscience Authority and KansasBio will host the fourth annual Kansas Bioscience Day at the Capitol Reception on Monday, January 24, from 5:30-7 p.m. at the Capital Plaza Hotel in Topeka. Gov. Sam Brownback, legislative leaders, and industry representatives are slated to attend. To attend, [RSVP events@kansasbioauthority.org](mailto:RSVPevents@kansasbioauthority.org) or call (913) 397-8300.



KU'S United Way Campaign Exceeds Goal

Contributions to United Way by KU faculty, staff and students during the 2010 campaign totaled \$299,359, surpassing the goal of \$285,000 by nearly 5%. In addition to raising more money than last year's total of \$296,000, the number of individuals participating in the campaign increased from 732 to 805 campuswide.

Mary Ellen Kondrat, dean of the School of Social Welfare, served as KU United Way Committee chair the past two years, and will be succeeded in 2011 by Sara Rosen, dean of graduate studies.

Research and Graduate Studies organized a week of special activities in December to bring awareness to the campaign, including an event at Burge Union, a silent auction, and a pancake breakfast in Youngberg Hall delivered to your desk by Vice Chancellor Steve Warren. RGS teamed with staff at the Life Span Institute, the Higuchi Bioscience Center and other groups to more than double the percentage of RGS participation over the prior year.

KU Alumni Association Sponsors Pharmacy Building Tour

The Lawrence Chapter of the KU Alumni Association has organized guided tours that give Alumni Association members and their guests a behind-the-scenes look at different buildings and areas on the KU campus. The fifth installment of the series is a tour of the new School of Pharmacy on Tuesday, February 8, from 6-8 p.m.

At the conclusion of the tour, participants will enjoy complimentary treats in the Mortar & Pestle soda fountain. Featured will be beverages as well as cone or cup ice cream, shakes or malts, and a choice of one of its top three specialty sundaes: the Hot Fudge Brownie, the Black Bottom Sundae and the Top of the Hill.

The cost is \$8 per person. This event is only open to members of the KU Alumni Association, but members may bring two additional guests. Space is limited to the first 50 reservations. On-line reservations (with immediate payment) are required at www2.ku.edu/~kualumni/cgi-bin/kuaa_transactions.cgi?action=displayxcollextionsweb&itemid=768. For questions, contact Kerri Wright at 785.864.9772 or klwright@kualumni.org.

RGS Web Site Seeks Researcher, User Input

The Office of Research and Graduate Studies launched a revamped web site in the summer of 2009 at www.rgs.ku.edu. An important goal of that project was to make forms and policies easier to locate, along with the names of contact persons, research-related news and reports, and other material. During the coming months, we will review the site formally in order to improve its content, design and overall functionality. Input from researchers – and others who use the RGS site frequently – is especially valuable to us as we consider ways to be more user-friendly and transparent. We welcome your ongoing comments at RGS@KU.edu on any aspect of the current site – what you like, don't like, would change, etc.

RESEARCH ADMINISTRATION

January 2011: New Year, New Processes

RGS is implementing two new processes that will improve data collection, streamline auditing requirements, and eventually lead to even better management of sponsored projects. In preparation for implementing the Cayuse Sponsored Project electronic research administration system, RGS will begin implementation of two vital processes: effort reporting and compliance monitoring. Both of these new processes will set the stage for the new Cayuse Sponsored Project electronic routing and management tools.

- **Effort Reporting.** Beginning in late January or early February RGS will issue effort reporting cards for those individuals who must report effort on sponsored projects in order to be in compliance with federal regulations. This process will replace the salary certification process, which did not meet new federal requirements. All effort cards will be distributed to the department contact for dispersal to the appropriate individual or responsible official. Faculty and staff must have certifications completed every six months; student employees will require monthly certifications.
- **PI Proposal Checklist.** Investigators will be asked to complete an electronic PI checklist that will be accessed through the KYOU portal. The information gathered in this way will replace many of the questions previously required to finalize the Proposal Review Sheet. Gathering this information early in the process of proposal preparation rather than at the end, will help identify and address compliance issues in a more timely manner and should facilitate the process of proposal preparation. The checklist is intended to be easy to complete and will only take a few minutes of the investigator's time to record all compliance issues for an upcoming proposal submission.

In addition the benefit of the new PI Proposal Checklist is that it will streamline the approval of the Proposal Review Sheet. We will now send a PDF copy of the Proposal Review Sheet to the PI, Co-PIs, Deans, Directors or Chairs via email. Only those projects that need to be changed or updated in some manner will need to be returned to RGS-Proposal Services, thus reducing time, effort, and paper usage.

Additional information, demonstrations, and training will be provided in January and February 2011 as necessary for both of these new processes. While change is sometimes difficult, both of these new processes will set the stage for the improved efficiency we will gain with the new Cayuse Sponsored Project system coming in the Fall of 2011.

Upcoming Events

A calendar of events of interest to the research community. Additional details for these and other events are available at the [KU Calendar](#).

January 24, 2011

Nomination Deadline: Higuchi-Endowment Research Achievement Awards

Kansas Bioscience Day at the Capitol Reception

5:30-7 p.m.

Capitol Plaza Hotel, Emerald Room

January 27

NSF Workshop for Researchers and Communicators: "Science: Becoming the Messenger"

8 a.m. – 7 p.m.

The Oread Hotel

Latin American Seminar: "Claiming Water: Contested Legal Geographies of Water in South Texas," Wendy Jepson

3:30-5 p.m.

Hall Center for the Humanities Conference Hall

January 28

Deadline: Graduate Student Research Competition applications

February 3

Presentation: "Planned Obsolescence: Publishing, Technology, and the Future of the Academy,"

Kathleen Fitzpatrick

3:30-5:30 p.m.

Hall Center for the Humanities Conference Hall

Presentation: "Percival's Planet," Michael Byers

7:30 p.m.

Kansas Union, Ballroom

February 4

Presentation: "Understanding Our Past: Sesquicentennial Research in the Kansas Collection," Sherry Williams

6:30 p.m.

Watson Library, Third Floor West

February 7

KU Science Serving Kansas: "New Tools for Fighting Rare and Neglected Diseases," Jeff Aubé

Noon-1 p.m.

783 Docking Building, Topeka

February 8

Explore KU: School of Pharmacy

KU Alumni Association

6-8 p.m.

School of Pharmacy

February 9

Presentation: "Pious Hypocrisies: Mark Twain, the Philippines, and America's Christian Mission,"

Susan Harris

7:30 p.m.

Kansas Union, Alderson Auditorium

February 14

KU Science Serving Kansas: "Rewiring the Nervous System – For Better or For Worse," Peter Smith

Noon-1 p.m.

783 Docking Building, Topeka

February 15

Deadline: IAMI Graduate Fellowship Program

February 17

8th Annual Capitol Research Summit

Docking Building, Topeka

Honors Program Lecture Series: "Biology and Culture in the Evolution of Morality," Shaun Nichols

7:30 p.m.

Spooner Hall, The Commons

February 21

KU Science Serving Kansas: "Colon Cancer Research and Prevention," Shrikant Anant

Noon-1 p.m.

783 Docking Building, Topeka

February 22-23

Graduate Student Workshop: Introduction to Grant Proposal Development

6-9 p.m. both dates

Hall Center for the Humanities Conference Hall

February 23

Presentation: "Mind, Body, Machine: The Human Design Space 2," Braden Allenby

7 p.m.

Spooner Hall, The Commons

February 28

KU Science Serving Kansas: "Nanotechnology for Renewable Energy," Judy Wu

Noon-1 p.m.

783 Docking Building, Topeka

March 1, 2011

Nomination Deadline: Byron Caldwell Smith

Book Award

Hall Center for the Humanities

Upcoming Events

A calendar of events of interest to the research community. Additional details for these and other events are available at the [KU Calendar](#).

March 3, 2011

Gender Seminar: Rehak Symposium: "Gender in Greek Art," Susan Rotroff, Tyler Jo Smith, Maura Keane Heyn
2-5 p.m.
Hall Center for the Humanities Conference Hall

March 3-4

Institute for Digital Research in the Humanities:
Digital Jumpstart Workshop
9 a.m.-4 p.m. both dates
Watson Library, 4th Floor

March 10

Presentation: Illegal Immigration: Origins and Consequences," Mae Ngai
7:30 p.m.
Kansas Union, Woodruff Auditorium

March 16

Graduate Student Research Competition
Kansas Union

Latin American Seminar: "Walls and Borders: The Shifting U.S.-Mexico Relationship and Transborder Communities," Lynn Stephen
3:30-5 p.m.
Hall Center for the Humanities Conference Hall

March 17

Modernities Seminar: "Constructing and Resisting Modernity," Susan Larson
1:30-3:30 p.m.
Hall Center for the Humanities Conference Hall

March 18

Presentation and Q&A: John Q. Easton, director of the Institute of Education Sciences, U.S.
Department of Education
Location and Time TBA

Nature and Culture Seminar: "Radiation Laboratories and Ecosystem Ecologies in the Nuclear Pacific," Elizabeth DeLoughrey
3:30-5 p.m.
Spooner Hall, The Commons

April 13, 2011

Kansas City Area Life Sciences Institute:
Annual Dinner: "Delivering the Wonders of Medical Research to All . . . Today and Tomorrow"
Keynote Speaker: Barbara Vicrey, UCLA
Hyatt Regency Crown Center, Kansas City, MO

April 14, 2011

Kansas City Area Life Sciences Institute:
Annual Symposium
Kauffman Foundation, Conference Center, Kansas City, MO