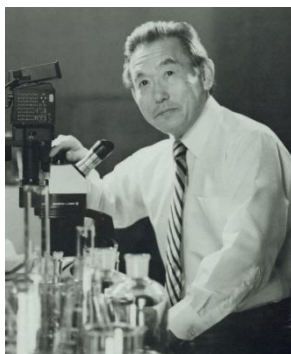


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Higuchi Award Nominations Due February 1



Tak Higuchi

Wednesday, February 1 is the deadline for nominating a candidate for the 2012 Higuchi-KU Endowment Research Achievement Awards. Complete information about the awards is available [online](#). To nominate a colleague, submit a one-page letter, the nominee's CV, and a list of four references by the deadline. Each award of \$10,000 may be expended over five years in support of the recipient's activities, such as research materials, summer salary, fellowship matching funds, equipment, research assistants, or any other purpose consistent with the advancement of the individual's research program. Recipients will be announced in the fall and recognized at a ceremony in November.

Final Strategic Initiative Summits January 20, 27



Yo Jackson addressing the second summit on December 2

The final two Strategic Initiative Summits, part of the Bold Aspirations planning process, are about to take place. Summit Three is Friday, January 20, starting at 8:30 a.m. and continuing through 3:30 p.m. in The Commons at Spooner Hall. A reception will follow in the Panorama Hall of the Natural History Museum. The theme is "Building Communities, Expanding Opportunities." Summit Four is Friday, January 27 at the same location and time. The theme is "Harnessing Information, Multiplying Knowledge." Complete information about each summit is available online at the [Provost's Strategic Initiatives web site](#).

Chancellor to Speak January 19 in Washington at Startups Conference



Gray-Little

KU Chancellor Bernadette Gray-Little will deliver a keynote presentation January 19 at the sixth annual University Startups Conference in Washington, D.C. The three-day conference is organized by the National Council of Entrepreneurial Tech Transfer, with the National Science Foundation and National Institutes of Health as federal government co-hosts.

In her remarks, the chancellor will tell the 300-plus attendees that “universities are being asked to do a better job commercializing research and transferring university discoveries into marketplace solutions. We’re being asked to create more startups and license more technologies. In short, we’re being asked to translate the research we’re conducting on our campuses into life-changing products and life-saving cures. This is the new reality and the new focus for universities. This is our responsibility, and we must continue to embrace that responsibility.”

The chancellor will also describe the progress KU is making to expand its economic development mission. This includes the creation of three Bioscience & Technology Business Center facilities in Lawrence and Kansas City during 2010-11. Also last year, KU launched three new startup companies, bringing the number of currently active KU startups to 22.

Julie Goonewardene, associate vice chancellor for innovation and entrepreneurship, is also attending the conference. She will be part of two panel presentations with counterparts from peer universities nationwide.

Eight to Represent KU-Lawrence at Capitol Graduate Research Summit

Congratulations to the following KU-Lawrence graduate students, who have been named to participate in the 9th Annual Capitol Graduate Research Summit on February 16 in Topeka. They will join peers from Kansas State, Wichita State, and the KU Medical Center in presenting research projects in poster board format to legislators, other state officials, and the public. Presentations will take place from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the State Capitol. An awards ceremony will follow, sponsored by KansasBio and the participating institutions.

- **A.J. Mellott, Bioengineering:** “Approaching Inner Ear Hair Cell Regeneration Through Non-Viral Gene Therapy”
- **Clayton Wauneka, Health, Sport and Exercise Sciences:** “Stroke Survivor Rehabilitation: How Much Effort is needed for Recovery?”
- **Dennis Eck, Geography:** “Towards an Enhanced Understanding of Preferential Soil Water Flow”
- **Jeffrey Lamping, Bioengineering:** “Effects of Negative Pressure to Induce Bone Growth into Porous Titanium Implants”
- **Juli Pitzer, Film and Media Studies:** “Preserving the Past: Topeka's Jayhawk Theatre”
- **Laura Dean, Political Science:** “Leading Kansas? Determinants of Policy Variation in the United States and the Case of Kansas”
- **Madhav Ghanta, Chemical and Petroleum Engineering:** “Ethylene Epoxidation by Hydrogen Peroxide Conserves Feedstock and Minimizes Carbon Footprint”
- **Molley McVey, Mechanical Engineering:** “Biomechanical Analysis of Postural Instability in Parkinson's Disease”

Federal Demonstration Partnership to Conduct National PI Survey

The [Federal Demonstration Partnership](#) (FDP), a cooperative initiative hosted by the National Academies, is conducting a national survey of federally-funded principal investigators to explore the impact of federal regulations on the time faculty spend pursuing active research. KU is an active member of FDP and has provided them with a list of PIs who were on federal grants and contracts during the 2010-11 academic year.

If you are one of those PIs, you may be contacted and asked to complete the web-based FDP Faculty Workload Survey. Please be on the lookout during the week of January 23 for an email message inviting you to participate in the survey, which will take 15-30 minutes to complete.

“We want to encourage you to participate,” said Joshua Rosenbloom, KU’s faculty representative to the FDP, “so that the FDP can obtain the firsthand input needed to work effectively with the Office of Management and Budget and federal agencies to increase the efficiency of research administration and reduce the workload of PIs. We hope you will complete the survey and contribute to this national effort to streamline administrative processes in federally-funded research.”

The FDP is comprised of 10 federal agencies and 119 institutional recipients of federal funds. It provides a unique forum for universities and nonprofits to work collaboratively with federal agency officials to improve the national research enterprise. The current study is a follow-up to the [FDP 2005 Faculty Workload Survey](#), which provided estimates of the proportion of federally-funded research time spent on administrative workload compared to active research. The 2011 Faculty Workload Survey will update these data to determine whether the workload has changed and will extend the earlier survey findings by exploring specific areas of administrative workload as well as new sources of research workload. The results of this study are critical as they will be a primary source for setting FDP priorities and developing initiatives to improve the research process.

All responses to the survey will be handled in a confidential manner by a qualified survey company. The names of participants will not be known to their university/institution or to the FDP. The survey results will be published as aggregate data, with no individual names or university/institution names associated with any responses. If you have questions about the FDP or the survey please contact Joshua Rosenbloom at jrosenbloom@ku.edu or Joanne Altieri, KU’s administrative representative to FDP, at jaltieri@ku.edu.

Clarification: RGS Notification of “Key Personnel”

The December *Research and Graduate Studies @ KU* newsletter reported on an adjustment being made to pre-award processes to promote greater transparency and facilitate collaborative research efforts. It noted that:

“Beginning Monday, December 5, RGS will share the final version of all submitted proposals with all Key Personnel listed on the project. Via email, you will now receive a link to the Review Sheet and final proposal copy if you are 1) listed as a PI or Co-PI or 2) if you are faculty/faculty-equivalent or specifically named by the PI as Key Personnel and are devoting effort to the project. Any questions or concerns about this process should be directed to [Joshua Rosenbloom](#), associate vice chancellor, 864-3567.”

Since then, certain ambiguities in the description of the procedures for providing access to grant proposals have been called to our attention. RGS now recognizes especially that the use of the term “key personnel” varies greatly between agencies and research disciplines. We are thus making the following revision in order to better clarify who will be provided access to proposal Review Sheets and copies of submitted proposals.

Via email, individuals will receive a link to the Review Sheet and final proposal copy if they are:

1. Listed as a PI or Co-PI on the project, or are
2. faculty or faculty-equivalent and are named on the proposal with effort devoted (paid or cost-shared) to the project.

Nominations Sought for KU Research Achievement Award

The Office of Research and Graduate Studies is seeking nominations for its annual KU Research Achievement Award. The award, established in 2006, honors an outstanding academic staff researcher from KU's Lawrence Campus. The [2011 recipient was Daryl Mellard](#) in the Center for Research on Learning. The 2012 award recipient will be recognized at a late spring semester ceremony and will receive a plaque and \$10,000 in research funds.

Criteria for Selection

Only individuals who are appointed as full-time academic staff researchers working within a KU Lawrence Campus academic department or research center are eligible for the award. The individual's research should be characterized as having significant influence in his or her field and/or as representing a productive record of important research that has expanded intellectual or societal insights. A substantial portion of the work for which the award is given must have been done at KU.

Nomination Process

Nominations must include a one-page letter of recommendation that addresses:

- The significant contribution(s) to her/his field;
- Why or how they are significant;
- What impact the contributions have made (i.e.--to the field/department/university/other);
- A very brief explanation of the discipline's expectations for the particular area/field – (the form(s) in which the research is communicated and of these forms which is the most prestigious or recognized by colleagues);
- A CV or résumé for the nominee; and
- A list of names and complete contact information for at least two references familiar with the nominee's work and its significance.

Letters of support should be written in a manner that is understandable to reviewers who may not be experts in the specific field of research of the nominee.

Deadline for Submissions: Wednesday, February 15, 2012

For more information, and to submit nominations electronically, contact Teresa Kopsa at tkopsa@ku.edu, (785) 864-3567.

NIH Advice: "Submit Proposals Early"

Each month, NIH publishes [Extramural Nexus](#), which provides the scientific community with updates on NIH policies and activities as well as an opportunity to gain a better understanding of the operation of extramural programs. Here is a December 28, 2011 posting, which offers good advice to PIs regarding electronic proposal submission.

The Dangers in Delay

As the electronic submission process has improved, so have the potential dangers when submitting an application near the deadline.

One of the most fundamental steps you can take to ensure consideration of your application is to make certain we receive it successfully. This means applying well before the due date. Now we know we preach this often, but it is as true now as ever before.

As people become more confident in the ability of eRA [Electronic Research Administration] to process applications quickly, we see an increasing backlog of "last minute" applications on submission due dates. For a recent December due date, more than 1,000 applications were submitted in the final hour. Here is the rub.

This rush of submissions can create a potential back-log in processing; checking for errors can take up to 4 hours. Remember that a submission must be error free before it can be sent on for review.

What does this mean for you? Take this possible scenario:

- The application is due at 5 p.m.
- You submit at 4 p.m. on the due date.
- Processing takes an hour and 45 minutes.
- Two errors were identified.

You are now 45 minutes past the submission deadline with no chance to correct the errors that were identified. Not good. [NIH's late policy](#) will not allow for the consideration of this application. Had you submitted in the morning of the due date, or even the day or two before, you would have had plenty of time to correct the errors and submit an error-free application. Please, we want your applications. Submit early.

Higuchi Biosciences Center to Host “Science Talks” in February

“HBC Science Talks” is scheduled for Friday, February 3, starting at 1:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the Simons Biosciences Research Labs on West Campus. The program is an opportunity to share research, encourage and expand collaborations, and create a forum for high-level scientific exchanges. Speakers on February 3 will be:

- **Erik Lundquist**, Molecular Biosciences
"Mechanisms of Axon Guidance"
- **Emily Scott**, Medicinal Chemistry
“Cytochrome P450 17A1: Structure, Function, and Prostate Cancer Drug Target”
- **Jeff Staudinger**, Pharmacology and Toxicology
“Pregnane X Receptor; The Interface Between Cell-signaling and Disease”

Poster presentations are also being organized for a session and reception that will run from 3:45 to 5:15 p.m. in the School of Pharmacy Atrium, 2010 Becker Drive. HBC invites submission of abstracts (including posters from recent conferences or symposia from the past year) by 5 p.m., Tuesday, January 31. Questions and poster abstracts should be directed to Susan Wakefield at swakefield@ku.edu.

KU Hires New Technology Commercialization Director



Kulkarni

A seasoned professional with successful experience in private business, state government, and higher education will join KU February 1 as the new director of the bi-campus Center for Technology Commercialization (KUCTC).

Rajiv Kulkarni comes to KU from the University of Utah, where he is currently Director of Business and Technology Development in the Technology Commercialization Office. Previously, he was associate director in that office, responsible for its physical sciences section. During his 10 years at the university, he negotiated and completed more than 100 licensing agreements, 28 of which resulted in new startup companies based on university research.

“I have a passion for the commercialization of technology,” said Kulkarni, whose background includes a Ph.D. degree in microbiology from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. “I love to see inventions that originate with university research become products that help people and foster further research. KU has excellent opportunities to do that in such areas as drug discovery and delivery, biorefining, engineering, information technology, education, and medicine.”

Kulkarni will report to Julie Goonewardene, associate vice chancellor for innovation and entrepreneurship in the Office of Research and Graduate Studies. He succeeds Jim Baxendale, who plans to transition to a part-time role at KU later this year.

The University of Utah is one of the nation's premier research universities when it comes to creating startup companies based on university technology. It launched 19 new companies in 2009 and another 18 in 2010, surpassing such larger universities as MIT, Caltech, Kentucky, Columbia, and Colorado.

"The role of KUUCTC is to maximize the commercialization of university inventions and provide value to our stakeholders," said Kulkarni. "That's my vision. To do that, we will tap into the expertise of the faculty, earn their trust, and provide strong customer service to researchers, companies, and investors."

Kulkarni's first job out of college was as a senior research scientist for a startup plant biotechnology company. He later worked for Cytosyme Laboratories as vice president of technical services and market development. From 1995 to 2001, Kulkarni was assistant director and then director of the Office of Technology Development for the state of Utah. In that role he managed the Utah Centers of Excellence Program, a \$2 million-plus state-funded grant program aimed at supporting the commercialization of university technologies. He became senior technology licensing manager at the University of Utah in 2001 and associate director in 2008, prior to assuming his current position in 2011.

Kulkarni's academic background also includes B.S. and M.S. degrees from Eastern Michigan University, a postdoc at the University of California-Riverside, and an M.B.A. degree from the University of Phoenix.

Research-Related Personnel Matters

- [Jack Cline will join KU January 30 as director of federal relations](#), reporting to Tim Caboni, vice chancellor for public affairs. Cline worked since 2007 as assistant vice president for federal relations with the University of Massachusetts system. He was previously executive director of gubernatorial appointments and personnel for then-Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney. He also served in the administration of Massachusetts Governor Paul Cellucci and on the professional staff for Congressman John Boehner when Boehner chaired the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.
- **Austin Fitts** will join the Office of Research and Graduate studies January 23 as the new policy coordinator in Graduate Studies. Fitts was previously policy coordinator in the Office of the University Registrar at KU.

Entrepreneur Education Series Begins January 20 at the BTBC

The Bioscience & Technology Business Center (BTBC) at KU, located at 2029 Becker Drive on the Research Circle, will launch its Entrepreneur Education Series on Friday, January 20 with a presentation by Kris Millsap of New Media Samurai on "Socializing Your Brand: Get Beyond the Hype and Learn How Social Media Can Drive Revenue." The 4-5 p.m. program is free and open to the campus and community, but participants should register [online](#).

This is the first in a series of Friday afternoon workshops designed for entrepreneurs and those considering starting their own companies. Presentations will be given by highly successful, entrepreneurially minded executives and cover a range of topics relevant to starting and running a business. More information is available [on-line](#) or by contacting the BTBC at (785) 832-2110 or by [email](#).

The 2012 schedule is as follows:

- **January 20**
"Socializing Your Brand: Get Beyond the Hype and Learn How Social Media Can Drive Revenue"
Kris Millsap, creative director & co-founder, New Media Samurai

- **March 9**
“SBIR Grants: Secrets to Creating a Winning Application”
Don Colbert, Federal Research Funding Specialist, Kansas Bioscience Authority
- **May 18**
“Successfully Raise Early Stage Capital: Key Tactics Every Entrepreneur Should Know”
Matt McClorey, president, Bioscience & Technology Business Center
- **July 20**
“Technology Doesn’t Sell Itself: Build a Successful Strategy to Launch Your Product”
Michael Johnson, President, Ingenium Partners and Miller Heiman
- **September 21**
“Protecting Your Intellectual Property: When and How Do I Protect My Ideas?”
Kyle Elliott, Partner, Spencer Fane Britt & Browne LLP
- **November 16**
“Strategic Planning: Putting Your Business Plan into Action”
Shane Jones, Chief Executive Officer, The Astra Group

Unclassified Senate Reaching out to Postdocs, Research Associates

KU’s Unclassified Senate is launching a new series to provide professional development and networking for KU postdocs and research associates. The group will meet on the final Friday of each month this spring. The first session in the series is January 27, with free pizza from noon to 1:30 p.m. in the Jayhawk Room of the Kansas Union. It will highlight helpful resources at KU and provide an opportunity to brainstorm ideas for future sessions.

Tour the Center for Design Research in March

The [Center for Design Research](#), located adjacent to the historic Chamney Barn on the south side of Bob Billings Parkway, was dedicated last summer. On Tuesday, March 27, Greg Thomas, professor of design, will lead a tour of the innovative new facility for KU staff from 3:45 to 5 p.m. If you’ve wanted to see what this facility and program are all about, this is your opportunity. Access to parking is via Westbrooke Circle, between the Motor Pool on the west and the University Press of Kansas on the east.

Upcoming Events

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

January 20

Strategic Initiatives Summit Three:
“Building Communities, Expanding Opportunities”
8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.
The Commons, Spooner Hall

Entrepreneur Education Series: “Socializing Your
Brand: Get Beyond the Hype and Learn How Social
Media Can Drive Revenue”
4 – 5 p.m.
Bioscience & Technology Business Center

January 27

Strategic Initiatives Summit Four:
“Harnessing Information, Multiplying Knowledge”
8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.
The Commons, Spooner Hall

Unclassified Senate Professional Development for
Postdocs and Research Associates
Noon – 1:30 p.m.
Jayhawk Room, Kansas Union

January 31

Dedication: KU Clinical Research Education Center
4350 Shawnee Mission Parkway, Fairway

February 1

Deadline: Submission of Nominations
Higuchi-KU Endowment Research Achievement
Awards

February 3

Higuchi Biosciences Center Science Talks 2012
1:30 p.m.
Auditorium, Simons Biosciences Research Laboratories

Higuchi Biosciences Center Science Talks 2012
Poster Session-Reception
3:45 – 5:15 p.m.
Atrium, School of Pharmacy

February 15

Deadline: Submission of Nominations
KU Research Achievement Award

February 16

9th Annual Capitol Graduate Research Summit
10 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
State Capitol, Topeka

Hall Center Humanities Lecture Series:
Jeff Moran, “The Anti-Evolution Controversies
and American Culture”
7:30 p.m.
The Commons, Spooner Hall

February 22

Advocacy Event: “KU in the Capitol”
Topeka

March 2

Opening Celebration: Business, Engineering,
Science and Technology (BEST) Building
All Day
KU Edwards Campus, 12600 Quivira Road,
Overland Park

March 9

Entrepreneur Education Series: “SBIR Grants:
Secrets to Creating a Winning Application”
4 – 5 p.m.
Bioscience & Technology Business Center

March 27

Staff Tour: Center for Design Research
3:45 – 5 p.m.
Westbrooke Circle, West Campus