The State of New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) has awarded Kean University supplemental funding to provide additional programming and instruction at Kean’s existing 21st Century Community Learning Center (21CCLC) program at the William O. Krumbiegel Middle School in Hillside. The program, called “Kean University’s Learning Adventures” or KULA, operates on-site after school during the year and in the summer. Over 150 students in grades 6 through 8 participate.

During its first year of operation, the KULA program served 26 students identified with special needs. Most of the program’s identified special education students have learning disabilities or mild cognitive impairment. Some have significant behavioral and social/emotional issues. These students were fully included in all aspects of the KULA program. But, there were challenges in providing targeted differentiated instruction for these students as well as targeted social skill development.

Sharon Towler, KULA Project Director, decided to apply for a supplemental IDEA award to allow the program to take a more proactive approach in developing behavioral and instructional plans to better serve these students. She applied for funding to provide focused professional development to prepare staff in serving students with disabilities. NJDOE fully funded Towler’s request. The IDEA supplement award will fund two Lead Teachers for individualized instruction and parent consultation for students with disabilities. The Lead Teachers will provide professional development to other instructional staff in meeting the needs of students with disabilities. The award also supports the participation of special education students in four cultural trips and in the 21CCLC Shark Tank Program at Saint Peter’s University in the summer of 2015.

Kean University Learning Adventures is a unique after school learning experience. Career Exploration, self-discovery and student empowerment are the cornerstones of the program. KULA provides an exploration of career opportunities while challenging students to apply their academic skills to real-life and project-based learning experiences. All KULA students complete the NJ Career Awareness Navigator Profile (NJCAN). Using this tool each student develops an on-line profile of their career goals and a plan of action for achieving their goals. Parents and family members are invited to sessions to participate in the planning and learn how they can assist their child with maximizing the high school experience to be fully ready to enter college upon graduation. Parent and students are encouraged to “Think College Early” and workshops are offered to help them prepare for college entry.
Research Compliance Matters

Audit Process

For this month I would like to spotlight some of the most common mistakes that applicants make on consent and debriefing forms. One such mistake is not including a statement up front that invites participants to take part in a research study. Student PIs as well as faculty applicants need to include their Kean email address as a point of contact on both forms. When referring participants to the IRB, please note that the committee cannot answer general questions about your study. Participants should only be referred to the IRB if they have questions about their rights as research participants. This statement along with the IRB contact information (IRB@kean.edu and phone 908-737-3464) should appear on every consent and debriefing form. Another common problem is in the identification of risks. If an applicant identifies risks on their application, they must state these risks along with how they plan to minimize them on the consent or assent form. Applications that fail to sufficiently identify risks will not be granted approval until the issue has been adequately addressed on the consent or assent form.

Contact Dr. Joseph Cronin jcronin@kean.edu or ext 73464 for questions and guidance related to all aspects of research compliance.

Grant Administration

Requisition Approval for Externally Funded Grants and Contracts

The approvals and dollar thresholds required to convert a requisition to a purchase order for an externally funded project is as follows:

- PI/PD (as Cost Center Director) approval on all requisitions.
- GRANT approval for all requisitions.
- ORSP approval if requisition is $500 or more.
- JETONEY (VPAA) approval for requisitions between $1,000 and $10,000.
- PCONNELL (Exec. VP Operations) for requisitions over $1,000,000.
- OCIS approval is needed when using object codes 5077 (computer equipment) and 5034 (computer software).
- The President must approve all requisitions of $1,000,000 or more.

Contact Brenda Dunlop bdunlop@kean.edu or ext. 73345 for questions and guidance relating to grant administration.

Deadlines & Reminders

Save the date! Kean Research Days 2015 will be April 27—29

- Sunday, February 22: Student Research Day Presentations Registration Deadline
- Saturday, February 28: FFRA Application Deadline
- Monday, March 2: Research Awards Nomination Deadlines
- Thursday, March 5: Grant Writing Workshop—Introductory
- Friday, March 6: Grant Writing Workshop—Advanced
- Monday, March 9: IRB Applications Deadline
Student Spotlight

Hydrogen/Deuterium Exchange High Resolution Mass Spectrometry for Investigating Host-Guest Interactions

Biological mass spectrometry (MS), applied to drug discovery and development challenges, provides a powerful means for educating and training undergraduates and graduates in both basic and applied research from many disciplines.

Grant Writing Workshops

Presented by: Dr. Robert Porter, University of Tennessee

Introductory Session
Thursday, March 5 - UC 226, 1:00 pm—4:00 pm

Advanced Session
Friday, March 6 - UC 226, 9:00 am—12:00 pm

The introductory workshop will cover basic principles of good grant writing, starting with the phrasing of a compelling research theme to the actual construction of the proposal itself. Major differences between traditional “academic prose” and persuasive grant writing will be highlighted. Common pitfalls that can lead to early rejection of good ideas will be reviewed, matched with practical strategies for better writing.

The advanced workshop will focus on critical aspects of interacting with the agency as well as proven techniques for effective writing in each section of the NSF grant proposal. Samples from successful proposals will be cited to illustrate key points.

Student Research Days Presentations

Wednesday, April 29, 2015

This annual event provides students the opportunity to present their preliminary or completed research and creative activities to the campus community. Formats include posters, oral presentations, performances, exhibits and demonstrations.

All Kean University graduate or undergraduate students who are conducting original research, original data collection, or creative work under the supervision of a Kean University faculty member are eligible to present.

The deadline for student registration is February 22, 2015

ORSP News

There is a national shortage of resources available, both in individuals and in the necessary infrastructure to train students in the development of experimental protocols in order to conduct studies, process samples, analyze samples, and interpret MS data. With support of the SpF program and under the direction of Dr. Dil Ramanathan, three NJCSTM undergraduate students spent the summer first learning how to use state-of-the-art analytical biological mass spectrometry instrumentation and then developing novel methods to improve and speed up the drug discovery and development processes.

Students performed a series of experiments using various host cyclodextrins (CDs) and organic guest molecules that varied in size. They learned how to interpret mass spectrometry data to understand how each guest will dock inside a particular CD. Students also learned to develop methods to perform Hydrogen/Deuterium Exchange mass spectrometry (HDX-MS) studies. They prepared and rank ordered host-guest complexes that had strong and weak interactions. In addition, they identified the appropriate organic moiety with the useful size and shape to form the best complex with a particular CD. Finally, students used novel methods (uHPLC-HRMS and HDX) with drugs (paclitaxel, docetaxel, doxorubicine, etc.) as guest molecules to establish a validated method which can be shared with pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies.
## Government Grant Opportunities

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<tr>
<th>Opportunity Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>National Endowment for the Humanities – Summer Seminars and Institutes</td>
<td>2/24/2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>NIH – Academic Research Enhancement Award</td>
<td>2/25/2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>NEH Funding Opportunity - Challenge Grants</td>
<td>3/5/2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>EPA – Environmental Education Local Grants</td>
<td>3/6/2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>NSF - Campus Cyberinfrastructure - Data, Networking, and Innovation Program (CC*DNI)</td>
<td>3/24/2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>National Endowment for the Humanities – Fellowships</td>
<td>4/30/2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>National Endowment for the Humanities – Challenge Grants</td>
<td>5/5/2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>NSF Funding Opportunity - Research Traineeship Program</td>
<td>5/6/2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>NSF – Earth Science – Instrumentation and Facilities</td>
<td>Rolling deadline</td>
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## Foundations and Corporations

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<tr>
<th>Opportunity Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>American Psychological Foundation – Visionary Grants</td>
<td>4/1/2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yale University - Yale LGBT Studies Research Fellowship</td>
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<tr>
<td>American Nurses Foundation – Nursing Research Grants</td>
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<tr>
<td>American Speech-Language Hearing Foundation – Grant Program for Projects on Multicultural Activities</td>
<td>5/5/2015</td>
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