



Research News

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IN THIS ISSUE

Kean and Union County College Awarded Grant by USDOE

The U.S. Department of Education has awarded Kean University and Union County College a new, five-year Title V, Strengthening Hispanic Institutions, grant. The grant funds the “STEMpact” project, a cooperative arrangement by Union and Kean, to promote the success of Hispanic and low-income students in completing post-secondary degrees and to address the need for a diverse 21st century STEM trained workforce. STEMpact is a reference to the impact on STEM students the project will have as well as the pact between UCC and Kean that a new Joint Admissions/ Transfer agreement will support. Dr. Brian Teasdale, Associate Dean of the College of Natural, Applied and Health Sciences and Executive Director of the School of Natural Sciences, is Kean University’s Executive Director for the grant.

The project activities reflect both institutions’ mission and strategic plans for improving services to Hispanic and low-income students. The primary goals of the agreement are to increase the retention among first-time, full-time degree seeking Hispanic and low-income undergraduate students and to increase the 3-year Union and 6-year Kean graduation in STEM and teacher education programs. Academic programs, student support services, and transfer services at both institutions will be strengthened as a result of this grant. Student development activities will include a STEM speaker series, required orientation sessions, and STEM and education focused first-year experience courses.

In addition to the new joint admissions/transfer agreement and related student services, the project includes Peer-Led Team Learning support in STEM gatekeeper courses and the development of micro-lectures, short recorded audio or video presentations on a single, tightly defined topic, for free and frequent access to core academic content. A Summer Academy for Union STEMpact students will be held each year on the Kean campus as part of the project. The Summer Academy will consist of two cohorts of students: the STEM Research Teams and the Education Field Teams. The STEM undergraduate research experience will allow students in STEM majors to participate in a four-week intensive summer research project mentored by Kean STEM faculty, whereby students will be trained in research methodologies. Similarly, education students will be afforded the opportunity to participate in fieldwork summer programs, mentored by Kean education faculty, focusing on best practices in STEM teaching and other innovative pedagogies to include in the classroom.

Finally, a new “Possibility Zone” makerspace at Kean University will be part of the STEMpact project. An important idea behind the Possibility Zone is to change the way students think about their own education – not passively but actively. Activities in the space will be designed to allow students to develop their capability for critical thinking and complex problem-solving, a skill potential employers value highly.

Compliance Matters	2
Grant Administration	2
Deadlines & Reminders	2
Student Spotlight	3
ORSP News	3
Funding Opportunities	4



Research Compliance Matters

Summer 2015 IRB Review Information

The Institutional Review Board will be holding summer reviews in the month of June and July for the summer 2015 season. For June, applications are due online and to Townsend 123 on Wednesday June 3rd for a review date of June 17th. Applicants who submit for June should hear from the committee no later than June 22nd regarding the status of their application. Applications for the July review cycle are due on July 8th with a review date of July 22nd.

Applicants who submit for July should hear on or before July 27th. All applications are due online at <http://irb.kean.edu> and a hard copy should be submitted to Townsend 123. Later this summer, due dates for the 2015-2016 academic year will be announced. For all applicants using online surveys as part of their research design, please note that the committee has to evaluate a complete and final copy of your survey.

Just providing a link to the survey is not allowed. Upload a word version of the survey with your application materials when submitting protocols for review.

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

Grant Administration

Cost transfers for Externally Funded Grants and Contracts



Cost transfers are initiated in writing by the Project Director/Principal Investigator or a designee to the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs. In some cases a cost transfer will be initiated by the Grants Post-Award Administrator for Grants Accountant if they find an error during the day to day monitoring of expenditures to a sponsored project.

When a cost transfer is needed, a memo or email

should be submitted to the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs for approval the cost transfer request will then be forwarded to Grants Accounting to make a correcting journal entry to effect the transfer.

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



Tuesday, March 31

IRB Applications Deadline

Monday, April 27

Faculty Book Event

Monday, April 27

3 Minute Thesis Competition

Tuesday, April 28

Keynote Address

Tuesday, April 28

Design Forum 2015

Tuesday, April 28

Faculty Presentations

Wednesday, April 29

Student Poster and Oral Presentations

Student Spotlight



Dr. Norma Bowe and student members of *Be the Change*—Gabrielle Ardolino, Joseph Lentini and Jiliian Mahon

Kean University Students Exhibited at Clinton Global Initiatives University

Kean University Professor Dr. Norma Bowe and three student members of *Be The Change*, a Kean University community service and activism group, attended the 8th Annual Clinton Global Initiatives University (CGIU) meeting at the University of Miami in Coral Gables, Florida hosted by former U.S. President Bill Clinton and Chelsea Clinton.

Dr. Bowe and her students were selected to exhibit their "Vertical Gardens Peace Project." The students' project is a self-sustaining compact gardening system that includes a solar panel and water pump called the Veggie Fence.

Expanding on the group's successes creating urban gardens in crime-ridden areas of New Jersey, the Vertical Gardens Peace Project is now seeking a manufacturer to mass produce gardens using the Veggie Fence design for planting anywhere in the world.

The students will collect qualitative and quantitative data supporting the therapeutic effects of gardening on PTSD. The garden will also address the community's need for fresh fruits and seasonal vegetables.

The Vertical Gardens Peace Project will soon be implemented abroad in Kosovo by a Kean University student and *Be The Change* member currently deployed there with the National Guard. She will lead a group that will install a garden at a women's center. National Guard troops will assist with the creation of the garden and provide technical support, including a cost/benefit analysis and blueprints.

Jillian Mahon, said, "just being able to be part of the team involved in this project is an amazing feeling. I gauge success by how much you are able to give back and help others, and I am proud, for myself and everyone else involved, to have a share in this rewarding experience."

ORSP News

Kean Research Days

Monday, April 27

3 Minute Thesis — STEM Lecture Hall *Final Judging rounds and People's Choice voting*

The competition will be conducted through tournament-style judging of the best three-minute live presentation of thesis research



Faculty Book Event — Library 108

10 Kean faculty who have authored or co-authored recently published books will participate in a "Meet the Author" event

Tuesday, April 28

Keynote Speaker — STEM Lecture Hall *Rye Barcott*



Design Forum—GL 406

Students' work will be on display in the 1st floor lobby exhibit space

Faculty Presentations—STEM

Every 45 minutes from 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Wednesday, April 29, 2015

Psy.D. Dissertation Symposium — STEM 308

Oral Presentations — 3rd Floor

Student oral presentations are scheduled every 15 minutes throughout the day in the STEM building.

Poster Session

Student research posters are located in the Atrium and on the 2nd floor of the STEM building.

Award Presentations — Student Research and 3MT — STEM Atrium

Early Childhood Graduate Colloquium 6th Floor, STEM

Government Grant Opportunities

Opportunity Title	Due Date
NSF - Campus Cyberinfrastructure - Data, Networking, and Innovation Program (CC*DNI)	3/24/2015
National Endowment for the Humanities – Fellowships	4/30/2015
National Endowment for the Humanities – Challenge Grants	5/5/2015
NSF Funding Opportunity - Research Traineeship Program	5/6/2015
NEH – Bridging Cultures through Film – International Topics	6/10/2015
NEH – Preservation and Access – Research and Development Grants	6/25/2015
NSF – CAREER	due in July
NSF – Earth Science – Instrumentation and Facilities	Rolling deadline

Foundations and Corporations

Opportunity Title	Due Date
American Psychological Foundation – Visionary Grants	4/1/2015
Yale University - Yale LGBT Studies Research Fellowship	4/24/2015
March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation – Research Grants	4/30/2015
American Nurses Foundation – Nursing Research Grants	5/1/2015
American Speech-Language Hearing Foundation – Grant Program for Projects on Multicultural Activities	5/5/2015

Office of Research and Sponsored Programs

1000 Morris Ave, Union, NJ 07083
908-737-3461 tel 908-737-3369 fax

<http://orsp.kean.edu> | orsp@kean.edu

