President’s Monthly Research and Development Highlights

Community Engagement

- Prof. Jody Worley (Human Relations) received $297,992 to perform outcomes evaluations for the "Tulsa Re-entry Youth Partnership" project. Worley will be working with the Oklahoma Office of Juvenile Affairs and Youth Services of Tulsa, Inc. to identify and examine the social service barriers and other obstacles to the reentry of youth offenders into the community.

- The Crime Scene Archaeology Recovery Group (CSARG) is an interdisciplinary team that assists Oklahoma Law enforcement in the recovery of human remains from clandestine graves and other forensic contexts. The team consists of Kent J. Buehler (Oklahoma Archeological Survey), Dr. Heather Ketchum (Zoology), Angela Berg-Collins (Office of the Chief Medical Examiner and Anthropology graduate student), and graduate students Kimberly Bowen and Kama Waggoner (Anthropology).

Funding

- Meteorology Profs. Jerry Straka and Katharine Kanak were awarded nearly $750,000 for a three year period by the National Science Foundation to study the formation of supercell tornadoes. Straka and Kanak will use data from the recent VORTEX 2 field experiment and new fine grid models in their research.

- Drs. Brian Grady and Alberto Striolo both of CBME) received $335,000 from the NSF for a 3-year project titled “Novel Supramolecular Structures of Laterally Confined Amphiphilic Molecules.”

- Dr. Yang Hong (CEES/ARRC) and Dr. Jonathan Gourley (NSSL) were awarded $149,811 per year for up to 3 years from the NASA Global Precipitation Measuring Mission for "Comprehensive Evaluation of NASA's Satellite Precipitation Products Using National Mosaic Radar QPE."

- Drs. Janet Braun, Michael Mares, and Ms. Marcia Revelez from the Sam Noble Museum Mammal Collection, received a 3-year NSF grant for $445,303. When completed, "Curation, Digitization, and Integration of the Orphaned University of Memphis Mammal Collection" will make the mammal collection at SNOMNH one of the largest among university museums.

- AME Profs. Peter Attar and Prakash Vedula received $29,085 from Advanced Dynamics for support of their projects titled "High-Fidelity—Computational Aerelastic Models in Support of Certification Airworthiness of Control Surfaces with Fre playful and Other Nonlinear Features," and "Towards Better Modeling and Simulation of Nonlinear Aeroelasticity on and beyond Transonic Regimes."
Service
Prof. Paul Spicer (Anthropology) has been appointed to the Advisory Committee for the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Evaluation. This is a new federal initiative funded under the Affordable Care Act. Spicer is serving at the request of U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary, Kathleen Sibelius.

Fulbright Scholars
Dr. Zev Trachtenberg (Philosophy) received a Fulbright Award to conduct research at Queens University Belfast. He will work with scholars of environmental political theory, examining how Rousseau's political writings offer an early version of green republicanism: a viewpoint which brings together the political ideal of citizenship and the environmental ideal of sustainability.

Prof. Rex Page (Computer Science) was appointed as a Fulbright Specialist to collaborate with colleagues at Halmstad University in Sweden this summer. They will adapt curricular materials developed by Page on the use of mechanized logic in software development for use in the Halmstad Computer Science program and will conduct an international workshop for educators.

Scholarship
- Prof. David Vishanoff (Religious Studies) published The Formation of Islamic Hermeneutics: How Sunni Legal Theorists Imagined a Revealed Law in the monograph series of the American Oriental Society. This book is the first historical analysis of the theory of Qur’anic interpretation that was developed within the discipline of Islamic legal theory.
- Prof. Timothy Murphy’s (English) most recent book translation, "Trilogy of Resistance" by the Italian philosopher and political scientist Antonio Negri, was published by the University of Minnesota Press. It is a collection of three political dramas in the style of Bertolt Brecht that investigate the experience of political militancy today.

Events
Upcoming: The University of Oklahoma will host the Evolution 2011 meeting, June 17-21 at the Embassy Suites Conference Center, Norman. This is the annual joint meeting of the Society for the Study of Evolution (SSE), the American Society of Naturalists (ASN), and the Society of Systematic Biologists (SSB). The local organizing committee, tri-chaired by Richard Broughton, Ingo Schlupp, and Lawrence Weider (Dept. of Zoology), anticipate attendance of more than 1200 international scientists. More information can be found at: http://www.evolution2011.ou.edu/.

Recent: Dr. Michael Mares and curators from the Sam Noble Museum hosted an NSF-sponsored workshop for 30 participants, March 4-6, 2011. The workshop focused on New Engineering Technologies for Digitizing the Nation’s Natural Science Collections.