President’s Monthly Research and Development Highlights

Research Gift
Prof. Roger Harrison (CBME) is the recipient of a $250,000 estate gift to the OU Foundation to establish the Jean Wheeler Sparks and Baxter Abbott Sparks Breast Cancer Research Fund for the support of his research on the treatment of breast cancer.

Award
An article written by Dr. Fred Beard and Ph.D. student Anna Klyueva (JMC) has been selected as one of three “Highly Commended” award winners for 2010, by the editors of the American Academy of Political and Social Science.

New Books
- Stanford University Press has published Proxy Warriors: The Rise and Fall of State-Sponsored Militias by Dr. Ariel I. Ahram (Political Science & International & Area Studies).
- Educational Leadership Preparation: Innovation and Interdisciplinary Approaches to the Ed.D. and Graduate Education by Dr. Gaetane Jean-Marie (ELPS) and co-author Anthony H. Normore was published by Palgrave Macmillan in October, 2010.
- Dr. Pramode K. Verma (ECE) and OU alumna Dr. Ling Wang have published Voice Over IP Networks: Quality of Service, Pricing and Security with Springer-Verlag.

CREST licensed to NASA
CREST (Coupled Routing and Excess STorage), a high-resolution distributed Hydrological Model developed through a collaborative effort among OU, the ARRC and CEES, was licensed by the NASA Marshall Space Flight Center for their SERVIR-Africa and SERVIR-Mesoamerica system deployment. SERVIR, a joint NASA-USAID initiative, is a Regional Visualization and Monitoring System that provides critical information about Central America, the Dominican Republic and East Africa. The project addresses nine societal benefit areas of disasters, ecosystems, biodiversity, weather, water, climate, health, agriculture, and energy.

OU Research Garners International Media Attention
A group of OU researchers in the Molecular Anthropology Laboratory directed by Dr. Cecil Lewis recently garnered national media attention for their part in DNA testing bone material found on the South Pacific island of Nikumaroro. OU researchers were requested by The International Group for Historic Aircraft Recovery (TIGHAR) to examine the possible human remains, in order to test the hypothesis that the uninhabited island was the final resting place of famed pilot, Amelia Earhart. The findings by OU researchers are so far inconclusive, though future tests and technological advancement will hopefully provide more conclusive evidence as to whether the bone fragments are in fact human and if they are the remains of Earhart. This story was picked up by NBC’s The Today Show, CBS News, The Discovery Channel Discovery News, The Independent (London), and the Associated Press, among other media outlets.
Patent

Past and current Petroleum & Geological Engineering and CEES faculty, students, and staff, Younane N. Abousleiman, John L. Brumley, Vinh Xuan Nguyen, Son K. Hoang, & Ashraf Al-Tahini were awarded a patent for “Test Cell for Applying a Shear Stress to a Test Specimen.” The patent is the result of sponsored agreements with two oil and gas industry consortia and is currently licensed to OFI Testing Equipment, Inc. based in Houston, Texas, which will act as a commercialization partner for the Inclined Direct Shear Testing Device (IDSTD).

Funding

- Dr. Michele Eodice (Executive Director of Learning, Teaching, & Writing), received a $10,000 grant from the National Council of Teachers of English and the Conference on College Composition and Communication. “Seniors Reflect on Their Meaningful Writing Experiences: A Cross–Institutional Study” is a collaborative project with researchers at Massachusetts Institute of Technology and St. John’s University in Queens, NY.

- Prof. Julia Abramson (French) received a grant from the Oklahoma Humanities Council for Research. She plans to use the grant to advance research and writing on her current book project, a monograph that investigates how interactions among professional labor, personal identity and literary characterization relate to social change in the eighteenth century, the formative period for the modern era.

The latest Aspire 2020 Action Teams are underway. It is not too late for faculty to get involved in these interdisciplinary conversations by attending meetings or participating in the online discussions at https://aspire2020.ou.edu.

Education Research and Creative Activities:

- Thursday, March 24, 12:00-1:30 pm, Ellison Hall, Rm 132
- Thursday, March 31, 12:00-1:30 pm, Ellison Hall, Rm 132
- Monday, April 4, 2:00-3:30 pm, Wagner Hall, Ste. 180.

Graduate Research and Creative Activities:

- Tuesday, March 22, 9:00-10:30 am, Devon Energy Hall, Rm 151
- Wednesday, March 30, 1:00-2:30 pm, Devon Energy Hall, Rm 151

Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities:

- TBA
- Please check the website for future meeting information.