President’s Monthly Research and Development Highlights

Asian Cultural Council Award

Zoe Sherinian (Music) has received the Asian Cultural Council award of $9000 to conduct participatory fieldwork and filmmaking for an ethnomusicological documentary on The Sakthi Folk Arts Centre in Tamil Nadu, India. Sherinian plans to reveal and analyze Sakthi's highly successful model for Dalit (untouchable/outcaste) women’s development that integrates Tamil folk arts performance with education in social analysis, micro-economic sustainability, personal empowerment, and community leadership. Using participatory video, putting cameras in the hands of the Sakthi trainees so that they fully participate in documenting their process of growth and change, she intends to directly contribute filmmaking skills to the Sakthi community and to the larger struggle for Dalit emancipation from caste, gender, and class oppression and an academic understanding of this process. Furthermore, by studying folk drumming and dance with Sakthi, Sherinian will follow the story of several tenth grade-drop out girls through their training in folk arts after they will return to their communities as leaders and/or become full time “animators,” who perform regularly with Sakthi.

Fulbright Senior Scholar Award

David Vishanoff (Religious Studies) has been awarded a Fulbright Senior Scholar Award to spend spring 2013 at the National Islamic University Sunan Kalijaga in Yogyakarta, Indonesia.

Faculty Recognition

While on sabbatical in the fall of 2011, Kim Josephson (Music) returned to the Metropolitan Opera House in NYC, performing in Philip Glass’ Opera SATYAGRAHA where he sang the role of Mr. Kallenbach. It was broadcast LIVE in HD theaters in 54 countries on six continents including China, Israel and Russia. He has now sung more than 250 performances of 29 different roles at the Metropolitan Opera. Since that time, SATYAGRAHA (Sanskrit for “truth force”) aired on PBS channels across the US in March/April of 2012.

Fay Yarbrough (History) has been selected to participate in the National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute, "The Visual Culture of the American Civil War" for college and university teachers. Yarbrough will spend two weeks in July hosted by the CUNY Graduate Center attending sessions led by noted historians and art historians, visiting museums and archives, and gaining pedagogical insights to incorporate into her classes at OU.

Cynthia Rogers and Alexander Holmes participated in the Oklahoma Policy Institute forum regarding the personal income tax in the state that was held on April 5, 2012 in OKC.
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International Radar Aeroecology Workshop

To help foster research in radar aeroecology and the sharing of information about the tools and theory available to current and future generations of scientists, the Atmospheric Radar Research Center and Oklahoma Biological Survey sponsored an international Radar Aeroecology Workshop in Norman on March 5-6, 2012 at the National Weather Center (http://arrc.ou.edu/raw2012/). The mission of this workshop was to: i) discuss opportunities to advance science by exploiting their current knowledge of radar aeroecology; ii) identify pressing needs (i.e. gaps in understanding) in radar aeroecology; iii) develop strategies for addressing the most urgent needs as quickly as possible; iv) gain a better understanding of the needs of institutions and agencies who might use radar aeroecology products in accomplishing their missions; and v) specify long-term goals in congruence with advances in radar, remote sensing and computing technology. The workshop assembled experts representing a broad cross section of disciplinary expertise from a variety of government and academic institutions from the US and Europe.

New Publications

- Palgrave Macmillan has published Environmental and Health Regulation in the United States and the European Union: Protecting Public and Planet by Mitchell Smith (Political Science), March 2012.
- University Press of Florida has published Kosher Feijoada and Other Paradoxes of Jewish Life in São Paulo by Misha Klein (Anthropology), April 2012.
Professors Steven Draheim and Jon Young along with undergraduate students Hana Goff and Brad Gray recently exhibited at the Design Expo, part of the United States Institute for Theatre Technology (USITT) Annual Conference in Long Beach, CA, held from March 28-31. The Design Expo is a juried biennial exhibition featuring work from USITT members around the nation.

The selection committee included award-winning designers Deborah Bell, Howard Brandston, and Michael Devine. From the 120 designs exhibited, sixteen were selected by the panel of judges to be included in the USITT publication *TD&T: Theatre Design & Technology*. *TD&T* is a journal for design, production, and technology professionals in the performing arts and entertainment industry published four times a year, offering in-depth, informative articles in a variety of areas including: architecture, costume design and technology, education, engineering, health and safety, lighting, management, scene design, sound design, and technical production.

Of the sixteen selected designs, three designs from OU University Theatre productions were selected for inclusion in the summer issue of *TD&T*. Highlighted are Steven Draheim’s lighting design for *Sunday in the Park with George*, Hana Goff’s scenic design for *Dracula* and Jon Young’s scenic design for *The Odyssey*. This recognition is testament to the quality brought to University Theatre productions year after year.
Student Achievements

ARRC Ph.D. students James Kurdzo (SoM) and Fanxing Kong (ECE) both received awards during Student Research and Performance Day held March 2, 2012 at the National Weather Center. Kurdzo placed first in the Science B category for his poster titled "Optimal Waveform Design for Pulse Compression with Weather Radar using a Genetic Algorithm," and Kong placed second in the Engineering A category for his poster, "Mitigation of Wind Turbine Clutter for Weather Radar by Adaptive Processing."

Anne Kroeger (Ph.D. student, Health and Human Biology) is the recipient of an NSF Graduate Fellowship. Kroeger is working on fluorosis mitigation in Ethiopia.

Jackson Helms (Ph.D. student, Zoology) is the recipient of an NSF Graduate Fellowship. Helms will explore ant communities across North America to investigate the roles of geography, environment and flight in the evolution of reproductive strategies.

Jill Hardy (M.S. student, Meteorology/ARRC) is the recipient of the 2012 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP) Fellowship. The $126,000 three-year award will enable Hardy to complete a research project entitled "Probabilistic Flash Flood Forecasting using Ensemble Stormscale Precipitation Forecasts".

Devon Energy Cleanroom

The Devon Energy Hall Cleanroom Facility is state-of-the-art and will offer over 3360 sq. ft. of Class 10,000 general and Class 1000 photo lab cleanroom space. The equipment toolsets will provide full turnkey solutions for ongoing research projects and enable fabrication of advanced electronic and optoelectronic devices using innovative compound semiconductor materials. Also included and adjacent to the new cleanroom will be a 1375 sq. ft. of lab space for Metal Oxide Chemical Vapor Deposition (MOCVD) and Molecular Beam Epitaxy (MBE) systems to advance compound semiconductor materials growth research. These toolsets will incorporate leading edge technology for current and future industry needs. The OU Cleanroom Facility will adopt a world-class level of safety protocols in both facilitation and operational standards. All equipment tool set operations will be conducted with certification and qualification standards provided by university staff who are semiconductor industry veterans.

For more information, please contact Len Olona len.olona@ou.edu at (405) 325-4374. Hours of operation 8am-5pm Monday-Friday. Special needs will be reviewed as necessary.
March New Awards

- Robert Cichewicz
  Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry
  “Osteoprotective Activity of a Dried Plum Extract”
  OSU
  $14,440

- John Cowan
  Department of Physics & Astronomy
  “The Origins of Carbon-Enhanced Metal-Poor Stars”
  NP-STSCI
  $1,500

- Kendra Dresback
  School of Civil Engineering & Environmental Science
  “Next Generation ADCIRC Tidal Database”
  UCAR
  $75,000

- Chris Friebrich
  Oklahoma Climatological Survey
  “Software Development and Support for Mesonet Quebec”
  IN-MNRQ
  $19,856

- Amy Goodin
  Department of Political Science
  “2012 Ardmore Labor Force Study”
  NP-AODA
  $12,000

- Amy Goodin
  Department of Political Science
  “Attitudes about Mental Illness Among New Mexicans”
  UN-NMU
  $10,151

- Heather Ketchum
  Department of Zoology
  “Application of Weather Dynamics to Predict Population Changes and Enhance IPM Strategies for the Gulf Coast Tick”
  FD-TAM
  $10,110

- Keri Kornelson
  Department of Mathematics
  “IPA Assignment with NSA: Keri Kornelson”
  DOD-NSA
  $135,634

- Daphne Ladue
  Center for Analysis & Prediction of Storms
  “2012 Phased-Array Radar Innovative Sensing Experiment”
  DOC-NOA
  $40,000

- Berrien Moore
  College of Atmospheric & Geographic Sciences Dean
  “South-Central Climate Science Center”
  $706,053

- Kanthasamy Muraleetharan
  School of Civil Engineering & Environmental Science
  “Evaluation of the Enhanced Integrated Climatic Model for Modulus-Based Construction Specifications for Oklahoma Pavements”
  OSU
  $84,999

- Patrick Skubic
  Department of Physics & Astronomy
  “OU Contribution to the ATLAS Southwest Tier 2 Computing Center”
  UN-UTA
  $35,000

- John Snow
  School of Meteorology
  “Study for the State National Companies (SNC) of selected operations of The Climate Corporation (TCC)”
  STATE-NATIONAL
  $60,000
March New Awards

- Li Song
  School of Aerospace & Mechanical Engineering
  “Develop and Test Virtual Air-Handler Energy Use Performance Monitor”
  BATTELLPNL
  $100,000

- Alberto Striolo
  School of Chemical, Biological & Materials Engineering
  “Identification of Fundamental Interfacial and Transport Phenomena for the Sustainable Deployment of Hydraulic Shale Fracturing - Role of Chemicals Used”
  NSF
  $48,743

- Ming Xue
  Center for Analysis & Prediction of Storms
  “Development of a Short-Range Realtime Analysis and Forecasting System based on the ARPS for Taiwan Region”
  DOC-NOA
  $200,000

- Md Zaman
  Engineering Dean
  “Drying Shrinkage Problems in High-Plastic Subgrade Clay Soils in Oklahoma”
  OSU
  $60,000