AUVSI Member

James Grimsley (Associate Vice President for Research) was awarded the Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International Member of the Year. Grimsley's biggest contribution to the UAS industry was his instrumental role in establishing a voice for the unmanned systems community in the U.S. Senate.

The Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History is one of ten recipients of this year's National Medal for Museum and Library Service. The National Medal, the nation's highest honor conferred on museums and libraries for service to the community, has celebrated twenty years of institutions that make a difference for individuals, families and communities. The National Medal was presented to Michael Mares (Director, SNOMNH) and Ernesto Vargas (SNOMNH’s Community Member) at an event in Washington, D.C. on May 8, 2014 by First Lady Michelle Obama.

The Sam Noble Museum has deep roots in Oklahoma. It began building collections in 1899 and has become one of the leading university-based natural history museums in the world, housing more than ten million objects, specimens and artifacts. The museum acts as a community anchor institution, providing entertaining and life changing programs to young people, seniors, Native Americans, the disadvantaged and all people of Oklahoma. One such program, ExplorOlogy, represents a major science outreach component of the museum’s education department, providing summer field expeditions, outreach visits to schools and teacher professional development workshops.

Winners of the National Medal were selected from nationwide nominations of institutions that demonstrate innovative approaches to public service, exceeding the expected levels of community outreach. After the award ceremony, StoryCorps – a national nonprofit dedicated to recording, preserving, and sharing the stories of Americans – will visit the Sam Noble Museum to document stories from the community.
President’s Monthly Research and Development Highlights

Faculty Recognition

- Professor Subhash Shah (Petroleum & Geological Engineering) was elected a Fellow by the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, the highest grade of membership. This honor testifies to the high esteem in which you are held by your peers for your distinctive professional accomplishments and contributions. He will be formally recognized for his significant achievement during the AIChE Annual Conference to be held November 16-21, 2014 in Atlanta, Georgia.

- Professor Michael Kramer (Communication) received the 2014 Fredric M. Jablin Award for Outstanding Contributions to Organizational Communication by the Organizational Communication Division of the International Communication Association at the conference in Seattle, Washington, May 22-26, 2014. This award is a lifetime achievement award and honors a scholar for his or her outstanding organizational communication research and service contributions to the discipline.

- Professor Yun Wang (Physics & Astronomy) has been appointed the Deputy Coordinator of the Euclid Galaxy Clustering Science Working Group. Euclid is a dark energy space mission led by the European Space Agency with NASA participation and will be launched in 2020. Yun will be working with the two Coordinators (both European) in leading this group of over 300 scientists from around the world. With this appointment, Yun becomes the second highest ranked American in the Euclid Consortium.

Faculty Research Award

Professor Susan Sharp (Sociology) was awarded the inaugural Faculty Research Award in Women’s and Gender Studies. This award recognizes and celebrates the achievements of a faculty member who has excelled in scholarship, research, creative activity or other professional contributions related to women’s and gender studies.
President’s Monthly Research and Development Highlights

OU Pilot Program Advances Research in Arts & Humanities

A pilot program created by the Office of the Vice President for Research on the Norman campus supports dynamic and innovative research and creative activity projects proposed by faculty to advance scholarship focused on the arts, fine arts and humanities. Each year, two or three faculty are selected to receive a fellowship that significantly transforms a research program and makes notable contributions to the field.

The three award winners this year are Erik Braun (Assistant Professor, Religious Studies); Jennifer Davis Cline (Associate Professor, History); and W. Jackson Rushing III (Professor, Art and Art History). These fellowships will allow each of the recipients to focus on a specific project during the course of a semester. At the end of the semester, they will conduct a public performance, lecture or presentation related to their project.

This competition requires faculty from any college across the University to submit a proposal focused on the arts, fine arts and humanities. The Arts and Humanities Faculty Fellowship program was developed and is managed by arts and humanities faculty with guidance from the Center for Research Program Development and Enrichment. For information about the faculty fellowship program visit http://vpr-norman.ou.edu/funding/VPR-funding-opportunities/arts-humanities-faculty-fellowship-program.

New Books


- Palgrave Macmillan published Transnationalism and the German City by Jeffry Diefendorf and Professor Janet Ward (History) (April 24, 2014).

President’s Monthly Research and Development Highlights

Fulbright Fellowship

Professor Steven Livesey (History of Science) was awarded a Fulbright Research Fellowship in March 2014. His project investigates the composition and medieval development of the library of the Benedictine monastery of Saint-Bertin, which was founded in the mid-seventh century and by the twelfth century, had grown to be the fourth-largest library in France.

The Troubled Waters of Potosí

Research by Associate Professor Robert Nairn (Civil Engineering & Environmental Science) and students in the Center for Restoration of Ecosystems and Watersheds Science focused on implementing ecological engineering solutions to metal-contaminated mine water problems in Bolivia. Their research was featured as the cover story in the May 2014 issue of The Rotarian, the official publication of Rotary International, which is distributed to approximately 1.2 million members worldwide. To read more about their research, go to http://therotarianmagazine.com/the-troubled-waters-of-potosi/.

Student Recognition

Daniel Carlton (undergraduate student, Aerospace & Mechanical Engineering) has been selected to be one of twelve participants in the 2014 Transatlantic Program-Young Technology Leaders: Aerospace Engineering & Aviation Technologies delegation in Germany this summer. This is an exceptional opportunity provided by the German American Chambers of Commerce only to graduate students and professionals in their early careers. This makes Carlton’s spot on the delegation even more extraordinary. His advisor is Assistant Professor Diana Bairaktarova (Aerospace & Mechanical Engineering).

Nicole Shobert (Ph.D. student, Instructional Leadership and Academic Curriculum) and Adam Campbell (Ph.D. student, Chemistry) traveled to Washington, D.C. to participate in the first annual CASE (Catalyzing Advocacy in Science and Engineering) Workshop held by the American Association for the Advancement of Science in April 2014. They spent two days with graduate students from across the country learning about R&D policy and funding at the national level and then met with Oklahoma’s congressmen to advocate for R&D. The experience was both educational and inspirational, highlighting the importance of advocacy for not only R&D, but for STEM field in general from Elementary Education STEM programs to higher education STEM.

This photo is of OU students and Bolivian colleagues atop Cerro Rico de Potosí (over 15,800 feet), referred to as the “Mountain that Eats Men.”
Summer

The Office of the Vice President for Research will take a break from producing the President’s R&D Highlights this summer. We hope you have a wonderful summer and look forward to hearing from you in the fall.

School of Art & Art History Recognition

- Professor Jonathan Hils (Art & Art History) was selected through a competitive jury process by the Paseo Arts Association to create and install a permanent sculpture in the Paseo Arts District paying tribute to the life and work of John L. Belt. The sculpture will be complete by early 2015 and a dedication ceremony will take place in March of 2015.

- Artist-in-Residence Paul Moore was honored with a Special Recognition Award for his unique contributions in support of the Oklahoma arts and cultural industry at the 38th Annual Governor’s Arts Awards. Moore also was awarded the gold medal for sculpture, the Anne Marion/Best of Show Award and the Ray Swanson Award at the 48th Annual Cowboy Artists of America Show at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum.

- Professor Byron Price (Art History, Director of the Charles M. Russell Center/OU Press) received the Chester A. Reynolds Memorial Award at the Western Heritage Awards in April 2014. This award seeks to recognize individuals or groups who have demonstrated through a single remarkable achievement or body of quality of work over a period of years, unwavering commitment to Western ideals and values.

- Professor W. Jackson Rushing (Art History) curated "Allan Houser Drawings: The Centennial Exhibition," which celebrates the 100th anniversary of the birth of Allan Houser, the distinguished Oklahoma artist. A Chiricahua Apache modernist, Houser was born and raised near Fort Sill. The exhibition and catalogue focus on his inimitable drawings, many of which have never been displayed or published before. This exhibition opened in March at the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art.
April New Awards

- **Hazem Refai**, Electrical & Computer Engineering
  “Wireless Electromagnetic Compliance Design Center (Consortium)”
  Medtronic-CRDM, Medtronic, Cyberonics
  $35,000

- **Mukremin Kilic**, Physics & Astronomy
  “Do Massive Stars Have Planets?”
  Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology
  $5,000

- **Mukremin Kilic**, Physics & Astronomy
  “The GALEX/Spitzer/WISE View of the White Dwarf Population in the Galaxy”
  NASA - Headquarters
  $100,911

- **Michael Strauss**, Physics & Astronomy
  Eric Abraham, Physics & Astronomy
  “REU Site: REU/RET Physics Site at the University of Oklahoma”
  National Science Foundation
  $94,246

- **Kash Barker**, Industrial & Systems Engineering
  “Improved Acquisition for System Sustainment: Availability-Based Framework for Maintenance, Repair, and Overhaul Acquisition”
  Department of Defense - Naval Postgraduate School
  $119,861

- **Stephen Weldon**, History of Science
  Kerry Magruder, History Of Science - UL
  “Isis Document Indexing Platform: A Curated and Community-Based Resource for History of Science, Stage I”
  Alfred P. Sloan Foundation
  $351,844

- **Leland Bement**, Archaeological Survey
  “Doctoral Dissertation Research: Paleoindian Prey Mobility through Trace Element Analysis”
  National Science Foundation
  $14,934

- **Robert Cichewicz**, Chemistry & Biochemistry
  “Identification of Novel Plant-Derived Antimalarial Compounds”
  University of Texas Health Sciences Center at San Antonio
  $12,160

- **Kirsten De Beurs**, Geography & Environmental Sustainability
  “Land Management Impacts on Water Quality in New Zealand”
  Texas State University
  $27,998

- **Caleb Fulton**, Electrical & Computer Engineering
  Mark Yeary, Electrical & Computer Engineering
  “Support for Integrated Multi-use Phased Array Common Tile Program”
  Rockwell Collins
  $65,321

- **Eli Bridge**, OK Biological Survey
  “Life History, Kinship, and the Evolution of Alternative Female Reproductive Strategies”
  University of California at Davis
  $2,893

- **Bruno Barboza**, Physics & Astronomy
  “Career: Interactions and Quantum Effects in Nodal Materials”
  National Science Foundation
  $302,000

- **Caleb Fulton**, Electrical & Computer Engineering
  Redmond Kelley, Advanced Radar Research Center
  “Adaptable X/Ku-Band Radar System Development, Phase II”
  Weathernews Americas, Inc.
  $102,726

- **Jinwei Dong**, Center for Spatial Analysis
  “Mapping Industrial Forest Plantations in Tropical Monsoon Asia through Landsat and PALSAR and JERS-1 Imagery”
  NASA - Headquarters
  $204,253
April New Awards

- Md Zaman, Civil Engineering & Environmental Science
  “Management of the ODOT Transportation Library”
  State of Oklahoma, Department of Transportation
  $74,984

- Max Forester, Mathematics
  Noel Brady, Mathematics
  Jing Tao, Mathematics
  “2014 Redbud Geometry/Topology Conference”
  National Science Foundation
  $21,851

- Robert Knox, Civil Engineering & Environmental Science
  Randall Kolar, Civil Engineering & Environmental Science
  Robert Nairn, Civil Engineering & Environmental Science
  Jeffery Volz, Civil Engineering & Environmental Science
  “Development of Structural and Environmental Guidelines”
  Grand River Dam Authority
  $49,743

- Boon Leng Cheong, Advanced Radar Research Center
  Tian-you Yu, Electrical & Computer Engineering
  “Enterprise Electronics Corporation Research Grant (ERG) #1: Observations Using a Solid-State X-Band Polarimetric Weather Radar”
  Enterprise Electronic Corporation
  $36,000

- Amy Buthod, OK Biological Survey
  Bruce Hoagland, OK Biological Survey/Geography & Environmental Sustainability
  “A Floristic Inventory of The Nature Conservancy's Oka' Yanahli Preserve”
  The Nature Conservancy
  $2,104

- Amy Buthod, OK Biological Survey
  Bruce Hoagland, OK Biological Survey/Geography & Environmental Sustainability
  “An Updated Floristic Inventory of The Nature Conservancy's Pontotoc Ridge Preserve”
  The Nature Conservancy
  $1,877

- Qin Xu, CIMMS
  “Research and Development of Advanced Radar Data Quality Control and Assimilation for Nowcasting and Forecasting Severe Storms”
  U.S. Department of Defense, Office of Naval Research
  $100,000

- Hank Jenkins-Smith, Political Science
  Carol Silva, Political Science
  “Environment and Energy Data Analysis 2014”
  Sandia Laboratories
  $150,000

- May Yuan, Atmospheric & Geographic Sciences
  Kathryn Hines, Center for Spatial Analysis
  “ODCTE - Processing School and Career-Technology District Updates for Fiscal Year 2015”
  State of Oklahoma, Department of Vocational and Technical Education
  $2,800