Overview of the Organization

The K20 Center for Educational and Community Renewal is a statewide education research and development center which promotes innovative learning through school-university-community collaboration. Our mission is to cultivate a collaborative network engaged in research and outreach that creates and sustains innovation and transformation through leadership development, shared learning, and authentic technology integration. K20 Center uses five interrelated phases to transform conventional schools into high-achieving, interactive learning communities:

- **Phase I: Leaders Learning**: Develops principals and superintendents to lead systemic change and technology integration in their schools and districts.
- **Phase II: Whole-School Learning**: Supports Phase I leaders by focusing on teachers, parents, and community leaders empowerment in creating technology-rich learning communities designed to enhance student success.
- **Phase III: Teacher Learning**: Creates in-depth authentic research and learning experiences for teachers in content areas.
- **Phase IV: Student Learning**: Creates innovative learning strategies, such as Digital Game-Based Learning, to encourage students to be involved in their own learning.
- **Phase V: University**: Creates connections and collaborations to support learning beyond high school.

Recent Highlights

In 2012-13 the K20 Center was productive across multiple dimensions—publications, presentations, patents, external funding—for educational and community renewal. The competition for external funding continues to increase dramatically. From each submission the K20 Center learns and/or receives feedback for improvement.

- K20 C3 implementations grant provided PD to over 308 schools across Oklahoma and assisted them in implementing the new state standards.
- K20 STEM assisted 21 Oklahoma elementary schools in preparing students to be STEM-ready.
- OETT/OK-ACTS: Partnering for Professional Learning Community (PLC) continues to provide professional development to assist whole schools in building professional learning communities that use technology to impact student achievement.
- Continued collaboration with 47 GEAR UP schools through campus visits, college forums, and authentic teaching and learning experiences for teachers. Students explored careers to increase the number of Oklahoma students prepared to succeed in post-secondary settings.
- Held Annual K20 Center Innovative Learning Institute. Over 700 K-12 educators, university researchers and students, community members, and industry leaders participated in the event that focuses on best practices for 21st century learning to learn and discuss issues that significantly impact and transform education.

Activities Planned for 2014

Our vision in the short, medium and long term is focused on continuing to expand and document the K20 Center’s outreach and impact efforts. Ensuring that the great works at OU are positively influencing the state through our direct work in schools, as well as the nation through our scholarly contributions, allows the K20 Center to contribute to the University’s overall mission.

**Goals continue to focus on:**

- K20 will conduct work and research locally and regionally, yet extend influence nationally through disseminating
and publishing our findings,

- K20 will sustain engagement with stakeholders inside and outside the university, becoming transformative by formalizing partnerships with perspective student services, and working with college recruitment personnel to expand awareness and early enrollment opportunities for prospective students.
- K20 will better inform educational policy and become a nationally recognized center of excellence.

**Linkages and Partnerships**
The K20 Center believes collaboration across disciplines extends the reach of the university and benefits departments and the community. In 2012 & 2013, the K20 Center partnered with the following departments and colleges to seek joint funding: Jeannine Rainbolt College of Education, Electrical and Computer Engineering, Computer Science, Psychology, Physics, Zoology, Instructional Leadership & Academic Curriculum, Electrical Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Chemistry, Civil Engineering, Botany/Microbiology, Petroleum Engineering, Aerospace Engineering, Materials Engineering, Mathematics, Civil Engineering, Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History.

The K20 Center continues to collaborate and provide outreach at the university, state, national and international levels. At the university level, 2012 & 2013 offered the opportunity to work with colleges across all three campuses. Through professional development, project collaboration, grant awards, joint proposals, presentations, awards and state planning – K20 collaborated with numerous organizations across Oklahoma and with national and international partners.

**Recent Publications and Presentations**

**Impacts and Outcomes of K20 Center**

**Total Impact (2001-2013):**
- Phase I: 2,064 Leaders
- Phase II: 5,320 Teachers; 76,896 Students
- Phase III: 9,719 Teachers
- Phase IV: 143,084 Students
- Phase V: 32 Scholars; Over 50 K20 Graduate Students

**Broader Impact:**
The K20 Center adds value to faculty researchers by connecting their expertise to K-12 school needs. Most research activities include educational outreach, the K20 Center provides a more systematic and sustainable dissemination of innovative solutions to network schools and offers more collaborative solutions. In a competitive external funding environment, this enhances the quality of proposals and program implementation for faculty researchers. It also provides an opportunity to improve teaching practices by working with K-12 instructors putting research into practice. The learning is mutually beneficial as schools in the K20 network enhance content and higher education faculty are exposed to technology-enriched teaching techniques. Most universities have strong relationships with local districts. However, as the distance from campus increases, their relationships weaken. The K20 Center's statewide network enhances OU's outreach efforts. The K20 Center is a unique asset that other universities are beginning to model. Engaged research provides reciprocal benefits.

THE K20 CENTER GEAR UP FOR SUCCESS AND FOR THE PROMISE PROGRAMS IMPACT MORE THAN THE SCHOOL AND ITS STUDENTS. They create educational ripples across the state to prepare students for college and careers. Educators and students in the cohorts experience innovative professional development, lesson enhancements and college awareness opportunities as they move through high school. But the knowledge gained is embedded in the school and transforms learning beyond the grant year. Parent and student leadership academies are held.

The K20 Center embodies the university's long term research goals by:
- Developing proposals that emphasize interdisciplinary collaborations
- Emphasizing systemic and sustainable solutions
- Answering the call for broadening education and outreach
- Encouraging projects that allow university faculty to combine service, research and teaching activities

The Center is strategically aligned so that institutional funding flows across traditional organizational boundaries. K20 has a balanced portfolio of projects across federal, state and local agencies, foundations and private industry.