

Johnson County Education & Research Triangle Authority

November 2016 Report

MISSION

To be the model and leader of adaptable, interdisciplinary and innovative education, research and public/private engagement in the Kansas City area, bridging the University with global and local community, government and industry partners.

Message from the Dean & CEO

As 2016 is nearing a close, I am delighted to report that there has been continued progress made by Kansas State University Olathe in academic program development, collaborative relationships with industry and academic partners and outreach and engagement efforts. The following report outlines key highlights and information for review by the JCERTA as of November 2016.

One highlight is the recent Kansas City One Health Day. K-State Olathe led the initiative to partner with the Kansas City Area Life Sciences Institute and BioKansas to host an interdisciplinary group of people interested in the opportunities that can develop at the interface of animal health, human health and the environment. More than 125 people gathered at the Kauffman Foundation to celebrate research and collaborations that enhance One Health. This was one of 161 events around the earth on World One Health Day.

In addition, the newly launched Professional Sciences Master's degree program has growing enrollment. Also to be celebrated, use of the K-State Olathe facility by corporate partners and organizations is at an all-time high. Efforts related to K-12 continue to be an investment area and the dividends on those investments are that thousands of area students are gaining enhanced STEM education.

Several interdisciplinary programs are in the works that, if successful, will harness the capacities of educational, research and corporate entities in Johnson County and the surrounding region in unprecedented ways. The K-State Olathe team is excited about these opportunities and is focused, energetic and positioned to bring to bear the resources of the entire Kansas State University organization in order to achieve the goals of JCERTA and the entire Kansas City region.

Thank you,
Dr. Ralph Richardson
Dean and CEO

Personnel Update at K-State Olathe

- There are two active searches underway at K-State Olathe to expand the Academics team, including a recruiter to support enrollment and also a training and development specialist to assist with launching new programs.

Education and Professional Development Program Highlights

- **K-12 Outreach:**
 - From August 2015 to August 2016, 7,500 students and teachers from various school districts were impacted by K-State Olathe's efforts to enhance STEM education experiences for students in grades K-12. Numbers are expected to rise in FY17 academic year.

- Some of these engagements included on-site research lab experiences and a veterinary medical lecture series that could be experienced by participants on-site and was also lived streamed to a maximum of 40 area schools. A new veterinary medical lecture series has been launched and is underway with the next lecture on Nov. 9 by Dr. Paige Adams on the topic of One Health.
- In the summer of 2017, K-State Olathe faculty will again offer high school students an introduction to the college experience and a growing health initiative. "One Health Summer Online Course 2016" was a free, noncredit, three-week course for 35 high school juniors and seniors interested in the biosciences. The course will be offered for the second time next summer and the option of it becoming a for-credit course is being explored.
- Resources for K-12 efforts also have been enhanced, as the coordinator's time has been increased for outreach. In addition, K-12 collaboration has been improved at the campus, with a focus on coordinating outreach, research and advising.

- **K-State Olathe academic programs (credit bearing)**

- In April 2015, the Kansas Board of Regents formally approved the **Professional Sciences Master's** (PSM) degree to be offered by K-State Olathe's School of Applied and Interdisciplinary Studies. Initial areas of focus for students within the interdisciplinary degree program include animal health and food safety. For more information about the PSM, visit <http://olathe.k-state.edu/academics/degrees/psm/>.
 - To ensure that this degree meets industry needs, a roundtable event was held in early July with nearly 30 key industry decision makers sharing feedback about courses and their organization's needs. This feedback is being used to shape future opportunities for students.
 - On Sept. 13, K-State Olathe held an event that featured industry leaders in a panel discussion focusing about how the development of a well-qualified STEM workforce helps drive economic wellbeing for the region.
 - Thus far, nine students have enrolled for the fall cohort, four additional students have been admitted for spring classes and recruiting efforts are underway to continue to enhance enrollment. In addition, collaboration is underway to customize experiences for corporate partners.
- Dr. Deandra Cassone launched an engineering executive leadership program for 10 attendees on Oct. 27-28, 2016. The topic of the first course was "Evaluating Products and Projects to Meet Corporate Objectives."
- Scholarships – K-State Olathe made it easier for students to receive financial support while earning a master's or doctorate degree. Under the redesigned program, students no longer have to reapply for a scholarship support every academic year. Instead, they now apply for a scholarship at either the start of their first semester or up to three months prior to the start of their degree program at K-State Olathe. If a scholarship is awarded, the funds are automatically renewed each semester throughout the entirety of the student's degree track, provided they maintain a 3.0 cumulative grade point average or above.

Engagement, Economic Development, and Other Highlights:

- World One Health Day -- On Nov. 3, individuals and groups from around the world celebrated a collaborative approach to improving human, animal and planetary health called One Health. Kansas City celebrated, too. Instigated by K-State Olathe, the Kansas City Area Life Sciences Institute, BioKansas and Kansas State University Olathe partnered to hold activities at the Kauffman Foundation. Events included Collaborate2Cure, networking at a BioBreak and then a keynote presentation by world-renowned Zika expert, Dr. Stephen Higgs.
- K-State has hosted a variety of professional development workshops, planning meetings, and events since our last report. Use of the K-State Olathe campus is set to rise significantly over 2015. Partners included Johnson County Election Office, Food and Drug Administration, Kansas City Area Life Sciences Institute, Merck Animal Health, John Deere, SmartVet USA, Heritage Tractor, Centaur Animal Health and others. The table below provides the event counts.

EVENTS AT K-STATE OLATHE	NUMBER OF EVENTS	NUMBER OF ATTENDEES
January 2016	49	1,477
February 2016	40	1,714
March 2016	63	2,267
April 2016	62	1,942
May 2016	52	1,276
June 2016	34	1,292
July 2016	72	3,947
August 2016	79	1,126
September 2016	65	1,103
October 2016	107	4,667
Current Total	623	20,811

- The Food Innovation Accelerator allows small businesses to use the kitchen and K-State Olathe's expertise to ramp up production and take products to market that would not have been possible otherwise.
 - A new program is now being offered to the public. Healthy Cooking for Diabetes is a result of partnerships with area hospitals to provide important support to those diagnosed with diabetes. A pilot class was held in mid October and the first offering was Nov. 1. Additional classes will be held on the first Tuesday of each month. The courses are three-hour events and the cost is \$75.
 - Planning is underway for the 2017 Petfood Treat Workshop that utilizes K-State Olathe's Kitchen to work with ingredients and processes in order to hone their products. In April 2016, 150 people from around the country attended.
- The K-State Olathe Communications team is working closely with Parker Communications to ensure that JCERT-related news is shared with the community. This includes web site updates, social media interaction and upcoming blog posts. In addition, collaboration with KU Edwards is underway to develop a new biotechnology booklet that highlights STEM careers and educational opportunities for use with prospective students.