

## **Johnson County Education & Research Triangle Authority**

***January 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**

In the past several months, much progress has been 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.

In 2016, there is a focus on strengthening our existing programs and also ensuring that new and emerging efforts have the resources needed to be successful. One of the most exciting new programs is the Professional Sciences Master's degree program that will launch this year, which offers professionals the opportunity to strengthen technical and soft skills. Executive leadership opportunities, related to animal health and engineering, will also be an area of emphasis in our development plans. Teaming with K-State's Department of Hospitality Management, area educational institutions and industry, K-State Olathe will begin offering training, especially related to food safety, as well as expanded educational opportunities for students interested in a hospitality management degree. In addition, our strategic efforts related to education for students in grades K-12 is being reinvigorated with additional staff members and resources to ensure that the STEM pipeline can be filled in the future.

Recent reports released by Kansas City Area Life Sciences (KCALS) and KC Rising reinforce that K-State Olathe is well positioned to respond to workforce development and educational needs in this region. There are acute needs in the areas of life sciences as a whole, animal health, big data, cybersecurity and engineering. Our campus is uniquely capable of fostering the much-needed collaboration between science organizations, businesses and communities to improve quality of life and encourage economic growth. To help facilitate important partnerships, a Director of Strategic Alliances will be hired in the coming months.

The K-State Olathe team looks forward to moving forward with renewed focus, energy and bringing to bear resources from the entire Kansas State University organization in order to achieve the goals of the JCERTA and the entire Kansas City region.

Thank you,

***Dr. Ralph Richardson***  
***Interim Dean and CEO***

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### **Personnel Update at K-State Olathe**

- **Dr. Jackie Spears** -- A professor of curriculum and instruction and director of the Center for Science Education, Dr. Spears is rejoining the K-State Olathe faculty to engage with area school districts to help strengthen STEM curricula and conduct research. Her first partnership is with the Shawnee Mission School District where Dr. Spears is creating a project-based learning experience for students in grades K-6. Bringing together industry, academia and community resources, the topic for the project is centered around food safety and the global food system.

- **Director of Strategic Alliances** – During the next several months, a search will be launched for a Director of Strategic Alliances. This position will focus on fostering partnerships with industry and government to develop programs that address workforce development needs, encourage research and promote STEM education.
- **Other key hires:**
  - Mark Sorell joined the faculty at K-State Olathe as a statistics instructor.
  - Greg Tammen transferred from the Manhattan campus to K-State Olathe to work as a communications manager overseeing editorial development and web site updates.
  - Eric Racki will join K-State Olathe, as an IT team member, in order to ensure that staff, faculty and groups have cutting-edge technology available to support their efforts.

### **Education and Professional Development Program Highlights**

- **K-State Olathe professional development programs (non-credit)**
  - In partnership with the K-State Global Food Systems Initiative and Cultivate Kansas City, faculty at K-State Olathe will host the first Urban Food System Symposium on June 22-25. National and international academic and research-oriented professionals will gather to share and gain knowledge about urban agricultural production, local food systems distribution, urban farmer education, urban agriculture policy, planning and development, food access and justice, and food sovereignty. More information: <http://www.urbanfoodsystemssymposium.org/>
  - K-State Olathe and the K-State Department of Hospitality Management are partnering with Heart of America Group (HOA). The partnership is in the discovery stages to provide HOA's 2,000+ employees with access to industry-relevant training and educational opportunities. In addition, the collaboration would allow K-State students to gain hands-on experience in HOA's facilities, beginning with the new Embassy Suites & Convention Center in Olathe.
  - In 2015, nearly 5,000 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. These engagements included on-site research lab experiences and a veterinary medical lecture series that could be experienced on-site and was also lived streamed to up to 40 schools. Six lectures are planned for the Spring 2016, and promotions to school districts are underway.
- **K-State Olathe academic programs (credit bearing)**
  - Professional Sciences Master's Degree – A Professional Sciences Master's (PSM) is an innovative, new graduate degree that has been designed to allow students to pursue advanced training in STEM fields, while simultaneously developing workplace skills that are highly valued by employers.
    - Currently, the PSM program has passed all internal Kansas State University reviews and approvals. It is expected to be approved by the Kansas Board of Regents in March 2016.

- Initial areas of focus for students within the interdisciplinary degree program include animal health and food safety.
  - A marketing communications campaign is under development. Recruitment of students will begin immediately upon KBOR approval, and courses will be available this fall.
- Ten new course numbers have been approved by the University governing bodies to be offered under the new School of Applied and Interdisciplinary Studies, including AAI 801: Interdisciplinary Process and AAI 840: Regulatory Aspects of Drug and Vaccine Development in the Animal Health Industry. K-State Olathe plans to start offering the new courses in 2016.
  - Dr. Deandra Cassone has brought her academic and industry experiences with Industrial and Manufacturing Systems Engineering to the K-State Olathe campus. She begins teaching her first course this spring. In addition, Dr. Cassone has completed a needs assessment with area engineering firms to begin development of an engineering executive leadership program as well as engaging industry to assist with improving operations.
  - Scholarships – In the Fall of 2015, 31 students applied for and were granted scholarships. In comparison, six students received scholarships in the Fall of 2014.
  - Recruitment of students to study at K-State Olathe continues, and these efforts will be enhanced with more robust marketing and communications support combined with strategic recruitment. The charts below reflect the headcounts and enrollments to date.

<b>ACADEMIC PROGRAMS</b>	<b>UNDUPLICATED HEADCOUNT</b>	<b>CREDIT HOURS</b>
<b>AY 2010-2011</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Summer 2011</b>	5	10
<b>AY 2011-2012</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>63</b>
<b>Summer 2012</b>	25	63
<b>AY 2012-2013</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>334</b>
<b>Fall 2012</b>	23	114
<b>Spring 2013</b>	30	144
<b>Summer 2013</b>	23	76
<b>AY 2013-2014</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>642</b>
<b>Fall 2013</b>	49	315
<b>Spring 2014</b>	55	251
<b>Summer 2014</b>	27	76
<b>AY 2014-2015</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>768</b>
<b>Fall 2014</b>	84	397
<b>Spring 2015</b>	58	250
<b>Summer 2015</b>	41	121
<b>AY 2015-2016</b>	<b>82*</b>	<b>351*</b>
<b>Fall 2015</b>	82	351

\* Cumulative counts will be finalized at year-end to include spring and summer 2016 enrollments.

**Education and Professional Development Program Highlights, continued**

<b>PROGRAM COUNTS</b>	<b>AY 2012-2013 (after drops)</b>	<b>AY 2013-2014 (after drops)</b>	<b>AY 2014-2015 (after drops)</b>	<b>Fall 2015 (after drops)</b>
<b>Launched in Fall 2013</b>		11 students 132 credits	16 students 104 credits	10 students 63 credits
<b>Launched in Fall 2013</b>		2 students 5 credits	2 students 15 credits	3 students 5 credits
<b>Launched in Fall 2013</b>		3 students 27 credits	5 students 55 credits	6 students 19 credits
<b>Launched in Fall 2013</b>		8 students 41 credits	23 students 136 credits	25 students 112 credits
<b>Launched in Spring 2012</b>	19 students 57 credits	50 students 422 credits	78 students 423 credits	36 students 144 credits

**Research Highlights**

- K-State faculty continue to attract competitive funding to support education, research, and outreach in the KC area. Select examples provided below:
  - The Center of Excellence for Food Safety Research in Child Nutrition Programs engaged experts at K-State Olathe to conduct a large cooling study, which is currently underway. Lead in Olathe: Sara Gragg. Collaborators: Bryan Severns, Lindsay Beardall.
  - Dr. Marianne Swaney-Stueve, director of the Sensory and Consumer Research Center at K-State Olathe, is beginning research with children that studies the use of words vs. emojis to identify how they feel about food. Three focus groups have taken place in the Johnson County area.
  - K-State Olathe’s Microbial Surveillance Lab is a collaborative effort with the Kansas Veterinary Diagnostic Lab (KSVDL) on the university's Manhattan campus. The lab is a sponsored partnership with Merck Animal Health. The team is currently focused on combating antimicrobial resistant bacterial. In the last quarter of 2015, more than 2,000 samples were processed, which was the busiest time period in the lab’s history.

**Engagement, Economic Development, and Other Highlights:**

- K-State has hosted a variety of professional development workshops, planning meetings, and events since our last report. Partners include Merck Animal Health, John Deere, Olathe Chamber of Commerce, SmartVet USA, ExxonMobil, Global Plains Advisory Group, Google Fiber, Kansas Department of Commerce, Ceva Animal Health, Atmos Energy and others. The table below provides the event counts for November and December of 2015 and also the cumulative total for calendar year 2015.

EVENTS AT K-STATE OLATHE	NUMBER OF EVENTS	NUMBER OF ATTENDEES
November 2015	47	1,409
December 2015	39	1,278
Total for 2015	455	15,885

- The Incubator Kitchen at K-State Olathe continues to provide valuable services to industry.
  - The following companies have recently utilized the incubator facilities and consulting services: Joe’s KC BBQ and Four Paws Solutions (pet treats).
  - In addition, the facility will host the national Petfood Treat Workshop in April 2016. This event allows industry members to investigate ingredients and processes as well as test products. Attendance is anticipated to be more than 250 people.
- K-State Olathe invites the Greater Kansas City community to join us at several events, including:
  - Basketball Watch Party, January 26 – Community stakeholders are invited to watch a men’s basketball game and be exposed to the K-State campus and its capabilities.
  - K-State Presidential Social, March 23 – President Kirk Schulz will be featured in a social hour at the campus, and he will give a brief update of key initiatives at the Olathe and Manhattan campuses.
  - K-State Open House, April 16 -- It will be a great opportunity for everyone to network and learn about K-State and the Olathe campus. The event is being promoted to the entire community, including K-12 educational partners.

**Facility Highlights**

- In order to continue to be responsible stewards of the K-State Olathe campus and the taxpayers’ investment, there is an ongoing commitment to a master plan for preventative maintenance. This fall, improvements were made to parking lots, landscaping and the HVAC system.
- Additionally, investments were made to the IT infrastructure to better serve the academic programs and also business and community groups that utilize the facility.
- Due to an energy optimization project that was completed in 2014, the facility was able to reduce utility costs by 35% and gas usage by an average of more than 40% in 2015.
- The K-State Olathe team continues to explore opportunities for on-site business partners, similar to the ongoing relationship with SmartVet. Recently, SORA medical technology systems has moved into building space and is collaborating with KSU resources. In addition, discussions are underway with a major food manufacturer as well as CEVA to have an on-campus presence.