Welcome to OSU Research Impact

As the new vice president for research at Oklahoma State University, I am pleased to welcome you to the inaugural issue of Impact, a monthly electronic newsletter about research and scholarly endeavors at OSU. The idea behind this newsletter is to make readers, both on campus and beyond, aware of the exciting science, technology and scholarly activity underway across the wide array of disciplines at OSU. The story of research accomplishments realized by our students and faculty is worth telling and celebrating. Tell us what you think about Impact; email vpr@okstate.edu.

Kenneth W. Sewell, Ph.D., Vice President for Research
Undergraduate research video competition

Research is a vital part of the mission here at OSU, and some of the most exciting research experiences and outcomes occur when undergraduate students become actively involved in research, usually working alongside faculty and/or graduate students. We want to hear those exciting stories! So we are inviting submissions of brief videos that respond to the prompt: Undergraduate research changed my ___________!  

Vanguard: The OSU research magazine

Dr. Ramanjulu Sunkar has been named the 2015 recipient of the Sarkeys Distinguished Professor Award by the OSU Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources. An associate professor in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Sunkar has been recognized nationally and internationally as one of the most prolific and significant scientific authors in the field of microRNA. Read the cover story about Sunkar in the 2015 issue of Vanguard.
Dr. John Niblack made his annual visit to the OSU campus Oct. 2 to meet Niblack Research Scholars and hear presentations. Niblack, former Pfizer vice chairman and OSU alumnus, awards $8,000 each year to each OSU undergraduate Niblack scholar. Niblack (far left) is pictured with the 2015-16 class of scholars. Read More

Oklahoma Innovations radio to feature VPR

Dr. Sewell will be a guest on an upcoming Oklahoma Innovations radio program produced by the Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science and Technology (OCAST). The segment is expected to be broadcast and will be available on the OCAST website later in October. For the date and a listing of radio stations visit the OCAST website.

American Airlines donates retired MD-80 to College of Engineering, Architecture and Technology. Read More

The OSU App Center’s 4th Annual App Competition is underway with new sponsors. Competition prize money is being provided by the City of Stillwater and the Riata Center for Entrepreneurship. Read More

An OSU professor’s research could mean changes for Silicon Valley. Most smartphone or computer chip technology is synonymous with California’s Silicon Valley, which gets its name from silicon used in computer chips. Dr. Scott Weinert received a National Science Foundation grant to research how the chemical element germanium could lead to more effective chip technology. Read More

The first academic text about the ESPN sports network has been published by an OSU faculty member. Dr. John McGuire has published an in-depth look at the rise of the sports media giant. Read More

OSU student Marcus Gabilheri has created a fitness app that connects to and receives info from other fitness trackers like Fitbit. The concept has taken off with app users. Read More

See more news on the OSU Research website.
Van Den Bussche permanently fills AVP role

VPR Dr. Kenneth Sewell has announced that Dr. Ron Van Den Bussche, formerly interim associate vice president for research, will now permanently fill that position. A Regents Professor of Integrative Biology, he directly oversees several units in the VPR division, provides a critical link to the associate deans for research in the colleges, and spearheads special projects assigned by the vice president for research.

Brunson and research computing upgraded

Dr. Dana Brunson, director of the OSU High Performance Computing Center (HPCC), has been named assistant vice president for research cyberinfrastructure; she will continue to direct the HPCC in her newly configured role. She has secured two National Science Foundation grants totaling nearly $2 million. The first resulted in OSU’s current central supercomputer, Cowboy. The second grant makes possible the purchase of an even larger and more powerful supercomputer that is expected to be installed at OSU in 2016.

A one credit hour course on grant writing will be offered by the Center for Proposal Development this spring.

Entrepreneur workshop sponsored by i2E, Oklahoma EPSCoR

The Who Wants to be an Entrepreneur Workshop is open to all college-level entrepreneurs, students and faculty members who will learn the key elements involved in starting a business. The free workshop is Nov. 19 at the Reed Conference Center in Midwest City; registration is required.

Science Café at OSU

The October Science Café at OSU program Forensic Psychology: What the Heck is That? takes place Oct. 20 in the OSU Library. The program features a discuss of the field of forensic psychology led by faculty and students from the OSU Center for Health Sciences.

FEATURED EVENT

October 13

Chad Pregracke - CNN Hero of the Year

Hear Chad Pregracke’s story as he describes his personal mission to clean up the Mississippi River. Raised near East Moline, Illinois, Chad saw firsthand tons of trash defiling the American icon. Chad also saw that no one was doing anything to change this, so at the age of 17, he set out to clean up the Mississippi River — alone. He is a recipient of the Jefferson Award for Public Service and was named 2013 CNN Hero of the Year. 7 pm, Oct. 13, Student Union Theater.

Each month Impact features an event. To nominate an event for possible inclusion email details to vpr@okstate.edu.
Faculty Conversations are a collection of videos of OSU faculty talking about their research. The videos represent a wide cross section of disciplines and novel research projects. Visit the OSU Research website to see the Faculty Conversations collection, including a video featuring Dr. Jeanmarie Verchot, professor of entomology and plant pathology, describing molecular and cellular aspects of plant virus infection.