



Division of Academic Affairs

2019-20 Comprehensive Annual Report

July 1, 2020

Section I. Executive Summary (Top 10 Accomplishments)
(For the accomplishments of individual colleges, please see Points of Pride.)

Students First

- Textbook affordability: In collaboration with Student Affairs, we developed Flash Books, a fee model for textbooks and course materials which has now saved students \$4,452,810 in less than 2 years. This is up to \$180 per student per course. Additionally, nearly \$10,000 was raised during Giving Tuesday for need-based scholarships to be used for textbooks and course materials.
- Honors Fall 2019 entering freshmen class formed the largest class (572) and had the highest academic profile in history of the Honors College, with an average ACT score of 29.34 and an average High School GPA of 3.86.

A Distinctive Kent State

- The School of Peace and Conflict Studies helped raise \$180K to support 4 scholarships in the name of the 4 students killed on May 4th, 1970: Alison Krause, Jeffrey Miller, Sandra Scheuer and William Schroeder.
- Kent State's Design Innovation Ecosystem was ranked #6 among national universities and colleges by Great Value Colleges in 50 Best Makerspaces: These Cutting-Edge College Collaborative Spaces Truly Rock! University Libraries' makerspaces, the Student Multimedia Studio and Spark Innovation Studio, are two nodes included in Kent State's DI Ecosystem.
- Student Media (CCI) continued its track record of excellence in national competitions, showcasing our students' work as among the nations' best:
 - Rated top ten nationwide in both the Hearst Photojournalism and Radio/TV competitions. Kent State finished seventh in Radio/TV and eighth in Photojournalism. The Hearst Awards are the college journalism equivalent to the Pulitzer Prize.
 - Several students won individual 2019 Associated Collegiate Press awards and the Kent Stater won the ACP's prestigious Pacemaker Award.
 - One student earned the National Society of Professional Journalists' Mark of Excellence Award in Sports Photography.
 - Individual students as well as several student media outlets earned a variety of 2019 College Media Association Awards, most notably TV2 earning first place for "Best TV Special Event Coverage."

Global Competitiveness

- Chosen by Xi'an International Studies University for the creation of a Joint Institute under the auspices of the Chinese Ministry of Education.

Regional Impact

- Selected as a Delta Propel Partner, a partnership that creates career opportunities for students studying to be future commercial pilot through Delta's Propel Collegiate Pilot Career Path program. Seven professional pilot/flight technology students accepted qualified offers from Delta, making the group the first from Kent State University to receive the distinction from Delta.
- Announced Kent State partnership with the LeBron James Family Foundation (LJFF). Kent State student leaders, faculty, staff, and community leaders assembled to welcome and host 200 LJFF iPromise 11th graders and their parents where it was announced that Kent State would guarantee free four-year tuition plus a free first year of room and meal plan to all eligible iPromise students. Student and parent impact was immense, and the subsequent media exposure stretched around the globe via social media and traditional and mainstream channels and outlets, with LeBron James promoting on his own social channels as well.
- Academic Affairs Design Innovation team led by J.R. Campbell formed a very large cross-disciplinary team to research effective solutions and then utilize our network of makers and makerspace tools to produce face shields as PPE for members of our community. The PPE team partnered with MedWish.org to act as distributors for all PPE created by the group, which meant that the donated shields were available equally to every agency in Northeast Ohio through completing the request form with Medwish. The PPE team's goal was to produce 2000 face shields with our network of volunteers. As of June 1, 2020, we have produced and donated 2,675 shields. This project was possible through support from the Burton D. Morgan Foundation and the United Way of Portage County.

Organizational Stewardship

- Kent State Division of Mental Health and Substance Use received a \$306,000 federal grant from the Garrett Lee Smith Campus Suicide Prevention Grant to be used for suicide prevention and to address other student mental health needs. The money, \$102,000 per year for three years, is to be used to reduce the adverse consequences of serious mental illnesses and substance use disorders, including suicidal behavior, chronic mental health disorders and substance-related injuries.

Section II. Key Achievements

Students First

- Academic Affairs “Students First” Response to COVID-19 pandemic:
 - With the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, we had 17 students in South Korea and 222 students in Florence, Italy that were returned to the U.S. within two weeks. The Office of Continuing and Distance Learning arranged to convert 69 in-person classes to remote learning. All instructors in Florence were trained in remote technologies by our instructional design team and they were ready to teach remotely within a few short days.
 - On March 10th, Kent State made the decision to send students home and move all classes to remote learning. Academic Affairs led the transition to remote learning for the entire Kent State system where we converted 9,279 in-person courses into remote delivery formats within 3 days.
 - The Academic Success Center pivoted to transition all face-to-face academic support services online, including scheduled tutoring, drop-in tutoring, supplemental instruction, and academic coaching. Over 3,000 sessions were offered online in support of over 70 courses.
 - The Academic Success Center and University College Technology collaborated to develop the electronic Academic Success Plan web application, which provides students with a personalized list of academic support resources according to their course registrations.
- Received a grant totaling \$165,000 from Peg’s Foundation, formerly the Margaret Clark Morgan Foundation, a private grant-making foundation which supports mental health programs in northeast Ohio. Wendy Umberger, Ph.D., RN, PMHCNS-BC, associate dean for graduate programs and Lisa Onesko, DNP, APRN-BC, director of DNP program and associate professor, received \$105,000, payable over three years to continue the Peg’s Foundation traineeship program for graduate students pursuing a master’s degree in nursing as a Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP). This funding will enable the college to offer 10 full-time and 15 part-time traineeships to highly qualified PMHNP students during each academic year. An additional \$60,000 was received for two Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) scholar awards. Each recipient will receive \$30,000 over the course of two semesters (\$15,000 for tuition and \$15,000 for stipend) and complete a scholarly project that enhances mental health outcomes, or mental health care policy.

- Academic Diversity Outreach provided \$114,000 in supplemental aid to 214 students assisting with tuition, course supplies, and living expenses. \$550 was the average amount needed per student to sufficiently support a student's need.
- Contributed to the increase in graduation of URS students through KeyBank grant. The University is on track to exceed a 50% four-year graduation rate for the first time in Kent State University history.

A Distinctive Kent State

Rankings of note:

- The Online Master of Business Administration was ranked #46 globally by QS, Quacquarelli Symonds for 2020.
- The Online Master of Business Administration was ranked #1 in Ohio by MBA Central.
- *U.S. News and World Report* nationally ranked the Online Master of Business Administration as a best online MBA program.
- The Financial Engineer ranked KSU's Master's in Business Analytics #32 in the nation.
- KSU's Interior Design Ranked 13th Nationally for Programs Firms Hire from (#1 in Ohio): Design Intelligence
- KSU's Architecture Ranked 16th Nationally for Programs Firms Hire from (#1 in Ohio): Design Intelligence
- KSU's School of Art's M.F.A. program has again been ranked among the top in the country by *U.S. News and World Report*. Kent State climbed four spots to #110 in 2020 from the 2016 ranking of #114.
- The Fashion School was ranked #3 in design and merchandising in the U.S. and first in the Midwest in design and merchandising by Fashion-Schools.org.
- The Fashion School was ranked #4 Fashion Design School in the U.S. and #2 Fashion Design and Merchandising Public School in the U.S. by Fashion-Schools.org.

- KSU was ranked Top 25 Fashion programs in the world according to Fashionista.
- KSU's master's in music education degree continues to be the largest 100% online program of its kind in the U.S.
- The School of Theatre and Dance's Design, Technology, and Production program and Musical Theatre program have been selected by On Stage Blog as one of the top 30 programs for the 2019-2020 academic year.
- The School of Information continues to be ranked in the Top 20 in the *US News and World Report* ranking of schools in the discipline. It finished at #19 for 2020.
- *U.S. News & World Report* ranked graduate education programs on their list of U.S. News Best Online Programs for 2020.
- *U.S. News and World Report* ranked KSU in the top 100 best Graduate Education Schools.
- Ranked top 100 for study abroad institutions (#71) by Open Doors.
- KSU ranked top 10 Master of Public Health in Health Policy and Management Degrees Online 2019.
- KSU ranked top 25 Master of Science in Clinical Epidemiology from Master of Public Health Online.

Awards of note:

- Dr. Joycelyn Harrison, associate dean, received Dominion Energy 2020 Strong Men and Women in Virginia History Award, an award that honors notable African Americans, both past and present.
- Mark Mistur, Dean – Named by Design Intelligence on 2019's Top 25 most Admired Educators in Architecture, Interiors and Landscape Architecture.
- Dr. Hossein Mirinejad, Applied Sciences, was recipient of NSF Smart and Connected Health Aspiring PI Award.
- Dr. M. Jaroniec, Chemical Physics, received the 2018 Darsh Wasan Award of the Journal of Colloid and Interface Science.

- Dr. Antal Jakli, Chemical Physics, received the Alfred Saupe Prize from the German Liquid Crystal Society.
- Dr. Torsten Hegmann, AMLCI, received the 2020 ILCS LG Mid-Career Award.
- Department of Psychological Sciences Professor Angela Neal-Barnett was selected for the 2020 Jerilyn Ross Clinician Advocate Award by the Anxiety and Depression Association of America (ADAA).
- Janice Lessman-Moss, Professor of Textiles in Kent State University's School of Art, has been named Cleveland Arts Prize's 2019 Lifetime Achievement Award winner. Cleveland Arts Prize promotes creativity in Northeast Ohio by honoring artists for artistic excellence and recognizes community leaders who help regional arts flourish.
- Dr. Casey Myers, Assistant Professor from our Early Childhood Education program, was selected as this year's recipient of the Emerging Scholar Award from the Critical Perspectives on Early Childhood Education SIG of the American Educational Research Association.
- Academic Affairs is committed to ensuring our faculty and administrators have leadership development opportunities:
 - Kent State has taken a leading role in creating the Mid-American Conference Academic Leadership Development program (MAC-ALDP), through the MAC Academic Consortium. This is a collaborative professional development program between the 12 MAC universities that identifies a select group of faculty and administrators in an effort to develop, prepare, and enhance their ability to be effective academic leaders. In AY20, four fellows, Kara Robinson (Assistant Dean for Engagement and Outreach, University Libraries), Scott Sheridan (Chair, Department of Geography), Ellen Glickman (Director, School of Health Sciences), and Steven Turner (Associate Professor, Teaching, Learning and Curriculum Studies) participated in the program bringing our total number of fellows participating to ten. A further four fellows will be accepted to participate this upcoming year.
- Academic Affairs Faculty response to COVID-19:
 - Created as an online teaching continuity guide for Kent State faculty during COVID-19, the goal of the KeepOnTeaching site was to help faculty facilitate classrooms at a distance. From its launch date in March to the end of May, the site has had 9,376-page views, 5,049 sessions, and an average of 1.86 pages visited during each session. KeepOnTeaching is continuing to evolve

and grow into a more robust site by adding online webinars, trainings and FAQs, but still continuing the same goal of online teaching continuity.

- The Office of Continuing and Distance Education, in collaboration with The Center for Teaching & Learning designed and delivered 5 webinars covering Remote Instruction Essentials; Science Labs; Assessing Learning; Top Tools & Strategies; and Synchronous and Asynchronous Learning Experiences to over 280 total participants with 109 recorded webinar views. Additionally, they designed and continue to deliver 5, week-long, facilitated Remote Instruction: Course Delivery and Design workshops for 194 faculty members, providing participants with the knowledge and skills needed to begin or continue the work of moving their traditional face-to-face courses to a remote instruction format.

Global Competitiveness

- Salma Benhaida, Director of International Recruitment, Admissions, and Sponsored Student Services elected as chair of the NAFSA (Association of international Educators Enrollment Management Board).
- Carrie Schweitzer, Stark campus, and Rodney Feldmann, Emeritus Faculty, investigated the Cyclida, an enigmatic arthropod, during field work in China. Its affinities were unknown. Since then, they have examined, photographed most for the first time, and described all related species known throughout the world. That landmark effort has led to confirmation that cyclids represent a new order of Crustacea that has now culminated in a monograph of the group. The work is a collaboration with a young Russian paleontologist strengthening his international network of crustacean paleontologists. The Cyclida span 260 million years of Earth history, survived the Permian extinction, and document increased biodiversity in Paleozoic and Mesozoic marine habitats.
- The School of Peace and Conflict Studies held “Commemorating Violent Conflict and Building Sustainable Peace” an international conference that attracted over 250 academics from the U.S. and abroad and included a mixture of academic panels, the reading of a play on May 4th and a fishbowl facilitated by Dr Johanna Solomon on “When Government Kills: State Violence & Youth Movements.”
- Dr. John-Michael Warner, Assistant Professor of Art History, was awarded the Andrew W. Mellon-Fronteridades Fellowship for U.S.-Mexico border research. The fellowship was awarded through the University of Arizona's Confluence Center Creative Scholars program. The Mellon Foundation-Confluence Center initiative addresses gaps in knowledge such as the lived experiences of la frontera, or the borderlands, perceptions

of the U.S.-Mexico border on regional, national, and international scales, and recognizes cross border and binational collaboration. Warner was awarded this fellowship in collaboration with artists Mary Jenea Sanchez and Gabriela Muñoz.

- Visual Communication Design professors were actively engaged in organizing and hosting Design events around the globe:
 - Motion Design Education Summit 2019 is international, peer reviewed conference for motion design educators planned and chaired by professor Gretchen Rinnert and joined by Professor Jillian Coorey serving as Peer Review Co-Chair. The conference had an attendance of almost 100 students, educators, and professionals and was held in Wellington, New Zealand.
 - The International Society of Typographic Designers (ISTD) North American Assessment was hosted virtually in 2020 at Kent State by professors Aoife Mooney and Jillian Coorey. The event also helped connect our students with 18 universities worldwide and participating industry leaders such as Design By Atlas, Erik Spiekermann, Monotype, and Studio Build among others.
- DI once again co-hosted the Mission: Life 2019 competition with the College of Arts and Sciences and LaunchNET. The KSU winning team was supported to travel to Curitiba, Brazil to compete in the international competition at PUCPR. On October 2nd, thirteen Kent State student teams competed to be selected to represent the university at the International competition in Brazil. The winning team was comprised of an undergrad double major in Music and English, a graduate student in Computer Science and a PhD student in the College of Nursing. The DI faculty organizers brought the team to Curitiba, Brazil's PUCPR university for the international competition on November 11th, 2019. The Kent State team gave an excellent presentation and were awarded 3rd place in the final competition.
- Chosen the third year in a row by the Saudi Ministry of Education to host the Saudi teacher and school immersion program. Kent State is the only institution to have been accepted to participate in all cohorts.
- Host to 15 international students as part of the prestigious Fulbright program funded by the U.S Department of State from the following countries: Indonesia, Pakistan, Benin, Afghanistan, Armenia, Vietnam, Turkey, and Honduras.

Regional Impact

- The Cleveland Urban Design Collaborative's Making Our Own Space (MOOS), a design/build program for middle and high students in Cleveland and Shaker Heights,

received a Best Practice award from the Ohio Chapter of the American Planning Association.

- Chris Coles, Instructor of Music, received grant funding from the Knight Foundation, GAR Foundation, PEGs Foundation, Cleveland Foundation, and Ohio Arts Council to present The Nine Lives Project, an original multi-disciplinary arts project inspired by the memory of the nine African Americans killed at the Charleston Church in 2015.
- Sue Zake and Kevin Dilley, Journalism and Mass Communication, received a \$7,500 grant from the Scripps Howard Foundation to launch The Collaborative News Lab @ Kent State University in Summer 2020. The effort is in response to both the COVID-19 crisis and the collapse of local news media ecosystems. A team of qualified students will support local media partners as they struggle with COVID-19, an economic downturn, and protests sweeping the nation. Student journalists, in collaboration with our media partners, will create content that will be used by the partners, including Student Media channels if the editors choose to do so. Additionally, A grant renewal from Media in the Public Interest allowed JMC students working with faculty members Sue Zake and Jacquie Marino to produce stories for the Ohio News Connection, a news service reaching 127 radio stations, 44 print and online outlets and seven television stations throughout Ohio and border states.
- Increased Kent State's presence in the local community through the following:
 - Hosted over 300 Akron Firestone students for a Community Learning Center (CLC) Freshman Immersion visit where students were introduced to Kent States' colleges of Architecture and Environmental Design, Arts, Aeronautics and Technology, and Communication and Information with interactive engagements in alignment with the thematic pathways of the KSU Academies of Firestone CLC.
 - Hosted group of Firestone academy and pathway teachers and staff for a professional development session led by Design Innovation leadership team where teachers and staff gained a better understanding of the variety of careers available within their academy and were given an overview of design thinking and challenge based innovation.
 - Virtually hosted 50 rising Akron Public School students for a three-week program featuring public health where students participated in exploration activities surrounding disease detection, prevention, community health education, and the impact of lifestyle on health and the environment. Students were also introduced to the College of Public Health and the health promotion career pathway.

Organizational Stewardship

- Secured almost \$20,000 in additional funding for Akron Public Schools programming.
- Academic Affairs “Organizational Stewardship” response to COVID-19:
 - Two ventilators from The Olga A. Mural Simulation Lab in Henderson Hall were donated to University Hospital Portage Medical Center in Ravenna, Ohio to aid the COVID-19 pandemic. These ventilators are vital to patients who need mechanical breathing assistance.
 - Heidi Weisel, Andrew Snyder, and Amy Veney from the College of Nursing and the College of Public Health helped develop People Protecting Each-other Sustainably (PPEs), a grass roots organization of Portage and Summit County residents creating sustainable, handmade face masks to local first responders. The PPEs team has nearly 100 donors and volunteers who have donated over 3,000 face masks to more than 25 front-line provider organizations.
 - The College of Public Health donated numerous PPE supplies to Summa Health Systems, including N95 masks, waterproof lab jackets, safety glasses, gloves, lab coats, and shoe covers.
 - Sue Zake and Kevin Dilley, Journalism and Mass Communication, received a \$7,500 grant from the Scripps Howard Foundation to launch The Collaborative News Lab @ Kent State University in Summer 2020. The effort is in response to both the COVID-19 crisis and the collapse of local news media ecosystems. A team of qualified students will support local media partners as they struggle with COVID-19, an economic downturn, and protests sweeping the nation. Student journalists, in collaboration with our media partners, will create content that will be used by the partners, including Student Media channels if the editors choose to do so. Additionally, A grant renewal from Media in the Public Interest allowed JMC students working with faculty members Sue Zake and Jacquie Marino to produce stories for the Ohio News Connection, a news service reaching 127 radio stations, 44 print and online outlets and seven television stations throughout Ohio and border states.
- The Campus Kitchen at Kent State continues to provide a weekly food pantry serving food insecure students, faculty/staff and community members. On average, 60 individuals are served every Friday from Beall Hall, as well as 15 families from Holden Elementary. Over 1200 lbs. of food is distributed each week.

Section III. Divisional Points of Pride

College of Aeronautics and Engineering

- The college had a 52% increase in incoming enrollment fall 2019 with a retention rate of 84.9%.
- Received approval for the first doctoral degree in engineering at Kent State University.
- Submitted more than 30 research proposals, more than tripling the submission rate of prior years.
- Dramatically increased research funding to \$1.27 Million as compared to last year's \$0.53 Million.
- Led and/or participated in 3 winning projects funded by the Ohio Federal Research Network, receiving \$1.5 Million in research funds for Kent State, establishing the college as a major contributor in aeronautics and engineering research in the state.
- Named Affiliate University Partner with FAA Center of Excellence for Technical Training and Human Performance.
- Dr. Joycelyn Harrison, associate dean, received Dominion Energy 2020 Strong Men and Women in Virginia History Award, an award that honors notable African Americans, both past and present.
- Seven faculty members virtually hosted undergraduate researchers as part of the SURE program, which provides opportunities for Kent State student researchers to work directly with a faculty mentor, gain valuable experience to clarify career and educational goals, enhance research skills, and gain academic insight.
- Professor I. Richmond Nettey was appointed chair of the Transportation Research Board (TRB) Standing Committee on Airport Terminals and Ground Access by the National Academy of Sciences (NAS).
- Professor Jason Lorenzon has been asked to serve as Chair of the Ohio State Bar Association Aviation Law Committee. He has also been reappointed as a member of the Florida Bar Aviation Committee, on which he has served since 2009.

- The Bachelor of Science in Aeronautics, Flight Technology program was renamed to the Bachelor of Science in Aeronautics, Professional Pilot program.
- Launched the 100% fully online Master of Science in Aviation Management and Logistics degree program.
- Redesigned the Master of Technology program into the new Master of Engineering Technology program with four concentrations for students to select from: Computer Engineering Technology, Engineering Management Technology, Mechanical Engineering Technology, Quality Engineering Technology.
- Established the Bachelor of Science program in Cybersecurity Engineering, which is the only cybersecurity engineering program in Ohio, effective fall 2020.
- Established the Bachelor of Science program in Aeronautics, Unmanned Aircraft Systems Flight Operations, Fall 2020.
- Sydney Bihn was named 2019 Brooke Owens Fellow, first female aerospace engineering graduate at Kent State.
- Daniel Issac, and Paul Coulter, both juniors in mechanical engineering technology, placed first in LaunchNet's 2020 Idea Olympics while Luke Leyden, sophomore, Computer Engineering Technology, placed second.
- Selected as a Delta Propel Partner, a partnership that creates career opportunities for students studying to be future commercial pilot through Delta's Propel Collegiate Pilot Career Path program.
- Seven professional pilot/ flight technology students accepted qualified offers from Delta, making the group the first from Kent State University to receive the distinction from Delta.
- Precision Flight ranked third overall at the Region III Safecon, National Intercollegiate Flying Association (NIFA) Competition at The Ohio State University (OSU). NIFA serves as a forum for collegiate aviators to expand their studies and further their careers by participating in competitive and non-competitive events, networking with industry leaders and applying themselves to go above-and-beyond their standard curriculum.
- Ricky Castrigano was awarded a \$5,000 scholarship to help further his pursuit of a career in aviation from the Dahl fund, which provides scholarships for qualified students who wish to attend accredited U.S. commercial flight training schools. This fund was created in memory of Captain Jason Dahl and all victims of September 11, 2001.

- Kenzie Alge and Alex Johnson finished fourth place among collegiate competition teams and 12th place overall in the 2019 Air Race Classic.
- Hosted the only Aeronautics-focused Hackathon – SkyHack with the winning team, Copilot, coming from the college and winning a \$10,000 prize.
- Held grand opening of the \$6.5M FedEx Aeronautics Academic Center.
- Largest collegiate fleet of aircraft in Ohio with 34 aircraft. In 2019, flew more than 14,500 hours.
- Established a 3-day short course for those wishing to fly Drones commercially.
- Successfully obtained RAPIDS Grant which will be used to purchase FANUC's new CRX Collaborative Robot used for the mechatronics engineering program.
- In the process of procuring a new Air Traffic Control (ATC) simulator from UFA, Inc, which is used by air navigation service providers, military organizations and airports. The new simulator will significantly advance simulation capabilities for maintaining a preeminent air traffic control program at Kent State and advance capabilities in conducting meaningful research.
- Professor Tao Shen assisted in designing the device to help in the creation and printing of face shield masks to be donated to help combat the spread of COVID-19.

College of Architecture and Environmental Design

- Mark Mistur, Dean – Named by Design Intelligence on 2019's Top 25 most Admired Educators in Architecture, Interiors and Landscape Architecture.
- First Place win in International Ice and Snow Competition, Harbin, China – a design / build of a 10m tall thin-shell ice pavilion. Hyperbolo-ICE, was the result of an interdisciplinary effort between faculty and students from Architecture, Fashion, Construction Management and Architectural Studies.
- Interior Design Student Team (Students: Amelia Dewey, Sidney Conwell, and Gillian Harnett; Faculty Advisors: Tina Patel, Bridget Tipton, and Julia Morris) won first place in the National Design Competition sponsored by the Interior Design Educator Council (IDEC) for "Hearth" – a shelter for the homeless.
- Construction Management Student Team (Students: Kyle Hennesy (Upperclassmen Coach), Audreas Naylor, Emily Haldi, Nick Kukura, Michael Rudbart, Natori Thomas, and

Aondohemba Unongo; Faculty Advisor: Anthony Mirando) won first Place at the University of Cincinnati's New Builder's Competition-Commercial Construction Division. This marks Kent State's third year in a row winning this competition.

- Assistant Professor Dr. Sara Bayramzadeh received a \$2.4m grant towards a Model of Safety and Care for Trauma Room Design from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.
- Associate Professor Diane Davis-Sikora – BeTA Pavilion Biotensegrity exhibited / presented at International Association of Spatial Structures Conference in Barcelona with faculty (Diane Davis-Sikora, CAED, Rui Liu, CAED, Linda Ohrn-McDaniel, Fashion School) and graduate students (Haley DeRose, CAED, Fred Wolfe, CAED, Maame Amoah, Fashion School).
- The Cleveland Urban Design Collaborative's Making Our Own Space (MOOS), a design/build program for middle and high students in Cleveland and Shaker Heights, received a Best Practice award from the Ohio Chapter of the American Planning Association.
- The Cleveland Public Library Community Vision Plan & Facilities Master Plan, completed by the CUDC and Bialosky Architects, received an Honorable Mention for Urban Design/Planning from the Ohio Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.
- The Cleveland Urban Design Collaborative (CUDC) is one of ten teams (from a national pool of 125 applications) selected by the Architectural League of New York for the American Roundtable initiative, which will bring together on-the-ground perspectives on the conditions of American communities and what they need to thrive going forward.

College of Arts and Sciences

- Torsten Hegmann, Ph.D., was named new Director for the Advanced Materials and Liquid Crystal Institute.
- The Chemical Physics Interdisciplinary program, in conjunction with members of the Advances Materials and Liquid Crystal Institute secured almost \$2 Million in funding for the fiscal year.
- Linda Spurlock, Associate Professor in the Department of Anthropology won Kent State's nomination for the MAC Outstanding Faculty Award.
- The Department of Anthropology received over \$1.2 Million in external research support.
- Quan Li, Ph.D., Senior Research Fellow in AMCLI, was elected to the European Academy of Sciences, a prestigious Brussels-based organization that's has over 600 members from 45

nations, including 65 Nobel Prize and Fields Medal winners. The European Academy of Sciences is a nonprofit governmental, independent organization of the most distinguished scholars and engineers performing forefront research and the development of technologies.

- Babacar M'Baye, English, was winner of the South Atlantic Review 2019 Prize for Best Essay: "Pan-Africanism, Transnationalism, and Cosmopolitanism in Langston Hughes's Involvement in the First World Festival of Black Arts." *South Atlantic Review*. 82.4 (2017): 139-159. The prize was given by the South Atlantic Modern Language Association at its November 2019 Annual Conference in Atlanta.
- The MappingMay4.kent.edu project, an interdisciplinary effort between Jennifer Mapes in the Department of Geography and Sara Koopman in the School of Peace & Conflict Studies, was featured in national and regional news coverage of the university's 50th commemoration of the Kent State shooting. The project uses digital humanities to connect visitors to oral histories about the shooting and locations in Kent, with the goal of encouraging dialogue and moving toward reconciliation among those with different viewpoints. More than 3,000 people have used the site, which maps stories from the university's oral history collection and offers walking tours for mobile devices.
- Lisa Bhungalia, an Assistant Professor of Geography, is the recipient of two national fellowships. She has been awarded an American Council of Learned Societies Fellowship during the 2020-21 academic year for her book manuscript, "From the American People": Aid, War, and the US Security State in Palestine. She is also the recipient of a Palestinian American Research Center fellowship to undertake five months of research in Palestine/Israel on the shifting contours of US aid policy in the region.
- David Kaplan served as the President of the American Association of Geographers (AAG), an 11,000-member flagship organization that serves the discipline of geography in the United States. In that capacity, Dr. Kaplan has initiated steps to allow the AAG to better serve its membership, including providing more support for regional divisions, adding an international councilor, and responding to the problems of sexual harassment and racial inequities that plague our society. In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, Dr. Kaplan is heading up a taskforce that is expected to approve close to \$3 million in support of departments, members, regions, and students.
- Carrie Schweitzer, Stark campus, and Rodney Feldmann, Emeritus Faculty, investigated the Cyclida, an enigmatic arthropod, during field work in China. Its affinities were unknown. Since then, they have examined, photographed most for the first time, and described all related species known throughout the world. That landmark effort has led to confirmation that cyclids represent a new order of Crustacea that has now culminated in a monograph of the group. The work is a collaboration with a young Russian paleontologist strengthening his international network of crustacean paleontologists. The Cyclida span 260 million years of Earth history, survived the Permian extinction, and document increased biodiversity in Paleozoic and Mesozoic marine habitats.

- Joseph Ortiz, Geology, was awarded a \$30,000 National Geographic Society 2020 Explorer Travel Grant for *Capacity building for ocean color remote sensing in support of fisheries management in the northern Benguela Current*.
- Joseph Ortiz published a paper in Nature Geoscience, one of the most prestigious journals in the sciences. Palaeoclimate: ancient ice sheet collapse, Nature Geoscience volume 13, 328–329, 2020.
- Dulci Avouris, Ph.D Applied Geology, current Post-doc of Joseph Ortiz, was recognized as the 2019 Elsevier Early Career Scientist for her 2019 dissertation paper published in the Journal of Great Lakes Research.
- Deborah Barnbaum, Philosophy, was invited to serve as the sole bioethicist on four NIH data safety monitoring committees, collectively overseeing the implementation of over a dozen clinical trials.
- Smaranda Aldea, Philosophy, was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to spend a year at the University of Jyväskylä, Helsinki, 2019–2020.
- The Department of Psychological Sciences received almost \$5 Million in extramural research grants, including:
 - Professor John Gunstad (PI) was awarded an R01 grant from NIH entitled “Spontaneous Speech and Health Disparities in Risk of Cognitive Decline,” a 5-year award to Kent State for \$2.5 million.
 - Professor John Dunlosky and Brad Morris (EHHS) have been awarded a grant from the National Science Foundation titled “Food for thought: Igniting, engaging, and measuring family STEM learning using a food lab”. This is a 3-year award to Kent State for \$1.2 million dollars (direct costs). The project is in collaboration with the Cincinnati Museum Center.
 - Professor Chris Flessner was awarded a 2-year \$238,776 grant from NICHD entitled “The Food Allergy Superheroes Training (FAST) Program: Increasing Adherence to Food Allergy Safety Guidelines.”
 - Professor Katherine Rawson (PI) and Professor John Dunlosky (PI) were awarded a 3-year NSF grant of \$552,145 entitled “Enhancing Durable and Efficient Learning in Undergraduate Gateway STEM courses.”
- Two students pursuing doctoral degrees in Ecology, Chelsea E. Smith and Jordyn T. Stroll, were among 62 students from 50 different U.S. universities recently selected for funding by

the Department of Energy's Office of Science Graduate Student Research (SCGSR) Program. The goal of the SCGSR program is to prepare U.S. graduate students for science, technology, engineering, or mathematics (STEM) careers critically important to the DOE Office of Science mission, by providing graduate thesis research opportunities through extended residency at DOE national laboratories.

- The School of Peace and Conflict Studies held "Commemorating Violent Conflict and Building Sustainable Peace" an international conference that attracted over 250 academics from the U.S. and abroad and included a mixture of academic panels, the reading of a play on May 4th and a fishbowl facilitated by Dr Johanna Solomon on "When Government Kills: State Violence & Youth Movements."
- The School of Peace and Conflict Studies helped raise \$180K to support 4 scholarships in the name of the 4 students killed on May 4th, 1970: Alison Krause, Jeffrey Miller, Sandra Scheuer and William Schroeder.
- The Gerald H. Read Center for International and Intercultural Education, the School of Peace and Conflict Studies, and the Wick Poetry Center co-sponsored an International Day of Peace event: Sport and Peace. Included presentations by Neil Cooper, Director of the School of Peace and Conflict Studies, and featured speaker Sally Nnamani, Brooklyn Operations Manager for PeacePlayers International. Also speaking was Dr. Jamil Al Wekhian, instructor with the School of Peace and Conflict Studies, discussing Sport and Identity in Jordan.
- Liz Schmidt, a Peace and Conflict Studies student, received a Fulbright Award to support research on LGBTQ refugees at Western Sydney University, Australia.
- Margi Straub, a student within the Applied Conflict Management major, won the first Ohio Peace and Conflict Studies Network Student Leader Award.

College of the Arts

- Louise Valentine, Ph.D., appointed as Director of the School of Fashion.
- Taryn McMahon, Assistant Professor of Print Media and Photography, was awarded \$30,000 in support from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation's Knight Arts Challenge in Akron for an upcoming printmaking conference that will be held on Kent State University's campus as well as various locations in Akron.
- Two Kent State University undergraduate art education students received significant awards at the 2019 Ohio Art Education Association (OAEA) Conference in Columbus. Amelia Golec received the Pre-Service Division Award for the state of Ohio and Megan Carney received a \$1000 scholarship from the Ohio Art Education Foundation (OAEF) for an essay she wrote

about her art teaching. The students were honored during the award ceremony on Friday, November 15 for which associate professor and 2018 Ohio Art Educator of the Year, Linda Hoeptner Poling, was the keynote speaker.

- Dr. John-Michael Warner, Assistant Professor of Art History, was awarded the Andrew W. Mellon-Fronteridades Fellowship for U.S.-Mexico border research. The fellowship was awarded through the University of Arizona's Confluence Center Creative Scholars program. The Mellon Foundation-Confluence Center initiative addresses gaps in knowledge such as the lived experiences of la frontera, or the borderlands, perceptions of the U.S.-Mexico border on regional, national, and international scales, and recognizes cross border and binational collaboration. Warner was awarded this fellowship in collaboration with artists Mary Jenea Sanchez and Gabriela Muñoz.
- Alumna Jennifer Ling Datchuk was awarded the coveted United States Artist Fellowship in Crafts in 2020. Datchuk received her Bachelor of Fine Arts in Crafts from Kent State in 2004 with a concentration in ceramics. According to the United States Artists (USA) website, USA Fellowships are annual \$50,000 unrestricted awards recognizing the most compelling artists working and living in the United States, in all disciplines, at every stage of their career. Datchuk's award was preceded by Professor Janice Lessman-Moss, Professor and Head of Textiles at Kent State, who received the same fellowship in 2019.
- Lori Kella, part-time professor of photography at the School of Art, was selected for the inaugural exhibition at The Momentary, a new contemporary art space at Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art in Arkansas. Kella is one of 60 artists selected from around the country and one of three from the state of Ohio chosen for State of the Art 2020.
- Assistant Professor of Art History, Dr. Joseph Underwood, was selected through an international competition for the Tyson Scholars Program at the Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art for the spring of 2020. The award also comes with a monetary prize of \$21,000. Dr. Underwood's research for his project "Forging a New Contemporary: Art from Senegal and the Americas in Transnational Networks, 1962-1984" will be conducted at the Crystal Bridges Museum over the course of several months.
- The New York City Studio, a study-away destination campus for students in the School of Fashion Design and Merchandising, was presented the 2020 Beverly J. Warren United Award for Diversity for their implementation of the Fashion Industry Diversity Panel series, which focuses on promoting diversity, equity and inclusion in the fashion industry. Ann Walter, director of the NYC Studio, accepted the award on the Studio's behalf.
- Molly Langenstein, a 1985 graduate from the School of Fashion, was recently announced as the new CEO and President of Chicos FAS effective June 24, 2020.

- School of Fashion alumni Joshua Hupper and Will Riddle were both featured contestants on the new fashion design competition series “Making the Cut” hosted and produced by fashion gurus Heidi Klum and Tim Gunn.
- Fashion graduate Isabella Diorio was chosen to represent the U.S. in an international Emerging Designer competition which showcases emerging fashion from young designers around the globe.
- School of Fashion students, faculty and staff quickly pivoted to put on a virtual show to comply with COVID-19 guidelines. The show has nearly 10,000 views to date making it the most-watched show in the history of the school.
- Professor Margarita Benitez received an \$11,000 grant from the Environmental Science and Design Research Initiative Seed Grant Program.
- Professor Mourad Krifa received \$50,000 from Cotton, Inc., for “Developing and Evaluating Analytic Tools for Improving Fiber Trait Distribution.”
- Chris Coles, Instructor of Music, received grant funding from the Knight Foundation, GAR Foundation, PEGs Foundation, Cleveland Foundation, and Ohio Arts Council to present The Nine Lives Project, an original multi-disciplinary arts project inspired by the memory of the nine African Americans killed at the Charleston Church in 2015.
- The Kent State Chorale under the direction of Scott MacPherson, Professor of Music and with the assistance of KSU recordist Sam Robert created a virtual performance of the Crosby, Stills, Nash song, "Find the Cost of Freedom" to begin the May 4, 50th Commemoration video.
- Porthouse Theatre recognized by the Cleveland Critics Circle for *Man of La Mancha* musical.
- Assistant Professor Tammy Honesty and Students nominated for Emmy Award for Set Design Award.
- Theatre Student Kelly Harper awarded Activism and Advocacy Scholarship.
- Dr. Tameka Ellington, interim Assistant Dean, College of the Arts and Associate Professor, Fashion and Dr. Joseph Underwood, Assistant Professor, Art, received \$70,000 in grants for their exhibit “Textures: the History and Art of Black Hair” from the National Endowment for the Arts, Proctor & Gamble Corporation, and L’Oreal Corporation. Textures synthesizes research in history, fashion, art, and visual culture to reassess the “hair story” of peoples of African descent. Exploring topics such as the preferential treatment of straight hair, the social hierarchies of skin, and the power and politics of display, Textures is a landmark

exploration of Black hair and its important, complicated place in the history of African American life and culture.

- Tamara L. Honesty, School of Theatre and Dance assistant professor of scenic design, and several students took part in a collaboration between Kent State University and the Opera di Santa Croce in Florence, Italy to create “Sisters in Liberty: From Florence, Italy, to New York, New York,” on display at the Ellis Island National Museum of Immigration on Ellis Island in New York. The exhibition features two distinct sculptural personifications of liberty: New York City’s Statue of Liberty Enlightening the World and Florence’s Liberty of Poetry, seen as the Italian predecessor to the U.S. Statue of Liberty. Kent State sent a multidisciplinary research team to 3D scan and digitally capture Pio Fedi’s Liberty of Poetry statue, located in the Cathedral Santa Croce in Florence, utilizing very high-resolution scan data to create a 3D-printed 80% scale replica.

College of Business Administration

- Business students won 1st place in Cleveland State University’s 2020 Intercollegiate Ethics Case Competition, sponsored by the Northeast Ohio Chapter of the Institute of Internal Auditors.
- Sales students competed in the Ohio Collegiate Sales Competition where senior Lindsay Buckman won first place and junior Colin Brady placed second.
- Professor of Accounting Wendy Tietz, Ph.D. was again recognized for innovative teaching with Honorable Mention for the 2019 Bea Sanders/AICPA Teaching Innovation Award. This is Dr. Tietz’s fourth time to be recognized for her innovative teaching in accounting by either winning or receiving Honorable Mention for this award.

College of Communication and Information

- An independent academic study recently published in an academic journal ranked the School of Journalism and Mass Communication third in the nation after evaluating journalism programs across the nation.
- The Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) chapter was named national Outstanding Chapter, having also been named in 2014. The Chapter’s vice president of professional relations earned the highest national PRSSA honor for students, the Gold Key Award.

- A team of advertising students made the national semifinals in the Effie Challenge for the second straight year (last year two teams made the semifinals and one of them was the national second place).
- NPR's TV critic Eric Deggans delivered the second annual David and Janet Dix Media Ethics Lecture in February. The series was founded with a \$100,000 gift from Mr. and Mrs. Dix.
- The Center for Scholastic Journalism delivered in July an all-expenses-paid advanced media workshop for more than 20 experienced high school media educators from across the country. The attendees heard from top practitioners and media trainers and had hands-on learning experiences with their peers.
- Several faculty members in the iSchool are chairing committees of international and national professional organizations within the discipline.
- Communication Studies and Emerging Media and Technology faculty member Michael Beam served as an invited expert advisor to Facebook for development and implementation of their Community Standards & Protections guidelines and newsfeed algorithm around issues of inappropriate content, misinformation, and COVID-19.
- Visual Communication and Design professor Aoife Mooney developed a typeface design for the Academy Award-nominated studio Cartoon Saloon. Her work will be featured on a film titled "Wolfwalkers" and is expected to be released in 2020.
- Visual Communication Design professors were actively engaged in organizing and hosting Design events around the globe:
 - Motion Design Education Summit 2019 is international, peer reviewed conference for motion design educators planned and chaired by professor Gretchen Rinnert and joined by Professor Jillian Coorey serving as Peer Review Co-Chair. The conference had an attendance of almost 100 students, educators, and professionals and was held in Wellington, New Zealand.
 - The International Society of Typographic Designers (ISTD) North American Assessment was hosted virtually in 2020 at Kent State by professors Aoife Mooney and Jillian Coorey. The event also helped connect our students with 18 universities worldwide and participating industry leaders such as Design By Atlas, Erik Spiekermann, Monotype, and Studio Build among others.
- Student Media organizations, particularly KentWired, the Kent Stater and TV2 had their highest-ever-documented audience attention as a result of the coronavirus crises, as stakeholders turned to them as key sources of information.

- Sue Zake and Kevin Dilley, Journalism and Mass Communication, received a \$7,500 grant from the Scripps Howard Foundation to launch The Collaborative News Lab @ Kent State University in Summer 2020. The effort is in response to both the COVID-19 crisis and the collapse of local news media ecosystems. A team of qualified students will support local media partners as they struggle with COVID-19, an economic downturn, and protests sweeping the nation. Student journalists, in collaboration with our media partners, will create content that will be used by the partners, including Student Media channels if the editors choose to do so. Additionally, A grant renewal from Media in the Public Interest allowed JMC students working with faculty members Sue Zake and Jacquie Marino to produce stories for the Ohio News Connection, a news service reaching 127 radio stations, 44 print and online outlets and seven television stations throughout Ohio and border states.
- Communication Studies professors Mei-Chen Lin and Paul Haridakis, through the Global Understanding Initiative, displayed an exhibit We the People on the Kent State Esplanade during Fall semester highlighting the stories of immigrants/refugees living in Northeast Ohio.
- TeleProductions produced outreach projects for The Lebron James Family Foundation and the United Way of Portage County.

College of Education, Health and Human Services

- Group of faculty created an extended reality app that allows users to view multiple perspectives of the Kent State shootings through the lens of augmented reality using historical imagery, audio, and related experiences that highlight past and current humanitarian struggles.
- Samantha Clark, Recreation, Park and Tourism Management major was awarded the Jody Stowers Scholarship from the Ohio Parks and Recreation Association Foundation for Fall 2020. This scholarship is awarded to students who exemplify the future of parks and recreation.
- \$8.2 Million in grants approved to advance research across education, human services and health science disciplines, the college's highest amount ever earned in an academic year.
- Dr. Ching-I Chen and Dr. Kizzy Albritton, assistant professors in the School of Lifespan Development and Educational Sciences, received a five-year, \$1.13 million grant from the United States Department of Education Office of Special Education Programs for their project, "Interdisciplinary Preparation in Early Education Professions (Project INPREP), to train education professionals who can not only fill those gaps, but also collaborate in a way that bridges the gaps between those fields in the schools.

- The National Science Foundation awarded a three-year, \$1.48 million grant to Karl Kosko, Ph.D., associate professor of mathematics education; Richard Ferdig, Ph.D., professor of educational technology, both in the College of Education, Health and Human Services; and Cheng Chang Lu, Ph.D., professor of computer science in the College of Arts and Sciences, for their project titled “Design and Implementation of Immersive Representations of Practice.”
- A \$50,000 research grant from the Spencer Foundation, an organization committed to advancing educational research projects, has been awarded to Dr. Tricia Niesz, Associate Professor in the School of Foundations, Leadership and Administration. The grant will fund an ethnographic comparative case study that will explore how educators generate the knowledge that informs their activism and how knowledge circulates within activist networks.
- Dr. Kim Peer, faculty member in our Athletic Training Program, was selected as a 2020 Sayers “Bud” Miller Distinguished Educator Award (DEA) recipient by the National Athletic Trainers' Association. This award is given to those who exemplify excellence in the field of athletic training education through professional service, instructional effectiveness, scholarship, and overall impact on education in athletic training.
- Hosted the 2019 Ohio Latino Education Summit which had the highest attendance of any summit to date.
- 3 new majors were approved and are accepting applications for summer/fall 2020: Long-Term Care Administration, Sports Medicine and the Ed.D. in Interprofessional Leadership.

College of Nursing

- Tracy Dodson, MSN, RN, was recognized at the inaugural American Red Cross Hero Awards for the Lake Erie/Heartland chapter of the Red Cross for performing lifesaving CPR on a fairgoer at the Wayne County fairgrounds.
- The College of Nursing teamed up with the School of Theatre and Dance to create hospice scenarios for nursing students to experience within The Olga A. Mural Simulation Lab. A relatively new simulation experience within the college, junior nursing students tend to a dying mother and answer questions and concerns from her two adult children and tensions build. Theater students act to provide a sense of realism to the simulation experience; equipped with only a basic storyline, use improvisation to drive the simulation forward and build a realistic scenario for nursing students to experience.
- Mary Bacha, MSN, RN; Krista Hawkins, MSN, RN; Cheryl Brady, MSN, RN, CNE; Lorene Martin, MSN, RN, CRNP and Academic Recruitment and Retention Coordinator, Katie

Bowen, M. Ed., were recognized by Kent State's Student Accessibility Services (SAS) and The Office of the Provost for having positively impacted a student's academic experience by helping to make the university an accommodating and welcoming place for students with disabilities.

- Governor Mike DeWine appointed Jasmine Hoff to a two-year term as a graduate student trustee of the Kent State University Board of Trustees. Ms. Hoff's term began June 11 and ends May 16, 2021. Ms. Hoff holds three nursing degrees – associate, baccalaureate and master's – all from Kent State. She currently is pursuing a doctorate in Nursing Practice and an Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner graduate certificate, which provides nurses who already have a graduate nursing degree the additional specialized knowledge and clinical experience for the adult gerontology acute care nurse practitioner role.
- Received a grant totaling \$165,000 from Peg's Foundation, formerly the Margaret Clark Morgan Foundation, a private grant-making foundation which supports mental health programs in northeast Ohio. Wendy Umberger, Ph.D., RN, PMHCNS-BC, associate dean for graduate programs and Lisa Onesko, DNP, APRN-BC, director of DNP program and associate professor, received \$105,000, payable over three years to continue the Peg's Foundation traineeship program for graduate students pursuing a master's degree in nursing as a Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP). This funding will enable the college to offer 10 full-time and 15 part-time traineeships to highly qualified PMHNP students during each academic year. An additional \$60,000 was received for two Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) scholar awards. Each recipient will receive \$30,000 over the course of two semesters (\$15,000 for tuition and \$15,000 for stipend) and complete a scholarly project that enhances mental health outcomes, or mental health care policy.
- The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) awarded a \$2.47 million grant to Principal Investigator Sara Bayramzadeh, Ph.D., coordinator and Elliot Professor in the Healthcare Design Program at Kent State's College of Architecture and Environmental Design toward a Model of Safety and Care for Trauma Room Design which will look for ways to recreate trauma rooms that support staff in saving patients' lives by establishing a Patient Safety Learning Lab to produce new guidelines for Level I trauma room design.
- Two ventilators from The Olga A. Mural Simulation Lab in Henderson Hall were donated to University Hospital Portage Medical Center in Ravenna, Ohio to aid the COVID-19 pandemic. These ventilators are vital to patients who need mechanical breathing assistance.
- Heidi Weisel, Andrew Snyder, and Amy Veney helped develop People Protecting Each-other Sustainably (PPEs), a grass roots organization of Portage and Summit County residents creating sustainable, handmade face masks to local first responders. The PPEs team has nearly 100 donors and volunteers who have donated over 3,000 face masks to more than 25 front-line provider organizations.

- Kimberly Cleveland, JD, MSN, RN, C-MBC, chair of the American Association of Nurse Attorneys (TAANA) Governing Board, was unanimously elected to the Nurses on Boards Coalition (NOBC) Board Chair-Elect position.
- Karen Mascolo, DNP, RN, was a featured speaker at the 2019 Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Symposium: Inspiration, Innovation and Impact. Her presentation was titled, "Primary Prevention of Incivility and Bullying in Nursing."
- Drs. Dana Hansen, Amy Petrinec, and Tracey Motter developed the website, "Building Resiliency During Serious Illness," to provide resources to families with loved ones hospitalized during the pandemic. Families may also share experiences and receive support from the researchers' blog.
- Dr. Amy Petrinec received funding from Laboon-Stenporche and the Kent State University Research Council for her study, *Family Caregivers of ICU Patients during the COVID-19 Pandemic: Psychological Symptoms and Health-Related Quality of Life*.

College of Public Health

- Kent State Division of Mental Health and Substance Use received a \$306,000 federal grant from the Garrett Lee Smith Campus Suicide Prevention Grant to be used for suicide prevention and to address other student mental health needs. The money, \$102,000 per year for three years, is to be used to reduce the adverse consequences of serious mental illnesses and substance use disorders, including suicidal behavior, chronic mental health disorders and substance-related injuries.
- Donated numerous PPE supplies to Summa Health Systems, including N95 masks, waterproof lab jackets, safety glasses, gloves, lab coats, and shoe covers.

Graduate Studies

- Launched new virtual academic writing accountability groups in April during time of remote instruction with over 50 students participating.
- Awarded five presentation awards to top graduate student presenters at the 2019 Three Minute Thesis competition.
- Had over 120 different graduate students complete at least one Dissertation Boot Camp during the academic year.
- Completed Waiver of Out-of-State Tuition Surcharge for Summer of 2020.

- Awarded 11 university fellowships, 2 David B. Smith Scholarships, 1 Lillian Friedman Scholarship, 1 Reuter Fellowship, 1 Maryann Stephens and John R. Graham Award and 12 Graduate Dean's Awards.

Honors College

- Honors Fall 2019 entering freshmen class formed the largest class (572) and had the highest academic profile in history of the Honors College, with an average ACT score of 29.34 and an average High School GPA of 3.86.
- Honors students received \$2.9 million in endowed scholarships and financial aid this year.
- The Honors Leadership Academy met with Ohio Senator Sherrod Brown on their 2019-2020 Alternative Winter Break experience to Washington, D.C.
- The Honors College partnered with the Cleveland Foundation and KSU Pan-African Studies, Department of English, University College, College of Graduate Studies to host 2019 Anisfield-Wolf Lifetime Achievement recipient Sonia Sanchez for a May 4, 1970 50th Commemoration event, focusing on poetry and social justice.

University College

- The Academic Success Center earned a three-year certification from the International Center for Supplemental Instruction at the University of Missouri, Kansas City. Kent State University is one of 41 certified programs across the United States.
- Kristin Williams was recognized by Ohio Career Development Association with 2020 Bob Windle Leadership Award. This award is presented at the annual Ohio Career Development Association (OCDA) Conference in recognition of a true leader in a career field.
- Peter Jeffy was awarded the James B. Hamilton and Thomas G. Mortenson TRIO/EOP Professional Research Award.
- Held inaugural regional McNair Research Conference, raising nearly \$10K to support undergraduate research.
- Raised \$15K for need-based grants.
- Raised \$10K to support campus kitchen food purchases and distribution.

- Academic Diversity Outreach provided \$114,000 in supplemental aid to 214 students assisting with tuition, course supplies, and living expenses. \$550 was the average amount needed per student to sufficiently support a student's need.
- Contributed to the increase in graduation of URS students through KeyBank grant. The University is on track to exceed a 50% four-year graduation rate for the first time in Kent State University history.
- Launched the Faculty Connections initiative this fall, which connects first-generation students with faculty in small group settings to increase students' sense of belonging, awareness of research opportunities, and the ability to navigate University resources.
- Expanded the I'M FIRST, First-Generation Celebration in partnership with Student Support Services and other University collaborators from a day to a week-long experience for students, staff, and faculty to honor and raise awareness about the First-Generation student experience.
- The Academic Success Center pivoted to transition all face-to-face academic support services online, including scheduled tutoring, drop-in tutoring, supplemental instruction, and academic coaching. Over 3,000 sessions were offered online in support of over 70 courses.
- The Academic Success Center and University College Technology collaborated to develop the electronic Academic Success Plan web application, which provides students with a personalized list of academic support resources according to their course registrations.
- 144 students received unpaid internship awards - 42% were First Gen; 26% were underrepresented; 47% were Pell eligible; 32% were represented in two or more of these categories - with an average award of \$920 to help cover expenses related to travel and housing while participating in these experiences.
- 145 faculty and staff, from across the Kent State University system were trained to use/and support the student use of Handshake. This grows our outreach to student potential by 116%.
- Pivoted to offer Education Employment Week remotely the week of April 6, 2020. This resulted in 55 employers from 16 different states posting 143 unique positions for KSU candidates. 174 candidates participated, submitting 180 applications over 5 days.
- Hosted Virtual Career Week May 18-22 for entire NEO collegiate community using Handshake. Over 800 KSU students were able to engage with more than 130 employers who were seeking employees.

- Highlighted remote and virtual positions in Handshake by updating CED Website to surface links to appropriate positions - averaging 200+ openings per week.
- A CED staff member was invited by Coach Sean Lewis to attend the Tropical Smoothie Bowl Game to meet with seniors about their career interest and facilitate a conversation with alumni about their career experiences and journey.
- Launched Kent State Together, a website featuring a variety of local, regional, and national volunteer opportunities that Kent State students, faculty, and staff can complete virtually, from the safety of their home. In one month, participants: composed and sent notes to 1,400 admitted KSU students welcoming them to the community and describing why they love Kent State and completed approximately 500 United Way Literacy Kits, which will be used in local elementary school to help young children learn to read.
- The Campus Kitchen at Kent State continues to provide a weekly food pantry serving food insecure students, faculty/staff and community members. On average, 60 individuals are served every Friday from Beall Hall, as well as 15 families from Holden Elementary. Over 1200 lbs. of food is distributed each week.
- Developed an Advising Hub in Blackboard Learn as a resource for Exploratory pre-majors to assist with advising and academic success resources with the transition to remote instruction (and advising).
- Implemented a Check-In Survey to all Exploratory students with a 38.7% response rate (184 out of 475 students), each receiving a personalized response from their assigned Academic Advisor.
- Successfully transitioned the Transfer Kent State and Destination Kent State orientation programs to a virtual experience for the Fall 2020 cohort of students due to COVID- 19. To support a virtual DKS experience, a mobile app was created in collaboration with a University-wide team.
- Student Support Services who serve 300 students who are first in their family, pell-eligible, or recipient of services through SAS, exceeded all TRIO Standard Objectives. Their work led to 90% of participants persisting to their next year and a 76% graduation rate.
- Rachel Cordy and other members of the Academic Success Center staff led a national roundtable discussion on Establishing a Regional Affiliate of National College Learning Center Association.
- Amanda Shah in the Academic Success Center received a scholarship from the 2019 Great Lakes Regional Student Success Conference to present on local instrument development for the assessment of learning skills to guide proactive and personalized intervention.

- Felicia Johnson was elected President-elect of the Ohio Career Development Association for the 2020-2021 year.
- Nicole Kotlan serves on the National Academic Advising Association (NACADA) Undecided & Exploratory Students Advising Community Steering Committee.
- Barbara Miller-Harris has been elected to serve on the Executive Board of the Ohio Transfer Council (OTC) as the Secretary. Among her responsibilities will be to serve as a liaison to the Articulation and Transfer Advisory Council of the Ohio Department of Education.
- Adam Cinderich serves as President of the Ohio TRIO, Educational Opportunity Association (EOA) Board of Directors.

University Libraries

- University Libraries awarded 6 \$1,000 scholarships to undergraduate students for the academic year 2019-20.
- LaunchNET Kent State was honored with the prestigious Excellence in Student Engagement Award from the Deshpande Symposium on Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Higher Education. The award recognized the impact of LaunchNET's efforts to encourage student leadership and engagement in developing innovative extra- and co-curricular activities that support the development of entrepreneurial awareness, skills and practice.
- LaunchNET Kent State, with support from University Libraries, hosted students from 10 Northeast Ohio colleges and universities in July 2019 for the annual Entrepreneurship Education Consortium program, funded by the Burton D. Morgan Foundation. Forty student participants were challenged to collaboratively create innovative solutions to address current industry and community issues encountered by the sponsoring business partners. On the final day of the program, leaders from these businesses heard each group's presentation on how they proposed to resolve these real-life problems and chose the groups who were most deserving of the cash awards.
- University Libraries kicked off the school year with Late Night at the Library, welcoming nearly 2,000 freshmen to the University Library. Students enjoyed pizza, popcorn, ice cream, a photo booth, a wide variety of games and dancing accompanied by a DJ. This annual event introduces the library in fun and surprising ways, breaking down stereotypes, lessening library anxiety and positioning the library as an approachable place for students to return to throughout their years at Kent State.

- To recognize Constitution Day 2019, University Libraries partnered with Kent State Votes to host a voter registration drive. Students completed 45 Ohio registration forms and one out-of-state absentee form.
- University Libraries' May 4, 1970, Collection was selected by the Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) to benefit from a \$30,561 award through the Recordings at Risk grant program, which supports the preservation of rare and unique audio and audiovisual content of scholarly value. The grant supports the following major projects: preparing materials for digitization by vendor; completing quality assurance; reviewing materials for copyright and privacy concerns; creating individual metadata records for each item; ingesting digitized content into the digital repository.
- University Libraries and the University Press united to present a September 2019 book launch for Howard Ruffner's publication *Moments of Truth: A Photographer's Experience of Kent State 1970*. Ruffner was a broadcast journalism major and a photography stringer for *Life* magazine during the events of May 4, 1970. The book includes nearly 150 of Ruffner's photographs that visualize not only the tragedy of that day, but also teaches about the sacrifices made for a cause. Prior to the book launch event, Ruffner had the pleasure of meeting John Cleary, who was one of the students shot on May 4. Although Ruffner's photo of Cleary was featured on the cover of *Life's* May 1970 issue, the two men had never met one another. The story was covered by national media.
- Held annual Haunted Library event that provides students with a safe alternative to off-campus parties. The October 2019 event transformed the University Library into a spooky venue that included dancing, candy, cake and apple cider. Students also had an opportunity to demonstrate their online gaming skills by sampling Kent State's emerging Esports program.
- *Zoar: The Story of an Intentional Community*, published by the Kent State University Press, won the Outstanding Publication Book Award from the Communal Studies Association in November 2019. Written by Kathleen M. Fernandez, former director of the North Canton Heritage Society, the book is an informative historical analysis of a group of German religious dissenters who immigrated to Ohio in 1817.
- University Libraries provided a Stress-Free Zone event in finals week of fall semester to give students a break from exam preparation and a few moments to relax and focus on self-care. Students refueled with snacks, beverages, video games and furry cuddles from more than a dozen therapy dogs. During spring semester's finals week, University Libraries launched a virtual Stress-Free Zone event by offering online mediation sessions, study advice and relaxation tips.
- In February 2020, Kent State University Libraries was awarded a \$13,646 grant from the Ohio History Fund to partially cover the digitization costs of their Sanborn Fire Insurance Map Collection. The grant provides funding to create free, online access to high-resolution,

digitized copies of these sought-after large-scale street plans which were produced by the Sanborn Fire Insurance Company from 1867 to 1970. The first portion of the project, funded by a \$2,500 grant from the Ohio Local History Alliance, covered the digitization of 5,825 individual map plates. More than 25,000 digital maps, covering all Ohio cities and towns, are included in the digital Sanborn Map Collection.

- Resurrection of the Wild: Meditations on Ohio's Natural Landscape by Deborah Fleming, published by the Kent State University Press, won the prestigious 2020 PEN/Diamonstein-Spielvogel Award for the Art of the Essay. The award is for a collection of essays which exemplifies the dignity and esteem that the essay form imparts to literature. Founded in 1922, PEN America is the largest of the more than 100 centers worldwide that make up the PEN International network. Fleming accepted her award from Seth Meyers at the New York City ceremony.
- Students vote Kent State Library as the best place to study: Libraries was voted "#1 Best Place to Study" by KentWired.com readers for the eighth consecutive year in 2020.
- Kent State University Libraries' Special Collections & Archives created three virtual exhibitions for the May 4 50th Commemoration that featured historical sources related to the Kent State shootings.
 - "Civil Rights, Black Power, and Anti-War Actions: Orangeburg, Kent, and Jackson, 1960-1967" highlighted social activism occurring in and around three state universities during the years leading up to the shootings at South Carolina State (Orangeburg), Kent State (Ohio) and Jackson State (Mississippi). Selected key events in each of the three institutions' immediate environments were showcased, indicating a growing level of Civil Rights actions, anti-war protests and the development of the Black Power movement occurring from 1960 through 1967.
 - "The Truth Demands Justice: A Snapshot History of the May 4th Task Force" featured posters, flyers, photographs and other items created by the May 4th Task Force, a student-run organization founded in 1975 to raise awareness among students, faculty, administrators and the general public about the Kent State shootings of May 4, 1970.
 - "Campus Strike Papers: The Aftermath of May 4, 1970" highlighted a selection of campus strike papers that provide evidence of the national student strike that occurred in response to the expansion of the Vietnam War into Cambodia and the shootings at Kent State and Jackson State universities in the spring of that year.
- University Libraries featured the Kent State Shootings Oral History Project. This ongoing initiative invites participation by people of all perspectives, including those of Kent State alumni, faculty, staff and administrators who were on campus during the events of May 4, 1970, residents of Kent and nearby communities, members of the Ohio Army National

Guard or anyone whose life was affected by these historic events. Each person's unique and important contribution is housed in Special Collections and Archives' May 4 Collection.

Provost's Office Units

Accreditation, Assessment and Learning

- The Higher Learning Commission accepted Kent State's Year 4 Assurance Review with no recommended monitoring (we previously had been on monitoring for assessment).

Continuing and Distance Education

- Enrolled 115 students from 20 school districts.
- The Online Teaching Orientation and Refresher is a fully online course designed around essential online teaching topics and practices and supports faculty from all levels of teaching experience and environments. OTOR summer 2020 workshops received over 60 faculty signups in just two days of open registration. Due to this exponential growth, two additional sections were added for summer 2020 to accommodate over 160 faculty members.
- Sustained on-going relationships with American University of Nigeria (as well as with Columbia University) through the Strengthening Education in Northeast Nigeria (SENSE) USAID grant. OCDE has served as a central connector, with Valerie Kelly serving as a key person on the grant, and by helping academic units and other stakeholders on campus to meet and collaborate on this grant. We have consulted on e-learning and train-the-trainers capacity building for local Nigerian teachers who will be part of the project implementation.
- The Kent State Online Facebook Page has seen increased growth. The page's overall likes are up 26%, total reach, including all posts and advertisements, is up 851%, organic reach, including only original content, is up 635%, and viral reach, or content seen by friends of the page, is up by 747%. OCDE's instructional designers created videos based on the top five visited FAQ sections from the KeepOnLearning website. By working with UCM and having them share these videos from the KSO Facebook page, we saw engagement on the videos of up to 7,400 video views.
- Launched the redesigned Kent State Online website (www.kent.edu/online) on January 15, 2020, and have seen consistent growth through both search engine optimization and site analytics. We've seen an 8% increase in site impressions and a 4.3% increase in site

pageviews. We've also seen approximately 600 new leads for prospective students, with a 50/50 split for undergraduate and graduate online programs.

- Since the launch of the Kent State Online website, there have been a total of 520 unique program inquiries, 259 undergraduate and 269 Graduate.
- Created as an online teaching continuity guide for Kent State Faculty during COVID-19, the goal of the KeepOnTeaching site was to help faculty facilitate classrooms at a distance. From its launch date in March to the end of May, the site has had 9,376-page views, 5,049 sessions, and an average of 1.86 pages visited during each session. KeepOnTeaching is continuing to evolve and grow into a more robust site by adding online webinars, trainings, and FAQs, but still continuing the same goal of online teaching continuity.
- KeepOnLearning website was created for Kent State students as an online learning resource during COVID-19. From its launch date to the end of May, the site has had 8,257-page views, 4,345 sessions, and an average of 1.9 pages visited. The site continues to grow and expand through a robust student FAQ section.
- 53.76% of students enrolled Fall 2019 are taking one or more online courses.
- 27,225 online course enrollments (for full academic year of 2019-2020).
- In Collaboration with The Center for Teaching & Learning:
 - Designed and delivered 5 webinars covering Remote Instruction Essentials; Science Labs; Assessing Learning; Top Tools & Strategies; and Synchronous and Asynchronous Learning Experiences to over 280 total participants with 109 recorded webinar views.
 - Designed and continuing to deliver 5, week-long, facilitated Remote Instruction: Course Delivery and Design workshops for 194 faculty members, providing participants with the knowledge and skills needed to begin or continue the work of moving their traditional face-to-face courses to a remote instruction format.

Curriculum Services

- Launched a curriculum management software initiative to provide a more efficient, transparent and paperless process for curriculum review and approval. The launch was supported by in-person and online training—attended by more than 200 faculty and administrators—and the creation of a robust website containing step-by-step instructions, short videos, FAQ and technical support contact.

- Established the following new degree programs:
 - Actuarial Mathematics
 - Aviation and Logistics Management
 - Criminology and Justice Studies
 - Interprofessional Leadership
 - Neuroscience
 - School Library Media K-12
 - Construction Management
 - Cybersecurity Engineering
 - Long-Term Care Administration
 - Sports Medicine
 - Acting for the Returning Professional (pending state approval)
 - Aerospace Engineering (pending state approval)
 - Animation Game Design (pending state approval)
 - Data Science (pending state approval)
 - Theatre Design and Technology (pending state approval)

Design Innovation

- The DI HUB is on track to open in August 2020.
- In partnership with the School of Fashion and its TechStyleLAB team, DI provided a \$5000 challenge stream and supported the facilitation of the 36-hour hackathon event. DI TEAM Members Margarita Benitez (Fashion), Josh Talbott (Arts and Sciences), Julie Messing (LaunchNET), Zach Mikrut (LaunchNET), Mark Mistur (Architecture), Bill Willoughby (Architecture) and many other volunteers from fashion, IT/IS, Arts and Sciences and Architecture contributed to the planning and execution of the event.
- At the start of the Fall 2019 semester, the Student Success Program, Design Innovation Initiative and John Rathje, Vice President, Information Technology and CIO at Kent State, partnered to create a unique opportunity for students to creatively express their reactions to the Common Reading Experience. The “Design Innovation Common Reading Challenge” concept served as an expanded opportunity for all incoming freshmen to create multi-modal responses to the readings, such as creating an Adobe Spark Page, podcast or video response to the books. Students who chose to create submissions in one of these three alternative formats then became eligible to win one of the ten \$1000 awards to celebrate the best submissions! Seventeen members of the DI TEAM helped to review and evaluate all the submissions, narrowing down the selection to finalists that were reviewed by Stephanie Smith (College of Communication and Information)

and the May 4 Visitor Center Team. The top ten student submissions each received a \$1000 award.

- DI once again co-hosted the Mission: Life 2019 competition with the College of Arts and Sciences and LaunchNET. The KSU winning team was supported to travel to Curitiba, Brazil to compete in the international competition at PUCPR. On October 2nd, thirteen Kent State student teams competed to be selected to represent the university at the International competition in Brazil. The winning team was comprised of an undergrad double major in Music and English, a graduate student in Computer Science and a Phd student in the College of Nursing! The DI faculty organizers brought the team to Curitiba, Brazil's PUCPR university for the international competition on November 11th, 2019. The Kent State team gave an excellent presentation and were awarded 3rd place in the final competition.
- Design Innovation posted a call for all students to express interest to attend the annual Alliance for the Arts in Research Universities (A2RU) Student Symposium and selected 8 students who each became part of our DI Fellow cohort in 2020. J.R. Campbell drove the group to Cincinnati for the events, which were themed on the topic of "RISE UP! Risk Something Real!" Students who attended the event from around the nation were asked to address social challenges in teams and used the history of Cincinnati as a means for providing context.
- Formally established the pioneer cohort of the DI Fellows Program, a program where students will work in cohorts on short workshops and training sessions; then be curated into collaborative teams to participate/compete in challenge-style events, such as the hackathons and challenge-based charrettes.
- John and Fonda Elliot have pledged funds for the creation of two \$1M endowments to support two DI programmatic initiatives: the student "Design Innovation Fellows Program" and the "Designer in Residence" program. The first of these endowments will be available for utilization in 2021.
- Helped to form a very large cross-disciplinary team to research effective solutions and then utilize our network of makers and makerspace tools to produce face shields as PPE for members of our community. The PPE team partnered with MedWish.org to act as distributors for all PPE created by the group, which meant that the donated shields were available equally to every agency in Northeast Ohio through completing the request form with Medwish. The PPE team's goal was to produce 2000 face shields with our network of volunteers. As of June 1, 2020, we have produced and donated 2,675 shields. This project was possible through support from the Burton D. Morgan Foundation and the United Way of Portage County.

- DI TEAM member, Robin VandeZande pioneered a Grand Challenge event, “Redesigning Education to shape a better world,” to be held at Kent State’s Florence Program location to host 40 academic delegates from 12 countries at all levels of educational strategy and leadership to engage in an intense re-visioning for the future of education.

Office of Global Education

- Home to international students from 99 countries.
- Hosted 138 research scholars from 30 countries.
- In 2019, 25% of the graduating KSU students participated in study abroad programs.
- Stacie Ansley, Assistant Counselor in International Admissions received the Greg Jarvie Students First Award in recognition of her participation and collaboration with the Division of Student Affairs staff in ways that support students.
- OGE staff were selected to present at both the NAFSA Region VI Conference and the International Conference highlighting best practices for recruited and serving international students.
- Chosen the third year in a row by the Saudi Ministry of Education to host the Saudi teacher and school immersion program. Kent State is the only institution to have been accepted to participate in all cohorts.
- Host to 15 international students as part of the prestigious Fulbright program funded by the U.S Department of State from the following countries: Indonesia, Pakistan, Benin, Afghanistan, Armenia, Vietnam, Turkey, and Honduras.
- Awarded USAID grant again to host four IIE students from Egypt.
- Awarded U.S Department of State grant to host four students in the World Learning/Global Ugrad program from Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Honduras, and Mozambique.
- Awarded U.S. Department of State grant to host UGRAD-Pakistan student.
- International recruitment initiatives generated a 15% increase in international applications for fall 2020 compared with the previous year.
- Able to return approximately 300 students from abroad and provide support to them to continue their Spring 2020 academics due to the COVID-10 pandemic.

- Chosen by Xi'An International Studies University for the creation of a Joint Institute under the auspices of the Chinese Ministry of Education.
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