



Division of Academic Affairs

2020-21 Comprehensive Annual Report

**July 1, 2021**

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

Students First

- Continued to improve graduation rate to current 67.5%.
- NASPA's Center for First-Gen Student Success recognized Kent State University as a First-Gen Forward Institution.
- Exploratory Advising Center's, Exploratory Program, was selected as the winner of the 2021 Outstanding Advising Program Award from NACADA.

A Distinctive Kent State

- Hired 12 new exceptional BIPOC faculty in 6 colleges.
- Created the Antiracism and Equity Institute.

Global Competitiveness

- The American Academy dual-enrollment program in Brazil grew by 57%.
- Launched the Global Degree program with Anglo American University in Prague (first cohort begins Fall 2021).

Regional Impact

- Created the office of University Outreach & Engagement to further strengthen Kent State's commitment to its access mission and community engagement that transforms lives and communities.
- Coordinated the participation of undergraduate nursing students to administer COVID-19 vaccines at mass vaccination events at the Kent State Field House and Ice Arena.

Organizational Stewardship

- Received \$1.5M in philanthropic donations from the Timken Foundation of Canton for the AEB expansion.

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## Section II. Key Achievements

### Students First

- Continued to improve graduation rate to current 67.5%
- Exploratory Advising Center's, Exploratory Program's Major Action Program (MAP), was selected as the recipient of the 2021 NASPA Excellence Bronze Award in the Academic Advising, Careers, Graduate Professional Category.
- Exploratory Advising Center's team has been selected as the recipient of the NACADA's Region 5 Innovation in Advising Award for the Major Action Plan (MAP): Start to Finish program.
- Exploratory Advising Center's, Exploratory Program, was selected as the winner of the 2021 Outstanding Advising Program Award from NACADA.
- NASPA's Center for First-Gen Student Success recognized Kent State University as a First-Gen Forward Institution.
- The U.S. Department of Education awarded Kent State University a \$2.6 million, five-year TRIO Student Support Services program grant.
- Dr. Coolen led a team of 8 faculty that successfully competed for a new Choose Ohio First award to support scholarships to students in STEMM majors in the Arts & Sciences, Aeronautics & Engineering, and Stark and Tuscarawas campuses. Programs in Arts & Sciences include Chemistry, Biochemistry & Physics, Neuroscience, Mathematics & Computer Science, Biotechnology & Life Sciences, and Environmental Studies. In addition, Dr. Coolen secured funding to continue support to all current Choose Ohio First scholarship recipients in 6 STEM programs originally awarded in 2016. Together these two Choose Ohio First awards total 3.4 million dollars in scholarship funding.

### A Distinctive Kent State

- Hired 12 new exceptional BIPOC faculty in 6 colleges.
- Created the Antiracism and Equity Institute.

- Added 6 fully online programs in the last year (2 Graduate, 1 Undergraduate, 3 Certificates).
- The Federal Aviation Administration has designated Kent State as an Unmanned Aircraft Systems- Collegiate Training Institute (UAS-CTI). Kent is the only four-year college in the entire Midwest to hold this designation. The program is designed to recognize those institutions that prepare students for UAS careers.
- *Design Intelligence* ranked Architecture 16th for Programs Firms Want to Hire and ranked Interior Design 13th for Programs Firms Want to Hire. Both Architecture and Interior Design were ranked 1st in Ohio.
- The School of Fashion merchandising degree was ranked #2 in the country and Theatre and Dance was ranked among top 50 Best Theatre Bachelor's Degree programs in the United States by *Study.com*.
- The Online MBA program became the first MBA program in the nation to earn Quality Matters Program Certification. The College's Certified Business Advisor (certificate program) also obtained Quality Matters Program Certification. These are the first, and currently only, Kent State programs to achieve QM Program Certification.
- The Kent State Online MBA program with a concentration in Business Analytics was ranked #25 in the nation by U.S. News and World Report in the U.S. News 2021 Online MBA specialty ranking. The Online MBA program was ranked #26 by Princeton Review in 2021, and #35 by Fortune in 2021.
- Kent State became the first university in Ohio to offer direct admission to an MBA program with the "Guaranteed MBA Admission Program" launched in 2021.
- Kent State's online graduate education programs have again been recognized as the highest ranked at a public university in Northeast Ohio by U.S. News on its 2021 Best Online Graduate Education Programs list.
- The online MPH in Health Policy and Management was ranked #1 by the "Master's in Public Health Degree Programs" rankings of online programs.
- *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.

- Launched a new School of Multidisciplinary Social Sciences and Humanities in the College of Arts and Sciences that houses 17 programs that cross multiple disciplinary areas. The school is the academic home of innovative and interdisciplinary approaches to big questions in the social sciences and humanities. Common themes include, but not be limited to International Relations, religious studies, social justice, and gender and sexuality.
- Dr. C. Owen Lovejoy named top 2% of scientists in his field by Stanford (2020).

#### Global Competitiveness

- Top 7% for international enrollment according to Open Doors 2020.
- Top 4 among Ohio's state institutions in international student enrollment.
- Top 100 (#69) for study abroad according to Open Doors.
- Top 2 among Ohio's state institutions in study abroad programs according to TBC.
- The American Academy dual-enrollment program in Brazil grew by 57%.
- Host to 13 degree-seeking international graduate students as part of the prestigious Fulbright program funded by the U.S Department of State and anticipating 4 more placements for Fall 21.
- Launched the Global Degree program with Anglo American University in Prague (first cohort begins Fall 2021).
- Signed 10 new or renewal partnership agreements.
- Developed and implemented new language exchange partner program which ultimately enrolled 175 students from 13 partner universities.
- Virtual KSU-Florence semester program enrolled 72 students.

#### Regional Impact

- Created the Office of University Outreach & Engagement to further strengthen Kent State's commitment to its access mission and community engagement that transforms lives and communities.

- Making Our Own Space (MOOS), a CUDC outreach program to middle school students in urban settings received a 2020 Ohio Landscape Architecture Award for community outreach, equity, and engagement.
- Taryn Burhanna, MSN, APRN, NP-C, coordinated the participation of undergraduate nursing students to administer COVID-19 vaccines at mass vaccination events at the Kent State Field House and Ice Arena.
- Strengthened our Town & Gown relationship through coordinated partnerships to provide joint COVID testing events with the Ohio National Guard and the creation of a T&G strategy and response team and a list serv to improve communication.
- Launched a Certified Community Health Worker program with Ohio Board of Nursing approval and have graduated the first five community health workers. This led to a partnership with the Akron Public Schools to offer this certification program to high school students, funded by the United Way, in collaboration with Akron hospital systems who will host internships (Summa and Akron General Cleveland Clinic).
- Received a grant from the Elizabeth Severance Prentiss Foundation to develop an interprofessional education program (IPE) and send interdisciplinary “COVID-19 response teams” of students across colleges into the community to assist University Hospitals Portage, Kent City Health Department, Summa Health System, Cleveland Clinic Akron General and the Portage County Health Department with COVID-19 testing, vaccination clinics, and post-pandemic recovery in community health. This grant will continue through 2022 and includes development of IPE courses, student internships and community projects.
- Over 130 College of Public Health faculty and students volunteered to assist local health departments in the Ohio Medical Reserve Corps during the COVID-19 Pandemic.
- Launched a successful Town & Gown Employee Appreciation Program, Blue, Gold & Grateful, that acknowledged our collective university-system employees through gift certificates to support their local communities across NE Ohio; in downtown Kent, over \$30,000 was pumped into the local economy.

#### Organizational Stewardship

- Received \$1.5M in philanthropic donations from the Timken Foundation of Canton for the AEB expansion.

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### Section III. Divisional Points of Pride

#### College of Aeronautics and Engineering

- The College of Aeronautics and Engineering saw a 21% increase in applications, a 27% increase in admits, and a 15% increase in deposits for 2020-21.
- The Federal Aviation Administration has designated Kent State as an Unmanned Aircraft Systems- Collegiate Training Institute (UAS-CTI). Kent is the only four-year college in the entire Midwest to hold this designation. The program is designed to recognize those institutions that prepare students for UAS careers.
- General flight accomplishments in the last 12 months:
  - Over 16,000 flight hours accumulated in the last 12 months. This is the highest number of flight hours in the history of the program.
  - Over 900 aircraft returned back into service from either routine inspection or crew reported discrepancies.
  - 325 students completed flight courses.
  - 260 pilot certificates issued.
- The Aircraft Maintenance Department was successful in earning the FAA 14 CFR Repair Station certification.
- Hosted a virtual symposium with the Vice Chair of the National Transportation Safety Board, Bruce Landsberg, with almost 1,000 people registered for the event.
- Reaffirmed AABI and ATMAE accreditations.
- Received \$310,000 in commitments for new endowed scholarships last year.
- Received an additional \$25,000 to double a scholarship that was established in FY2020.
- Received \$1.5M in philanthropic donations from the Timken Foundation of Canton for the AEB expansion.
- CAE's Flight Team finished 10<sup>th</sup> overall in the 2021 Virtual National SAFECON competition hosted by NIFA (National Intercollegiate Flying Association).

- Professor Jason Lorenzon received board certification in Aviation Law by the Florida Bar. The Florida Bar is the only legal bar that offers this designation and Professor Jason Lorenzon is only one of 46 lawyers nationally who hold this designation. Professor Jason Lorenzon was appointed as Chair of the Aviation Law Committee of the Ohio State Bar Association.
- Professor Richmond Nettey was featured in the Transportation Research Board's blog post on "Passenger Transportation Takes Off in New Directions," which was featured at the TRB.org website.
- Professor Richmond Nettey served as President, Safety Division, Association for Technology, Management and Applied Engineering (ATMAE) and as Chairman, TRB Standing Technical Committee on Airport Terminals and Ground Access (AV050), The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine, Washington, DC.
- Brian Neff was selected by the Cleveland Federal Aviation Administration Safety Team (FAAST) as the Cleveland Flight Standards District Office 2020 General Aviation Awards nominee for Certified Flight Instructor of the Year.
- Professor Blake Stringer was selected as a Distinguished Visiting Professor by the United States Air Force Academy.
- Professor Rui Liu organized workshop, "*Cognitive and Social Aspects in Human Multi Robot/Swarm Interaction*," at the International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems.

#### College of Architecture and Environmental Design

- Design Intelligence ranked Architecture 16<sup>th</sup> for Programs Firms Want to Hire. Architecture was ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in Ohio.
- Design Intelligence ranked Interior Design 13<sup>th</sup> for Programs Firms Want to Hire. Interior Design was ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in Ohio.
- Construction Management ranked 8<sup>th</sup> in the nation, 1<sup>st</sup> in Ohio, by Intelligence.com.
- The Construction Management graduate program was ranked 20<sup>th</sup> in the nation by Great Business Schools.
- The Metropolis Future 100 named 50 Architecture and 50 Interior Design Students from North America. Among them were three senior Kent State Interior Design students, Ashley Schwartz, Elizabeth Koenig, and Madelyn Orcutt.



- Architecture graduates are in the top 10 nationally for professional licensing exam pass rates.
- John Elliot Center for Architecture and Environmental Design received the Green Building Legacy Award from the United States Green Building Council (USGBC).
- The Bike Box Living Roof Lab in Cleveland, Ohio received an Award of Excellence from Green Roofs for Healthy Cities which was led by Dr. Reid Coffman and included 8 students.
- Cleveland Urban Design Collaborative (CUDC) selected as editorial team for American Roundtable to prepare reports on small to mid-size communities from across the United States. The reports have been commissioned as part of American Roundtable, a new Architectural League initiative that provides on-the-ground perspectives of American communities and what they need to thrive going forward.
- The Ohio Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) awarded three Master of Landscape Architecture students with 2020 Student Design Awards.
- Professor Diane Davis-Sikora appointed to the Akron Art Museum Board of Directors.
- Student Cooper Moore was named Midwest Quad Director for the American Institute of Architects Student Organization (AIAS) and was appointed to serve on the AIAS national Board.
- Making Our Own Space (MOOS), a CUDC outreach program to middle school students in urban settings received a 2020 Ohio Landscape Architecture Award for community outreach, equity, and engagement.

#### College of Arts and Sciences

- Arts and Sciences was awarded a total of \$14,154,570 in the first three quarters of the year. New awards included three Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) awards from the National Science Foundation to faculty in Biological Sciences and Computer science. The CAREER awards are the National Science Foundation's most prestigious awards in support of early-career faculty who have the potential to serve as academic role models in research and education and to lead advances in the mission of their department or organization.
- Dr. Lique Coolen led a team of 8 faculty that successfully competed for a new Choose Ohio First award to support scholarships to students in STEMM majors in the Arts &

Sciences, Aeronautics & Engineering, and Stark and Tuscarawas campuses. Programs in Arts & Sciences include Chemistry, Biochemistry & Physics, Neuroscience, Mathematics & Computer Science, Biotechnology & Life Sciences, and Environmental Studies. In addition, Dr. Coolen secured funding to continue support to all current Choose Ohio First scholarship recipients in 6 STEM programs originally awarded in 2016. Together these two Choose Ohio First awards total 3.4 million dollars in scholarship funding.

- Fundraising for the College of Arts & Sciences increased by 16.8% from FY20 (\$2.1M) to FY21 (\$2.4M). College total (\$2,467,735) was the highest for any unit or college in FY21, representing 11.7% of the total University-wide raised (\$20,996,292).
- Launched a new School of Multidisciplinary Social Sciences and Humanities that houses 17 programs that cross multiple disciplinary areas. The school is the academic home of innovative and interdisciplinary approaches to big questions in the social sciences and humanities. Common themes include, but not be limited to International Relations, religious studies, social justice, and gender and sexuality.
- Dr. C. Owen Lovejoy was named in the top 2% of scientists in his field by Stanford (2020).
- Kent State University Biological Anthropologists, Owen Lovejoy and Richard Meindl hold the #1 and #4 positions for most cited articles in the major journal of the discipline: The American Journal of Physical Anthropology.
- A successful collaboration between the Department of Anthropology with Kyoto University, Japan, has resulted in \$425,000 in research dollars, 3 graduate students receiving National Science Foundation (NSF) EAPSI grant awards to conduct summer research at the Primate Research Institute of Kyoto University, and 2 graduate students receiving Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) grant awards to conduct summer research at the Institute.
- Manabu Kurokawa, Ph.D., assistant professor in the Department of Biological Sciences, has earned recognition and NIH funding for his team's groundbreaking research surrounding drug resistance in breast cancer patients.
- Dr. Costello, an associate professor in the Department of Biological Sciences, received a \$718,000 grant from the National Science Foundation to study trace metals in stream algae.
- Faculty in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry assisted in earning the University more than \$6.3 million in extramural funding. Two of the grants are continuing while four of the grants are brand new. Of special note are the National

Institutes of Health R15 grants earned by Drs. Sanjay Abeyserigunawardena and Yaorong Zheng.

- Professor Jessica Conrad (NTT-Stark) has received a Fulbright U.S. Scholar award to Austria for Spring 2022. Professor Conrad will lecture and conduct research at the University of Graz as part of her project, “Perspectives of American Protest Literature and Culture from Abroad.” Her project traces connections between historical examples of early American literary activism to current cultural expressions of protest, particularly in social justice and climate activism.
- Dr. Gaston, English, was named a Distinguished Fellow by the Association of American Colleges & Universities (AAC&U).
- English professor, Babacar M’Baye’s article entitled “Charting Aminata Fall’s Cosmopolitanism: A Comparative Study of African American and Senegambian Blues Lyrics” appeared in a special issue of *The Global South* published in Spring 2020. This issue entitled “Blues Music in Transnational Context” was edited by Dr. Adam Gussow, professor of English and Southern Studies at the University of Mississippi and included essays by various world scholars.
- Dr. He Yin, Geography, received an award from NASA’s Early Career Investigator Program. This award (\$345K) enables work on “The Effects of the Syrian Civil War on Cropland in the Eastern Mediterranean Region” for the next three years.
- Scott Sheridan, Geography, was elected President-Elect of the International Society of Biometeorology.
- Dr. Jeremy Williams, Geology, has been named a Career Enhancement Fellow by the Institute for Citizens and Scholars for 2021. The Career Enhancement Fellowship, funded by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and administered by Citizens & Scholars, seeks to increase the presence of underrepresented junior and other faculty members in the humanities, social sciences, and arts by creating career development opportunities for selected Fellows with promising research projects.
- The department of Psychological Sciences has received over \$1 million in new research grants (with 13 faculty as PI or co-PI).
- Psychological Sciences professor Amy Sato appointed Associate Editor, *Children’s Health Care*.

- *Dr. Angela Neal-Barnett was interviewed by Forbes Magazine:* In good times racism is a stressor, in bad times racism is trauma: Three Black psychologists talk about the emotional toll of the election on Black America.
- Dr. Susan Kunkle, Sociology, presented, as part of a 3-person panel, at the Non-Governmental Organization/Committee on the Status of Women (NGO/CSW) virtual conference (United Nations/NY) on March 24, 2021. The title of our panel was “Handling Cyber Violence against Women & Girls by Building A Gender-Responsive Criminal Justice System”.
- Dr. Susan Fisk, Sociology, received a \$300,000 grant funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF) Improving Undergraduate STEM Education: Education and Human Resources program for “Analysis of a Simple, Low-Cost Intervention's Impact on Retention of Women in Computer Science.” This project examines whether educational institutions can use a simple intervention to increase the persistence of women in computer science.
- Kristen Marcussen, Sociology, received a NSF Grant for \$213,000 for her project which addresses social stigma and discrimination associated with mental illness by focusing on the ways in which negative stereotypes are internalized by individuals with mental health concerns.
- Kristenne Robison, Director Prison Education Initiative, has been working with Associate Provost Manfred Van Dulmen on a prison education initiative. As a result of this effort, Kent State University will offer a 2+2 AA to BA program with Sinclair Community College beginning Fall 2021 at Trumbull Correctional Institution in Levittsburg, Ohio. The pilot will start with 15 students earning the Bachelor's in Technical and Applied Studies with the applied business concentration and entrepreneurship certificate. Several grants have been secured to fund the pilot: \$55,000 from the Raymond Wean Foundation, \$132,147 from the Burton D. Morgan Foundation, \$25,000 from the Community Foundation, \$46,000 from the Youngstown Foundation, and \$2,500 from the Thomases Foundation.
- The School of Peace and Conflict Studies hosted an ongoing external speaker series on: Society, Technology, Peace and Security. This has included talks by eminent international speakers on drone proliferation, the military applications of nanotechnology, the arms trade and the biological and chemical weapons conventions.
- Landon Hancock, professor in the School of Peace and Conflict Studies, received a Fulbright Specialist Program award to complete a project at Pontificia Universidad Javeriana in Colombia.

- Professor Landon Hancock: was awarded an International Affairs Fellowship from the Council on Foreign Relations where he will undertake research on the role of accountability in peacebuilding, including issues of legitimacy and local ownership. For the 2021-22 year, he will serve as a Local Peacebuilding Advisor to the United Nation's Peacebuilding Support Office where he will assist the Design, Monitoring and Evaluation Team of the Financing for the PBSO's Financing for Peacebuilding branch.
- Dr. Ashley Nickels, professor in the School of Peace of Conflict Studies was awarded a prestigious Democracy Visiting Fellowship from the Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation in the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. Dr. Nickels will be in residence at Harvard University for the 2021/22 academic year, working on her collaborative, multi-site research project, "Local Democracy and Community Development Systems".
- Margi Straub, Applied Conflict Management student won the very first Ohio Peace and Conflict Studies Network Student Leader Award in Spring 2021.
- Students Donald Wolford and Daniel Heineman, from the Spring 2020 Honors section of Introduction to Conflict Management, had portions of their essays selected as "Literary Gems" in the YES! Magazine Spring 2020 Writing Competition!
- Neil Cooper served as Program Chair for the Peace Studies section of the 2021 International Studies Association Convention, Las Vegas.
- The Global Vaccine Poem project, a collaboration between the Wick Poetry Center and The University of Arizona Poetry Center, invites individuals around the world to share their voices to promote COVID-19 vaccination through the imaginative language of poetry. The project has garnered thousands of responses, as well as media coverage from around the world, including articles in *USA Today*, *The Akron Beacon Journal*, *News 5 Today*, and a public radio special on Canadian Broadcasting, among many others.
- In collaboration with the Ohio Nurses Foundation, The Wick Poetry Center is currently rolling out Sacred Breath: Ohio Nurses Respond to COVID-19, which provides a creative space where nurses can pause and reflect on their personal and professional lived experiences as caregivers during the historic time of pandemic, sacrifice, uncertainty, and scarcity, and to share their voice with others. Bolstered by a \$10,000 grant from the Ohio Nurses Foundation, the WPC is working across Kent State campuses to disseminate this important project, as well as currently developing CEU workshop offerings for Ohio nurses.

- In collaboration with DEI and the Department of Pan-African Studies, the Wick Poetry Center made racial justice a guiding philosophy for all projects this year (and beyond), including centering and amplifying BIPOC voices. The Black Voices Matter project is a community poem in support of racial justice at Kent State University and around the globe. As an expression of solidarity for the Black Lives Matter social movement against police brutality and racially motivated violence against black people, we invited people from around the world to contribute a line or stanza in response to poet and activist Sonia Sanchez' poem, "This is Not a Small Voice."

#### College of the Arts

- The School of Fashion merchandising degree was ranked #2 in the country according to Study.com.
- Fashion Tech Hackathon was the most attended international event hosted by the School of Fashion to date. Registrants from 34 different countries.
- The Annual Fashion Show continued in digital format this year and has nearly 5,000 views to date including internationally in US, India, UK, Canada and Egypt.
- Kenneth Cole was inducted into the School of Fashion Hall of Fame for 2021. His virtual chat has nearly 2,000 views.
- Kendra Lapolla and Lauren Copeland received 3rd place in the Rutherford Teaching Challenge, sponsored by International Textiles and Apparel Association, presented at the ITAA Annual Conference.
- Fashion Merchandising courses collaborated with industry to bring new insights for students. Fashion tech start-up Neural Trend partnered with Kent State University's Computer Apps in Retailing course to show fashion students the power of artificial intelligence and machine learning in fashion.
- Junior Fashion Merchandising student Jacquie Sierzputowski competed in the Fashion Tech Hackathon. Her team created Buddy, a fashionable tech wristband that monitors wearers' heart rate to give a helping hand to those living with anxiety and were awarded "Best Hardware Hack," sponsored by Digi-Key.
- Krissi Riewe, assistant professor, and Sue Yoder, associate professor, showcased their designs at the Korean Fashion & Art Biennale in October 2020.

- Krissi Riewe, assistant professor, received the best Garment Award at the RAGS wearable Art Show in 2021.
- Theatre and Dance was ranked among top 50 on Study.com's list of Best Theatre Bachelor's Degree programs in the United States.
- Kristine Haag and Jeff Richmond, both School of Theatre and Dance alumni, were nominated for Television Academy 2020 Primetime Emmy Awards.
- Dr. Yuko Kurahashi published "The Interdisciplinary Theatre of Ping Chong," a work that chronicles over 20 years of research.
- Presented 7 mainstage and 16 Student led virtual productions during AY 2020-21.
- School of Fashion increased diverse visibility with 13 Guest Artists of Color working with students and faculty in AY 2020-21.
- MFA Theatre Design and Technology graduates enjoy 100% success rate of full-time employment upon graduation in Spring 2021.
- Abby Hermosilla, M.A. Art History candidate, was chosen as one of three summer curatorial interns for the Art Bridges Foundation, an organization founded by Alice Walton and the Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art whose goal is to bring world-class art to regional/rural museums and galleries.
- Assistant Professor of Painting, Shawn Powell, was featured in a two-person show at Cleveland's new Abattoir Gallery. His paintings were shown alongside fellow Ohio artist Lauren Yeager's photography, sculpture and installations.
- J. Leigh Garcia was featured on the cover of the September issue of Akron Life Magazine. Garcia was one of five artists interviewed for the article "Visionaries" that focuses on local artists who use their artwork to raise awareness about issues important to them.
- Katie Butler, MFA candidate in Painting, was selected for Miami University's national annual Young Painters Competition. As one of ten artists selected, Butler's work will be shown at the Hiestand Galleries as a young artist who demonstrates excellence.
- Dr. Joseph Underwood, professor of art history, was selected as one of the 2020 recipients of the Andy Warhol Foundation Arts Writers Grant. "Forging a New Contemporary: Art from Senegal in Transnational Networks, 1974–1984" was one of six book projects selected and carries a \$50,000 award toward the research and production of his new book.



- MFA candidate in Textiles, Meagan Smith has been awarded the Handweavers Guild of America (HGA) Scholarship. As one of two scholarship recipients, she received \$2,000 while doing her thesis research. Her artwork was also featured in the February issue of the HGA magazine "Shuttle Spindle & Dyepot."
- Davin Ebanks, assistant professor of glass, had a solo exhibition at the Sculpture Center in Cleveland. "Nowhere is Blue" includes new glass sculptures created by Ebanks that serve as metaphors for the subjective nature of identity and personal narrative.
- Dr. Linda Hoeptner Poling, associate professor of Art Education, was awarded the 2021 National Art Education Association (NAEA) Women's Caucus Maryl Fletcher De Jong Service Award, which highlights significant contributions in art education through service.
- School of Art professors Joseph L. Underwood, assistant professor of art history, and J. Leigh Garcia, assistant professor of print media and photography, collaborated to co-curate an international, outdoor art exhibition. They have partnered with The Global Understanding Research Initiative (GURI) on a juried exhibition entitled "Import/Export," which invites artists to reflect on the ways in which imports and exports affect their local spaces.
- The catalogue for "TEXTURES: the history and art of Black hair," an upcoming exhibition at the Kent State University Museum, is a co-winner of the Outstanding Exhibition (Thematic) Catalogue of the Midwest Art History Society (MAHS) Award for Outstanding Catalogues for 2020. The exhibition is organized by co-curators Dr. Joseph L. Underwood, assistant professor of art history at the School of Art, and Dr. Tameka Ellington, associate professor at the School of Fashion at Kent State.
- Davin Ebanks, assistant professor of glass (M.F.A. '10), and recent alumnus Simon Tatum, who earned his M.F.A. in sculpture and expanded media this spring, are being featured in the second Cayman Islands Biennial, entitled "Reimagined Future(s)." Ebanks was also on the original selecting committee of the Biennial.
- The MUED Division has begun publishing, through F-Flat Books, the "Kent State Music Curriculum" series which features outstanding examples of capstone projects from our online Master of Music in Music Education students.
- Piano Professor Donna Lee was featured in 4 chamber music concerts at the Classical Tahoe Music Festival in August 2020 that was broadcast on PBS Reno. She also performed 6 chamber music concerts throughout NE Ohio featuring Music by Women Composers and presented by City Music Cleveland.



- Greta Pasztor, MM '21, and Alexandre Marr, MM '21, both piano performance students of Dr. Donna Lee, won the first prize in Piano Duo Category of the Gloria Artis International Music Competition in Vienna, Austria.

#### College of Business Administration

- The American Marketing Association Marketing for Higher Education SIG announced that Dean Deborah Spake won its Lifetime Achievement Award.
- The Online MBA program became the first MBA program in the nation to earn Quality Matters Program Certification. The College's Certified Business Advisor (certificate program) also obtained Quality Matters Program Certification. These are the first, and currently only, Kent State programs to achieve QM Program Certification.
- The Kent State Online MBA program with a concentration in Business Analytics was ranked #25 in the nation by U.S. News and World Report in the U.S. News 2021 Online MBA specialty ranking. The Online MBA program was ranked #26 by Princeton Review in 2021, and #35 by Fortune in 2021.
- The Golden Flash Asset Management group (student managed investment fund) earned 3rd place in the Undergraduate Fixed Income category and 3rd place in the Small Fund category at the (virtual) G.A.M.E. Forum hosted by Quinnipiac University in Spring 2021. This is an international competition for finance students.
- Kent State alumnus Bob Archer offered a \$1 million Challenge Gift to encourage giving toward the new COBA building.
- Kent State became the first university in Ohio to offer direct admission to an MBA program with the "Guaranteed MBA Admission Program" launched in 2021.
- Dr. Julia Levashina in the Department of Management & Information Systems received the 2020 Jeanneret Award for Excellence in the Study of Individual or Group Assessment from the Society of Industrial and Organizational Psychology. This award is presented to authors of work judged to have the highest potential to further the understanding of individual or group assessment, especially when such work supports the creation of a diverse workforce.
- Dr. Wendy Tietz in the Department of Accounting received the American Accounting Association/J. Michael and Mary Anne Cook/Deloitte Foundation Prize in Fall 2020. This is the foremost recognition of an individual who consistently demonstrates the attributes of a superior teacher in the discipline of accounting.

- Dr. Lock Reynolds', Department of Economics, research on the positive impact of college students living on campus was featured in *The Wall Street Journal* (October 17, 2020).

#### College of Communication and Information

- The Schools of Communication Studies, Emerging Media and Technology (formerly Digital Sciences), Information, Media and Journalism (formerly Journalism and Mass Communication) and Visual Communication Design comprise the College of Communication and Information (CCI) at Kent State University, making it the only college in the nation to combine a mix of technology, design, media, communication and information-related majors and programs in one academic home.
- 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 #20 for the 2022 rankings (published in 2021).
- One student and one alum from the School of Media and Journalism placed in the top 20 nationwide in the Hearst Journalism Awards' Television News Competition. The Hearst Awards are the college journalism equivalent to the Pulitzer Prize.
- Alumna, Pulitzer Prize winner and Professional-in-Residence Connie Schultz joined *USA Today* as a regular columnist for the paper's editorial page. In addition, her first fiction book, *The Daughters of Erie Town: A Novel* (Penguin, 2020) was an instant *New York Times* bestseller and was named one of the best books of the year by both *The Washington Post* and *New York Post*.
- The Female Filmmakers Initiative's new film "I AM" was accepted into the Montreal Independent Film Festival, a highly competitive international film festival. The student group is led by Professor Dana White and students in the Digital Media Production program.
- For the third year in a row, a group of MDJ's Advertising and Public Relations students earned semi-finalist recognition in the national Effie Collegiate Brand Challenge.
- KentWired Staff won Society of Professional Journalists Regional Mark of Excellent Awards for Online News Reporting ("The Rock") and Online/Digital News Videography ("Black at Kent State").
- A team of Kent State students, led by Professors Sue Zake, Jacquie Marino and Abe Avnisan, were among ten national finalists in the Reynolds Journalism Institute's 2020-2021 Student Innovation Competition. The project – deploying text messaging technology to facilitate coverage of and interaction with residents of Cleveland's Slavic Village in partnership with *The Land* – later served as the foundation for a successful

grant application to the Cleveland Foundation. Through that grant, students employed by MDJ's NewsL@b Collaborative are partnering with *The Land* and diverse community partners to cover issues of environmental injustice in three Cleveland communities.

- Assistant Professor Dana White and Lecturer Chris Knoblock's short film, *Turning Blue*, debuted at the Cleveland International Film Festival.
- Professor Sue Zake was selected as the recipient of the 2020 Distinguished Adviser award, Four-Year Multimedia, from the College Media Association.
- Four School of Information professors – Kendra Albright, school director Meghan Harper, Marianne Martens and Athena Salaba – were re-elected to serve on multiple steering committees for the International Federation of Library Associations. IFLA is the leading international body representing the interests of library and information services and their users. It is the global voice of the library and information profession.
- Emerging Media and Technology professor Abe Avnisan (in collaboration with J.R. Campbell (Design Innovation) and Bobby Selvaggio (Music) led the interdisciplinary EMAT student projects course which resulted in the creation of Reframing Experience, an interactive digital project that included collaborations with Cuyahoga Valley National Park, Akron Civic Theatre, and the Music Settlement in Cleveland.
- In Spring 2021, CCI completed its fourth "Media and Movements Seminar," part of the college's new Media Advocacy minor that is open to all Kent State students. The Media and Movements seminars are high-impact, experiential-learning courses that enable Kent State undergraduate and graduate students to apply research, creative communication, and advocacy and allied skills to highly relevant social issues. Each seminar is driven by an essential idea: Meaningful social change relies upon communication and information to educate the public, give voice to the voiceless, galvanize supporters and motivate public action. Students spend 15 weeks creating multimedia public communication campaigns on behalf of community-based social services organizations.
- CCI, the Division of Academic Affairs and the Division of Student Affairs co-hosted Kent State's first virtual Teach-In: "Don't Hate, Debate (and Vote!)" to help students navigate political polarization, inflamed rhetoric and disinformation. CCI Professional-in-Residence Stephanie Smith and School of Communication Studies director Paul Haridakis led the effort. The Teach-In's purpose was to demonstrate that teaching, dialogue, debate and lively student engagement can make a difference in helping students become more thoughtful, committed and empowered voters and citizens. Topics included: defining civility, understanding First Amendment freedoms, how making change has changed since the 1960s, politics and conspiracy theories, rehumanizing politics starting at the local level, the importance of down-ballot races,

neutralizing fake news, voting as the "cure" for COVID-19, election day fashion, the politics of menstruation, athletes and activism, poetry and civil dialogue, barriers for women of color in student government and education for peace and democracy. Attendance varied throughout the day; we reached nearly 300 participants at peak periods, and the audience included students, faculty, staff, Kent State community members and parents.

#### College of Education, Health and Human Services

- \$670,500+ awarded in scholarships, 300+ students received EHHS scholarship aid.
- Kent State's online graduate education programs have again been recognized as the highest ranked at a public university in Northeast Ohio by U.S. News on its 2021 Best Online Graduate Education Programs list.
- Speech Pathology and Audiology major, Makayla Sejat, was nominated by Kent State as the first Newman Civic Fellow.
- CES doctoral candidate and adjunct faculty member, Staci Tessmer, was named the Ohio Counseling Association's (OCA) next President-Elect.
- Dr. Jason McGlothlin of the Counselor Education and Supervision program was elected Midwest Region Chair by the American Counseling Association.
- Dr. Shannon Navy received the National Association of Research in Science Teaching: Research Worth Reading award.
- Hospitality and Event Management students in KSU's Club Management Association of America received the 2021 CMAA World's Award in Crisis Management.
- Dr. Mary Ann Devine was awarded "Fellow" status by the Academy of Leisure Sciences.
- Dr. Tim Rasinski, TLC, and Dr. Andrew Lepp, FLA, were named in the top 1% of faculty worldwide from a recent Stanford study of top faculty by discipline.
- Two Exercise Physiology students, Modesto LeBron and Ryan Wiet, received the American Kinesiology Association award for their research.
- The Health Education program's Rho Chapter of Eta Sigma Gamma won a recognition award for successful health education programming.
- Dr. Julia Huyck received a grant for \$431,000 by the National Institutes of Health to research adolescent hearing and cognitive development.

- Dr. Jacob Barkley appeared on Sirius XM Dr. Radio discussing research on the pandemic's effects on physical activity and sedentary behavior.
- Sport Administration students had the opportunity to volunteer at the 2021 NFL draft held in Cleveland, gaining a once-in-a-lifetime experience.
- The Read Center for International and Intercultural Education hosted the annual Read Distinguished Lecture series, keynoted by Dr. Gerardo Blanco on racial justice, collective memory and visual culture.

#### College of Nursing

- Dr. Curtis Good, Assistant Dean of Operations & Student Services, received the 2020-2021 Academic Advising Administrator award from the Kent Academic Support & Advising Association (KASADA). This annual award recognizes an outstanding advising administrator and team leader at Kent State University.
- Mary K. Anthony, PhD, RN, has been elected to serve as President for the Midwest Nursing Research Society (MNRS) Foundation.
- Taryn Burhanna, MSN, APRN, NP-C, coordinated the participation of undergraduate nursing students to administer COVID-19 vaccines at mass vaccination events at the Kent State Field House and Ice Arena.
- Tracy M. Dodson, MSN, RN, was honored with the 2020 Daisy Faculty Award.
- Marilyn Nibling, DNP, APRN, NNP-BC, PNP-BC, was awarded Primary Care Transformative Fellowship grant funding by Northeast Ohio Medical University (NEOMED) for her quality improvement project, Quality Improvement for Obstetrical and Neonatal Teams: Improving Communication.
- Marilyn Nibling, DNP, APRN, NNP-BC, PNP-BC, presented her quality improvement storyboard/poster, Quality Improvement for Obstetrical and Neonatal Teams: Improving Communication, for Akron Children's Hospital Grand Rounds after her project was selected as one of the top three quality improvement projects submitted for 2020.
- James Tudhope, DNP, APRN, PMHNP-BC, was named Program Director of the Month (January, 2021) by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) Practice Transition Accreditation Program (PTAP).
- James Tudhope, DNP, APRN, PMHNP-BC, serves as the Program Director for the Integrated Community Psychiatry Nurse Practitioner Fellowship Program, which

received American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) Practice Transition Accreditation Program (PTAP) accreditation with distinction, the first and only advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) fellowship program in psychiatry to receive this accreditation.

- Pam Stephenson, PhD, RN, and Andera Warner Stidham, PhD, RN, were recently funded by the Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI) Honor Society of Nursing, Delta XI chapter, for their study, The Experiences of Frontline Nurses in Northeast Ohio Caring for Patients During the COVID-19 Pandemic.
- Louise Knox, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC, associate professor, and Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) faculty were awarded the CVS Health Foundation 2020-2021 FNP/PA Scholarship for the 2020-2021 season.
- Kent State University College of Nursing has collaborated with the College of Public Health on a new initiative, the Positive Health Podcast, hosted by Joud Roufael, BSPH, and nursing alumnus and current Ph.D. student Andrew Snyder, BSN '14, MPH '17. The podcast explores a range of health issues through a positive lens to provide awareness and literacy for undergraduate and graduate students at Kent State University.

#### College of Public Health

- Received reaccreditation from the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) through July 2028.
- Launched a Certified Community Health Worker program with Ohio Board of Nursing approval and have graduated the first five community health workers. This led to a partnership with the Akron Public Schools to offer this certification program to high school students, funded by the United Way, in collaboration with Akron hospital systems who will host internships (Summa and Akron General Cleveland Clinic).
- Received a grant from the Elizabeth Severance Prentiss Foundation to develop an interprofessional education program (IPE) and send interdisciplinary "COVID-19 response teams" of students across colleges into the community to assist University Hospitals Portage, Kent City Health Department, Summa Health System, Cleveland Clinic Akron General and the Portage County Health Department with COVID-19 testing, vaccination clinics, and post-pandemic recovery in community health. This grant will continue through 2022 and includes development of IPE courses, student internships and community projects.
- Over 130 College of Public Health faculty and students volunteered to assist local health departments in the Ohio Medical Reserve Corps during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

- The online MPH in Health Policy and Management was ranked #1 by the “Master’s in Public Health Degree Programs” rankings of online programs.

#### College of Podiatric Medicine

- Dr. Allan Boike was appointed to the Executive Committee of the American Associate of Colleges of Podiatric Medicine as Treasurer.
- Dr. Duane Ehredt was recognized with the Navy and Marine Corp Achievement Medal for meritorious service during the COVID-19 pandemic, presenting research at the American Podiatric Medical Associations National Scientific Conference and winning 1<sup>st</sup> place at the Ohio Foot and Ankle Association state scientific conference.
- Dr. Windy Cole was presented with the Silver Award for technology driven research by the Journal of Wound Care in February 2021.

#### Graduate Studies

- One of 29 universities selected to participate in the Council for Graduate Studies/JED Foundation Initiative to Support Graduate Students Mental Health and Well-being.

#### Honors College

- Graduated 263 students in Spring 2021 with an average GPA of 3.8.
- Largest incoming freshman class in Honors College history set for Fall 2021 with 560 incoming freshmen with 14% underrepresented and 13% first generation.
- 34% of Honors Students were admitted into the 2021 SURE program, the largest amount to date.

#### University College

- Exploratory Advising Center’s, Exploratory Program's Major Action Program (MAP), was selected as the recipient of the 2021 NASPA Excellence Bronze Award in the Academic Advising, Careers, Graduate Professional Category.
- Exploratory Advising Center’s team has been selected as the recipient of the NACADA’s Region 5 Innovation in Advising Award for the Major Action Plan (MAP): Start to Finish program.
- Exploratory Advising Center’s, Exploratory Program, was selected as the winner of the 2021 Outstanding Advising Program Award from NACADA.



- NASPA's Center for First-Gen Student Success recognized Kent State University as a First-Gen Forward Institution.
- Krittika Grau Senior Career Advisor for Career Exploration and Development was awarded the Distinguished Commission Award for 2021 by the ACPA.
- The Campus Kitchen Giving Tuesday campaigns surpassed their goal of \$25,000 in donations which will allow the purchase of a mobile food pantry.
- Amanda Shah, Director of Academic Success Center, was named as a member of The Learning Assistance Review's editorial board, the scholarly journal of The National College Learning Center Association.
- Laura Gonzalez and Nicole Kotlan from the Exploratory Advising Center were invited by NACADA to present Exploratory Conversation: Engaging Students in Exploration Virtually to the Undecided and Exploratory Students Advising Community.
- Adam Cinderich, Director of Student Support Services, was selected as a mentor for the TRIO Works SSS Directors Group and will work to assist new directors across the country in managing their SSS grants and proposals.
- Pamela Jones, ADO, was invited to serve on the Training and Best Practices committee for the Consortium of Coaching in Higher Education.
- Amanda Shah, Director of Academic Success Center, was named as a member of The Learning Assistance Review's editorial board, the scholarly journal of The National College Learning Center Association.
- Peter Jeffy, Director of the McNair Scholars Program, was accepted in the Council for Opportunity in Education's Keith Sherin Global Leaders Program and will participate in professional development all year on various topics, including the pandemic, racial and social justice movements, and how diversity, equity and inclusion is viewed in the U.S. and abroad.
- Career Exploration and Development launched the Spring 2021 Career Exploration Fair in Handshake February 25, 2021 availed over 2,500 one-on-one meetings and 195 group information sessions where students were able to meet with the 101 attending employers.
- The U.S. Department of Education awarded Kent State University a \$2.6 million, five-year TRIO Student Support Services program grant.



## University Libraries

- Received more than \$9,000 in donations toward student scholarships in the 2020 Giving Tuesday Campaign.
- Kent State Library is voted as the best place to study: The University Library was voted “#1 Best Place to Study” by *KentWired.com* readers for the eighth consecutive year in 2020.
- Commemorated Constitution Day by hosting a virtual screening of the documentary *And She Could Be Next*, which follows the movement of women of color, including the 2018 electoral campaigns of Stacey Abrams and Rashida Tlaib, as they transformed politics from the ground up. The screening was followed by a panel discussion featuring two of the three filmmakers, Grace Lee and Marjan Safinia, as well as Kent State faculty members Denise Harrison, Joycelyn Harrison, Ph.D. and Janine Tiffe, Ph.D.
- Digital Projects Librarian Virginia Dressler was chosen to be included in the 2020 cohort of Library Leadership Ohio, a collaboration of the State Library of Ohio and OhioNET, focused on personal development, transferable leadership skills and fostering connections and collaboration within Ohio’s diverse library community. Participants were carefully chosen based on their outstanding leadership potential; excellent communication skills; successful library employment experience; initiative, commitment and reasonable risk taking; forward-thinking approach to problem solving; and commitment to the profession.
- The Academic Library Association of Ohio (ALAO) awarded Humanities Librarian Tammy J. Eschedor Voelker with the Kathryn L. Venditti Mentoring Award, which is given annually to an academic librarian who has demonstrated excellence as a mentor to a librarian, library worker or library science student.
- Libraries’ first-floor computer lab was made remotely accessible (via VPN) to Kent State students, faculty and staff (at all campuses/locations), through a joint effort by University Libraries and the Division of Information Technology, to ensure that software, including programs needed for various academic courses, was freely accessible to Kent State community members who were not physically on campus during the pandemic.
- LaunchNET Kent State:
  - The Burton D. Morgan Foundation renewed LaunchNET’s funding through a \$350,000 grant (program operations through 2023).
  - New DEI-focused programming was created, which included a Black Women Bosses cohort-based entrepreneur education and mentorship program, which

featured alumni mentors and speakers, as well as \$3,000 in funding to student entrepreneurs.

- A pandemic-responsive micro grant program in the amount of \$2,500 was launched to support student entrepreneurs at amounts ranging from \$99-500.
- The Ohio Sanborn Fire Insurance map collection is now available via Open Access Kent State (OAKS). This digitization project was funded by an Ohio History Fund grant (\$13,646) and an Ohio Local History Alliance grant (\$2,500). The collection provides 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. More than 25,000 digital maps, covering all Ohio cities and towns, are included in the digital Sanborn Map Collection and available for researchers. Since these have been uploaded in December of 2020, this collection has made the top four most visited (and used) digital collections in OAKS.
- *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.
- In Fall 2020, the Kent State University Press published, "The House That Rock Built" by Norm N. Nite and Tom Feran, a behind-the-scenes story of how the iconic Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Museum came to be built in Cleveland. The well-received book was covered in the *Cleveland Plain Dealer*.
- In response to the national and community-wide attention on matters of race, a group of University Libraries' faculty and staff collaborated to develop three resources on race that present guides on Anti-Racism and the Black Lives Matter movement, as well a guide on Race and Anti-Racism, that continue to evolve as more voices are heard and ideals related to racism emerge.
- University Libraries' Special Collections & Archives increased worldwide accessibility to 50 years of publications which were written and created by members of the Kent State University Black United Students. Spanning from 1969 to 2019, the publications, entitled *Black Watch*, *The Spectrum* and *Uhuru*, have been professionally digitized and are accessible through University Libraries' digital archive.
- In April 2021, University Libraries and Research and Sponsored Programs collaborated to present a virtual Research Support Showcase that highlighted many of the resourceful research support services offered through University Libraries. Topics included data management planning, data visualization, researcher identity support, statistical

consulting software and analysis, open access repository, copyright and publishing support, innovation novelty and patent protection and research publishing.

- Due to the popularity of University Libraries' Curbside Pickup, which began while the building was closed to patrons during the pandemic, the convenient service will continue to be offered. Patrons reserve materials online and after receiving a confirmation email, they schedule a time to pick up the materials from a library staff member who brings the items to their car at the rear of the building.
- University Libraries strives to represent all voices in our collections. In 2020, the initiative Hack the Stacks was launched to encourage patrons to suggest content purchases that will expand the representation of authors and ideas to educate and enrich our Kent State community. University Libraries devoted more than \$150,000 of their acquisitions budget to Hack the Stacks.

#### Provost's Office Units

##### *Accreditation, Assessment and Learning*

- Kent State has been selected as one of the 2021 Great Colleges to Work For®, with special designation as an Honor Roll institution in 7 out of 10 categories including shared governance, confidence in senior leadership, and faculty experience. This is Kent State's first time on the honor roll—10th year being recognized while also achieving our best survey response rate to date (38%). Please note, the results will not be made public until they are released on the program website on September 13, 2021, thus we respectfully request that you keep this information confidential until then.
- Successfully completed the Annual Institutional Update for the Higher Learning Commission with no additional requirements requested.

##### *Continuing and Distance Education*

- Successfully facilitated the growth of online program development and online enrollments as we supported the move to remote learning and the transition to a new LMS (Learning Management System).
- Kent State Online Growth Data Snapshot:
  - 66 fully online programs (30 Graduate, 15 Undergraduate, 21 Certificate)
  - Added 6 fully online programs in the last year (2 Graduate, 1 Undergraduate, 3 Certificates)

- 273,085 credit hours taken online last year (V1, V2, V3 – 2020M, 2020F, 2021S, 2019S, 15th day)
- 30% of total credit hours were taken online for AY 2020-21
- Online students from 47 states and 17 countries
- Creation of KeepOnTeaching and KeepOnLearning websites to provide students and faculty with support during the pandemic.
- Over 800 faculty attended trainings provided by OCDE in conjunction with CTL.
- Nearly 200 faculty attended in-depth online teaching workshops during the pandemic.
- Invested \$71,000 in new course developments.
- Successful adoption/implementation of a new Learning Management System”
  - OCDE has partnered with IT in Canvas implementation and training for faculty which will include 19 online synchronous workshops
    - 158 attended at least 2 hours of training
    - 235 attendees, some with 5 hours + of training
    - 2,400 faculty enrolled self-paced orientation, Canvas in a Flash
    - 10 faculty eligible for CTL Bronze Teaching Development Award
  - Student Orientation
    - Developed Canvas in a Flash for students - Students can self-enroll in this Canvas training course.
  - Canvas Summer Pilot will include 190 courses, 266 sections and 121 instructors
- Expanded marketing and student support during the pandemic through social media with targeted videos and posts.
- Launched the redesigned Kent State Online Website ([www.kent.edu/online](http://www.kent.edu/online)) and have seen consistent growth through both search engine optimization and site analytics.
- Led the university to implement compliance changes to Federal regulations regarding State Authorization.
- Negotiated \$175,000 discount for 2020-21 Proctorio costs with an extension of the agreement for the following year.

### *Curriculum Services*

- Launched a new “Find a Program” website with a dynamic filter search, career-related information and photos highlighting each program.
- Redesigned Kent State University Catalog to include contact information, career occupations and labor data for each program.
- Facilitated the process to establish the following new degree programs: Cybersecurity (A.A.B.), Business Analytics (B.B.A.), Artificial Intelligence (M.S.), Aviation Maintenance Management (B.S.) (pending approval) and Mechatronics Engineering (M.S., Ph.D.) (pending approval).
- Fully rolled out the new curriculum management system for faculty and administrators to proposal, review and approve changes to courses, policies and programs — included creating a robust website and training 230 faculty and staff on the system.
- Partnered with the Office of Continuing and Distance Education to purchase a one-year trial of Burning Glass products to analyze labor market research, connect career outcomes to Kent State programs and guide new academic program planning.
- Oversaw the process to implement an interim Pass/Fail grade policy due to the COVID-19 pandemic, which included, creating a website, communicating with academic units, responding to 150+ email questions from students, assisting in creating a grade processing calendar and updating 500+ course prerequisites.
- Oversaw the implementation of a restructured Educational Policies Council and the convening of seven new EPC subcommittees.
- Reviewed more than 300 program and policies programs and nearly 1,500 course proposals for Fall 2021 implementation.

### *Design Innovation*

- The Design Innovation Hub officially opened in November 2020 with a Virtual Grand Opening experience. To date 1,997 individuals have visited the DI HUB Virtual Model 3761 times.
- 120 individuals have completed DI Hub Orientation process to be certified to utilize the tools/technologies in the DI Hub with 47 DI TEAM members, 28 Regular members, 15 Affiliate members, and 21 DI Fellows Program Students.

- Fashion/Tech Hackathon 2021: In partnership with the School of Fashion's TechStyleLAB team and LaunchNET, DI co-hosted and organized the completely virtual Fashion/Tech Hackathon. 190 students from 34 different countries participated.
- Hosted the NSF-funded "Trauma Room Redesign" project to hold live simulations of full-scale trauma room mock-up models with Cleveland Clinic staff in the DI Shared Faculty Studio.
- Developed DI Studio Strategies App, matrix of resources and workbook for translating learning outcomes. Concept presented by DI TEAM members at three international conferences.
- DI Challenge Based Innovation: "Reframing Experience" Project Course (Fall 2020) in partnership with School of Emerging Media and Technology (EMAT), School of Music and DI.
- Introduction to DI: offered in both Fall and Spring Semesters (hybrid remote format).

#### *Global Education*

- Top 7% for international enrollment according to Open Doors 2020.
- Top 4 among Ohio's state institutions in international student enrollment.
- Kent State is home to international students from 95 countries.
- The American Academy dual-enrollment program in Brazil grew by 57%.
- Top 100 (#69) for study abroad according to Open Doors.
- Top 2 among Ohio's state institutions in study abroad programs according to TBC.
- Salma Benhaida serves in the chair stream of the NAFSA (Association of international Educators) Enrollment Management Board and annual conference committee.
- Sarah Malcolm served as past chair of the Ohio International Consortium Executive Committee.
- Color Kang serves as Chair of the Recruitment Committee of the Ohio International Consortium.

- Kristina Spangler was selected as a national reviewer of the Benjamin Gilman Scholarship, a prestigious US Department of State scholarship program for elite study abroad students.
- Host to 13 degree-seeking international graduate students as part of the prestigious Fulbright program funded by the U.S Department of State and anticipating 4 more placements for Fall 21.
- Awarded U.S Department of State grant to host 4 students in the Ugrad Pakistan program for Fall 21 Awarded the U.S Department of State Thomas Jefferson grant to host 4 undergraduate students Fall 21 from Jordan, Paraguay, Niger and Ukraine.
- Launched the International Student Orientation Leaders programs (also recognized at NAFSA).
- International recruitment initiatives and strategies this academic year generated a 36% increase in international applications for Fall 2021 compared with the previous year and a 12.5% increase in Fall 21 admits.
- Created a fully online International Student Orientation program and implemented one-on-one virtual immigration check-ins with all new students.
- Launched three new scholarship programs: Garnett International Student Scholarship, International Student Support Fund, Bhargava Global Citizens.
- 4 KSU study abroad students were recipients of competitive study abroad scholarships including the Freeman-ASIA scholarship, the Benjamin Gilman Scholarship and the OIC Donald N Nelson Scholarship.
- Launched the Global Degree program with Anglo American University in Prague (first cohort begins Fall 2021).
- Signed 10 new or renewal partnership agreements.
- Launched the EPC: Internationalization Advisory Committee
- Launched the World in a Flash online platform, to increase donor awareness and activity in preparation and build up to the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Florence program in 2022.
- Developed and implemented new language exchange partner program which ultimately enrolled 175 students from 13 partner universities.

- Developed new resources for underrepresented and special populations of students participating in education abroad programs (LGBTQ+, veterans, students of color, etc.).
- Virtual KSU-Florence semester program enrolled 72 students.
- Developed 3 new programs at the Paris American Academy for Spring 2022 and Summer 2022.
- Creation of Office of Global Education strategic plan and publication.

#### *University Outreach and Engagement*

- Preparing to welcome the inaugural LeBron James Family Foundation (LJFF) senior class (currently 44 students) into Kent State's Fall class and the newly formed DCCAP partnership, a college access organization from Washington DC.
- Launched a successful Town & Gown Employee Appreciation Program, Blue, Gold & Grateful, that acknowledged our collective university-system employees through gift certificates to support their local communities across NE Ohio; in downtown Kent, over \$30,000 was pumped into the local economy.
- Created the office of University Outreach & Engagement to further strengthen Kent State's commitment to its access mission and community engagement that transforms lives and communities.
- Our First Star Academy has been recognized at the state and national level for supporting students impacted by the foster care system throughout the pandemic; the Academy director was selected to lead the national First Star's Scholar Advisory Council.
- Strengthened our Town & Gown relationship through coordinated partnerships to provide joint COVID testing events with the Ohio National Guard and the creation of a T&G strategy and response team and a list serv to improve communication.
- Launched the College of Public Health and Akron Public Schools Community Health Worker Certificate Program.