

# ENCOMPASS



KENT STATE UNIVERSITY AT STARK MAGAZINE

Fall 2015

The future of

## SCIENCE AND NURSING

in Stark County

page 4



  
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UNIVERSITY  
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# MESSAGE from the DEAN

Dear Members and Friends  
of Kent State University at Stark,

This past year was filled with remarkable growth and accomplishments for Kent State Stark. We experienced positive community collaborations, new faculty and staff, exciting programming and added a state-of-the-art Science and Nursing Building. As I continue to meet new people and learn more about Stark County, I appreciate the wonderful feedback and encouraging stories about Kent State University's presence in this community. I feel privileged to be connected with this progressive campus and I look forward to more reasons to celebrate this year, such as the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our campus and the 25<sup>th</sup> season of our popular Featured Speakers Series.

This issue of *Encompass* introduces the innovative features and academic opportunities of the new Science and Nursing Building. This structural anchor to our science disciplines is positioned to impact the quality of our students' education, the research of our faculty and economic growth of our region. I encourage you to visit the campus's seventh major building and learn more about the elements that earned it LEED® Gold Certification.

We welcomed Dr. A. Bathi Kasturiarachi as Kent State Stark's assistant dean for academic affairs. In addition to skillfully leading our esteemed faculty, he is making impactful strides for education in this community. To give high school students a head start on their college degrees, he coordinated new College Credit Plus agreements with several area school districts, including Fairless Local that is highlighted in this issue.

Join us for our 2015-16 cultural arts season. Hear engaging Featured Speakers Series lectures from a renowned journalist, a music visionary, a civic leader and a famed astronaut. We are thrilled to partner with *The Repository* to present a performance of 200 years of Canton's history by our talented theatre department.

The undeniable excitement resonating from Stark County's only public university is contagious. Read the moving stories in this issue of *Encompass* to learn how Kent State Stark inspires those in our community to reach their greatest potential. Visit our campus to discover all that is here for you.

Denise A. Seachrist, Ph.D.

## **Encompass**

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# POWER UP

IN ADDITION TO KENT STATE UNIVERSITY AT STARK'S NEW SCIENCE AND NURSING BUILDING, a stunning blue and gold vertical wind turbine was erected in May, thanks to a \$28,000 Higher Educational Partnership grant from the Dominion Foundation.

The structure promotes energy conservation and sustainability, while supporting Kent State Stark's commitment to reducing the impact of campus operations on the environment. The wind turbine, which is the first to be installed at a Stark County college or university, also will serve as a cross-disciplinary teaching and learning tool for students.

"Faculty from many departments, including geography, geology, biology, psychology and more, will implement it in their curriculum," says Dr. Chris Post, associate professor of geography at Kent State Stark. "Students and faculty will capture data and other information from energy produced by the wind turbine for use in classes and research projects."





ON THE COVER

A side view of the new  
Science and Nursing Building

ABOVE: The Science and Nursing Building during final stages of construction.

ON THE WEB  
.....

Watch an online time lapse video of the construction of Kent State Stark's Science and Nursing Building at [www.kent.edu/stark/science-nursing-building](http://www.kent.edu/stark/science-nursing-building).



# Science Nonfiction

The new Science and Nursing Building is a reality. After many years of planning and one year of construction, the campus's seventh major building opened to students in August.

**Enlarged classrooms and contemporary laboratories,** customized for biology, geology, nursing and physics



A **super-power microscope** to view microbes never before seen on campus



A **mudroom** for examining specimens from outdoor study areas



The latest **high-tech instruments** and equipment

## New Features



A **wind turbine** to showcase the benefits of green energy

"I am looking forward to discovering ways in which we can leverage this resource into new teaching strategies, grant proposals and collaborative endeavors."

Dr. Greg Smith,  
assistant professor of biology

### THIS FALL, HOPES AND DREAMS FOR A NEW SCIENCE AND NURSING BUILDING AT KENT STATE UNIVERSITY AT STARK HAVE BECOME REALITY.

The Science and Nursing Building, which opened to students in August, is three stories of proof that Kent State Stark is on the cutting edge of science and health education. Along with the newly renovated chemistry classrooms and laboratories in Main Hall's East Wing and the adjacent pond and wetlands, the new building creates an academic enviro-space for the 21st century. It's a nurturing habitat for tomorrow's scientists, researchers and medical workers.

"With the new building, we can offer more advanced courses and more cutting-edge courses," says Dr. Kim Finer, professor of biology. "Given the space and instrumentation we now have, we can offer the same laboratory experience a student would get at a much larger, research-focused institution — but with the personal touch one expects from faculty at a campus our size."

#### ROOM TO GROW, TOGETHER

Called a "beacon for science teaching and research" in Stark County, the nearly 42,000-square-foot Science and Nursing Building helps unite and bolster collaboration between biology, chemistry, geology, nursing

and physics disciplines. Previously, these departments and their classrooms, labs and lecture spaces were located in two separate buildings.

"The building gives us room to grow," says Dr. Robert Hamilton IV, associate professor of biology. "Kent State Stark has near-term and long-term plans to expand teaching and research in the life, physical, chemical, medical and environmental science areas."

The Department of Nursing's departure from the Fine Arts Building also enables expansion of Kent State Stark's music, art and theatre programs. The redesign is expected to begin in 2016.

### LESSONS IN ECOLOGY

Even outside its classrooms and labs, the Science and Nursing Building offers lessons in ecology. For example, students can see firsthand:

- A wind turbine producing electric power
- Solar thermal generation of hot water
- A green roof that naturally filters rain water

Building features like these demonstrate Kent State Stark's commitment to sustainable design and operations. They've also helped qualify the building for LEED® (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Gold Certification.

### INSPIRING INVOLVEMENT

Long before construction began in spring 2014, Kent State Stark science faculty were instrumental in the building's planning and design.

"The faculty were very involved from the beginning, sharing their needs and aspirations with the designers and architects," says Brian Gardner, senior facilities manager. "They directed the details of each classroom and lab, such as the design of instrument-storage cabinets. They requested equipment, such as spring-loaded electrical reels to hang from the ceiling so students would no longer need to maneuver around power cords on the floor. These new classrooms and labs are fashioned by those who know them best."

Many faculty members predict that the new facility will inspire more students to pursue science degrees and even attract more scientific minds to Stark County. Larger, dedicated research spaces will allow more students to become engaged in faculty research.

"The new Science and Nursing Building will make students, faculty and staff proud to be 'science nerds,'" says Dr. Greg Smith, assistant professor of biology. "It shows a commitment by our campus to science education and research. I am looking forward to discovering ways in which we can leverage this resource into new teaching strategies, grant proposals and collaborative endeavors."

# Turning Savings into Scholarships

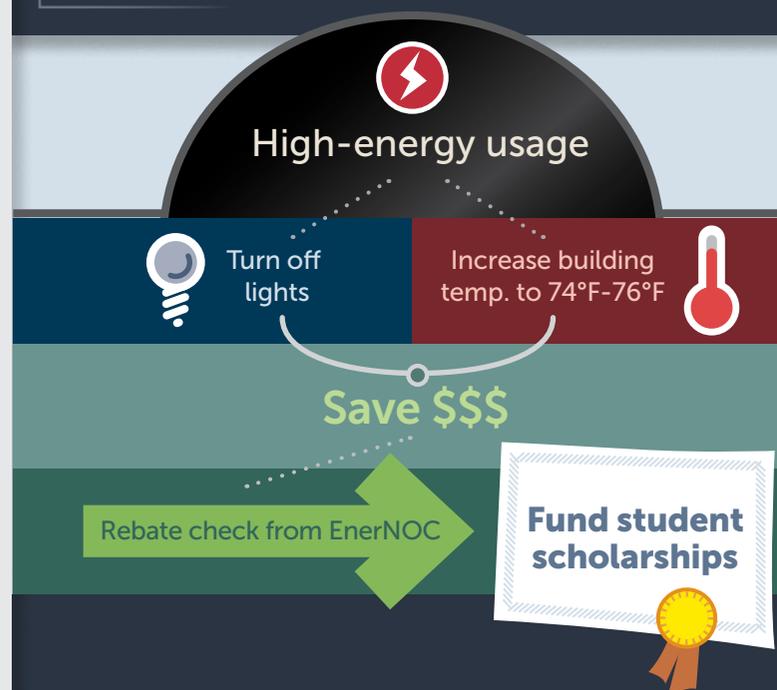
Being energy conscious is saving more than electricity at Kent State University at Stark. It's saving money for student scholarships.

As part of the EnerNOC demand-response program, Kent State Stark earns cash rebates for using less electricity when others need it most.

"Particularly on 90-degree days when air conditioners are running nonstop, EnerNOC may detect higher-than-normal energy demand in our region," says Brian Gardner, senior facilities manager. "In response, they'll contact us and ask us to shed load. Then we'll begin our established process for conserving electricity. We may turn off certain lights or increase temperatures in certain buildings from 74 to 76 degrees, for example."

By lowering energy use, Kent State Stark and other participating facilities can help electric companies avoid regional blackouts or brownouts. In exchange, EnerNOC sends companies quarterly rebate checks.

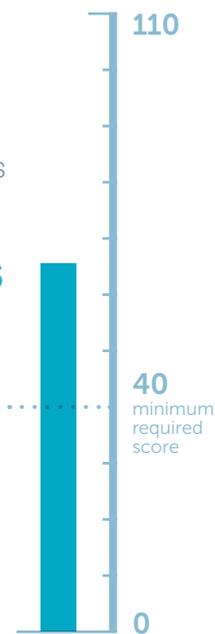
"Currently, the rebates are used to award student scholarships from a general scholarship fund," says Dr. La Tarsha Miller, business services administrator. "As degree opportunities expand, we will use the rebates to create a scholarship benefiting students interested in the sciences."



# How the Science and Nursing Building Earned LEED® Certification

The Science and Nursing Building is projected to earn

**66 points**  
GOLD CERTIFICATION



LEED® (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification is regarded around the world as the top achievement in environmentally friendly building construction. According to the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), "LEED-certified buildings save money and resources and have a positive impact on the health of occupants, while promoting renewable, clean energy."

To be "LEED-certified," building projects must earn at least 40 out of 110 points on USGBC's project scorecard. Points are awarded for various criteria, such as having water-efficient landscaping, using recycled materials and controlling energy usage. Earning more points achieves Silver, Gold or Platinum status.



# FEATURES

The Science and Nursing Building is projected to earn 66 points, "Gold Certification," with many features, including:

	<p>Solar Tubes on Roof</p>	<p><b>ON-SITE RENEWABLE ENERGY » 1 POINT</b></p> <p>The sun is the main power source for heating the building's water supply. Glycol (heat-transfer fluid) in tubes on the roof absorbs heat from the sun. Warmed glycol flows to tanks in the building's mechanical room where it heats water.</p>
	<p>Green Roof</p>	<p><b>WATER-EFFICIENT LANDSCAPING » 4 POINTS</b></p> <p>The green roof is covered with vegetation that absorbs rainwater. Roof runoff flows to a series of weirs that feed a rain garden on the north and east sides of the building.</p>
	<p>Wall on 2nd Floor</p>	<p><b>LOW-EMITTING PAINTS AND COATINGS » 1 POINT</b></p> <p>All paints and coatings are low-VOC, meaning they emit fewer volatile organic compounds, which are harmful chemicals that can pollute air inside the building.</p>
	<p>Lights on 1st Floor</p>	<p><b>CONTROLLED LIGHTING SYSTEMS » 1 POINT</b></p> <p>Light-activation sensors turn lights on or off. So does an automated scheduling system. Light-monitoring sensors detect outdoor light shining through windows and adjust indoor light accordingly (e.g., dimming indoor lights on sunny days).</p>
	<p>Chiller on Ground Floor</p>	<p><b>ENHANCED REFRIGERANT MANAGEMENT » 2 POINTS</b></p> <p>A small heat-recovery chiller saves energy by cooling the building during moderate-temperature (60-70 degree) days. It's a relatively low-energy device, compared to 300-ton, bus-sized Central Plant chillers that cool most university buildings.</p>
	<p>Wind Turbine</p>	<p><b>ON-SITE RENEWABLE ENERGY » 1 POINT</b></p> <p>A wind turbine, which stands adjacent to the building, produces two to four kilowatts of electrical power.</p>



# A Pound of Cure

## **Obesity is an epidemic in Stark County.**

*But Kent State Stark nursing students have begun providing treatment and educating youth about healthy eating and exercise.*

THE STARK COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT identifies the number one health concern in our area as obesity. In 2009, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that nearly 70 percent of Stark County adults, as well as more than 33 percent of third-graders, were overweight or obese.

Nursing students at Kent State University at Stark understand the seriousness of obesity — and the diabetes, heart disease and other conditions it can cause. During spring semester, a group of seven seniors reviewed the community's "chart" and began providing "treatment" as part of a project in their Community Health Nursing course.

### **DIAGNOSIS: POOR DIET AND EXERCISE**

"We gathered data for all of Stark County, but since Lake Township was a central location for our group, we focused our efforts there," says Kyleigh Zwick. "We studied Lake's resources and discovered that there weren't many healthy restaurant choices in the area — mostly fast-food places. And besides community parks, there was only one option for physical activity, a local YMCA."

Zwick and her classmates diagnosed a desperate need for education about healthy lifestyle choices. They decided the best place to begin inspiring better habits was with Lake Township youth.

### **NURSES TO THE RESCUE**

The group shared their findings with Matt Pinion, a health teacher at Lake Middle School. In response, he welcomed them to organize a health fair for his sixth- and seventh-graders.

"At the health fair, students visited stations that taught them about healthy eating and exercise," says Sierra (Gallina) Lepley. "All of our displays were intended to show how it's not hard to make healthy choices."

At one station, Zwick displayed bottles of familiar beverages, such as Mountain Dew, Coca-Cola, grape juice, chocolate milk and Powerade. The bottles were empty, except for a measurement of dry sugar, showing the grams of sugar in each beverage.

"Students thought that was really cool — seeing the 77 grams of sugar in Mountain Dew and the 68 grams in Coke and then comparing it to the 27-gram portion that's considered a maximum daily limit," says Zwick. "They learned that even fruit juice has lots of sugar. The healthiest beverage is water, but we showed them how to flavor it with fresh fruit slices."

**At other stations, the future nurses invited students to:**

- **View menus from local fast-food restaurants and identify the healthiest options (e.g., chicken salad instead of a burger; water instead of a soft drink).**
- **Practice reading and understanding food labels.**
- **Sample healthy snack options, such as fresh strawberry smoothies and zucchini bread.**
- **Learn about activity tracking wristbands and other resources to make fitness fun.**
- **Get moving with dance routines on YouTube.**

"They're kids, so you can't tell them not to eat ice cream! It's more about teaching them moderation and balancing diet and exercise," says Lepley.

### **LONG-TERM RESULTS**

The health fair was only one day, but the group expects results to be long lasting. In addition to leaving their displays at the school, they left a box with healthy recipes that students can take home — like library books — and return along with their own healthy recipe contributions.

"Before the fair, we asked students about their favorite foods," says Zwick. "Most of them listed things like pizza, chicken nuggets and French fries. After the fair, many students asked if they could change their original responses!"

### **HELPING COMMUNITIES LIVE HEALTHIER**

Until their senior year, most Kent State Stark nursing students learn in the classroom or in clinical rotations at a local hospital, explains Latonya Shoulders, assistant professor of nursing. The Community Health Nursing course teaches them other roles, outside a doctor's office or medical center. During the course, students sample nursing jobs in jails, community health clinics and other agencies, as well as complete a community assessment project.

"We put students in the world of a community health nurse, where they assess needs and try to help whole groups of people live healthier," says Shoulders.

Both Zwick and Lepley earned their bachelor of nursing degrees this August and say the course expanded their understanding of nurses as educators and disease preventers. While their new nursing careers will most likely start in a hospital or other clinical setting, both are open to community nursing roles, as well.

"Nursing entails so much more than taking care of people in a hospital," says Lepley. "Nurses also are teachers who help you learn how to prevent disease and stay out of the hospital."



*Sierra (Gallina) Lepley*

*Kyleigh Zwick*

"Nursing entails so much more than taking care of people in a hospital. Nurses also are teachers who help you learn how to prevent disease and stay out of the hospital."

 Sierra (Gallina) Lepley, senior nursing major



*Drs. Greg Smith, Robert Hamilton IV and Matt Lehnert, biological sciences faculty members, are anxious to begin teaching in the Science and Nursing Building's cutting-edge laboratories.*

# BIOLOGY AT WORK

Biology professors began moving into the Science and Nursing Building in May. Despite the enormous task of setting up new classrooms, laboratories and offices, they knew even bigger changes were yet to come.

Perhaps no one will be impacted more by the Science and Nursing Building at Kent State University at Stark than those who work within it, nearly 30 faculty and staff from four academic departments.

**ACADEMIC DEPARTMENTS** housed in Kent State Stark's new Science and Nursing Building include:

- » Biological Sciences
- » Geology
- » Nursing
- » Physics

The faculty members in the biological sciences department are looking forward to big changes — not just in *where*, but in *how* and *what* they teach and research.

## Dr. P. Bagavandoss

Associate Professor

**Courses taught:** Anatomy, physiology, cell biology, biology of aging

**Favorite feature of new building:** State-of-the-art research labs will help attract high-quality students.

**How courses will change:** It will be easier to teach cell biology labs since all equipment will be in one place. Previously, the confocal microscope was on Main Hall's third floor, but the biology lab was on the second floor of the East Wing. I couldn't be with different groups of students using microscopes at the same time. Now I can.

**How research will change:** For the first time, there will be rooms dedicated to research. In the past, research and teaching were carried out in the same room, making it difficult to perform experiments when a class was in session.



## Dr. Kim Finer

Professor

**Courses taught:** Microbiology, human genetics, HIV/AIDS

**Favorite feature of new building:** The innovative oval bench setup in the molecular laboratory (instead of the traditional rows of benches) will better promote collaboration between students and professors.

**How courses will change:** Now that lab and classroom spaces are separate and we can more easily permit access to appropriately trained students, we can work with genetically modified microbes that we couldn't use before. Also, our new molecular laboratory will help support a new course in virology (study of viruses), which I am developing.

**How research will change:** I will do more of my own research on site. Previously, I worked in a laboratory off campus because of security concerns. The new labs allow us to more easily control the space so we can work with a greater variety of microbes.

## Chemistry Corner

Approximately 5,250 square feet of classrooms and labs in Main Hall's East Wing have been renovated for Kent State Stark's Department of Chemistry. This space adjoins the Science and Nursing Building through a second-floor bridge.

## Dr. Clarke Earley

Associate Professor

**Courses taught:** General chemistry, organic chemistry, chemistry for non-science majors

**Favorite feature of the East Wing renovation:** An increase in fume hood space will allow students to do more individual experiments involving compounds with unpleasant odors or other undesirable characteristics.

**How courses will change:** With more labs, we will be able to offer more chemistry laboratory classes, such as the Analytical Chemistry lab, available for the first time at Kent State Stark this fall. Expanded lab space also will give us the opportunity to perform a wider range of experiments — including multi-week experiments — and will be safer for our students.





## Dr. Robert Hamilton IV

Associate Professor

**Courses taught:** Human biology, general ecology, invertebrate zoology, entomology, biogeography, watershed studies

**Favorite feature of new building:** Specially designed research and mentoring spaces will be a welcome change from the prior general-purpose spaces.

**How courses will change:** Our facilities are now the most modern in the county — state-of-the-art and LEED certified. The building itself is a teaching tool about sustainability.

**How research will change:** Before the new building, teaching and research space was limited and shared. Now teaching, mentoring students and conducting research can take place simultaneously in different places, without one interfering with the other.



## Dr. Matthew Lehnert

Assistant Professor

**Courses taught:** Genetics, evolution, biological foundations, biological diversity

**Favorite feature of new building:** Large windows for natural sunlight will brighten interior classrooms and labs, as well as create a better working and learning environment.

**How courses will change:** One of the most exciting changes is integrating the new scanning electron microscope (SEM) into lectures and labs. The SEM is housed in a room dedicated to electron microscopy, yet it has remote functionality, allowing faculty to use it in real time while teaching. Its high magnification abilities will give students an eye-opening view of life at the micro and nano scale.

**How research will change:** Research will be more efficient. Most of the tools and dedicated lab space needed for research are now compartmentalized. Students doing research with insects, for instance, can easily walk from the organismal research lab to the SEM room for imaging without traversing large distances. In addition, the new organismal research lab has space dedicated to faculty and student research, providing excellent opportunities to collaborate on cross-disciplinary projects.



## Dr. Greg Smith

Assistant Professor

**Courses taught:** Introductory biology for majors and non-majors, conservation biology, vertebrate zoology

**Favorite feature of new building:** Student study rooms and common areas are ideal for group study and learning sessions with faculty (since they're adjacent to faculty offices).

**How courses will change:** Many of the courses I teach have a field component. The new building will enhance opportunities for field experiences, providing easy access to the outdoor classroom, which includes our pond and wetland research area.

**How research will change:** As a field biologist, studying wildlife ecology and conservation, much of my research is done outside. However, the new building provides new research spaces and centralized locations for equipment storage, meeting and collaborating. This should enhance the sharing of resources across disciplines.



### CONFOCAL MICROSCOPE

*Optically reconstructs 3D structures from obtained images.*

# Physics Corner

## Dr. Ran Li

Associate Professor

**Courses taught:** General university physics, general college physics, astronomy, Seven Ideas That Shook the Universe

**Favorite feature of new building:** The green roof will be a great demonstration of how to save energy on heating and cooling the building. It will help exhibit the "energy" segment in my Seven Ideas that Shook the Universe course.

**How courses will change:** With additional lab space, we now can offer more astronomy and physics lab sessions throughout the week. In Main Hall, we shared a lab with the Department of Geology, which made scheduling challenging and sometimes prevented students from making up missed lab work.

**How research will change:** I am a theorist. My research involves an enormous amount of computation, which requires a supercomputer to do the calculations. Supercomputers require a special room with a special cooling system — something that's been designed into the new Science and Nursing Building.





# DONATING to SCIENCE

A whole community of contributors is helping fund the Science and Nursing Building – and the strength of our region.

**IT TOOK \$17 MILLION TO TURN THE DREAM** of Kent State University at Stark’s “bio-envirospace” into the stunning, state-of-the-art Science and Nursing Building that exists today. Funding is coming not only from Kent State University, but from a whole community of contributors.

The new building’s influence will reach far beyond campus. The students who excel in its classrooms and laboratories will become the researchers, teachers, healthcare providers, business owners and other professionals that will strengthen our region.

“Many area foundations have been generous in their support of the Science and Nursing Building,” says Karen Fettig, director of advancement. “That speaks volumes about their shared commitment to the education of Stark County residents for a brighter tomorrow.”

*“We believe in having great local facilities for teaching the sciences to the young people in our community...”*

Larry Hoover,  
The Hoover Foundation

Those who have contributed to the Science and Nursing Building include:

### The George H. Deuble Foundation

To honor their generosity, the ground-floor student lounge and second-floor conference room have been named The Deuble Foundation Student Lounge and The Deuble Foundation Conference Room.

### The Aultman Health Foundation

In recognition, the nursing simulation laboratory and a study room have been named the Aultman Nursing Simulation Laboratory and the Aultman Student Study Area.

### The Hoover Foundation

To mark this contribution, the geology laboratories and geology mudroom have been named in honor of the foundation.

### The Diebold Foundation

In gratitude for this gift, the second-floor student lounge has been named The Diebold Collaboration Lounge.

“We believe in having great local facilities for teaching the sciences to the young people in our community, especially in a building earning LEED Gold certification,” says Larry Hoover of The Hoover Foundation.

“And, a plus is being able to sponsor a dedicated research and teaching area for the geological sciences.”

Naming opportunities for the Science and Nursing Building still exist, including the biology, chemistry and physics laboratories; conference rooms; classrooms and student study areas. Beautiful outdoor spaces, such as patios and courtyards, also could be named in honor of individuals, corporations or foundations.

To discuss support opportunities for the Science and Nursing Building, contact Karen Fettig at 330-244-3225 or [kfettig@kent.edu](mailto:kfettig@kent.edu).



The Hoover Foundation receives a copy of the Kent State Board of Trustees resolution in recognition of their support of the Science and Nursing Building. Pictured are (left to right) Larry Hoover, Interim Dean Denise Seachrist, Chuck Hoover and Senior Facilities Manager Brian Gardner.



# The Science of Clean

**The wood-treating facility** had been closed since 1981. Abandoned. Bankrupt. Steeped in hazardous waste from chemical residue of 30 years of coating wood poles with pentachlorophenol, a compound used as a pesticide and disinfectant.

For decades, the facility's wastewater ponds had overflowed after heavy rains, spilling into local streets, storm drains and the nearby bay. The groundwater and soil there still contained toxins. Kent State University at Stark alumna Sandra (Kandel) Unkefer saw it firsthand.

After earning her B.S. in geology in 2006, Unkefer worked on the massive cleanup as a contractor through a Tampa, Florida-based environmental science company.

"My job was to go in and assess the conditions and ultimately try to intercept the toxins, stopping them from infiltrating groundwater," she says. "Environmental professionals are still working on that site today."

But not Unkefer. After several years of testing groundwater and soil samples and helping clean up hazardous waste sites across the U.S., Unkefer moved home to Canton and into a new career: soap making. She began Kandel's Candles & Soaps in 2012.

Geology alumna Sandra (Kandel) Unkefer recycled her environmental science career into an all-natural, home-based business.



*Unkefer's soaps come in a variety of scents from Espresso to Man Scent #2.*



### *Employing her science degree*

It really wasn't much of a leap, she explains — just another way to employ her science degree, knowledge of chemical contamination and passion for the environment.

"I've seen the damage that some man-made chemicals can do to groundwater and soil," says Unkefer. "My all-natural, preservative-free products won't do that."

Kandel's Candles & Soaps produces liquid and bar soaps, laundry soaps, lotions, body butters and candles without any ingredients that would "send up a flag on a water sample."

"As an environmental scientist, I would flag any chemical lingering in water or soil that could potentially have a negative effect on future generations," says Unkefer.

**"A science degree is a great foundation** for so many careers."

Sandra (Kandel) Unkefer,  
owner of Kandel's Candles & Soaps

### *All-natural blends*

Today, Unkefer custom blends products from her temperature- and humidity-controlled home workshop, equipped with work tables, soap and candle molds, and curing racks that can hold more than 300 pounds of soap in progress.

For bar soaps, olive oil is the main ingredient, blended with coconut and palm oils — all responsibly harvested, Unkefer is quick to note. After mixing the oils with distilled water, lye and natural fragrances, she pours the pudding-like consistency into molds. The soap congeals in 24 to 48 hours. Then Unkefer removes the mold, hand-cuts the soap into bars and sets them on a rack to cure for up to eight weeks.

Laundry soap is a blend of her grated bar soap, washing soda, borax and natural fragrance. Exfoliant soaps and lotions include poppy seeds or coffee grounds — no plastic beads. Everything is biodegradable or recyclable, down to the packaging. Laundry soap comes in wide-mouthed Mason jars, which customers can recycle or return to Unkefer for \$1 off their next purchase.



Kandel's Candles & Soaps is a regular at farmers markets and small shops around Stark County, but most customers come by word of mouth.

"Because I don't use preservatives, artificial dyes or synthetic fragrances, my products are safe for the environment, as well as people with skin sensitivities and allergies," says Unkefer, who can incorporate essential oils according to a customer's skin type or condition. "Customers have told me that mine is the first lotion that didn't make their hands burn or the first laundry soap that didn't make their child's skin red and itchy."

### *The secret ingredient*

Unkefer's secret? Understanding chemistry. And having a working knowledge of hydrogeology, geochemistry and environmental geology — all courses she took at the Stark and Kent campuses.

"I use all of that to choose the right ingredients for my products, knowing which ones will be best for customers and best for the earth," she says.

Majoring in science doesn't mean you need to work in a lab or even for a scientific company, stresses Unkefer.

"A science degree is a great foundation for so many careers," she says. "If you want to teach or do research, you can. If you want to work outside in the environment, you can. If you want to be an entrepreneur or work from home, I've proven you can do that, too."

For more about Kandel's Candles & Soaps, email [kandelsg@gmail.com](mailto:kandelsg@gmail.com) or call 330-309-8598.

### *Where to find Kandel's Candles & Soaps*

**LOCAL FLAIR**  
221 N. Market St., Minerva

**JOHN TSANGEOS II JEWELER**  
1705 30th St. NE, Canton

**NORTH CANTON FARMERS MARKET**  
(behind Main Street Grille),  
123 S. Main St., North Canton  
(Tuesdays, 3:30–6 p.m. seasonal)



# WALKING THROUGH TIME

Just how long is 545 million years?  
About a half mile.

**O**UR LIFE SPANS MAY LAST 80, 90 OR 100 YEARS AT THE MOST. And our view of historic time may get blurry beyond three or four generations. It's no wonder that Earth science scholars can be challenged by the concept of geologic eras (several hundred million years) and eons (approximately one billion years). At least until they've walked through one.

The Geologic Time Scale Walk at Kent State University at Stark puts time into perspective. The half-mile path around the campus pond and wetland research area uses colorful, informational signs to space out Earth's most recent 545 million years — through Paleozoic, Mesozoic and Cenozoic eras. (Using the same scale, the origin of the Earth, 4.6 billion years ago, would be at the Akron-Canton Airport.) Visitors learn about each time period's plants and animals as they explore the geology and paleontology of Ohio.

Dr. Carrie Schweitzer, professor of geology, designed the walk and directed its installation in 2008, for Kent State Stark's first Earth Day celebration. She modeled the exhibit after other time scale walks in the U.S., including those at the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in Colorado and the Grand Canyon National Park in Arizona.

"The expanse of geologic time surprises people," says Schweitzer. "Students are shocked by how long dinosaurs existed compared to

how short a time humans have existed. And they often don't know about the interesting mammals that lived after the dinosaurs."

Schweitzer requires all students in her core science courses to visit the Geologic Time Scale Walk. It's open year-round to the public and is listed as one of the Geological Society of America's EarthCache™ sites.

The walk begins outside Kent State Stark's Main Hall, near the East Wing, and circles the pond at the campus's northeast corner, ending near the gazebo.



*Dr. Carrie Schweitzer, professor of geology, designed the exhibit after other time scale walks in the U.S.*

# Blood Donations Pay Dividends



For every 40 donations of blood collected at Kent State Stark, LifeShare awards the campus \$500 for student scholarships.



## **BJ YODER, A SENIOR MARKETING MAJOR, DONATES BLOOD EVERY CHANCE HE GETS**

at blood drives in the Campus Center. It's one small way to help the community, he says. Little did he know how much giving blood would help him.

"I was sitting there, drinking water and eating Chex Mix after giving blood, when the staff introduced me to the LifeShare Community Blood Services Scholarship," says Yoder. "I took a scholarship application and filled it out. I have full responsibility for my college tuition, so why not?"

That application earned Yoder \$1,375 to help defray his Kent State University at Stark tuition for the upcoming academic year.

The funds came from LifeShare, a Northeast Ohio nonprofit that runs community blood drives, including those at Kent State Stark. Nearly 20 percent of LifeShare's blood comes from drives at schools and college campuses. In appreciation, LifeShare gives back through scholarships and grants.

For every 40 useable donations (approximately 40 pints) of blood collected at Kent State Stark, LifeShare awards the campus \$500 for student scholarships.

"Since the program began on campus in 2005, we have collected more than 5,000 pints of blood and approximately \$74,000," says Stacie Humm, academic program coordinator of the Recreation and Wellness Center.

During the 2014-15 academic year, the campus collected 455 pints of blood for Stark County and \$5,500 — which was shared equally among four scholarship applicants, including Yoder. To qualify, students must complete a brief application and submit an essay about their community service experience.

"LifeShare's program at Kent State Stark is a great way to support Stark County through blood donation, while supporting our students through scholarships," says Humm.



# Grant Spotlight

Several exciting advancements to Kent State Stark's science education have been made possible by recent grants.

Science education takes more than textbooks and test tubes. Learning the latest technologies and techniques often requires special resources — and therefore special funding from grants like these.



## FLUME SYSTEM AND WATER TESTING EQUIPMENT \$16,126

Geology and biology students will be able to see the effects of water flow without leaving the Science and Nursing Building. Thanks to a grant from the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District, Kent State Stark purchased a six-gallon desktop flume system for the geology lab.

"The device will help students learn about water, rivers and sedimentary structures — such as why flooding occurs and how sedimentary rocks form," explains Dr. Carrie Schweitzer, professor of geology. Schweitzer received the grant, along with co-principal investigators Drs. Robert Hamilton IV and Eric Taylor.

The grant also will fund new equipment for students to test water quality and collect field samples in local watersheds.

"Students will benefit by actively participating in research and laboratory projects," says Schweitzer. "Using equipment that can simulate river and sedimentation processes allows them to observe what happens in the real world and conduct experiments. Using water and field collection equipment will allow them to practice vital skills for their future research or environmental careers."



*Ben Swartz, age 12, of Lake Middle School, studies the chemical and physical changes of his experiment during the 2014 Super Science Saturday event.*

*Photographer: Michael Balash / Reprinted with permission from The Repository.*

## SCIENCE TEACHER TRAINING \$125,638

Nearly every year since 2005, 30-plus teachers have come to Kent State Stark to learn the best methods of teaching chemistry to fourth- through ninth-graders. The Conceptual Chemistry course will be offered again in 2015, thanks to continued funding from the Ohio Board of Regents.

Dr. Claudia Khourey-Bowers, professor of education (retired), received an Improving Teacher Quality Program grant, along with co-principal investigator Dr. Christopher Fenk of Kent State Tuscarawas. The grant is part of the No Child Left Behind program.

This year's funding will pay full tuition for 32 participants — mostly teachers from school districts around Northeast Ohio. They will come to Kent State Stark for a full week of

classes in June and for Saturday sessions throughout fall semester. Each participant will receive teaching materials and supplies to use during the program, as well as in their home classrooms.

The grant also will fund Super Science Saturday, a community science festival held each fall at Kent State Stark. Schoolchildren come to campus for hands-on science fun hosted by Conceptual Chemistry participants.

"The Conceptual Chemistry course helps grade-school and middle-school educators improve how they teach science to younger students," says Khourey-Bowers. "Hosting the program is our way of contributing to the community, supporting STEM programs and promoting academic advancement."

# WHERE Credit's DUE

CANTON'S MCKINLEY HEALTH CARE CENTER, like other nursing homes, is a melting pot of generations. There are Traditionalists — the senior citizen residents. There are Baby Boomers, Generation Xers and Millennials — both on staff and among residents' visiting families.

Mixing generations in one workplace isn't always easy. Differing behaviors and expectations can cause conflicts.

Rebecca Samblanet, regional director of marketing and business development for McKinley Health Care Center, knows this all too well. So do nursing home administrators like her — nearly 40 of whom converged at The Corporate University, Kent State University at Stark, in March to learn how to manage generational differences.

## FOCUS ON NURSING HOMES

It was The Corporate University's second annual full-day conference for nursing home administrators. Attendees earned up to six continuing education credits, certified by the Ohio Board of Executives of Long-term Services & Supports (BELTSS). Nursing home administrators in Ohio need 20 BELTSS or other approved continuing education credits to renew their state license each year.

"Nursing home admins earn BELTSS credits here by taking our standard supervisor and manager courses," says Julie Bland of The Corporate University.

"This conference allowed them to earn multiple credits on one day, plus learn and discuss topics from a nursing home perspective."

*"It's a great way to keep up with current trends and learn from others in the field."*

**Rebecca Samblanet,**  
regional director of marketing  
and business development,  
McKinley Health Care Center

Bland first organized the conference in 2014 after a nursing home administrator from Toledo came to The Corporate University to earn BELTSS credits.

"He was so impressed with the Kent State Stark Conference Center and easy access to highways and hotels that he encouraged us to offer a full-day conference for his colleagues," says Bland.

She learned that the nearest BELTSS-certified conference was in Columbus and began plans to host one at Kent State Stark.

The Corporate University's first two conferences have drawn attendees from nursing homes all over Northern and Central Ohio.

"Our conferences train nursing home administrators in soft skills, such as conflict resolution and team building," says Bland.

## DIFFERENT GENERATIONS, DIFFERENT VIEWS

This year, sessions focused on leadership development and intergenerational awareness.

"In healthcare, you can have a 23-year-old nurse working alongside a 63-year-old nurse," explains Corporate University facilitator and consultant Deborah Easton. "Because of

their generation gap, they may communicate differently. For example, older generations tend to prefer storytelling. Younger generations tend to prefer bullet points. Each can have a different mindset about work and expectations.

Each can have a different definition of good customer service. One may value relationship building while another values efficiency."

*Nursing home administrators earn continuing education credits at The Corporate University's full-day conference.*

Easton exhibited generational differences by changing her appearance and speaking style to embody a:

**Traditionalist** (born 1922–1945)

**Baby Boomer** (born 1946–1964)

**Generation Xer** (born 1965–1979)

**Millennial** (born 1980–1995)

A comedic theatrical presentation during the conference uncovered the root of some workplace conflicts for Samblanet.

"I had no idea that generations were so different," says Samblanet. "It explains a lot about behaviors that used to frustrate me. I now realize that not everyone approaches problems like I do. There are many ways to get things done while respecting team members' generational perspectives."

## LEARNING FROM PEERS

Samblanet says this year's nursing home administrators conference at The Corporate University won't be her last.

"It's a great way to keep up with current trends and learn from others in the field," she says.

The next Nursing Home Administrators conference will be in March 2016.

"Attending training courses with peers in your field — with whom you can network and share experiences and best practices — makes our programming even more valuable," says Bland.

For information on The Corporate University's professional development programs, visit [www.kent.edu/stark/cucc](http://www.kent.edu/stark/cucc).

**Students can complete most coursework in the gerontology and nursing home administration concentrations at the Stark Campus.**

# Business Backing

*A local chiropractor turns his spine innovation into a biomedical start-up with help from business counseling at Kent State Stark.*



CANTON CHIROPRACTOR DR. ERIC VONGUNTEN KNOWS ALL ABOUT BACK PAIN. For years, he helped patients seeking relief after back surgery due to injuries, degenerative diseases, scoliosis and other conditions.

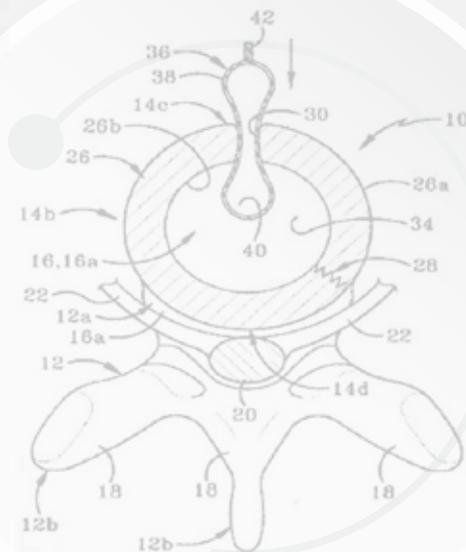
"They'd come in with a rod in their spine or fusions," he says. "Surgery usually helped ease some of their pain, but didn't restore their mobility."

VonGunten knew there must be a more effective, less invasive way to fix back problems. He began scouring hundreds of scientific journals about everything from spine health to polymer science. Three-plus years later, he had developed a potentially life-changing idea — prosthetic spinal discs made out of a synthetic polymer.

Unlike solid prosthetics, polymer could be injected through a tiny incision. While other soft substances could leak out, polymer could harden in place. Polymer discs could provide pain relief without compromising mobility — an advancement over conventional surgery. It was the beginning of Apollo Implants LLC.

"SCORE can put you across the table from experts in pretty much any field..."

Dr. Eric VonGunten, founder of Apollo Implants LLC



## TURNING GOOD IDEAS INTO GOOD BUSINESS

What VonGunten needed next was help turning his idea into a biomedical start-up. At a networking event, he learned about SCORE, an organization providing free, confidential business counseling for entrepreneurs. VonGunten called the Canton chapter, located within Kent State University at Stark's Conference Center, and soon began meeting with chapter chairman Dick Evans.

"I had already started writing a business plan and working toward a patent, but Dick's involvement was invaluable," says VonGunten. "He reinforced what I was doing right and redirected the rest."

VonGunten praises SCORE for streamlining business development.

"They give you bullet points of what you need to address at different stages, and then they go through the process with you, step by step," says VonGunten. "Starting a business can be confusing because there's so much you need to know. SCORE lays out all the steps."

## ACCESS TO EXPERTS

Under direction from Evans, VonGunten met with various experts who gave him advice on several aspects of his business at no cost. While VonGunten already had a patent attorney, Evans connected him with another, to serve as a legal consultant and ensure everything was being done appropriately. Evans also introduced VonGunten to an IT professional to advise him on his technology needs.

"SCORE can put you across the table from experts in pretty much any field to guide you on any element of your business," says VonGunten.

## FINDING PARTNERSHIPS AND FUNDING

Now, three years since beginning SCORE counseling, VonGunten has finalized his business plan and recently earned a U.S. patent for his spinal procedure.

The procedure involves injecting polymer into the spinal column, catalyzing it and curing it. It's minimally invasive, done through an opening the width of your little finger. It takes about three hours, including removing the damaged disc. Conventional spine surgeries can take twice as long.

The next step for Apollo Implants is finding partnerships and getting funding, something that will now be easier with a solid business plan and patent. With enough funding, VonGunten will be able to conduct the lab and clinical testing necessary for earning FDA approval on his patented technology. Once FDA-approved, the technology can finally be marketed to orthopedic surgeons.

The journey may take years, but SCORE will continue to help VonGunten navigate.



*SCORE chapter chairman Dick Evans, right, meets with Dr. Eric VonGunten to discuss his business strategy for Apollo Implants LLC.*

## STAYING THE COURSE

"Dick is adamant about keeping track of my progress and keeping me on task," says VonGunten. "Recently, SCORE has helped me start a nonprofit arm of my business so I can pursue grants from the National Institutes of Health that could help fund testing. I participated in SCORE's workshops to learn about operating a nonprofit and writing grants."

VonGunten raves about the wealth of expertise he's accessed through SCORE. He encourages all current or potential business owners to do the same.

"Always listen to people who are willing to offer insights and help you along," he says. "Mentors can show you what has or hasn't worked for them so you can build on their experience. That's what SCORE has done for me."



### About SCORE's Canton Chapter

- **Free, confidential business counseling for entrepreneurs**
- **Serves small businesses and nonprofits in Carroll, Harrison, Holmes, Stark and Tuscarawas counties**
- **More than 35 counselors — all current or retired business leaders who volunteer their services**
- **Counseling held at Kent State Stark's Conference Center**
- **Named SCORE District Chapter of the Year in 2014 (out of 11 chapters); ranked third in the U.S. (out of more than 300 chapters)**

*To learn more about SCORE, visit [canton.score.org](http://canton.score.org) or call 330-244-3280.*

# community GARDEN

AT KENT STATE STARK, there are many opportunities to roll up your sleeves and get to work. Soon, students will literally be able to see the fruits – and vegetables – of their labor grow and benefit others in the community.

Dr. Chris Post, associate professor of geography, is developing plans for an on-campus community garden, an idea that was conceived at the University of Georgia, where he was previously employed. A colleague who studied urban ecology, particularly hunger and food production, began a garden so students could realize the complete value of a piece of food.

"My former colleague wanted the students to recognize the water, nutrients via the soil, labor and transportation/distribution efforts that go into each food item's production and consumption – and rethink how we can do a better job of making sure that food gets to everybody," says Post.

The future garden will be located just south of the newly installed vertical wind turbine near the Science and Nursing Building. The project will begin next summer with the creation of raised beds. Campus faculty from several departments, including philosophy, sociology and biological sciences, are eager to be involved.

"My goal is to create a three-week, summer course where students will learn about community and campus gardens, particularly in urban settings. They will plan and plant the garden," says Post. "I hope to form a work-study group that can water, weed and maintain the garden through the summer. In the fall, we'll get students from a few geography courses and other programs to harvest the garden and distribute the food to local groups that accept such donations. Some of the food will stay on campus to be used in the Food Emporium and at the Conference Center."

Post is quick to add that a community garden can be used as a pedagogical tool that supports the "science on display" mission of the Science and Nursing Building. This garden will showcase student-driven work, learning and research in action.

He simplified the geographical premise for the garden by saying, "Without food, we don't thrive. Without food, we're not producing places, histories or philosophies to study. It's that fundamental."



*Dr. Chris Post,  
associate professor  
of geography*



# College Credit Plus brings high school students closer to their college degrees

This fall, hundreds of new freshman Flashes will begin their college careers with credit already on their transcripts. Thanks to a partnership with College Credit Plus (CCP), Ohio's new post-secondary enrollment program, Kent State University at Stark is able to offer students in grades seven through 12 an opportunity to take college-level courses and earn credit even before they step on campus.

For the 2015-16 academic year, Kent State Stark experienced a significant increase in CCP applications from local schools. These numbers will only increase due to the addition of three newly signed agreements.

In May, Fairless Local Schools' Superintendent Broc Bidlack signed an agreement that will bring Kent State Stark professors to designated classrooms within the high school, as well as allow Fairless students to attend classes on the Stark Campus. Canton City Schools and Plain Local Schools signed similar agreements.

Students who take advantage of this economical head start to their college careers may take up to five classes per semester and 10 classes per year. The college and school districts pay all tuition and book costs for each student.

For more information on College Credit Plus,

contact Dr. A. Bathi Kasturiarachi at 330-244-3221 or [akasturi@kent.edu](mailto:akasturi@kent.edu).



## A SUMMER OF SCIENCE AT SIPPO LAKE

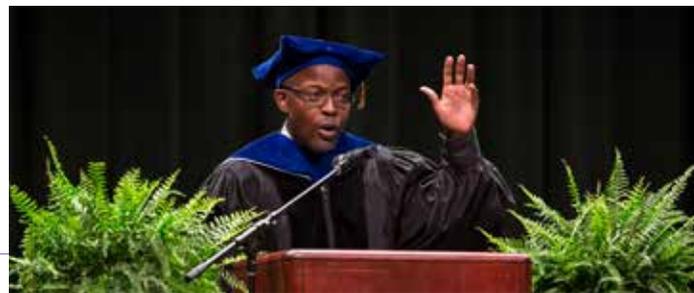
As GlenOak High School sophomore Gavin Nupp focuses his microscope lens on a petri dish of water from Stark Parks' Sippo Lake, he excitedly remarks on the water fleas and tiny crustaceans he sees dancing under the light. In Kent State University at Stark's summer course, Introduction to Watershed Studies, aquatic macroinvertebrate organisms are a main educational component.

Dr. Robert Hamilton IV, associate professor of biological sciences, and Nick Morris, Stark Parks' education and outreach manager, guide Nupp and Kent State students through field and laboratory work at Canton's Exploration Gateway on the north shore of Sippo Lake.

The two-week course, which is open to seventh- through 12th-grade students enrolled in the College Credit Plus program, is a quick and interesting way to fulfill three college credits in biology.

"Based on the sensitivity levels of the organisms that the students collect in their samples, they can analyze the geographic and demographic characteristics of the water," says Hamilton. "This information is an indication of the watershed's water quality and tells us the impact of the aquatic habitat on the animals living in it and on those of us who rely on it."

Taking his first college course toward a career in natural resources or biology, 14-year-old Nupp is on the right track. "I'm really learning a lot and enjoying this class," he says. "I hope more high school students will take it next summer."



## ENTREPRENEUR MELVIN GRAVELLY SENDS OFF GRADS WITH GOALS AND HUMOR

A record number of graduates crossed the stage during Kent State University at Stark's 42<sup>nd</sup> Spring Commencement ceremony, which was held in May at the Umstatt Performing Arts Hall in Canton. More than 160 new alumni celebrated their achievement with a packed room of supporting faculty, family and friends. Included in the large number of graduates were seven master's degree candidates – another record for Kent State Stark.

Dr. Melvin Gravelly II, president and CEO of Cincinnati-based TriVersity Construction Company and founder of the Institute for Entrepreneurial Thinking Ltd., gave a poignant, yet humor-filled address that inspired the grads with several goals for a successful future. The speaker advised the attentive audience to always try to accomplish something and learn to delay gratification, "because life is a get-rich-slow scheme."

As he relayed his own experiences, he told them to make a difference in others' lives. "Live a life that people will miss when you're gone," says Gravelly.

His final recommendation on how to positively impact others was a simple attitude adjustment. "A smile can change everything."

## DR. A. BATHI KASTURIARACHI APPOINTED ASSISTANT DEAN OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS



In February, Dr. A. Bathi Kasturiarachi accepted a position in campus leadership as the new assistant dean of academic affairs. In addition to supporting the campus dean, he is charged with directing and recruiting Stark Campus faculty, assisting in curriculum and program development, exploring new degree programs, spearheading outreach efforts and coordinating the course schedule.

Ranked as an associate professor of mathematics, Kasturiarachi began his faculty position at Kent State Stark in 1995. He served as the First Year Experience coordinator for six years and coordinated the Mathematics Department for five years. In 2001, Stark Campus students selected him as the recipient of the 2001 Kent State Stark Distinguished Teaching Award.

"I am excited to assume a leadership role at Stark County's public university, collaborating my experience and vision with the highly talented faculty and dynamic staff of this wonderful institution," says Kasturiarachi.



*Exceptional faculty were honored during Kent State Stark's Spring Commencement ceremony. Pictured (left to right) is Award of Distinction recipient Douglas Henry, Assistant Dean A. Bathi Kasturiarachi, Distinguished Teaching Award recipient Paul Andaloro, Interim Dean Denise Seachrist and Distinguished Teaching Award finalists Robert Miltner and Keith Lloyd.*

### STARK CAMPUS FACULTY RECEIVE TEACHING HONORS

Based on nominations from Kent State Stark students, a selection committee chose Dr. Paul Andaloro, assistant professor of mathematics, as the recipient of Stark Campus' 2014-15 Distinguished Teaching Award. The tribute is presented annually to a full-time professor. One student attested to his ability by stating, "I feel comfortable enough to ask him as many questions as I need to and know his patience will not run short. You can tell he is passionate about what he teaches, which makes learning the subject a lot better."

Finalists for the Distinguished Teaching Award were Dr. Robert Miltner, professor of English, and Dr. Keith Lloyd, associate professor of English.

Receiving this year's Award of Distinction, an honor presented to part-time faculty, is Douglas Henry, instructor of mathematics. Written in a student's nomination was, "Aside from being an amazing teacher and being able to explain things well, Professor Henry made me think about the subject and learn to love it. He made the subject fun and exciting, and I wish I could take another course with him."

### STAFF MEMBERS VOTED "EXCELLENT" BY PEERS

Each year, Kent State University at Stark employees take time to recognize staff members who have gone over and above to serve students, illustrated superior customer service and shown a strong commitment to their job and Kent State. A selection committee analyzes the nominations and announces one staff member and one administrator as Staff Excellence Award recipients.

The 2015 award winners are Director of Academic Services Lisa Hart as the administrative recipient and Maintenance Repair Worker Dewey "Bud" Middleton as staff recipient.



*Interim Dean Denise Seachrist congratulates award winners Lisa Hart (left) and Dewey "Bud" Middleton (right).*



*KSU President Beverly Warren and Flash*

### EARTH DAY PROVIDES FUN AND EDUCATIONAL WAYS TO APPRECIATE OUR ENVIRONMENT

Beautiful spring weather for Kent State Stark's annual Earth Day Celebration provided the perfect backdrop for hundreds of families to explore an array of activities and demonstrations that inspired the awareness of environmental responsibility.

The three-hour event included fan favorites, such as eco-friendly entertainer Tess Shimko of Abrakidazzle and singer Foster Brown, who uses humor, music and magic to educate kids and their parents about our planet's natural resources and how to preserve them. Entomologist Jim Smolka impressed and amazed with his extensive collection of live and mounted insects and invertebrates from around the world. Dr. Robert Hamilton from Stark Campus' Department of Biological Sciences led a group around the campus pond and research wetland area, pointing out the wide variety of plants and species that call the Certified Wildlife Habitat™ home.

A tree-planting ceremony preceded the announcement by the Arbor Day Foundation, which honored Kent State Stark as a Tree Campus USA University for its dedication to campus forestry management and environmental stewardship. This is the sixth consecutive year the campus has received this designation.

Kent State University's President Beverly Warren made a special appearance at the event, which coincided with the week of her inauguration as the university's 12th president. In her honor, Kent State Stark planted her favorite tree, a ginkgo biloba, near the walkway leading to the pond.

# by FACULTY

**Loretta Aller**, lecturer of nursing, presented “Enhancing Critical Thinking Skills of Undergraduate Nursing Students Through the use of Simulation Technology” at the 2015 Annual Ohio Consortium of Nursing Learning Labs Conference in Mansfield, Ohio, April 23-24, 2015.

**Victor Beradi**, associate professor of management and information systems, and Greg Blundell, associate lecturer of management and information systems, co-presented “Can Institutional Strategy, Teaching and Learning Truly be Aligned?” at the Association for University Regional Campuses of Ohio (AURCO) 2015 at Kent State University at Salem in East Liverpool, Ohio, April 18, 2015.

**Sebastian Birch**, associate professor of music, presented “From Zero to College Theory in Two Semesters” at the 33rd Great Lakes Regional Conference of The College Music Society at Michigan State University in East Lansing, Michigan, March 26-28, 2015.

- Composed two pieces (*Detectio Sonoris* for flute and piano and *Les Ténèbres* for alto flute and piano) which were selected and performed at the Greater Cleveland Flute Society’s Composers Connection Concert, April 26, 2015.

**Joel Carbonell**, assistant professor of political science, presented “Military Expenditures and State Compliance with International Environmental Agreements” at the Western Political Science Association in Las Vegas, Nevada, April 1-4, 2015.

- Co-authored “An Empirical Analysis of U.S. State Court Citation Practices to International Human Social Rights Treaties” in the *International Journal of Human Rights*, 2015.

**Daniel Castañeda**, associate professor of modern and classical language studies, presented “The Use of Synchronous and Asynchronous Activities to Improve Cultural Knowledge” at the XVII International Research Conference in Tarragona, Spain, July 6-8, 2015.

**Brian Chopko**, associate professor of sociology, presented “Prevalence and Predictors of Suicidal Ideation among U.S. Police Officers” at the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences in Orlando, Florida, March 4-8, 2015.

- Co-authored “Biopsychosocial Predictors of Legal Problems among Psychotic Persons: Implications for Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice in the Applied Psychology” in *Criminal Justice Journal*, vol. 11, 2015 pages 63-74.
- Co-authored “Critical Incident History Questionnaire Replication: Frequency and Severity of Trauma Exposure among Officers from Small and Mid-Size Police Agencies” in the *Journal of Traumatic Stress*, 28, 2015, pages 1-5.

**Julie Cremeans-Smith**, associate professor of psychology, presented “Pre- and Post-Operative Levels of Stress Hormones can Predict Symptoms of Post-Traumatic Stress Following Total Knee Replacement Surgery” at the American Psychosomatic Society Annual Meeting in Savannah, Georgia, March 18-22, 2015.

**Jennifer Cunningham**, assistant professor of English, presented “are you saying I Tweet ghetto or suttin? : (“: Issues of Literacy, Privacy and ...frequently Trust when Researching in Digital Spaces” at the Computers and Writing Conference in Menomonie, Wisconsin, May 28-31, 2015.

- Authored “Mechanizing People and Pedagogy: Establishing Social Presence in the Online Classroom” in *Online Learning*, Vol. 19 (3), pages 34-47.

**Lucas Engelhardt**, assistant professor of economics, presented “Why Skyscrapers? A Spatial Economic Approach” at the Austrian Economics Research Conference in Auburn, Alabama, March 12-15, 2015.

**Kim Finer**, professor of biological sciences, presented “Isolation of Agrobacterium Strains from Soils: A Laboratory Capstone Experience” at the 115th General Meeting of the American Society for Microbiology in New Orleans, Louisiana, May 29 – June 1, 2015.

**Kim Garchar**, associate professor of philosophy, was a critic in “Author Meets Critics: American Philosophy from Wounded Knee to Present” at the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy in Grand Rapids, Michigan, March 5-8, 2015.

**Marie Gasper-Hulvat**, assistant professor of art, chaired the panel “Infiltrating the Pedagogical Canon” and presented the poster, “Tweets, Secret Words, Bingos and Blogs: Facilitating Engaged Participation in Art History Surveys” at the College Art Association Conference in New York City, New York, Feb. 10-15, 2015.

- Presented “Copies from a Past Life: Malevich’s Reproductions of His Own Pre-Suprematist Prototypes” at the Midwest Slavic Conference in Columbus, Ohio, March 14, 2015.
- Presented “Participation is More than Just Talk: Encouraging Engaged Participation Within and Beyond the Classroom Walls” at the Association for University Regional Campuses of Ohio (AURCO) at Kent State University at Salem in East Liverpool, Ohio on April 18, 2015.
- Presented “Repatriation by Choice or Compulsion? Kazimir Malevich’s 1927 Return Home from Berlin” at the 2015 Conference of The Space Between Society: At Home in the Space Between at the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Indiana, June 19-21, 2015.
- Presented “Guerrilla Girls” and “What to Eat (or not) at the Hermitage” at the Reacting to the Past-Game Development Conference in Athens, Georgia, July 14-19, 2015.
- Received a 2015 University Teaching Council Summer Teaching Development Grant.

**Claudia Gomez**, assistant professor of M&IS, presented “The Use of Social Capital in Immigrant Entrepreneurship: Motivations for the Use of Co-ethnic Social Capital and its Impact on Business” at the Eastern Academy of Management Conference in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, May 6-7, 2015.

**Robert Hamilton IV**, associate professor of biological sciences, presented “Seasonal Dynamics of Macroinvertebrates and Microbial Communities in Temporary Surface Waters” at the Northeast Natural History Conference in Springfield, Massachusetts, April 18-21, 2015.

**Gro Hovhannisyan**, associate professor of mathematics, presented “Representation of the Delta Function via Exponential Function on a Space Scale” at the American Math Society Conference at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C., March 6-8, 2015.

- Co-authored On oscillatory solutions of the Cauchy problem for linear differential equations with Oliver Ruff, assistant professor of mathematics, in *Electronic Journal of Differential Equations*, Vol. 2015, No.175, pages 1-15.

**Matthew S. Lehnert**, assistant professor of biological sciences, and **Margaret P. Lehnert**, lecturer of biological sciences, co-published “The Golden Ratio reveals Geometric Differences in Proboscis Coiling among Butterflies of Different Feeding Habits” in *American Entomologist*, March 2015.

- Co-presented the posters “Hydrophobic Characterization of Butterfly Proboscises: Butterflies with Nectar Feeding Habits have a more Hydrophobic Landscape” and “The Relationship Between the Color of Butterfly Mouthparts and Feeding Habits,” as well as co-presented “Feeding Abilities of Butterflies with Split Mouthparts;” “Flies and Butterflies use Capillarity for Fluid Uptake from Porous Surfaces: Evidence Supporting the Limiting-Pore Size Hypothesis;” “Studies of Allometry among Structures of the Lepidopteran Proboscis in Relation to Fluid Uptake Abilities;” and “The Architecture of the Butterfly Proboscis in Relation to Feeding Habits” at the Association of Southeastern Biologists 76th Annual Meeting in Chattanooga, Tennessee, April 1, 2015.
- Co-presented “The Golden Ratio in Proboscis Coiling Patterns of Sap-feeding Butterflies” (with Margaret P. Lehnert); “Convergent Evolution of a Wettability Dichotomy in Butterfly and Fly Mouthparts;” “Allometry among Proboscis Structures in Relation to Fluid Uptake Abilities of Painted Lady Butterflies;” “Capillarity is an Essential Mechanism for Liquid Uptake from Porous Surfaces by Fluid-feeding Insects” and “Fluid Uptake in Butterflies with Separated Mouthparts” at the Lepidopterists’ Society Annual Meeting at Purdue University in Lafayette, Indiana, May 28, 2015.

**Chih-ling Liou**, assistant professor of human development and family studies, presented “Exploring Undergraduates’ Views of Aging Through Drawing: A Taiwanese Study” at the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education in Nashville, Tennessee, Feb. 26 – March 1, 2015.

**Mitch McKenney**, associate of journalism and mass communication, presented “How News Stories become History” during the Beyond Storytelling: How to Turn Oral History into Scholarship and Public Knowledge

Workshop at the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Annual Conference in San Francisco, California, Aug. 3-9, 2015.

**Jack McWhorter**, associate professor of art, presented "The Painting Center - Exhibition Review of Current Paintings" at the Painting Center Membership Review in New York City, New York, April 13-15, 2015.

- Presented "Kosciuszko Foundation's Teaching English in Poland Program (TEIP) - Summer 2015" at the TEIP Summer 2015 Conference in Załęcze, Poland, June 25 - July 23, 2015.

**Ralph Menning**, assistant professor of history, presented "The Great War 101 and at 101: Who Did What to Whom in July 1914, Why It Mattered Long After, and Why It Matters Still" as a 2014-15 Kessel Memorial Lecture at Minnesota State University in Mankato, Minnesota, April 2, 2015.

**Deepraj Mukherjee**, assistant professor of economics, presented "Economic Globalization and Governance: The Role of Social Globalization" at the Canadian Economics Association in Toronto, Canada, May 28-31, 2015.

- Presented "Economic Globalization and Governance: The Role of Social Globalization" at the 19th Annual Conference of the International Society for New Institutional Economics at Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, June 20, 2015.
- Co-published "Re-examining the Relationship between Domestic Investment and Foreign Aid: Does Political Stability Matter?" in the *International Review of Applied Economics*, Vol. 29, Issue 3, pages 259-286.
- Co-published "Foreign Capital, Spillovers and Export Performance in Emerging Economies: Evidence from Indian IT Firms" in the *Review of Development Economics*, Vol. 18, Issue 4, pages 681-692.
- Co-published "Cultural Traits and Stock Market Development: An Empirical Analysis" in the *Journal of Entrepreneurship and Public Policy*, Vol. 4, Issue 1, pages 33-49.

**Urmila Pal Chaudhuri**, associate professor of chemistry, presented the paper, "Does Online Homework Software Improve Chemistry Grades?" during the session, Role of Technology in Improving Student Knowledge-Evidence from Sciences and Social Sciences, at the Lilly Conference on College and University Teaching and Learning in Austin, Texas, Jan. 4-7, 2015.

**Chris Post**, associate professor of geography, presented "Kent State, May 4 and the Dialectics of Campus Commemoration" at the Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers in Chicago, Illinois, April 21-25, 2015.

- Authored "Seeing the Past in the Present through Archives and the Landscape" in *Social Memory and Heritage Tourism Methodologies*, pages 189-209 (Routledge).

**Gwendolyn Purifoye**, assistant professor of sociology, presented "Riding While Black: Front Stage Hostilities and the Cost of being a Black Male on Public Transportation in Chicago" and "Virtual Mobile Diaries: Constructing Race, Class and Gender in Cyberspace" at the Midwest Sociological Society's Annual Meeting in Kansas City, Missouri, March 26-29, 2015.

**Janet Reed**, lecturer of nursing, presented "Student Perceptions of Unfolding Case Studies in the Nursing Classroom" at the Elsevier Faculty Development Conference in Scottsdale, Arizona, Jan 3-7, 2015.

**Mary Rooks**, associate professor of English, presented "Teaching the Eighteenth Century" at the South-Central Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies in Point Clear, Alabama, Feb. 26-28, 2015.

**Oliver Ruff**, assistant professor of mathematics, presented "Some Graded Decomposition Numbers for Ariki-Koike Algebras" at the American Mathematical Society Central Spring Sectional Meeting at Michigan State University in East Lansing, Michigan, March 13-15, 2015.

**Paula Sato**, assistant professor of modern and classical languages, presented "Wifredo Lam's *The Jungle*" at the Northeast Modern Language Association Conference in Toronto, Canada, April 30 - May 3, 2015.

**James Seelye**, assistant professor of history, authored "Baptist Missionary Activities in Michigan's Upper Peninsula: Rev. Abel Bingham" in the *Baptist History and Heritage Journal*, Fall 2015.

**Jay Sloan**, associate professor of English, co-presented "Composing Identity-Based Literacy Narratives" at the Northeast Ohio Writing Centers Association Conference at Kent State University at Trumbull in Warren, Ohio, Feb. 28, 2015.

- Co-presented "Toward Safe(r) Spaces: LGBTQIA Identities in the Writing Center" at the Conversations and Encounters: Exploring Ethics in the Writing Center-East Central Writing Centers Association Conference at Notre Dame University in South Bend, Indiana, April 9-11, 2015.
- Co-presented "Our Literate Bodies, Our Literate Selves: Composing Gender and Sexuality Literacy Narratives" at the Transcending Typecasting: Inclusive Embodiment of Gender and Sexuality in Writing Center Dialogue Conference at Centenary College in Hackettstown, New Jersey, April 17-19, 2015.

**Thomas Sosnowski**, emeritus professor of history, chaired the session "Constructing the Enlightenment" at the Consortium on the Revolutionary Era in High Point, North Carolina, Feb. 20-21, 2015.

**Lindsay Starkey**, assistant professor of history, presented "Water's Failure to Submerge the Earth in Sixteenth-Century European Cosmographical Texts" at the International Water History Conference in Delft, The Netherlands, June 23-27, 2015.

**Lori Wilfong**, associate professor of education, presented "Multicultural Literature: From Theory to Practice, Community to Classroom" at the European Conference on Reading in Klagenfurt, Austria, July 12-16, 2015.

- Published "Writing Strategies that Work: Do This-Not That!" (Routledge, 2015).

**Lisa Waite**, senior lecturer of communication studies, presented "Getting a Seat at the Table: Strategies for Choice and Change" at the annual Kent State University Spirit of Women in Business Conference in Kent, Ohio, March 4, 2015.

- Presented "World Class Teams" to Kent State University at Stark Student Services, Advising and Development staff in North Canton, Ohio, May 27, 2015.
- Presented "How Can I Follow If You Don't Lead?" at the Northeastern Ohio Organization for Nurse Executives Annual Business Meeting in Canton, Ohio, June 19, 2015.
- Presented "On Your Mark, Get Set, Lead" at the Aultman Hospital Leadership Academy in Canton, Ohio, July 8, 2015 and at the North East Ohio Human Resource Symposium Annual Leadership Conference at Kent State University at Stark in North Canton, July 23, 2015.

**Deirdre Warren**, assistant professor of sociology, presented "Focusing on the Courts: Media Constructions of California's Proposition 8" at the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences' Annual Meeting in Orlando, Florida, March 4-6, 2015.

by STAFF

**Kevin Leitner**, bookstore manager, presented "It IS a Big Deal!: Change Perceptions and Demonstrate Your Value to all the Right Audiences" and co-presented "25 in 45: Success Strategies for Customer Engagement and Campus Outreach" at the Campus Marketplace Expo (CAMEX) Conference in Atlanta, Georgia, Feb. 20-21, 2015.

**Emily Ribnik**, clinical mental health counselor and A.L.i.C.E. instructor, presented "Care of Self and Others after a Client Death" at the Glenbeigh Outpatient Center of Canton, June 4, 2015.



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