The winds of change on campus are not only attributable to the changing seasons, but also to the realignment of office reporting lines that has occurred to improve coordination and communication across our campus community. The Office of Diversity & Equity has two new partnerships, with the Office of Multicultural Affairs (which previously reported to Student Success) and the Emily Taylor Women’s Resource Center (previously reported and resided in the Student Involvement and Leadership Center). As we initiate regular staff meetings and collaboratively plan for the future, we are excited about the possibilities and will keep the campus community informed as we progress within this new alignment.

The Tilford Conference on Diversity & Multiculturalism, an annual statewide conference that rotates between the KU, KSU and WSU campuses, is hosted by K-State this fall. Details on this year’s speakers are on page 2, and I encourage KU administrators, faculty, staff and graduate students who are interested in attending to please register soon. There is no cost to attend.

The recently completed and released Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) review of the Lawrence campus can be found on the Provost website. The Steering Committee will meet soon to prioritize and plan the next steps in addressing the recommendations resulting from the review.

The Interactive Theatre Troupe has scheduled a full calendar of performances of the two scripts currently offered: “A Case of the Mondays” and “E-Racing Assumptions.” Performances, sometimes multiple appearances, of these Difficult Dialogue communication tools are scheduled with the Libraries, Admissions, Alternative Breaks, and the Edwards campus and KU Medical Center.

The call for nominations for the spring 2013 Langston Hughes Visiting Professorship will be out soon, while the 2012 lecturer is announced in the next column. I remind everyone that the professorship is not limited to departments or areas in CLAS and would encourage all professional schools to consider nominations for the LHVP. I am happy to visit with you and your faculty to share more information about the program; please contact me at fredrod@ku.edu.

BEYOND THE HILL

The Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site in Topeka celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month with the exhibition “From Mexico to America: Through the Eyes of Kansas Artists,” Oct. 7-Nov. 30. The exhibit kicks off with a free, public reception with food and music, 5 to 9 p.m. on Friday.

Original paintings and collages depicting family histories and stories of migrations to Topeka in the era after the period of Mexican Revolution (1910-1920), when many came north in search of better opportunities, by local artists are included.
THE SCHOLARSHIP OF DIVERSITY: A SYNOPSIS

Women of Color in STEM fields

As a group, women are still the largest untapped talent pool for increasing America’s science, technology, engineering and mathematics, or STEM, workforce. Women of color, in particular, remain greatly underrepresented in STEM disciplines despite a growing number of women and minorities attending college.

The Harvard Educational Review highlights this plight in STEM – Unraveling the Double Bind: Women of Color in STEM, including points to inform research, practice and educational policy:

- Environment absolutely matters. Researchers are wise to examine sub-contexts such as campus and departmental climate.
- Faculty support and involvement is desired by students and critical for their success. Faculty intervention at all levels, especially during graduate study, can be instrumental in keeping more women and women of color on a STEM career path.
- University leadership must put in place the supports that faculty need to make teaching and mentoring a priority and provide incentives to make the use of diverse pedagogies a lasting commitment within STEM departments.


UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER

13 Immigration & the Kansas Economy
   2011 KS Economic Policy Conference, KS Union

21 Hispanic Alumni Chapter 2nd Annual Reunion

24 “Balls at the New School: Race & Sports in America” Thabiti Lewis
   7 p.m., Spencer Museum of Art Auditorium

24 “Real Men, Real Talk” Tony Porter
   Jana Mackey Distinguished Lecture Series
   7:30 p.m., Woodruff Auditorium, KS Union

24-25 Tilford Conference on Diversity & Multiculturalism
   K-State campus

28 “I Was the Voice of Democracy” Brian Herrara
   7:30, Inge Theatre, Murphy Hall; free, reservations req. 4-3982

28 KU International Programs Oktoberfest
   fall fundraiser, $40, Alvamar Country Club
   oip@ku.edu or 864-6161 for info

NOVEMBER

17 Diversity Talks: the Diversity Councils invite the campus community to an informal reception & short program
   3:30 p.m., Kansas Room, KS Union

At the Spencer Museum of Art through 1/15/12

Passages: Persistent Visions of a Native Place

A COLLEAGUE IN THE SPOTLIGHT

The 2011-12 president of KU Faculty Senate, Rodolfo Torres, joined the math faculty in 1996. In 2003 he became a professor and received a Kemper Excellence in Teaching award. His research centers on Fourier or harmonic analysis. A graduate of the Universidad National de Rosario, Argentina, he earned his Ph.D. at Washington University, St. Louis. As Senate president he chairs the Faculty Senate Executive Committee and sits, non-voting, on University SenEx.

A PROGRAM IN THE SPOTLIGHT

The Academic Achievement & Access Center is NOT just for students, as it is also home of the website Disability Resources. Faculty/Staff, loaded with information and contacts.

AAAC

KEEP UP TO DATE AT WWW.DIVERSITY.KU.EDU