



Featured Information

Staff Appreciation Days THIS WEEK!

The College of Liberal Arts & Sciences Staff Appreciation Days will be September 15-19 and will feature a reception, professional development opportunities, professional portraits and more! Some events require registration. Please see the website for more information.

[More Info](#)

Bryd Graduate Mentor Award - Call for Applications

The Louise Byrd Graduate Mentor Award was established to honor the memory of Louise Byrd, long-time Secretary of the Graduate School and of the Graduate Council. Louise Byrd was noted for her deep concern for the welfare of graduate students.

The Office of Graduate Studies encourages graduate students and members of the Graduate Faculty to submit a nomination for a faculty member who demonstrates the quality of concern for graduate students as scholars and individuals.

Nomination Deadline: **September 17, 11:59 p.m.**

[More Info & To Apply](#)

KUIA Faculty Awards - Call for Nominations

KU International Affairs is now accepting nominations for two competitive awards that recognize faculty who engage in internationalization across campus. Nominations and supporting materials should be submitted by **October 8**.

The [International Affairs Advisory Board International Research Award](#) recognizes KU faculty who have provided outstanding leadership in international education through research and discovery efforts at KU. The award includes \$1,000 in funding for professional activities and is financially supported by the KUIA advisory board. Award recipients will be invited to give a campus talk on their work in the spring 2026 semester.

The [George and Eleanor Woodyard International Educator Award](#) recognizes full-time, tenured KU faculty on the Lawrence campus who have provided outstanding leadership in international education at KU. A \$1,000 award is made possible by a generous endowment from George and Eleanor

Woodyard. George Woodyard joined the faculty of KU in 1966 and was named KU's first dean of international studies in 1989. The recipient will be recognized during the spring 2026 semester.

[More Info & To Submit a Nomination](#)

2025-26 Promotion & Tenure Dossier Submission Instructions and Deadline

Detailed instructions for dossier submission have been posted at the link below – in particular, please see the note dated August 19, 2025.

Dossiers are due to the Dean's Office by **Noon on October 2**.

Please note, you are required to submit initial-level forms for the current year. Please do not use forms from prior years. The initial level review forms and can be found on the Office of Faculty Affairs Promotion and Tenure [website](#). The Office of Faculty Affairs will not accept forms from previous years. Please be sure you follow the file naming conventions set forth by the Office of Faculty Affairs. It will be helpful to consult the general information and submission instructions document from the Office of Faculty Affairs website.

Please remember to leave time in your departmental evaluation process for completing the initial-level review summary for the candidate, sending it to the candidate, recording confirmation of their receipt of it, and including that confirmation (as well as the summary form itself) in the dossier that you submit by October 2.

Questions? Contact: [Jill Mignacca](#)

[More Info](#)

Message from Watkins Health Services

Watkins Health Services has reported an increase in COVID-19 cases since the first day of classes. As such, it is a good time for faculty and staff to remind students and teams of basic steps to help protect themselves and others from health risks that COVID-19 and other respiratory viruses cause.

Watkins is available to assist students with testing and managing symptoms or other related medical intervention. However, faculty and staff should *refrain from sending students to Watkins Health Services simply for the purpose of documenting their illness*. Doing so, prevents those who need medical attention from gaining access to a provider.

Visit Watkins Health Services' [COVID-19 Information page](#), which includes information on prevention strategies, treatment, testing, vaccinations and other resources.

Crimson & Blue Majors Fair - Register Now

The College Recruitment & Outreach team is holding its annual College Majors Fair during Crimson & Blue Day on October 17. Departments are encouraged to register for this exciting opportunity to meet with prospective students and their families. The Majors Fair is a tabling event where units can share their program offerings, showcase any engaging or interactive displays, and answer academic questions.

Crimson & Blue Day - October 17, 2025

College Majors Fair - 10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Please register by **October 10**.

Questions? Contact: collegeinfo@ku.edu

Visa Application Process Change

Effective immediately, the U.S. Department of State has announced that all visa applications must now be submitted in an applicant's country of nationality or legal residence. Previously, individuals could apply for a visa in a third country; this option is no longer available except in limited cases where the U.S. does not provide visa services in an applicant's home country. This could add significant travel costs and time away from campus.

Students and scholars should [reach out to ISS](#) if they have questions or need support. Employees should [reach out to Human Resources](#).

Proposed Federal Rule Impacting International Students & Scholars

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has published a proposed regulation that, if implemented, would significantly affect our international students and scholars at the University of Kansas. Please see the attached full message which includes key changes and their potential consequences for our F-1 and J-1 students, J-1 employees, and their dependents. Affected individuals have been notified separately, and we are actively monitoring developments to provide ongoing support.

[See Full Message](#)

Microsoft Copilot: Approved AI Tool for University Business

At the start of the semester, the provost's office announced the launch of the [KU AI Task Force](#)'s website and guiding principles for using generative AI tools. We wanted to draw attention to an important aspect of the guidelines:

Microsoft Copilot is designated as the only AI tool approved for use with sensitive or personal identifying information and data or university business information. KU employees must be logged into their KU Microsoft account when using Copilot. Copilot is available on all staff and faculty computers.

If you have questions or concerns about the AI policies, please contact ai_taskforce@ku.edu.

[Learn More](#)

Chairs & Directors

October Chairs & Directors Meeting

Wednesday, October 8

3:30 p.m.

Alderson Auditorium, Kansas Union

On the Horizon

September 25 - KU Annual Staff Leadership Summit

October 13-14 - Fall Break

October 17 - Crimson & Blue Day

Events

COBRE-BD WH Pre-Tenure Panel Discussion

September 23

3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

1200 CDUP (1567 Irving Hill Road, Lawrence, KS 66045)

Featured panelists: Tera Fazzino (Psychology), Mark Farrell (Med. Chem), Briana McGeough (Social Welfare), Morteza Hashemi (EECS)

Moderated by Meredith Hartley & Rikki Roscoe

We cordially invite you to attend a panel discussion featuring KU Faculty who have recently received tenure. The panelists will be offering their insights and practical advice based on their personal experiences as they built their early careers with tenure in mind. We encourage all Assistant Professors to attend this event.

Please RSVP to [Liz Coleman](#)

Kansas Data Science Consortium Upcoming Events

Three-Part Fall Stata Workshops

4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Gray-Little Hall 1160

September 22 - Data Wrangling

September 29 - Visualizations

October 6 - Statistical Analysis

This is an intro to Stata series covering wrangling, visualization, and statistical analysis, great for any experience level.

[Register Here](#)

Quantitative Methods Reading Group Summit

October 9

10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Alderson Auditorium, Kansas Union

This summit will host a variety of faculty speakers to discuss quantitative research methods in the social sciences. The theme for this year is analyzing text data.

[RSVP Here](#)

Faculty Pizza Luncheons

Bi-monthly faculty pizza luncheons return this year as a chance to connect, share ideas, and build community across the College.

October 9

12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Malott Room, Kansas Union

Upcoming dates include December 5, January 26, March 24, and May 8.

Please RSVP and note any dietary restrictions.

[RSVP Here](#)

Helpful Links

Find all of the latest College news here:

[Research Review](#)

[The College Connection](#)

[College Undergraduate Academic Services Newsletter](#)

Contact Executive Dean Mafi

Want to email Dean Mafi or request his appearance at your event?

[Email Dean Mafi](#)

[Appearance Request](#)





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