Lindeman Receives KDEC Award

David Lindeman, Ph.D., Senior Scientist and LSI at Parsons Director, is surrounded by colleagues gathered on a sunny day in March to celebrate the Award of Excellence that was presented to him by the Kansas Division of Early Childhood (KDEC) during the 2013 KDEC annual conference earlier this year.

In the picture: front row, from left: Karen Lawson, Phoebe Rinkel, David Lindeman, Misty Goosen, Kim Page, Peggy Miksch; middle, from left: Jerry Rea, Laura Doyle-Colvin, Teri Pearce, Jolene Bearden, Chris Miller, DeeDee LeFever, Kristi Nelson, Kathy Olson, Carol Cummings; back row, left: Kate Saunders, Carlos Sanchez, Lou Ann White, John von Wedell, Cynthia Huebner, Debbie Moody, Peggy Gentry, Nancy Juhlin, Sam Hoard, DeLisa Hoppes, Chelie Nelson, Tony Grady, Sandy Hill. Not pictured, Laura Hanigan, Tammy Schoenhofer, Patty Moore.

…continued page 8

In this issue...
1. Lindeman receives KDEC Award
2-3. Parsons LSI Leading Light Awardees
2-3. Publications; Presentations
4. E-waste Facts; Project Spotlight
5. New Staff
6. Community Service
7. Research Assistants Moving On
7. Project/Grant News
8. KDEC Award, continued
KU recognizes excellence with Leading Light Award

Parsons LSI Leading Light Awardees

Dean Williams, Kate Saunders, Sara Sack and Dave Lindeman (pictured from left), four LSI at Parsons’ Principal Investigators, were among others recognized as “Leading Lights” at a February 28 Leading Light Award Luncheon, hosted by Jeffrey Vitter, Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor and Steve Warren, Vice Chancellor for Research & Graduate Studies.

The Leading Light Award, established in 2010 by the Provost’s Office and the Office of Research and Graduate Studies at KU, recognizes researchers who have obtained a research grant totaling $1 million or more.

Each first-time recipient received their own brass sunflower and the promise of a real one planted somewhere on the KU campus.

At the February luncheon, Steve Warren said, “KU researchers in all fields are competitive with the best in the country. Success in obtaining large grants is just one indicator of that, and this recognition is well-deserved.”

We agree. Congratulations!

NEW PUBLICATIONS


PRESENTATIONS


Rinkel, P., & Goosen, M. (2013, March). A child who can’t behave in preschool should be... taught! Paper presented at the 31st Annual Kansas Division for Early Childhood Conference, Wichita, KS.


JUST THE “FACTS”

It’s a fact that Life Span Institute at Parsons’ staff have participated in every Parsons and Labette County E-waste Collection Event since the first one in April 2009, times 2 events each year. We’re doing it again in Parsons on Saturday, April 27 at Marvel Park, 9 a.m. – 12 noon. Join your friends and colleagues, bring your e-waste to be responsibly recycled and then stay and help keep e-waste out of the landfill. To volunteer, contact Patty, pablack@ku.edu.

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

Strengthening Families to Buffer Toxic Stress

This two-year grant is funded by: Kansas Department of Aging and Disability Services (KDADS).

Principle Investigator: Thomas P. McDonald, Ph.D., KU Department of Social Work, Lawrence
Co-PI: David P. Lindeman, Ph.D., KU Life Span Institute at Parsons (pictured)

Summary

This two-year randomized control trial study will pilot a 10-week manualized/programmed intervention – the Attachment and Biobehavioral Catch-Up (ABC) program – with parent/child dyads receiving services through Early Head Start (EHS). The ABC program is designed to buffer toxic stress for children experiencing high levels of risk resulting from cumulative external risk factors.

The project will also validate a screening tool for identification of children at risk for toxic stress as a component of the program to enhance the effect of early intervention and test the impact of the ABC intervention on protective factors such as attachment and responsive parenting and their subsequent medication of improved child and family functioning.

STAFF TRAINING

25 LSI at Parsons’ staff gathered, virtually, for a policy and procedure training provided by KU’s Information Technology Security Office on March 20 in Parsons. This mandatory training ensures compliance with Federal and State regulations. Tony Grady, LSI at Parsons’ System Specialist, hosted the event from the LSI Media Studio. Presenter, Jane Rosenthal, KU Office of the Provost, Privacy Office, Lawrence campus, guided the discussion. For more information, review KU Policy Library at www.policy.ku.edu
NEW STAFF: Welcome!

Samantha Hoard
Pittsburg State University

Samantha Hoard (she prefers “Sam”) joined the KU Life Span Institute at Parsons in February as a Behavioral Therapist for the Family Care Treatment Project working with Dr. Katie Hine and Peggy Gentry. Raised in Columbus, Kansas, Sam now resides in Pittsburg with her husband, Guthrie, 16 year-old sister, Marti, and their five beloved animals.

Sam received her undergraduate degree from Pittsburg State University in Psychology and Counseling. She is set to receive her graduate degree from PSU in Clinical Psychology in May. Prior to coming to LSI, Sam did her practicum at Labette Center for Mental Health Services in Parsons. She then did her internship at Freeman Health’s Stephen’s Unit in Joplin.

As the therapist for the Family Care Treatment Project, Sam observes and trains parents of children with challenging behaviors by promoting pro-social behavior. She enjoys working with children and is excited to be working for LSI and helping make a difference in the lives of these children.

Rachel Tolleson

Rachel Tolleson is newly employed by SEK Birth to Three Program as a para educator and is busy learning all about the program and how the office works. She is working closely with Kristi Nelson and helping all the Family Service Coordinators. Rachel is the daughter of long-time LSI at Parsons’ project director, Kathy Olson, Ph.D., who recently retired.

Mary Taylor and Shellie Estes

Mary Taylor, (pictured left) and Shellie Estes (pictured below) recently joined Dr. Renee Patrick’s project, Demonstration Learning Communities. Shellie and Mary are with us through July and as Psychometricians; they collect data on children in a limited number of early childhood programs in Kansas. Their offices are off-site, so we send then a warm virtual welcome!

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Sara Sack, Ph.D., Assistive Technology for Kansans, Director, reviewed grants for the U.S. Department of Education the week of April 1, 2013.
Community Service

Parsons Community Garden

Sheila Simmons, ATK Coordinator and tireless supporter of the Parsons Community Garden, reports that her request for funds was approved on behalf of the Parsons Community Garden from the Parsons Area Community Foundation. The funds will cover the new replacement hose reels and some other needed supplies to get the garden’s fourth growing season off to a great start. Gardeners continue to meet twice monthly during the season sharing gardening tips and experiences as well as learning from area experts. A few plots are available. Interested gardeners may call 620-421-8367 for information.

Rock Chalk Jaywalkers/PSH&TC – Relay for Life Team Update

The Rock Chalk Jaywalkers/PSH&TC team members have already reached their goal of raising $4,000 for the 2013 Labette County Relay For Life, with a total of $4,070.55 raised to date.

Members include: Laura Hanigan, Cynthia Huebner, Michelle Hughes, Karen Lawson (team co-captain), Dave Lindeman, Nora Manier (team co-captain), Chris Miller, Debbie Moody, Jessica Moss, Kathy Olson, Renee Pierce-Hickles, Marlys Shomber-Jones, and Leatha Thompson.

The team’s annual Boot Block is scheduled for Wednesday, May 1. Team members will be posted at the PSH&TC street entrances to accept donations. Support the team by digging the spare change out of your sofa or car, or just start collecting change (or bills!) today.

The team’s third annual rummage sale will be held on the PSH&TC campus sometime in May. If you have any items to donate, please contact Michelle Hughes (extension 1920), Nora Manier (extension 1798), or just drop your donations off at the PSH&TC vocational building.

Team members will sponsor a stop during the PSH&TC “Walk The Loop” day in May, with cookies and other baked goods for sale. They will also have information available for anyone interested in joining the team or with general questions about the American Cancer Society or the Relay For Life.

Final fundraising activities will include the sale of luminaria bags (available for a $10 donation). Luminaria bags are sold to honor someone who is currently battling against cancer or to memorialize someone who has passed due to cancer.

This year’s Relay For Life of Labette County is scheduled for Friday, June 7 at 6:00 PM – 6:00 AM on Saturday, June 8, at Parsons’ Forest Park. Please continue to support the Rock Chalk Jaywalkers/PSH&TC team’s efforts by joining the team, or making a contribution. Their webpage is: http://main.acsevents.org/goto/RockChalkJaywalkers-PSHTC
Research Assistants Moving On

Congratulations from your Parsons’ colleagues!

Carlos Sanchez and Carol Cummings, research assistants for senior scientists Kate Saunders and Dean Williams, are moving on.

Carlos is moving to Baltimore, Maryland in May to start work as a behavioral data specialist at the Kennedy Krieger Institute. He will begin the fall school semester as a graduate student in the University of Maryland, Baltimore County's Applied Behavior Analysis program.

Carol is moving to Lawrence. She has been accepted into the Applied Behavioral Science master’s program at the University of Kansas. She will continue to work with Drs. Saunders and Williams on their funded research projects, but now as a Graduate Research Assistant.

Project/Grant News

Have you wondered about some of the LSI at Parsons projects recent activities?

Start with the LSI at Parsons website www.parsons.lsi.ku.edu for information about current projects (a few are mentioned below), staff, The Insider archives and more.

The Kansas Inservice Training System (KITS) website www.kskits.edu includes news about their upcoming 2013 Summer Institute in Lawrence, June 4-7; training resources including the Early Childhood Resource Center and publications including the KITS newsletter archives.

The Assistive Technology for Kansans (ATK) website, www.atk.ku.edu, has a new look and information about all things AT, including the upcoming ATK-KSHA Conference and AT Expo, Topeka, Sept. 12-14; recently uploaded device videos for AgrAbility, Infant Toddler Services and the ATK Core Services; and new project, Kansas Fire Safety Solutions, providing free smoke alarms for qualified Kansans who are deaf or hard of hearing.

Southeast Kansas Respite Services, Inc., http://sekrespireservices.org/, has been serving families in southeast Kansas since 1990. Learn more about their five service programs: Respite Care Services, Coordinated Resource Support Services (CRSS), Administration of Grants, Payee Program and Homemaker Services. SEKRS recently produced a promotional video highlighting one family’s experience with Respite Care.
Phoebe Rinkel, KITS Trainer and 2010 KDEC Award of Excellence honoree, spoke at the Parsons’ reception and ended her comments with this, “Many people find it easy to imagine unseen webs of malevolent conspiracy in the world, and they are not always wrong. But there is also an innocence that conspires to hold humanity together, and it is made of people who can never fully know the good that they have done.”  *Tracy Kidder, Among Schoolchildren (1990).*

And while this may be true, it seems that those who know Dave Lindeman are quite clear about the good he has done. This is, after all, his second KDEC Award of Excellence. In her letter of support for this 2013 award, Colleen Riley, Director, Early Childhood Special Education Title Services Team, Kansas State Department of Education wrote, “Through his long-term involvement in KDEC and other early childhood organizations, Dr. Lindeman provides not only a critical historical perspective, but also a strong understanding of the current needs and potential future solutions to meet those ongoing needs of children, families, and service providers in the area of special education. His knowledge has provided the foundation for many past, current, and very likely future innovations and initiatives that will continue to improve the outcomes for children and families in Kansas.”

The impact of Dr. Lindeman’s professional contributions are felt nation wide as well. Long-time collaborator, Juliann Woods, Ph.D., Florida State University, wrote in her letter of support, “Dave’s contributions to an innovative and sustainable professional development system provide a national model that is enviable and frequently adapted or replicated by other states and programs. Kansas Inservice Training System (KITS) has proven to be a flexible model that expands and contracts with the needs of the state, addresses both new as well as ongoing PD needs, and always keeps outcomes for children and families at the forefront of decision making.”

Congratulations Dave Lindeman!


Visit the KU Life Span Institute (LSI) at Parsons website at [http://www.parsonslsi.ku.edu](http://www.parsonslsi.ku.edu)

The University of Kansas prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, religion, sex, national origin, age, ancestry, disability, status as a veteran, sexual orientation, marital status, parental status, gender identity, gender expression and genetic information in the University’s programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Director of the Office of Institutional Opportunity and Access, IOA@ku.edu, 1246 W. Campus Road, Room 153A, Lawrence, KS, 66045, (785) 864-6414, 711 TTY.