SPARK WEEK OCTOBER 5-9:
Students Promoting the Advancement of Research at K-State events will focus on undergraduate research all week. Faculty and graduate students who mentor undergraduates are asked to participate as well. The Office of Undergraduate Research and Creative Inquiry is sponsoring SPARK Tank on October 7 in Room 227 of the K-State Student Union. This is an opportunity for undergraduate students to pitch their research ideas to a panel of judges and possibly win a $1,000 OURCI research/travel grant.

EPA AWARDS GRANT TO K-STATE:
K-State has received a $20,000 grant from the EPA to carry out a green infrastructure demonstration and training project on the Manhattan campus. Faculty and students will create living laboratories to conduct green infrastructure monitoring at two on-campus sites: the rain garden at the International Student Center and the meadow at the Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art. Faculty will devise a green infrastructure monitoring curriculum that will offer technical training on water quality analysis, runoff modeling, and overall ecological health assessments. Students from different disciplines will collaborate on the monitoring program, will record and analyze data to gauge performance, then develop communication materials. PI is Jessica Canfield (LAR); Co-PIs are Lee Skabelund and Katie Kingery-Page (LAR) and Stacy Hutchinson (BAE).

BROWN BAG SEMINAR IN BAE ON FRIDAY:
Mr. Miles Keaton, product engineering manager with John Deere, will present Bringing New Technology to Market: The Development Story behind John Deere’s Exact Emerge™ Planters on Friday, October 9, beginning at 11:30 a.m. in Seaton 134-C. Bring your lunch!

EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE OPEN ENROLLMENT:
It’s that time again for employees to review health insurance needs and to make changes in insurance elections. Health insurance open enrollment for employees is active October 1 through October 31. The health plan booklet can be viewed at: http://www.kdheks.gov/hcf/sehp/Active-2016-Book.htm.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:
“Just before the death of flowers, and before they are buried in snow, there comes a festival season when nature is all aglow.”
--Author Unknown

LOOKING AHEAD:
October 1-31 – Employee Health Insurance Open Enrollment
October 26 – Enrollment for Spring 2016 Term begins
October 30 – Last day to drop a regular session course
November 20 – Last day for graduate students to confirm (online) December commencement attendance.
November 20 – Last day for graduate students to submit documents for December graduation
November 23-25 – Student holiday
November 26-27 – University holiday
December 9 – BAE/ATM Advisory Council Meeting, Seaton 133
December 9 - COA Holiday Party, Houston Street Ballroom
December 11 – Fall 2015 term ends
December 11 – Graduate School commencement
December 12 – Undergraduate commencement
December 14 – Finals week
December 19 – Residence halls close
December 22 – Deadline (5:00 p.m.; 4:00 p.m. if through KSOL) to submit Fall 2015 term final grades
December 23 – Term final grades available in KSIS
December 24-25 – University Holiday
December 28 – January 2016 intersession begins
January 1 – University holiday

Please submit your news and travel information to Barb Moore bjmoore2@ksu.edu