Board Chair Report

Feb. 3, 2022
Curators’ Distinguished Professors

Dongsheng Duan  
School of Medicine

Aigen Li  
Physics & Astronomy

Christian Lorson  
School of Medicine

David Pintel  
School of Medicine

Wendy Reinke  
College of Education & Human Development

Marjorie Skubic  
College of Engineering

Bethany Stone  
Biological Sciences

Jianguo (Tony) Sun  
Statistics

Dong Xu  
College of Engineering
Dr. Michael Petris, *School of Medicine*
Professor of Biochemistry

- **Expertise:** how copper functions in Alzheimer’s disease, tumor growth, and microbial killing by the immune system.
- **Funding:** Recently awarded nearly $4.5M in grants from both the National Cancer Institute and National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases
- **Students Supported:**

  - Chiemerie Azubuogu
  - Dylan Calhoon
  - Vinit Shanbhag
  - Nikita Gudekar
Dr. John T. Kevern, *School of Computing and Engineering*
Professor of Civil Engineering, Chair of Department of Civil & Mechanical Engineering

- **Expertise:** concrete materials and development of sustainable construction materials related to concrete
- **Funding:** National Science Foundation and S-STEM Track 2: Design & Development (Single Institution) for KC Urban Renewal Engineering Fellows
- **Supported Students:**
  - Dan Caron
  - Emma Youngs
  - Jade O’Connell
  - Jennifer Arms
Dr. Frank Han, *Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering*

Assistant professor of mechanical and aerospace engineering

- **Expertise:** gas and plasma modeling, space propulsion and high-performance computing
- **Funding:** Young Investigator Award from the Air Force Office of Scientific Research to support his research on electrospray propulsion systems
- **Student supported:** Shelby Schreckenberg
Dr. Bruce Hamper, Chemistry and Biochemistry
Associate Teaching Professor of Chemistry

- **Expertise:** continuous flow chemistry for the preparation of biologically relevant target molecules and improvement of reaction processes.
- **Funding:** current project is funded by Pfizer for the development and evaluation of novel continuous flow synthetic methods for preparation of vaccine conjugates.
- **Student supported:**

Hunter Campbell