

Fort Hays State University

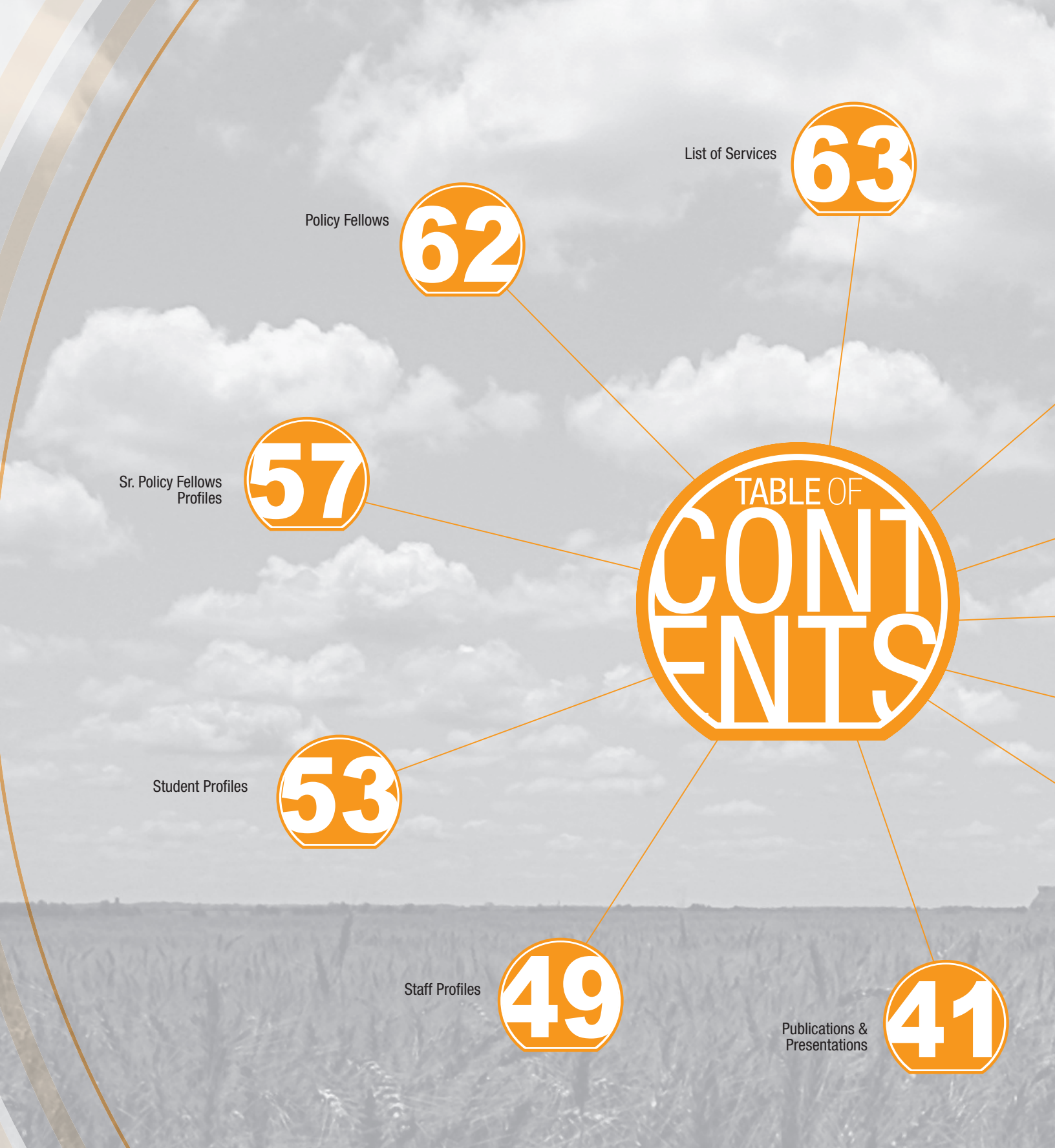
**2012
2013**

**Biannual
Report**



MISSION & HISTORY

The primary mission of Fort Hays State University's Docking Institute of Public Affairs is to facilitate effective public policy decision-making among governmental and non-profit entities. The Docking Institute of Public Affairs began as the Fort Hays State University Institute of Public Affairs in 1980. In October 1988, the Kansas Board of Regents changed the name to the Docking Institute of Public Affairs in honor of Kansas Governors George Docking and Robert B. Docking and Lieutenant Governor Tom Docking. Since that time, the Docking Institute has been a leader in facilitating public policy research and planning for Kansas and its rural regions, conducting more than 467 major projects. Today, the Docking Institute is proud to offer a broad spectrum of programs and services designed to foster regional development and growth in accordance with its original mission. Our staff and policy fellows are proud to carry on the tradition of public service exemplified by the Docking family.



List of Services

63

Policy Fellows

62

Sr. Policy Fellows Profiles

57

Student Profiles

53

Staff Profiles

49

Publications & Presentations

41

TABLE OF
CONTENTS

04

Director's
Letter

06

Kansas Speaks

12

Client List

14

Projects

38

Public Policy

**DIRECTOR'S
LETTER**



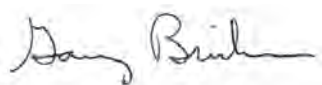
As Kansas continues to struggle with a slowly recovering national economy, several controversial state legislative policies and some challenging weather patterns, the Docking Institute of Public Affairs continues to offer innovative research services for assisting our clients in the government and non-profit sectors as they adjust to their rapidly changing operating environments. We also continue our public affairs mission to promote an open, democratic society through our state-wide public opinion survey, *Kansas Speaks*, where we measure the opinions and policy preferences of a random sample of adult Kansas residents on important social and economic issues. Some of the contemporary issues in this year's survey include support for state gun legislation, increased funding for public schools, Governor Brownback, Secretary of State Kris Kobach and opinions on what is causing the unusual weather patterns in Kansas. Some of the most interesting findings are the discrepancies between the policies that the majority of Kansans want and the policies that are being passed into law by their elected officials. Like last year, the major findings from the 2013 edition of *Kansas Speaks* were published in the *Wichita Eagle* and *Hays Daily News*. We invite all Kansans to access our website and peruse the full report.

One of our most important innovations this year has been the incorporation of cell phones into our telephone survey samples. Because certain demographics, namely age cohorts under 30, tend to be much more likely to take their phone calls exclusively from a cell phone, telephone surveys that draw exclusively from land lines are highly biased toward older members of the population. By including a large bank of random cell phone numbers in our samples, our telephone surveys are now much more representative of the populations they are intended to measure, producing much more valid survey data. Academics on the Docking Institute staff continue to incorporate cutting-edge technology into our data collection and analysis tools.

Another important methodological innovation developed this year was our school bond survey. It is expensive to conduct a school bond election, and if the bond fails, much money has been spent with little to show for it. By conducting a Docking Institute school bond survey for a fraction of the cost, school superintendents and board members can obtain reliable information on voters' perceived need for a bond, which projects they support and oppose and how much of a tax increase they are willing to pay. This information allows administrators to develop a bond proposal that provides them with the maximum amount of resources and the confidence that the bond will pass in the subsequent bond election.

As we look to the future, the Docking Institute will diligently continue its efforts to make Kansas a better place for all of its residents by helping state government run more efficiently and assist our non-profit clients as they appropriate resources and provide for Kansans with special social and economic needs. We invite readers of our Biannual Report to contact us any time their organization needs information that can be provided through social research.

Regards,



Gary Brinker, Director
Docking Institute of Public Affairs

KANSAS



SPEAKS

An annual scientific survey of what Kansas citizens think about important issues in their lives.

History of Kansas Speaks

The Docking Institute of Public Affairs is a social research center sponsored by and housed on the campus of Fort Hays State University. The Institute's primary mission is to assist Kansas government and non-profit organizations in accomplishing their goals by providing high-quality research services at competitive costs. In pursuit of Fort Hays State University's public affairs mission, the Docking Institute conducts an annual statewide public opinion survey of adult Kansas residents. This highly scientific study is conducted using state-of-the-art methods and computer-assisted telephone survey software, producing highly representative data on how Kansans feel about their state, their leaders and the policies our elected officials promote in their legislative agendas.

This year, *Kansas Speaks* adopted a new sampling methodology that includes cell phone numbers along with landline phone numbers. This method has given younger Kansans more opportunities to participate, making our data much more representative of the true age cohorts as determined by the U.S. Census, along with more valid estimates of what Kansans as a whole think about the important issues facing our state. We invite readers to peruse the major findings presented in this insert. More detailed findings can be found under the Kansas Speaks tab of our website: www.fhsu.edu/docking. We hope that our efforts will be used constructively by voters and legislators to promote statewide policies that reflect the majority of Kansan's values and aspirations for the future of our state.

The following results are from the 2012 edition of *Kansas Speaks*.

Most Interesting Findings of the Study by Dr. Chap Rackaway, Ph.D.

In a nation beset with bad news of late, the 2012 *Kansas Speaks* survey indicates that most Kansans believe the state is a great place to live and doing important things well. Kansans overwhelmingly think the state is a great place to live – less than five percent of all respondents said Kansas is a poor or very poor place to live. Among Democrats, that number is much higher. However, frustration with Governor Sam Brownback's conservative agenda after eight years of the Kathleen Sebelius and Mark Parkinson administrations may explain the partisan differences in attitude.

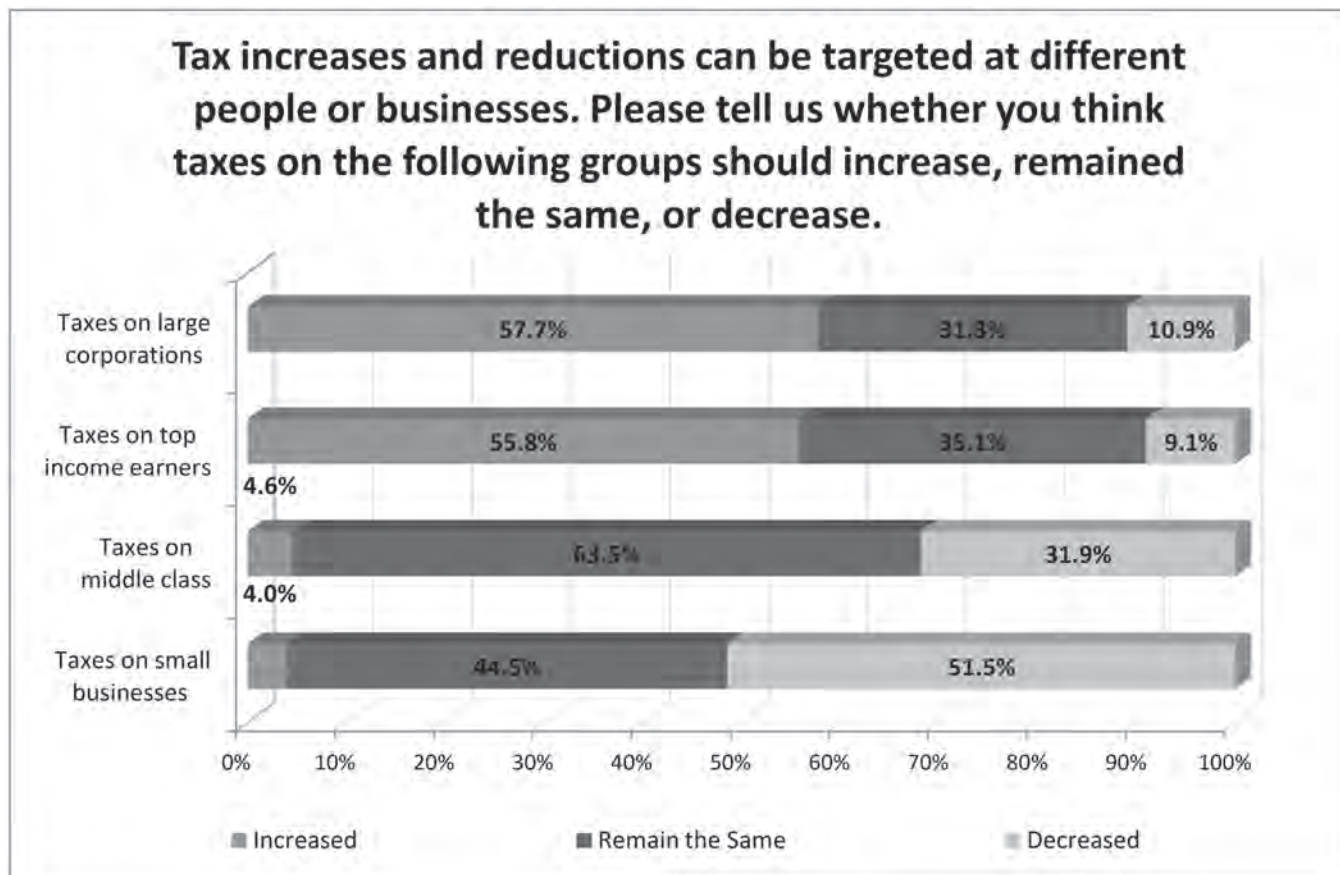
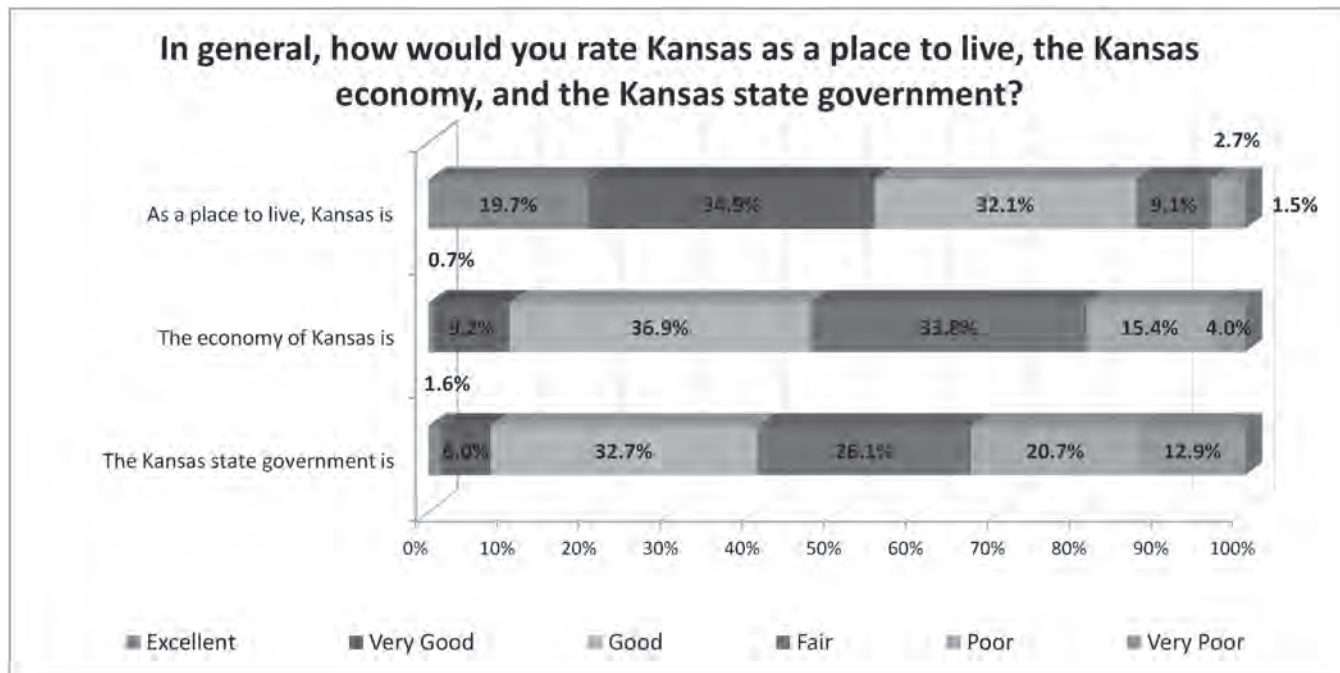
Voters are also more likely to think Kansas is a good place to live, by a margin of ten percent, than non-voters. With a growing divide between Eastern and Western Kansas, we looked at distinct areas of Kansas: the rural 785 and 620 area codes versus the urban/suburban 913 and 316 area codes. There were no clear differences between the urban/suburban and rural areas. Suburban Kansas City and the rural west both saw a majority and more rate Kansas as a good place to live, with numbers slightly lower in the Wichita and Southwest regions of the state.

Less than half of the Kansans who responded to *Kansas Speaks* thought the Kansas economy ranged from good to excellent. The more educated a respondent, the better they thought the Kansas economy was, generally speaking. Strangely, though, Republicans tended to think that the Kansas economy was in better shape than Democrats. Since the Governor campaigned on improving a struggling Kansas economy, there is a disconnect between his message and his base supporters. Party identification was important in the evaluation of the Governor's tax plan, passed by the legislature in 2012. Two-thirds of Republicans supported the Governor's plan, while more than three-quarters of Democrats opposed it. With more than three in five respondents expressing concern that the Kansas economy will directly impact their family in the coming years, clearly the economy is at the forefront of most Kansans' minds. Support for changing the tax structure as a method of boosting the economy is not preferred by most Kansans, though. Between 42 and 48 percent of all respondents favored no change to any of the three main forms of tax: income, property, or sales.

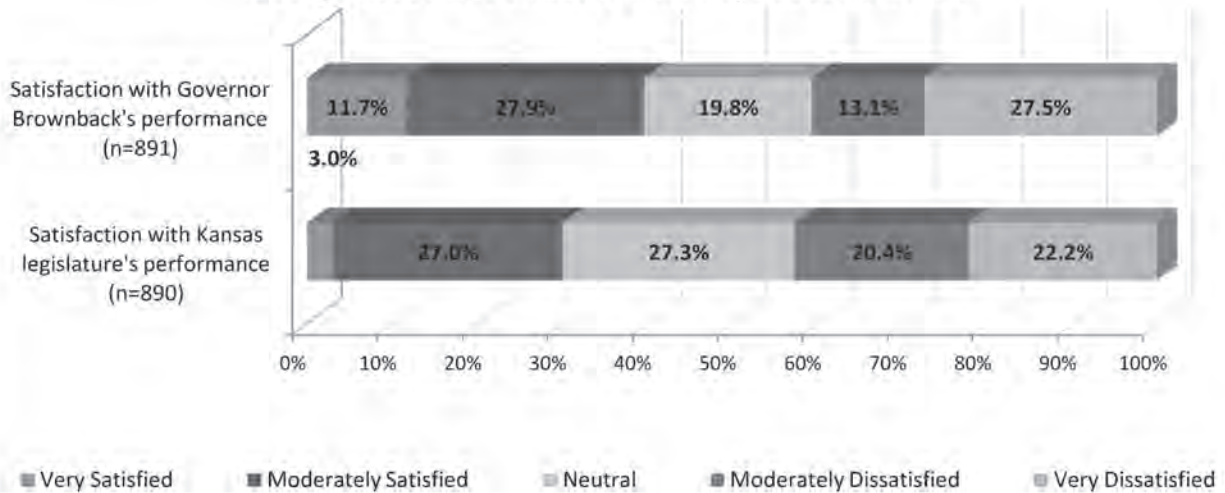
Respondents were clearly in favor of two tax increases, however. For high income earners and corporations, more than half of the participants favored tax increases. Democrats were much more likely to favor the higher taxes than Republicans, not surprisingly, except for small businesses where most favored lower taxes or no changes, regardless of party affiliation.

Kansans are split on the quality of state government, with Republicans and those with higher levels of education more positive in their evaluations. Since the election of Governor Brownback, he has been a touchstone of Kansas politics and a controversial figure. Reactions to the Governor and state legislature were split, with roughly forty percent in favor of and opposed to each, leaving a middle ground of twenty percent neutral towards both entities. Democrats were much less satisfied with both the executive and legislative branches, again not surprisingly.

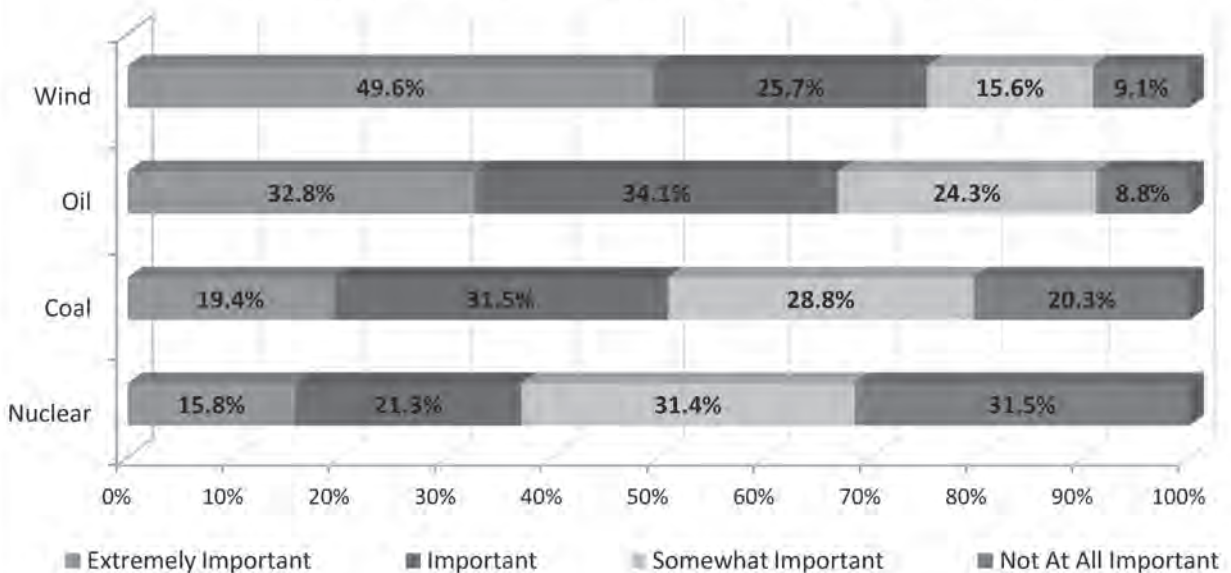
The following results are from the 2012 edition of *Kansas Speaks*.



How satisfied are you with the overall performance of the Kansas legislature, Governor Brownback, and your state and congressional senators and representatives?



How important is it for Kansas to devote resources to the development of the following energy sources?



The following results are from the 2013 edition of *Kansas Speaks*.

Most Interesting Findings of the Study by Dr. Chap Rackaway, Ph.D.

Kansas remains a great place to live and Kansans are optimistic about the future, but are feeling a significant amount of uncertainty. Overall, according to the Docking Institute of Public Affairs' annual *Kansas Speaks* survey, Kansans are feeling caught between different forces and unsure about what the future will hold.

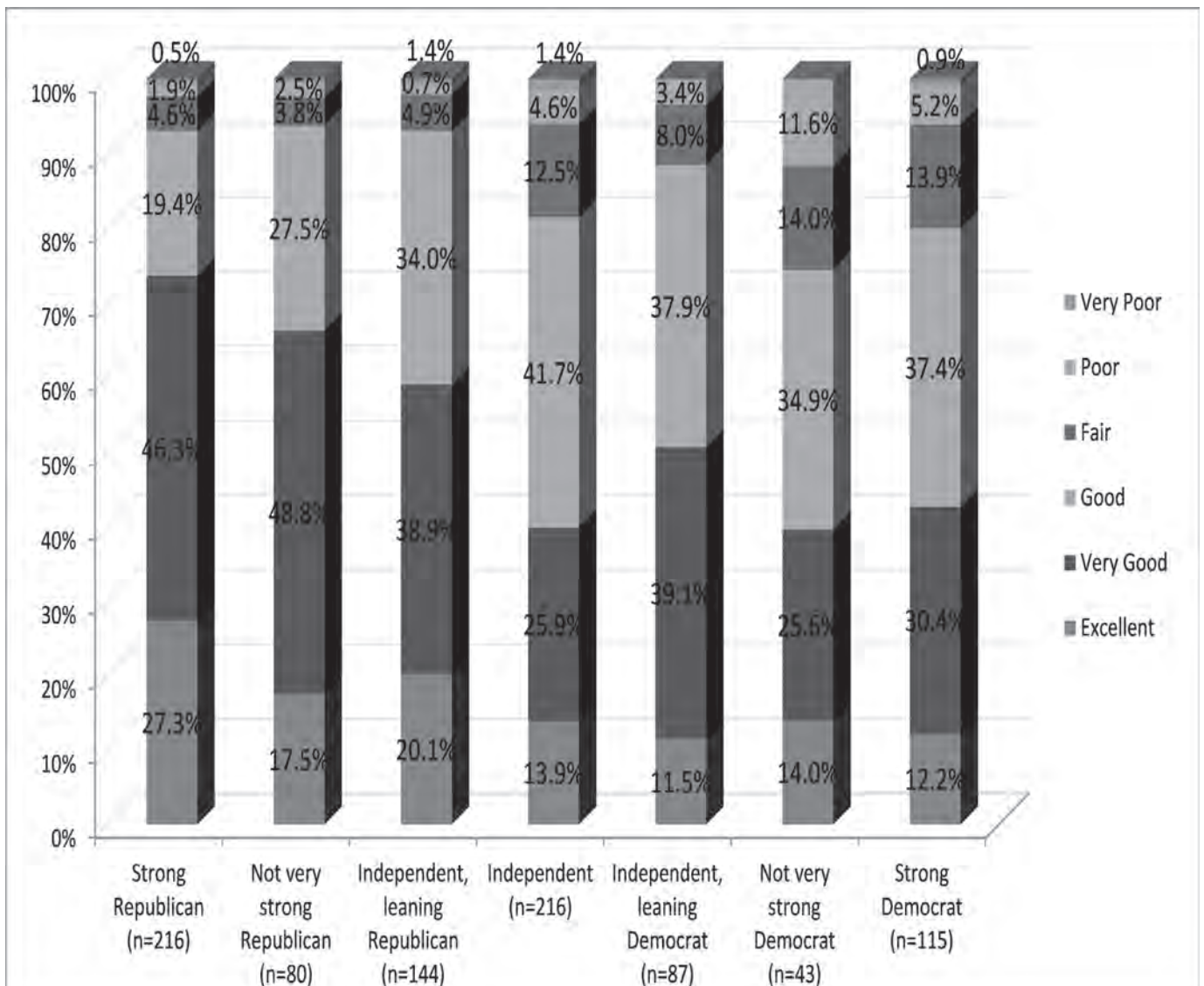
First of all, Kansans believe our state is a great place to live. But that does not mean they look at events in the state with rose-colored glasses. Almost ninety percent of respondents rate Kansas as a good or better place to live, but only 53.4% of respondents believe that the Kansas economy is good or better. Most people rate the economy as fair or good, but clearly the enthusiasm among Kansans for the State does not extend to the state of the economy. In fact, 61% of respondents are concerned the KS economy will threaten their family's welfare in the near future. There is an apparent concern for the economy, but one of the biggest uncertainties is what the people want to do about it.

Sweeping into office in 2010, Governor Sam Brownback promised to improve the Kansas economy through a low-tax, pro-business policy agenda showcased by a gradual reduction of corporate and individual income taxes. After two years of Brownback's regime, respondents are divided on the effects of the plan. Survey participants are evenly divided on Brownback's economic plan, with just under forty percent satisfied with his handling of the economy and almost the same number dissatisfied with his performance. Respondents to *Kansas Speaks* are also evenly divided on Democratic plans for the state's economy, but more neutral. The results suggest that people might not be enthusiastic about Brownback's economic agenda, but aren't even sure what the Democratic plan is. The actual percentage of supporters and opponents for Democrats is close to the numbers for Brownback (thirty percent supporting and 36 percent opposing,) so no clear mandate on a direction for the economy emerges from the results of *Kansas Speaks*.

Most notable are the results on state spending. Most Kansans (44.5%) think government spending should be decreased, but other data suggest that Kansans don't know where the cuts should come from. More Kansans think funding for education, both K-12 and higher education, and social services should be increased, while at the same time they think Kansas government overall spending should decrease. In no specific areas did a mandate emerge for reduction in government spending, so while people who participated in *Kansas Speaks* generally think that government spending should decrease, they have no preference for specific and substantive cuts in the state budget. In fact, they would like to see spending increases on the two policy areas that make up three-quarters of the state budget in education and social services. Support for spending increases is so strong that three in five participants support school districts being allowed to sue the state legislature to increase their funding. Respondents are also decisive on how they would pay for extra spending, strongly favoring tax increases for large corporations and wealthier Kansans, with majorities supporting higher taxes for both groups.

Kansans are unsure of the future, skeptical of all political leaders' ideas for improving the state's economic health, and want the government to decrease spending at the same time they want increased funds going to schools and social services. The one thing that is clear from the responses to this year's *Kansas Speaks* is that uncertainty reigns.

Respondent's opinions of the quality of life in Kansas were significantly related to respondent's party affiliation. Compared with strong Democratic respondents and Independent voters leaning Democratic, Republican respondents were more likely to feel that Kansas was at least a "good" place to live. More than seventy percent (73.6%) of respondents who considered themselves strong Republicans said that Kansas was an "excellent" or "very good" place to live, while only 42.6% of respondents who considered themselves strong Democrats said so.



2012

CLIENT LIST

Labor Study	Central Missouri Economic Development Alliance
Survey Research	City of Salina
Labor Study	Clay County Economic Development Group
Survey Research	College of Education and Technology, Fort Hays State University
Strategic Planning	Downtown Hays Development Corporation
Labor Study	Ellis County Coalition for Economic Development
Survey Research	Ellsworth, USD 327
Labor Study	Falls City Economic Development and Growth Enterprise, Inc.
Labor Study	Hutchinson/Reno County Economic Development
Program Evaluation	Kansas Academy of Mathematics and Science
Program Evaluation	Kansas Bioscience Authority
Public Policy	Kansas County Treasurer's Association
Program Evaluation	Kansas Health Foundation
Survey Research	Kansas Small Business Development Center
Public Policy	Kansas Speaks
Survey Research	Kansas State University/Office of Local Government, Harvey County
Survey Research	Kelly Center, Fort Hays State University
Labor Study	Lawrence Chamber of Commerce
Labor Study	Leavenworth County Development Corporation
Strategic Planning	Norton, USD 211
Labor Study	Ottawa/Franklin City County Economic Development Inc.
Strategic Planning	Pratt Community College
Survey Research	President's Office, Fort Hays State University
Survey Research	Public Square Communities
Survey Research	Republic County Economic Development
Strategic Planning	Rush County Nursing Home
Program Evaluation	State Library of Kansas

2013

CLIENT LIST

Program Evaluation	Arizona Supreme Court
School Bond Survey	Belleville, USD 109
Survey Research	Department of Teacher Education, Fort Hays State University
School Bond Survey	Ellis, USD 388
Program Evaluation	Kansas Academy of Mathematics and Science
Public Policy	Kansas County Treasurer's Association
Program Evaluation	Kansas Department of Commerce
Survey Research	Kansas Department of Wildlife
Program Evaluation	Kansas Health Foundation
Survey Research	Kansas Small Business Development Center
Public Policy	Kansas Speaks
Survey Research	Kansas State University/Office of Local Government, Woodson & Coffee
Survey Research	Living Independently in Northwest Kansas (LINK), Inc.
Program Evaluation	National Science Foundation, Noyce Scholarship Grant Program
Survey Research	President's Office, Fort Hays State University
Survey Research	Public Square Communities
Feasibility Study	Satanta Community Development Corporation
Survey Research	TCC Group/ Kansas Health Foundation
Survey Research	Teacher Education Program, Fort Hays State University
Strategic Planning	United Methodist Health Ministry Fund



Program Evaluation

Conducting an assessment of program implementation and program outcomes is indispensable for agencies to make informed decisions about their initiatives. Government and non-profit organizations often need tangible documentation of a program's effectiveness to receive or maintain funding. The Docking Institute has the necessary expertise and experience to help organizations develop evaluations of processes and outcomes, perform needs assessments and write required technical evaluation reports for submission to federal or state funders.

PROJECTS COMPLETED

Kansas Bioscience Authority – Kansas Bioscience Index

by Jian Sun, Ph.D.

The Docking Institute constructed a Kansas Bioscience Index for the Kansas Bioscience Authority in 2012. By examining 18 indicators, the index report describes bioscience industry change in Kansas since 2004 in four categories (industrial output, research and development capacity, innovative capacity, and workforce capacity) as compared with the nation and six peer states. The Kansas Economic Growth Act identifies 26 bioscience industry sectors. Excluding the general medical and surgical hospital sectors, Kansas had 956 private bioscience companies with 16,898 employees in 2010, and the average wage in the bioscience industry in Kansas was \$47,836. The academic research and development (R&D) spending in bioscience was \$243 million in Kansas in 2009, which accounted for 55% of the total academic R&D spending in Kansas. From 2004 to 2009, 318 bioscience-related patents from Kansas were granted by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. In 2009, 62 bioscience-related patents from Kansas were granted, which accounted for 14.25% of all the granted patents from Kansas in that year. In Kansas, \$6 million venture capital was invested in bioscience in 2009.

Kansas Department of Commerce – Promoting Employment Across Kansas (PEAK)

by Preston Gilson, Ph.D.; Gary Brinker, Ph.D.

In June of 2013, the Kansas Department of Commerce asked the Docking Institute to evaluate one of its key programs for stimulating the Kansas economy, which provided tax incentives to firms either relocating to Kansas from out-of-state, or Kansas firms that start up or hire additional employees. The evaluation involved a formative component, whereby participants were surveyed to measure their satisfaction with the program and offer suggestions for improvement. An outcome component involved an economic impact analysis to assess the economic impact of the participant firms on the Kansas economy. Results showed high levels of participant satisfaction, as well as highly lucrative economic benefits for the State of Kansas.

Kansas Health Foundation – “Nutrition and Physical Activity Initiative” Evaluation

by Gary Brinker, Ph.D.; Jian Sun, Ph.D.

Since, 2008, the Docking Institute conducted periodic surveys (2008, 2009, 2011 & 2013) to measure health-related behaviors, knowledge and attitudes in four targeted communities: Salina, Hutchinson, Lawrence and Wichita. Similar surveys were conducted in comparable control populations. The purpose of the study was to evaluate the effectiveness of local initiatives to increase healthy attitudes and behaviors among residents. The data will also be used as baseline measures for future health-related initiatives.



Kansas Health Foundation – Oral Health Kansas Reflective Assessment

by Michael Walker, M.S.

The Kansas Health Foundation (KHF) contracted with the Docking Institute in 2013 to conduct a reflective assessment of a grant provided to Oral Health Kansas (OHK). The grant was for a period from January 1, 2011 to December 31, 2012. Through a combination of telephone interviews, and reviews of grant-related documents, web-sites, news articles, and the missions of both KHF and OHK, the Institute determined that OHK satisfied the requirements of the grant. Specifically, this grant has enabled OHK to pursue three priorities: 1) advocating for full and comprehensive adult dental care benefits for Medicaid recipients, 2) increasing public awareness about water fluoridation, and 3) to begin pursuing expanded access of dental services in rural areas of the state.

Kansas Health Foundation – Public Health Reflective Assessment

by Marilyn Ray, M.D., M.P.H.

In the fall of 2013, the Kansas Health Foundation asked the Docking Institute to conduct an assessment of its Public Health Program, with a special emphasis on the work of the Program Director, who will be moving to a new position soon. The assessment was conducted by Dr. Marilyn Ray, M.D., M.P.H. Dr. Ray interviewed KHF's current Public Health Program Manager, the Senior Program Officer and the Vice President for Programs to collect information on the Foundation's priorities and to develop a list of the most important qualifications for selecting the new Program Manager. The report will be used by the search committee in recruiting the best replacement for the current Manager.

State Library of Kansas

by Gary Brinker, Ph.D.; Jennifer Sauer, M.A.; Mary Alice Wade, M.A.

The State Library of Kansas, located in the state capitol building in downtown Topeka, awarded a contract to the Docking Institute to conduct its annual evaluation, which is required in order to obtain funding support from the federal government. The Docking Institute conducted surveys and interviewed key informants to determine if the federal benchmarks for the indicators were being met.

PROJECTS UNDERWAY

Arizona Supreme Court – Arizona Judicial Performance Review

by Jian Sun, Ph.D.

The Arizona Supreme Court contracted with the Docking Institute to provide data processing services for the Judicial Performance Review Program for two consecutive years. For the 2014 review, surveys were distributed from August to December 2013 by the Arizona Supreme Court to evaluate justices and judges who serve in superior and appellate courts. The Docking Institute receives and inputs survey responses, and compiles survey data into reports. Reports will be delivered in April 2014, which will then be distributed to voters prior to the elections in November. The 2015 review will start in August 2014.

Kansas Academy of Mathematics and Science

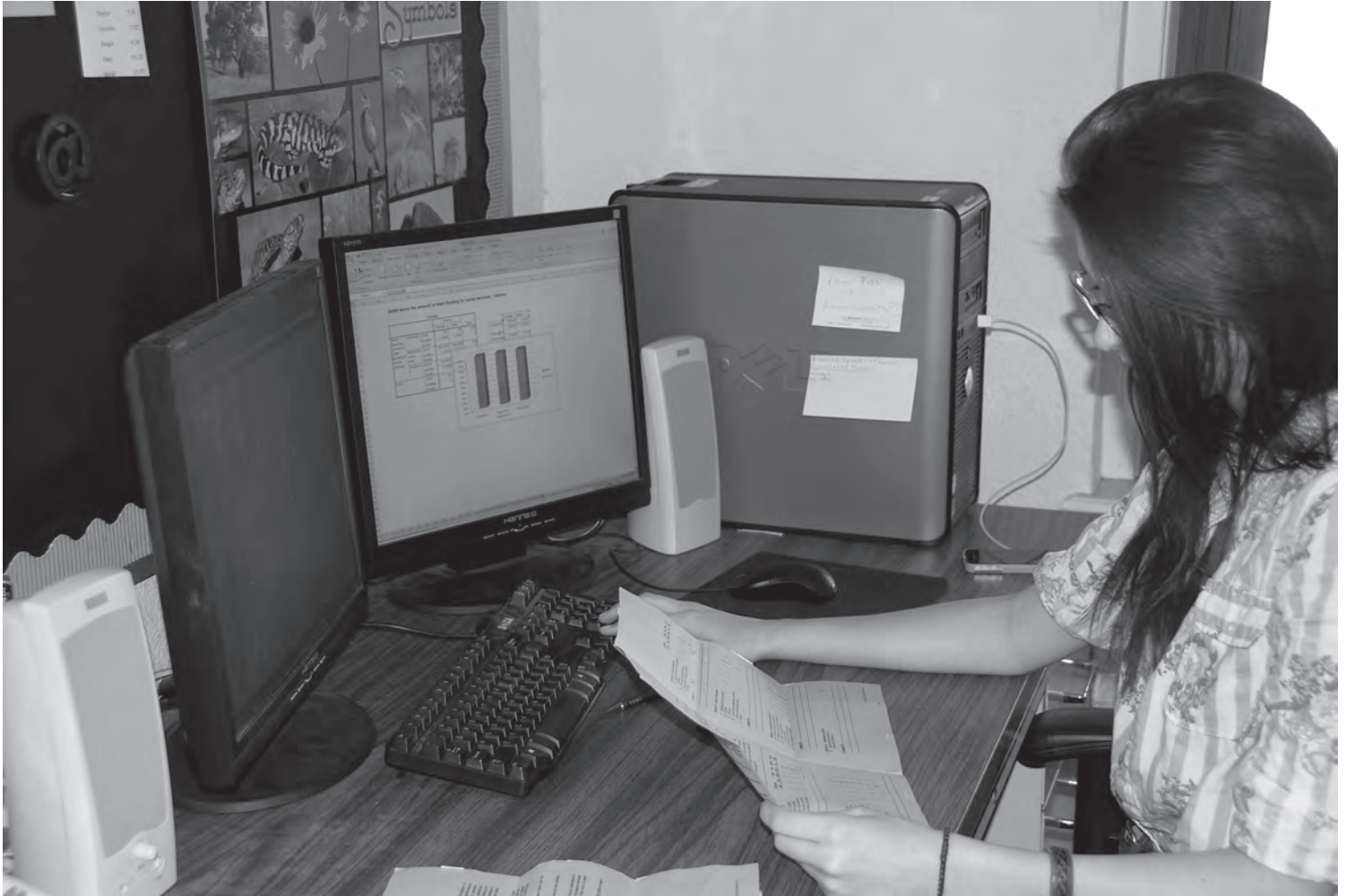
by Gary Brinker, Ph.D.

The Kansas Academy of Mathematics and Science is a state sponsored program that allows gifted high school juniors to live on the campus of Fort Hays State University and concurrently complete both their junior and senior years of high school and their freshman and sophomore years of college. The Docking Institute currently conducts the program evaluation, which involves periodically surveying participants to collect opinions on the program and suggestions for improvement, as well as tracking subsequent academic and career successes of Program graduates.

National Science Foundation – Noyce Grant Scholarship

by Gary Brinker, Ph.D.

In 2012, Fort Hays State University was awarded a grant from the National Science Foundation to fund scholarships for students interested in pursuing a career teaching secondary science or math in high need Kansas school districts, particularly areas in western Kansas. The first cohort began in fall 2013. The Institute will conduct a formative evaluation, periodically surveying and/or interviewing participants as they pursue their science degrees and begin teaching in high need areas. An outcome component will assess the overall success of the program in increasing the number of S.T.E.M. teachers in Kansas.



Student worker, Taylor Hunt, inputs data from the Arizona Supreme Court project.



Labor and Migration Studies

Based on government labor data alone, firms considering relocation or expansion can often conclude incorrectly that there is not sufficient qualified labor to meet their needs. The Docking Institute offers a unique study of a client's labor basin. A labor study assesses the labor supply, availability and skill level of a region. Additionally, labor studies determine the working status, education and training levels, willingness to commute, desired wages and benefits of people looking for employment or who would consider seeking new employment for the right opportunity. Depending upon the needs of the client, studies can include questions about entrepreneurship, job satisfaction and other issues.

The migration of people in and out of a local area is an important issue for community and economic planners. This is especially true for areas experiencing dramatic or sustained population decline or increase. Migration studies assess past and current migration trends and determine issues and factors that might encourage people to remain in a local area, relocate elsewhere, and/or return.

PROJECTS COMPLETED

Central Missouri Economic Development Alliance – Labor Availability Analysis

by Michael Walker, M.S.

The Docking Institute was contracted by the Central Missouri Economic Development Alliance to assess the available labor in the West Central Missouri Labor Region. The region encompasses 20 counties in Missouri: Bates, Benton, Caldwell, Carroll, Cass, Chariton, Cooper, Henry, Hickory, Howard, Johnson, Lafayette, Moniteau, Morgan, Pettis, Ray, Saline, and St. Clair, plus portions of Clay and Jackson Counties east of Kansas City. The region includes five overlapping labor basins of about nine counties each, centered on Henry, Johnson, Lafayette, Pettis and Saline counties.

The region's population is approximately 511,627, with a Civilian Labor Force of 246,603. Using data collected from telephone interviews, the Institute estimates that the region contains an Available Labor Pool of 149,840 individuals. The Institute provided the client with reports describing the labor basin-specific available labor pools for the five basins listed above. Similar studies were conducted in 2005 and 2009, and the Institute included trend analyses in the 2012 reports.

Clay County Economic Development Group – Labor Availability Analysis

by Michael Walker, M.S.

The Docking Institute conducted a study for the Clay County Economic Development Group to assess the available labor in the Clay County Labor Basin. The basin includes Clay, Cloud, Marshall, Republic and Washington Counties in north central Kansas. The labor basin also includes the northern portions of Dickinson, Geary and Riley Counties. The population of the labor basin is estimated to be 97,579. Using data collected from telephone interviews (conducted from March 13 to May 17, 2012), the Institute estimates that the basin contains an Available Labor Pool of 28,312 individuals. Slightly more than 30% of the available labor will commute 45 minutes, one way, for new or different employment. Half (50%) will consider a new job for at least \$15 an hour, given the right circumstances.

Ellis County Coalition for Economic Development – Labor Availability Analysis

by Michael Walker, M.S.

The Docking Institute conducted a study for the Ellis County Coalition for Economic Development to assess the available labor in the Ellis County Labor Basin. The basin includes Barton, Ellis, Graham, Ness, Osborne, Rooks, Rush, Russell and Trego Counties in Kansas. The population of the labor basin is estimated to be 84,147. Using data collected from telephone interviews (conducted from Nov. 9, 2011, to Feb. 10, 2012), the Institute estimates that the basin contains an Available Labor Pool of 21,124 individuals.

Large portions of available labor reside in ZIP code areas centered on Hays, Great Bend and Russell, although pool members come from all areas in the labor basin. About a third (33.2%) of pool members hold bachelor's degrees, and





almost three-quarters (73.8%) have some college experience. Almost 85% is willing to take a new job outside of their primary field of employment, while about 50% is willing to work weekends, and 50% is willing to work a 2nd shift or night shift for a new job opportunity.

Falls City Economic Development and Growth Enterprise, Inc. – Labor Availability Analysis

by Michael Walker, M.S.

The Docking Institute conducted a study for the Falls City Economic Development and Growth Enterprise, Inc. (EDGE) to assess the available labor in the Richardson County Labor Basin. The Richardson County Labor Basin includes nine counties in Nebraska (Johnson, Nemaha, Pawnee and Richardson), Kansas (Brown, Doniphan and Nemaha) and Missouri (Atchison and Holt). The population of the labor basin is estimated to be 62,305. Using data collected from telephone interviews (conducted from Nov. 1, 2011, to Jan. 18, 2012), the Institute estimates that the basin contains an Available Labor Pool of 13,331 individuals.

Almost 70% of the labor pool has at least some college experience, and 97.2% has at least high school diplomas. More than half (55%) will consider a new job for at least \$15 an hour, given the right circumstances. Almost 85% consider on-the-job training or paid training as a “very important” benefit for a new employment opportunity. A similar study was conducted for Falls City EDGE in 2008. Trend analysis found that the Available Labor Pool increased slightly (by 56 individuals) during the interim, while the entire population decreased by 680 individuals.

Hutchinson/Reno County Economic Development – Labor Availability Analysis

by Michael Walker, M.S.

The Docking Institute conducted a study for Hutchinson/Reno County Economic Development to assess the available labor in the Hutchinson Labor Basin. The Hutchinson Labor Basin includes the counties of Harvey, Kingman, McPherson, Reno, Rice, Stafford and the northwest portion of Sedgwick in Kansas. The population of the labor basin is estimated to be 365,657. Using data collected from telephone interviews (conducted from Oct. 19, 2011, to Jan. 19, 2012), the Institute estimates that the basin contains an Available Labor Pool of 89,379 individuals.

Similar studies were conducted for the Hutchinson/Reno County Chamber of Commerce in 2003, 2007 and 2009. Trend analyses found that the population of the basin grew by 9.7% from 2003 to 2011, and the Available Labor Pool increased by 5%. A larger proportion of the Available Labor Pool in 2011 than in 2003 was non-employed and available for full-time employment given the right opportunities. A smaller proportion in 2011 than in 2003 was under-employed and looking for full-time employment.



PROJECTS COMPLETED (continued)

Lawrence KS Chamber of Commerce – Labor Availability Analysis

by Michael Walker, M.S.

The Docking Institute conducted a study for the Lawrence KS Chamber of Commerce to assess the available labor pool in the Lawrence Kansas Labor Basin. The Lawrence Kansas Labor Basin includes Douglas, Franklin, Jefferson, Johnson, Leavenworth, Miami, Osage and Shawnee Counties in Kansas. The population of the labor basin is estimated to be 1,015,212. Using data collected from telephone interviews (conducted from July 15 to Oct. 15, 2012), the Institute estimates that the basin contains an Available Labor Pool of 243,055 individuals.

Our research found that, of the available labor, an estimated 16,679 (6.9%) non-working and 41,096 (16.9%) working individuals are looking for new full-time employment, while 49,454 (20.3%) non-working and 135,826 (55.9%) working individuals would consider new and/or different full-time employment for the right opportunities. More than 80% of the labor pool has at least some college experience, and almost all (99.4%) has at least a high school diploma. Of the employed labor pool members, more than a quarter (26.4%) consider themselves underemployed.

Leavenworth County Development Corporation – Labor Availability Analysis

by Michael Walker, M.S.

The Docking Institute conducted a study for the Leavenworth County Development Corporation to assess the available labor pool in the Leavenworth County Labor Basin. The Leavenworth County Labor Basin includes Atchison, Douglas, Jefferson, Johnson and Leavenworth Counties and a portion of Wyandotte County in Kansas, and Platte County in Missouri. The population of the labor basin is estimated to be 371,650. Using data collected from telephone interviews (conducted from Aug. 2 to Oct. 2, 2012), the Institute estimates that the basin contains an Available Labor Pool of 83,723 individuals.

Large portions of the available labor reside in ZIP code areas centered on Leavenworth, Olathe and Lawrence, although many members also reside in ZIP code areas including/near Tonganoxie, Gardner and north of Kansas City.

Almost all (99.3%) has at least a high school diploma, 80.8% has at least some college education and 51.5% has at least bachelor's degrees. Of the employed members of the labor pool, 38% works in service sector jobs, and 36% holds professional positions. An additional 10% works as general laborers, and 16% holds high skilled labor positions. A third (33%) will consider a new job for at least \$16 an hour, given the right circumstances, and nearly 86% will commute up to 30 minutes, one way, for a new job.



The Institute also found that, of Available Labor Pool Members, non-pool members with military related backgrounds and non-pool military members, 6% has “training or experience as computer programmers or designing computer simulations.” Of this subset, 47% holds at least masters degree level educations, and 52.7% has 10 or more years of experience in this field.

A similar study was conducted for the Leavenworth County Development Corporation in 2009. Trend analysis found that the population of the basin grew by 3% from 2009 to 2012, but the Available Labor Pool increased by 12%. A much larger proportion of the Available Labor Pool in 2012 than in 2009 was non-employed and available for full-time employment, given the right opportunities, while a smaller proportion in 2012 than in 2009 were non-employed and looking for full-time employment.

Ottawa/Franklin City Economic Development Inc. – Labor Availability Analysis by Michael Walker, M.S.

The Docking Institute conducted a study for Ottawa/Franklin City Economic Development Inc. to assess the available labor pool in the Ottawa Kansas Labor Basin. The labor basin includes the counties of Anderson, Coffey, Franklin, Linn, Miami and Osage, and portions of Douglas and Johnson Counties in Kansas. The population of the labor basin is estimated to be 391,972. Using data collected from telephone interviews (conducted from Sept. 1 to Oct. 25, 2011), the Institute estimates that the basin contains an Available Labor Pool of 94,335 individuals.

Large portions of the labor pool reside in Douglas, Franklin, Johnson and Miami Counties, and large portions of the pool work for employers located in Anderson, Coffee, Franklin, Johnson and Miami Counties. More than a quarter (29.5%) will consider a new job for at least \$10 an hour, given the right circumstances. Slightly more than 71% of the available labor will commute up to 30 minutes, one way, for a new or different employment. Three-quarters (75%) considers gas prices to be at least “somewhat” of an influence on the number of minutes they are willing to commute for a job. Sixty percent has considered finding a job closer to home because of fuel prices. Of the employed members of the labor pool, 26% considers themselves underemployed. Of the underemployed members, almost a quarter (23%) possesses greater skills than their current jobs require, while 16% has education levels that exceed those needed for their current positions.



Survey and Focus Group Research

Valid and reliable information about one's client or service area population is essential for effective decision-making. The Center for Survey Research provides professional survey design, data gathering and data analysis services. Institute researchers help clients select the most appropriate survey methodology based on the client's needs, goals and budget. Available survey methods include telephone surveys (using a 16-station CATI system), mail surveys, web surveys, personal interviews, and focus groups. The Institute can survey almost any population, from single neighborhoods to the entire nation, and in multiple languages.

PROJECTS COMPLETED

Belleville, USD 109 – School Bond Survey

by Gary Brinker, Ph.D.

Unified School District 109 in Belleville, Kansas had documented a need for improvement projects for its material infrastructure, but was unsure of whether the voters would approve. To get a better idea of to which projects and what level of financial support the community was willing to commit, the District Superintendent asked the Docking Institute to survey the voters and measure support for a bond initiative to fund these improvements. The Institute used a postal survey method to ask voters to rate their own perceived need for each improvement project, then to indicate whether they would or would not vote for a series of bond scenarios. The results allow USD 109 administrators to develop a bond proposal of which they can be confident will garner a majority of voter support.

City of Salina – Survey Research

By Michael Walker, M.S.

The City of Salina contracted with the Docking Institute to conduct a land-line telephone survey of randomly selected households located in Salina regarding curbside recycling. Our findings were a key component in a more encompassing recycling project performed by SAIC for the city of Salina. Telephone interviews were conducted from June 19 through July 5, 2012. Of valid contacts (703), 421 interviews were completed, providing a cooperation rate of nearly 60%. Most respondents (89%) do not currently participate in an available but limited curbside recycling program, while 11% do participate. When asked about a city-wide curbside recycling program, nearly 62% offered positive responses, while 17.4% provided negative responses (the remainder provided neutral or “don’t know” responses). When asked for their willingness to pay for a city-wide program through fees or taxes, slightly more than 12% reported that they would be “very likely” to support a fee of \$6 per month. Almost a quarter (24%) would be “very likely” to support a \$4 monthly fee and about 43% would be “very likely” to support a \$2 monthly fee.

College of Education and Technology, Fort Hays State University – Survey Research – Web only

by Jian Sun, Ph.D.

The College of Education and Technology (COET) at Fort Hays State University contracted the Docking Institute to survey a group of former students who have either recently graduated with a degree, or who have completed licensure requirements through the COET, and the mentors or immediate supervisors of those former students. The Docking Institute designed two Internet surveys and assessed the teaching performance of those former students on 30 items regarding technology use, class content, and pedagogy. More than 85% of the recent graduates from COET evaluated their performance to be proficient, advanced, or exemplary among those 30 items. Recent graduates’ self-evaluation is significantly different from their mentors or supervisors evaluation over only four items. The reports were delivered to COET in March 2012.



College of Education and Technology, Fort Hays State University – Survey Research by Jian Sun, Ph.D.

Multi-Tier System of Supports is a coherent continuum of evidence-based, system-wide practices to support a rapid response to academic and behavior needs, with frequent data-based monitoring for instructional decision-making to empower each Kansas student to achieve high standards. Faculty researchers and students in the FHSU College of Education and Technology (COET) contracted with the Docking Institute to collect survey data from a sample of teachers in primary and secondary education in Kansas for the purpose of evaluating the implementation and effectiveness of this program. The data was delivered to COET researchers for analysis in February 2012.

Ellis, USD 388 – School Bond Survey by Gary Brinker, Ph.D.

Unified School District 388 in Ellis, Kansas assessed the District's building and infrastructure needs and determined that a bond would be required to fund the improvements. In order to gauge voter support for the proposed bond, the District Superintendent asked the Docking Institute to conduct a survey of registered voters in the District to measure 1) support for each improvement project in the bond, and 2) whether voters would vote for or against the proposed bond. After predicting that the bond would not garner majority support, a decision was made to float the bond in a special election. The survey predicted the outcome of the election within 8 percentage points.

Ellsworth, USD 327 – School Bond Survey by Gary Brinker, Ph.D.

After experiencing a failed bond election in summer of 2012, the Superintendent of USD 327 in Ellsworth, Kansas contacted the Docking Institute to see if we could help assess the voters' opinions of the district's needs. Institute researchers developed a special survey instrument designed to measure support for the various improvement projects desired, as well as whether respondents would vote for specific school bond scenarios given descriptions of the improvement projects and the approximate increase in property taxes involved. The results showed that a new gym was very unpopular among the general voting public, opposed by two-thirds of respondents and strongly opposed by about half. Researchers concluded that this item was largely responsible for the failure of the bond in the summer 2012 election. Based on the results of the survey, administrators hope to construct a new bond initiative that will provide the most needed improvement projects and have a high probability of passing in an upcoming school bond election.

PROJECTS COMPLETED (continued)

Fort Hays State University – Department of Teacher Education – Survey of Physics Teachers

by Gary Brinker, Ph.D.

In the Spring of 2013, Dr. Paul Adams asked the Docking Institute to conduct a survey of all high school and middle school physics teachers in Kansas. The purpose of the study was to collect data on the methods, teaching styles and opinions of educational issues among the target population. The survey was conducted via internet. Dr. Adams provided names and email addresses for all subjects, who we then emailed an invitation to participate and hyperlink to the online Qualtrics survey. Dr. Adams and his colleagues will use the information to plan future activities and agendas for promoting physics education in Kansas.

Fort Hays State University – President’s Office – Dodge City Satellite Campus Survey

by Gary Brinker, Ph.D.

The President’s Office of Fort Hays State University asked the Docking Institute to conduct a two-phase survey of community college students (online) and the general population (telephone) residing in southwest Kansas and southeast Colorado. The purpose of the study was to estimate demand for an FHSU satellite campus in Dodge City where community college students completing their associate degrees could easily transition into bachelor’s programs where on-campus classes could be taken. Based on the results of the survey, it was decided not to develop the satellite campus.

Fort Hays State University – President’s Office – Student Media Survey

by Gary Brinker, Ph.D.

In 2012, funding for FHSU’s internal media network came under question, and President Hammond created a committee to explore more efficient ways for disseminating news and information to the faculty, staff and students. To assist the committee, President Hammond asked the Docking Institute to conduct an online survey of these populations to collect data on their current usage and preferences for future platforms. The results were delivered to the committee, who used the information to prepare their recommendations to the president.



FHSU Student Government – Survey of Residential Life Students Regarding WIFI Connectivity

by Michael Walker, M.S.

The Docking Institute was asked by FHSU student government to conduct a survey of students living on-campus about WIFI connectivity in the residential life halls. An on-line questionnaire was developed, a link to which was provided to student government officials. Students in each residential hall (Agnew, Custer, McMIndes and Wiest) were asked by student government officials to log onto the on-line survey. A total of 71 students participated.

Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism – Pheasant Habitat Survey of Land Owners

by Michael Walker, M.S.

The Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism contracted with the Docking Institute in 2013 to survey land owners in two areas of Kansas: the Glen Elder (Waconda Lake) Wildlife Area and the Norton Wildlife Area. The Docking Institute mailed 706 survey booklets to known addresses in the two areas. Telephone interviews were attempted of non-responders to the paper questionnaire. The response rate for this research effort was 30%, providing 214 completed interviews. Land owners were asked questions relating to land usage and pheasant hunting, and were asked for their willingness to participate in various land management plans conducive to pheasant habitat.

Kansas Small Business Development Center – Client Impact and Satisfaciton Survey

by Jian Sun, Ph.D.; Michael Walker, M.S.

Since 2008, the Docking Institute conducted annual surveys for the Kansas Small Business Development Center (KSBDC) to assess the service quality provided by eight regional centers and ten outreach centers to small business owners in Kansas and to collect employment and financial information on those businesses. Analyses were done state wide and also for each regional/outreach center. In the 2012 survey, data were collected from 1,091 small businesses. It was found that in 2011, 3,003 jobs were created or retained in those businesses that participated in the study. A total of 543 businesses reported sales increases in 2011 and the total amount of sales increase in those businesses was \$120,296,307. About 85% of the businesses surveyed indicated that the KSBDC services were excellent or above average. A total of 1,026 small businesses participated in the 2013 survey, and they reported that 2,826 jobs were created or retained in 2012. Sales increase was reported by 501 businesses, and the total sales increase in those businesses was \$107,073,736. About 92% of businesses were very satisfied or satisfied with the KSBDC services.

PROJECTS COMPLETED (continued)

Kansas State University, Office of Local Government – Health Care Needs Survey for Coffee and Woodson Counties, Kansas

by Michael Walker, M.S.

Kansas State University's Office of Local Government contracted with the Docking Institute in 2013 to administer a telephone survey to a random sample of adults in Coffee and Woodson Counties in Kansas. The Docking Institute surveyed 422 respondents in Coffee County and 184 in Woodson County and delivered the data to the client for review and analysis.

Kansas State University, Office of Local Government – Health Care Needs Survey for Harvey County Kansas

by Catherine Rockey; Michael Walker, M.S.

Kansas State University's Office of Local Government contracted with the Docking Institute to administer a telephone survey to a random sample of adults in Harvey County, Kansas, for the purpose of assessing rural health care needs. The Docking Institute surveyed 318 respondents and delivered the data to the client for review and analysis.

Kelly Center, Fort Hays State University – Social Norms Survey

by Gary Brinker, Ph.D.

The Kelly Center at Fort Hays State University, a counseling and support service for FHSU students, contracted with the Docking Institute to conduct a social norms survey measuring key demographic characteristics and self-reported personal usage of various drugs and alcohol. The results will be used by the Kelly Center's coordinator of the Drug and Alcohol Awareness Network and Docking Fellow, Bob Duffy, to plan programs and appropriate resources.

Living Independently in Northwest Kansas (LINK) – Surveys of Consumers, Direct Support Workers, and Board Members and Staff

by Michael Walker, M.S.

Living Independently in Northwest Kansas (LINK) contracted with the Docking Institute in 2013 to gather data from three populations as part of a larger strategic planning initiative. Attempts were made to reach all 285 LINK consumers by telephone. At the end of the interview period, 227 consumers were reached and 185 agreed to complete the interview (resulting in a 65% response rate). Paper questionnaires were returned by 89 (out of a possible 402) direct service workers and 10 (of 19) board members/staff. Results were tabulated and provided to the client. Upon review by the client, the Institute will use the survey data as part of the environmental scan portion of an upcoming strategic planning session.





Public Square Communities – Survey Research

by Michael Walker, M.S.; Brett Zollinger, Ph.D.

The Docking Institute was contracted by the Kansas Leadership Center to evaluate Public Square Communities LLC's community development process. Research methods include three elements: 1) a telephone survey of a random sample of households in eight communities that have maintained or reached Accredited Public Square Community status as defined by Public Square Communities, 2) telephone interviews with a least six steering committee members in communities yet to reach Accredited status, and 3) two focus groups with community developers associated with Public Square Communities, LLC. Research elements 1 and 2 were completed in 2011, as was one focus group (part of element 3). The second focus group was held in the Spring of 2013.

Republic County Economic Development – Housing Survey

by Jian Sun, Ph.D.

The Republic County Economic Development Corporation in Kansas contracted the Docking Institute to conduct a housing study, which assessed housing demand and availability in Republic County, Kansas. Using data published by the U.S. Census Bureau and data collected from three surveys, the study found that there were 2,877 housing units in Republic County in 2010, and that 49.3% of them were built in 1939 or earlier. The study also found that 37.8% of the Republic County residents who participated in the study would be very or somewhat likely to move to a different residence within Republic County if a suitable apartment or house was available at that location. The report was delivered in February 2012.

PROJECTS UNDERWAY

TCC Group – Survey Research

by Michael Walker, M.S.

The Docking Institute was contracted by TCC Group in 2013 to conduct survey research as part of a larger evaluation project for the Kansas Health Foundation. This three-year project began in August of 2013. Three rounds of telephone interviewing will take place, each of 2,600 Kansans across the state, with oversampling in four cities: Garden City, Hutchinson, Lawrence and Pittsburg.





Strategic Planning

Visionary leadership begins with a plan that strategically prioritizes scarce community or organizational resources. The Docking Institute has worked with more than 60 entities including state agencies, educational institutions, museums, communities, economic development organizations and chambers of commerce to conduct strategic planning. The Docking Institute customizes the strategic planning process to meet each organization's requirements. Our comprehensive package of strategic planning services includes project organization, environmental scans, data analysis and assessment, survey work, group facilitation and plan writing.

PROJECTS COMPLETED

Downtown Hays Development Corporation

by Gary Brinker, Ph.D.; Michael Walker, M.S., Mark Bannister, J.D.

The Downtown Hays Development Corporation (DHDC) contracted with the Docking Institute to facilitate a strategic planning initiative. The study included conducting focused interviews with key community leader with business and personal interest in the downtown area, as well as two half-day planning sessions facilitated by Docking Senior Fellow Dr. Mark Bannister. DHDC will use the results for planning policies and events designed to increase patronage of downtown Hays businesses.

Norton USD 211

by Gary Brinker, Ph.D.; Michael Walker, M.S.

Unified School District 211 in Norton, Kansas, contracted with the Docking Institute to facilitate a strategic planning session. Preliminary surveys were conducted to obtain the preferences of faculty, staff, parents and local citizens residing within the district. A full-day planning session was then held with the district's board, superintendent and key community informants facilitated by Docking Director Dr. Gary Brinker.

Pratt Community College

by Gary Brinker, Ph.D.; Chris Crawford, Ph.D.

Pratt Community College contracted with the Docking Institute to revise the college's strategic plan. The college's president and key staff members, as well as board members, met for a full day session to review and revise the previous strategic plan. The session was facilitated by Docking Fellow Dr. Chris Crawford.

Rush County Nursing Home – Survey Research

by Gary Brinker, Ph.D., Michael Walker, M.S.

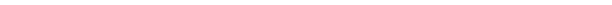
The Rush County Nursing Home in La Crosse, Kansas, under advisement by consultant Virgil Scott, contracted with the Docking Institute to facilitate a focus group of the home's key staff and board members for the purpose of determining the feasibility of changing the name, and if feasible, determine the most effective name for describing the facility's offerings and attracting new residents. It was determined that Locus Grove Village would be the likely new name adopted.



United Methodist Health Ministry

by Leslie Paige, M.S., EdS.

United Methodist Health Ministry contracted with the Docking Institute to develop a Logic Model for grantees addressing Young Children's Social and Emotional Development: Coordinated Early Identification and Early Intervention in Kansas Communities. Grantees participated in structured activities to develop a logic model to be used by other communities. The Foundation will disseminate this logic model to current grantees as well as to communities interested in improving the social and emotional health of young children.



Public Policy

To facilitate effective public policy decision making, the Docking Institute has more than 35 distinguished policy fellows representing industry, academia, and government. The Docking Institute assembles the right team of experts to find real-world solutions to real-world challenges. Through public affairs programming, the Docking Institute provides critical resources for today's public leaders to plan for a successful future.

CONTINUOUS PROJECTS

American Democracy Project

Coordinator: Curt Brungardt, Ph.D.

The Docking Institute collaborates with the American Democracy Project to provide distribution of the New York Times to ten locations on the Fort Hays State University campus. The Times is distributed daily during the fall and spring semesters in order to promote readership and to use in the classroom.

Kansas County Treasurers Association Training

Coordinator: Jian Sun, Ph.D.

For the past 20 years, the Institute has offered 26 classes to county treasurers in Kansas, who then receive certification for their participation.

Kansas County Treasurers Association Online Training

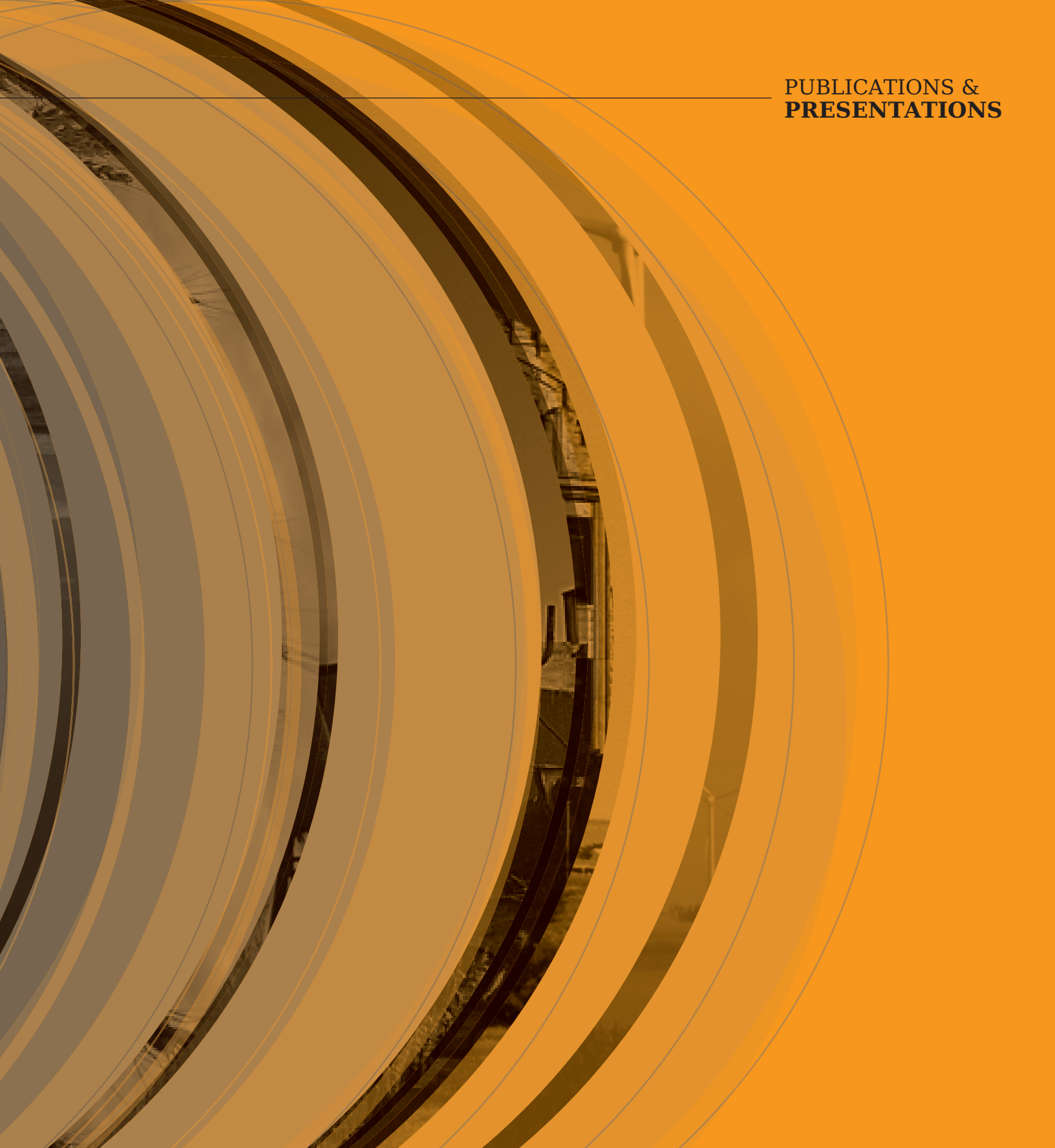
Coordinator: Jian Sun, Ph.D.

The Docking Institute developed the first online training course for the Kansas County Treasurers Association in 2011. The course provides instruction in six topic areas related to the duties, responsibilities and operation of the office of county treasurer. The course is delivered through the Blackboard website of Fort Hays State University. In 2012, a course regarding tax was developed and a course training new treasurers was developed in 2013. In 2012, a total of 13 and in 2013, a total of 27 county treasurers completed online courses.

Kansas Legislature

The Docking Institute continued its tradition of hosting live call-in legislative forums on Smoky Hills Public Television on Friday evenings during the legislative sessions. Directed by Docking senior fellow, Dr. Chapman Rackaway, the 2012 and 2013 shows were hosted by Docking policy fellows, Larry Dreiling and Dr. Chris Crawford, who are experienced and knowledgeable in state politics.

**PUBLICATIONS &
PRESENTATIONS**



PUBLICATIONS

Brinker, Gary

(2012) "The Politics of Fossil Fuels: Obstacles to Wind Energy Development in Kansas," *Sustainability Review*, Issue 2, Research, Volume 3.

Brinker, Gary and Robin Amonker

(2013) "Socioeconomic Development and Fertility Trends Among the States of India," *International Journal of Sociology and Social Policy*, Volume 33, Number 3/4.

Crawford, C.B. and Larry Gould

(2012) "Department Chair Perspective on Learning Outcomes Assessment at Kansas's Public Universities." *Assessment Update*. January-February, Volume 24, Number 1, pp. 9, 13-14.

Mills, Shala and M.S. Shapiro

(2012) "Educating Globally Competent Citizens: An AASCU Red Balloon Project." Teacher-Scholar: *The Journal of the State Comprehensive University*.

Peek, Lori and Lynn Weber

(2012) *Displaced: Life in the Katrina Diaspora*. Austin: University of Texas Press.

Peek, Lori and Michelle Meyer Lueck

(2012) "Disaster Social Service Volunteers: Evaluation of a Training Program." *Journal of Applied Social Science*. 6(2):191-208.

Peek, Lori; Sammy Zahran; Jeffrey Snodgrass; Stephan Weiler; Lynn Hempel

(2012) "Abnormal Labor Outcomes as a Function of Maternal Exposure to a Catastrophic Hurricane Event during Pregnancy." *Natural Hazards*. DOI 10.1007/s11069-011-0065-5.

Peek, Lori, Elizabeth A. Davis; Rebecca Hansen; Jane Kushma; Brenda Phillips

(2012) "Identifying and Accommodating High-Risk, High-Vulnerability Populations in Disasters." *Disaster Nursing and Emergency Preparedness for Chemical, Biological, and Radiological Terrorism and Other Hazards*. 3rd ed. Edited by T. G. Veenema. Pp. 519-541. New York: Springer.

Peek, Lori and Alice Fothergill

(2012) "Permanent Temporariness: Displaced Children in Louisiana." *Displaced: Life in the Katrina Diaspora*. Edited by L. Weber and L. Peek. Pp. 119-143. Austin: University of Texas Press.

Peek, Lori and Michelle Meyer Lueck

(2012) "The Crude Awakening: Gulf Coast Residents Reflect on the BP Oil Spill and the 2010 Hurricane Season." *Black Beaches and Bayous: BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Disaster*. Edited by L. A. Eargle and A. M. Esmail. Pp. 159-180. Lanham, MD: University Press of America.

Peek, Lori

(2012) "They Call it 'Katrina Fatigue': Displaced Families and Discrimination in Colorado." *Displaced: Life in the Katrina Diaspora*. Edited by L. Weber and L. Peek. Pp. 31-46. Austin: University of Texas Press.

Peek, Lori and Michelle Meyer Lueck

(2012) "When Hate is a Crime: Temporal and Geographic Patterns of Anti-Islamic Hate Crime after 9/11." *Crime and Criminal Justice in Disaster*. 2nd ed. Edited by D. W. Harper and K. Frailing. Pp. 203-225. Durham, NC: Carolina Academic Press.

Peek, Lori and Lynn Weber

(2012) "Documenting Displacement." *Displaced: Life in the Katrina Diaspora*. Edited by L. Weber and L. Peek. Pp. 1-20. Austin: University of Texas Press.

Peek, Lori and Laura Stough

(2012) "Children with Disabilities in Disaster." *Handbook of Hazards, Disaster Risk Reduction, and Management*. Edited by B. Wisner, J. C. Gaillard, and I. Kelman. New York: Routledge.

Peek, Lori and Lisa M. Brown

(2012) "Review of Older People in Natural Disasters: The Great Hanshin Earthquake of 1995, by Junko Otani." *International Journal of Mass Emergencies and Disasters*. 30(2): 242-244.

Peek, Lori, Justin Moresco; Jennifer Tobin-Gurley; Michelle Lueck; Kristen Yawitz; Liesel Schilperoort; Brian Tucker

(2012) *Understanding the Global Earthquake Model's (GEM's) Potential Beneficiaries: A Study of Earthquake Risk Reduction Activities, Needs, and Barriers*. Pavia, Italy: GEM Foundation.

Rackaway, Chapman

(2012) "Video Killed the Textbook Star: Use of Multimedia Supplements to Enhance Student Learning." *Journal of Political Science Education*. 8(2):189-200.

Rackaway, Chapman

(2012) "The Medium is the Messenger: Web 2.0 Tools in the Political Science Classroom." *In Teaching Politics Beyond the Book: Film, Texts, and New Media in the Classroom*. Edited by Robert W. Glover and Daniel Tagliarina. Bloomsbury Press.

Rackaway, Chapman

(2012) "Soccer Moms, Hockey Moms, and National Security Moms: Reality Versus Fiction and the Female Voter." *In Women and the White House: Gender, Popular Culture, and Presidential Politics*. Edited by Justin Vaughn and Lilly Goren. University of Kentucky Press.

Rackaway, Chapman

(2013) *American Government: Political Culture in an Online World*. Sixth edition. Kendall Hunt Publishers.

PRESENTATIONS

Gary Brinker

“The Politics of Fossil Fuels: Obstacles to Wind Energy Development in Kansas” at the Wind Energy Forum, Kansas State University, September 27, 2012.

Gary Brinker

Plenary speaker at the annual meeting of the Missouri Sociological Association in Lake Ozark, MO, October 12, 2012. Presented his research “The Politics of Fossil Fuels: Obstacles to Wind Energy Development in Kansas.”

Jian Sun

“Suburbanization in Beijing: New Trend and Social Implications” at the Urban Affairs Association conference, San Francisco, CA, April 2013.

Jian Sun

“Explaining Public Opinion toward Changes of Different Taxes” at the Midwest Political Science Association conference, Chicago, IL, April 2013.

Mills, Shala and K. Hoerrner

“Massive Collaboratively Designed Courses, AASCU’s Collaborative, Blended Alternative to MOOCs at the Teaching Professor Technology conference, Atlanta, GA, October 2013.

Mills, Shala and D.A. Hamlin

“Coaching 21st-Century Students: AASCU’s Global Challenges Curriculum as a Vehicle for Aligning Private and Public Purpose” at the American Democracy Project annual meeting, Denver, CO, June 2013.

Mills, Shala, J. Domagal-Goldman and K. Hoerrner

“Global Challenges National Blended Learning Course and eBook” at the AASCU Academic Affairs winter meeting, Point Clear, AL, February 2013.

Mills, Shala and W. Redmond

“Educating Globally Competent Citizens: AASCU’s Global Challenges as an Innovative Model” at the National Consortium for Continuous Improvement in Higher Education annual conference, Indianapolis, IN, July 2013.

Zollinger, Brett, Keith Campbell, and Fu Runfeng

“Undergraduates Awareness and Perceptions of Globalization: A Comparison of USA and Chinese Students” at the Midwest Sociological Society annual conference, Minneapolis, MN, April 2012.

CLIENT PRESENTATIONS

Gary Brinker

“Ellis USD 388 School Bond Survey” to USD 388 members, June 2013.

Brinker, Gary and Preston Gilson

“Promoting Employment Across Kansas (PEAK) Evaluation” to the Finance Committees of the Kansas Legislature and the Kansas Senate, January 2014.

Michael Walker

“Hutchinson Labor Basin, Labor Availability Assessment” to Hutchinson/Reno County Economic Development, Leavenworth, KS, March 2012.

Michael Walker

“Richardson County Labor Basin, Labor Availability Assessment” to Falls City Economic Development and Growth Enterprise, Inc., Falls City, NE, April 2012.

Michael Walker

“Clay Kansas Labor Basin, Labor Availability Assessment” to Clay County Economic Development Group, Clay Center, KS, July 2012.

Michael Walker

“Lawrence Kansas Labor Basin, Labor Availability Assessment” to Lawrence Kansas Chamber of Commerce, Lawrence, KS, October 2012.

Michael Walker

“Leavenworth County Labor Basin, Labor Availability Assessment” to Leavenworth County Development Corporation, Leavenworth, KS, October 2012.

PRO BONO

Fort Hays State University, in partnership with the national new pilot program “Global Challenges: Promise and Peril in the 21st Century,” conducted a study examining student attitudes and behavioral changes before and after taking the pilot class for the new program.

HONORS

Larry Gould

Larry Gould is a member of the Review Panel for Leveraging Excellence Award. The National Consortium for Continuous Improvement in Higher Education recognizes initiatives where effective academic and administrative practices have been successfully implemented beyond one department, campus or institution. The panel looks for initiatives that have resulted in a significant impact on quality, efficiency, service or learning. The unique distinction of this award is the dissemination or scaling of those improvements/innovations for leveraged impact.

Shala Mills

Shala Mills is the National Coordinator for the American Association of State Colleges and Universities Global Challenges Project. In that role she has collaborated with the AASCU Global Engagement Scholars in developing of a national blended learning course, an eBook, a teaching toolkit, and several workshops all aimed at educating globally competent citizens. This past year she delivered campus workshops/presentations at the University of Arkansas, Fort Smith, and at Richard Stockton College. She presented at the American Democracy Project Annual Conference in San Antonio, the American Association of State Colleges and Universities Academic Affairs meeting in San Francisco, and the Global Challenges Institute in Washington, DC. She co-published an article, “Educating Globally Competent Citizens: An AASCU Red Balloon Project” with Martin S. Shapiro (California State University, Fresno) published in the fall 2012 *Teacher-Scholar: The Journal of the State Comprehensive University*.



Director, Gary Brinker, discussing projects with Docking Institute staff and students.



Back: Jian Sun, Gary Brinker, Michael Walker
Front: Brigid Markey, Lynette Ottley



**STAFF
PROFILES**



Gary Brinker, Ph.D.

Dr. Gary Brinker has been the director of the Docking Institute and an associate professor of sociology in the Department of Sociology and Social Work at Fort Hays State University since August 2008 and was promoted to full professor in 2010. He was previously the director of the Center for Social Sciences and Public Policy Research at Missouri State University, from May 2002 to July of 2008, and the associate director from August 1997 to May 2002. His teaching interests include research methods, social problems and quantitative analysis. His sponsored research projects define an eclectic research agenda. Gary has been the principal investigator for more than 85 applied research projects, including program evaluations, needs assessments, economic impact studies, population projections and public opinion surveys in the areas of education, substance abuse, environment, education, politics, family planning, aging, community health and marketing. He is the editor of the Missouri Electronic Journal of Sociology and a member of the Midwest Sociological Society, and the Southwest Social Sciences Society. He has published articles in the International Journal of Sociology of the Family, Free Inquiry in Creative Sociology, Journal of Applied Sociology, North American Journal of Psychology, Social Development Issues, Journal of Population and International Review of Modern Sociology. Gary earned a Master of Arts degree in sociology in 1994 and a doctorate degree in applied sociology in 1997 at Baylor University.



Michael S. Walker, M.S.

Mike Walker is the assistant director of the Docking Institute and an instructor in the Department of Sociology and Social Work at Fort Hays State University. He joined the Institute in 2000 as a research scientist. He designs a variety of research projects involving survey research, focus group research and strategic planning. He has been the lead researcher for dozens of labor and employment studies in Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska. Mike is a member of the Rural Sociological Society, the Community Development Society, the Midwest Sociological Society, and the Population Association of America. Prior to coming to Fort Hays State University, he performed ethnographic and survey research in California, Colorado, Utah, Idaho and Nebraska. Mike also participated in archeological digs in southern Utah, completed a political internship in Washington, DC, and served in the U.S. Army. He regularly teaches urban/rural sociology, community theory and development, demography, and social research methods. Mike received his Master of Science degree in sociology from Utah State University in 1995 and is currently pursuing a doctorate in sociology at Kansas State University.

Jian Sun, Ph.D.

Dr. Jian Sun joined the Docking Institute in July 2007 as a research scientist. His responsibilities include survey design, survey administration, data analysis, and report writing. He has been the lead researcher for a variety of projects involving feasibility studies, health needs assessments, program evaluation, public opinion surveys, and housing studies. His personal research interests include housing prices, urban developmental policies, and public administration. Before joining the Docking Institute, he was involved in several planning projects in the United States and China, including land use planning, transportation analysis, and community economic development. He has published in the academic journals *Environmental and Planning A*, *Journal of Real Estate Literature*, *Journal of Housing Economics*, *Journal of Urban Affairs*, *Journal of Public Affairs Education*, *Real Estate Economics*, and *Journal of Current Chinese Affairs*. Jian is also an associate professor in FHSU's Department of Political Science, teaching research methods and public administration courses. Jian received his doctorate from the University of Louisville in 2007.



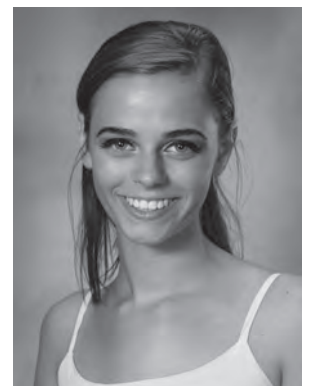
Lynette Ottley, B.A.

Lynette Ottley joined the Docking Institute in June 2008 as the administrative specialist. Her responsibilities include budget records, billing contracts, managing of accounts, monitoring fund balances, assigning expenses, payroll, and maintaining the website. She oversees student employment through JobX and supervises and coordinates the student activities. She is also responsible for design and publication of the Institute's annual report. Prior to joining the Institute, Lynette worked in the Academic Advising and Career Exploration office. She received her bachelor of arts degree in communications from Fort Hays State University in 1992.



Brigid Markey

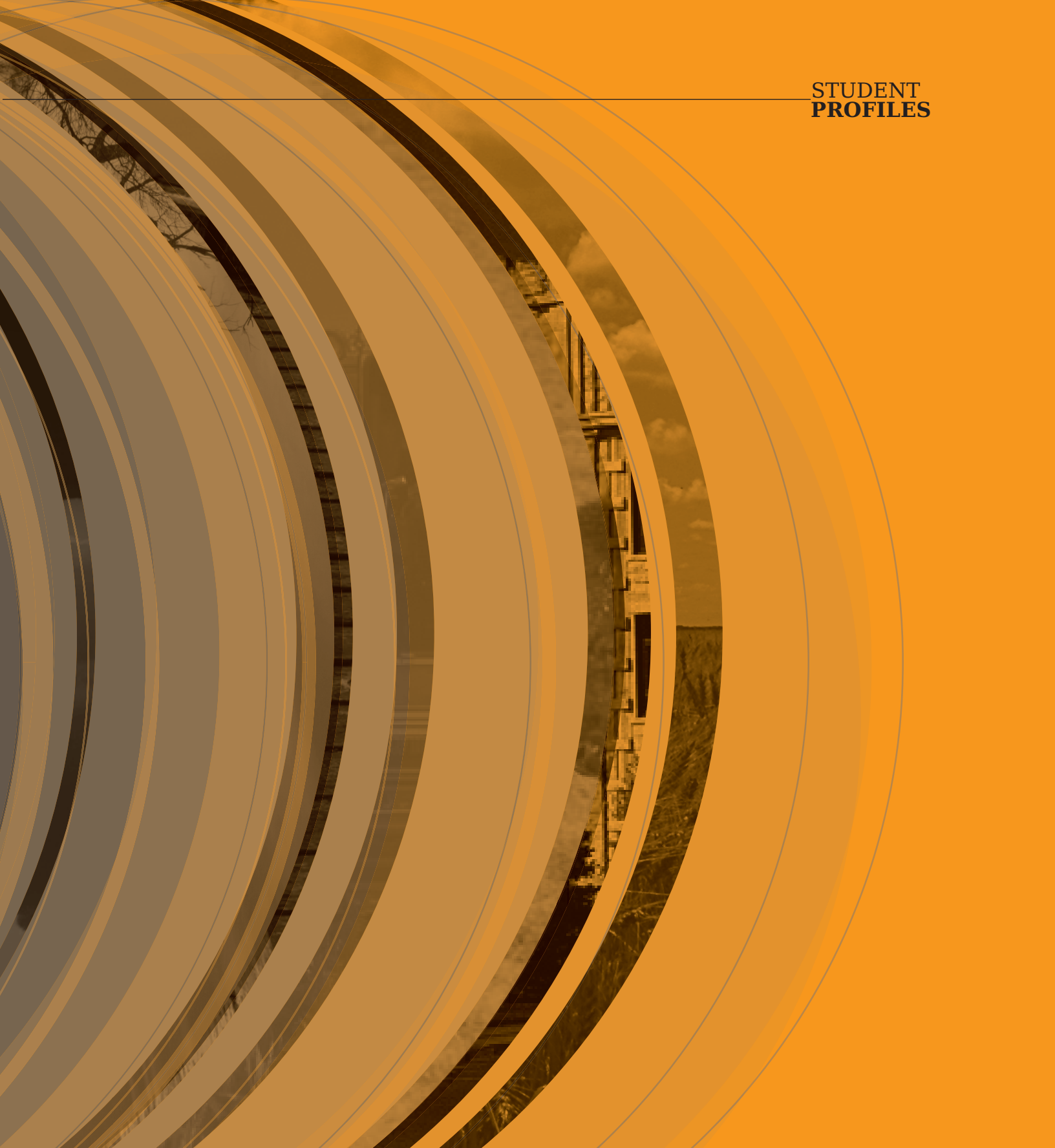
Brigid Markey joined the Docking Institute in November 2010 as a telephone surveyor in the Survey Center. In 2012, she began working as a survey shift supervisor. In August 2013, she was promoted to Survey Center Student Manager. Her responsibilities include managing all student interviewers and supervisors. Other duties include hiring and training to ensure a full staff of interviewers and supervisors necessary for completing all survey research projects, making sure all survey work stations are operational, and tracking work hours and job performance of all student interviewers and supervisors. She also monitors progress of all survey projects, programs the CI3 CATI automated survey software, monitors the sample status, along with reporting the status for the survey center and all other survey projects to the directors, and performs other tasks as assigned. Brigid is a senior studying English with a concentration in teaching.



The Docking Institute employs undergraduate students and provides internship opportunities. Our students have come from a variety of academic disciplines including political science, sociology, psychology, communications, business, counseling, social work, English, art, biology, graphic design and physics. Our students benefit from experiences at the Institute unavailable to most undergraduate students and are often assigned tasks and given responsibilities available only to graduate students at other universities. The Institute is fortunate to have such dedicated, reliable, and hard-working students.



**STUDENT
PROFILES**



2012 UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

Nick Carlson

Nick Carlson joined the Docking Institute as a student worker in August 2012. Nick graduated from Hillsboro High School in 2010 and is currently a junior majoring in social work. Nick intends to graduate in 2015.

Julianne Essmiller

Julianne Essmiller joined the Docking Institute as an intern in August 2012. In 2009, she graduated from Hutchinson High School. She is involved in the FHSU Sociology Club, Hays Neighbors, and Alpha Gamma Delta. Julianne graduated from FHSU in May 2013 with a sociology major and geography minor.

Morgan Roberts

Morgan Roberts joined the Docking Institute in August 2012 as an intern. Morgan graduated from Wheat Ridge High School in Wheat Ridge, CO, in 2009. At Fort Hays State University, Morgan is the president of Psi Chi. She also is the vice president of the Psychology Club, president of the Gay Straight Alliance, and a member of Sigma Tau Delta. She is currently a senior.

Sam Shepic

Sam Shepic joined the Docking Institute in August 2011 as an intern and has been a student worker at the Institute since January 2012. Sam graduated from Green Mountain High School in Lakewood, CO, in 2009. He is currently a junior with a major in sociology.

2013 UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

Susan Hornbaker

Susan joined the Docking Institute in the spring of 2013 as a student worker. She graduated from Holcomb High School Holcomb, Kansas in 2010 and Northwest Kansas Technical College in Goodland, Kansas with an Associate's degree in Computer Graphics Technology in 2012. She currently is working towards a Bachelors degree in Graphic Design.

Taylor Hunt

Taylor Hunt joined the Docking Institute in August 2012 as a survey caller and has been a student worker at the Institute since January 2013. Taylor graduated from Bonner Springs High School in Bonner Springs, KS in 2011. She is currently a sophomore with a major in Sociology.

Sam Shepic

Sam Shepic joined the Docking Institute in August 2011 as an intern and has been a student worker at the Institute since January of 2012. Sam Graduated from Green Mountain High School in Lakewood, Colorado in 2009. He is currently a senior with a major in Sociology.

PREVIOUS STUDENT SURVEY MANAGER

Catherine Rockey

Catherine Rockey joined the Docking Institute in January 2011 as a telephone surveyor in the Survey Center. In February 2012, she began working as a Survey Shift Supervisor. In July 2012, she was promoted to Survey Center Student Manager and worked until graduating in 2013. Her responsibilities included managing all student interviewers and supervisors. Other duties include hiring and training to ensure a full staff of interviewers and supervisors necessary for completing all survey research projects, making sure all survey work stations were operational, tracked work hours and job performance of all student interviewers and supervisors. She also monitored the progress of all survey projects, programmed the CI3 CATI automated survey software, monitored the sample status, along with reporting the status of the survey center and all survey projects to the directors, and performed other tasks as assigned. Catherine finished her degrees in Spanish in Secondary Education in the spring of 2013.

In addition to our permanent staff, the Docking Institute maintains a cadre of scholars and professionals who work with us ad hoc. This allows the Docking Institute to position researchers on projects that draw on their unique training and experience to provide highly specialized expertise in areas specific to the needed research. Our fellows thus greatly expand our ability to assign the most competent researchers to each individual project we adopt.



**POLICY FELLOW
PROFILES**

SENIOR POLICY FELLOWS



Joseph Aistrup, Ph.D.

Joseph Aistrup is a senior policy fellow of the Institute and dean of Auburn University's college of Liberal Arts at Auburn University, Alabama. He was assistant director of the Institute from 1993 to 1999 and director from 1999 to June 2002. He is the co-author of *Kansas Politics and Government: The Clash of Political Cultures* (2010, University of Nebraska Press) and sole author of *The Southern Strategy Revisited: Republican Top-Down Advancement in the South*, which was nominated for the V.O. Key Award in 1997. He is currently a co-principal investigator on three National Science Foundation funded projects studying water resources and land-use and land cover decisions in Kansas. He has published in *Economic Development Review*, *Economic Development Quarterly*, *Legislative Studies Quarterly*, *Political Research Quarterly*, *Social Science Quarterly*, *Soviet Studies*, *American Review of Politics*, *Kansas Business Review*, *Kansas Government Journal*, *Congressional Quarterly* and *Court Review*. He also regularly comments on Kansas politics for regional and national newspapers. Joe received his Ph.D. from Indiana University in 1989.



Mark Bannister, J.D.

Mark Bannister is the dean of the College of Business and Entrepreneurship at FHSU. The college offers significant business, information technology, and media programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels on campus, through domestic distance learning, and international partnerships. He is a senior policy fellow of the Docking Institute and a principal in Bannister Capital Advisors. Mark teaches course work on legal issues and management of information technologies. Mark also supervises and participates in research and programming on telecommunications, strategic planning, and community development. He has published academic articles in publications including *The Federal Communications Law Journal*, *Economic Development Review*, *Economic Development Journal*, *Kansas Policy Review*, *Kansas Journal of Law and Public Policy*, the proceedings of the Colloquium on Information Systems Security, *Journal of Business and Leadership*, and the *Kansas Business Review*. His writing and research focuses on telecommunications and technology regulation, intellectual property, information security, and economic development. As chair of the Department of Information Networking and Telecommunications at Fort Hays State University from 1990-2009, he led the growth of the program from 58 undergraduate students to more than 350 undergraduate and graduate students. The department was named the "Outstanding Undergraduate Program of the Year" in 2008 by the International Telecommunications Education and Research Association and was designated as a National Center of Academic Excellence in Information Assurance in 2009.

Mark previously served as director of the Docking Institute of Public Affairs and executive assistant/general counsel to the president of Fort Hays State University. Prior to arriving at Fort Hays State University, he served professionally as chief of staff for the Kansas Senate president and as associate general counsel to the Kansas Board of Regents. Mark earned a juris doctorate in law and a Master of Communication Studies from the University of Kansas. His bachelor's degree is from Fort Hays State University.



Preston Gilson, Ph.D.

Senior Policy Fellow Preston Gilson is a professor emeritus of finance at FHSU. Preston taught in the areas of international finance, risk management, real estate, financial institutions, commercial banks, managerial finance, and corporate finance. He also taught in the Public Administration Training Program and taught workshops for the Small Business Development Center. Preston's areas of expertise at the Docking Institute include housing, economic impact studies and strategic planning. His recent projects include an economic impact study for the Kansas Department of Commerce. He earned his Ph.D. from St. Louis University.



Larry Gould, Ph.D.

Senior Policy Fellow Larry Gould is former director of the Docking Institute. He established the Telepower® Conference in 1992 and is the author of a telecommunications report requested by the governor that initiated the state strategic telecommunications plan. Larry was the 1988 recipient of the FHSU Alumni Association's Pilot Award as the outstanding faculty member of the year. The Hays Area Chamber of Commerce named him Most Valuable Citizen and inducted him into the Chamber's Hall of Fame in 1996. Previously, he was director of the FHSU Model United Nations Program; Faculty Senate president; executive assistant to the president; and dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. In 2000, he was granted the Pacesetter Award from the National Academic Advising Association. In 2008, he was awarded the William Plater Award by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities. One of the few national awards for provosts, the Plater Award recognizes those chief academic officers who have advanced the civic mission of the campus through curricular reform, public advocacy, accountability for institutional citizenship, faculty development and recruitment, and partnerships with community organizations. He holds a B.A. in history from the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts, an M.A. in political science from Eastern New Mexico University and a Ph.D. in political science from Purdue University.



Carl D. Parker, Ph.D.

Senior Policy Fellow Carl D. Parker is a professor in the Department of Economics, Finance, and Accounting at FHSU. His fields of specialization are labor market analysis, labor relations, economic impact studies, cost benefit analysis, and statistical and econometric modeling, estimation and evaluation. Dr. Parker received his Ph.D. in economics from Oklahoma State University in 1971, a member of the national economics honor society, Omicron Delta Epsilon, and the national business honor society, Beta Gamma Sigma. He has published in such journals as *Economics of Education Review*, *Journal of the Southwestern Society of Economists*, *The Journal of Economics*, *Proceedings of the National Association for Welfare Research and Statistics*, *Journal of Economics and Finance*, and the *Journal of Finance and Economic Practice*.



Leslie Paige, M.S., Ed.S.

Senior Policy Fellow Leslie Paige is the coordinator for the Fort Hays State University Office of Scholarship and Sponsored Projects and the Undergraduate Research Experience Initiative. She frequently conducts strategic planning activities for local and state organizations. Leslie has written or helped develop funded federal, state and foundation grants and is experienced with Grants.gov, FastLane, NSPIRES, and other federal electronic grant portals. She has extensive experience in project development and management. Leslie is also experienced as a peer reviewer and field reader for federal grant competitions. She is co-editor of *Helping Children at Home and School*, 3rd Edition, published in 2010. Leslie received her master of science and educational specialist degrees in school psychology from Fort Hays State University. She has received national recognition for her work as a school psychologist, including National School Psychologist of the Year and the Fort Hays State University Alumni Achievement Award.



Chapman Rackaway, Ph.D.

Chapman Rackaway is a professor of political science at FHSU, serving on the faculty since 2003. Chap serves as the advisor for the undergraduate political management concentration as well as the political science, public administration, political leadership and public service, and political management graduate concentrations. He teaches campaign management, political organizations, political communication, and voting behavior. Chap's research and teaching interests include political campaign organization and electioneering, campaign communication strategies particularly involving online and social media, Kansas politics, campaign finance, and curricular methods of building student engagement. He has published in the *Journal of Politics*, *Journal of Political Science Education*, *Social Science Computer Review* and *PS: Political Science and Politics* and has contributed book chapters to recent publications on gender images in political campaigns, technology and simulations in the classroom, and the use of online tools by state-level political campaigns. He is the author of "Communicating Politics," a webtext with Soomo Publishing, and co-author of *American Government: Politics and Political Culture* with William Lyons and John Scheb, currently in its fifth edition.

Chap has been a policy fellow at the Docking Institute since his arrival at FHSU in 2003. As a fellow, he has not only helped the Institute's public affairs television programming with Smoky Hills Public Television, but has participated in developing a tax survey for Hays economic development, student political surveys, and regularly assists with the Kansas Speaks survey.



Marilyn Ray, M.D., M.P.H.

Senior Policy Fellow Marilyn Ray serves as adjunct faculty for the Department of Sociology and Social Work at Fort Hays State University, teaching such courses as medical sociology and death and dying. She is also a board certified radiologist who practices radiology in northwest Kansas and eastern Colorado. She obtained her M.D. from Tufts University in Boston and radiology training at Harvard's Beth Israel Hospital, also in Boston. After teaching for three years at the University of Southern California/Los Angeles County Hospital, and then specializing in mammography in private practice for several years, she and her family moved to Hays in 1995. Marilyn received a Master in Public Health at Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health in May 2004. Her work at the Docking Institute includes designing and implementing surveys related to medical and health behaviors and analyzing resulting data about related health policy issues. Marilyn has collaborated with Docking Institute scientists on projects related to tobacco cessation, domestic violence, physical activity and nutrition, and oral health.



Brett Zollinger, Ph.D.

Brett Zollinger was the director of the Docking Institute until June 2008. He is chair of the Department of Sociology and Social Work at FHSU. His work has been nationally recognized. He received the Rural Sociological Society's Dissertation Award in 1997. He co-authored a report on labor force dynamics in Northwest Missouri that won the Best of Class award from the National Rural Economic Development Association and the American Economic Development Council. He is a member of the Rural Sociological Society, Community Development Society, Association for Applied and Clinical Sociology, Midwest Sociological Society and the American Association of Public Opinion Research. He has published in several academic journals, including *Complementary Health Practice Review*, *Economic Development Quarterly*, *Journal of the Community Development Society*, *Research in Community Sociology*, and *Rural Sociology*. He also has a book chapter in the edited book, *Mad About Wildlife*. He has designed and conducted a wide variety of survey research projects at local, state and regional levels on such topics as labor availability, health care assessment, housing and city services satisfaction, quality of life, crime victims' issues, use of conservation tree plantings, and attitudes toward wildlife issues. He is also very active in program evaluation studies, strategic planning and community development efforts in the region. He led the Docking Institute in facilitating the 2005 Kansas Prosperity Summit planning process on behalf of the Kansas Department of Commerce and five other partner state agencies. Brett received his doctorate in sociology from Utah State University in 1998.

POLICY FELLOWS

- **Paul Adams, Ph.D.**, Fort Hays State University – science education, public outreach in science
- **Micki Armstrong, M.S.**, Fort Hays State University – family, multiculturalism, mediation, sociology, and cultural anthropology
- **Emily Breit, Ph.D.**, Fort Hays State University – commercial banking, corporate governance, and corporate finance
- **Curt Brungardt, Ph.D.**, Fort Hays State University – leadership studies, grant writing, and strategic planning
- **Keith Campbell, Ph.D.**, Fort Hays State University – social psychology, cultural diversity, indigenous peoples, and grant writing
- **Chris Crawford, Ph.D.**, Fort Hays State University – leadership, organizational innovation, knowledge management, and quality management
- **Kathy Dale, Ed.D.**, Fort Hays State University – systemic and systematic continuous improvement and leadership development
- **Larry Dreiling, M.S.**, High Plains Journal – farm policy, rural finance and development
- **Robert Duffy, M.A.**, Fort Hays State University – outpatient counseling and diagnostics
- **John Heinrichs, Ph.D.**, Fort Hays State University – geosciences, remote sensing, world geography, climatology, and glaciology
- **Darren Hendrickson, Ph.D.**, Eastern Illinois University – medical sociology, environmental sociology, and sociological theory
- **Placido A. Hoernicke, M.F.A., Ed.D.**, professor emeritus at Fort Hays State University – special education, English for speakers of other languages
- **Quentin Hope, M.P.P.M.**, McKinsey & Company – telecommunications, transportation, and energy industries
- **Thomas Johansen, Ph.D.**, Oklahoma State University – corporate finance, investments, and business consulting
- **Scott Jones, Ed.S.**, Fort Hays State University – career and technical education, teaching licensure, and information systems/data management.
- **Richard Lisichenko, Ph.D.**, Fort Hays State University – geographic information systems, geosciences, and geographic education
- **Mary Martin, Ph.D.**, Fort Hays State University – marketing principles, consumer behavior, marketing management, e-business, strategic electronic marketing, and database marketing
- **Micol Maughan, Ph.D.**, Fort Hays State University – business, management, and marketing
- **Rose McCleary, Ph.D.**, California State University, Bakersfield – social work
- **Kate McGonigal, Ph.D.**, Fort Hays State University – sociology, social deviance, social inequality, and women’s and gender studies
- **Shala Mills, J.D.**, Fort Hays State University – political science and victims’ rights
- **Lori Peek, Ph.D.**, Colorado State University – qualitative research methods, race and ethnic relations, and the sociology of disaster
- **Chapman Rackaway, Ph.D.**, Fort Hays State University – public opinion, campaign management, political parties, and voting behavior
- **Kevin A. Shaffer, M.S., C.C.D.P.**, Fort Hays State University – telecommunications, international message telephone service economics, and broadband internetworking services
- **Kent L. Steward, M.L.S.**, Fort Hays State University – media relations, journalism, strategic planning, and business feasibility studies
- **Greg Weisenborn, Ph.D.**, Fort Hays State University – business operations and manufacturing process efficiency, scarce inventory allocation, ergonomics and safe patient handling, student learning styles, production and operations management
- **Benjamin D. Wheeler, M.S.**, Fort Hays State University – wildlife ecology, relationships between society and the conservation of natural resources





**LIST OF
SERVICES**



Survey and Focus Group Research

Valid and reliable information is essential for effective decision-making. The Docking Institute's University Center for Survey Research provides professional survey design, data gathering, and data analysis services. Institute researchers help clients select the most appropriate survey methodology based on the client's needs, goals, and budget. Available survey methods include telephone surveys (using an 16-station CATI system), mail surveys, Web surveys, personal interviews, and focus groups. The Institute can survey almost any population, from single neighborhoods to the entire nation, and in multiple languages.

Labor and Migration Studies

Based on government labor data alone, firms considering relocation or expansion may often conclude incorrectly that there is not sufficient qualified labor to meet their needs. The Docking Institute offers a unique study of a client's labor basin. A labor study assesses the labor supply, availability and skill level of a region. Additionally, labor studies determine the working status, education and training levels, willingness to commute, and desired wages and benefits of people looking for employment or who would consider seeking new employment for the right opportunity. Depending upon the needs of the client, studies can include questions about entrepreneurship, job satisfaction and other issues.

The migration of people in and out of a local area is an important issue for community and economic planners. This is especially true for areas experiencing dramatic or sustained population decline or increase. Migration studies assess past and current migration trends and determine issues and factors that might encourage people to remain in a local area, relocate elsewhere, and/or return.

Program Evaluation

Conducting an assessment of program implementation and program outcomes is indispensable for agencies to make informed decisions about the effectiveness of their programs. Government and non-profit organizations often need tangible documentation of a program's effectiveness to receive or maintain funding. The Docking Institute has the necessary expertise and experience to help organizations develop evaluations of processes and outcomes, perform needs assessments and write technical evaluation reports for submission to federal and state funders.

Grants Facilitation

To meet the demands of government and other non-profit entities, the Docking Institute offers a comprehensive set of grant facilitation services, providing clients the means to access needed external resources to meet organization goals. Because customized approaches best serve the varying needs of our clients, the Institute tailors grant facilitation services to the unique needs of every client, ranging from funding searches to project/budget planning to grant proposal writing, submission and management.

Economic Impact Analysis

Policy assessment often requires an economic impact analysis of existing and proposed activities or programs. Government agencies and non-profit organizations can use economic impact assessments to determine the total monetary benefit of their activities in a local or regional economy. Often, such information is important for convincing decision-makers that continued or increased funding is warranted. Our economists have analyzed the economic impact of manufacturers, service organizations, hospitals, correctional facilities, institutions of higher learning, business incubators, infrastructure upgrades, and other existing and potential programs and projects.

Cost-Benefit Analysis

Decision-makers often turn to cost-benefit analysis (CBA) as a tool for understanding whether benefits of a program/project exceed the costs and vice versa. The purpose of CBA is to comprehensively identify and measure all relevant economic costs and benefits that accrue to a program. Both costs and benefits are converted into monetary terms, so that a “costs to benefits” ratio can be estimated.

Feasibility Analysis

Feasibility analysis estimates the monetary benefits of a potential project and compares those benefits to cost criteria. Feasibility analyses provide a projected “costs to benefits” scenario useful to leaders and funders in determining whether to pursue a project.

Strategic Planning

Visionary leadership begins with a plan that strategically prioritizes scarce community or organizational public resources. The Docking Institute has worked with more than 60 entities, including state agencies, school districts, educational institutions, museums, communities, economic development organizations, and chambers of commerce to conduct strategic planning. The Docking Institute customizes the strategic planning process to meet each organization’s requirements. Our comprehensive package of strategic planning services includes project organization, environmental scans, data analysis and assessment, survey work, group facilitation, and plan writing.

Public Policy

To facilitate effective public policy decision making, the Docking Institute has more than 35 distinguished policy fellows representing industry, academia, and government. The Docking Institute assembles the right team of experts to find real-world solutions to real-world challenges. Through public affairs programming, the Docking Institute provides critical resources for today’s public leaders to plan for a successful future.



Fort Hays State University

www.fhsu.edu/docking
(785) 628-4197