



Fort Hays State University

BIANNUAL REPORT

Fort Hays State University
2014-2015

MISSION

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 509 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 Institute family.

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DIRECTOR'S LETTER



Greetings to our friends, policy fellows and clients. The past two years have seen significant changes in both the Docking Institute and the state of Kansas, as both entities continue to adapt to a rapidly changing political and technological environment. The Docking Institute acquired a new Survey Center manager, Bradley Pendergast. Bradley worked for the Docking Institute as an undergraduate research assistant before moving on to Wichita State University to acquire his Master of Public Administration. But rather than manage cities, Bradley decided that returning to Hays and the Docking Institute was the option that best met his needs and interests.

Bradley spearheaded an upgrade of our Survey Center. We acquired new computer-assisted telephone interviewing software, a highly versatile system called IDSurvey. This web-based software monitors interviewer performance, manages the sample, presents the correct survey questions on the screen for interviewers to read and automatically enters the respondent's answers into its internal memory for downloading into statistical software for analysis. The system can also conduct internet surveys, as well as telephone/internet mixed mode surveys, greatly increasing efficiency. For example, respondents can be contacted first with the less expensive email survey. If they do not respond via email, then a follow up telephone call can be made.

Another innovation adopted by Bradley was the conversion from landline telephones to soft phones, which connect to the telephone system through the internet and save the Docking Institute thousands of dollars in long distance phone charges each year. Collecting survey data with maximum efficiency allows us to provide services to our clients in the government and non-profit sectors at extremely competitive costs, which is particularly important during these times of declining revenues and budget cuts. The Survey Center was also expanded by seven stations to address increasing demand for our telephone survey services.

Many Kansans would agree that we are currently experiencing uncertain times, with the state government shifting to the right, radical changes in the way the state collects revenues, budget shortfalls and an evolving climate that could threaten our critical agricultural base. The Docking Institute will be there to provide cutting edge research as state agencies and non-profits work to meet these challenges and promote a safe and healthy life for the citizens of Kansas.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary Brinker". The signature is fluid and cursive.

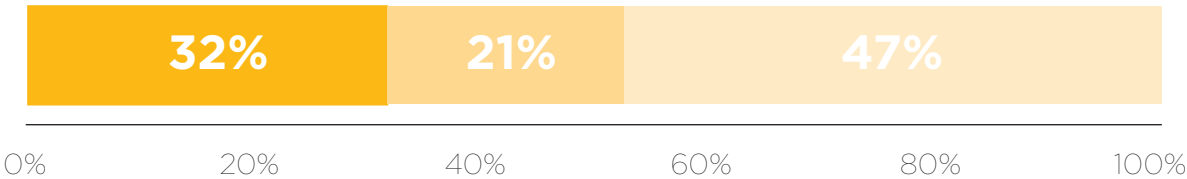
Gary Brinker, Director
Docking Institute of Public Affairs

KANSAS SPEAKS

Opinion on Same-Sex Marriage

Question: Gay marriage was recently made legal in all states by a U.S. Supreme Court decision. Which policy best fits your preference for same-sex marriage?

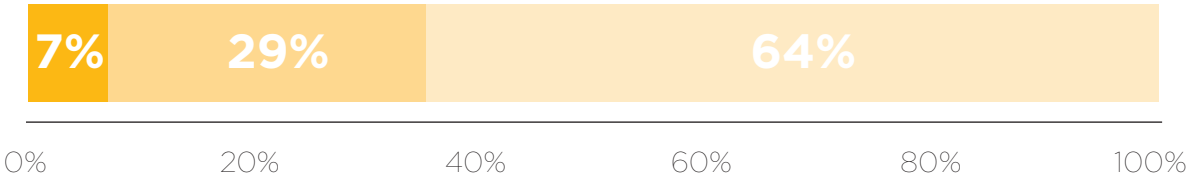
When asked about their opinion on same-sex marriage, almost half (47%) of respondents favored allowing same-sex couples to be legally married and have the full rights of heterosexual couples, 21% of respondents favored civil unions that give same-sex couples full spousal rights, but not marriage, and 32% opposed same-sex marriage in any way.



- I am opposed to allowing same-sex couples to be legally married in any way.
- I favor civil unions that give same-sex couples full spousal rights, but not marriage.
- I favor allowing same-sex couples to be legally married and have the full rights of heterosexual couples.

Impact of State Block Grant System on Education

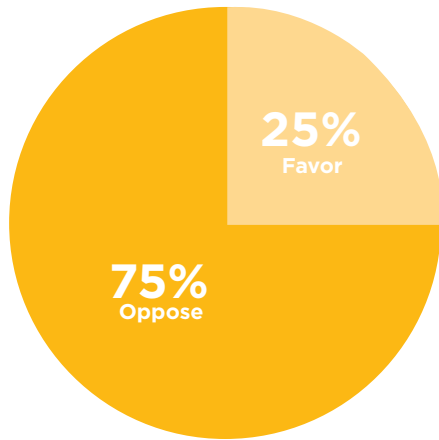
Question: School funding has undergone some changes in the last couple of years. In your opinion, is the new system the state has for distributing money to the various school districts around Kansas resulted in: a higher quality of education, no change in the quality of education, or a lower quality of education for public school children in your area?



- A higher quality education
- No change
- A lower quality education

KANSAS SPEAKS

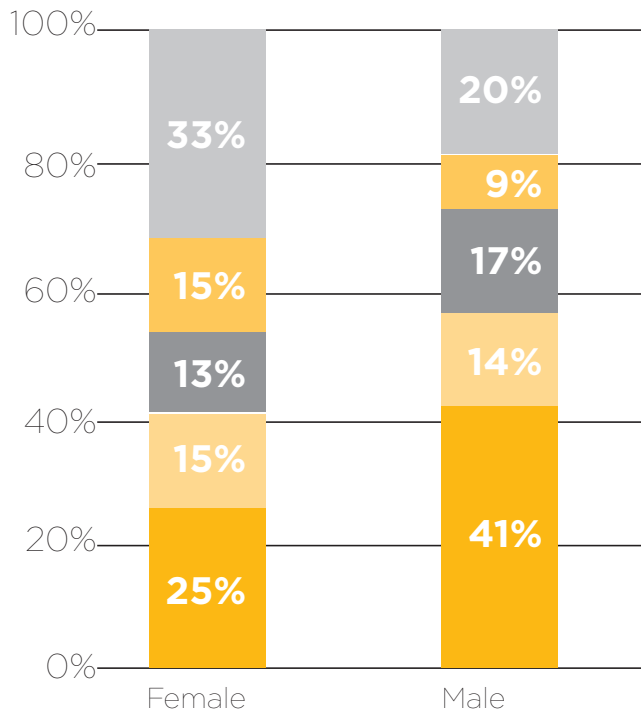
Public Policy Issues



Question: Do you favor or oppose allowing legal gun owners in Kansas to carry concealed weapons in public without a license or certification of formal training?

It was recently made legal in Kansas to carry concealed a legally obtained firearm without prior training and certification. When respondents were asked their opinion on the new concealed carry law, three quarters (75%) were opposed to allowing Kansans to carry concealed weapons without training and certification, while only one quarter (25%) were in favor of allowing concealed carry to any legal gun owner.

Opinion on Openly Carrying Weapons in Kansas by Gender



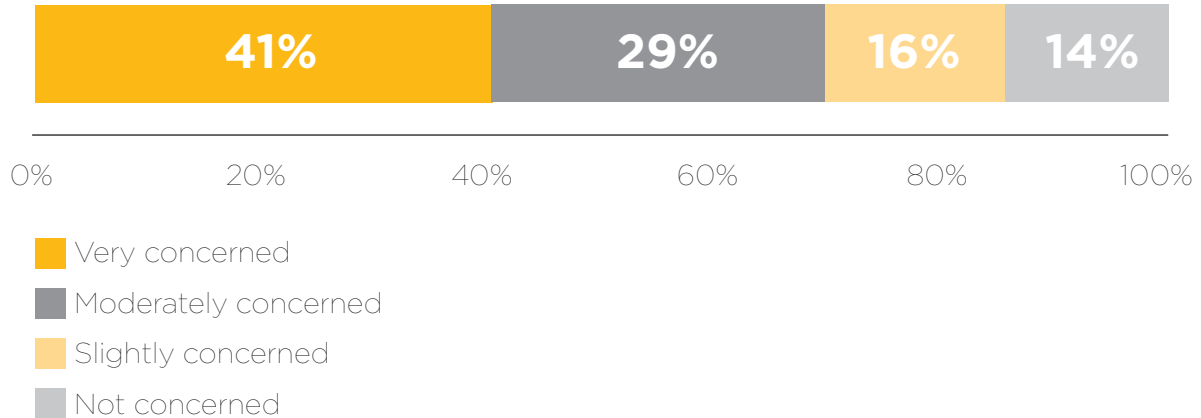
Male respondents were more supportive of open carry than female respondents.

- Strongly oppose
- Somewhat oppose
- Neutral
- Somewhat support
- Strongly support

Economy and Kansas Budget

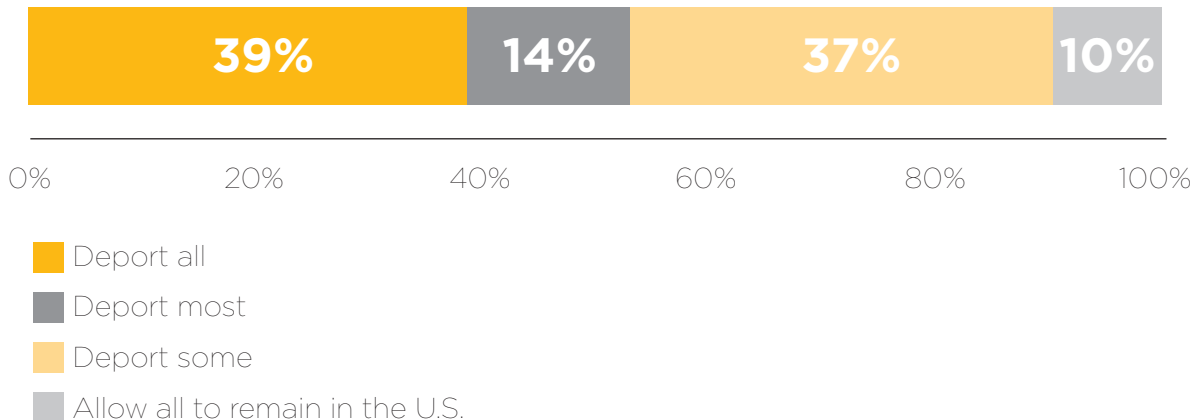
Question: How concerned are you that the Kansas economy will seriously threaten you or your family's welfare in the coming year?

Respondents were asked how concerned they were that the Kansas economy would seriously threaten their personal or their family's welfare in the coming year. About 70 percent of respondents indicated that they were "very concerned," or "moderately concerned." Forty one percent said they were "very concerned" that the Kansas economy will seriously threaten their family's welfare, up from 32% in fall of 2013.



Opinion on Policies Regarding Undocumented Aliens

Question: Which of the following best describes your opinion on policies regarding undocumented aliens? Would you support: deporting all undocumented aliens, deporting most undocumented aliens, deporting some undocumented aliens, or allowing all undocumented aliens to remain in the U.S.?



KANSAS SPEAKS

October 2015 Executive Summary

Dr. Chapman Rackaway, Ph. D., Senior Policy Fellow

With the divisive 2014 election cycle behind us, the minds of Kansas citizens have turned to governing, although Kansans are keeping at least one eye on the upcoming 2016 presidential election. While the focus may have shifted from electing candidates to their choices while in office, one thing remains from the 2014 edition of Kansas Speaks: Kansans are a state divided. Rather than just being split on candidate preferences, Kansans are equally well-divided on their policy preferences for the state to pursue.

Kansans remain optimistic, with more than three-quarters of Kansas Speaks respondents saying they believe Kansas is a good place to live. While half of respondents say they are very or moderately concerned that the state of the economy will affect their family's well-being in the next year, the number is down 20 percent from its high between 2010 and 2012. Only 15 percent say they will relocate to another state within the next five years, further indicating stability in the state.

Some issue questions elicit traditional conservative responses as one would expect in a strongly Republican state with a conservative lean. Most respondents indicated they saw themselves as at least leaning Republican, and almost half of all respondents indicated they were very dissatisfied with President Obama. More than half of respondents to the survey indicated they thought taxes should be lower, accompanied by support for a reduction in state spending. Those conservative views were accompanied by a number of more left-leaning viewpoints.

The recently passed block grant system of school finance was viewed by a majority of respondents to have provided a lower quality of education for public school students in their districts, and most respondents found that the new school funding regime has resulted in higher local-level taxes and fees overall. A plurality of respondents also said that they favored full marriage rights for same-sex couples, consistent with a recent U.S. Supreme Court ruling. While not a full majority, more respondents believed same-sex marriages should be allowed for the first time than any other response category. Medicare expansion under the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare) was also supported either strongly or somewhat strongly by roughly 63 percent of voters, despite opposition to Obamacare and its accessory policy areas being a cause célèbre among

conservatives in the state. A majority of respondents to Kansas Speaks indicated that they believed private businesses should not be allowed to deny services to same-sex couples because it violates their religious beliefs.

Two findings suggest a challenge for Secretary of State Kris Kobach. In his role since 2011, two of Kobach's highest priority policies show a significant divergence from the citizenry of Kansas: immigration and voter fraud. Regarding immigration, just over 50 percent of respondents favor a path to citizenship for undocumented immigrants without criminal records. Those who favor deporting all undocumented immigrants number just over 25 percent by comparison, suggesting that Kansans have shifted left in their views on immigration. While building a wall has not been advocated by Secretary Kobach, that possibility has been supported by conservatives who support secure borders and often align with the secretary. Four percent more of respondents oppose building a wall than favor building it, while more than 40 percent of respondents would need more information before making a decision, the largest response category in the survey this year. Voter fraud has been the other item at the top of Kobach's agenda, yet only 17 percent of respondents to Kansas Speaks agree with Kobach that it is a major problem. Forty-two percent say it is a minor problem, but a full 70 percent of respondents say that they are somewhat or very confident that the voting procedures in Kansas are transparent and verifiable.

Turning to the 2016 presidential election, Kansas respondents mirror national trends, with Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton proving the most popular in each of their parties among respondents. Ben Carson and Bernie Sanders trailed the front-runners by multiple points, with no other candidates polling over 3 percent. Nearly 40 percent of all respondents did not know who they were voting for, suggesting that there is plenty of room for numbers to change over the next few months before Kansas' 2016 caucuses.

With a few notable leftward shifts while maintaining a conservative core, Kansas remains very much a state divided in 2015.

KANSAS SPEAKS

MEDIA PUBLICATION CITATIONS

Source: Lawrence Journal World

Column: Statehouse Live with Peter Hancock

Title of Article: "Poll: Growing discontent with Sen. Jerry Moran"

Author: Peter Hancock

Date Published: October 26, 2015

Link: <http://www2.ljworld.com/weblogs/capitol-report/tags/kansas-speaks/>

Source: Lawrence Journal World

Title of Article: "Brownback satisfaction rating at 18%; Democrats targeting Senate Seats"

Column: Statehouse Live with Peter Hancock

Author: Peter Hancock

Date Published: October 25, 2015

Link: <http://www2.ljworld.com/weblogs/capitol-report/tags/kansas-speaks/>

Source: Hays Post

Title of Article: "2015 Kansas Speaks Survey: Low opinion of tax policy effects on economy"

Date Published: October 23, 2015

Link: <http://www.hayspost.com/2015/10/23/2015-kansas-speaks-survey-low-opinion-of-tax-policy-effects-on-economy/>

Source: Wichita Peace and Social Justice Center of South Central Kansas (Facebook page)

Title of Article: "Screenshots from the 2015 Kansas Speaks survey from the Docking Institute at Fort Hays State University"

Date Published: April 23, 2015

Link: <https://www.facebook.com/WichitaPeace/posts/972753399415333>

Source: Kansas City Star

Title of Article: "Survey: Most Kansans OK with gays, oppose school block-grant funding"

Author: Dion Lefler

Date Published: October 24, 2015

Link: <http://www.kansascity.com/news/government-politics/article41329740.html>

Source: Kansas City Star

Title of Article: "Gov. Sam Brownback in deep hole with Kansans"

Column: The Buzz

Author: Steve Kraske

Date Published: October 24, 2015

Link: <http://www.kansascity.com/news/local/news-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article41315862.html>

Source: KMUW 89.1 Wichita's NPR Station

Title of Article: "New Survey Finds Majority of Kansans 'Moderately Concerned' About Economy"

Author: Abigail Wilson

Date Published: October 25, 2015

Link: <http://kmuw.org/post/new-survey-finds-majority-kansans-moderately-concerned-about-economy>

Source: Wichita Eagle

Title of Article: "Survey: Kansans OK with gays and immigrants"

Author: Dion Lefler

Date Published: October 23, 2015

Link: <http://www.kansas.com/news/politics-government/article41205984.html>

Source: KSN

Title of Article: "New survey shows Kansans at more odds with legislature"

Author: Gordon Bassham

Date Published: April 23, 2015

Link: <http://ksn.com/2015/04/23/new-survey-shows-kansans-at-odds-with-legislature/>

Source: Politicus USA: Real Liberal Politics

Title of Article: "Kansans Despise Gov. Sam Brownback's Policies But They Voted for Him Anyway"

Author: Keith Brekhus

Date Published: October 26, 2015

Link: <http://www.politicususa.com/2015/10/26/kansans-despise-gov-brownbacks-policies-voted.html>

Source: KSAL.com

Title of Article: "Study Finds Kansans At Odds With Legislature"

Date Published: April 23, 2015

Link: <http://www.ksal.com/study-finds-kansas-at-odds-with-legislature/>

MEDIA PUBLICATION CITATIONS

Source: Kansas City Business Journal

Title of Article: "Kansans weigh in on taxes, immigrants, gays"

Date Published: October 26, 2015

Link: http://www.bizjournals.com/kansascity/blog/morning_call/2015/10/kansans-weigh-in-on-taxes-immigrants-gays.html

Source: I'm From Kansas: KASB

Title of Article: "It's the Economics, Stupid"

Author: John Heim

Date Published: June 11, 2015

Link: <http://heimkasb.blogspot.com/2015/06/its-economics-stupid.html>

Source: Hays Daily News

Title of Article: "Kansans worried about economy"

Author: Tim Carpenter

Date Published: October 24, 2015

Link: http://www.hdnews.net/news/kansas/kansans-worried-about-economy/article_26590c32-7080-5061-b41f-25d34ca19044.html

Source: Hays Daily News

Title of Article: "Survey: 30 percent approve of block-grant school funding plan"

Author: Suzanne Perez Tobias

Date Published: April 24, 2015

Link: http://www.hdnews.net/news/kansas/survey-percent-approve-of-block-grant-school-funding-plan/article_6dcf9cac-a796-5d4f-9483-7b8e6fb42ef7.html

Source: The Atlantic

Title of Article: "Obama Outpolls Gov. Brownback in Kansas: The Brownback Backlash"

Author: Russell Berman

Date Published: October 26, 2015

Link: <http://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2015/10/obama-outpolls-republican-governor-brownback-kansas/412378/>

Source: KAKE News

Title of Article: "Poll: Kansans Oppose New State Gun Law"

Date Published: April 27, 2015

Link: <http://www.kake.com/home/headlines/Poll-Kansans-oppose-new-state-gun-law-301410461.html>

Source: Balloon Juice

Title of Article: "Buyer's Remorse From Topeka To Salina"

Author: Zandar

Date Published: October 26, 2015

Link: <http://www.balloon-juice.com/2015/10/26/buyers-remorse-from-topeka-to-salina/>

Source: Voice For Liberty in Wichita

Title of Article: "In Kansas, the Blob is worked up"

Author: Bob Weeks

Date Published: March 24, 2015

Link: <http://wichitaliberty.org/wichita-kansas-schools/kansas-education-blob-worked-up/>

Source: MyInforms.com

Title of Article: "Survey shows Governor Brownback's approval rating is at all time low"

Date Published: October 26, 2015

Link: <http://myinforms.com/en/a/18177445-survey-shows-governor-brownback8217s-approval-rating-is-at-all-time-low/>

Source: Wn.com

Title of Article: "2015 Kansas Speaks find low opinion of tax policy effects on economy 7th annual poll"

Date Published: October 23, 2015

Link: http://article.wn.com/view/2015/10/23/2015_Kansas_Speaks_find_low_opinion_of_tax_policy_effects_on/

Source: Medicalmarijuanachat.net

Title of Article: "Groups advocate for medical marijuana legalization"

Date Published: October 24, 2015

Link: <http://medicalmarijuanachat.net/groups-advocate-for-medical-marijuana-legalization/>

Source: Topeka Capital Journal

Title of Article: "Governor Sam Brownback's tax reforms cast as 'failure' by majority in new Kansas poll"

Author: Tim Carpenter

Date Published: October 23, 2015

Link: <http://cjonline.com/news/2015-10-23/governor-sam-brownbacks-tax-reforms-cast-failure-majority-new-kansas-poll>

MEDIA PUBLICATION CITATIONS

Source: Hays Daily News

Title of Article: Kansas Speaks report link

Author: Docking Institute

Date Published: October 29, 2015

Link: http://www.hdnews.net/kansas-speaks/pdf_cea54f9f-7ffd-5b0b-9a3e-3d3851ebe843.html

Source: Lawrence Journal-World

Title of Article: Brownback satisfaction rating at 18 percent; Democrats targeting Senate seats

Author: Peter Hancock

Date Published: October 25, 2015

Link: <http://www2.ljworld.com/weblogs/capitol-report/2015/oct/25/brownback-satisfaction-rating-at-18-demo/>

Source: Kansas Economic Progress Council

Title of Article: KEPC UPDATE: Ks budget read by mid-year, more trouble ahead, jobs numbers hidden, Kansas Speaks, Medicaid expansion, ed cmte, Tabor in Colorado

Author: KEPC

Date Published: October 25, 2015

Link: <http://ksepc.org/2015/10/kepc-update-ks-budget-read-by-mid-year-more-trouble-ahead-jobs-numbers-hidden-kansas-speaks-medicaid-expansion-ed-cmte-tabor-in-colorado/>

Source: Twitter

Title of Article: Kansas Speaks - Some amazing survey results regarding Kansan's perception of the state of Kansas

Author: Todd Evans

Date Published: October 24, 2015

Link: <https://twitter.com/ToddEvans100/status/657887121340915712>

Source: Kansas City Star

Title of Article: Only one brave, misinformed Kansan says government Sam Brownback's tax policies are 'tremendous success'

Author: Yael T. Abouhalkah

Date Published: October 27, 2015

Link: <http://www.kansascity.com/opinion/opn-columns-blogs/yael-t-abouhalkah/article41542998.html>

Source: My Phillips County Online

Title of Article: 2015 Kansas Speaks find low opinion of tax policy effects on economy

Author: Docking institute of Public Affairs at Fort Hays State University

Date Published: Oct 27, 2015

Link: <http://myphillipscountyonline.com/npps/story.cfm?nppage=1903>

Source: Women for Kansas

Title of Article: Leaders are out of step with state

Author: Admin

Date Published: October 27, 2015

Link: <http://womenforkansas.org/category/blog/>

Source: Democracy

Title of Article: Kansas Speaks Survey: Representatives are not Representative

Author: Danette Harris

Date Published: October 28, 2015

Link: <http://www.democracy.com/Harrisforhouse>

Source: Kansas Music News

Title of Article: Buyer's Remorse from Topeka to Salina

Author: N/A

Date Published: October 26, 2015

Link: <http://kansas.musicnewshq.com/news/buyers-remorse-from-topeka-to-salina#>

CLIENT LIST

2014

Program Evaluation	Arizona Supreme Court
Economic Impact Study	City of Hays
Survey Research	College of Arts and Sciences, Fort Hays State University
Labor Study	Growth Organization of Topeka
Program Evaluation	Kansas Academy of Mathematics and Science
Public Policy	Kansas County Treasurer's Association
Survey Research	Kansas Creative Arts
Survey Research	Kansas Department of Health and Environment
Survey Research	Kansas Health Foundation
Survey Research	Kansas Small Business Development Center
Survey Research	Kelly Center, Fort Hays State University
Labor Study	Labor Market Information Services
Labor Study	Mid-America Regional Council
Program Evaluation	National Science Foundation, Noyce Scholarship Grant Program
Economic Impact Study	President's Office, Fort Hays State University
Survey Research	RTI International
Labor Study	Rumery and Associates
Labor Study	Salina Area Chamber of Commerce
Relocation Study	Salina Area Chamber of Commerce
Survey Research	Office of Student Affairs, Fort Hays State University
Survey Research	TCC Group/Kansas Health Foundation
Survey Research	UC Merced SBDC Regional Network

2015

Program Evaluation	Arizona Supreme Court
Survey Research	Center for Teaching Excellence and Learning Technologies, Fort Hays State University
Labor Study	Central Missouri Economic Development
Labor Study	City of Boonville, Missouri
Survey Research	City of Sedona, Arizona
Program Evaluation	College of Education, Fort Hays State University
Survey Research	Department of Agronomy, Kansas State University
Program Evaluation	Department of Education, Fort Hays State University
Survey Research	College of Health and Behavioral Sciences, Fort Hays State University
Labor Study	Franklin County Economic Development
Program Evaluation	Kansas Academy of Mathematics and Science
Survey Research	Kansas Board of Regents, Council of Faculty Senate Presidents
Survey Research	Kansas Board of Regents, Student Advisory Committee
Survey Research	Kansas Department of Health and Environment
Public Policy	Kansas County Treasurers Association
Survey Research	Kansas Small Business Development Center
Survey Research	Kelly Center, Fort Hays State University
Program Evaluation	National Science Foundation, Noyce Scholarship Grant Program
Labor Study	Ponca City Development Authority
Survey Research	President's Office, Fort Hays State University
Survey Research	Reformation Project
Labor Study	Regional Economic Development
Labor Study	Rolla Regional Economic Commission
Survey Research	RTI International
Brochure Design	Rush County Memorial Foundation
Economic Impact Study	Salina Airport Authority
Labor Study	St. Joseph Economic Development Partnership
Survey Research	Student Affairs, Fort Hays State University
Strategic Planning	USD 489

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.

Labor and Migration Studies

Survey and Focus Group Research

Strategic Planning

Public Policy

PROJECTS

COMPLETED IN 2015

College of Education and Technology, Fort Hays State University – Program Evaluation (MSP Eval)

by Gary Brinker, Ph.D.

The Math and Science Partnership (MSP) Program is designed to enhance the teaching of math and science by providing training seminar opportunities to middle and high school math and science teachers. The Docking Institute evaluated an MSP Program seminar held in Wichita, Kansas. Pretest and posttest scores were compared for both an experimental and control group in the areas of both knowledge and confidence. Results suggested that the program significantly improved participants knowledge in math and science, as well as their confidence in teaching those subjects.

College of Education and Technology, Fort Hays State University – Program Evaluation (Istation)

By Gary Brinker, Ph.D.

Istation is an educational enhancement program delivered online, designed to identify weaknesses in reading abilities of early learners, then deliver remedial lessons designed to address the identified weaknesses. After Istation won a grant from the state of Kansas to provide this program to students in Kansas, FHSU was awarded a contract to conduct evaluative and pure research by faculty in the College of Education. The Docking Institute will provide data collection and consulting services to these scholars.

Department of Education, Fort Hays State University – Program Evaluation (ISLM-Sublette)

by Gary Brinker, Ph.D.

The Integration of Science Within Literacy and Mathematics for Teaching the Next Generation Science Standards ((ISLM) Program is similar to the MSP Program, only this seminar was held in Sublette, Kansas. It involves training seminars prepared for middle and high school math and science teachers. Pretest and posttest measures of knowledge and confidence showed that both were enhanced by participation in the ISLM Program.

UNDERWAY

Arizona Supreme Court – Program Evaluation

by Jian Sun, Ph.D.

The Judicial Performance Review Program of the Arizona Supreme Court evaluates justices and judges who serve in superior courts and continuously evaluates those who serve in appellate courts biannually. The Docking Institute started to provide data processing services since August 2013. By April 2014, more than 12,000 mail surveys were inputted and analyzed, and 176 reports were generated for 129 judges. In April 2015, mid-term review reports were generated for 13 appellate judges. The 2016 review started in August 2015, which will review 131 judges. Reports are expected in April 2016.

Kansas Academy of Mathematics and Science – Program Evaluation

by Gary Brinker, Ph.D.; Trey Hill, Ph.D.

The Kansas Academy of Mathematics and Science (KAMS) is a program housed on the campus of Fort Hays State University that allows gifted high school juniors interested in a career in science an opportunity to complete their last two years of high school and first two years of college concurrently. The Docking Institute was asked to provide valuable evaluation research from the Program's inception and has provided valuable insight for helping relatively immature students cope with the academic and emotional stresses of college life away from home. In 2014, Dr. Trey Hill, Docking Institute Policy Fellow, assumed the role of principal investigator.

National Science Foundation, Noyce Scholarship Grant Program – Program Evaluation

by Gary Brinker, Ph.D.

Middle and high schools in rural and highly urbanized areas often find it difficult to attract quality science teachers, creating a shortage in these areas. The Noyce Scholarship Grant Program offers \$12,000 annual scholarships to education majors who are willing to commit to teaching for two years in one of these high-need schools. A scholar can be awarded two scholarships, but would then be obligated to serve four years. The Docking Institute was asked to provide evaluation services, which have been integral in identifying participants' obstacles in applying and meeting the academic and instructional requirements.

Program Evaluation

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, 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.

Survey and Focus Group Research

Strategic Planning

Public Policy

PROJECTS

COMPLETED IN 2014

College of Arts and Sciences, Fort Hays State University – Migration and Job Study

by Michael Walker, M.S.

To help the college understand and better prepare for changing demographics in western Kansas, the Docking Institute surveyed 162 high school seniors residing in the study area. Questions included post-high school employment plans, intentions to leave or stay in the area, intentions to move back if leaving for educational purposes, the study measures possible benefits and amenities that might make the area a more appealing place to live.

Growth Organization of Topeka – Labor Study

by Michael Walker, M.S.

The Topeka Labor Basin includes Douglas, Jackson, Jefferson, Osage, Pottawatomie, Shawnee, and Wabaunsee counties in Kansas. The labor basin has a total population of approximately 371,216 and a Civilian Labor Force of 192,690. An estimated 122,315 working-age adults are part of the Available Labor Pool and are looking for or are interested in new employment opportunities.

Labor Market Information Services – Labor Research

by Michael Walker, M.S.

To assess the employment situation in southeast Kansas, the Docking Institute performed survey research for the Kansas Department of Labor's Labor Market Information Services and Kansas State University's Advanced Manufacturing Institute. The study area included 17 counties and has an estimated population of 269,227. The working age population is 158,210 adults, and 47,831 working and non-working individuals are interested in new or different employment.

Mid-America Regional Council – Labor Study

by Michael Walker, M.S.

To assess available labor in the greater Kansas City area, the Docking Institute conducted labor studies in a 23-county region in Kansas and Missouri. The region has a population of 2,431,499 and a Civilian Labor Force of 1,293,588. The Available Labor Pool includes 698,455 working age adults.

Rumery and Associates – Labor Study

by Michael Walker, M.S.

The Cameron Labor Basin includes Caldwell, Carroll, Clinton, Daviess, DeKalb, Gentry, Harrison, Livingston, Platte, Ray and Worth counties in northwest Missouri as well as the southern portions of Buchanan

County and the north portions of Clay County. The labor basin has a total population of approximately 147,217 and a Civilian Labor Force of 74,338. An estimated 40,668 working age adults are part of the Available Labor Pool and are looking for or are interested in new employment opportunities.

Salina Area Chamber of Commerce – Labor Study

by Michael Walker, M.S.

To assess available labor in the greater Salina, Kansas, area, the Docking Institute conducted a labor study for the Salina Area Chamber of Commerce. The Salina Kansas Labor Basin includes 13 counties in Kansas: Clay, Cloud, Dickinson, Ellsworth, Geary, Lincoln, Marion, McPherson, Mitchell, Ottawa, Republic, Rice and Saline. The labor basin has a total population of 209,015 and a Civilian Labor Force of 111,777. An estimated 62,413 working age adults make up the Available Labor Pool.

Salina Area Chamber of Commerce – Relocation Study

by Michael Walker, M.S.

To assess the willingness of residents living outside of the greater Salina area to move to Salina for work, the Institute conducted a study for the Salina Area Chamber of Commerce. The study area includes 20 counties in Kansas, excluding those adjacent to Saline County – the home of Salina – but along the Interstate 70 and U.S. Highway 36 corridors, primarily. The working age population in the study area is 108,077, of whom 52,687 are interested in a new or different job. Of these, 26,256 are willing to relocate for a new job and 19,694 are willing to move to Salina for a new job.

COMPLETED IN 2015

Central Missouri Economic Development – Labor Study

by Michael Walker, M.S.

To help current and potential employers assess the available labor in west central Missouri, the Docking Institute conducted five labor basin studies for the Central Missouri Economic Development Alliance in 2014-2015. The entire region includes 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 around Henry, Johnson, Lafayette, Pettis and Saline counties.

The region's population is approximately 528,679 with a Civilian Labor Force of 256,020. Using data collected from telephone interviews, the Docking Institute estimates that the basin contains an Available Labor Pool of 163,525 individuals. The Docking 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, 2009, and 2012, and the Docking Institute included trend analyses in the 2015 reports.

Labor and Migration Studies

City of Boonville – Labor Study

by Michael Walker, M.S.

To assess the available labor in the greater Boonville area of Missouri, the Docking Institute conducted a labor study for the city of Boonville. The Boonville, Missouri, labor basin includes Boone, Cooper, Howard, Moniteau, Morgan, Pettis and Saline counties. The labor basin has a total population 302,129 and a Civilian Labor Force of 161,119. The Docking Institute estimates the Available Labor Pool to be 105,778 individuals.

Franklin County Development Council – Labor Study

by Michael Walker, M.S.

To assess the available labor in the greater Franklin County area of Kansas, the Docking Institute conducted a labor study for the Franklin County Economic Development Council. The Franklin County Labor Basin includes six counties in eastern Kansas and portions of four others: Anderson, Coffey, Douglas, Franklin, Johnson, Linn, Lyon, Miami, Osage, and Shawnee. The labor basin has a total population of 540,232 and a Civilian Labor Force of 288,539. The Docking Institute estimates that the basin has an Available Labor Pool of 175,302 individuals. In addition to data collected in 2015, the report presented data from a similar study conducted for the city of Ottawa in 2011, as well as a subsection addressing those pool members interested in part-time employment.

Ponca City Development Authority – Labor Study

by Michael Walker, M.S.

The Ponca City Development Authority contracted with the Docking Institute to assess the available labor in the greater Ponca City, Oklahoma, area. The Ponca City Labor Basin includes Cowley, Garfield, Grant, Kay, Noble, Osage, Pawnee and Sumner counties in northern Oklahoma and southern Kansas. The labor basin has a total population 248,169 and a Civilian Labor Force of 122,861. The Docking Institute estimates that the basin contains an Available Labor Pool of 72,808 individuals. The report includes additional analysis of the “underemployed” members of the pool, as well as findings from a survey of 30 key employers located in Kay County – the home of Ponca City.

Regional Economic Development, Inc – Labor Study

by Michael Walker, M.S.

To assess the available labor in the greater Columbia, Missouri, area the Docking Institute conducted a labor study for Regional Economic Development, Inc. The Columbia, Missouri, Labor Basin includes Audrain, Boone, Callaway, Cole, Cooper, Howard, Moniteau, Monroe and Randolph counties in Missouri. The labor basin has a total population 397,182 and a Civilian Labor Force of 208,757. The Docking Institute estimates the Available Labor Pool to be 137,968 working age adults. Similar studies were conducted in 2001, 2002, 2003, 2005, and 2007, and the Docking Institute included a trend analysis in the 2015 report.

Rolla Regional Economic Commission – Labor Study

by Michael Walker, M.S.

The Rolla, Missouri, Labor Basin includes 10 counties in central Missouri: Crawford, Dent, Gasconade, Laclede, Maries, Miller, Osage, Phelps, Pulaski and Texas, as well as the western half of Franklin County. The Rolla Regional Economic Commission contracted with the Docking Institute to assess the Available Labor Pool. The Rolla, Missouri, Labor Basin has a total population 318,403, a Civilian Labor Force of 134,345 and an Available Labor Pool of 75,069 individuals.

St. Joseph Economic Development – Labor Study

by Michael Walker, M.S.

To assess the available labor in the greater St. Joseph, Missouri, area, the Docking Institute conducted a labor study for the St. Joseph Economic Development Partnership. The St. Joseph Labor Basin includes eight counties in Missouri and Kansas: Andrew, Atchison, Buchanan, Clinton, DeKalb, Doniphan, Holt, and Platte. The labor basin has a total population of 232,215 and a Civilian Labor Force of 110,431. An estimated 72,136 individuals make up the basin's Available Labor Pool.

Program Evaluation

Labor and Migration Studies

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. Docking 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 Docking Institute can survey almost any population, from single neighborhoods to the entire nation, and in multiple languages.

Strategic Planning

Public Policy

PROJECTS

COMPLETED IN 2014

City of Hays - Economic Impact

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

The Hays city managers are very concerned about the future water supply for the City, as well as for Ellis and the surrounding counties. Water is a critical component for economic and population growth. They have tentatively planned to export water from southwest Kansas by constructing a pipeline, but this will require approval by a variety of interests at the statewide level. To document Hays' importance to the state economy, city administrators commissioned an economic impact study to demonstrate to policy-makers the importance of a thriving Hays community to the health of the State economy.

The study concluded that the Gross Regional Product of Ellis County for 2012 was \$1,549,937,721, with households being the single largest sector after exports and imports.

Kansas Creative Arts - Survey Research

by Gary Brinker, Ph.D.

The Kansas Creative Arts Industries Commission is dedicated to measuring, supporting and expanding the creative industries to expand and grow the state's economy and create creative, industry-related jobs. They accomplish this largely through awarding various types of grants to entrepreneurs. The Docking Institute was asked to survey their grant awardees to measure the user-friendliness of the grant application procedures, ways the use of the grant money has stimulated the economy and suggestions for improving KCAIC's programs.

Kansas Health Foundation, RTI International - Survey Research

by Gary Brinker, Ph.D.

The Kansas Health Foundation serves Kansans by facilitating a variety of health related programs and initiatives. They often subcontract with RTI International, a non-profit experienced in health research, to conduct their studies. The Docking Institute was contracted to collect and provide survey data on the nutritional habits of a random sample of Kansans. The results will be used to structure new programs and appropriate resources efficiently to maximize the health of all Kansans.

Kansas Small Business Development Center - Survey Research

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

Since 2008, the Docking Institute has conducted annual surveys of small business owners served by the Kansas Small Business Development Centers to assess the service quality of KSBDC and collect financial and employment information on small businesses in Kansas. In 2014, data were collected from 926 small

businesses. In 2015, data were collected from 986 small businesses. Each year, besides a state-wide report, reports were written for each of the nine regional KSBDC centers and 11 outreach centers.

Kelly Center, Fort Hays State University – Survey Research (social norms)

by Gary Brinker, Ph.D.

Fort Hays State University's coordinator of the Drug and Alcohol Awareness Network requires periodic updates on the drug and alcohol habits of the students he serves in order to establish programs and appropriate funds to most effectively limit substance abuse. The Docking Institute conducted a survey designed to provide this critical information. Classes were randomly cluster-sampled, and the students in each sampled class were asked to take a paper/pencil survey during a class time coordinated with the instructor. The data were aggregated and the variable distributions provided to the coordinator.

Office of Primary Care and Rural Health, Kansas Department of Health and Environment – Survey Research

by Michael Walker, M.S.

The Docking Institute contracted with the Office of Primary Care and Rural Health to interview Emergency Medical Services directors in rural areas of the state to assess education and training gaps. EMS directors were interviewed by phone and via the Web. Of the listed sample (provided by the client), 170 interviews were completed, presenting a response rate of approximately 85%.

President's Office, Fort Hays State University – Economic Impact Study

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

As she petitions for state funding for Fort Hays State University, President Mirta M. Martin needs high-quality research documenting the economic impact of FHSU on the local and regional economy. To this end, she asked the Docking Institute to perform an economic impact study to show the direct, indirect and induced economic impacts the University has on the economy. The study showed that for FY 2013 the total economic impact of Fort Hays State University on Ellis County, Kansas, was \$210,323,000.

UC Merced SBDC Regional Network – Survey Research

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

In 2014, the University of California Merced Regional Network of California Small Business Development Center (MSBDC) asked the Docking Institute to assess the satisfaction of small businesses owners and potential owners that had contacted the MSBDC for service in 2013, and also to collect employment and financial information of those businesses. Data were collected from 413 small businesses and reports were written for the whole network and five regional centers in central California.

Survey and Focus Group Research

COMPLETED IN 2015

Center for Teaching Excellence and Learning Technologies, Fort Hays State University – Survey Research (faculty opinion)

by Gary Brinker, Ph.D.

The Docking Institute of Public Affairs conducted a survey of all on-campus faculty for the Center for Teaching Excellence and Learning Technologies at Fort Hays State University (CTELT) to measure their opinions and suggestions regarding CTELТ services. The results were used to inform CTELТ's strategic planning by assessing strengths and weakness in the development and delivery of services, using respondent feedback to update policies and programs.

City of Sedona, Arizona – Survey Research

by Michael Walker, M.S.

The Docking Institute contracted with Burns & McDonnell to conduct a survey regarding solid waste and recycling services in Sedona, Arizona. The Docking Institute sampled both landline and mobile phone numbers and completed 660 interviews with City residents. Interviewing took place from December 18, 2015, through January 19, 2016. Survey questions asked about current solid waste and recycling practices and about desired services. The telephone survey is part of a larger Burns and McDonnell planning project for the City of Sedona.

College of Health and Behavioral Sciences, Fort Hays State University – Survey Research

by Michael Walker, M.S.

Fort Hays State University's College of Health and Behavioral Sciences contracted with the Docking Institute to perform alumni and employer surveys for the Department of Nursing. Alumni and employers of graduates from fall 2014 were surveyed via Web in December 2015 and January 2016. Data collection will continue for alumni and employers of graduates in 2015 and 2016. Findings will be used for department review and evaluation.

Kansas Board of Regents, Student Advisory Committee – Survey Research

by Gary Brinker, Ph.D.

In fall 2015, Jessie Pringle, Chair of the KBOR Student Advisory Committee, which is comprised of the Student Government Presidents of the seven Kansas Regents Universities, asked the Docking Institute to conduct a survey of their on-campus students to assess opinions and policy preferences for guns on their campuses. The survey was prompted by legislation that will soon allow concealed carry of handguns within campus buildings, formerly prohibited under an exemption that expires in July 2017. More than 20,500 students responded to the survey, comprising over half of all students invited to participate. Results, generally showing widespread opposition to guns on campus, were presented to the Kansas Board of Regents for consideration in updating their gun policies.

Kansas Board of Regents, Council of Faculty Senate Presidents – Survey Research

by Gary Brinker, Ph.D.

In fall 2015, Dr. Lorie Cook-Benjamin, chair of the Council of Faculty Senate Presidents for the Kansas Regents Universities, asked the Docking Institute to conduct a gun survey for the faculty and staff of the six of the Regents Universities. The purpose was also similar, to document the opinions and policy preferences for guns on campus. Results of the 9,900 faculty and staff respondents showed even higher opposition to guns on campus than the students expressed and were presented to the Kansas Board of Regents.

Kansas Small Business Development Center – Survey Research

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

Since 2008, the Docking Institute has conducted annual surveys of small business owners served by the Kansas Small Business Development Centers to assess the service quality of KSBDC and collect financial and employment information on small businesses in Kansas. In 2014, data were collected from 926 small businesses. In 2015, data were collected from 986 small businesses. Each year, besides a state-wide report, reports were written for each of the nine regional KSBDC centers and eleven outreach centers.

Kansas Speaks – Survey Research

by Brad Pendergast, M.P.A.; Jian Sun, Ph.D.

Kansas Speaks is an annual study conducted in the fall by the Docking Institute to measure citizens' opinions on various policy issues and elected officials in the state of Kansas. A special spring Kansas Speaks was conducted between March 23, 2015, and April 1, 2015.

Kelly Center, Fort Hays State University – Survey Research (social norms)

by Gary Brinker, Ph.D.

Fort Hays State University's coordinator of the Drug and Alcohol Awareness Network requires periodic updates on the drug and alcohol habits of the students he serves in order to establish programs and appropriate funds to most effectively limit substance abuse. The Docking Institute conducted a survey designed to provide this critical information. Classes were randomly cluster-sampled, and the students in each sampled class were asked to take a paper/pencil survey during a class time coordinated with the instructor. The data were aggregated and the variable distributions provided to the coordinator.

President's Office, Fort Hays State University – Survey Research (housing study)

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

To address Fort Hays State University (FHSU) President Mirta M. Martin's concerns about the housing needs of FHSU students, faculty and staff, the Docking Institute surveyed faculty and staff members, off-campus students, and students living in two on-campus apartments regarding their housing conditions and needs. The Docking Institute also conducted four focus groups, further exploring on-campus students' living experience. The results from the surveys and focus groups are combined with the dormitory survey data collected by another research institute to generate a comprehensive understanding of student on-campus housing needs.

Survey and Focus Group Research

President's Office, Fort Hays State University – Survey Research (safety survey)

by Brad Pendergast, M.P.A.; Gary Brinker, Ph.D.

The President's Office at Fort Hays State University contracted with the Docking Institute to conduct a mixed-mode survey (telephone and Web) to gauge students' perceptions of safety on the Fort Hays State University campus and, if they felt unsafe, where and why. Students' main concerns focused on additional lighting around campus, but overall, students felt safe on the University's campus.

The Reformation Project – Survey Research

by Brad Pendergast, M.P.A.; Gary Brinker, Ph.D.

The Reformation Project is a faith-based non-profit with a mission to train Christians to support and affirm lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people. The Reformation Project contracted with the Docking Institute to conduct a telephone survey of randomly selected household(s) in Kansas to measure their opinions on same-sex marriage and religious freedoms of individuals and businesses. Telephone interviews were conducted between January 21, 2015, and February 5, 2015. The survey sampled 887 Kansans who voted in the previous election. Results showed 91 percent of respondents believe that religious and cultural diversity are important elements that have flourished due to constitutional protection. Almost three-quarters of respondents were equally divided in believing that discrimination against an LGBT individual is either a major or minor problem. In comparison, 24 percent of respondents said that LGBT discrimination was not much of a problem or none at all. Seventy percent of respondents favor a state law that would provide workplace protections for LGBT individuals. When given options to support full marriage rights for same-sex couples, civil unions, or no legal recognition at all, most supported full marriage rights at 42 percent, with civil unions at 31 percent and no recognition at 23 percent. When provided the qualifier that churches would never be required to perform same-sex marriages, support for allowing LGBT individuals to legally marry jumped to 60 percent.

Rush County Memorial Foundation – Brochure Design

by Gary Brinker, Ph.D.; Melissa Dixon, B.A.

Rush Memorial Hospital in La Crosse, Kansas, provides basic medical services to Rush County and the surrounding rural region. The Rush County Memorial Foundation works to support the hospital by soliciting philanthropic contributions. The Foundation asked the Docking Institute to compose a promotional flier for distribution to potential donors. Docking Institute Fellow Melissa Dixon used image and textual data provided by the foundation to create a professional, appealing flier.

Salina Airport Authority – Economic Impact

by Preston Gilson, Ph.D.

The Salina Airport Authority (SAA) manages the regional airport as well as the industrial park comprising the area immediately adjacent to the airport, in Salina, Kansas. Being interested in documenting the value of the complex to the regional economy, SAA asked the Docking Institute to perform an economic impact analysis to show the effect of airport commerce and wages on the economic health of the community. Docking Institute Senior Policy Fellow Dr. Preston Gilson used IMPLAN software and data provided by SAA to measure the direct, indirect and induced impacts of the airport on the regional economy.

UNDERWAY

Department of Agronomy (Kansas State University) – Survey Research

by Michael Walker, M.S.

In 2015, the Docking Institute began surveying land owners and operators in Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas as part of a regional network of researchers and extension specialists to adapt grazing strategies to changing conditions. Data collection will continue into the spring of 2016, and involves phone, Web, and mail surveys.

Office of Primary Care and Rural Health, Kansas Department of Health and Environment – Survey Research

by Michael Walker, M.S.

In 2015, the Docking Institute began a multi-year research effort to gather information from health and dental health providers in locations designated as Health Professional Shortage Areas (HPSAs). State and federal agencies use HPSAs to prioritize and direct limited resources to areas with unmet primary, dental and mental health care needs. Information gathered by the Docking Institute assists the Office of Primary Care and Rural Health submit valid and reliable information to other state and federal agencies. The Docking Institute gathered information from 375 rural health providers via the Web in spring 2015. This represents 52 percent of the listed sample. The dental study is employing both phone and Web methods, and the response rate is approaching 75 percent at this time. These methods will be used for the next round of health-providers surveys.

RTI International – Feeding Infants and Toddlers Study

by Brad Pendergast, M.P.A.; Gary Brinker, Ph.D.

RTI International contacted with the Docking Institute to conduct telephone surveying and recruitment of randomly selected households in the United States to participate in the Feeding Infants and Toddlers Study. FITS is a dietary intake survey of large cross-sectional samples of parents or caregivers of U.S. infants, toddlers and preschoolers. The main objective is to learn about the nutrient intakes and gaps of infants and young children and to understand what foods are being consumed at different ages when the diet of young children is rapidly changing. This study has been conducted twice previously (2002 and 2008), but this is the Docking Institute's first involvement. Results from previous FITS studies have been used to help promote the development of healthy eating habits early in life with the objectives of promoting long-term child health and decreasing the prevalence of overweight and obesity in childhood.

Office of Student Affairs – Fort Hays State University

by Michael Walker, M.S.

In 2014, the Docking Institute assisted the Office of Student Affairs in developing and evaluating a new tobacco usage policy for Fort Hays State University. In the fall of 2014, the Docking Institute conducted Web surveys of all on-campus students, staff and faculty. From an initial population of 5,618 students, faculty, and staff, 970 responses were recorded. Similar surveys will be conducted in 2016 and 2017.

Program Evaluation

Labor and Migration Studies

Survey and Focus Group Research

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.

Public Policy

Strategic Planning

PROJECTS

COMPLETED IN 2015

USD 489

by Gary Brinker, Ph.D.; Brad Pendergast, M.P.A

With the election of new board members, Unified School District 489, which serves the greater Hays, Kansas area, asked the Docking Institute to facilitate a strategic planning session. The six-hour session included revising the mission statement, performing a S.W.O.T. analysis, developing and prioritizing goals and laying out a time line for accomplishing each goal.



David Mizell, Survey Center Interviewer, FHSU student.

Program Evaluation

Labor and Migration Studies

Survey and Focus Group Research

Strategic Planning

Public Policy

To facilitate effective public policy decision-making, the Docking Institute has more than 31 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.

Public Policy

PROJECTS

UNDERWAY

Kansas County Treasurers Association

by Jian Sun, Ph.D.

The Docking Institute delivers online training courses for the Kansas County Treasurers Association. Since 2011, three online courses have been developed with the assistance of KCTA staff, and 75 county treasurers have been enrolled in one or more online courses. Eleven treasurers completed at least one course in 2014 and 2015.



Jessica Hayes, Survey Center Interviewer, FHSU student.

PUBLICATIONS

COMPLETED IN 2015

Peek, Lori

"Foreword." Disability and Disaster: Exchanges and Explorations, edited by I. Kelman and L. M. Stough, pp. xi-xiv. London: Palgrave Macmillan.

Abramson, David and Lori Peek

"The New Orleans Class of 2015: What It Tells Us and What It Doesn't." The Conversation.

<https://theconversation.com/the-new-orleans-class-of-2015-what-it-tells-us-and-what-it-doesnt-46771>

Fothergill, Alice and Lori Peek

"Children and Trauma." University of Texas Press Blog.

<http://utpressnews.blogspot.com/2015/08/nine-scholars-on-katrinahard-lessons.html>

Gill, Sara and Lori Peek

"Disaster Preparedness among Colorado Childcare Centers and Home-Based Providers: A Statewide Survey and Assessment." Canadian Risk and Hazards Network HazNet Newsletter 6(2): 6-8.

http://www.crhnet.ca/sites/default/files/library/HazNet_2015-05_v6n2.pdf

Peek, Lori

"Evacuation, Displacement, and Prolonged Recovery." University of Texas Press Blog.

<http://utpressnews.blogspot.com/2015/08/nine-scholars-on-katrinahard-lessons.html>

Peek, Lori and Alice Fothergill

"No Place Like Home: Hurricane Katrina, Children, and the Importance of Shelter and Housing Stability." Engineering for Climate Extremes.

<https://www.ecep.ucar.edu/no-place-home-hurricane-katrina-children-and-importance-shelter-and-housing-stability-lori-peek-and>

COMPLETED IN 2014

Peek, Lori; Kallin Brooks; David Abramson

"The Science and Practice of Resilience Interventions for Children Exposed to Disasters." Preparedness, Response, and Recovery Considerations for Children and Families: Workshop Summary, edited by T. Wizemann, M. Reeve, and B. M. Altevogt, pp. 177-202. Washington, D.C.: The National Academies Press.

Peek, Lori

"Anti-Islamic Hate Crime and the Enduring Effects of 9/11." North Philly Notes, September. Philadelphia: Temple University Press.

<http://templepress.wordpress.com/2014/09/>

Peek, Lori

"Disasters Fast and Slow: Grieving for a Lost Home." CoLab Radio, September. Cambridge: Community Innovators Lab, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

<http://colabradio.mit.edu/disasters-fast-and-slow-grieving-for-a-lost-home/>

Fothergill, Alice and Lori Peek

"Lessons from Katrina: Recommendations for Fostering More Effective Disaster Preparedness, Response, and Recovery Efforts for Children and Youth." Canadian Risk and Hazards Network HazNet Newsletter 5(2): 4-9.

http://www.crhnet.ca/sites/default/files/library/HazNet%2010th%20Edition%20%20FINAL%20April%204%202014_0.pdf

2015 JOURNAL ARTICLES

Mills, Shala and Tina Zappile

"AASCU's 'Global Challenges: Promise and Peril in the 21st-Century' Course." eJournal of Public Affairs.

2014 JOURNAL ARTICLES

Mills, Shala and Jian Sun

"Assessing AASCU's Blended Model Course," eJournal of Public Affairs.

Mills, Shala

"A Collaborative Alternative to MOOCs: AASCU's Global Challenges Project," Diversity and Democracy.

Peek, Lori; Alice Fothergill, Jessica W. Pardee; Lynn Weber

"Studying Displacement: New Networks, Lessons Learned." Sociological Inquiry 84(3): 354-359.

Peek, Lori and Katherine E. Browne

"Beyond the IRB: An Ethical Toolkit for Long-Term Disaster Research." International Journal of Mass Emergencies and Disasters 32(1): 82-120.

Peek, Lori; Delaney Gracy, Roy Grant, Griffin Goldsmith, Anupa Fabian; Irwin E. Redlener

"Health Barriers to Learning: A Survey of New York City Public School Leadership." SAGE Open 4. DOI: 10.1177/2158244013520613.

Peek, Lori; Craig Trumbo; Michelle Meyer; Holly Marlatt; Bridget Morrissey

"An Assessment of Change in Risk Perception and Optimistic Bias for Hurricanes among Gulf Coast Residents." Risk Analysis 34(6): 1013-1024.

2015 BOOKS

Fothergill, Alice and Lori Peek

Children of Katrina. Austin: University of Texas Press.

PRESENTATIONS

Gary Brinker

"How do Rural and Urban Residents Differ?" at the American Health Journalists Workshop, Fort Worth, TX, June 19, 2015.

Brinker, Gary and Chapman Rackaway

"This Week in Kansas," KAKE TV, Wichita, KS, October 22, 2014, to present results of Kansas Speaks 2014.

Brinker, Gary, Mark Bannister and Chris Crawford

Host discussion show in Bunker Hill on "Kansas Legislature" Program, April 24, 2015.

Gary Brinker

"Community Connections" with Mike Cooper on Eagle Communications Television, Hays, KS, November 5, 2015, to present results of Kansas Speaks 2015.

Gary Brinker

"This Week in Kansas," KAKE TV, Wichita, KS, October 24, 2015 to present "Kansas Speaks."

Brad Pendergast and Chapman Rackaway

"This Week in Kansas," KAKE TV, Wichita, KS, April 25, 2015, to present results of Kansas Speaks.

Taylor Hunt, Student Researcher

"Do Kansans Really Vote Against Their Economic Interests? Testing Frank's Hypothesis," poster submitted at the Student Poster Competition at the annual conference of the Midwest Sociological Society, March 27, 2015.

Shala Mills

"Global Challenges: Educating Globally Competent Citizens," co-presenter for multi-day AASCU/ADP Institute, New Jersey, 2014.

Shala Mills

"The Global Village Activity: Helping Students Understand Their Place in the World," co-presenter with Denny Falk, Kappa Delta Pi Webinar, March 3, 2015.

Lori Peek

"Issues in Disaster Recovery: Household and Community Recovery," at the annual Natural Hazards Research and Applications workshop, Broomfield, Co, 2015.

Lori Peek

"Temporal and Spatial Dimensions of Disaster," at the annual meeting of the American Historical Association, New York, 2015.

Lori Peek

"Aging and Vulnerability in America," at the annual Natural Hazards Research and Applications workshop, Broomfield, Co, 2014.

Lori Peek

"Emerging Trends in Child Protection," at the annual Natural Hazards Research and Applications workshop, Broomfield, Co, 2014.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Shala Mills

"National Blended Course Model: A Signature Strategy," co-presenter with Jennifer Domagal-Goldman, Re-imagining the First Year of College Invitational conference, Orlando, Florida, June 2015.

Shala Mills

"Satisfying Strategies for Flipping Your Classroom to Educate Globally Competent Citizens Using AASCU's NBCC Global Challenges Course," co-presenter with Darrell Hamlin, ADP annual meeting, New Orleans, June 2015.

Shala Mills

"Teaching Global Challenges, AASCU's Innovative, Collaborative Approach," co-presenter with Denny Falk and Darrell Hamlin, AASCU Global Learning in College conference, Minneapolis, October 2014.

Shala Mills

"Educating Globally Competent Citizens with AASCU's Global Challenges Blended Learning Course," co-presenter with Darrell Hamlin, Kappa Delta Pi Learning, Leadership, and Practice: Educating Global Citizens conference, Calgary, Alberta, Canada, October 2014.

Shala Mills

"Educating Globally Competent Citizens: AASCU's Alternative to the MOOC," co-presenter with Martin Shapiro and Jen Domagal-Goldman, AASCU annual meeting, Washington D.C., January 2014.

CLIENT PRESENTATIONS

Michael Walker

"Columbia, Missouri, Labor Basin, Labor Availability Assessment," to Regional Economic Development of Columbia, Missouri, June 2015.

Michael Walker

"Franklin County, Kansas, Labor Basin, Labor Availability Assessment," to Franklin County Development Council Economic Development Inc. of Ottawa, Kansas, August 2015.

Michael Walker

"Greater Kansas City Area Labor Basin, Labor Availability Assessment," to Mid-America Regional Council, Kansas City, Missouri, March 2015.

Michael Walker

"Phelps County and Adjacent Counties in Missouri Labor Basin, Labor Availability Assessment," to Rolla Regional Economic Commission, November 2015.

STAFF PROFILES



Gary Brinker, Ph.D.

Dr. Gary Brinker has been the director of the Docking Institute since 2008 and a professor in the Department of Sociology at Fort Hays State University since August 2011. He was previously the director of the Center for Social Sciences and Public Policy Research at Missouri State University, from May 2002 to July 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 100 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, the Journal of Applied Sociology, the North American Journal of Psychology, the Social Development Issues, the Journal of Population and the International Review of Modern Sociology. Gary earned a Master of Arts degree in sociology in 1994 and a doctorate 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 at Fort Hays State University. He joined the Docking Institute in 2000 as a research scientist and was promoted to assistant director in 2006. He designs a variety of research projects involving survey and focus group research, strategic planning, and program assessment. He has been the lead researcher for 109 labor and employment studies in Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, and Oklahoma. 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



Jian Sun, Ph.D.

in archeological digs in southern Utah, completed a political internship in Washington, D.C., and served in the U.S. Army. He regularly teaches urban and rural sociology, community theory and development, social demography and research methods. He is adding environmental sociology to his teaching rotation. Mike received his Master of Science degree in sociology from Utah State University in 1995 and is currently pursuing a doctorate at Kansas State University.

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*, the *Journal of Real Estate Literature*, the *Journal of Housing Economics*, the *Journal of Urban Affairs*, the *Journal*

of Public Affairs Education, *Real Estate Economics*, and the *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.

STAFF PROFILES



Lynette Ottley, B.A.

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



Bradley Pendergast, M.P.A.

Brad Pendergast joined the Docking Institute in June 2014 as the Survey Center manager. Brad had previously worked at the Docking Institute as the student researcher from 2011-2012. His 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, tracking work hours and job performance of all student interviewers and supervisors. He also monitors progress of all survey projects, programs the IdSurvey 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. Brad

has interests in the areas of: policy implementation, local government, non-profit management, Medicaid/KanCare and Kansas water policy. Brad received his Master of Public Administration from Wichita State University in May 2014.

STUDENT PROFILES

Susan Hornbaker

Susan Hornbaker joined the Docking Institute in the spring of 2013 as a student worker. She graduated from Holcomb High School in Holcomb, Kansas in 2010 and Northwest Kansas Technical College in Goodland, Kansas with an associate degree in computer graphics technology in 2012. She currently is a senior working towards a bachelor's degree in English with an emphasis in writing.

Bethany Lennemann

Bethany Lennemann joined the Docking Institute in the fall of 2015 as a student worker. She graduated from Phillipsburg High School in Phillipsburg, Kansas in 2012. Bethany is a senior pursuing a bachelor's in sociology with a certificate in Life Stages and Transitions, along with her leadership studies certificate.

Ryan Swayne

Ryan Swayne is a junior pursuing a Bachelor of Fine Arts in studio ceramics and a Bachelor of Science in Education. Ryan studied at Sias International University in Zhengzhou, Hunan, China in summer 2014. Ryan is a member of the National Council for Education of the Ceramic Arts and is the Western Kansas representative for the Kansas Artists and Craftsmen Association. When Ryan graduates he wants to teach high school art and eventually pursue a career as a college ceramics professor.

Brianna Witchey

Brianna Witchey joined the Docking Institute as an intern in spring 2016. She graduated high school from Shattuck High School in Shattuck, OK, in 2013. She is a junior pursuing a Bachelor of Science in sociology, and she plans on obtaining a master's degree after she graduates from FHSU. She is also working on earning at least one certificate through the Sociology Department. Outside of the Docking Institute, Brianna also works in the Sociology Department.

SENIOR POLICY FELLOWS



Joseph Aistrup, Ph.D.

Joe Aistrup is a senior policy fellow of the Docking Institute and professor and dean of the College of Liberal Arts at Auburn University in Alabama. He was assistant director of the Docking 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 has published in the *Economic Development Review*, the *Economic Development Quarterly*, *Soviet Studies*, the *American Review of Politics*, *Kansas Business Review*, *Kansas Government Journal*, *Congressional Quarterly*, and *Court Review*. Joe received his Ph.D. from Indiana University in 1989.



Mark Bannister, J.D.

Mark Bannister is dean of the College of Business and Entrepreneurship at Fort Hays State University. 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 of Public Affairs and a principal in Bannister Capital Advisors. He teaches course work on legal issues and management of information technologies and 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*, the *Kansas Journal of Law and Public Policy*, the proceedings of

the Colloquium on Information Systems Security, the *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's of communication studies from the University of Kansas. His bachelor's degree is from Fort Hays State University. Bannister has been recognized by the International Telecommunications Education and Research Association as a senior fellow.



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 founder and former director of the Docking Institute. He established the Docking Institute's Telepower Conference in 1992 and is the author of a telecommunications report that initiated the state strategic telecommunications plan. He is an associate professor with the Political Science Department at Fort Hays State University. Larry was the 1998 recipient of the FHSU Alumni Association's Pilot Award as the outstanding faculty member of the year. The Hays Chamber of Commerce named him Most Valuable Citizen and inducted him into its Hall of Fame in 1996. Previously, he was provost, 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.S. in political science from Eastern New Mexico University and a Ph.D. in political science from Purdue University.

SENIOR POLICY FELLOWS



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. She has extensive experience with federal, state and foundation grants, project development and management, and conducts strategic planning activities for non-profit organizations. Leslie is also experienced as a peer reviewer and field reader for federal grant competitions. Honors include the National Association of School Psychologists School Psychologist of the Year and the FHSU Alumni Achievement Award. Leslie has conducted over 100 workshops and presentations at national, state and local levels on grant writing, school safety and violence prevention, crisis response planning, and research ethics and compliance. Leslie received her Master of Science and Educational Specialist degrees in school psychology from FHSU. She is currently an officer of the National Association of School Psychologists Board of Directors.



Carl D. Parker, Ph.D.

Senior Policy Fellow Carl D. Parker is a professor of economics 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. Carl received his Ph.D. in economics from Oklahoma State University in 1971 and is 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*, the *Journal of the Southwestern Society of Economists*, the *Journal of Economics*, *Proceedings of the National Association for Welfare Research and Statistics*, the *Journal of Economics and Finance*, and the *Journal of Finance and Economic Practice*.



Chapman Rackaway, Ph.D.

Chapman Rackaway serves FHSU as a professor and as acting chair of the Political Science Department, serving on the faculty since 2003. Chapman was named the FHSU director of liberal education in September 2015, overseeing the review and revision of the FHSU general education program. Chapman also 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. Chapman teaches campaign management, political organizations, political communication, and voting behavior. Chapman'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. Chapman was named the President's Distinguished Scholar for the 2015-2016 academic year at FHSU. Rackaway has published in the Journal of Politics, the 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. Chapman is the author of Communicating Politics Online, author of American Government: Political Culture in an Online World with Kendell-Hunt Publishers. Since 2010, Chapman has been a member of the Insight Kansas consortium, a weekly column on Kansas politics written by political scientists at Board of Regents Institutions and syndicated in more than 20 newspapers across the state. Chapman regularly moderates public affairs events, including candidate debates and Kansas Legislature programming on Smoky Hills Public Television. With College of Business and Entrepreneurship Dean Mark Bannister, Chapman co-hosts "Talking Democracy," a weekly public affairs program on KFHS-TV. Chapman is a regular guest on KAKE-TV's "This Week in Kansas" and is quoted regularly in newspapers across the state on Kansas politics. In 2011-2012 Chapman served as president of

the FHSU Faculty Senate, is a four-time nominee for the Pilot Award, FHSU's highest recognition for teaching. Chapman has served as a fellow since his arrival at FHSU in 2003. As a senior policy fellow, Rackaway has not only helped the Docking 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. A former campaign manager for a variety of candidates, Chapman provided communication and strategic direction for campaigns from county auditor to the U.S. Congress. Chapman has previously served as Political Science Department chair at Linn State Technical College and taught at State Fair Community College, Lincoln University (Missouri), the University of Missouri, and Columbia College. He received his Ph.D. in political science from the University of Missouri in 2002.



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

Senior Policy Fellow Marilyn Ray is a board certified radiologist. 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 of Public Health at Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health in May 2004. Her work for 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.

SENIOR POLICY FELLOWS



Brett Zollinger, Ph.D.

Dr. Brett Zollinger was a research scientist at the Docking Institute from 1998 to 2008 and served as the Institute's director from 2002 to 2008. He is chair of the Sociology Department at FHSU. His work has been nationally recognized. He received the Rural Sociological Society's Dissertation Award in 1997. He has published in several academic journals including, *Rural Sociology*, the *Journal of the Community Development Society*, *Research in Community Sociology*, *Economic Development Quarterly*, *Complimentary Health Practice Review*, the *Online Journal of Rural Research and Policy*, and the *e-Journal of Public Affairs*. He also has a book chapter in the edited book, "Mad About Wildlife." He has designed and conducted survey research projects at local, state and regional levels on a wide variety of topics including: public health/wellness awareness; attitudes

and behaviors; attitudes toward wildlife management approaches and recreational hunting practices; labor availability; health care needs assessment; housing and city services satisfaction, quality of life; crime and domestic victims' issues; and use of conservation tree plantings. He also conducted dozens of program evaluation studies and organizational and community development strategic planning sessions. One of most notable research and strategic planning projects was the statewide 2005 Kansas Prosperity Summit research and planning process on behalf of the Kansas Department of Commerce and five partner state agencies, which culminated in an economic development plan for Kansas issued by Gov. Kathleen Sebelius. He has over \$2.5 million of applied research and planning funded. Brett's primary research interests are in the areas of natural resource

sociology, human dimensions of wildlife management, community development, and public health/wellness programming. Prior to joining the Docking Institute in 1998, Brett earned his Ph.D. in sociology from Utah State University and worked in USU's Institute for Social Science Research in Natural Resources.

POLICY FELLOWS

- 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
- Melissa Dixon,** *Fort Hays State University* – marketing, fine art, and graphic design
- 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
- Darren Hendrickson, Ph.D.,** *Eastern Illinois University* – medical sociology, environmental sociology, and sociological theory
- W. Trey Hill, Ph.D.,** *Fort Hays State University* – psychology, research design, statistics, cognitive and evolutionary psychology
- Placido A. Hoernicke, M.F.A., Ed.D.,** *professor emeritus at Fort Hays State University* – special education, English for speakers of other languages
- Thomas Johansen, Ph.D.,** *Oklahoma State University* – corporate finance, investments, and business consulting
- Scott Jones, Ed.S.,** *Fort Hays State University* – business education, corporate communications, business technology applications
- Doreen Kamoga, M.D., M.P.H.,** *Fort Hays State University* – medical degree, healthcare policy, systems and administrations on health outcomes in communities
- 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
- 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
- Kevin A. Shaffer, M.S., C.C.D.P.,** *Fort Hays State University* – telecommunications, international message telephone service economics, and broadband internetworking services
- Michael A. Smith, Ph.D.,** *Emporia State University* – political science, social science, state and local government, campaigns and elections, legislative politics, and political philosophy
- 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. Docking 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 Docking 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, 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 Docking 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 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 31 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

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