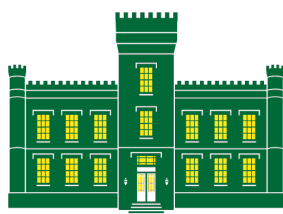


# GOOD NEWS

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**KENTUCKY STATE  
UNIVERSITY**

## Kentucky Academy of Science's Annual Meeting hosted by KSU

Kentucky State University (KSU) recently hosted the Kentucky Academy of Science's (KAS) Annual Meeting on Friday, November 1st and Saturday, November 2nd. This annual meeting brought together hundreds of students, scientists, and educators to highlight the latest advances in the science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields. The schedule of activities included special sessions on aerospace and applied bioinformatics, a tour of KSU's aquaculture center, and hundreds of oral and poster presentations. For KSU students, the event was an excellent opportunity to engage with researchers, network with professionals, and get a firsthand look at the research being conducted in STEM.



## KSU Launch Mobile Health Units

KSU will be bringing critical healthcare services directly to underserved areas with the launching of two of its three planned mobile units. The first unit was unveiled on October 24th in Louisville, KY at the Portland area Family Health Centers, Inc. The second unit debuted on October 25th at Hazard Community and Technical College. These units will service communities across Kentucky and they represent a powerful statewide collaboration with the Cabinet for Health and Family Services, the Kentucky Department for Public Health, and various local partners. The goal of these units is to reduce healthcare disparities in Kentucky's most impacted regions. These mobile health units provide diagnostic and treatment services for metabolic syndrome, which includes a cluster of conditions such as hypertension, high blood glucose, abdominal obesity, and abnormal cholesterol or triglyceride levels. These conditions elevate the risk of heart disease, stroke, and type 2 diabetes. The units will alternate between clinical care and Kentucky State University's Nutrition Education Program (KSU-NEP), which uses the "food as medicine" approach to promote preventive health and long-term wellness.





## KSU AG Round Up 2024

KSU's College of Agriculture, Health, and Natural Resources hosted the 2nd Annual AG Roundup. The Roundup was held Friday, October 11th and Saturday, October 12th. The event was expanded to two days to educate students, faculty, farmers, and local businesses on KSU's local and global agricultural impact. Day 1 featured an agriculture symposium, outdoor festival, and program exhibits. Day 2 offered networking with professionals, campus tours, a tailgate cookout, and free admission to the KSU football game. Students were able to explore and learn about the diverse career paths available in the agricultural industry.

## KSU Celebrates Inauguration of 19th President, Dr. Koffi C. Akakpo

On September 20, 2024, KSU marked a historic moment with the inauguration of Dr. Koffi C. Akakpo as the 19th president. The day was filled with excitement, including a special proclamation from Mayor Layne Wilkerson and Judge Michael Mueller, declaring it "Dr. Koffi C. Akakpo Day" in Frankfort. In his inaugural address, Dr. Akakpo proudly reflected on KSU's remarkable achievements, including a balanced budget, \$34 million in grants, and impressive growth in the School of Nursing. He unveiled a bold new strategic plan aimed at creating lasting impact, emphasizing affordable access, transformative engagement, and sustainable success. The ceremony closed with the KSU Alma Mater, uniting all in a shared vision of the bright future ahead.



## KSU and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Embark on a New Partnership

KSU welcomed officials from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to celebrate the start of a promising partnership focused on enhancing educational opportunities. KSU and EPA signed an MOU in August of 2024 with the intent to deepen the relationship between the two entities and collaborate on areas of mutual interest. Some of these areas include enhancing student and faculty participation in EPA programs and opportunities, developing joint research projects, and more. This collaboration, established through an MOU signed in August 2024, will support KSU students and faculty with joint research, internships, summer trainings, and hands-on projects.



## KSU awarded Farming Grant by the USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture

KSU was recently awarded \$709,042 by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), to provide education, mentoring, and technical assistance to help veterans and underserved beginner farmers and ranchers own and operate successful farms. The project titled, "Farming for Cash: A Training Program Leading to Farm Ownership," which is expected to serve over 300 participants, will provide hands-on skills in farm management, harvesting, production and sales. The program is led by KSU Associate Research Director and Professor, Dr. Siddhartha Dasgupta, in partnership with The National Center for Appropriate Technology and other organizations such as Bluegrass Community and Technical College, Camp Brown Bear, The Growing Warriors, Laurel County African American Heritage Center, and the Ag-first Community Cooperative.