

# Grants at KC

Kilgore College Faculty & Staff:

The East Texas Council of Governments (ETCOG) and the Office of the Governor, Criminal Justice Division, recently announced the award of \$200,000 in grant funding to Kilgore College.

These grant funds will be used to resurface and repair KC's East Texas Police Academy (ETPA) driving track used by regional peace officers, firefighters and ambulance drivers, for emergency vehicle operations training.

As one of only four driving tracks for police training in the state, the track (located at the Winfred J. Spear Training Center in Rusk County) is used by the ETPA to equip first-responders in the surrounding 24-county area with the safe driving tactics needed to serve the public.

In addition, nearly every jurisdiction within the 24 counties uses the track for supplemental driving skills training, as needs dictate.

The ETPA is the premiere training center for law enforcement students in East Texas and has been administered by KC, through contract with ETCOG, since 1970.

The driving track has been in service for almost 30 years and needs major repairs. Local officials recently requested ETCOG's assistance with the project. ETCOG staff subsequently contacted the Governor's Office to request assistance to help address this important need on behalf of our law enforcement community, and the governor graciously agreed to help.

Total estimated cost for repairs to the driving track is \$200,000. ETCOG will contribute \$125,000 in regional public safety funds and the Governor's Office will contribute \$75,000. KC will manage the repair project.

## Featured Funder

### The National Endowment for the Arts

Established by Congress in 1965, the National Endowment for the Arts is the independent federal agency whose funding and support gives Americans the opportunity to participate in the arts, exercise their imaginations, and develop their creative capacities. Through partnerships with state arts agencies, local leaders, other federal agencies, and the philanthropic sector, the NEA supports arts learning, affirms and celebrates America's rich and diverse cultural heritage, and extends its work to promote equal access to the arts in every community across America.

In 2016, the NEA distributed \$1.12 billion in grants to art-related endeavors.

Visit [www.arts.gov](http://www.arts.gov) to learn more about NEA.

## Title III Implementation

The award of nearly \$600,000 in fiscal 2018 funding to Kilgore College from the U.S. Department of Education Title III grant will bring changes to the Kilgore campus and opportunities for faculty members who wish to teach online.

Last month, Roland Blasini, instructor of government and history, was named the Title III Project Director and Dr. William Stowe, instructor of biology, was named Activity Director/Distance Learning Specialist. Both will assume duties full-time effective Jan. 1.

During the month of January, Blasini, Stowe and other faculty and staff members will meet with digital learning staff members from The University of Texas at Tyler, who will tour the Woodfin Center for Instructional Technology and make recommendations for renovation of the building for the establishment of a faculty innovation center. Under the grant, UT Tyler will serve as a consultant in pedagogical and technical areas related to the delivery of online instruction.

An internal evaluation team will be established to review work related to the grant and an external evaluator will be hired to ensure the college is delivering on its Title III initiatives.

At the beginning of the spring 2018 semester, renovation of 5,200 square feet of the 5,700-square-foot Woodfin Center will begin, with an instructional television classroom being converted to an instructional design studio and a computer lab being converted into a learning lounge for faculty group work and training.

Later in the Spring semester, the first of the grant initiatives core curriculum classes will be redesigned for online delivery, utilizing proven best practices.



*Roland Blasini*



*Dr. William Stowe*

## Grants Workshop

Fred Peters will conduct a Grants @ KC workshop on Friday, April 6, 2018, from 1-2:30 p.m. in the second-floor conference room of the Randolph C. Watson Library.

No reservation is required.

Peters will offer examples of grants awarded to faculty members at other colleges and universities.

## Changes Coming to Woodfin Center

With renovation related to the recent Title III grant, the Woodfin Center for Instructional Technology will no longer serve as a study center for students.

Computers from the existing lab will be moved to another location and made available for students in the spring.

Effective with the beginning of the Spring 2018 semester, faculty who wish to assign students to work in a computer lab are asked to utilize available computer labs in the library.

If needed, computer labs in other locations on the Kilgore campus will be utilized.