

Young Investigators Advancing the Frontiers of Science: Brought to you by GRC and the Kenan Institute for Engineering, Technology, and Science

Whether you are a GRC loyalist or you are just discovering Gordon Research Conferences, you should know about GRC's newest offering: the Gordon Research Seminars (GRS).

The GRS program has grown rapidly over the past decade. By 2015, more than sixty percent of the Gordon Research Conferences will have a corresponding GRS, a two-day meeting designed specifically for graduate students, post-doctoral students, and other scientists with comparable levels of experience. At these seminars, which take place immediately prior to the associated GRC, young investigators present and discuss cutting edge, unpublished research and build collaborative relationships with colleagues and peers in a non-intimidating environment. GRSs are particularly important, however, because they allow the next generation of scientific explorers to network and discuss their research at a critical time in their budding careers. With the confidence gained by participating in a GRS, attendees are ready to actively participate in the GRC – and approximately 95% of them do!



Clearly, the scientific communities we serve also think that young-investigator-focused meetings are important because the GRS program has expanded exponentially since 2005. In that year, three GRCs held a corresponding GRS; in 2014, that number will be 116. This astounding growth is largely thanks to our rich and fruitful partnership with the **William R. Kenan, Jr. Institute for Engineering, Technology, and Science** (KIETS) at North Carolina State University. Without the financial support that we have received from the Kenan Institute, the GRS program would not be what it is today.

We are proud to celebrate our continuing partnership with KIETS through our collaborative venture, the Gordon-Kenan Research Seminar (GKRS) program. Since 2001, the Kenan Institute has provided seed funding for 113 GKRSs. This seed funding has supported the attendance of over 2,250 GKRS registrants – roughly 45% of all participants.

GRC shares the Kenan Institute's dedication to "encouraging multidisciplinary, multi-institutional teams involving government, university, and corporate partners to solve scientific and societal problems, generate technology-based economic development, and bring together the public and private resources necessary to tackle successfully the emerging issues of our time." Together, through the GKRS program, we have provided a forum for scientific exchange among a diverse audience of emerging scientists who have, in turn, forged new collaborative networks. On behalf of the thousands of GKRS attendees over the past 14 years, we are grateful for the Kenan Institute's support, and we hope to partner with KIETS for many years to come!

[Click here](#) to apply for an upcoming Gordon-Kenan Research Seminar.

[Click here](#) to learn more about the William R. Kenan, Jr. Institute for Engineering, Technology, and Science at North Carolina State University.

