Assistant Professor Yvonne Chen’s Fall 2013 Campaigns client, Lecompton Historical Society, has received a grant from Freedom’s Frontier National Heritage Area. The organization will rebuild its website using the templates designed by the students.

Chen is one of the three KU consultants on a $1.3 million grant awarded to the Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department (LDCHD). Funded by the Centers for Disease Control, this three-year project seeks to reduce chronic diseases in Douglas County. Chen will advise LDCHD on tobacco-related issues and guide its strategic communication plan development and execution.

Associate Professor Mugur Geana is the Principal Investigator for a $50,000 research contract awarded by the Center for Practical Bioethics. The project aims to develop communication strategies to address attitudes and beliefs of primary care physicians and the public towards people living with chronic pain. According to a report from the Institute of Medicine, "Chronic pain affects about 100 million American adults - more than the total affected by heart disease, cancer and diabetes combined. Pain also costs the nation up to $635 billion each year in medical treatment and lost productivity." The pilot study pioneered by Geana for the Kansas City area will serve as the blueprint for a nationwide communication initiative by the Pain Action Alliance to Implement a National Strategy (PAINS).

Geana has been nominated to be one of the reviewers for an NIH grant review panel for the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. He will travel to Washington in November to participate in the three-day review of proposals submitted for a funding opportunity on mobile health.

Visiting Professor Dawn Fallik contributed data analysis and research to Columbia University Professor June Cross’ documentary, "Wilhemina’s War," which focuses on HIV and the rural south. It should be released this summer.

Assistant Professor Hyunjin Seo discusses her experience in academic science exchanges between the United States and North Korea and why science can help bridge the gap between nations that have had hostile relations. Watch the video from KU News here: http://bit.ly/1v73ymK

Seo presented her interdisciplinary research on credibility in online review sites to the Social Media Club of Lawrence on Feb. 11.