

March, 2011

Dear Colleague,

Given the recent turbulence in the performance of the economy, specifically the decline in financial markets, faculty today have to deal with greater uncertainty that impacts the decision when to retire and the financial planning for their retirement. Many faculty are likely making adjustments, given the new financial environment, with respect to how retirement monies are held, their planned retirement date, and level of savings necessary for their target or desired level of retirement income.

The enclosed questionnaire surveys the retirement plans and expectations of faculty age 50 and over at all Kansas Regents universities. Collection of data during the current period will provide information about the influence of prolonged adverse economic conditions upon various decisions related to retirement planning of Kansas Regents faculty.

You are assured complete confidentiality. Your name will never be placed on the questionnaire, and your name will never be attached to the information that you provide. Every respondent's information will be combined with the information provided by other respondents for grouped data analysis only. The questionnaire has a mailing list number. The number allows for the removal of your name from the list when your questionnaire is returned, so that you are not included in a sample of non-respondents to receive a second mailing. You may also opt out or discontinue with the survey at any time.

Participation in this research effort is completely voluntary. By completing this survey you are granting us your informed consent to use your answers as part of our database. If you choose to participate, we **thank you** in advance for your support of this academic research effort. After you have completed the questionnaire, simply tape it shut, and drop it in the mail. Postage is prepaid.

Sincerely,

Kathleen G. Arano  
Associate Professor of Economics

Carl D. Parker  
Professor of Economics

P.S. If you want additional information about this study or want to receive results from this study, please send an e-mail to either [karano@fhsu.edu](mailto:karano@fhsu.edu) or [cparker@fhsu.edu](mailto:cparker@fhsu.edu).