Kenneth C. Holford, Ph.D.

Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
Professor of Biology
Purdue University Northwest

Administrative Highlights

- Demonstrated record of effective executive leadership in a complex, multi-campus university that prioritizes the quality of the student experience, the importance of developing of highly-trained workforce, and the enrichment of the regional community.
- Understanding of incentive-based budget models, along with a demonstrated record of effective fiscal management and entrepreneurship at Purdue Northwest.
- Dynamic and contemporary vision for leadership in a diverse, student-centered institution that prioritizes first-generation, region-bound, under-served, and international students.
- Demonstrated ability to articulate and implement a strategic vision that builds upon and strengthens the trajectory of the institution.
- Understanding of the importance of philanthropy in higher education, with a demonstrated record of fundraising in excess of $3M at Purdue Northwest.
- Strong appreciation for the importance of academic and research quality at Purdue Northwest, with a track record of cultivating high-need and high-demand programs and an environment that has tripled sponsored-research activity over the past 3-years.
- Strong supporter of co-curricular activities and intercollegiate athletics.

Education

1993-2000 Ph.D. Biology - Illinois State University, Normal, Illinois
Field of Study: Crustacean Endocrinology, Cell Biology
Major Advisor: David W. Borst, Ph.D.

1991-1993 M.S. Zoology - Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois
Field of Study: Wildlife Ecology, Reproductive Physiology
Major Advisor: Daniel Roby, Ph.D.

1987-1991 B.A. Biology - Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois
Field of Study: Biology, Pre-medicine

Administrative Experience

2020-Present Provost and Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs, Purdue University Northwest, Hammond and Westville, IN
Purdue University Northwest (PNW) is part of the Purdue University-system and was formed with the unification and merger of the Purdue University Calumet (Hammond, IN) and Purdue University North Central (Westville, IN) campuses. The unification was initiated by the President and Board of Trustees in July, 2014, and was officially approved by the HLC in March, 2016. PNW is a comprehensive university enrolling approximately 8,000 students in more than 70 undergraduate and graduate programs, with approximately 300 full-time faculty. PNW serves a largely first-generation student

body that is among the most diverse in the state, and was recognized as a Hispanic-serving Institution (HACU) in 2023.

2016-2020 Founding Dean, College of Engineering and Sciences, Purdue University Northwest, Hammond and Westville, IN
CES is one of the largest colleges at PNW, housing degree programs in many of the core sciences and engineering (Applied Statistics, Biology, Chemistry (ACS), Integrative Human Health, Mathematics, Physics, Physical Sciences-Forensics and Environmental Sciences), and contains the School of Engineering with ABET accredited programs in Civil, Computer, Electrical, and Mechanical Engineering, as well as Computer Science. The college includes 5 external and self-funded research centers (Center for Innovation through Visualization and Simulation, PNW Energy Efficiency and Reliability Center, PNW Water Institute, Center for Crime and Forensics, and the Center for High-energy Physics). The college is home to more than 1,400 majors and 200 graduate students, and generates nearly half of the annual sponsored research activity at the University.

2014-2016 Dean, College of Science, Purdue University North Central, Westville, IN
Purdue University North Central was a regional campus within the Purdue University system, located on 270 acres of scenic woodland located about 10 miles south of Lake Michigan. The campus served approximately 3,500 students comprised of largely of first-generation students (from both traditional and non-traditional academic pathways). The institution was comprised of four colleges (Business, Engineering, Liberal Arts, and Sciences) with more than 20 undergraduate and 2 graduate degrees.

2013-2014 Interim Dean, College of Science, Purdue University North Central, Westville, IN

2011- 2013 Assistant Dean, College of Science, Purdue University North Central, Westville, IN

Fall 2010 Acting Dean, College of Science, Purdue University North Central, Westville, IN

2006-2013 Department Chair, Biology and Chemistry Department, Purdue University North Central, Westville, IN

Academic Appointments and Previous Experience

2013-Present Professor of Biology, Purdue University North Central, Westville, IN

2004-2013 Associate Professor of Biology, Purdue University North Central, Westville, IN

2000-2004 Assistant Professor of Biology, Purdue University North Central, Westville, IN
Courses: Cell Structure and Function; Molecular Biology; Biotechnology Laboratory; Developmental Biology; Development, Structure and Function of Organisms (General Biology); Invertebrate Biology; General Chemistry; Biochemistry

2000 Adjunct Instructor of Biology, Eureka College, Eureka, IL

1997-1999 Graduate Research Fellowship, Illinois State University, Normal, IL

1993-2000 Teaching and Research Assistant, Illinois State University, Normal, IL
Courses: Cell Biology; Developmental Biology; Molecular Genetics; Anatomy and Physiology; Bio-techniques

1994 Adjunct Instructor Anatomy and Physiology, Lincoln Community College, Normal, IL

1991-1993 Teaching and Research Assistant, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL,
Courses: Introductory Zoology; Endocrinology; Upland Gamebirds; Waterfowl; Wildlife Techniques

Additional Training/Education

2023 ACUE "Foster a Culture of Belonging" Micro-credential
2023 "Speaking Up" Bias Workshop (DBA Incluxion Works and PowerPlay Actors; Stephanie Goodwin Consulting, Inc.)
2022 CITI Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) Training
2011 PNC Campus Mediator Training
2008 PNC Supervisors Training
2007 PNC Leadership Training Seminar
2007 Purdue Animal Care and Use Committee (PACUC) Training and Approval
2001 Graduate Student Mentoring Training
2001 Purdue Radiation Safety Orientation Training and Certificate

Internal and External Activities Relevant to this Position

Recent Conferences/Workshops Relevant to Strategic Objectives

Excellencia in Education - Fall Convening, Washington, DC, September 28-29, 2023
National Centers of Academic Excellence in Cybersecurity, Executive Leadership Forum, Moraine Valley Community College, Palo Hills, IL, September 21, 2023
P3·EDU – Innovation and Public-Private Partnership in Higher Education Conference, Denver, CO, September 27-30, 2022

Purdue University Northwest

PNW Senior Leadership Team (2020-Present)
Administrative Leadership Team (2020-Present)
Academic Affairs Leadership Team (2016-2020; Chair 2020-Present)
PNW Research Board (2020 - Present)
University Dean's Council (2016-2020; Chair 2020-Present)
Intercollegiate Athletics Advisory Committee (2017-Present; various roles)
Creating a Culture of Inclusion Team (CCIT; 2020-2022, Co-Chair)
Multicultural Campus Committee (MCC; 2019-2020, Co-chair)
CES Development Team (2016-2020)
Incentive-Based Budget Model (IBBM) Committee (2018-2020)

Gabis Arboretum Strategic Direction Committee (2019)
Space Utilization Committee (2017-Present)

Purdue University Northwest Unification
Academic Advising Transition Implementation Committee Co-Chair (2015)
Advising and Student Success Unification Committee, Co-Chair (2014-15)
Concurrent Enrollment Unification Committee (2014)
Facilities and Administration Fund Distribution Committee (2015)
Graduate and Extended Learning Unification Committee (2014-2015)
Graduate Programs Unification Committee, Co-Chair (2014)
Joint Dean's Committee (2014-2015)
Meta-major Implementation Committee (2015)
PNW Academic Structure Committee (2014-2015)

Other Service and Community Engagement
Shirley Heinz Land Trust, Board (2023)
LaPorte County Symphony Orchestra, Board (2023)
COS Interdisciplinary Research Center, Director and/or Administrator (2008-2016)
Lake Hills Academy STEM Program – Administrative Liaison (2010-2016)
PNC Faculty Senate (2005-2013)
PNC faculty oversight for LSAMP Phase II (Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation; 2010-2013)
PNC Strategic Planning Steering Committee (2007)
PNC Large Scale Research and Infrastructure Sub-Committee, Chair (2007)
University Resources, Priority, and Planning Committee (2006-2012); Chair (2007-2009; 2010-2011)
Purdue University Graduate School, Administrative Representative (2015)
Purdue University Journal of Undergraduate Research, Advisory and Editorial Board (2011-2016)
University Assessment of Student Learning Committee, April 2001-May 2005
Open Arms Women's Shelter Volunteer, Trinity Lutheran Church (2015-2016)
Westchester Migratory Bird Sanctuary Committee (2013-2014)
BSA Pack 966 - WEBELOS Leader (2002-2006); Asst. Scout Master (2006-2007)
Catechism Program Co-Director, Trinity Lutheran Church (2003-2004)

Honors and Distinctions
2018 Washington High School Sports Hall of Fame, 1985 Football Team
2013 NWI Society of Innovators, Lake Hills STEM Magnet School, Team Member, Class of 2012-2013
2002 Greater Peoria Area Sports Hall of Fame, 1985 Washington High School Football Team
2000 Outstanding Ph.D. Candidate, Department of Biology, Illinois State University
1997-1999 American Heart Association Pre-doctoral Research Fellowship
1997 & 1998 Robert R. Applegren Award (Outstanding Seminar Presentation), Phi Sigma Society
1995 & 1996 Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award, Illinois State University Cell and Developmental Biology
1993 Phi Sigma Biological Honor Society

Licenses, registrations and certifications
R-certified member of the graduate faculty at Purdue University – June, 2001-Present
IDNR Scientific Collectors License – License #2212 / #2444/ #3156/#08-0086, 09-0039

Radiation Safety Orientation Training Certificate – 24 October 2001
Authorization for use of radioactive materials – Purdue Authorization #91HOLK01

Publications/Abstracts

Peer-reviewed Articles

Li, S., J.A. Friesen, K.C. Holford, and D.W. Borst. 2010. Methyl farnesoate synthesis in the lobster mandibular organ: the roles of HMG-CoA reductase and farnesoic acid O-methyltransferase. *Comp. Biochem. Physiol. A.* 155:49-55

Holford, K.C., K.A. Edwards, W.G. Bendena, S.S. Tobe, Z. Wang, and D.W. Borst. 2004. Purification and characterization of a mandibular organ protein from the American lobster, Homarus americanus: a putative farnesoic acid *O*-methyl transferase. *Insect Biochem. and Molec. Bio.* 34:785-789

Borst, D., J.T. Ogan, B. Tsukimura, T. Claerhout, and K.C. Holford. 2001. Regulation of the crustacean mandibular organ. *Amer. Zool*. 41(3):430-441

Holford, K.C., and D.D. Roby. 1993. Factors limiting the fecundity of captive Brown-headed Cowbirds. *Condor* 95:536-545

Genbank Submissions

Borst, D.W., S. Mutun, and K.C. Holford. 1999. *Romalea guttata* eclosion hormone mRNA, partial cds. Accession No. AF138854

Published Abstracts/Proceedings

Holford, K.C., S. Li, and D.W. Borst. 2003. Regulation of the methyl farnesoate biosynthesis pathway in the lobster mandibular organ. *Integrative and Comparative Biology* 43(6):1058

Holford, K.C., and D.W. Borst. 2001. Phosphorylation regulates farnesoic acid O-methyl transferase activity in the mandibular organ of the lobster, *Homarus americanus*. Amer. Zool*. Amer. Zool*. 41(6):1473

Holford, K.C., and D.W. Borst. 2000. The effects of sinus gland extracts on transcript levels of farnesoic acid O-methyl transferase in the lobster mandibular organ*. Amer. Zool.* 40(6):1062

Holford, K.C., J.T. Ogan, and D.W. Borst. 1999. Identification and characterization of farnesoic acid O-methyl transferase in American lobster larva (*Homarus americanus*). *Amer. Zool*. 39(5):26A

Pooyan, R., K.C. Holford, and B. Tsukimura. 1998. Determination of the site of vitellogenin synthesis in the Ridgeback Shrimp *Sicyonia ingentis*. *Amer. Zool.* 38(5):187A

Holford, K.C., and D.W. Borst. 1997. Transcriptional pattern of methyl transferase in the mandibular organ of the lobster, *Homarus americanus*. *Amer. Zool*. 37(5):157A

Holford, K.C., and D.W. Borst. 1995. Molecular changes in the crayfish gastrolith epithelium during the molt cycle. *Amer. Zool*. 35(5):32A

Research Funding

Urban Waters Partnership in Northwest Indiana. Kenneth C. Holford (PI) US Forest Service (annually from 2016-2023)

Role of methyl farnesoate in male-female interactions in crustaceans. Kenneth Holford (PI). IAS Senior Investigator Award (2006)

Analysis of polypeptides associated with altered morphology of Isopods, Caecidotea intermedius, Crustacea: Isopoda) infected with the acanthocephalan Acanthocephalus dirus. Dr. Joe Camp (PI) and Dr. Chris Holford (Co-invesigator). Indiana of Science (IAS) Senior Investigator Award (2005).

NSF Research Opportunity Award: (Grant # IBN 0240903) for work on arthropod endocrine compounds (2004)

Effects of aggressive interactions between crayfish on methyl farnesoate production and release Purdue Research Foundation Summer Grant: (2003)

Regulation of farnesoic acid O-methyl transferase in the crayfish mandibular organ. IAS Senior Investigator Award (2001)

Regulation of farnesoic acid O-methyl transferase in the crayfish mandibular organ. Purdue Research Foundation Summer Grant (2001)

Presentations (listed as author)

(*denotes undergraduate researchers)

Effects of bisphenol-A (BPA) exposure on the development of immature red-swamp crayfish, Procambarus clarkia. C. Houlton*, A. Balzer*, J. Kuhn, and K.C. Holford. Presented at the 2014 Annual Meeting of the Society of Integrative and Comparative Biology, January 2014, West Palm Beach, FL

Effects of eyestalk ablation on hemolymph protein levels in the crayfish, Procambarus clarkii. C. Houlton*, J. Knoll*, L. Gladkowski*, D. Rich*, and K. Holford. Department of Biology and Chemistry, Purdue University North Central. Presented at the 2013 Annual Meeting of the Society of Integrative and Comparative Biology, January 2013, San Francisco, CA.

Effect of di-(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP) and atrazine on the development of Tenebrio molitor larva. D.A. Wood*[1] and K.C. Holford[2]**.** Biochemistry/ Chemistry Department, Purdue University[1], Biology/Chemistry Department, Purdue University North Central[2]. Presented at the Indiana Academy of Science meeting, October, 2009, Muncie, IN

Population size and individual growth rates in bluegill (Lepomis macrochirus). C. Garza*, P. Tobin*, V. Quinn, and K.C. Holford. Presented at the LSAMP/AGEP 4th Joint Research Conference, West Lafayette, IN. Nov. 7-8, 2008

The effects of DEHP on developing Tenebrio molitor larva: a preliminary examination. B.P. Gillem*, J. Nielsen*, J. Pavelites, and K.C. Holford. Presented to the Indiana Academy of Science, Indianapolis, IN, November 3, 2007

Regulation of the methyl farnesoate pathway in the lobster mandibular organ. K.C. Holford, S. Li and D.W. Borst. Presented to the Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology, New Orleans, LA, January 2004

Biology in Bloom: Bringing Student Learning to Life. J. McFann, J. Curtis, and K.C. Holford. Presented to the Professional and Organizational Network, Annual Conference, October 2003

Effects of density and aggressive interaction on methyl farnesoate levels in crayfish. L.M. Pollard*, M.L. Cuff*, and K.C. Holford. Presented to the Indiana Academy of Science, Indianapolis, IN, October 2002

Phosphorylation regulates farnesoic acid O-methyl transferase in the mandibular organ of the lobster, Homarus americanus. K.C. Holford and D.W. Borst. Presented to the Society for Integrative and Comparative *Biology, Anaheim, CA, January 2002*

The effects of sinus gland extracts on transcript levels of farnesoic acid O-methyl transferase in the lobster mandibular organ. K.C. Holford and D.W. Borst. Presented to the Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology, Chicago, IL, January 2001

Farnesoic acid O-methyl transferase in lobster larvae (Homarus americanus). Presented to Phi Sigma Biological Sciences Research Symposium, Illinois State University, March 2000

Molecular analysis of farnesoic acid-O-methyl transferase. Presented to the Phi Sigma Society, Illinois State University, April 1998

Molecular changes associated with the development of the crayfish gastrolith. Presented at the Graduate Research Symposium, Illinois State University, April 1997

Molecular changes in the crayfish gastrolith epithelium. Presented to the Phi Sigma Society, Illinois State University, April 1997

Characterization of transport in the crayfish gastrolith epithelium. Presented at the Graduate Research Symposium, Illinois State University, April 1996

Characterization of crayfish gastrolith formation. Presented to the Phi Sigma Society, Illinois State University, April 1995

What limits the fecundity of Brown-headed Cowbirds? K.C. Holford and D. Roby. Presented at the North American Research Workshop on the Ecology and Management of Cowbirds, Austin, TX, November, 1993

Guided Student Presentations from Holford Lab

The effects of progesterone on the development of beetle larvae. G.D. Avornu* and D. D. Edwards*. Presented at the Butler Undergraduate Conference, Indianapolis, IN, April, 2010.

The effects of endocrine disrupting compounds in Tenibrio molitor: a preliminary examination. D.D. Edwards* and G.D. Avornu*. Presented at the LSAMP/AGEP 5th Joint Research Conference, West Lafayette, IN, Nov., 2009

Examination of a fish population in a small artificial pond. C. Garza*, C. Nash*, and P. Tobin*. Presented at Butler Undergraduate Research Conference. April 18, 2008. Butler University, Indianapolis, IN

The effects of DEHP on developing Tenibrio molitor larva. B.P. Gillem*. Presented to the PU Student Research Symposium at Purdue Calumet, April 21, 2007. (Second place presentation award)

Preliminary examination of a fish population in a small, artificial pond. C. Nash*, C. Garza*, and B. Gillem*. Changing the face of stem: third annual LSAMP AGEP joint research conference. Nov. 9-10, 2007. Indiana University, Bloomington, IN