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CANON & SECRET

New World Views

Gaining Skill with Words KANSAS

Spencer Museum fuses art and research

ROBERT DAY TRUDY JAMES

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ADVANCING THE POWER OF MEDICINE

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The Art of Science (and Vice Versa)

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By Steven Hill

Lift the Chorus



The value of scholarship

THE ARTICLE on professor and alumnus Rolfe Mandel ["The Odyssey," issue No. 4] causes me to reflect on a number of things.

First, we can all be proud of his extraordinary scholarship and his recognition in the scholarly community.

Second, it reminds me that brilliant scholarship often requires or results from doing things differently—in this case interdisciplinary scholarship. While rigorous scholarship within every discipline must be maintained, true scholarship is not so fragile and insecure that it cannot accommodate interdisciplinary work after due consideration.

Third, entrepreneurial education of the kind which flows directly to the University community is a terrific model for us to continue to use to strengthen our reputation and the advancement of knowledge.

Lastly, let me relate the central concept of Mandel's work—context—to my own work as an attorney. An attorney must work with what people *say* in litigation, but what is really important is what the words mean. Only a rich appreciation of the context in which words are uttered can allow full understanding. The use of context and institutional appreciation of where one is will always result in better understanding and therefore better decision making.

Walter "Wally" Brauer III, b'61, l'65 Denver

Thumbs up

KUDOS TO *Kansas Alumni* for adapting to the digital age with the new online magazine [First



Mandel

Word, issue No. 4] and also for maintaining a quarterly *Kansas Alumni* in print.

The 2018 alumni survey was money well spent in recognizing and meeting alumni needs.

Keep on keeping on in keeping alumni well informed, including "sports ball" coverage.

> David Andersen, j'71 Atlanta



B-schooled

I'M SO IMPRESSED with Chuck Warner's book *Birds*, *Bones, and Beetles* ["No Ordinary Man," Rock Chalk Review, issue No. 3]. Thank you for your comprehensive, interesting article. I found it very insightful.

> J.P. "Phil" Hammons, c'66 Fort Scott

Lessons learned

CONGRATULATIONS on a very fine profile of Tom Hedrick ["Legendary' career started at KU for Hedrick," Class Notes, issue No. 3].

Those of us who were fortunate enough to have Tom as an instructor and mentor can only echo your conclusion that he deservedly made it big.



Please email us a note at kualumni@kualumni.org to tell us what you think of your alumni magazine.

During my time in one of Hedrick's announcing classes, I shared the basement of then Hoch auditorium with Gale Sayers and watched as Tom brought confidence to us all, and I thought especially to Gale, a very likable and shy young man from Nebraska, who Tom knew would need to face the public speaking and interview challenges associated with being an All American.

Hedrick made it possible for me to start in the press box of the state and national semi-pro baseball tournaments in Wichita. Later, when I was discouraged and alone in a tough business, Tom remembered and counseled me in letters and on the phone.

Above all, I learned from Tom Hedrick to always do your homework—no matter the game.

> John Nance, c'65, g'67 Wheat Ridge, Colorado

Editor's Note: Our profile of Johnson County Community College baseball coach Kent Shelley ["Shelley finds gratification on and off the diamond," Class Notes, issue No. 4], misstated the number of wins the Cavaliers recorded last season. The team won a recordsetting 22 consecutive games; the overall record was 46 wins and 12 losses. We regret the error.

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www.kuendowment.org/your-gift

IGNITE POTENTIAL

The indomitable Jayhawk spirit is a beacon of hope in Kansas and beyond. Private support fuels KU's success by transforming students into leaders and ideas into discoveries. Most gifts are \$500 or less, but regardless of size, each one opens doors to new opportunities.



by Jennifer Jackson Sanner First Word



As a first-year student at Kings College London, Simon Atkinson knew he wanted to study biology and biochemistry, but he couldn't envision a career path until a dynamic professor pointed him toward research. "His fascination and curiosity and the way he thought—which was always driving him toward the new questions in biology that nobody knew the answers to—were just really captivating," recalls Atkinson, who arrived in Lawrence in July as the University's new vice chancellor for research. "That's what got me hooked."

Throughout his doctoral studies at the Univer-

sity of Cambridge and a postdoctoral fellowship at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Atkinson studied how proteins assemble into complex structures in cells and drive cell migration—"Think white blood cells chasing down a bacterial infection," he explains.

When he joined the faculty of Indiana University's School of Medicine in 1994, Atkinson met scientists and physicians in nephrology and decided kidney research was his calling. "I realized there were really interesting problems in kidney injury and kidney disease that would be fun to work on," he says.

Over the past 25 years, he became internationally known for his studies in the prevention and treatment of acute kidney injuries that can be caused by heart failure, cardiac surgery, toxins and contrast agents used in diagnostic tests. Atkinson's research led him in 2005 to co-found a life sciences company, INphoton, and he remains involved with another startup, Rene Medical, which began in 2014. During his years at Indiana, he took on

"If people can understand science as a human activity and the challenges that are involved in getting to those breakthrough discoveries, that's good for science and good for society." —Simon Atkinson leadership roles in the schools of medicine and science, and in 2015 he became vice chancellor for research at Indiana University-Purdue University in Indianapolis. He also guided innovation and commercialization across the entire IU system.

Now at KU, Atkinson oversees a research enterprise that spans more than 60 centers and institutes and garners \$249.8 million in external funding, but he cautions that merely citing totals "is like saying we bought much more gas last year, rather than we drove farther, we went more places, we saw more people" en route to the true destination: discoveries. KU strives to increase those discoveries and all creative activity and share the results far and wide—ultimately to improve lives.

Across the University, exploration occurs in any space where curious, tenacious scholars seek answers to tantalizing questions—including the Spencer Museum of Art, the subject of our cover story, where national grants continue to fund imaginative, interdisciplinary studies and exhibitions.

Breadth, diversity and "unique strengths" are hallmarks of KU research, Atkinson says. In addition to an impressive history of achievements in drug discovery and development, KU has long excelled in research devoted to child development, special education and developmental disabilities. In fact, the U.S. Department of Education is the University's third-largest federal funding agency, behind the National Institutes of

Health and other Health and Human Services agencies. Other strengths include the arts and humanities, languages and engineering, as well as cybersecurity and defense-related research, where Atkinson says KU scholars are poised to meet the U.S. government's growing demand.

To spur continued vital investment in research, Atkinson challenges *Kansas Alumni* and all KU storytellers to more vividly describe how discoveries come to be—and to help people connect, as he did long ago in London, with the captivating scholars whose fascination and curiosity drive them to seek answers to the most daunting questions. A new resource for insights is KU Discoveries, the Office of Research's bimonthly digital newsletter (to subscribe, visit research.ku.edu).

"If people can understand science as a human activity and the challenges that are involved in getting to those breakthrough discoveries," Atkinson says, "that's good for science and good for society."

On the Boulevard



First-year students lined up to sink a putt with Baby Jay and mingled among the more than 150 student organizations featured at Hawk Fest, an annual event that includes free food and drinks, entertainment, prizes and giveaways.



Spencer Museum of Art

"Backyard Bash," Sept. 22, Marvin Grove

"Visible and Divisible America: In Conversation with the 2019–2020 KU Common Book," through Dec. 1

"Foundling," through Dec. 22

"knowledges," through Jan. 5

Lied Center events

SEPTEMBER

23, 24 Gerald Clayton, piano

26 KU Symphony Orchestra with special guest Juan-Miguel Hernandez, viola

OCTOBER

1 KU Wind Ensemble

3 Common Book lecture with Kiese Laymon

6 "Rent": 20th Anniversary Tour

8 United States Air Force Academy Band: The Falconaires

9 Kit Yan, slam poet

19 Black Violin

20 Richard Shindell

23 KU Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band

24 David Sedaris

27 Brentano String Quartet with special guest Dawn Upshaw, soprano

29 The King's Singers

31 KU Symphony Orchestra

NOVEMBER

1 Zach Williams

- **2** Jersey Boys
- **3** Melissa Etheridge
- **10** The Munin Trio
- 14 KU Wind Ensemble and

Crossroads Wind Ensemble concert

20 SHE, a Choreoplay

22 The Very Hungry Caterpillar Show

23 Hiplet Ballerinas

Humanities Lecture Series

OCTOBER

1 "Sovereignty of the Soul: Centering the Voices of Native Women," Sarah Deer, The Commons

NOVEMBER

25 An Evening with Alan Alda, Lied Center

Dole Institute events

SEPTEMBER

24 Votes for Women: Suffrage and the 19th Amendment Centennial

OCTOBER

22 The League of Wives: Heath Hardage Lee

NOVEMBER

13 2019 Journalism and Politics Lecture: The Evolution of TV News

Natural History Museum events

OCTOBER

16 "Science on Tap: The World Through the Eyes of a Drone: Applications in GIS," Free State Brewing Company, Lawrence

NOVEMBER

20 "Science on Tap: Petroglyphs of the Kansas Smoky Hills," Free State Brewing Company, Lawrence

Murphy Hall

OCTOBER

2 New Music Guild

4 KU Choirs: Concert Choir and Treble Choir

8 Sunflower Baroque

9 Visiting Artist Series: Peter Cooper, oboe master class and recital

11 Faculty Recital Series: Steven Spooner, piano

17 KU String Faculty Chamber Music

18 Scott Watson 40th Anniversary Alumni Concert

19 Scott Watson 40th Anniversary Free State Brass Band Concert

20 Scott Watson 40th Anniversary KU Tuba/ Euphonium and Alumni Concert

20 Faculty Chamber Recital

21 KU Jazz Combos: Matt Otto, Brian Ward, Alex Frank

24 KU Jazz Combos: Jeff Harshbarger, Brandon Draper, Brian Ward

25 Visiting Artist Series: Michael Harley, bassoon

25 KU Choirs: Treble Choir, Glee Club and University Singers

27 KU Choirs: Concert Choir and Bales Chorale

29 Graduate Honor Recital

NOVEMBER

1 Faculty Recital Series: Michael Compitello, percussion

4 Charlie Chaplin Film Festival

5 Faculty and Visiting Artist

Series: Geoffrey Herd, violin; Hannah Collins, cello; Esther Park, piano

7-10 KU Opera: Giulio Cesare by G.F. Handel

10 Kansas Virtuosi

12 Visiting Artist Series: Karen Becker, cello

17 KU Choirs: University Singers and KC Womens Ensemble

17 Faculty Recital Series: Vince Gnojek, saxophone

18 Visiting Artist Series: Leone Buyse, flute

18 Visiting Artist Series: Raymond Santos, clarinet

19 KU Saxophone Quartet

20 Cello Studio Recital

21 Tuba/Euphonium **Chamber Ensembles** 22 KU Trombone and Horn

Choirs 25 New Music Guild

KU Theatre & Dance

SEPTEMBER

27-29 "The Christians," directed by Markus Potter, Crafton-Preyer Theatre

OCTOBER

4-6 "The Christians," directed by Markus Potter, Crafton-Preyer Theatre

25-27, 29, 30 "In the Blood," directed by Timmia Hearn, William Inge Memorial Theatre

NOVEMBER

1 "In the Blood," directed by Timmia Hearn, William Inge Memorial Theatre

14, 16, 17 University Dance

Company Fall Concert, Crafton-Preyer Theatre

Performances

OCTOBER

3 KU Jazz Ensembles I-III, Lawrence Arts Center

NOVEMBER

11 Music of KU Composition Faculty and Reception, Cider Gallery

20 KU Jazz Ensembles, Lawrence Arts Center

Kansas Honor Scholars Program

OCTOBER

7 Great Bend

23, 28 Wichita

29 Colby

NOVEMBER

4 Emporia

- 6 Salina
- 7 Hutchinson
- **11** Lawrence
- 12 Topeka
- **13** Pittsburg
- 20 Kansas City

Academic Calendar

OCTOBER

12-15 Fall break

Alumni Events

SEPTEMBER

18 Houston: Jayhawks & Java

19 Denver: Jayhawks & Java

19 New Orleans Happy Hour: Wrong Iron

21 KU vs. West Virginia watch parties

23 DC Happy Hour with KU Athletics Director Jeff Long: Bar Louie

26 KC Happy Hour: Brickhouse, Kansas City, Missouri

28 KU at TCU watch parties

OCTOBER

2 Denver North Breakfast

9 Kansas City: Jayhawks & Java

16 Houston: Jayhawks & Java

19-26 Homecoming (for complete schedule, visit kualumni.org/homecoming)

24 KC Happy Hour: The Brass Onion, Overland Park

NOVEMBER

5 KU vs. Duke, Champions Classic pre-game activities, New York City

10 KU Vets Day 5K, Memorial Stadium

13 Kansas City: Jayhawks & Java

19 Jayhawk Book Club reception, Adams Alumni Center

20 Houston: Jayhawks & Java

21 Denver: Jayhawks & Java

21 KC Happy Hour

Events listed here are highlights from the Association's busy calendar. For complete listings of all events, watch for emails about programs in your area, visit kualumni.org or call 800-584-2957.

9 Garden City 14 Manhattan 22 Hays

Jayhawk Walk

From the stars

FIFTIETH-ANNIVERSARY commemorations of the moon landing brought to light a little known (by us, at least) artifact from Spencer Research Library: a moon rock billed as University Archives' oldest item.

The 3.7-billion-year-old fragment is part of a larger rock collected by astronaut Gene Cernan on the 1972 Apollo 17 mission. After the crew's final foray in the lunar rover, Cernan addressed a group of international youths visiting Houston, describing the specimen as an apt symbol of Apollo's challenge to the future.

"Fragments of all sizes and shapes—and even colors," Cernan said, "have grown together to become a cohesive rock, outlasting the nature of space, sort of living together in a very coherent, very peaceful manner."

The plan, Cernan announced, was to share it with the world. "We hope that this will be a symbol of what our feelings are, what the feelings of the Apollo Program are, and a symbol of mankind: that we can live in peace and harmony in the future."

Pieces of Apollo sample 70017, known as the Goodwill Rock, were sent to 135 heads of state and governors of all 50 U.S. states, including then-Kansas Gov. Robert Docking, b'48. The lunar souvenir came to KU with Docking's papers in 1975. It was one of 50 objects in last fall's exhibition celebrating the library's 50th anniversary. **Puzzling purple prose finds true blue home**

Fifty years ago, longtime friends David Pittaway and Jeff Dunn moved into Oliver Hall as freshmen at KU. To help them ease into college life, Pittaway's mother baked a batch of cherry-drop cookies, which she gave to the roommates in a hand-painted Jayhawk cookie tin.

The sweet treats were an instant favorite. Soon Pittaway, c'72, and Dunn, b'73, had devoured the entire batch, only to make a shocking discovery: At the bottom of the tin, in bold purple letters, were the words "Every Man a Wildcat!"

"We laughed," Pittaway recalls. "I called my mother and said, 'What is this?!' She said, 'Well, your father went to Kansas State and I figured that you ought to have a reminder of that in your cookie tin.'"

Pittaway stored the treasure with other KU mementos until his mother passed away in 2015, when he gave it to Dunn. The two friends recently donated the purple-tinged tin to the KU Memorial Union, where the jaunty hand-painted Jay will be a welcome addition to more than 1,000 mascot



figurines and memorabilia in the Jayhawk Collection on the second floor—as long as no one peeks inside. You can find the cookie recipe online at kansasalumnimagazine.org.



"We had a lot of fun with the date we put on the moon rock," says Beth Whittaker, c'92, g'94, library director. "We went with 'approx. 3.7 billion years old,' which is the only time I have ever written anything like that in my career.

"It's a question we get a lot: What is the oldest item in your collection? We usually talk about our cuneiform tablets. One's on display in the North Gallery now, and it's super-fun to walk by with guests or tour groups and say, 'You know, this clay tablet is 4,000 years old and has the markings of a human hand on it.' That's usually pretty impressive to people, but it's nothing compared to 3.7 billion years!"

Notably, Docking wasn't the only Jayhawk who helped deliver Mount Oread's moon memento. Astronaut Ron Evans, e'55, flew Cernan, Harrison Schmitt and their 240 pounds of samples safely back to Earth as Command Module pilot on Apollo 17.

A celestial triple play: Evans to Docking to Spencer. From the stars, through difficulties.

Grand KU connection

Proud of both his school and dashing Navy uniform, William John Ries, e'49, in 1943 paused to have a photograph taken in front of Watson Library, close to Jayhawk Boulevard. When his daughter, Maria Ries Raymond, last year found the photograph, along with two others from her father's KU days, she reached out to the Alumni Association, asking for help to identify locations.

Her daughter, Esther, was in her senior year at KU, and Maria hoped to re-create at least one of the images.

Two were likely at a fraternity house, but we couldn't be certain; the Watson Library shot, however, was a no-brainer, so Maria asked Esther to find that spot—where Granddad Bill had posed 75 years earlier—and smile for the camera. Despite the years, the familial Jayhawk bond was palpable. "When we walked up, I had the picture physically in my hand, and when I looked up at a picture taken so long ago and then saw the place where he posed, that's when I had that moment," she says.

Esther, j'19, now working in Chicago, says her grandfather



was her family's only other Jayhawk. Intrigued by scholarship opportunities, she made the drive from St. Louis, and Mount Oread sold her.

"I really loved it," she says; that it was also her granddad's school was a bonus.

"So many people circle through the school and I was able to sit on a ledge that my granddad sat on. I thought it was a pretty cool idea."



Raven reaps rewards

LAWRENCE'S RAVEN Book Store enjoyed an unexpected boost on Amazon Prime Day after a Texas author asked 300,000 Twitter followers to buy from the small bookseller instead of the online behemoth as a show of support for striking Amazon workers.

Shea Serrano, a social media savant

whose fans form the online "FOH Army," makes headlines as much for Twitter philanthropy (he once raised \$130,000 for Hurricane Harvey victims) as for bestselling books like *Basketball (And Other Things)*. Tweeting his support for striking workers July 15, he challenged followers to nominate a local store and promised to make the first purchase himself; Serrano fan and Raven owner Danny Caine, g'17, rang in and soon orders began rolling in. As Serrano cheered them on, FOHers made 365 buys, surpassing in one day the store's online sales for all of 2018.

Caine, who called the slow-season sales surge "a bit of Christmas in July," showed his appreciation by buying a secondhand trophy and turning it into a tribute to Serrano and his online army.

"I thought the trophy would be funny and get good traction on Twitter, which it did," he says. And he hopes it encourages his newfound friends to dig the store IRL.

"We're happy to sell books online, but the best Raven experience is in-store," Caine says. "Come see the trophy, but once you're here you've got the book smell, and the cats and all the comfy chairs."

Al Wallace Obigalwallac

Yep. It's my first day of class as an adjunct lecturer in the J-School at the University of Kansas. Now publicly, I can officially say: Rock Chalk Jayhawk! 😂 🧮



When former Kansas City sportscaster Al Wallace took to Twitter to trumpet his new KU teaching gig, he offered a grownup entry in social media's back-to-school photo parade. Kansas City's Fox 4 news anchor John Holt, j'81, l'84, called it his favorite first day of school pic so far, adding, "Good luck Professor Al!"

Hilltopics by Steven Hill



New tradition

University Welcome launches Hawk Week for freshmen

Less than 24 hours after moving into Douthart Scholarship Hall, Lakin Adams was seated in Allen Field House at 8:30 a.m. on Aug. 23, brimming with anticipation for the day ahead. The Topeka freshman, who's majoring in pre-pharmacy, was one of the first students to arrive for the University Welcome, KU's newest tradition to help ease first-year Jayhawks into campus life and celebrate the start of their academic journeys.

"It's a lot," Adams admitted with a smile. "I'm excited, but mostly I'm nervous. I'm trying to go to as many Hawk Week events as possible to meet new people."

Within minutes, she was joined by dozens of her pre-pharmacy peers, who spilled into the music-filled arena along with hundreds of freshmen and transfer students, all of whom were seated with their respective schools or the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences. The celebratory event was created by the Office of the Chancellor, Undergraduate Studies, Student Affairs and the Office of First-Year Experience and replaces KU's annual Convocation, which was typically held the evening before fall classes began, concluding the week of freshman activities.

Hawk Week outstretched its name this year to span 10 days and more than 25 activities for first-year students. Events such as Union Fest, Rock the Rec, Hawk Fest and Traditions Night combined food, giveaways and entertainment with helpful information on campus organizations and cherished KU lore. The lineup also featured job and volunteer fairs as well as classroom, library and bus-system tours. Two programs—Common Book discusFirst-year students checked in with their respective schools and received colorful Jayhawk fans before proceeding into Allen Field House for the University Welcome, where Chancellor Doug Girod (opposite page) and University leaders provided helpful advice and encouragement for the new Jayhawks.

sion groups and Jayhawks Give a Flock, the KU Sexual Assault and Prevention Education Center's bystander intervention training—were mandatory. The 10-day itinerary concluded with a tailgate celebration Aug. 31 before the first KU home football game.

"I think Convocation happening later in Hawk Week wasn't really capitalizing on everybody's excitement," said Kate Nygren, PhD'19, assistant director for academic programs at the Office of First-Year Experience. "This way, we're getting the chancellor in front of all the new students much earlier, so we're able to build excitement around all the events surrounding Hawk Week. It's also a great opportunity to establish expectations early on in the Hawk Week experience and make sure that students know what's available for them."

Office of First-Year Experience's Paige Freeman, associate director of orientation, and Howard Graham, g'09, associate director of academic programs, began the program with an enthusiastic roll call, summoning cheers and hollers from students as their schools were announced. Graham, recalling advice he offered during orientation this summer, reminded freshmen to connect with fellow students,

"There are over 600 student organizations. I dare you, I double dare you, to not find something that you are connected to."

-Tammara Durham, vice provost for student affairs

faculty and staff during their time on the Hill and to be open about communicating their needs to others. He emphasized that members of the KU community would become the foundation of each student's academic experience.

"Hawk Week has been designed to maximize your chances, your opportunities to connect with and meet people that will be part of your support network," he said. "That will be part of your journey here."

Tammara Durham, vice provost for student affairs, and Susan Klusmeier, interim vice provost for undergraduate studies, detailed the fundamental values that all Jayhawks share—unity, innovation, inclusion and engagement—and led students through an amusing icebreaker, asking them to glance to their left and right as Durham and Klusmeier drew laughter with jokes like, "One of you almost chose to go to MU," and "One of you thinks there's sand on Wescoe Beach." The activity concluded with an encouraging, "Look to your left, look to your right: *All* of you belong at KU."

Klusmeier, g'03, also stressed the importance of becoming involved and engaged in the KU community, finding support both in and outside of the classroom, and embracing the challenges



and opportunities ahead. "All of these things are going to help you not only figure out who you are, but also who you're meant to be."

Durham echoed those sentiments by urging students to take advantage of critical resources, such as the Jayhawk Buddy System and the University's counseling services, and to participate in any of the multitude of clubs and groups available on campus.

"There are over 600 student organiza-

tions," said Durham, EdD'09. "I dare you, I double dare you, to not find something that you are connected to."

Chancellor Doug Girod, who began his tenure on the Lawrence campus just two years ago after leading KU Medical Center as executive vice chancellor, reassured the new Jayhawks, recognizing their excitement and nervousness. "It can be overwhelming," he affirmed, "but you have a lot of family around to make sure you're successful."

Before Girod introduced University leaders and deans, he encouraged students to search for learning opportunities outside of the classroom, develop a broad set of skills and discover their true passions over the next four years.

"We're here to welcome you to the Jayhawk family and to make sure that your career at KU is off to a great start," he said. "It's an incredible opportunity for you to really transform yourself and prepare yourself for the next phase of your lives."

-Heather Biele

More online

Watch Dan Storey's video of the University Welcome at **kansasalumnimagazine.org.**

SCHOTTE, BARK PRODUCTIONS



The state of Kansas agreed this summer to pay \$1 million to Floyd Bledsoe, who was freed from prison with help from students and professors in the KU School of Law after serving nearly 16 years for a murder he did not commit ["Proven innocent," Hilltopics, issue No. 1, 2016].

Bledsoe, of Oskaloosa, was convicted in April 2000 for the murder and rape of his sister-in-law, 14-year-old Zetta "Camille" Arfmann. Floyd Bledsoe was charged after his brother, Tom Bledsoe, recanted a confession and accused Floyd of the crime.

KU's Paul E. Wilson Project for Innocence and Post-Conviction Relief Remedies in the School of Law began working on Bledsoe's case in 2007. Professors Jean Phillips, I'90, director and clinical professor; Elizabeth Cateforis, I'94, clinical associate professor; and Alice Craig, g'90, I'95, supervising attorney, led the team, which included Kaiti Smith,

UPDATE

l'13; Peter Conley, l'14; and Emily Barclay, l'15.

They helped prove Bledsoe's innocence with DNA tests of semen from a rape kit that had not been thoroughly analyzed following the murder, and testing of new evidence. An independent lab determined that the semen likely belonged to Tom Bledsoe. Shortly after those results were made public, Tom Bledsoe committed suicide, leaving behind a letter confessing to Arfmann's murder.

Hilltopics

Top care: The University of Kansas Hospital was ranked "Best Hospital in Kansas City" for the 10th consecutive year and "Best Hospital in Kansas" for the eighth time by U.S. News and World Report. Eight specialties ranked

nationally, with three—cardiology & heart surgery, gastroenterology & GI surgery, and orthopedics—rated as high-performing.

21st-century player

Advocacy for Native women earns national honor for alumna

K U professor Sarah Deer was inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame in September, joining Amelia Earhart, Gwendolyn Brooks, Jean Kilbourne and Ruth Patrick as the only five Kansans to be so honored.

A Wichita native and a citizen of the Muskogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma, Deer, c'96, l'99, is not surprised to be one among a relative few.

"That's typical, I've found, of these national awards," she said during an interview before the ceremony, which was held Sept. 14 at the hall's Seneca, New York, headquarters as *Kansas Alumni* was going to press. "They tend to hug the coasts a little bit, and us flyover states don't get as much representation. But it's the same issue with Native women. There's a handful, and two of them are Pocahontas and Sacagawea. Contemporary Native women aren't always recognized."

Deer says she hopes to change that by encouraging nominations of Kansas and Native women to the hall by helping to highlight their voices herself. A similar goal has also been a big part of her efforts to end violence against women. In her scholarship and public policy work Deer has long focused on the intersection of federal Indian law and victims' rights. She was a leading contributor to successful efforts to pass the Tribal Law and Order Act of 2010 and to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act in 2013, both of which gave more authority to tribal courts to protect Native women against domestic violence. That work earned her a MacArthur Fellowship in 2014. She joined the KU faculty full time in 2017 with a joint appointment in the School of Public Affairs and Administration and the department of women, gender and sexuality studies.

"The risk I take all the time in talking about violence, which is my priority issue as a scholar and an activist, is that I don't want that to be the image that people have of Native women, that they are victims," Deer says. "It's a fine line in terms of educating people and saying, 'This is the reality,' and also saying, 'But please don't stereotype us, please don't think about us as being these passive victims.'

"I think that's my biggest challenge in my work, is trying to say, 'Here's some strong Native women and also here are the most victimized people.' It's difficult to get both of those storylines out at the same time."

2019 marks the 100th anniversary of women winning the right to vote in New York and the 50th anniversary of the hall's founding. Since the first class, in 1973, the organization has inducted 276 women.

This year's class also includes Angela Davis, Jane Fonda and U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor.

"They're all amazing, but I think for me, as an attorney, standing on a stage with Sonia Sotomayor is probably the biggest thrill," Deer says.

Deer will speak at The Commons in Spooner Hall Oct. 1 at 7:30 p.m. as part of the 2019-'20 Humanities Lecture Series sponsored by the Hall Center for the Humanities. Her talk, "Sovereignty of the Soul: Centering the Voices of Native Women," presents another opportunity to educate.

"What I'm hoping to do is really push



Deer

the average attendee, the non-Native attendee, to not think about Native people in the past," Deer says, "but to think of us as 21st-century players." Citing a study on children's books about Native Americans that found the majority were set in the 19th century or earlier, she argues there's "a vacuum of knowledge" about what Native life is like today. "I have just about an hour to educate the audience about Native women in particular and about violence against Native women. Those are my themes."

Fraud alleged

Ties to Chinese university lead to indictment for KU researcher

A n associate professor who has worked at KU's Center for Environmentally Beneficial Catalysis since 2014 was indicted on federal fraud charges in August.

Feng "Franklin" Tao was charged with one count of wire fraud and three counts of program fraud.

"Tao is alleged to have defrauded the

U.S. government by unlawfully receiving federal grant money at the same time that he was employed and paid by a Chinese research university—a fact that he hid from his university and federal agencies," Assistant Attorney General for National Security John Demers said in a statement released by the United States Attorney's Office, District of Kansas. "Any potential conflicts of commitment by a researcher must be disclosed as required by law and university policies. The department will continue to pursue any unlawful failure to do so."

The indictment alleges that Tao signed a five-year contract in May 2018 with Fuzhou University in China to serve as the Changjiang Scholar Distinguished Professor. At the same time Tao was conducting research at KU funded by grants from the U.S. Department of Energy and the National Science Foundation. On annual conflict of interest reports required by the Kansas Board of Regents and filed with KU, Tao claimed no conflicts of interest, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office.

The indictment alleges that Tao received more than \$37,000 in salary paid for by the DOE and NSF contracts. A conviction could mean up to 20 years in federal prison on the wire fraud count, and up to 10 years on each program fraud count.

In an email to the KU community when the indictment was announced on Aug. 21, Chancellor Doug Girod noted that the University discovered the potential fraud and reported it to authorities. The U.S. Attorney's Office credited KU with assisting in the FBI's investigation.

"We can and should, however, reaffirm our commitment to the collaborative environment that serves as a cornerstone in the pursuit of scientific knowledge," Girod wrote. "International scholars including those from China—are critical to our success, and they play a vital role in our educational and research enterprises."

At the same time, he noted, the University has a responsibility to protect "the integrity and security of our research,



Tao

including the research we undertake on behalf of federal research granting agencies and, ultimately, U.S. taxpayers."

Last summer the University launched the Office of Global Operations and Security to help faculty and staff conduct international work safely and securely. One

result of that effort was creation of a restricted party policy, which ensures the University is complying with U.S. regulations that prohibit transactions with parties that appear on government restricted lists.

"As with all of our efforts in this area," Girod wrote, "our goal is to reduce risk and act strategically while still fulfilling the mission of the University."

Read more on KU's restricted party policy at https://policy.ku.edu/ global-operations/transactionsrestricted-parties.

Milestones, money and other matters

■ A \$3.2 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education will fund a KU Center for Research on Learning project that enables students with learning disabilities to have more say in their educational goals and to help them transition from high school to college or work. The five-year grant supports "Possible Selves and Self-Determination: Improving Transition Outcomes for High School Students with Disabilities." Michael Hock, PhD'98, director of the center, is the principal investigator on the grant, which is administered through KU's Life Span Institute.

Stephen Wolgast joins the William Allen White School of Journalism and Mass Communications this fall as the Knight Chair in Audience and Community Engagement for News. As a news design editor at The New York Times from 2000 to '09, Wolgast was part of the Pulitzer Prize winning team that covered the aftermath of the Sept. 11 attacks. For 10 years he taught news reporting, photojournalism, copy editing and convergence at Kansas State University. At KU he will teach writing and ethics and help students envision creative ways to connect and engage with readers.

■ A \$1.4 million grant from the National Science Foundation will support a KU project to help incarcerated women develop technology skills in preparation for careers after they are released from prison. Hyunjin Seo, associate professor of digital media, leads a multidisciplinary team that will build science, technology, engineering and math skills in weekly classes at public libraries and through online tutorials and virtual meetups. The project, "Technology Education for Women in Transition: Broadening Participation Through Innovations," will run three years.

Hilltopics

Among the Audio-Reader staff members and volunteers honored with international awards this summer were Nick Carswell, Jen Nigro, Camille Olcese, Lori Kesinger and Carl Graves.



PUBLIC SERVICE

KU's Audio-Reader honored by international group

AUDIO-READER, the reading and information service for blind, visually impaired and print-disabled people across Kansas and western Missouri, won six awards for excellence this summer from the International Association of Audio Information Services.

IAAIS, which represents around 140 reading services in seven countries, presents two categories of awards at its annual conference. Audio-Reader was recognized in both categories.

Program Awards promote quality programming. Co-hosts Melinda and Tom Kearney, d'74, were recognized for "Magazines for the Adult Hour;" Camille Olcese, s'74, won the narrative reading award for "Beauty Will Save the World," and Jen Nigro, j'97, won the thematic production award for the "Springfield Regional News Promo." Carl Graves, g'75, won the non-reading entertainment award for researching and hosting "New Year's in History." The programs were produced and engineered by Nick Carswell and Joe Penrod, c'19.

Public Affairs Awards honor excellence

in member organizations. Graves won the public affairs award for volunteer excellence.

Lori Kesinger, Audio-Reader's outreach coordinator and listener liaison, won the C. Stanley Potter Lifetime Achievement Award. It is the highest award bestowed by the association.

"We're honored to receive this recognition from our peers through the international association," said Beth McKenzie, development director at Audio-Reader. "Our volunteers and staff are amazing, and we're so happy their hard work and dedication is being recognized. The awards this year show the variety of services we offer that a lot of people might not know about—newspapers, books, and magazines, but also special publications, promotional and advertising materials, local events and historical information, and more."

The University is in the process of ending its funding for Audio-Reader, which it has supported for nearly 50 years. Starting this fiscal year, KU will reduce its annual appropriation by 50% for each of the next two years before ending it entirely in fiscal 2022. In-kind support, which includes facility space for Audio-Reader's operation in the Baehr Audio-Reader Center, will continue.

UPDATE

Eleven works from the Spencer Museum of Art's blockbuster exhibition, "The Power of Place," have found a long-term home on the Hill.

The show, curated by Susan Earle, explored the literal and figurative use of place in the work of 30 KU alumni while also considering the role that the University campus and community play in shaping students who make art ["Infinite Layers," issue No. 2].

After the exhibition ended

in June, the Spencer added to its permanent collection works by five artists: Cris Bruch, f'80; Lisa Grossman, f'00; Hock E Aye Vi Edgar Heap of Birds, f'76; Ryan RedCorn, f'04; and Bahkti Ziek, f'80.

"It is beneficial and a special pleasure for us to have a long-term relationship with an artist before we acquire their work for the collection," says Saralyn Reece Hardy, c'76, g'94, Marilyn Stokstad Director of the Spencer. "In the case of the KU alumni artists exhibition, we had been following their work over time."

In curating "The Power of Place," Earle sought works of art that "contributed new ways of thinking about issues of place," Reece Hardy notes. "Adding these unique views to the collection, including significant contemporary work by indigenous artists, broadens the identities represented at the Spencer Museum."



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JOURNALISM

Student earns writing prize for profile of first KU Olympian

FOR THE FOURTH time in five years, a KU journalism student has won a Jim Murray Memorial Foundation scholarship, the prestigious college writing award that honors the late Pulitzer Prize winning Los Angeles Times sports writer.

Braden Shaw, Shawnee junior in journalism, was honored for a column in the University Daily Kansan on Pete Mehringer, '34, a wrestler and football player who was the first KU athlete to win an Olympic gold medal.

Shaw's story recounts Mehringer's quixotic bid to wrestle for team USA in the 1932 Olympics. After losing in the qualifying finals, he seized a second chance offered by Olympic wrestling coach Hugo Ottopok, losing 17 pounds in 12 days to wrestle at a lower weight class. He won the gold after pinning the 1928 Olympic champion in a preliminary round.

The Murray foundation awards five \$5,000 scholarships annually to secondand third-year students, and only one student from each of the top 35 journalism schools can apply. Shaw, the sixth KU student to win, will accept his award at a ceremony Oct. 26 in Los Angeles. Past winners were Christian Hardy, c'18, j'18, in 2017; Scott Chasen, j'17, graduate student in digital content strategy, 2016; Amie Just, j'18, 2015; Mike Vernon, j'14, 2013; and Alyssa Rainbolt,

j'11, 2009.

"This was definitely one of the most formative experiences of my short sports writing career," says Shaw, who is a sports writing intern with the Lawrence Journal-World and is on track to graduate in May 2021 with his journalism degree and a double minor in sport management and film & media studies. "It was a lot of fun. I had a good time and was happy to have won."

ADMINISTRATION

Baer brings new leadership to campus-based state agency

THE KANSAS BIOLOGICAL SURVEY has a new leader, and Kansas has a new state biologist.

Sara Baer, a Kansas State University graduate who previously served as professor and chair of the department of plant biology at Southern Illinois University, joined KU in August as a professor of ecology and evolutionary biology and director of the Kansas Biological Survey, a West Campus entity that doubles as a KU research center and a state agency. As director, she will also hold the title of state biologist.

Baer succeeds Ed Martinko, PhD'76, who retired after leading the survey for 36 years.

Established in 1911 and formally recognized as an agency in 1959, the survey focuses on natural science research, environmental mapping, conservation and undergraduate and graduate education. Among the facilities it manages is the 3,700-acre KU Field Station, which includes remnants of native prairie and old-growth forests.

Baer's scholarly focus is on grassland, soil and restoration ecology, and much of her research on restored prairies has been conducted at the Konza Prairie Biological Station managed by K-State, where she earned her PhD in 2001.



Baer

Milestones, money and other matters



■ The Dyche Hall Grotesques Renewal Project, undertaken with private funding by the KU Biodiversity Institute and Natural History Museum, has been honored by the Lawrence Preservation Alliance. The awards recognize "local residents or groups that have performed preservation work that improves a structure, promotes preservation concepts or sets the stage for future preservation efforts." A team that includes master stone carvers Karl and Laura Ramberg, f'81, and KU architecture professors Amy, a'03, and Keith Van de Riet, a'04, is leading the effort to replace the iconic but badly eroded figures that have stood sentinel over Dyche Hall for more than 100 years.

■ Linda Kehres will succeed Jim Peters, assoc., as director of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute beginning Sept. 30. Kehres comes to KU after four years as executive director of Let's Help, which was recognized as Topeka's Nonprofit of Distinction under her leadership. KU's is one of 120 Osher Institutes across the United States; it offers classes and events for lifelong learners, with a particular focus on people age 50 and older. Peters retires after leading the institute for eight years.

■ Tarik Khatib, c'92, former chief of the Lawrence Police Department, joined KU's Public Management Center this summer as manager of the Law Enforcement Leadership Academy. He will oversee the program's 300-hour Command School, the 40-hour Supervisor School and a two-day introduction/ foundation to leadership course.

Sports by Chris Lazzarino







'Why not now?'

Miles assures progress after football splits first two

nce adorned with jumbo action shots of great Jayhawk football players of the recent past, the front wall of Mrkonic Auditorium, the team meeting room within the Anderson Family Football Complex, is now festooned with enough motivational quotes to make a self-help guru envious:

We do hard things for the people in this room.

Keep steady until you're ready. Consistency.

We are tough. We play that way and we think that way.

Define & accept a dominant KUlture; our team, our school, our state, our family! It's bigger than you!

First-year coach Les Miles, renowned and beloved for a sly sense of humor and free-wheeling motivational methods, says he and his coaches occasionally highlight one of the bons mots-"When it strikes me and when it's appropriate"-especially if it illuminates a teaching point being made during film study or pregame preparations.

Miles also insisted they are not his words of wisdom.

"I didn't put those up there. My team did," Miles said. "It was encouraged and discussed with me, but that's them. They realize that they want to be a dominant culture. You can see this; it's significant. They want to be, and can be, very special, and I think this speaks to that.

"How about the one, 'We are not the same since we came in this room'? What a wonderful thing to say."

The 'Hawks might feel the need to pay heed after losing the season's second game, 12-7 Sept. 7 against Coastal Carolina, but Miles insisted two days later that his rebuilding program remains on track.

"I think that is exactly what I would expect: the occasional step back. I never thought it would just be, undefeated for the next five years. This team is getting better and they will continue to get better. You need to understand that in this amount of time, we've just started."

After a spirited August training camp, during which a dramatic rise in energy





Coach Les Miles (top left) moments before his KU debut, and Kyle Mayberry (8), Carter Stanley (9), Khalil Herbert (10) and Pooka Williams Jr. (1).

and enthusiasm was immediately apparent, Miles made no promises other than improvement. He cautioned that "it will be a challenge to win games, to win championships," yet he continually projected enthusiasm.

"I can't imagine a college town without a great football team," Miles said. "I think you will find that this team will understand that and will want to be a part of the festivity that surrounds a quality football team."

In the midst of a battle with senior incumbent Carter Stanley for the starting quarterback job, junior newcomer Thomas MacVittie was more direct in his enthusiasm: "We definitely have that bounce. But talk about bounce ... I think we have that *jump*. This team is going to be so special this year." Referencing ... *gasp* ... private predictions for six wins and bowl eligibility, MacVittie added, "My motto for the team is 'six plus.' ... We're *not* going to be here for Christmas."

MacVittie, however, did not win the starting job. In what most observers considered an upset, Miles chose to go with the more-mobile Stanley for the Aug. 31 opener against Indiana State. For a few frightening minutes, it appeared that decision might cost KU the game or even the season: Under heavy pressure on a botched play, Stanley fumbled in the KU end zone with 4:24 to play; Indiana State recovered and took a 17-16 lead.

Stanley, though, came straight back and marched the Jayhawks the length of the field, connecting with senior wideout Daylon Charlot from 22 yards out for the game-winning touchdown, avoiding what would have been, in ESPN.com's apt summary, a "devastating defeat."

"I think the most important thing we can take from this," Miles said moments later, "is victory. ... You can sculpt a team on things like this."

When told of Miles' comment, Stanley replied, "I like that. That's definitely appropriate after game one. How we finished a very tight game, in tight quarters, that's certainly something that you can build on."

Unfortunately, that's not what happened. After Coastal Carolina's stunning *"I can't imagine a college town without a great football team." – first-year football coach Les Miles*

victory—after which the Chanticleers released a video of the team destroying a Jayhawk piñata in their postgame locker room—a dejected Miles said, glumly, "I just want you to know that I'm unhappy. That's not how I saw it going. It's not how our team saw it going. This is a painful second game, but this football team will fight."

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McClure's on target

Senior striker sets tone with nifty hat trick in opener

The second two goals of Katie McClure's opening-match hat trick in a 4-0 victory over Nebraska Aug. 23 at Rock Chalk Park were pure scoring brilliance, driving around defenders to create space and pop lofted shots over the final line of defense.

But coach Mark Francis, now in his 21st season, chose to focus on the first. It might have been a bit more mundane—McClure, a senior forward, got free deep on the left side and, after successfully dodging the goalkeeper, had a simple shot—yet Francis saw it as emblematic of a different striker.

"There's been opportunities she's had in past years," Francis said afterward, "where she would have hit that at the keeper, so she's matured as a finisher. She finished that; she didn't just shoot it. If she's going to continue to be as composed as that, she's going to be tough to deal with."

After being named Big 12 Offensive Player of the Week and the United Soccer Coaches' National Player of the Week, McClure did, indeed, prove to be tough to deal with, carrying six goals and 14 points into the 'Hawks' Sept. 8 match at Purdue.

Coming off their first loss of the season, 1-0 to DePaul, KU scored twice in the second half for a 2-1 victory. McClure scored KU's first goal after the ball came loose on a save attempt by the Purdue



McClure, of Wichita, last year led the Big 12 with 11 goals; this year she has seven in six games.

Sports



McClure

keeper, and sophomore Kailey Lane scored the game-winner in the 85th minute.

After holding Purdue to a single goal, the 11th-ranked Jayhawks had held opponents to three goals in six matches.

"The mentality of the group is such that it just doesn't phase them," Francis said of the early 1-0 deficit. "In the run of play we're not really giving up a lot of clear chances. Defensively, we're doing a good job. In set pieces we still have to be a little more on point, but the resilience of this group, that's one of our core values.

"This really typifies that, for sure." The Jayhawks open Big 12 play against Texas Sept. 26 at Rock Chalk Park.

Horejsi rises anew

U volleyball on Sept. 10 dedicated the new Horejsi Family Volleyball Arena in a private ceremony for donors and staff. The 2,265-seat, 30,000-square-foot arena replaces the 20-year-old, 1,300-seat Horejsi Family Athletics Center. "I am beyond excited and happy to see volleyball valued in this community, athletic department and in this campus," said 22nd-year coach Ray Bechard. As *Kansas Alumni* went to press, the home opener was set for Sept. 12, the first round of the Kansas Invitational. Volleyball opens Big 12 play Sept. 28, against Baylor in Horejsi.





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UPDATES



Hoppel NCAA 800-meter champion **Bryce Hoppel** in July ran third at the U.S. Outdoor, after which Hoppel announced he would forgo his senior year to turn pro. He then placed fourth at the Pan-American Championships in Peru, and is qualified for the Sept. 28-Oct. 6 World Championships in Qatar. Senior hammer thrower **Gleb Dudarev** took third at the European Team Championships. ... Senior golfer **Andy Spencer** on Sept. 10 fired a 4-under 68 in the final round of Wisconsin's Badger Invitational, pacing KU to a second-place team finish. ...

Ramsey Nijem, formerly the NBA's youngest strength and conditioning coach, in September was hired away from the Sacramento Kings to become KU men's basketball's director of sport performance. He replaces 15-year veteran **Andrea Hudy**, who joined Texas as head coach of basketball strength and conditioning. ...

2016 Olympic triple jumper **Andrea Geubelle Norris**, d'14, in September accepted an internship with the Williams Education Fund. Norris, a captain on KU's 2013 NCAA outdoor national championship team, won three NCAA and four Big 12 championships during her KU career. ...

Coach Bill Self, a member

of the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame, on July 17 was honored as the 2019 Kansan of the Year by the Kansas Society of Washington, D.C. ...

In August it was announced that another Naismith Hall of Famer, **Forrest C. "Phog" Allen**, will be inducted in the Missouri Valley Conference Hall of Fame in spring 2020. KU competed in the Missouri Valley Intercollegiate Athletic Association for 11 of Allen's 39 seasons as KU men's basketball's winningest head coach.









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Sports photographs by Steve Puppe













Coach Les Miles (top left) led the Jayhawks onto the field for his KU debut, a 24-17 victory against Indiana State. Fans were revved up for both of the Jayhawks' first two games, with combined attendance of 66,104. KU's first Big 12 home game is Oct. 5 against high-flying Oklahoma and Heisman Trophy candidate Jalen Hurts; Homecoming is Oct. 26 against Texas Tech, and the 'Hawks host Kansas State Nov. 2.





Intersections of truth and beauty inspire Spencer Museum's research initiatives and sprawling exhibition

The Art of Science (and Vice Versa)

he question was ill-conceived, ignorant and irritating, and Leonard Krishtalka was right to swat it aside. It wasn't even a question, exactly, but more like a disjointed observation that somehow escapes the brain and, in that eternal split-second where regrets are hatched, becomes words that can't be taken back.

Under the leadership of Krishtalka, its director, the KU Natural History Museum and Biodiversity Institute in summer 2017 was preparing to launch an extensive renovation of Dyche Hall's uppermost research and storage spaces and its weatherbattered limestone exterior, including the famous grotesques. It would not be cheap to remove, preserve and replace each of the century-old carvings, so—as the quasi-question went—even making the effort was laudable.

The building's exterior art, after all, had nothing to do with the science happening inside, and it's not as if brilliant and dedicated researchers and educators couldn't do their jobs just as well, regardless of their building's adornments, right?

Krishtalka drew a deep breath before summoning his response.

"I could not," he replied cooly, "disagree more."

He explained that, just as saintly statuary is mounted atop churches and cathedrals as protectors of the faithful and messengers of peace, Dyche Hall's grotesques serve similar roles in protecting and encouraging the life of the mind.

"Perhaps the grotesques were meant to be a symbol of co-existence with nature, that we have inherited the contract to sustain the natural world in a smart fashion."

Science, Krishtalka explained urgently, is not independent of art and art is not independent of science; each is lesser without the other. He cited University Distinguished Professor Town Peterson comparing historic images of Mexican landscapes with his own photographs to study erosion, encroachment and habitat loss; great naturalists who brought dazzling sketches and paintings of flora and fauna from exotic lands; military surveys of little-explored frontiers that always included artists and photographers; depictions of fantastic and mythical beasts created by painters working from descriptions provided by explorers who had ventured around that mysterious far bend.

"Go all the way back to the cave paintings," Krishtalka continued. "Art and its role in spreading knowledge about the animals and spiritual systems dates back to our very beginnings.

"What we do here at the Biodiversity Institute is an act of creating knowledge through research. The grotesques, their carving, the architecture of the building, is all a fantastic act of creation, and the act of creation in sciences and art is inseparable."

As it happens, a brilliant expansion on Krishtalka's memorable riff is now playing out just down the Hill from Dyche Hall: the Spencer Museum of Art exhibition "knowledges," within which any lingering doubts about the necessity of intertwining creative arts and rigorous research are forever dashed.

by Chris Lazzarino | Photographs by Ryan Waggoner

nder the leadership of Marilyn Stokstad Director Saralyn Reece Hardy, c'76, g'94, the Spencer Museum of Art has over the past decade dedicated energy and resources toward the same sort of passions Krishtalka expressed when it was suggested to him that art outside wasn't really so necessary to science inside. Research in the sciences and humanities is integral to art, Spencer staff contend, and art, in turn, helps researchers find new views into the worlds they investigate.

"The Spencer Museum is an art museum that's embedded in a research university, and so we should be serving the research community," says Joey Orr, Andrew W. Mellon Curator for Research. "But what happens when you bring a bunch of different kinds of researchers together is that inevitably you start to talk about not just the subject matter, but how it is we produce knowledge in the first place."

Launched in 2015 with \$487,000 from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the Spencer's Integrated Arts Research Initiative (IARI, pronounced "are-e") sought to create programming that would bring KU researchers into the life of the museum. Since 2016, IARI has awarded fellowships to nine KU faculty members, three graduate students and nine undergraduates across 14 departments.

Reece Hardy in 2016 hired Orr, then the Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Curatorial Fellow at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Chicago, and he began work here in early 2017. Orr immediately began focusing IARI's activities around yearlong themes, such as ecology and social history, and, along with identifying research fellows from across KU, he also invited outside scholars and the Lawrence community to participate in discussions, lectures and exhibitions.

Psychology professor Glenn Adams used his 2018 fellowship, for instance, to explore "how knowledge institutions can prompt or promote civic engagement." Working in conjunction with the Haitian history exhibition "The Ties that Bind," Adams hoped to gain deeper appreciation for how a museum can enhance appreciation for cultural diversity.

"It is one of the more useful ways to raise some of the issues," Adams says of readily accessible visual imagery. "These are difficult concepts, and the museum can be a place for people to see that."

IARI's string of promising successes led the Mellon Foundation in July to award the Spencer Museum an even richer grant, this time for \$650,000 over five years. This semester's IARI-affiliated exhibition, the sprawling "knowledges," was funded with grants from the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts.

"The funding that they're getting from the Mellon and the Warhol, of course those are two highly prestigious funding sources for academics and for art," says Andrew Yang, associate professor at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, whose brilliant artistic expressions of fundamental scientific concepts in earth and life sciences are among the highlights of the current exhibition. "The funding environment right now, especially for the arts, is especially tight, so the fact that they're





able to get that funding renewed is an amazing testament.

"If you're not hitting the 1 percent in this funding environment, you're not going to get the grant, so it speaks volumes about what they've developed here."

nowledges," which opened Aug. 24 and runs through Jan. 5, explores four research themes previously featured in IARI programming—data visualization, ecology, social history and immigration—with contemporary installation art by Yang; 2019 Guggenheim Fellow Fatimah Tuggar, of the Kansas City Art Institute; Brooklyn artist Danielle Roney; and photographer and sculptor Assaf Evron, of the Art Institute of Chicago.

Exactly as Orr and his Spencer colleagues intended, "knowledges" is complicated and thought-provoking while also offering playful joys of visual delights. Orr recounts that growing up in Atlanta, he had no exposure to contemporary art, so he keeps in mind good intentions for neophytes and newcomers.

"It wasn't until I was in my 20s when I finally saw something and realized what artists are doing and what is possible," Orr says. "So my hope is that there's a lot of room here for different kinds of experiences. If you want to come in here and have a serious discussion about immigration or start to think about ecologies and recycling and climate science, all of that is possible. But it's also possible just to come in and be in the space with the kind of



work that you may or not have a lot of experience encountering.

"If you know nothing about the idea behind the exhibition and are just interested in walking through the museum in some free time, you're probably going to have a pretty good visit."

Rex Buchanan, director emeritus of Kansas Geological Survey, first encountered "knowledges" during the preview opening for Friends of the Art Museum, and he immediately immersed himself in Andy Yang's "bibliographic rock face" of discarded books—each page of which represents 10,000 years, or the span of human civilization, in Earth's 4.54 billion years—titled "Deep Time Library & Archive," and a pair of installations depicting Kansas landmarks Cobra Rock and Castle Rock.

Yang, who earned a biology PhD at Duke University, made three research trips to KU before the installation, and during one of those trips he met retired geological survey photographer John Charlton, c'75, g'83, and found within Charlton's archives images of Cobra Rock and Castle Rock before and after the iconic limestone formations collapsed. Yang ghosted the before-andafter images atop one another, and hung those photographs on the wall next to his bibliographic re-creations.

Buchanan, a Kansas Public Radio essayist and *Kansas Alumni* contributor, delighted in sharing nomenclature: "The technical term for those spires is 'hoodoo.' Cool word."

He was impressed by the ghosted images, noting that the typical method for comparing such images is to hang them



Artists Andrew Yang (top left) and Assaf Evron prepare "knowledges" installations, as later seen completed in the Sam and Connie Perkins Central Court (above).

side-by-side, with the viewer's eyes darting back and forth, and he admired the way "Deep Time Library & Archive" depicts stratographic layers of geologic time.

"I think it's a real interesting idea," Buchanan says of an exhibition melding arts and geology, "because we all have these







silos that we live in. Historically, that connection was very close. Before the days of photography, geologists were famous for being really good sketch artists, and it's just as applicable in the biology world, where people have drawn specimens for years and years and years."

Impressing the director emeritus of Kansas Geological Survey within the exhibition's opening moments: a promising start.

Yang's installations for "knowledges" also drew on research and artifacts from the Biodiversity Institute's Paleobotany Collection, KU Recycling, Spencer Research Library and the Lawrence Public Library, and he also delights visitors with depictions of his daughter Stella's "stoichiometry," or relative quantities of substances within a whole, at birth and as a 40-pound 7-year-old. For the sculpture of Stella's bodily makeup when she was born, Yang used such natural ingredients as water, rock sugar and oyster shells; after her seven years on Earth, he chose plastics, fossil fuels and fertilizers, all of which she'd been exposed to during her young life.

"When I first saw this piece," Orr recalls, "I asked him if he felt he was reducing his daughter to a mathematical equation. He said, 'No, it's just the opposite. I'm trying to make the point that we have an intimate connection to the earth. We don't have to think about 4.54 billion years as something abstracted from us; it *is* us."

Evron's installation ponders the question, "How do we take something from the world of ideas and turn it into an object in the physical world?" For "knowledges," he translates colors that are possible on a computer screen into 3-D rocklike sculptures; if a perfect representation of a given color is a sphere, the oblong pieces Evron created from medium-density fiberboard and epoxy represent the color's imperfect translation when moved from a computer screen to printed materials.

"My work is research based," Evron says, "and the Spencer especially 'knowledges'—is a place where this kind of work that is research based can happen. It's so-called experimental because you're not sure where you end, but you're confident in your way."

For her installation, Tuggar created eight school desks, each fitted with plastic prisms that play animated holograms of actors reading scripts Tuggar wrote about people within academia who have been harmed by racism, sexism or restriction of their freedom of inquiry.

Roney, too, explores repression, rejection and loss of freedom, but not within academia. Instead, she is inspired by immigrant communities and other marginalized people who live under

Assaf Evron's "Untitled" (left, from top), Danielle Roney's "PUBLICS," and, within a darkened gallery, Roney's "Strata: Bending Fields of Relation," "Penumbra" and three 3-D illuminated sculptures of printed nylon. "'Strata' [right], 'Penumbra' and 'PUBLICS,' this is the first time anyone has seen this work," says curator Joey Orr. "It's the first time they've come out of her Brooklyn studio."





constant surveillance and imminent threat of arrest and deportation. "PUBLICS," a 12-camera sculpture of Nest security cameras, is linked to monitors accessible only by specific immigrant communities around the country that have passwords to view exhibition visitors. (A sign at the "knowledges" entrance alerts patrons to cameras in use.) Nearby, "Strata: Bending Fields of Relation," is a mesmerizing dance of voice-driven animation of immigrant voices playing out on LED mesh in a darkened gallery.

"This is a room that is completely silent, but it's all about the voice, and sound," Orr says. "She's calling them 'mantras.' A chorus of a favorite song, a favorite saying, and she turns it into an animation that then dances across this LED mesh that's resting on the sculptural structure. When you're watching it, it is one phrase from one voice that she's slowed down. In between the animations, the sculpture goes dark for just a moment. You are never seeing conversations or lots of voices, so this is, in some ways, its own kind of portrait.

"She describes it as radical beauty. She wants to take this population and make them beautiful and illuminated and turn them into light in the middle of the institution without divulging any information about them or making them vulnerable in any way. In a sense, she's trying to take technology and use it for advocacy."

When consideration is given to voices animated by happy, dancing lights—the voices of marginalized and repressed communities hounded relentlessly within a country that savors The Spencer's Saralyn Reece Hardy (center) and Joey Orr (left), with contemporary installation artists (I-r) Danielle Roney, Assaf Evron, Andrew Yang and Fatimah Tuggar, during a brief calm before large crowds assembled for the show's Aug. 23 preview opening. At right are one of eight animations in Tuggar's "Lives, Lies, and Learning" (second from bottom) and multiple pieces by Yang that draw on the works of 18th-century Scottish naturalist James Hutton.

their labors while rejecting their humanity—the effect can be staggeringly overwhelming.

"That," Orr says with a small smile, "is why we put a bench in here."

rogramming for "knowledges" will include an Integrated Arts Research Initiative Colloquium, Nov. 5-7, which in turn leads into the Nov. 7-9 Alliance for the Arts in Research Universities (a2ru) Conference, hosted by KU, which will feature presentations on creativity in research by 16 KU researchers and panel discussions with the four artists featured in "knowledges."

During her 2017 IARI fellowship, Associate Professor Cécile Accilien, interim chair of African and African American Studies and director of the Institute of Haitian Studies, visited artists'









studios in New Orleans with Tyler Allen, c'18, in preparation for the exhibition "The Ties that Bind" and an honors seminar on connections between Haiti and Louisiana and, by extension, the entire United States.

"It has been so incredibly powerful for me to have a space to bring together my love of art with my love of literature and my love of teaching. I love the museum. When they are done the right way, as ours is, they are an incubator for an incredible body of knowledge."

Assistant professor of design Hannah Park arrived at KU last year and quickly found her way to the Spencer. Last summer she completed an IARI fellowship, along with undergraduate design fellow Sophia Schippers, for research into "Project Lemonade," a mobile lemonade truck Park is designing to promote mental wellness for college students.

"I think the Spencer is really acting as a hub for creative scholars who are looking for partnerships or collaborations when they are pursuing any project out of their boundaries," Park says. "These days, a lot of problems that we have are complex. They are problems that cannot be solved by one discipline anymore. The Spencer takes this integral role in mediating and orchestrating those people who are desperate to find those collaborations."

A few days after the opening of "knowledges," Joey Orr, Saralyn Reece Hardy and Celka Straughn, Andrew W. Mellon Director of Academic Programs, mingle in the museum's Sam and Connie Perkins Central Court, relaxing, chatting, sharing thoughts about the exhibition, IARI programming and what might be in store for the future.

The question is ill-conceived, ignorant and perhaps even irritating: Given the success of "knowledges," are they prepared to continue to reach even higher, take even greater chances?

Awkward pause ... which Orr finally breaks: "Have you *met* Saralyn?"

Reece Hardy smiles, but she perhaps seems faintly uncomfortable by the premise of both question and answer. It all feels so ... serious.

"There has to be *joy* in the work," she says. "There has to be a joyfulness. Even an institution has a countenance, a joyful countenance, and we have fun every day. We can't wait to get to work."

She ponders topics of expertise and inclusiveness and research and collegiality, and how the Spencer Museum of Art must strive to always do—and be—better.

That won't be easy to achieve, comments one of the group, and Reece Hardy pounces.

"Easy? Who wants to do something easy? Boring!"

As ever, anything but. Not with the knowledges happening at this time within this space.

C More online

Extended Spencer Museum of Art videos of artists in their home studios can be seen at kansasalumnimagazine.org.



am drinking a beer one fall afternoon at a tavern just off campus; a young man sitting at a table next to me, stoned from smoking a joint, is talking in that slow motion way about the war. He is 25, he says. Or 24. He doesn't know whether you start counting your life at the end of the first year or at the beginning. In any case, he won't have long to go before they can't draft him. The world, he says ... but he drifts off into himself for a moment. Things don't hang together these days, he says when he comes back. He has a friend who nods in agreement; she is wearing a peasant dress, and her hair is braided in four strands so that when she brings it around her shoulder, it lies like a soft rope between her breasts. Music thumps from a jukebox. There is also Canada, she says.

From behind the counter, the waiter calls out a first name; a sandwich is ready. Outside, the class whistle blows: It is 4:20, and soon the place will be jammed with students stopping by for beer. The world, the young man says to his friend, is getting, you know ... you know (and here he can't find a word for the world and so starts to slip back into himself again) ... thick, he says at last. Yes, says his friend. The autumn sunlight checkers the floor and tables. Thick, he says again, as if finding in the world both the meaning he has in mind and its opposite meaning as well. Thick.

he year was 1963; the year is 1983. In fact, this is a composite scene from cuttings and scraps of memories 20 years apart. We are all overly fond of our private déjà-vus (they're like watching some old movie of our lives that is being run by the gods), but there is a more profound and unsettling fascination in watching the characters from one era move with apparent ease through the drama of another era. It makes you wonder what does change and what you should say about what hasn't changed. You feel as if you are a stranger to both sets, even though you have been there each time, and even though it is nothing but one world straddling two decades. Indeed, 20 years have passed since I left the Hill, and now, as I write, they have come back again. All through the autumn, I have watched the sets and characters of the '60s being assembled. The past seems to be speaking in the present tense.

In 1963, the campus was as innocent as the Indian Summer that burnishes it every autumn. If you were a student writer in those days, you drank your beer in the Gaslight Tavern. The Abington Book Shop was next door, and John Fowler was the owner. In the back of the store, he edited and published the literary magazine Grist Two. There was no Grist One. John had created something of a tiny rebellion in our orderly world of fraternity rows and dorm hours by publishing volume after volume-each a different edition-of a literary magazine that never seemed to go forward, and it didn't seem to have a past. "Grind a Little Grist" was its motto. We didn't quite know what that meant, but it

had a slight edge of defiance about it, and many of us had come from high schools, my own included, where literary magazines had to be "official." Grist Two was gentle and firmly unofficial.

There was something defiant and unofficial about the Abington Book Shop as well. To start with, you could buy your books from some place other than the Kansas Union Bookstore, where you never quite believed that all the stuffed Jayhawks and football sweatshirts betrayed a fondness for books themselves (although there always seemed to be an ample supply of This Is My Beloved and various volumes of Rod McKuen's poetry). In the Abington, you could find genuine books: an autographed copy of Yeats' The Vision that I regret to this day not buying; the Garnett translation of War and Peace that Simon and Schuster published during World War II and that had the genealogy of the characters as an appendix. There were wonderful old Heritage editions of the classic novels, including the generous volume of The Brothers Karamazov that took two hands to hold when you read it. In the Abington, you could buy the

hardback edition of L.R. Lind's translation of The Aeneid and then walk over to his office in Old Fraser and get it autographed.

But most important, the Abington held nothing but books. There

were no cat calendars, no sunset photograph posters, no blank volumes entitled All I Know About Women. On all the walls, and on both sides of a wall that ran down the middle, and even in the back room with its mimeograph machine on which John printed Grist Two, there were books only, so that you had the feeling-maybe for the first time-that books had a life beyond Watson Library or the reading list for a course. And the beauty of the Abington was that it was virtually on campus, so that, classes finished, you could walk along the Boulevard to the Gaslight to drink, and, in between beers, you could amble over to browse the books. It gave you a slight buzz of defiance because it was so close to everything that was orderly, suburban, official.

The University once copied John Fowler's bookstore in a wonderful little shop near the exit of the Undergraduate Reading Room in Watson Library, so you had to pass it on your way in or out. It had row upon row of new paperback editions: all of Faulkner in the Vintage series; a boxed paperback set of Durrell's Alexandria novels; City Lights editions of the Beat Poets. There were even literary magazines: The Paris Review, Evergreen, Esquire (which you had to buy if you wanted to read the latest Borges story). The store did not last long, and I never knew why, although I suppose its demise was as predictable as the destruction of Old Fraser.

So the writers drank at the Gaslight. Two or three other kinds of students had their special taverns, too. If you were a language major, you drank your beer at the Bierstube on Tennessee Street. There were steins on the wall, and the conversation ran to travel and the translations of Faust. There always seemed to be some argument going on about the nature of German

Romanticism, a phenomenon that, if you believe the German majors, influenced American literature and life

more than Huckleberry Finn and sliced bread put together.

Up from the Bierstube on 14th Street, the theater students gathered at the Jayhawk Café, which was run by an open-faced man they called Buffee, who, at the end of the evening, would clear his tavern by announcing over the PA system that it was time for all froggies to hop on home—and then he would croak in a most pathetic way, as if he were the only frog left on a dark night at a lonely pond in western Kansas.

You could always tell when a play was in production because the stage hands and actors would pour into the Jayhawk just before last call to buy a string of pitchers, taking them to the high-backed red booths that were like tiny rooms. The waiters couldn't see over the edge to tell whether you needed a refill, so the custom was to hold your glass in the air and call out some number (81, I think it was) whose meaning we didn't know, except that it got you a refill. As a phrase, it wasn't as rebellious as "Grind a Little Grist," but it had something to it.

After the theater students made it into the Jayhawk, Buffee would pull the shades to signal to the liquor law people that the café was closed. If you told him there were other people coming along from play practice, he would leave the door unlocked, and the students could drift in









our courses and our studies out of the classrooms and into the taverns and cafés for talk, the students (and non-students) at the Rock Chalk were talking about things that went beyond the classroom, beyond the textbooks, and well beyond the weekend barn parties and midweek sing-alongs. It was through their portal that the '60s flowed and flowered.

One autumn afternoon, I walked down to the Rock Chalk to have a beer and meet

for half an hour or so to join their friends in the booths. (I saw Moses Gunn, the wonderful actor, come in the Jayhawk late that way one night. He looked around, and Buffee pointed to a booth in the back where he knew Moses' friends were.) After a while, Buffee would lock the door for the evening, a single action that left us night owls feeling slightly privileged, snug and convivial.

At these taverns, you had not only a sense of place, you had a place to talk, and by inference and association, you had something to talk about: poets, plays, professors. There were other taverns then, as there are now, where you listened to music or danced or got drunk in chugging contests. But those places seemed common and predictable, not unlike rush week or football games. There was a story going around then that a parent sized up the drinking habits of the students and offered to pay his son's beer tab at one of the taverns where intellectual debate seemed to be the ambiance. Nobody was ever certain which tavern it was, so the story centered on whichever one you happened to frequent. We didn't know it at the time, but we were part of a larger drama that was about to open.

Down the boulevard from the Gaslight was the Rock Chalk Café, the setting of the scene at the beginning of this account. There was something different about the Rock Chalk. For one thing, it had a resident dog: Thor, a large white German shepherd since celebrated in Ed Dorn's poem "The Great White Dog of the Rock Chalk." All through the '50s, the campus dog had been Sarge, a genial Golden Retriever who daily prowled Strong Hall basement begging food and who, on autumn Saturdays, barked at the opposing team's mascot down at the football field.

Thor was different

from Sarge, much like the students who gathered in the Rock Chalk were different from the ones who sat on the tables in Strong basement, reading the University Daily Kansan and talking about keg parties and barn dances. He was thin and something of a loner, although he was always around the Rock Chalk. In the language of the day, he was laid back, mellow. No doubt he violated some law by sprawling under the café tables among the cigarette butts, the rolling papers, and the hash pipe ashes.

There was something different about the students who drank at the Rock Chalk. Like the students of the Gaslight and the other bars, they tended to live off campus in small apartments, preferring an independent life to the dorms or the fraternity houses. And true, you thought of the Rock Chalk as the place where the philosophy majors congregated, so if you wanted to bone up on your Marx for a Western Civ exam, you could always go there and find someone who had read *Das Kapital*, or at least knew someone who had. But while the rest of us were hauling



a friend. In the distance, I could hear the band practicing for the weekend game. I got a draft and took it out onto the front porch and sat on the steps to watch the students. From the alleyway east of the café, a couple appeared: a young woman with a long braid of hair draped in front of her so that it ran down between her breasts, and an older man, say in his mid-20s, who was wearing a plaid shirt, and whose great bushy beard and ponytailed hair made him striking in something of a religious

fashion. He had a pair of tweezers in his hand; he looked at them for a moment, then blew some ash or paper off the prongs and put them in his back pocket. There is always Canada, he said as he sat down. Yes, she said. It doesn't do any good to get married, he said. No, she said. Not when they've got your number. The world, he said ... and then he seemed to drift off into himself in a fashion I had never seen before. His friend sat down beside him, took his hand and put her head on his shoulder, her wonderful braid running over both of them. There's always Canada, she says.

My own friend came along. There was a demonstration against the war that afternoon, he said, and so we left to watch it. The first thing you noticed about anti-war demonstrations was the cameras pointed at you: There were long-barreled lenses held by men who stood on top of buildings and along the fire escapes; there were 35-millimeters that were clicked into your face as you came along into the crowd. And then there were the wideangle fish-eyes that got everyone in one
photograph that you imagined was later spread out on a table where various official people looked over you (not unlike most of the students themselves, who, standing in groups well clear of the protest, laughed among themselves, stared, straightened sweaters or pulled at collars to get them to come out of the V-necks in a trim and symmetrical fashion).

I tend to think of those times as street theater, a kind of loose-knit play that might have been directed by Julian Beck and acted out over miles of stages and years of scenes. I remember realizing, that afternoon, as I saw at the heart of the crowd many of the students who gathered at the Rock Chalk, that they were of the world in a way in which I was not. Thor was there. You could not hear the marching band playing in the distance. There were hand-scrawled banners and placards badly tied to their poles and sticks. Someone gave a speech, and at the end we all sang either "We Shall Overcome" or "Give Peace a Chance," I don't remember which. The University, I thought as we left, is of a different world. Many of us at that time were caught in the middle.

ow, 20 years later, I stop at the University to listen to a general of some sort who has come to campus to talk about peace and war-and about various missiles he wants to set up in Europe. A number of students and faculty have shown up to protest his thinking. Once again, there are the cameras: heavy-duty Nikons of the national press; smaller Pentax models used by the campus newspaper. Across the street a team works: A man takes your picture as you come along, and a woman with a notebook comes up to ask you to spell your name. Then she writes it out and shows it to you so you can see that it will be printed correctly in the magazine for which they work.

Across the street, a television crew sets up its video equipment. The demonstrators have a banner attached to two poles, held taut so that the bright bold printing is clear and unwrinkled: "Peace." One of the

leaders has arranged the group so that there is an open shot of the sign. The video man peers into the evepiece of his Sony; the demonstration leader looks back and, thinking the banner might be a bit too high, tells the students holding the poles to lower it a bit.

"Peace," it says in area newspapers; "Peace," it says on the television stations and in the Daily Kansan the next morning as the mild students of Wescoe Beach sprawl along the steps, reading the sports page and looking for taverns with good happy-hour deals. "Peace," it might say sometime in a national news magazine.

From the Kansas Union, I walk on down the Boulevard past the aluminum trailers where the Gaslight and the Abington used to be (Annex A, Annex B, Annex C, they are marked) and the Rock Chalk Café. now called by some other name I don't choose to remember. Students sit casually on the porch. The afternoon light seems filtered it is so soft. Some music I don't know is coming from inside, and I go and get a beer. The place is empty. I look around as if I might find a genial ghost. The Great White Dog is not there. The papers that are scattered on the tables and chairs are full of news about Lebanon and Central America. Just like the general said, we seem to be sending missiles to Europe for Christmas. The man behind the bar tells me there must be a demonstration today because he has no business. In the distance you can hear the 4:20 whistle blow. Someone's marijuana smoke lingers. I sit down at a table off to one side and

notice for the first time a young man by a window. He is talking to himself, saying something about going to Canada to see his brother. The world seems thick to him: or something seems thick to him. It is difficult for me to hear him because he is talking only to himself. When he turns 26, he says, they can't draft him. He is 24, or 25. I finish my beer and go back outside.

Jogging down the street are two young women. They are wearing shorts and short-sleeved shirts, and the late afternoon sunlight enhances their wonderful tans and their beauty. Their outfits match in a way; both wear those tiny radio headsets that you see everywhere. They jog on in silence, though in their heads there is music. I wonder whether they know, or whether the young man talking to himself by the window in the Rock Chalk Café knows, that they might well be characters in a people's play. If it is anything like the previous one, the drama will be sprawling and profound, taking in even those of us who have remained mostly an audience to it all.

—Robert Day, c'64, g'66, is a frequent contributor to Kansas Alumni and the author of the new book Protests Past: Short Stories and Essays on College and University Life in America, from which this essay *is reprinted.*

PROTESTS PAST

There's always Canada"

Short Stories and Essays

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and Essays on College and University Life in America

by Robert Day

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End

Preparing for your death can bring peace now and later, says longtime chaplain

BY STEVEN HILL • PORTRAIT BY HAYLEY YOUNG

s an interfaith chaplain in Arkansas during the early days of the AIDS epidemic, Trudy Gier James saw that the young men—and, occasionally, young women—who had contracted the disease were getting little support.

"Almost everyone died," James recounts. "There was no medicine, and they got nothing by and large, and their families got nothing. Everyone was so isolated."

She began organizing congregationbased AIDS CareTeams in 1989 to support those living with the disease, creating a large community of volunteers and people with AIDS who talked openly about dying.

"No one really understood the disease at the time, and what Trudy did was truly miraculous," says John Gaudin, a North Little Rock investment adviser and real estate developer who served five years as president of the Regional AIDS Interfaith Network (RAIN), the group James headed. "In the peak of the crisis we had care teams in 40-plus churches, synagogues and mosques throughout the state that took care of over 500 people living with AIDS. She was really an angel for the people of Arkansas."

The experience taught James a crucial lesson: Preparation leads to a more peaceful death.

"They knew they were going to die, doctors told them they were going to die, and I had to help volunteers learn to listen to these young people plan their own death," James says. "Well, guess what? They died a better death than the people with AIDS who didn't have that support." The concept of a "better death" became central to James' work throughout her long career. In 1996 she moved to Seattle to create an AIDS CareTeam there, and she served as a hospital chaplain at Seattle Cancer Care Alliance, counseling terminally ill patients and their families. When she retired, in 2008, she started Heartwork, an organization that helps people think about how they want to navigate the end of their life.

A leading proponent of what she calls the "positive death movement," James conducts workshops to challenge people to think and talk about how they want to die. Doing so helps people improve not only the quality of their death, she believes, but also the quality of their life.

"My goal is to relieve the fear, so that people are not living with fear and anxiety about the end of their life, but can relax and plan," says James, c'60. "Then they can have a better life now."

uring workshops and one-on-one counseling sessions, James asks clients where they'd like to die. Nearly all say at home.

"Well, in this country only 20% of people die at home," she says. In fact, according to statistics from the Stanford School of Medicine and the American Psychological Association, roughly 60% of Americans 65 or older die in hospitals and 20% die in other institutions such as nursing homes.

There are many possible reasons for the disparity between what people say they

want and what they get, but both doctors and patients bear some responsibility.

"One of the problems with medicine is that we have so much technology now we can always offer another carrot, another chemotherapy or another intervention or another medication," says Dr. Elizabeth Marshall, End of Life Program Director at The Everett Clinic, a physician group near Seattle. Marshall appears in a short film that James produced, "Speaking of Dying: Living Deeply, Dying Well." The reason, she says, "is that doctors generally want to fix things. We're trained to fix things. We're trained to take the heroic role."

On the other hand, fewer than half of Americans have had a conversation about their end-of-life wishes, and only a third have written those wishes down to share with doctors should they become ill, according to the Coalition to Transform Advanced Care, a nonprofit organization that works to improve advanced-illness care in the United States.

"We're all conditioned not to talk about death," James says. "If you try to bring it up to your children or to your parents, they're quite likely to say they don't want to talk about it."

In the absence of clear instructions, doctors may feel pressured to do all they can to treat dying patients; they may avoid speaking of death or put off conversations about palliative or hospice care until patients are too ill to participate in the decision-making, or too late for them to receive the full benefits of these alternatives to aggressive, technology-reliant

"The real work of dying is wrapping up your life and saying goodbye to it in a conscious way." –Trudy James

treatments that have become the default option for end-of-life care in America.

As a result, the dying often undergo invasive, costly and distressing procedures that increase rather than relieve suffering. One study found dying patients typically spend eight days in Intensive Care Units (ICU) comatose or on a ventilator, and 30% spend at least 10 days in an ICU before they die. The reality, according to one physician interviewed in James' film, is "sometimes we end up prolonging dying rather than prolonging living."

"Unless you make plans and talk about them," James tells her clients, "that could happen to you."

Her four-session workshop, called "A Gift for Yourself and Your Loved Ones," brings together small groups for a mix of soul-searching and practical planning. With the help of a facilitator, participants share stories, address questions and fears, learn about resources like palliative care and hospice, and start planning for how they want their end-of-life care managed. Action items include filling out advance directives and discussing their wishes with family and friends.

"The conversation is actually more important than anything," James says. "Everybody kind of needs to be part of your plan. Whatever your values are, your own personal values around illness and dying, it's good to get those clarified and talk to your family about them."

better death, by James' definition, is "peaceful, meaningful" and includes what she calls "the real work of dying."

"The real work of dying is wrapping up your life and saying goodbye to it in a conscious way," she explains. It's about sharing your memories, talking about what your life meant, forgiving and asking for forgiveness. "You've told people you love them, you've said goodbye and you can let go. Dying can be a beautiful process if you've done that."

Denise McDonald was in her early 60s when she took James' workshop four years ago in Seattle. She knows she'll need to revisit her choices as she ages, but she values having begun the process while she's relatively young. "It's important to do this while you're capable and healthy and thinking straight," says McDonald. "Because things can happen even when you're younger."

Three years ago, McDonald, who grew up in McPherson, returned to Kansas to say goodbye to her mother, Rita Sharpe, who was living in Lindsborg. After raising four daughters, she had moved to become an artist and a fixture in the town's thriving fine arts community. McDonald's planning for her own death helped her and her family navigate her mother's end-oflife passage.

"It really helped us get comfortable talking about her passing, talking to her about what does she want us to know at the end," McDonald says. "It provided the confidence that a good death for her was not going to be an emergency room, was not going to be a hospital death. She didn't want that and we didn't want that. It gave us confidence that we could love her into her transition and death. That was really empowering."

James' belief that confronting and accepting our mortality can improve the quality of our life was borne out in the family's grief experience after Sharpe's death.

"We were confident she had a good death, a really meaningful and peaceful death, and there was no shame or guilt about the end. There's loss. We miss her. But it's a much lighter form of grief because it wasn't mixed with regret. It was sweet for her and it made a huge difference for us, because we got to feel a part of her transition. And hers was very peaceful. We were lucky."

acing fear can be liberating, James has found.

Growing up in McPherson in a family with Kansas pioneer lineage on both sides and strict religious views that stressed women's subservience to men and prohibited working with other faith groups, she heard "no" a lot.

"When I was 8, I told my mother I wanted to be a missionary," James recalls. "She said, 'You can't be a missionary; only men can do that.' I was always told, 'You can't do this and that.' I've done those things and it feels like I've been a pioneer myself. My great-grandparents broke new ground and that's what I've had to do. Over time I have found my own inner compass and broken out of the many prohibitions I was raised with, and it's gratifying to know that I've become who I wanted to be when I was a child."

After completing end-of-life planning, some Heartwork clients have broken out too, embracing adventures that fears of dying had previously kept them from. One went mountain climbing. Another bought plane tickets for a long-postponed trip to India.

"I see that happen all the time for people when they do this work," James says. "I think it is possible to at least reduce our fear, if not to eliminate it. And when the doctor says to them, 'There's a lot more things we could do,' they can now ask, 'What would that look like? Oh, I'd rather not have all that treatment. I just want to be comfortable and able to be with my family.' That's a huge achievement for me when people can do that."

We can't control everything, James knows. Death, a necessary end, will come when it will come. But making our wishes clear to those we love and those we entrust with our care goes a long way toward ensuring that we get the kind of death we envision. And clarifying those wishes for ourselves can lessen anxiety when our time comes.

"Just like any fear, the more you talk about it and learn about it," James says, "the less it can scare you."



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1 Retrieved on January 9, 2019, from gmac.com/market-intelligence-and-research/research-library/employment-outlook/2017-corporate-recruiters-survey-report.aspxfortune.com/2015/05/19/mba-graduates-starting-salary 2 Retrieved on January 9, 2019, from linkedin.com/pulse/getting-mba-worth-marc-miller/

Association



Conway-Turner



Daniels



Gooch

Leaders, innovators

Black Alumni Network honors standout Jayhawks

Six alumni will receive the KU Black Alumni Network Mike and Joyce Shinn Leaders and Innovators Award for their contributions to the University, their profession and their communities. The award is named for the late Mike Shinn, e'66, who helped found the KU Black Alumni Network and the Leaders and Innovators Project, and his wife, Joyce.

The six recipients will be honored Oct. 25 during the Black Alumni Network's biennial reunion. They are:

• Katherine Conway-Turner, c'76, g'80, PhD'81

- Jyarland Daniels, b'97
- Bonita Gooch, j'77, g'78
- Eva McGhee, PhD'95
- Ivory Nelson, PhD'63
- Norma Norman, d'67, l'89

Conway-Turner, of Buffalo, New York, has been a leader in higher education for more than 20 years. Before becoming president of Buffalo State College-State University of New York in 2014, she served as provost and vice president of academic affairs at Hood College and State University of New York, and dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences at Georgia Southern University. A first-generation college student, she advocates for

affordable tuition and food security for those who are underserved.

She serves on several national, state, and local committees and boards, including Haiti Outreach Pwoje Espwa (H.O.P.E.), based in Rochester, New York. As chair of the organization's education committee, she travels frequently to Borgne, Haiti, to assist community members with health, education and economic efforts. She also created Bengals Dare to Care Day, an annual community service project at Buffalo State College.

Daniels, of New York City, is a steadfast advocate for social justice and racial

equity. After graduating from KU, she launched her career in marketing and public relations and worked with several Fortune 500 companies, including Johnson & Johnson and Ford Motor Company, before earning her law degree from Wayne State University in Detroit, where she focused on education and civil rights law.

She has since served as executive director of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in Detroit, and in 2016 she founded Harriet Speaks, an equity and inclusion consulting firm that provides services for corporations, government agencies and educational institutions nationwide. Most recently, she was appointed interim chief communications officer of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund.

Gooch, of Wichita, is a veteran journalist, community activist and entrepreneur. She owns TCV Publishing, which produces several local newspapers, including the Community Voice, the Tanker Times and the Big Voice. As editor-in-chief of the Community Voice, which features news, issues and interests of the African American community, she has been honored with the U.S. Small Business Administration's Media Advocate Award and two Kansas Press Association awards.

She volunteers for several organizations, including the American Red Cross and the Kansas African American Affairs Com-

Norman



McGhee



Nelson



mission, and she has received numerous awards for her leadership and community service.

McGhee, of San Francisco, is a scholar and humanitarian whose research focuses on health disparities in African American and Hispanic women. One of her most notable accomplishments is the discovery of the candidate gene for Coffin-Siris Syndrome, a rare genetic disorder. Her research has been widely published, and she contributed to a report for President Barack Obama on HPV vaccinations. She currently serves as assistant professor of medicine at Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science in Los Angeles.

As a professor, she has mentored hundreds of students in medicine, nursing, pharmacy and science, and she established a scholarship program for high school students at Mount Zion Baptist Church in San Francisco.

Nelson, of Houston, has had a long and distinguished career as a scientist, educator and leader in higher education. At KU, he was the first African American student to receive a doctorate in analytical chemistry and to be inducted in Sigma Xi, a scientific research honor society. In 1986 he became chancellor of the Alamo Community College District in San Antonio and later served for more than seven years as president of Central Washington University in Ellensburg, Washington. In 1999 he became president of Lincoln University in Pennsylvania, where the Ivory V. Nelson Center for the Sciences was built in 2009, two years before his retirement. His career in higher education also includes receiving a Fulbright Lectureship.

A recipient of the Alumni Association's Distinguished Service Citation in 1998, he has served as director of the Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce and was appointed by the governor of Washington to the Washington State Commission on Student Learning.

Norman, of Georgetown, Texas, has devoted her career to education and human resources. She served as an elementary school principal in California and managed a state education-certification program before moving to Las Vegas, where she directed employee and labor relations at the Bellagio Hotel for 10 years. She later served as a civil rights officer for the Department of Transportation in Nevada and as a human resources counselor and employee relations coordinator for the Texas Workforce Commission.

She has volunteered in her community for several years, working with the MGM Mirage Resorts Diversity Champion Program in Las Vegas; the Human Resources Management Association in Austin, Texas; and the Northeast Economic Development Corporation in Kansas City, Kansas. She was inducted in the Topeka High School Hall of Fame in 2008.

Kyou Networking

From coast to coast, Jayhawks make new connections

More than 160 alumni gathered Aug. 1 for the first Kyou Networking Day, an event that encourages Jayhawks to network and make connections in fun, relaxing environments.

The Alumni Association hosted 18 events across the country during the



Los Angeles Network

daylong experience, which included happy hours, breakfasts and coffees in California, Colorado, Kansas, Texas, Illinois, Florida and Washington, D.C. There also was an online networking event for those who couldn't participate in person.

Kyou Networking Day was designed to help Jayhawks at any career stage, from new graduates exploring job opportunities to established professionals interested in mentoring younger alumni or searching for their next hire. Participants were encouraged to pick up colorful cards that displayed useful information such as "I want to change careers," "I want to meet other alumni in my area" and "I need a job," which proved to be effective icebreakers at the events. The cards also helped track Jayhawks' reasons for attending:



Colorado Springs Network

Association

• 55% wanted to meet other Jayhawks in their region

27% wanted to give back

• 21% wanted to explore career options and gain professional development

Hanna Hayden, c'18, who moved from Lawrence to Washington, D.C. this summer, participated in a happy hour near the U.S. Capitol. "I hoped to meet other people in the same boat as me, and to hear about other Jayhawks' experiences with job searching," she says.

Adam Brazil, c'07, PhD'19, who works remotely as program director for Project STEP-UP at KU, attended the Seattle event with his wife, Nicole Lawson, c'12, l'16, a prosecuting attorney for King County. "We're fairly new to Seattle," Brazil says, "so making personal connections was our primary focus. But we're also interested in hearing what other KU grads are doing professionally and how they've moved about. We're both early career folks, so we're just thinking ahead."

Kyou Networking Day is one of many benefits of the Jayhawk Career Network, which supports alumni through an online KU Mentoring platform and job board and provides critical resources and networking opportunities for Jayhawks at every career stage. Kristi Durkin Laclé, c'99, assistant vice president of the Jayhawk Career Network, hopes to expand the event next year and engage even more Jayhawks nationwide. "We were thrilled with the turnout at the events hosted around the country," she says. "It was nice to see alumni come out for networking and career conversations, and we hope to continue to bring Jayhawks together to support all aspects of their careers."



Seattle Network

New staff members

Riley Gates, j'19, a recent graduate in strategic communications and a former student employee at the Adams Alumni Center, is the Association's new coordinator of hospitality services. When she's not working or cheering on the Jayhawks, Riley enjoys reading and spending time with her family and friends.

Brian Handshy, c'98, joined the Association in June as data analyst and programmer after a 17-year career at KU Endowment. He and his wife, Ronda, are Parsons natives and have four children, three of whom are Jayhawks, and five grandchildren. Brian enjoys working in the yard and hiking in Colorado.





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Photographs by Steve Puppe







KU Kickoff

Jayhawks of all ages turned out Aug. 23 for the annual KU Kickoff at Corinth Square, where guests celebrated the start of football season with food, drinks, games and entertainment from the KU Band, Spirit Squad and mascots. Members of the KU football team were on hand to snap selfies with fans, and head coach Les Miles and University leaders rallied the crowd at the festive event.





Life Members

The Association thanks these Jayhawks, who began their Life memberships July 1 through Aug. 31. For information, visit kualumni.org or call 800-584-2957.

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Prices increase on Oct. 1, Nov. 1 and race day (excludes virtual runners).





by Heather Biele Class Notes

56 Michael Getto, '56, is a destination ambassador for Marriott Hotel & Spa in Newport Beach, California. He makes his home in Aliso Viejo.

58 Alan Craven, c'58, g'63, PhD'65, wrote *Till We Have Built Jerusalem*, which was published in April by Sunbury Press. He lives in San Antonio.

60 Don Culp, j'60, l'65, retired after 53 years practicing law. He and Judy Smith Culp, d'69, live in Overland Park.

63 Roy Pointer, c'63, lives in Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania, where he retired as professor at Bloomsburg University.

64 C. Ellis Potter, c'64, was honored in May as a distinguished alumnus and guest speaker at Neosho County Community College's commencement. He is a retired optometrist in Iola.

67 Daniel Leonard, d'67, retired from teaching in 2002 and is now president of Wallowa Lake Lodge in Joseph, Oregon, and a member of the board of managers. The historic lodge, which celebrates its 100th year in 2023, has been recognized as one of 25 Great Lodges of the National Parks.

Cynthia Hardin Milligan, *c*'67, is president and CEO of the Wood Stieper Capital Group in Lincoln, Nebraska, and dean emeritus of the College of Business at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. She was inducted in the KU Women's Hall of Fame in April.

Randy Signor, d'67, lives in Seattle, where he is a writer, editor and teacher. His novel, *Osawatomie*, was published in 2017.

68 Blake Biles, c'68, l'75, lives in Washington, D.C., and is an active retired partner at Arnold & Porter law firm. He recently received the D.C. Bar and D.C. Attorney General's Award for Lifetime Pro Bono Achievement.

Linda Werkley Duncombe, f'68, received the Dudley Allen Sargent Service Award from Boston University, where she taught occupational therapy for 45 years. She lives in West Newton, Massachusetts, with her husband of 44 years, Chris, and has three children and seven grandchildren.

Ward Russell, f'68, and his wife, MaryCay, assoc., own Ward Russell Gallery of Photography, which is celebrating its 10th year in Santa Fe, New Mexico. In 2014 Ward received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the KU department of film and media studies.

69 Jacqulyn Andrews Ashcroft, d'69, '97, is a retired teacher and lives in Hutchinson with **Stephen**, p'69.

Carol Hughes Savage, g'69, PhD'73, founded Brookridge Day School, a private school in Overland Park for children in preschool through third grade. The school celebrates its 52nd anniversary this year.

Tom Wilson, d'69, postponed his retirement and took a position as industry lead for oil and gas at Appian Corp., a software company that was co-founded by his son, Marc. Tom is a longtime business consultant to energy, oil and gas clients and lives in Lake Worth, Florida, with his wife of 47 years, Brenda.

Ronald Yates, j'69, is an award-winning author of historical fiction and action/ adventure novels, including *The Lost Years of Billy Battles*, the final installment in his Billy Battles trilogy, which won Best Book of the Year from Chanticleer International Book Awards. The trilogy tells the story of the life of a Kansas man from 1860 to 1960.

70 Anne Ayers, c'70, president of Appalachian Love Arts and an estate administrator, was named to Marquis Who's Who. She lives in Martinsburg, West Virginia.

Dan Crook, p'70, retired after nearly 50 years as a hospital pharmacist. He and his wife, Catherine, make their home in El Dorado, where Dan worked at Susan B. Allen Memorial Hospital for almost 19 years.

Richard "Dick" Fortier, d'70, and his twin brother, **Bob,** d'70, in May were

inducted in the Bemidji High School Hall of Fame in Bemidji, Minnesota. They played football for the Jayhawks in the late '60s.

Linda Miller, d'70, received the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution Women in American History Award in March. She makes her home in Henderson, Nevada.

71 Robert Craig II, f'71, retired as director of purchasing at Auto-Chlor System. He lives in Germantown, Tennessee.

School Codes Letters that follow names indicate the school from which alumni earned degrees. Numbers show their class years.

.....

а	School of Architecture
	and Design
b	School of Business
c	College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
d	School of Education
е	School of Engineering
f	School of Fine Arts
g	Master's Degree
h	School of Health Professions
j	School of Journalism
1	School of Law
m	School of Medicine
n	School of Nursing
р	School of Pharmacy
PharmD	School of Pharmacy
S	School of Social Welfare
u	School of Music
AUD	Doctor of Audiology
DE	Doctor of Engineering
DMA	Doctor of Musical Arts
DNAP	Doctor of Nursing Anaesthesia Practice
DNP	Doctor of Nursing Practice
DPT	Doctor of Physical Therapy
EdD	Doctor of Education
OTD	Doctor of Occupational Therapy
PhD	Doctor of Philosophy
SJD	Doctor of Juridical Science
(no letter)	Former student
assoc	Associate member of the
	Alumni Association

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David Grose, e'71, g'75, g'79, lives in Poulsbo, Washington, where he's a retired technical fellow for the Boeing Company.

72 Linda Graham Bosse, d'72, a retired certified music therapist whose career spanned nearly 45 years, serves on the Assembly of Delegates for the American Music Therapy Association. She received the AMTA Lifetime Achievement Award in 2017.

David Davis, e'72, retired from civil service as a senior engineer. He lives in Leavenworth.

Linda Legg, d'72, l'75, is retired senior vice president and general counsel at AT&T. In April she received the KU School of Law Distinguished Alumni Award.

Mike Vrabac, j'72, in May received the William Booth Award, one of the highest honors bestowed by the Salvation Army, at the organization's 10th-annual civic luncheon. He has volunteered for the Salvation Army for several years and is an advisory board member in Kansas City. Mike used his experience in broadcasting, sales and marketing to lead the development of the organization's annual "Rock the Red Kettle" event in the Power & Light District in Kansas City.

73 Manuel Berman, b'73, makes his home in Portland, Oregon, where he's a retired hospital administrator.

Dennis Cooley, c'73, m'77, a longtime physician at Pediatric Associates of Topeka, serves on the board of directors of the American Academy of Pediatrics and recently was elected chair of District VI.

Susan Roush Corea, d'73, lives in Madison, New Jersey, where she's a retired kindergarten teacher.

Gary Flory, l'73, retired from Bethel College in North Newton as director emeritus of the Kansas Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution. He and **Ann Sollenberger Flory**, g'72, a retired librarian, live in McPherson.

Colette Kocour, c'73, is a human resources consultant in Wellington. **Marv Nuss,** e'73, in May received the Distinguished Engineering Service Award from the KU School of Engineering. He had a long career in airspace safety and worked at McDonnell Aircraft Corp. and the Federal Aviation Administration before founding a consulting firm, NuSS Sustainment Solutions. He and **Hazel Best Nuss,** c'74, make their home in Shawnee.

Dave Ross, e'73, g'75, '01, president and owner of David E. Ross Construction in Kansas City, was honored in May with KU's Distinguished Engineering Service Award. He and his wife, Patty, live in Leawood.

74 Steven Averbuch, p'74, owns S D Averbuch Consulting in Princeton, New Jersey.

Paulette Pippert Cott, j'74, retired as a United Methodist pastor. She and **Greg**, b'73, recently moved from Illinois to Afton, Oklahoma.



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Israel March 22-31

Sorrento April 1-9

Southern Grandeur April 20-28 European Coastal Civilization April 27-May 6

Dutch Waterways April 28-May 6

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Aegean Medley May 14-25

Paris May 16-24

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Nordic Magnificence July 12-22

Scotland August 3-11

Discover Southeast Alaska August 7-14

Baltic and Scandinavian Emperors August 28-September 8

Northern Serenade August 29-September 11

Ireland Wild Atlantic Way September 5-13

Flavors of Northern Italy September 5-13 Singapore, Thailand and Angkor Wat September 10-23

Cruising the Adriatic and Aegean Seas September 17-25

Grand Danube Passage September 24-October 9

Machu Picchu to the Galapagos October 6-21

Tanzania October 6-17

Cosmopolitan Havens November 3-11

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75 Stephen Pollart, b'75, is president of Strategic Partners Insurance Agency in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. He and his wife, Leslie, live in Pompano Beach.

Jeff Southard, c'75, l'78, is retired from the practice of law and lives in Lawrence. He recently published his first book, *Year of the Dolphin*, a historical novel set in Constantinople in 1014.

76 Mark Bennett, b'76, l'80, was appointed independent director of Legacy Housing Corp. He makes his home in Dallas. **Elizabeth Shafernich Coulson,** d'76, received the Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award. She was a member of the Illinois House of Representatives from 1997 to 2011 and is currently vice chair of the board of directors at Rosalind Franklin University School of Health Sciences in Chicago.

Cathy Riffey Dauner, d'76, lives in Mankato, where she's a retired teacher.

Michael Lynn, j'76, is a financial analyst at CenturyLink in Littleton, Colorado, where he lives with his wife, Amy.

Rachel Lipman Reiber, j'76, l'84, is an

attorney at Reiber Law Office in Olathe.

James Seward, g'76, g'83, is a chartered financial analyst and private investor in Prairie Village.

Thomas Weishaar, g'76, received his doctorate in health education in May from Teachers College, Columbia University, in New York City.

77 Bill French, j'77, was recently elected the 71st president of the Tulsa Men's Club, an organization formed in 1949 to promote fellowship and provide entertainment and recreation for its members.

PROFILE by Steven Hill

Reader involvement is key to journalist's approach

Hannah Wise was broadcasting via Facebook Live for The Dallas Morning News on July 7, 2016, when a peaceful downtown protest was shattered by gunfire. As shooting continued and chaos spread, Wise kept reporting live until her phone battery died 30 minutes later.

Five police officers were killed and nine wounded by a U.S. Army veteran angered by the recent deaths of African American men in police-involved shootings. The paper was named a Pulitzer Prize finalist for its team coverage of the tragedy.

"I was grateful for my training at KU, that I was really thinking about the ethics of everything that we were broadcasting," says Wise, j'14. "In situations like that people have lots of anxiety. You always want to get it right, but you really want to be right in those instances."

The experience informed a career transition that led Wise to shift her journalism focus to audience engagement, first at the Morning News and then, starting in July, at The New York Times.

"That made me really think about how we were answering questions from our community, how we were representing them on the site and in the pages of the newspaper, and how we could include them more," she says.

Inspired by a ProPublica series on Agent Orange that drew on the experiences of thousands of Vietnam War veterans and their families, Wise pitched her bosses the idea of an engagement editor to harness social media to produce "community led and driven" reporting. She created a project called Curious Texas that invited Morning News readers to not only suggest stories, but also "to join in the reporting process." As Wise wrote in a piece launching the project, "The idea is simple: You have questions and our journalists are trained to track down answers."

Last year the paper published more than 100 Curious Texas articles, drawing 1.2 million page views. (Her favorite, "Where Have All the Horny Toads Gone," was a nine-month project tracing efforts to reintroduce the state reptile—and Texas Christian University mascot—to its traditional range.) This year Editor & Publisher named Wise to its "25 Under 35" list of rising journalists.

As a social strategy editor at the Times, she oversees @NYTimes brand accounts and works with reporters and editors to monitor stories that often bubble up from online conversation.

"There's sometimes a misconception about social media roles," Wise says, "but a



Platforms will change, Wise says, "but what's important is to stay rooted in the basics of journalism: solid writing, storytelling and holding powerful people accountable."

.....

lot of thought and strategy goes into connecting people across the internet

connecting people across the internet using tools like Facebook and Instagram and Twitter to deliver cohesive journalism to that audience at the right time. There's a lot of data and analytics that we use in our role, trying to make sure that we have the most impact with every piece of journalism the Times produces."

Class Notes



Denise Miller Lydick, c'77, h'77, is a medical laboratory scientist at the University of Kansas Health System. She lives in Overland Park and has three children, **Geoffrey**, c'06, **Kathryn Lydick Bishop**, d'09, and **Anna Lydick Nelson**, e'12, m'18.

78 Kathy Rose-Mockry, d'78, g'85, PhD'15, retired in June after serving as director of the Emily Taylor Resource Center for Women & Gender Equity for 20 years. She established the University's first sexual assault response policy in 2001, and in 2004 she created the KU Women of Distinction calendar. Kathy was inducted in the KU Women's Hall of Fame in 2011.

79 Christopher Lynch, b'79, serves on the board of directors for Tenet Healthcare Corp. He worked at KPMG for nearly 30 years, retiring in 2007 as head of the financial services division.

Ethan Saliba, h'79, associate athletic director and head athletic trainer for men's basketball at the University of Virginia, was honored in May as the 2019 Parsons

High School Distinguished Alumnus. He lives in Charlottesville.

80 Laura Ice, d'80, was promoted in June to vice president and general counsel of Textron Financial Corp. She lives in Wichita and is a past president of the Wichita Bar Association.

Jeffery Mason, c'80, l'83, lives in Goodland, where he's president of Sherman County Abstract Co.

Reggie Robinson, *c*'80, l'87, vice chancellor for public affairs at KU, was appointed facilitator for the Kansas Criminal Justice Reform Commission by Gov. Laura Kelly.

81 Cynda Stolte Johnson, m'81, retired founding dean of the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine, was honored in April with emerita status. She continues to make her home in Roanoke, Virginia.

82 Dereck Rovaris, c'82, vice provost for diversity at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, in May was named president of the American Association of Blacks in Higher Education.

83 Sherry Baugh-Asmann, h'83, g'04, works at Bardavon Health Innovations in Overland Park, where she's a provider-quality adviser.

Carlos Blacklock, e'83, g'84, is a principal engineering specialist at Bombardier Aerospace in Wichita.

Jimmie Felt, c'83, retired from Spirit AeroSystems in Wichita, where he makes his home.

Wayne Feuerborn, a'83, a'84, g'87, lives in Los Angeles, where he's senior vice president at HNTB.

Nancy Ice Schlup, d'83, retired from the Newton School District after teaching special-needs children for 34 years. She lives in Newton with her husband, Ken, and is active in her community.

Bryan Steiner, c'83, is a technical recruiter at Yoh Staffing Services in Overland Park.

Francis Wardle, PhD'83, wrote *Oh Boy! Strategies for Teaching Boys in Early*

Childhood, which was recently published by Exchange Press. He lives in Denver.

Andrea Warren, g'83, a freelance writer in Prairie Village, was recently featured in Publisher's Weekly discussing her newest nonfiction book for young readers, *Enemy Child: The Story of Norman Mineta, a Boy Imprisoned in a Japanese American Internment Camp During World War II.* The book, which was published in April, is a Junior Literary Guild selection.

84 Regina Goodwin, f'84, who serves as a state representative in Tulsa, Oklahoma, received the 2019 Guardian Award from the Oklahoma Commission on the Status of Women. She's also an artist and creates greeting cards and conducts animation workshops.

Kurt Morgenstern, c'84, g'88, is a biochemist and proteomic mass spectros-copist at Arrakis Therapeutics. He and **Carolyn Johnson Morgenstern**, c'86, make their home in Derry, New Hampshire.

Jeanny Jackson Sharp, j'84, directs communications for the Kansas Depart-

ment of Transportation. She lives in Topeka.

85 Tammy Thomas Ammons, c'85, a two-time NCAA swimming champion and 17-time All-American at KU, will be inducted in the Kansas Sports Hall of Fame in October.

John Colombo, '85, who directs KU's Life Span Institute, was appointed interim dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. He began his one-year term in July.

Linda McAlister Knewtson, c'85, is a social worker at the Menninger Clinic in Houston.

86 Barbara Elyce Cox Arons, '86, lives in New York City, where she's CEO of Frances Valentine, an apparel, shoe and handbag company she co-founded with the late **Kate Broshnahan Spade**, '86.

Barbara Breier, PhD'86, vice president for university advancement at Texas State University and executive director of the Texas State University Development



Foundation, in April received a 2019 CASE Commonfund Institutionally



Related Foundation Award for her philanthropic contributions.

Kenneth Dawson, e²86, g²88, is principal flutter engineer at the Spaceship Company. He makes his home in Caliente, California.

Keith Hertling, g'86, senior vice president of leadership, coaching and culture at Jersey Mike's Subs, published his first book, *Life Lessons on Leadership*, *Coaching and Culture*. He lives in Point Pleasant Beach, New Jersey.

Tracey O'Keefe Hopper, b'86, is chief operating officer at Tria Health in Overland Park.

Timothy Klaas, a'86, lives in St. Louis, where he's a project architect at Cohen Hilberry Architects.

David Poisner, e'86, recently received his 100th granted U.S. patent. After 30 years at Intel Corp. and a few years as an independent consultant, he now directs engineering at Certus Critical Care, a medical device company in Sacramento, California.

Dennis Sandstedt, c'86, is vice president of open innovation at Danaher Corporation in Washington, D.C.

87 Paul Burmaster, j'87, l'90, in July was appointed to the 10th Judicial District in Johnson County. He has been an attorney in the Kansas City area for 25 years.

Jerri Compton Carroll, '87, is a CT technologist at the University of Kansas Health System. She lives in Lee's Summit, Missouri.

Kevin Stewart, e'87, is deputy director of technical operations for the Federal Aviation Administration western service area.

88 David Francke, c'88, is managing director of Chappellet, a 52-yearold winery in Napa Valley.

William Hussong, c'88, manages commercial sales at TimberTown in Pflugerville, Texas. He and **Joan Klausner**, d'92, g'96, live in Austin.



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Dane Lee, c'88, is president of Ag Guard, a risk-management solutions firm for the agricultural industry. He makes his home in Fairway.

Doris Nagel, l'88, lives in Libertyville, Illinois, where she's CEO and founder of Globalocity, a sales-growth consulting firm.

89 Stephen Newell, b'89, manages CFO Solutions. He and Judith Hellwege Newell, f'88, make their home in Chesterfield, Missouri.

Melinda Eisenhour Parks, b'89, is senior

vice president at Freestate Advisors in Overland Park.

Robert Widner, l'89, city attorney for Centennial, Colorado, and founding partner of Widner Juran law firm, was elected vice president of Colorado Municipal League.

90 Guerin Emig, j'90, is a sports columnist at the Tulsa World in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He and Christy Knight Emig, d'90, have two children, Gretchen, c'19, and Holden, who's a sophomore at KU.

Joelle Sanders Horner, c'90, teaches in the Francis Howell School District in St. Charles, Missouri.

92 Jennifer Swisher Mauser, c'92, a homeschool educational consultant, teaches Institute for Excellence in Writing classes and tutors students who struggle with dyslexia. She lives in St. Johns, Florida.

Sam Niknia, c'92, g'96, is director of KPMG, a professional services network, in Washington, D.C.

Christina Kruzel Wasik, c'92, is senior

PROFILE by Heather Biele

Thrill-seeking pilot finds ultimate high in aerobatics

By the time Scott Francis arrived at KU in 1985, with his recently earned private pilot's license and a full-ride Navy Reserve Officer Training Corps scholarship, the Wichita native seemed poised to fulfill his dream of becoming a fighter pilot. The only thing standing in the way was his uncorrected vision, which didn't meet the Navy's strict guidelines.

"Basically, there was no chance that I was going to get to fly in the military," says Francis, e'89, g'92, who decided to leave the ROTC program and instead focus his energy on an engineering degree.

Flying, and engineering, ran in the family: Francis' father, Bud, e'62, studied aerospace engineering at KU and was an experimental test pilot for Wichita manufacturer Beech Aircraft. His grandfather flew for commercial airlines.

"While my father did a lot of flying, he was really an engineer first and a pilot second," Francis says. "I had this sense that engineering would carry my career, and then I would just look for opportunities to fly."

Turns out, he didn't have to look far. In 2003, Francis started taking lessons in aerobatics, a type of flying that involves stunning maneuvers, such as loops, rolls and spins, and aircraft attitudes not seen in normal flight. At the suggestion of his instructor, Francis signed up for a local competition. He was instantly hooked.

Months later, he purchased his first aerobatic biplane, a Pitts S-1T, and worked his way up the competition ranks, earning his commercial, instrument, multi-engine and Airline Transport Pilot

certifications along the way. It wasn't long before he was performing in airshows.

"Airshows are a lot more about just letting your hair down and doing crazy things with airplanes," Francis says, "whereas competition aerobatics is kind of like Olympic ice skating—it's all about doing things very precisely."

These days Francis focuses solely on airshows, performing about 20 times a year near his hometown of Dumfries, Virginia, and across the country. In 2013, he upgraded his second plane, a Giles 202, to an MXS, which is "really a rocket ride," according to Francis. The high-performance, carbon-fiber aircraft can reach speeds of up to 320 mph and has a roll rate of about 540 degrees per second, the equivalent of a roll and a half per second. At times, Francis can pull as



"I've taken my aerobatic flying a lot further than I ever thought I would," says Scott Francis, a third-generation pilot. "I would always like to fly more shows and bigger shows, but I have to be honest, I'm pretty happy with where I am."

asn't long many as 12 Gs in the monoplane.

In addition to doing airshows, Francis is a test pilot and lead engineer for a military program creating the next generation of airborne surveillance aircraft, a job that perfectly blends his engineering and aviation backgrounds. But it's the thrill of stunts and tricks that truly satisfies this self-described speed-junkie.

"To me, it's just the ultimate high," Francis says. "When you start out flying aerobatics, by definition, you suck at it, right? That's just the way it is. But as you get better it's just so satisfying. Things that you couldn't even imagine doing a year ago, now you're doing them routinely. So you just keep trying harder and harder things that used to be beyond your skill level and now they're not. For me, that's just really satisfying."

Class Notes

director of marketing at Skyland Analytics in Niwot, Colorado. She and her husband, Michael, have two children, Addison and Dominik, and live in Superior.

93 Andrew Jones, l'93, lives in Wylie, Texas, where he's senior director and legal counsel at Epsilon Data Management.

Christopher Milford, f'93, m'97, is a neurologist at Silver State Neurology in Las Vegas.

Renda Colglazier Nelson, g'93, is state program director of Better Living for Texans, a nutrition-education resource provided by Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Services. She and **Jimmie,** PhD'90, live in Canyon, Texas.

Arlene Tejada O'Shea, n'93, is a nurse practitioner at Saint Luke's Neurology. She and her husband, Michael, live in Lee's Summit, Missouri.

Craig Owens, g'93, is city manager of Lawrence. He previously served in the same role in Clayton, Missouri.

Erin Homlish Rian, c'93, directs member

services and the Risk Information Sharing Consortium at the National League of Cities in Washington, D.C.

94 Christopher Boyer, b'94, works at AT&T, where he's assistant vice president of global public policy. He and his wife, Marnie, live in Bethesda, Maryland, and have three children, Matthew, Sydney and Nicholas.

David Dorsey, j'94, is the Cape Coral growth and development reporter at the News-Press in Fort Myers, Florida.

Marlene Dearinger Neill, j'94, was promoted to associate professor and graduate program director at Baylor University in Waco, Texas.

Michael Zyskowski, e'94, g'97, is product manager at Wing Aviation. He and his wife, Gina, live in Snohomish, Washington.

95 Dana Smith Branson, s'95, is an assistant professor of social work at Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau, Missouri, where she

lives with her husband, Alan.

Nichole David, c'95, is an administrator at the River School in Washington, D.C.

Kelly Gregg, PhD'95, retired as professor of geography and geology at Jacksonville State University in Jacksonville, Alabama, where he lives with his wife, **Karen,** assoc.

Krista Zweimiller Kellogg, g'95, is a physical therapist at Lafene Health Center at Kansas State University. She and her husband, Donald, live in Manhattan.

Rusty Monhollon, g'95, PhD'99, in July became president and executive director of the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education. He previously served as assistant commissioner for academic affairs at the Missouri Department of Higher Education.

Kristie Murphy, c'95, lives in Trophy Club, Texas, where she writes blogs for Doctorlogic Inc.

Arthur Townsend, m'95, is vice president and chief clinical transformation officer at Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare in Memphis, Tennessee.



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MARRIED

Janann Eldredge, '95, and Stephen Kibler, d'98, '99, May 27 in Estes Park, Colorado. They live in St. Joseph, Missouri, where Janann manages accounting at Nonprofit Connect, and Stephen is a counselor at Benton High School.

96 Jason Endecott, e'96, is general manager of value chain strategy at Phillips 66 in Houston, where he lives with his wife, **Virginia**, assoc.

Craig Hansen, m'96, is an orthopedic surgeon at OrthoNebraska in Council Bluffs, where he lives with **Jennifer Stone,** m'96. In June, Craig was inducted in the Lewis Central High School Hall of Fame.

Holli Hartman, c'96, e'14, was elected to the national board of trustees for Tau Beta Sigma, the national honorary band sorority. Holli was initiated in 1989 in the Zeta Delta chapter as a freshman in the KU Band.

97 Grant Bannister, l'97, was appointed chief judge of the 21st Judicial

District, covering Clay and Riley counties, by the Kansas Supreme Court. He makes his home in Manhattan.

Jason Klein, c'97, l'02, was promoted to managing partner at Wood, Smith, Henning & Berman in Highlands Ranch, Colorado. He and his wife, Laura Gomez Klein, c'97, l'00, moved from Tampa, Florida, to Denver in January with their two boys, Gus and Willie.

Zach Klein, j'97, was named Georgia Sportscaster of the Year by the National Sports Media Association. He works at WSB-TV in Atlanta.

Randy Perez, l'97, is senior vice president of product management at Motorists Insurance Group in Columbus, Ohio.

Brian Voos, d'97, g'99, directs the physical therapy program at Sabetha Community Hospital. He and **Jennifer Smith Voos,** '97, live in Sabetha with their three children.

98 Heather Ackerly Dennis, c'98, is an annual fund manager at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. She

and her husband, Brian, live in Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin.

Maggie Mohrfeld, j'98, g'00, directs development at Avila University in Kansas City, where she makes her home with her husband, David.

Garrett Sullivan, c'98, m'05, lives in Kansas City, where he's a physician.

99 Mindi Eutsler-Meyer, c'99, teaches at Oak Valley Middle School in San Diego.

Michael Harrity, j'99, g'02, senior associate athletics director at the University of Notre Dame, received a LEAD1 Association minority scholarship award to attend the LEAD1 Institute in July.

Meg Heimovics Kumin, c'99, g'03, is a photographer in Marketing Communications at KU.

Danny Libel, j'99, is a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Air Force and an instructor pilot for C-130 aircraft. He lives in Robinson.

Amy Schmidt, c'99, coordinates early-childhood educator services at

Class Notes





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KenCrest. She makes her home in Dover, Delaware.

DO Leslie Doyle, g'00, is chief inclusion officer at Rockhurst University in Kansas City, where she leads the new Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.

Kerrie Crites Greenfelder, e'00, a project manager at Burns & McDonnell in Kansas City, was recently elected to a two-year term on the board of directors of the Society of Women Engineers. She also serves on the board of the Kansas Society of Professional Engineers.

Hilary Roberts, c'00, lives in Pflugerville, Texas, where she's a senior project manager at Dell.

Oll Maggie Thompson Doll, j'01, g'08, lives in Topeka, where she's deputy secretary for the Kansas Department of Transportation.

Jesse Goldman, a'01, is an architect and principal at CSHQA in Denver, where he makes his home with **Katie Griffiths** Goldman, a'01.

Nathan Mattison, c'01, is an attorney at

the Law Offices of Dianne Sawaya in Denver.

David Waldron, b'01, lives in Beverly Hills, Michigan, where he's regional vice president at Ivy Investments.

O2 Jack Brooks, c'02, l'05, is a U.S. Air Force major in Waddell, Arizona. **Phil Buttell**, g'02, l'02, in June was named CEO of Menorah Medical Center in Overland Park. He previously was chief operating officer at Centerpoint Medical Center in Independence, Missouri.

Molly Mueller Haase, j'02, directs

PROFILE by Chris Lazzarino

Hamm helps travelers find their way to adventure

Los Angeles Times travel editor Catharine Hamm concedes that, as a better writer than photographer, she might need to take 92 photographs to artfully capture visual details of her journeys.

As for the rest of us? Just stop.

"You don't need 92 pictures of the Louvre. You don't need 92 pictures of Corsica. You don't need 92 pictures of Tokyo. You need *one*," Hamm, '93, says from her Los Angeles office, shortly before departing for 10 days in the Alps.

Not only do we miss the chance to make memories rather than pictures when we obsess over posting updates the instant a Wi-Fi signal is lassoed, but we also fail to honor elements of travel that can't be conveyed by social media or even glossy magazines: smell, taste, sound, touch.

"We tend to think of travel as mostly visual," Hamm says. "It's not."

Thanks to varied postings required of her father's civil service job, Hamm grew up in Washington, D.C., Hawaii and the Philippines; thanks to scholarships from McPherson College, she landed back in her parents' native Kansas for school. Intending to follow her father into a government career, Hamm studied Spanish, but also fell in love with journalism while finding "lots of trouble" on the school paper.

After stints at two small papers, Hamm in 1980 became a copy editor with the Kansas City Star, where her first promotion was to travel editor. Her career detoured back into news, however, and it was during her stint as the Star's assistant managing editor that Hamm enrolled in graduate school at KU, studying journalism management with Professor Emeritus Rick Musser and business management with Associate Professor Emerita Renate Mai-Dalton.

"There is not a day that goes by that I don't use a lot of what Dr. Mai-Dalton taught me," Hamm says of lessons on seeking perspectives beyond the obvious. "Particularly in our business, it is important to not only consider other points of view, but to report them."

Hamm left the Star in 1992; after stints at two Gannett papers in California, she joined the Los Angeles Times in 1999 as deputy travel editor, and since 2003 has led the travel department as editor.

Hamm relishes the memory of her mother's reaction when she phoned with the news of her first travel gig, in Kansas



Unsatisfied with her newspaper mug shot, Catharine Hamm also emailed festive pics from a Bermuda birthday, pleased that a unicorn hat would likely be a first for *Kansas Alumni*.

> City: "She started laughing and said, 'You are the worst traveler ever!" Hamm concedes that as an adolescent she was known to order hot dogs when the family dined in exotic Asian ports of call.

As for consuming travel journalism, Hamm—referencing the original and still greatest travel piece of all, Homer's *Odyssey*—cautions against falling for "rosy fingers of dawn" hyperbole.

"If everything is great, you should probably put that story down. There is no trip I have ever taken that has gone completely right."

Class Notes



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advocacy at AdventHealth Shawnee Mission. She lives in Kansas City.

Todd Louis, g'02, is a U.S. segment leader at Apple. He and Stephanie Thomas Louis, g'16, live in Denver.

03 Nick Collison, c'03, will be inducted in the Kansas Sports Hall of Fame in October. A consensus All-American in 2003, he led the Jayhawks to two Final Four appearances, in 2002 and 2003. Nick played 14 NBA seasons with the Seattle Supersonics/Oklahoma City Thunder and retired in 2018.

Sarah Vrabac Sampson, j'03, directs client insights at Service Management Group in Kansas City.

Stephanie Spire, c'03, lives in Arlington, Virginia, where she's an executive assistant at PGIM Real Estate Finance.

Objects on these pages are from the archives of the Adams Alumni Center.



Michael Dalbom, c'04, directs strategic accounts at Cardinal Health. He lives in Olathe.

Jay Quickel, g'04, is executive vice president at Southern States Cooperative in Richmond, Virginia.

05 Joel Kammeyer, b'05, is program director of contingent workforce at Epiq Global. He lives in Lee's Summit, Missouri.

James Lewis, c'05, directs sales at Miele. He makes his home in Apex, North Carolina.

Amy Waldron, b'05, g'05, lives in Chicago, where she's senior vice president at Northern Trust Bank.

Julio Dos Santos, g'06, is an **U6** information systems analyst at Saint Luke's Health System. He lives in Olathe with Rebecca Barlow Dos Santos, j'01.

Carolyn Peterson Zendeh Del, b'06, is an attorney at Zendeh Del & Associates in Galveston, Texas.

MARRIED

Kathleen Daughety, c'06, to Mathias Weiden, May 25 in Topeka. She's a senior manager in the food delivery unit at Uber in New York City.

Todd Bradley, c'07, PhD'13, directs 07 immunogenomics at Children's Mercy Kansas City.

Ryan Colaianni, c'07, j'07, is senior vice president at Revive Health in Nashville, Tennessee, and leads the crisis and issue group. He and Erinn Schaiberger Colaianni, b'07, g'08, have twins, Stella and Landon.

Sarah Schmidt, c'07, l'13, g'13, is legal counsel at NBCUniversal Media in London.

Kevin Veltri, d'07, is head football coach at St. John's School in Houston. He and Melissa Malone Veltri, c'10, an account manager at Schlumberger, live in Sugarland, Texas, and have two children, Mackenzie and Vincent.

Anita Welch, PhD'07, is dean of Wayne State University College of Education in



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Monday, Oct. 21 | DÉCOR COMPETITION

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Tuesday, Oct. 22 | CHALK N' ROCK Chalk up Wescoe Beach with tradition

All day | Wescoe Beach

Wednesday, Oct. 23 | JAYHAWK JINGLES Student talent show, a KU tradition 6-8 p.m. | Adams Alumni Center parking lot

Wednesday, Oct. 23 | NPHC PLOT DEDICATION 5:30-7:30 p.m. | Burge Union Commons **Wednesday, Oct. 23 | WELLNESS WEDNESDAY** Hosted by Watkins Health Center 11 a.m.-1 p.m. | Adams Alumni Center front lawn

Thursday, Oct. 24 KU basketball exhibition game 7 p.m. | Allen Field House

Friday, Oct. 25 | HOMECOMING PARADE 5:30-6:30 p.m. | Location TBA

Friday, Oct. 25 | STOMP THE HILL NPHC Stepshow 7:30 p.m. | Woodruff Auditorium

Saturday, Oct. 26 KU vs. Texas Tech TBA | David Booth Kansas Memorial Stadium

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Detroit. She previously was professor and associate dean of the Teachers College at Ball State University.

BORN TO:

Gary Woodland, c'07, and his wife, Gabby, twin daughters, Maddox and Lennox, Aug. 1 in Kansas City. The Woodlands, who also have a 2-year-old son, Jaxson, live in Delray Beach, Florida.

08 Scott Anderson, j'08, owns Scooter Anderson Communications in Shreveport, Louisiana. **Julie Parisi,** c'08, j'08, l'13, an associate at Seigfreid Bingham in Kansas City, received the 2018 Up & Coming Award from Missouri Lawyers Media.

Allyn Denning, c'09, is an executive assistant at the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition in Washington, D.C.

Amanda Davis Ford, d'09, g'16, teaches at Blue Valley Northwest High School in Overland Park.

Daniel Myers, c'09, lives in Highland Park, Illinois, where he's an optometrist at the Mind-Eye Institute.



B.J. Rains, j'09, was named Idaho Sportswriter of the Year for the second consecutive year by the National Sports Media Association. He works for the Idaho Press-Tribune.

10 Lauren Oberzan Byrne, c'10, lives in Prairie Village, where she's a senior associate editor at Thomson Reuters Practical Law.

PROFILE by Chris Lazzarino

After 15 seasons, Thoren named top Baker coach

A s a linebacker at Lawrence High, Jason Thoren was named the Kansas City metropolitan area's outstanding player. He went on to become an all-conference linebacker at KU, and in his 15 seasons at Baker University, Thoren was named the Heart of America Conference's assistant coach of the year three times.

Now that he enters his first season as Baker's head coach, Thoren is acutely aware that, given his extensive local history, the Wildcat football storyline could become all about him.

He hopes to change that narrative.

"It's not the coach's team. It's the players' team," Thoren says. "It's their experience, and that's what is important to me. As a coach, you can sign up for another season. As a player, there's a limit. That's my approach. It's a player's game, for sure."

When his KU playing days were done, following the 1997 season, Thoren, d'00, coached a season each at Lawrence and Free State high schools and finished an internship with the Kansas City Chiefs, including a brief stint with the Berlin Thunder of NFL Europe. Thoren then rejoined his KU coach, Glen Mason, as a graduate assistant at Minnesota.

After three seasons with Mason, Thoren

returned to Douglas County to join the coaching staff at Baker University, in Baldwin City. After coaching defensive backs for one season, he was named defensive coordinator, a job Thoren held until the unexpected departure of coach Mike Grossner, in January.

Baker officials immediately named Thoren the team's interim coach, and removed the tag a month later.

"Jason is one of my favorites, and it's absolutely no surprise to me whatsoever that he's had success," Mason says. "Baker University could not have hired a better guy to lead that program."

Steady progress from four-win seasons early in Thoren's tenure has resulted in the Wildcats becoming perennial contenders. Last year they won their fourth-consecutive Heart of America South Division title and advanced to the quarterfinals of the NAIA Football Championship Series.

"There's a level of dedication with these kids," Thoren says. "There's times I'm watching them and listening to them and the hair stands up on my arms. It's special. Our kids are hungry."

Although it's rare for superior former



Jason Thoren says he learned his recruiting philosophy from Glen Mason: "'Would you pick 'em in the backyard?' It's so true. As a kid, you knew who to pick and who not to pick."

.....

players go on to successful coaching careers, Thoren says he's been able to succeed thanks to the mindset of his playing days, when, beyond the typical film and playbook study, he diligently honed esoteric skill sets such as fast instincts and confidence.

"Any coach is with me for two hours a day; I'm with me 24 hours a day, so you're always coaching yourself. As a coach, I learned early on that I just have to transition what I would be telling myself into somebody else's athleticism and ability."

Class Notes





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Elise Patrick, g'10, is a professional dog trainer and owns Mod.Dogs Canine Enrichment Center in Warrenton, Oregon. She and **Aaron Sumner**, j'96, live in Astoria.

Tyler Cini, g'11, is an architect and project leader at GFF Architects in Dallas.

Meghan Gockel, b'11, is controller at Edison Power Constructors. She makes her home in Dallas.

Emma Payne, c'11, is an associate at McAfee & Taft in Oklahoma City.

12 Michael Fee, j'12, is a regional product expert for Google Asia-Pacific. He makes his home in Chicago.

Hillary Hoffman McClure, d'12, g'15, teaches special education at Baldwin Elementary School Primary Center in Baldwin City.



Travis Richardson, d'12, is a marketing automation strategist at INTRUST Bank in Wichita.

Taylor Williamson, j'12, is a sports producer at WFAA in Dallas.

13 Christopher Carter, PharmD'13, is a clinical pharmacy specialist at SSM Health. He and Amy Schrumpf Carter, PharmD'13, a pharmacist at CastiaRx Pharmacy, live in Manchester, Missouri.

Heide Swearengin Chaney, n'13, DNP'18, is a nurse practitioner at Jefferson Healthcare in Port Townsend, Washington. She has two children, Evan and Emily.

Jack Faerber, e'13, lives in Fairway, where he's a financial planner at Creative Planning.

14 Richard del Monte, e'14, lives in Kansas City, where he's a project engineer at Zahner.

Brian Hanson, g'14, PhD'15, is assistant professor in the department of history, politics and geography at Wayne State College in Wayne, Nebraska. **Amanda Kravitz,** c'14, supervises accounts at Publicis. She lives in Ridgewood, New Jersey.

Hannah Wise, j'14, earned her master's in journalism in May from the University of North Texas. She's a social strategy editor at The New York Times.

15 Sarah Mitchell Ediger, c'15, is an associate at Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher law firm in Denver, where she lives with Jacob Ediger, b'14, l'17, an associate at Kutak Rock.

Allison Hammond, c'15, j'15, lives in Westfield, Indiana, where she's a news producer at WXIN-TV.

Crystal Hong, c'15, j'15, is an operations training specialist at YRC Freight. She makes her home in Lawrence.

Andrew Larkin, c'15, is a general dentist at Premier Dental Partners in Chesterfield, Missouri.

Alex Navarro, c'15, b'19, lives in Boulder, Colorado, where he's a data analyst at Danone North America.

Brian Pappas, PhD'15, is assistant vice

president for academic affairs at Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti.

Bailey Proctor, b'15, g'16, is a senior cost accountant at Naked Wines in Napa, California.

MARRIED

Erin Ice, c'15, g'17, and **Sebastian Schoneich**, c'15, m'19, June 15 in Stanghella, Italy. They live in Ann Arbor, Michigan, where Sebi is a resident in family medicine at the University of Michigan, and Erin is working on her PhD in sociology.

16 Lauren Fitzgerald, c'16, is media secretary for the Kansas Office of the Governor. She previously was communications coordinator.

Margaret Hair, g'16, directs external affairs at the KU School of Law.

Emma Hogg, j'16, is a reporter at KMOV-TV in St. Louis.

Christina Ostmeyer, j'16, directs communications at Kansas Appleseed, a nonprofit advocacy organization that

serves vulnerable and excluded Kansans. She was one of four featured speakers in February for the Presidential Lecture Series at the Dole Institute.

William Seaton, b'16, lives in San Francisco, where he's an account executive at Yelp.

Marisa Bayless, l'17, is a legacy and policy associate at the Colorado Charter School Institute in Denver.

Skylar Rolstad, j'17, a reporter at the Index-Journal in Greenwood, South Carolina, recently took first place in the sports story category in the South Carolina Press Association News Contest.

Meg Talbott, j'17, is an account executive at ER Marketing in Kansas City.

Annika Wooten, a'17, in June was crowned Miss Kansas in Pratt. She will compete for the Miss America title in September.

18 Lindsey Goss, j'18, works in brand management at Richards/Carlberg in Houston.



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ALUMNI ASSOCIATION The University of Kansas **Grace Heitmann,** a'18, lives in Brooklyn, New York, where she's a graphic designer at The New York Times.

Kara Kahn, j'18, coordinates operations at Dimensional Innovations in Overland Park.

Sara Kruger, j'18, works at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, where she's assistant director of philanthropic resources.

Jackson Kurtz, j'18, is a reporter and multimedia journalist at WJCL-TV in Savannah, Georgia.

Anne Lee-Edwards, l'18, is an attorney at ArtConverge in Los Angeles.

Hanna Ritland, j'18, lives in Chicago, where she's a large-customer sales associate at Google.

Jayla Scruggs, j'18, is a digital interactive specialist at Capitol Federal in Overland Park.

Travis Toon, g'18, lives in New Orleans, where he works in vessel operations at T. Parker Host.

Ellis Wiltsey, j'18, is a multimedia journalist at KOLN-TV in Lincoln, Nebraska.

19 Matthew Bauer, e'19, is a software engineer at Obsidian Systems in New York City. He makes his home in Brooklyn.

Rachel Baumbach, n'19, is a registered nurse at the University of Kansas Health System in Kansas City. She commutes from Lawrence.

Hannah Bettis, j'19, lives in Salt Lake City, where she's a content creator for University of Utah Athletics.

Lucas Snyder, d'19, is a sales representative at Echo Global Logistics in Chicago.

Alexander Stadler, c'19, lives in Carrollton, Texas, where he's a customer contact coordinator at the Container Store.

Kenzie Stoecklein, PharmD'19, is a pharmacist at Jayhawk Pharmacy in Lawrence.

ASSOCIATES

Bill Self, assoc., head coach of KU men's basketball, was honored in May as the 2019 Kansan of the Year by the Kansas Society of Washington, D.C. He begins his 17th season with the Jayhawks this fall.

In Memory

40SFord Bohl, e'49, 92, June 20 in for the planning and design of more than 375 commercial aquatic projects and swimming pools. He is survived by his wife, Nan Hyer Bohl, '51; two daughters, one of whom is Catherine Bohl Lawless, d'74; and two sons, one of whom is Ford Jr., '76.

Max Falkenstien, c'47, 95, July 29 in Lawrence, where he was the Voice of the Jayhawks for 60 years, providing both play-by-play and color commentary for football and basketball games. He was a member of the Kansas Sports Hall of Fame and Kansas Athletics Hall of Fame, and his No. 60 jersey has been retired in Allen Field House. He also worked at Douglas County Bank, where he retired as senior vice president in 1994. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Survivors include his wife, Isobel Atwood Falkenstien, '50; a son, Kurt, b'77; a daughter; a sister; three grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Carol Mayer Hassig Floersch, d'47, 93, June 10 in Lawrence. She taught kindergarten in Kansas City, Kansas, and later became a librarian, working in several area elementary schools. Surviving are a son, Robert, d'75; three daughters, Carolyn Hassig Eklund, c'78, h'79, Marilyn Hassig Obee, '79, and Amy Hassig Vestal, c'84; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Harlan Frazier, b'49, 92, Dec. 2 in Omaha, Nebraska. He was an accountant for more than 20 years and later owned a retail business in Nebraska City. Two sons, three grandsons and two great-grandchildren survive.

Bill Kanaga, e'47, 93, July 21 in Orleans, Massachusetts, where he retired as partner and advisory board chairman at Ernst & Young. In 1983 he received the Alumni Association's Distinguished Service Citation. Surviving are his wife, Sarah, two sons, five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. **Ellen Patterson Long, c'49,** 93, Sept. 20, 2018, in Olathe, where she was a homemaker. She is survived by three daughters, two of whom are Bonnie, '78, and Nancy Long Gilkison, '78; seven grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Arthur Moore, f'49, 94, June 19 in Osage Beach, Missouri. He was founder and CEO of Snorkel Fire Equipment Company in St. Joseph. Survivors include his wife, Susan; a son, Arthur Jr., c'88; two daughters; a stepdaughter; and three grandchildren.

Gloria Fungaroli Morton, c'49, 93, March 14 in Lawrence, where she was active in her community. A sister survives.

Charles Schuler, b'47, 96, April 26 in Naples, Florida. He owned a Holiday Inn and wrote several poems, short stories and a novel. Survivors include his wife, Nancy, two sons, a daughter, a sister, five grandsons and eight great-grandchildren.

John Wells, b'43, 97, April 29 in Mission. His career in municipal and commercial construction spanned more than 50 years. Surviving are a son, John Jr., b'68; five grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Marjorie Martin Wheeler, n'49, 90, July 3 in Kansas City, where she was a homemaker and active in her church. She is survived by her husband, Charles, m'50; two daughters; a son; a sister; a brother; six grandchildren; and a greatgranddaughter.

50S Frances Walker Auda, n'56, 85, May 21 in Highlands Ranch, Colorado, where she was a labor and delivery nurse for more than 40 years. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. A son, a daughter and three grandchildren survive.

Brooks Becker, PhD'59, 87, April 28 in Fitchburg, Wisconsin. He led the state's department of air pollution control and solid waste management before founding RMT, an environmental engineering company, in 1978. Surviving are his wife, Mary Clark Becker, c'59; a son; two daughters; five grandchildren; and a great-grandson.

Gaylord Benton, b'52, g'53, 88, May 9 in Blue Springs, Missouri. He was an attorney for Texaco Inc. and was active in his church. A daughter survives.

Marilyn Gibson Blincoe, '51, 89, April 27 in Lodi, California. She provided a loving home for more than 250 foster infants over more than 50 years—first in Seattle, and then in Burlingame, Atherton and Lodi, California. Surviving are her husband, Robert, b'50; two daughters; three sons; 20 grandchildren; and 18 great-grandchildren.

Murray Davis, b'50, 92, June 26 in Olathe. He retired as president of Mercantile Bank and Trust Company, where he worked for 30 years. Survivors include his wife, Helen Piller Davis, c'50; four sons, Murray, j'77, Scott, m'78, Matthew, c'81, and Timothy, e'85, g'87; two daughters, Barbara Davis Delcore, n'80, g'03, and Cathy Davis Heiman, d'87; 15 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Sharon "Amma" Stout Forker, c'59, 81, May 13 in Olathe, where she was a homemaker and advocate for civil and social issues in her community. Surviving are her husband, Alan, c'60, m'64; two daughters, Jennifer, j'88, and Julia Forker Sobek, c'90; a son, Jeff, c'91; and a brother, Byron Stout III, b'62.

LeRoy "Roy" Hieger, m'57, 87, June 18 in Round Rock, Texas, where he was a retired U.S. Army colonel and professor and chair of the pathology department at the University of Texas Health Center at Tyler. His wife, Charlene, a son, two daughters, a brother, four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren survive.

Kenneth "Bud" Jennings, '57, 89, June 20 in Lawrence, where he owned Bud Jennings Carpet One. He collected more than 1,000 Jayhawk figurines and other memorabilia, which are permanently displayed in the Jayhawk Collection in the KU Memorial Union. He is survived by two sons, one of whom is Jerry, j'78; a sister; eight grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Lynn Johnson, e'58, g'61, 83, April 11 in Denver. He had a 33-year career as a

groundwater geologist with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. Surviving are his wife, Joan; a stepson; a sister, Jean Johnson Gilmore, '67; and a brother.

Robert Koppes, a'54, 90, June 28 in Kansas City, where he was an architect for more than 50 years. Survivors include his wife, Carolyn; four daughters, two of whom are Ellen Koppes Brewer, d'81, and Ruth Koppes Redlingshafer, '83; a son; 14 grandchildren; and seven greatgrandchildren.

Muryl Laman, c'54, m'58, 87, July 27 in Pueblo, Colorado. He was a physician and retired major in the U.S. Air Force. Surviving are his wife, Patricia "Pam" McKillop Laman, c'56; two daughters; a son; and four granddaughters.

Bromleigh Lamb, c'51, g'53, 89, May 16 in Portland, Oregon, where he retired as an administrative law judge for the state. He is survived by his wife, Mary Boyer Lamb, '53; a son; four daughters; seven grandchildren; and three greatgrandchildren.

Harold Lucchi, e'50, 92, March 22 in Midland, Texas, where he had a long career in the oil industry. Two daughters, two brothers, six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren survive.

Guy Mabry, b'50, 93, May 18 in Centennial, Colorado. A member of the Alumni Association's national Board of Directors from 1993 to '98, he spent his entire career with Owens-Corning Fiberglas, retiring as executive vice president. Survivors include two sons, Mike, c'98, and Tom, g'01; a daughter; and six grandchildren.

Mary Atkinson Martel, f'58, 82, May 19 in Topeka. She retired as an occupational therapist at the Capper Foundation. Surviving are a son, a daughter, two granddaughters and three great-grandchildren.

John McCall, c'55, m'59, 86, June 26 in La Jolla, California, where he retired after 35 years as a practicing endocrinologist. He is survived by his wife, Nancy O'Loughlin McCall, d'57; a son; a daughter; a sister, Ann McCall Tomsho, f'63; and two grandchildren.

Richard "Dick" McCall, b'53, 87, May 29 in Andover. He lived in Newton, where he

started McCall's Shoes, a family business that grew to include stores in surrounding cities and worldwide delivery. Surviving are his wife, Barbara Findley McCall, c'54; a daughter, Rebecca McCall Galloway, '91; a son; a sister; a brother; and four grandchildren.

Wanda Stalcup Morrison, n'57, 85, May 31 in Hutchinson, where she was a registered nurse. She also served for 16 years on the executive committee of the Kansas Republican Party. She is survived by her husband, Robert; three sons, two of whom are Robert Jr., '78, and Richard, c'89; a sister; and three grandsons.

Walter Joe Muller III, c'56, 84, April 13 in Winter Park, Florida. He was a psychiatrist and founded La Amistad, a long-term treatment center for teens and young adults with schizophrenia. Survivors include his wife, Delle; two sons, one of whom is Allan, '83; two daughters, one of whom is Laura Muller Griffin, j'85; 10 grandchildren; and three greatgrandchildren.

Nancy Dunne O'Farrell, c'58, 82, May 18 in Prairie Village, where she was a homemaker and volunteered in her community. She is survived by two daughters, Anne O'Farrell Russell, c'82, j'84, and Amy O'Farrell Sullivan, c'88; two sons, Tom, '86, and Pat, c'95; a brother, Bob Dunne, b'52; a sister, Betty Dunne Nelson, c'51; and nine grandchildren.

Dean Owens, b'53, l'68, 87, May 22 in Lawrence. He was an attorney in Salina, and he and his wife, Doris McConnell Owens, f'53, later enjoyed retirement in Lawrence. Survivors include a son, Steve, c'77, m'82; two daughters, Susan Owens Bloom, d'80, g'87, and Sarah Owens Steele, b'83; six grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Stanley Sager, c'51, 89, May 12 in Albuquerque, New Mexico, where he was a trial attorney and co-founded Sager, Curran, Sturges and Tepper law firm. He also was an adjunct professor at the University of New Mexico. In 2013 he received an honorary doctor of law from Washburn University in Topeka. Surviving are his wife, Shirley Wilkie Sager, '53; two daughters; two sisters, one of whom is Portia Sager Maxon, '53; six grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Robert Smith, c'53, l'55, 86, June 9 in Austin, Texas. He retired as executive vice president at Fourth Financial Corporation in Wichita. His wife, Nancy, two stepsons, a stepdaughter, a sister, four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren survive.

Arlen Tappan, a'59, 84, June 14 in Topeka, where he had a 42-year career with the Kansas Department of Transportation. Surviving are his wife, Delores; four sons, one of whom is Jon, '87; a daughter; a sister; nine grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Arthur Vogel, c'59, m'63, 81, April 24 in Leawood. He was an anesthesiologist and instructor at Boston University School of Medicine and University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine. He is survived by his wife, Judith Buck Vogel, d'60; three daughters, two of whom are Katherine Vogel Barber, g'88, and Laura Vogel Brink, l'95; a sister; and six grandchildren.

Helen Smith Wahl, g'58, 87, June 10 in Green Valley, Arizona. She lived in Kansas City for several years, where she taught physical education and was a high school counselor. She also was president of the Greater Kansas City Women's Political Caucus. Surviving are her husband, David, c'62, d'66; and two sons.

60S James Anderson, c'62, g'64, 79, May 19 in Port St. Joe, Florida. He had a 35-year career as professor of history at the University of Georgia. He is survived by his wife, Geri; two sons; and a sister, Marianne Anderson Wilkinson, c'57, g'64.

Leland Cole, c'61, 79, June 2 in Copley, Ohio, where he had a long career as an attorney. He also was president of C.E.D., a mineral processing company. Survivors include his wife, Mary Challinor Cole, d'63; a son; two brothers; and two grandchildren.

Richard Crocker, j'60, 80, June 4 in Wichita. He worked at the Washington Post for nearly 25 years, retiring as assisant managing editor. Surviving are his wife, Elvira, and a son.

Mike Dwyer, c'65, 75, May 7 in Leawood, where he practiced law for more

In Memory

than 40 years. He is survived by his wife, Sally Richardson Dwyer, d'68; a daughter, Meghann Dwyer Hoffman, a'02; a son, David, c'06; two brothers, Terry, e'80, and Kevin, e'82; two sisters, one of whom is Cheri Dwyer Rhodes, c'85; and four grandchildren.

Kenneth Ellington, b'63, 86, July 6 in Overland Park, where he retired from a career in accounting. His wife, Bonnie, assoc., survives.

Alvin Franson, e'63, 79, April 23 in Venice, Florida. He was a retired U.S. Navy commander and founded a communications firm. Survivors include two sons, a sister and two brothers.

Richard Hall, b'69, 71, June 23 in Charleston, South Carolina. He had a 20-year career as a supply corps officer in the U.S. Navy and later taught high school mathematics. His wife, Linda, a son, a daughter and four grandchildren survive.

Robert "Tad" Harrington, d'68, 72, May 27 in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. He taught English literature for nearly 30 years at a K-12 school and also produced and directed several school musicals. Surviving are his brother, Thomas, b'62; and a sister, Nancy Harrington Woody, d'66.

Catherine Holland, c'65, d'71, 76, June 5 in Russell, where she was a retired physical therapist. Several nieces and nephews survive.

Jim McMullan, a'61, 82, May 31 in Wofford Heights, California, where he was an actor. His career spanned more than three decades and he appeared in numerous films and TV shows, including "Downhill Racer" and "Dallas." He is survived by his wife, Helene, assoc.; and two sons.

Clifford "Kip" Niven, c'68, 73, May 6 in Leawood. He was an actor and starred in several movies and TV shows, including "The Waltons" and "Alice." Most recently, he portrayed Phog Allen in Kevin Willmott's film "Jayhawkers." He also was a frequent performer in Kansas City theatre. His partner, Claudia, a son and two daughters survive.

Elaine Linley Norman, d'64, 76, May 17 in Overland Park. She was a sixth-grade teacher and longtime member of P.E.O. Sisterhood. Surviving are a daughter; two brothers, Michael Linley, c'70, g'72, and Alfred Linley, c'73, g'76; and two grandchildren.

John Pierce, c'67, 75, May 22 in Collinsville, Oklahoma, where he was a pilot and retired as director of flight operations at Medshares Management Services. He is survived by his wife, Chris Kraeger Pierce, d'66; and two daughters, one of whom is Toby Pierce Hunt, '92.

John Racy, g'64, 82, May 28 in Lawrence, where he taught mathematics at Lawrence High School. His wife, Larysa, two sons and a daughter survive.

Ronald Reuter, c'66, l'69, 75, July 1 in Kansas City. He practiced law in Johnson County for nearly 45 years and also served as city attorney for several municipalities. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth; five sons, two of whom are David, e'99, and Michael, c'02, '04; and five grandsons.

Kenneth Scherrer, b'61, 81, May 6 in Lenexa. He lived in Butler, Missouri, for several years and owned a hardware store. He later opened Ken's Furniture & Appliance. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Survivors include his wife, Sylvia Vandever Scherrer, b'61; three daughters, one of whom is Ilene Scherrer Hurst, '95; and nine grandchildren.

William Stoddart, b'63, 77, June 18 in Oklahoma City, where he began his career as a stockbroker and retired after working in the funeral business. His wife, Martha, two sons, a daughter and eight grandchildren survive.

Larry Vujnovich, c'65, 76, April 26 in Olathe. He worked in human resources for the U.S. District Court in Missouri. Surviving are a son, Michael, c'95; and three grandchildren.

Gary Weaver, m'68, 75, May 5 in Brunswick, Maine, where he was a gastroenterologist. He is survived by his wife, Susan Jordan Weaver, n'68; a son; a brother; and a grandson.

705'92, 68, June 25 in Overland Park, where she was an elementary school teacher for nearly 40 years. She is survived by her husband, Bob, d'75; a daughter, Brooke Bornkessel Kunstman, '03; a son; a sister, Cindy Parrish Viskocil, d'75; a brother, Robert Parrish, b'79; and four grandchildren.

Tim Frey, c'70, 71, Jan. 25 in Phoenix. He was a school psychologist in Lawrence and McLouth and later retired as director of research and federal projects for the Chandler School District in Chandler, Arizona. A brother survives.

Jim Lichty, a'75, 65, June 17 in Prairie Village. He was an architect and owned Archetype Design Group in Leawood. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Survivors include his wife, Michelle Cato Lichty, d'77; a daughter, Jacqueline Lichty Dunbar, e'05; a son; and a brother, Thomas, j'81.

Marki Bonebrake Nolterieke, d'70, 70, April 25 in Houston. She managed a dental office for more than 30 years. She is survived by her husband, Marty, j'70; a son, Ryan, e'97; a daughter; a sister, Marsha Bonebrake Bourgeois, c'74; a brother, David Bonebrake, '76; and five grandchildren.

James Stevens, c'79, l'82, g'83, 61, May 10 in San Francisco. He was an attorney for the Environmental Protection Agency. Surviving are his wife, Susan Cox Stevens, c'80; two sons, one of whom is Trevor, '13; a daughter, Paige, '15; two sisters, Laura Stevens Bryan, c'74, m'76, and Leah Stevens Waage, c'77, m'81; two brothers, Rhoads, c'76, and Victor, m'82; and two grandchildren.

805 Trudie Foltz Hoffman, p'83, 81, May 17 in Manhattan. She and her husband, Bill, b'55, lived in Westmoreland and owned Hoffman Pharmacy. Survivors include four daughters, Jean Hoffman Bramwell, '82, Kay Hoffman Tomasu, p'84, Mary, h'86, and Nancy Hoffman Vanderpool, p'03; two sons, one of whom is William Jr. "Skip," b'89; a brother; 15 grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

Pamela Luthye Rodriguez, f'87, 64, March 1 in Phoenix. She was the first female aviator and first female commander in the Kansas National Guard. She later worked for the Kansas Commission on Veterans Affairs. Surviving are her husband, Victor; her mother, Elma Luthye, assoc.; a brother, Stephen Luthye, e'79; two sisters; two stepsons; three stepdaughters; 14 step-grandchildren; and 17 great-grandchildren.

Mike Titus, g'88, 70, June 18 in Topeka, where he retired from the Kansas Air National Guard. He also was a teacher. A daughter, Gillian, j'03, g'18, survives.

William Chad Wagner, b'89, 51, May 28 in Shawnee. He was a U.S. Army captain and director of policy and oversight for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's acquisition and grants office. Surviving are his wife, Lisa Schuler Wagner, b'89; two sons, one of whom is Matthew, b'18; and a brother.

Jeff Wurster, c'81, 60, Feb. 24 in Kansas City, where he was an attorney. He is survived by his father, W. Joel, m'56; his mother; two brothers, Steve, j'83, and Mark, m'84; and a sister.

905 Wichita. He taught English in Seoul, South Korea, for two years and later worked at Dillons in Topeka. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. His parents, two sisters and a brother survive.

OOS June 4 in Lenexa. He was an auditor and accounting analyst at Sprint. Surviving are his wife, Karen, his parents and a stepbrother.

10s^{Erin} Langhofer, s'16, s'17, 25, Aug. 2 in Kansas City, where she was a counselor and therapist at Rose Brooks Center and helped survivors of domestic abuse. She is survived by her parents, Tom, c'83, and Marcy Flynn Langhofer, c'83; and her sister, Kathryn, c'14.

Kenny Owens, '13, 35, July 19 in Lawrence. Surviving are his father, Kenneth, '84; his mother; a sister; and his grandfather.

UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

Daniel Bays, 77, May 9 in St. Louis. He was professor and chair of the history department and also directed the Center for East Asian Studies. Survivors include his wife, Janice; a daughter, Kristen Bays

Hite, d'93, g'00; a son, Justin, '98; a brother; and two granddaughters.

Edith Elam Black, c'50, g'74, 90, June 30 in Lawrence. She worked at the School of Social Welfare from 1970 to 1995 and was assistant dean for several years. She also served on KU's first affirmative action board and participated in Kansas Paraguay Partners. In 1978 she received the University's Outstanding Woman Staff Member Award. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Surviving are her husband, John Poertner; three sons, two of whom are James "Randy," j'75, and Chris, b'76; a daughter, Elizabeth, s'77; three grandchildren; and five greatgrandchildren.

Nancy Moore Boozer, d'51, 90, May 23 in Las Cruces, New Mexico. She coached KU women's basketball and field hockey teams, and in 1972 she started the women's golf program. Survivors include three daughters, Barbara Boozer Morgan, d'76, Beth Boozer Buford, d'78, and Beverly, b'84; a sister, Virginia Moore Tucker, '43; and four grandchildren.

Douglas Dechairo, c'62, m'66, 78, May 26 in Lawrence, where he was director and chief of staff at Watkins Student Health Services. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by his wife, Lucy; two daughters; a son; two stepdaughters, one of whom is Alison Aviles, c'12; a stepson; two brothers, T.C., '59, and Roger, '72; and a sister, Joyce Dechairo Stember, '67.

Gustave Eisemann, m'48, 93, May 26 in Mission Hills. He was a physician and clinical professor of medicine at KU Medical Center. Surviving are his wife, Elinor, '79; three sons, one of whom is Allan, m'86; and eight grandchildren.

Vincent Muirhead, 100, April 30 in Lenexa. He was a retired U.S. Navy pilot and professor and chair of the aerospace engineering department. Survivors include three daughters, two of whom are Rosalind Muirhead Underdahl, c'66, and Jean, c'70, g'75; a brother; two grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Dennis Sooby, 91, July 8 in Lawrence, where he was the University's chief pilot for many years. He is survived by his wife, Delores; three sons, Steve, d'74, Tom, '81, and Larry, '87; and a daughter, Rita, c'81.

Charlotte Withrow, s'69, 82, April 23 in Overland Park. She worked in the department of obstetrics and gynecology at KU Medical Center for more than 15 years. A sister survives.

ASSOCIATES

Gerald "Gary" Ackerman, assoc., 85, April 19 in Wichita, where he worked at Boeing. He is survived by two daughters, one of whom is Becky Ackerman McCorry, c'91; three sisters; six grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Claire Porter Campbell, assoc., 81, June 1 in Aiken, South Carolina. She was a homemaker. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Surviving are her husband, William, a'62; two sons; a daughter; and five grandchildren.

Louise Haworth, assoc., 91, Jan. 18 in Salina, where she was a homemaker. She is survived by a son, Bob, '81; a daughter; three grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Nellie Hoff, assoc., 100, June 1 in Sachse, Texas, where she was a first-grade teacher. A daughter, three granddaughters, two step-granddaughters and several great-grandchildren survive.

Robert Proctor, assoc., 91, June 20 in Lawrence. He was a clinical psychologist in Topeka and taught courses at Washburn University. A niece and several nephews survive.

Sonya Smith, assoc., 78, June 17 in Prairie Village, where she was a homemaker. Surviving are a son, Scott, c'85; two daughters, Stephanie Smith Kissick, c'90, l'93, and Laura Smith Faulkner, '90; and five grandchildren.

Katherine Stannard, assoc., 92, May 2 in Lawrence. She was active in the KU community and funded the Jerry and Katherine Stannard Conservation Laboratory, which KU Libraries dedicated in 1998. Survivors include three daughters, seven grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

Martha Varnes, assoc., 102, Feb. 24 in Indianapolis, where she was active in her community. A daughter, two sons, six grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren survive.

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Library lessons

Johnson uses new Lenexa murals to inspire students to go make art

A s the fall semester began, lecturer Stephen Johnson joined his design and illustration colleagues in a "process" exhibition in Chalmers Hall's main gallery to show students the steps required to advance from a first idea to completion and paychecks. For his submission, Johnson detailed "Interconnections," the 2-story-tall mosaic triptych he created for Johnson County Library's Lenexa City Center Library.

While the creative output might be beyond his students' reach for now, the behind-the-scenes story of "Interconnections" includes details they need to absorb—all the way back to the Johnson County Public Art Program's original call for submissions, which hangs on the gallery wall next to his sketches.

"I tell them, 'I'm your client, so knock

me out. And fail. Show me tons of mistakes," says Johnson, f'87. "From those we can learn to make them better and they might go off on a tangent and realize that some of those mistakes are pretty good, and then they kind of riff on that."

Even though Johnson's idea won the national competition, his client asked him to go riff on a tangent and consider using letters from his three alphabet books: the Caldecott-honored *Alphabet City*, *A is for Art: An Abstract Alphabet*, and *Alphabet School*.

Christopher Leitch, Johnson County Library's community relations coordinator, says the artist "knows how to craft a work that can be immediately satisfying, as this work is. It's bold and colorful and great and giant. He also knows how to carefully construct a project that rewards repeated viewing. It can sustain your gaze and your questioning and prompt even more." Towering art such as Johnson's mosaics "speaks to the changing roles of libraries in American public life," says library spokesman Christopher Leitch. "In 20th-century America, we saw libraries designed to look like elementary schools. Modern libraries are very different from that. Modern libraries are centers of community intellectual life."

Along with its visual feast, "Interconnections" offers another level of interaction: Leitch says patrons young and old immediately want to touch it. "Stephen is A-OK with that and we are, too. It's great to have a work of art that you can have a multisensory experience with."

Johnson is currently working on his first exterior mosaics, for Texas Tech University's \$30 million basketball

complex, but he also shares with students his large and growing stack of rejection letters.

"It's part of the job. I get rejected all the time, and that's OK," he says. "I'm telling them, Visualize your work in a show, winning an award. You can apply to shows in Overland Park, all kinds of places, and who cares? No one knows you're a student, so start getting busy." —*Chris Lazzarino*

Music mix

Myriad influences, backgrounds key to KC band's 'smart pop'

Becky and Nathan Bliss of the Kansas City duo Barnaby Bright stumbled onto the name for their band in a book of fables and myths.

"It dates back to medieval England when the Christians would sort of usurp pagan holidays and Christianize them," says Nathan. "They did this to the summer solstice holiday, and merged it with the feast day of St. Barnabas. So it was known as 'Barnaby Bright, the longest day, the shortest night."

A similar sort of mixing and matching typifies the couple's approach to music.

Becky, f'06, studied voice performance at KU and grew up in a musical family of professional opera singers. Nathan majored in jazz composition and saxophone performance at Berklee College of Music and also studied audio engineering.

"I have a degree in jazz, but, truly, at my core, I'm a rocker," Nathan says. "I would describe our earlier style as folk, but with a rocker push, in my direction. On Becky's side, beautiful, accessible, inviting ..."

"... A little more female singer-songwriter, a little more emotional, perhaps," Becky finishes. "It's sort of a melding."

A booking agent introduced them in 2005 in Kansas City. "I was finishing my last year at KU, studying vocal music, but I knew I wanted to do more contemporary music and less the traditional operatic route," Becky recalls. "I was looking for a guitar player and Nathan happened to be looking for a singer."

For a year they played mostly cover tunes, occasionally slipping one of Nathan's songs into a set. Both felt a romantic spark but were involved with other people at the time. In 2006 Becky moved to New York City and began writing songs for an EP. "They were all pretty much about Nathan," she says. "He heard it and got wise to the fact that I kinda had a crush on him." He moved to New York City in 2007, and they married later that year.

Around recording their first two albums, "Wake the Hero," in 2009, and "The Longest Day," in 2012, they toured heavily, playing 150 to 200 dates a year. They won songwriting awards in New York City, including a \$10,000 first prize from The New York Songwriters Circle that helped buy a touring vehicle. They eventually moved to Nashville, where, worn down by the road grind, they started work on their third album, using



Becky and Nathan Bliss

\$30,000 raised from fans via the crowdfunding site PledgeMusic.

They set out to expand their sound beyond the folk template, working with "a great producer" who gave them "everything we asked for—brilliantly," Nathan says. "But nobody was minding the fact that while it's good as an artist to push your boundaries, it's important not to go too far. And we felt after listening to the end product that we'd gone too far."

"We made a record that we really weren't happy releasing," Becky says. "We ended up cutting a lot of those songs, redoing a lot of songs, writing new songs and adding those. So the record that came out this summer is a reflection of four years of growth and self-reflection and coming back to who we really are."

That album, "Barnaby Bright," released June 21, on the summer solstice, reveals their deep roots in folk, classical, jazz and world music. The songs—five written by her and six by him—showcase Becky's virtuoso vocals, the duo's tight harmonies, and an eclectic instrumentation that includes clawhammer banjo, harmonium, ukulele and shimmering synths and strings. The folk flavor is enlivened by forays into moody electronica and bright pop. The result is what the duo calls "smart pop with an authentic Americana stamp, not the other way round."

The four-year journey to a finished album may have been roundabout, Becky says, but they ended up right where they need to be. "I'd say we're probably in the best place we've ever been. We just bought a house in Kansas City; we've got a great community of other musicians and a great band." They also, for the first time, have a team to handle production, publicity and social media. "In many ways, it feels like the pieces of the puzzle are all coming together."

Later this fall, Barnaby Bright will release an extended LP of the album, featuring five new tracks, and on Oct. 19 they will play at a benefit concert in Kansas City for the veterans' charity Warriors' Ascent. All proceeds from their song "This is Life" benefit the nonprofit organization.

—Steven Hill

Sacred relic

KU professor researches origin of ancient Torah scroll

Paul Mirecki loves a good mystery especially one that involves old books. So when staff at the Kenneth Spencer Research Library approached him in 2014 about an old, damaged Torah scroll in the museum's rare books collection, Mirecki was instantly intrigued.

The associate professor of religious studies, who specializes in ancient Mediterranean culture and manuscripts, began researching the sacred Hebrew text and immediately discovered that it was actually only half a scroll. "When you get to the end of this scroll, you're at Leviticus 8:24a, the first half of verse 24 of Leviticus 8," Mirecki explains. "The rest of the scroll is missing."

Determined to locate the scroll's missing half, Mirecki contacted the National Library of Israel in Jerusalem, which maintains a database of known scrolls throughout the world, including where they reside and what condition they're in. His request was forwarded to an Israeli scholar, Ephraim Caspi, with whom Mirecki shared photographs and details of KU's scroll, hoping to identify its lost portion. Three years later, they got an

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Mirecki

answer: The missing half, which began at Leviticus 8:24b, was in Château de Chantilly, a historic estate and museum just north of Paris.

During spring break this year, Mirecki visited the Château, where he learned that the intact Torah scroll had been safely housed in a synagogue in Medea, Algeria, in the early 19th century, before the French invasion in 1830. It was removed and crudely torn in half a decade later, in 1840, when the synagogue was ransacked during a pogrom against the Jewish community.

"It's really a tragedy that it was taken out of the synagogue," Mirecki says. "But the synagogue had been abandoned, the town had been largely abandoned during the invasion, and the Jewish community was taken under the protection of a Muslim general."

Evidence collected and filed with the half-scroll in Paris confirms that it was acquired in 1840 by Henri d'Orléans, the wealthy Duke of Aumale, who brought it to the Château from Medea, where it sat unstudied for 180 years.

The other half of the scroll, which resides in the Spencer Research Library, was purchased by KU alumna Alpha Owens, c'1901, g'1903, a world traveler and professor of modern languages at Morris Harvey University in Charleston, West Virginia. One of her hobbies, according to an interview conducted in 1952, was collecting manuscripts and other valuable material for use in modern language teaching. Mirecki believes that Owens likely purchased the scroll at a market or bookstore in France in the early 1900s. It was donated to the University in 1969, four years after she died.

For the past five years, Mirecki has painstakingly studied the KU scroll, which sustained extensive damage from tears, spills and insect larvae since it left the Algerian synagogue in 1840. "You can see it was not treated very well, which says something about its history," says Mirecki, who has specialized in this kind of research for more than 30 years. "It has gone through a lot."

Mirecki also has successfully identified the scribe's handwriting style, which was first seen in Spain in the early 1220s. In the coming months, he plans to use a technique called carbon-14 dating to more accurately pinpoint the age of the document, though he estimates it was created in 1750 or earlier. He hopes to publish his findings.

"It's an interesting story," Mirecki says, noting there are still many unanswered questions about the scroll. "It's kind of like an Agatha Christie mystery. The history of the object is almost more interesting than what's written on it."

—Heather Biele

Intimate portrait

Documentary explores the life of modernist painter Albert Bloch

When Scott Bloch met with Tim De Paepe in 1996 to discuss creating a documentary about Bloch's grandfather, the modernist artist Albert Bloch, De Paepe didn't need much convincing.

"I was a big art history buff," says De Paepe, '92, a corporate filmmaker in Kansas City, "so I was naturally drawn to it, just because of the subject matter."

Bloch understood the appeal. As a young boy he was fascinated by his grandfather, whom his father revealed little about when Bloch was growing up. When Bloch came to KU in 1975, he connected with Albert Bloch's widow, Anna Francis Bloch, c'32, who lived in Lawrence and shed light on the enigmatic artist, one of the original members of Der Blaue Reiter, or The Blue Rider, a prominent group of modernist painters in early 20th-century Munich.

"I used to call her the oracle of Alabama Street," says Bloch, c'80, l'86, an attorney in McLean, Virginia, referring to the Blochs' longtime home at 1015 Alabama St., where Albert Bloch created hundreds of paintings, poems and drawings. "I talked about him with her, about his intellectual pursuits, his writing, his art. We spent a considerable amount of time in the attic, where he painted."

Anna Bloch's insights also proved pivotal to the production of Bloch and De Paepe's new documentary, "AB," which, after more than two decades of filming,



iele Scott Bloch

research and interviews, premiered at the Kansas City FilmFest International in April and was screened Sept. 20 at the Lawrence Arts Center. The film also includes interviews with notable art historians, scholars and curators, including David Cateforis, professor and chair of art history at KU; Scott Heffley, retired senior conservator at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art in Kansas City; and the late Robert Sudlow, f'42, a renowned painter and KU professor who studied under Albert Bloch. Kelly Chong, professor and chair of sociology, played a critical role in fundraising efforts for the film.

"AB" was co-written by Bloch and De Paepe and provides an intimate glimpse into the life of Albert Bloch, who grew up in the Midwest and later moved to Germany, where he briefly exhibited his work with fellow Expressionists Wassily Kandinsky, Franz Marc and Marc Chagall, among others. Though Bloch was on the verge of international acclaim, he ultimately abandoned the art world in favor of anonymity in Lawrence, becoming a KU professor in 1923 and painting in the quiet comfort of his home studio until 1958, a few years before his death.

"Everyone says, 'Well, I don't think he was interested in playing art-world games," says De Paepe, who also directed the film. "Well, he liked exhibiting the work. I don't think he liked talking about himself. I don't think he liked having to really explain his work in any way."

The once and future farm

 $B^{\rm uilding}$ on an exhibition produced by a trio of KU professors and first seen on campus three years ago at The Commons, New Farmers 2014/2018 brings together photographs and reflections of farm families practicing sustainable agriculture across eastern Kansas.

Paul Stock, associate professor of sociology and environmental studies; Bryon Darby, former KU assistant professor of photo media and now a lecturer in photography at Utah State University; and Tim Hossler, associate professor of design, collaborated on the project, which explores the



reasons these "new" farmers-many of whom came to the field from other professions like teaching rather than from farm family backgrounds—are pursuing an approach to agriculture that relies much less on technology than does the typical large-scale, Midwestern row-crop farm. Stock's interviews allow the growers to speak for themselves, while Darby's rich, black-and-white photographs and Hossler's bold, throwback design (influenced by Great Depression-era photographers such as Dorothea Lange and Walker Evans) give a face to a movement too often obscured by buzzwords like sustainable, locavore and farm-to-table.

New Farmers reminds that by growing actual food (stuff that can be picked and eaten or prepared by customers) rather than commodities (which must first be processed by corporate middlemen) these farmers are returning to traditional ways as much as blazing trails.

—Steven Hill

Told through the artist's own words from his journals, letters and poetry, the film perhaps leaves viewers contemplating the question: Is Albert Bloch a great artist or isn't he?

"We think that the viewer will get a



strong sense that there is a battle in the art world about who should be in the canon and who shouldn't be," Bloch says. "Albert Bloch did not make an effort to have his name in the canon of great artists of the modern era, and yet he still hangs around: He's being bought for major collections, including the Met. He's in a lot of major museums. He's being purchased and he's still being sold at auction. So, he's still relevant.

"There's this process by which the art world will recognize someone or not recognize them. We're hopeful that this will help them see that indeed he has been recognized and should be."

—Heather Biele

Tim De Paepe (left), director and co-writer of the documentary "AB," which profiles the life of modernist painter Albert Bloch, used footage from the artist's 2015 exhibition at the

Lawrence Arts Center for the film.

$Glorious \ to \ View {\rm Photograph \ by \ Dan \ Storey}$



Hundreds of new Jayhawks gathered Aug. 24 for Hawk Fest, one of the most highly anticipated activities for first-year students during Hawk Week.

HEROES ON THE HILL



As devoted supporters of student success, KU Libraries have long been committed to ensuring the existence of affordable and accessible resources for all Jayhawks.

Now, a new initiative recognizes extraordinary KU faculty, staff, instructors, and students who advocate for textbook affordability. **Textbook Heroes** are members of the campus community who champion open educational resources (OER) and other lowcost resources for use in classrooms at KU.

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Amy Rossomondo, associate professor, Department of Spanish & Portuguese; Spring 2019 Textbook Hero



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