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Front and Center
In the heart of campus, the recently completed Central District is a vibrant new core of student life, faculty research and science education.

By Chris Lazzarino

Cover photograph by Steve Puppe

A Soldier in Freedom's Army
Immigrant Liyue Huang-Sigle's journey to becoming American started in Tiananmen Square and led to the U.S. military.

By Steven Hill

Change of Command
At the state's headquarters for all law enforcement training, a KU-led venture for the last half-century, the retirement of a longtime leader means there's a new sheriff in town.

By Heather Biele
Diagnosis: more Tolands needed

The recent issue of Kansas Alumni features a remarkable story, authored by Steven Hill, about how a young man, David Toland, returns to his hometown of Iola and transforms the community culture [“Thrive Where You’re Sown, issue No. 3].

Mr. Toland is the CEO of Thrive Allen County. Under his leadership and direction, Thrive has partnered with numerous organizations to improve the quality of life for the citizens of that county, attracting funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

To name a few of the positives for Iola and Allen County, health care has improved, with the uninsured rate remarkably decreasing to 9 percent; new medical facilities were constructed; walking and biking trails with free access to bikes are improving health; and a newly opened grocery store now provides local access to food shopping.

David Toland should be cloned manyfold over, as it is clear that rural Kansas communities require insightful and dedicated leadership in order to regain their footing. Thank you for this inspirational story.

Dr. Jim Bredfeldt, c’70, m’74
Bellevue, Washington

Memories of Mandy

I was very pleased to see in your May issue an update from my classmate, Mandy Patinkin [Class Notes, issue No. 3].

While I have enjoyed many of Mandy’s performances through the years on stage and on TV and movie screens (“Hello, my name is Inigo Montoya . . .”), my favorite memory of Mr. Patinkin is his playing Tevye in “Fiddler on the Roof” at Murphy Hall.

Mandy’s performance was masterful and was one of the best live theater performances I have ever seen. My recollection is that the performance was in the spring of 1971. Could you please verify that?

I also recall that the class of ’74 was excited and honored to have Mandy in our ranks, as he was already famous as “Teen Angel” in the 7UP commercial that was very popular in the late 1960s.

Thank you for publishing Mandy’s class note, which engendered many happy memories.

Bruce Keplinger, c’74
Leawood

Editor’s Note: Patinkin’s star turn as Tevye was actually in the fall of 1971—in October to be precise, according to a copy of the original program (above) provided by the KU theatre department.
Letters to the Editor:

Kansas Alumni welcomes letters to the editor. Our address is Kansas Alumni magazine, 1266 Oread Avenue, Lawrence, KS 66045-3169. Email responses may be sent to the Alumni Association, kualumni@kualumni.org. Letters appearing in the magazine may be edited for space and clarity. For letters published, we’ll send a free gift of KU Campus Playing Cards, a $5 value.
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.

www.kuendowment.org/your-gift
Serendipity and a stray copy of *Kansas Alumni* helped Don Smith reunite via email in June with one of his favorite professors—and affirmed why we find joy in sharing stories from the Hill.

Smith, j’76, who lives in Denver, was visiting a family member in a Topeka hospital when he happened upon our issue No. 1 from January this year (fairly recent by waiting-room standards).

The magazine included a feature story on Bill Tuttle, professor emeritus of American Studies, who last fall had celebrated his 50th year at KU and his 80th birthday by delivering a lecture in the series that colleagues had created in his honor in 2007.

Tuttle has heard from numerous former students in response to our story, but Smith’s note especially touched him, so he passed it on to me.

Smith, now a professor himself, teaches at the University of Denver’s Sturm College of Law. After the *Kansas Alumni* story transported him back to a KU lecture hall when he was a journalism major from Dodge City, he felt compelled to thank Tuttle, sharing his memories of an American history course. “It was a big class and the year was probably 1974,” Smith recounts. “There is no reason you would remember me. In fact, I am not sure we ever spoke (it’s been more than 40 years ago so it’s hard to remember for sure!). ...”

“The way you talked about American history, how it has evolved, what the big themes have been, and who the key figures were, was always compelling and thought-provoking. While I don’t remember any specific lectures, I do remember how I always looked forward to your next lecture. ...You left me with an enduring interest in our history, an interest that remains to this day.”

Smith praises his professor for elegance and style in delivering lectures that “were like listening to music: enjoyable, well-measured, exciting in some respects.” He muses that as a 19- or 20-year-old, he thought Tuttle, then only in his mid-30s, spoke with the wisdom of someone much older. With time, the 16-year gap in their ages has magically narrowed—a phenomenon we all discover as the years pass.

Shared experiences often shorten distances in age and miles, uniting us as Jayhawks. They can inspire us to thank professors whose presence and influence linger long beyond final exams. They can prompt us to reach out to classmates and friends with whom we ventured through life-changing years. Stories also can simply confirm that we chose well: “As I have read from time to time about your work,” Smith tells Tuttle, “I have felt proud of my association with the University of Kansas.”

When I asked Smith’s permission to excerpt his email in this column, he graciously obliged, writing, “Professor Tuttle was a wonderful teacher, and through the piece I reconnected with some very happy memories of KU.”

Thanks to the support of members and donors, our Alumni Association offers communications and events to reconnect year-round, along with time-honored traditions including Homecoming, which this year is Sept. 22-29 (see p. 67, or homecoming.ku.edu). In keeping with this year’s theme, “Home on the Hill,” we hope Jayhawks everywhere will help extend the celebration by sending us personal definitions of home on our cherished campus: a dorm floor on Daisy Hill, a shady spot in Marvin Grove, a favorite quirky club—or a memorable classroom or research lab and the guidance of a revered professor. Send your stories to share@kualumni.org, and we will highlight them throughout the fall.

Reunions can take many forms. As always, *Kansas Alumni* is your standing invitation.
On May 13, nearly 4,000 graduates participated in the University’s 146th Commencement. Kevin Carroll, assoc., the Alumni Association’s 2017-’18 national chair, welcomed the Class of 2018 into the KU alumni family, and Chancellor Doug Girod offered inspirational advice to the new graduates: “Embrace this journey,” he said. “And don’t forget to enjoy the journey.”

Exhibitions

“Pledges of Allegiance,” Spencer Museum of Art, through July 31

“Paying Homage: Celebrating the Diversity of Men in Quilts,” Spencer Museum of Art, through Aug. 26

“Larry Schwarm: Kansas Farmers,” Spencer Museum of Art, Aug. 11 through Jan. 6

“Passage,” Spencer Museum of Art, Aug. 27 through Nov. 25

“The Ties that Bind: Haiti, the United States and the Art of Ulrick Jean-Pierre in Comparative Perspective,” Sept. 8 through Jan. 7

“Soundings,” Sept. 15 through Dec. 16

Lied Center events

AUGUST
12 Michael McDonald
28 Gael Hannan: “I’m Hearing as Hard as I Can”

SEPTEMBER
22 Trevor Noah
24, 25 Tootie Heath Trio featuring Emmet Cohen
27 KU Symphony Orchestra with special guest Blake Pouliot, violin

SePtember
26 “Frontline: Latinos and Immigration from a Woman’s Perspective,” Maria Hinojosa, The Commons

On the Boulevard

Exhibitions

“AUGUST
12 Michael McDonald
28 Gael Hannan: “I’m Hearing as Hard as I Can”

SEPTEMBER
22 Trevor Noah
24, 25 Tootie Heath Trio featuring Emmet Cohen
27 KU Symphony Orchestra with special guest Blake Pouliot, violin

30 Steve Martin & Martin Short: “An Evening You Will Forget for the Rest of Your Life”

OCTOBER
4 Joshua Bell, violin
11 Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis and World Pre-

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OCTOBER

NOVEMBER
19 An Evening with Neil Gaiman, Lied Center

FEBRUARY
7 “Political Optimism in the Age of Trump,” Walter Mosley, Kansas Union Ballroom

APRIL
11 An Evening with Jesmyn Ward, Liberty Hall, downtown Lawrence

Kansas Repertory Theatre

JULY
21, 27 “La Cage aux Folles,” directed by Missy Koonce, Crafton-Preyer Theatre

26, 28 “Legend of Georgia McBride,” directed by Peter Zazzali, Crafton-Preyer Theatre

Alumni Events

JULY
21 Rock Chalk Brew Bus, Tampa, Florida
26 Bus ride to “Football 101” with Coach Beaty, Wichita

AUGUST
16-26 Hawk Week
20 Fall classes begin

AUGUST
2 Happy Hour, Boston
3 KU Night with the St. Paul Saints, CHS Field, St. Paul, Minnesota
4 D.C. Summer BBQ, Arlington, Virginia
7 Happy Hour, New York City
9 KU Kickoff, Topeka
13 KU Night with the Albuquerque Isotopes, Isotopes Park, Albuquerque, New Mexico
15 KU Kickoff, Wichita
17 KU Kickoff, Corinth Square, Prairie Village
17 KU Night with the White Sox, Chicago
22 Seattle Jayhawks Golf Tournament, Redmond, Washington

SEPTEMBER
1 KU vs. Nicholls State, member tailgate, Adams Alumni Center
8 KU at Central Michigan, member tailgate
15 KU vs. Rutgers, member tailgate, Adams Alumni Center
18 Kansas Honors Scholars Program: Pittsburg
22 KU at Baylor, member tailgate
22-29 Homecoming (for complete schedule, visit kualumni.org/homecoming)
29 KU vs. Oklahoma State, member tailgate, Adams Alumni Center

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.

Photographs by Steve Puppe
**Many Very Eager, Motivated, Jovial Scientists Urge New Planets**

What are planets? That seemingly innocent question is sparking a revolution among squabbling astronomers. Again.

Still annoyed by the International Astronomical Union’s 2006 reclassification of Pluto—discovered in 1930 by Clyde Tombaugh, c’36, g’39—astronomers in March announced a nomenclature proposal that could be summarized so succinctly that even elementary-school kids—perhaps the most insatiable consumers of planetary tales—could instantly grasp and recite the concept.

What are planets? “Round objects in space that are smaller than stars.” Moons such as ours would become “planetary moons,” and poor, maligned Pluto would be restored to its former glory.

“It gets old having to address the misconceptions among the public who think that because Pluto was ‘demoted’ (not exactly a neutral term) that it must be more like a lumpy little asteroid than the complex and vibrant planet that it is,” astronomers David Grinspoon and Alan Stern wrote May 7 in the Washington Post. “It seems very likely that at some point the IAU will reconsider its flawed definition.”

Jayhawks, of course, never doubted. It’s always looked like a planet to us.

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**That’s a wrap**

**Ruben Leal, until recently** the graduate affairs administrator for KU’s chemistry department, left Hermosillo, Mexico, 14 years ago. He says he’s grown to love Lawrence, but longed for flour tortillas that are hallmarks of Sonoran cooking.

“I needed a hobby, and I told myself, ‘What can I do? Well, I miss tortillas a lot. I can teach myself how to make them.’ That’s how it all started.”

After perfecting the delicate blend of flour, water and pork or duck fat, Leal shared his tortillas with family and friends, who encouraged him to start selling them. So he did. Within two years, Leal’s Caramel Tortillas were available in The Merc Co+op in Lawrence, The Local Pig in Kansas City and Lenexa’s Red Kitchen Tamales (where the distinctive tortillas are also used to wrap burritos recently named best in the state), and he’d signed a lease on kitchen space at 19th and Mass.

Churning out up to 300 tortillas a week with no help forced Leal to log 20-hour days, often sleeping on a mattress at the business, so in May he left KU to work full time on tortillas thin enough to read through.

“Every time I do samples at a store or an event, people are like, ‘I’m trying a flour tortilla?’ And their eyes get big, like, ‘Whoa, what am I eating? I didn’t know it could be this good!’”

A true taste of northern Mexico, right here in northeastern Kansas: Chalk up another cultural exchange victory made possible by the big world of KU.
What started as a means to pass time between NCAA tournament games turned into much more for Jarrod, f’95, g’03, and Kate Neely Williams, ’97, who this spring masterminded the construction of Alhen Field House, a wildly creative chicken coop built in the likeness of KU’s legendary basketball arena.

The Maryland transplants, who moved to Grimesland, North Carolina, last year after retiring from the U.S. Naval Academy Band, hatched a plan for the hen house while discussing permanent lodging for the family’s 15 baby chicks, which include Devonte’GrayHen, Bawk Vaughn, Chick Collison, Scot Pullet and Greg Roostertag.

“They can’t stay in the brood house forever,” Jarrod recalls telling his wife. “Why don’t we put them in Allen Field House?”

The Williamses, who were members of the KU basketball band, relied on memory and details they found online to construct the 10-by-14-foot structure, which features the field house’s signature red roof, limestone-hued walls, abundant rows of windows and large 3-D block letters that spell out “Alhen Field House.”

“We were just going to do the outside, but we thought how plain the inside looked,” says Jarrod, who embellished the coop’s interior with hand-painted championship and Final Four banners, as well as a scoreboard and the retired jerseys of Jayhawk greats. He even recreated the antique Longines clock that hangs on Allen Field House’s west wall.

“If you subscribe to crazy, you might as well get every issue,” Jarrod jokes. “I’m all in.”

Swiftly fly the years

CAMPUS POLICE RECEIVED THE 911 call in the predawn of May 14, the morning after Commencement, after a long weekend for the KU Office of Public Safety: “You have a lot of people who are stressed out,” Deputy Chief James Anguiano says of students coping with finals week and the ensuing weekend of celebrations. “You get a lot of different calls, such as mental-health emergencies or alcohol poisoning.”

The caller had reported, Anguiano says, “several hundred people milling around at the Campanile, which, at 5:45 in the morning, is unusual.” An officer responded to Memorial Drive not knowing what to expect, and the scene he discovered could not have been predicted.

“They were all just sitting there,” Anguiano says, “taking in the sunrise of their final day at KU. A tranquil moment to reflect. It just shows that students really take in the tradition of KU. Who knows? Maybe this will start a new tradition.”

No stressing. No drinking. Just … chilling. We’re digging it. And it’s a safe bet KUPD is, too.
Dyche Hall renewal

Limestone walls, red-tile roof and top-floor renovations complete; grotesques’ replacement project underway, seeks donors

Inside and out, top to bottom, ornamental and integral, Dyche Hall has been reborn—so much so that Mount Oread’s 1903 limestone citadel actually seems to sparkle.

“The outside is gorgeous,” says Professor Leonard Krishtalka, director of the KU Biodiversity Institute and Natural History Museum. “This brings not only an aesthetic beauty, but a beauty for research and teaching and learning. And we’ve doubled the lifespan of the building.”

A $4.2 million renovation launched in August 2017 included repair and cleaning of all exterior stonework, a new roof and complete renovation of the decrepit seventh floor, home to faculty, researchers, students and specimen storage.

The seventh floor atop the 1963 north addition was remodeled in recent years and resembles a trendy urban office suite. Not so the original portion of the building’s top floor, which had fallen into dismal disrepair, with low-slung drop ceilings, filthy windows and crumbling window frames, and a seemingly haphazard assemblage of beat up old desks.

Workers from B.A. Green Construction removed the unfortunate drop ceiling, revealing gorgeous beams and woodwork, which were stripped, painted and restored. Antiquated air-handling systems were updated, and new windows reveal breathtaking views of Marvin Grove and Jayhawk Boulevard.

“I think that’s been a big, big surprise for everybody,” University Architect Jim Modig, a’73, says of Dyche Hall’s renewed vibrancy, especially on the seventh floor, where irreplaceable bird and mammal collections are stored and faculty and students have long toiled in substandard conditions. “The preservation of Dyche Hall is huge, and it’s long overdue.”

Professor Jorge Soberon endured 12 years in the old seventh floor. “You get used to it,” he says diplomatically. Now ensconced in an academic’s enviable nest, with a pristine view of Spooner Hall, Soberon smiles and adds, “But, yes, this is much better.”

As for Dyche’s badly eroded grotesques, which had been removed from their perches before exterior work began: They are now being closely studied by sibling sculptors Laura, ’81, and Karl Ramberg, and the summer-session students in an architecture, design and planning course led by the husband-and-wife team of Keith Van de Riet, assistant professor, and lecturer Amy Van de Riet.

While the Rambergs are examining and drawing each of the eight grotesques removed last fall (four were taken down when the north addition was built, one of which was unfortunately lost or stolen), the Van de Riets and their students are digitally scanning the entire menagerie. Together, the tandem teams next fall will produce 1/4-sized clay maquettes for final approval, although the goal of creating replica limestone grotesques still requires $130,000 in private funding.
Professor Emeritus Ted Johnson adds, "They’re poetic, in fact. It’s a hologram of the mind."

The grotesques remain on display in the Panorama for museum visitors to finally see up close. For more information about supporting their replacement, visit biodiversity.ku.edu/give.

—Chris Lazzarino

Krishtalka says a key element of the winning sculpture proposal was plans for community and campus engagement, launched with a June 14 Panorama event, at which children sketched alongside the artists.

“This is a community story,” Karl Ramberg says. "And the more we can get the community involved, the better that story is.”

Karl Ramberg says the grotesques’ deterioration was mostly due to their century-plus exposure to Kansas elements. Another factor, though, is that the statues are nearly 4 feet tall, and the layer from which the rock was quarried was about 3 feet tall; that meant sculptor Joseph Roblado Frazee had to flip the original blocks, turning horizontal limestone layers to vertical, exacerbating harm caused by moisture and temperature extremes.

Ramberg says great care will be taken to quarry high-quality Cottonwood limestone found close to the surface, for its natural porosity and durability.

Surprising details in the fanciful carvings have already been uncovered, including paws that are four-petaled flowers, an elephant’s trunk that wraps around its body and cradles the sun, wings that might just as likely be fins, and an eroded top knot that could have once been anything from a simple forelock to a unicorn’s horn.

“What is the language the artist used, and how can that language enhance what we see?” Karl Ramberg observes. “It’s one thing to look at it, but it’s another thing to put that spirit into it.”

Gazing lovingly at statues he has long studied from afar, Professor Emeritus Ted Johnson adds, “They’re poetic, in fact. It’s a hologram of the mind.”

Banned by popular demand

KU completes long transition to tobacco free campus

O n July 1, the Lawrence and Edwards campuses became tobacco free, joining the KU Medical Center, other Kansas Board of Regents institutions and more than 1,800 universities nationwide in banning tobacco use on campus.

The policy prohibits all forms of tobacco, including snuff and chewing tobacco, as well as devices designed to simulate cigarette smoking such as e-cigarettes and vaping devices. The change mainly affects tobacco use in public spaces, since state law already prohibits smoking inside or near University buildings and KU policy prohibits smoking in state vehicles.

Under the new policy, students, faculty, staff and visitors are still allowed to use tobacco or vape in their personal vehicles on campus.

The transition marks the conclusion of a years’ long process, which started as a student campaign in 2013; a survey conducted that year showed that 64 percent of respondents favored a stricter campus tobacco policy, and 59 percent favored a tobacco-free campus. A survey of faculty and staff showed similar levels of support: 58.9 percent favored a stricter policy and 58.2 percent supported a tobacco-free campus.

Tobacco Free KU, a coalition that includes KU human resources, Watkins

Mary Walsh is KU’s new chief information officer. Formerly assistant vice president for academic and administrative systems at Tulane University, Walsh leads more than 275 IT professionals on KU’s Lawrence and Edwards campuses.

The School of Pharmacy ranks No. 4 in National Institutes of Health funding, earning more than $11 million in NIH grants in fiscal 2017.

The Robert J. Dole Service to Country Award will honor a member of the Dole Institute’s Student Advisory Board each year, the institute announced in May. The $1,000 prize recognizes student involvement with the institute, commitment to public service and demonstrated leadership. Preference will be given to students with military service experience.
Mayo Clinic researcher receives honorary degree

Richard Weinshilboum, c’62, m’67, a pioneer in the study of how drugs respond to a person’s genetics, received the Doctor of Science at Commencement in May for his notable contributions to the field of pharmacogenomics.

During a nearly 50-year career, most of it spent at the Mayo Clinic, Weinshilboum has helped move his field from the theoretical to the practical, helping bring about drug treatments that can take into account a patient’s unique genetics to

Health Services, Recreation Services and the student group BEAK (Breathe Easy KU) worked to formulate the tobacco ban. A draft policy was written in 2015, after additional surveys and town hall meetings gathered input from students, faculty and staff, and a public comment period generated feedback that was incorporated into the final policy. The provost approved that final policy last July.

The University is working to educate international students, KU managers and neighbors on the policy change, and smoking cessation programs are available on campus through Watkins Health Services. KU employees can also take advantage of a 12-week cessation program with health coaching through the state employee health plan.

“This is a cultural change, and it depends on individuals to adapt to that cultural change,” says Ola Faucher, c’71, g’87, director of human resources and coordinator of the Tobacco Free KU steering committee. “So it’s not done yet. We will need to continue to sponsor, host, shepherd and encourage that change.”

Information on the new policy and cessation resources is available at tobacco-free.ku.edu.

Before Bonnie McKee Crume graduated at the top of her class in the KU School of Medicine this spring and landed a prestigious residency at the No. 1-ranked Boston Children’s Hospital, she had to overcome challenges posed by hearing loss.

Crume, m’18, succeeded with determination and the help of an improvised, computer-based communication system that she calls “the rig.”

Surgery and obstetrics rotations—which occur in fast-paced operating rooms where masks cover doctors’ faces, making lip-reading impossible—proved particularly challenging for Crume, who was born with severe to profound sensorineural hearing loss. But Cyn Ukoko, senior coordinator for academic accommodations at the Med Center, built a system that required the surgeon, resident and scrub tech to wear wireless microphones; their speech was then transcribed and displayed on a monitor that Crume could read, allowing her to communicate with her colleagues.

“KU put together an awesome team to assemble this machine,” Crume says. “It wasn’t perfect by any means, but it was incredibly cool.”

Crume earned a 4.0 GPA and finished tied for the top spot in her class. After her residency in Boston, she plans a career as a pediatrician.

“Hard work truly does pay off,” Crume says, “and now I can continue my dream without limitations. I have the privilege of taking care of kids, and there is no better reward.”
increase a drug’s efficacy or avoid harsh side effects, a practice known as precision or individualized medicine.

“Dr. Weinshilboum's important and foundational work has opened the door to new advances that will help patients far into the future,” said Chancellor Doug Girod, who nominated Weinshilboum for the award, which was approved by the Kansas Board of Regents. "His groundbreaking research in the field of genomics is helping to bring about a new era in medicine that enables doctors to customize treatments to fit their patients' specific genetic makeup.”

**LECTURES**

Celebrated writers headline Hall Center lecture series

**Neil Gaiman, Walter Mosley** and Jesmyn Ward will give talks on campus as part of the 2018-’19 Humanities Lecture Series organized by KU’s Hall Center for the Humanities.

Gaiman, winner of the Newberry and Carnegie medals as well as a number of science fiction awards, is the creator of short fiction, novels, audio theatre and films in several genres. “An Evening with Neil Gaiman” will be held Nov. 19 at the Lied Center.

Mosley, best known for his Easy Rawlins detective series, has written more than 50 books, including crime novels, political essays and science fiction. His talk, “Political Optimism in the Age of Trump,” takes place Feb. 7 at the Kansas Memorial Union Ballroom.

Ward, the first woman to win two National Book Awards for fiction, is a 2017 MacArthur Fellow and associate professor of English at Tulane University. “An Evening with Jasymn Ward” will take place April 11 at Liberty Hall.

Maria Hinojosa, a four-time Emmy award-winning news anchor and journalist opens the series with “Frontline: Latinos and Immigration from a Woman’s Perspective,” Sept. 25 at Spooner Hall.

Marie Grace Brown, assistant professor of history at KU, will discuss “Body Movements: Positioning Sudanese Women in an Age of Empire” Oct. 25 at the Lied Center Pavilion.

**SCHOLARSHIP**

Common Book author Danticat to visit campus in September

The **KU Common Book** for 2018-’19 is Create Dangerously: The Immigrant Artist at Work by Haitian-American writer Edwidge Danticat.

A series of essays championing the making of art in the face of political and social strife, Create Dangerously will be the focus of classroom discussions and other campus events, including the author’s Common Book address at 7 p.m. Sept. 6 in the Lied Center.

The Common Book program is designed to create a shared academic experience for first-year students and foster connections among students, faculty and staff. New students receive the Common Book during orientation and participate in a series of courses, discussions and events during the academic year.

The selection “is timely in the context of ongoing conversations about race and citizenship at KU and across the nation,” says Chancellor Doug Girod. “The Common Book program is designed to encourage our community of scholars to address challenging topics, and this year’s selection—like those before it—will do exactly that.”

Danticat, a MacArthur Fellow and winner of the Langston Hughes Medal, is the author of five books of fiction, including the National Book Award finalist Krik? Krak!, four books of nonfiction and six books for children and young adults.

**Milestones, money and other matters**

- **Tuition and fees** will rise 3 percent under a plan approved in June by the Kansas Board of Regents. Kansas residents taking 15 undergraduate credit hours will pay $5,573.95 per semester, an increase of $162.45. Nonresident students will see an increase of $383.70 per semester. The plan also ends the four-year tuition compact rate that allows incoming students to lock in one price for four years, though it will honor those agreements already in place.

- **Cynthia Lane, EdD’00,** superintendent of schools for Kansas City, Kansas, Public Schools, received the 2018 Friend of Education Award from the KU School of Education. The annual award recognizes people whose work strengthens education for students in Kansas and beyond. In her 35-year career, Lane has worked as a classroom teacher, principal, assistant superintendent and director of special education, winning 2016 Kansas Superintendent of the Year and 2016 Educator of the Year awards. She retired June 30.

- **A $7.4 million estate gift** from retired high school teacher Lavon Brosseau of Concordia will benefit KU students majoring in the arts, humanities and education, establishing scholarships in the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, a new Honors Scholars program in the College, a Center for Learning at the Spencer Museum of Art, awards and programming to encourage creativity for students in the humanities and the arts, and prizes and scholarships for the UKAnTeach program. Brosseau, who graduated from Kansas State University, donated $8 million to KU during her lifetime. She died in 2016.
‘Smiling fella’ to lead athletics

Long leaps at opportunity to head prominent program, pledges to ‘break the cycle’ of football frustrations

When Chancellor Doug Girod asked alumni stalwart A. Drue Jennings to lead the search for KU’s next athletics director—which culminated with Jeff Long’s July 11 introduction as KU’s 15th A.D.—he outlined qualities he expected to see in candidates brought forward for consideration: integrity, financial acumen, management skills, experience in hiring coaches, a commitment to all student-athletes and the entire athletics department, and national connections.

“And we added,” Jennings, d’68, l’72, commented wryly on the chancellor’s expansive list, “the ability to leap tall buildings in a single bound. I firmly believe that we checked all the boxes except one. We were unable to determine Jeff’s vertical leap.”

Long, a member of the College Football Playoff selection committee from 2014 to 2017, arrives at KU with more than 25 years of senior-level administrative experience in Div. I athletics. He served as athletics director at the University of Arkansas from 2008 to 2017, before which he spent four years as A.D. at the University of Pittsburgh, and hired prominent football coaches at both schools: Bobby Petrino and Bret Bielema at Arkansas and Dave Wannstedt at Pitt.

Long said at his introductory news conference at the Lied Center Pavilion that he has had good telephone conversations with coach David Beaty but won’t begin a close look inside the football program until after he starts work Aug. 1. (Long made similar comments about the $350 million fundraising campaign for extensive renovations to Memorial Stadium.)

“We’ll really start to know the progress of the program on Sept. 1 when the season begins,” Long said.

Delivering what he termed “a message to the KU family specifically about our football team,” Long also said, “It’s time to break the cycle. It’s not going to be easy.” He asked alumni and fans to support players “who are working incredibly hard to win for Kansas. They are Jayhawks, and they need your support, and this program needs your support.”

After relieving former athletics director Sheahon Zenger, PhD’96, of his duties May 21, Girod told the Kansas City Star that “football’s most certainly the most prominent challenge that we have right now. But it’s also getting excitement behind a vision, getting a fanbase moving behind a vision to really take athletics to the next level. We had lost some momentum there.”

The search for Zenger’s replacement lasted only seven weeks—”By academic standards, it went very quickly,” Girod said—because one name “surfaced almost immediately” and remained at the forefront of consideration.

“Jeff kept rising to the top,” Girod said, “in every conversation we had.”

Flashing a friendly manner and warm sense of humor in his introduction to KU, Long laughed when nudged by the chancellor to respond to a question he had overlooked.

“I’m just a smiling fella up here,” Long said, grinning, “happy to be here.”

Lokedi strikes gold

Distance runner wins elusive title with record-setting NCAA run

In her storied cross-country and track and field careers, senior distance runner Sharon Lokedi has racked up just about every possible honor. Including all three disciplines, Lokedi entered the June 7 NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Outdoor Championships as a nine-time Big 12 champion, six-time All-American, four-time Big 12 Performer of the Year, and holder of at least five school records.

Only one accomplishment had eluded the graceful runner: an NCAA championship.

After running in the midst of a fast-paced lead pack through most of the
NCAA's 10,000-meter race at the University of Oregon's historic Hayward Field, Lokedi moved into the lead on the final lap and flew away to victory in 32 minutes, 9.20 seconds, smashing the NCAA championship's 30-year-old meet record by 19 seconds and winning her first NCAA gold medal.

“It was just pure joy finishing,” Lokedi said. “I looked behind me and I was like, ‘I’m a champion!’”

The popular Kenyan was embraced by her competitors even before her teammates reached her. After receiving her hard-fought gold medal, Lokedi was handed the champion's trophy, which she promptly embraced with a kiss.

“I was so happy,” she said. “I didn't expect that. It was honestly pure joy. I could not even believe it.”

The NCAA title was the second in the history of KU women's track and field, after Lindsay Vollmer, '16, won the heptathlon in 2013, and Lokedi also became the first Jayhawk, male or female, to win the grueling NCAA 10,000 meters.

Two days later, Lokedi, the school-record holder in both the 10,000 and 5,000 meters, ran what might have been a tired 12th in the NCAA 5,000 meters; she will finish her KU career with senior seasons in cross-country and indoor track and field.

Other first-team All-American highlights included Bryce Hoppel placing fourth in the 800 meters with a lifetime best of 1:46.90, the fifth-best mark in KU history; senior Courtney Coppinger dropping more than two seconds from her school record in the 3,000-meter steeplechase with a mark of 9:49.04, en route to a seventh-place finish; and NCAA indoor pole vault champion Hussain Al Hizam, a junior who in May successfully defended his Big 12 outdoor title, earning his second-consecutive outdoor All-American designation by placing fifth, clearing 18 feet, 2.5 inches.

Sophomore Big 12 champion Gleb Dudarev, who entered the NCAA meet with the country's best hammer throw mark of the season, appeared to be battling lower-back tightness. After fouling on his first throw, Dudarev failed to advance out of the first round and placed 12th.

A happy surprise for KU track and field's 2018 outdoor campaign came May 12 in Waco, Texas, when discus thrower Alexandra Emilianov used her final attempt to win the Big 12 title with a school-record toss of 197 feet, 5 inches, crushing her previous best of 182-4. The freshman from Moldova, who earlier won the Kansas Relays, went on to establish herself as a national contender by finishing 12th at the NCAA meet, despite throwing well below her standard at 168-4.

Under center

Intriguing trio expected to vie for starting quarterback job

Defensive tackle Daniel Wise, All-Big 12 as a junior last season, will be getting plenty of attention from NFL scouts; senior linebacker Joe Dineen Jr. will likely again be among the Big 12 leaders in tackles; and a young secondary that earned praise from coach David Beaty during spring practice will be expected to...
Sports

grow into game-changing playmakers. But when fall camp opens in August, ahead of the Sept. 1 season opener against Nicholls State, all eyes are going to be watching a quarterback battle expected to be waged among senior Peyton Bender, junior Carter Stanley and sophomore Miles Kendrick.

Bender and Stanley both have extensive experience, both as starters and reserves; Kendrick, a sophomore transfer, last season threw for 1,889 yards and rushed for 417 yards at California's College of San Mateo.

When asked in late April who had stood out during spring drills, Kendrick was the third player Beaty named, after senior kicker Gabriel Rui and senior long snapper John Wirtel.

"Miles Kendrick sticks out to me," Beaty said. "He's thrown 127 passes in the spring ... and he's had two balls intercepted. That's not bad. That's good ball security. That means a guy's prepared and he knows what he's seeing."

As for Bender and Stanley, Beaty noted "clear differences" that have emerged in their performances over previous seasons.

"As you go through your years," Beaty said, "you see improvements in certain areas. You start seeing that maturity, understanding that the clock is ticking."

After Nicholls State, the Jayhawks on Sept. 8 travel to Central Michigan and host Rutgers Sept. 15. The Big 12 opener is Sept. 22 at Baylor, followed by Homecoming Sept. 29 against Oklahoma State.

UPDATES

Junior Ariana Fonseca Diaz, an accounting major with a 3.97 GPA, was named Big 12 Women's Golf Scholar-Athlete of the Year. "Ari is an exceptional student-athlete," said coach Erin O'Neil. Junior pole vaulter Hussain Al Hizam, a Big 12 and NCAA champion, was named Big 12 Men's Track and Field Co-Scholar Athlete of the Year. Al Hizam posted a 3.33 GPA as a finance major. ... All five Jayhawks competing May 16 at the NCAA Stockton Regional finished even or under par, pushing KU men's golf to its first regional title and 10th team victory in coach Jamie Bermel's six seasons. Top-10 finishes were posted by sophomore Andy Spencer and senior Daniel Sutton. ... Junior Ryan Zeferjahn retired all nine batters in his three innings of work as KU, playing as the USA team, pummeled Hong Kong, 16-1, July 6 in the opener of the World University Baseball Championship in Taiwan. ... Center Udoka Azubuike on May 30 removed himself from NBA draft consideration to return for his junior season. "I believe it was an important step as I chase my dream to play basketball at the highest level," Azubuike said of draft preparations. Guard Lagerald Vick also removed himself from the draft, and unexpectedly reached an agreement with coach Bill Self to return as the Jayhawks' lone senior. "It will be a bonus to have an experienced player like Lagerald in the mix," Self said. Returning to KU also allows Vick to complete his degree in spring 2019. ... Future basketball hall-of-famer Paul Pierce, '99, will be inducted in the Kansas Sports Hall of Fame Oct. 7 in Wichita. ... Late Night in the Phog is set for Sept. 28, the night before football's Homecoming game against Oklahoma State. ... Senior Gabby Simpson and junior Jada Burse were both named to volleyball's Preseason All-Big 12 team. ... Junior Anastasia Rychagova was named an Intercollegiate Tennis Association All-American, the first Jayhawk so honored since Kylie Hunt, d'98, in 1998. Slowed by injuries during the spring season, Rychagova finished 18-3, including an 11-2 mark against nationally ranked opponents.
Tailgate with fellow Jayhawks at the Adams Alumni Center!

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Home Games | Kickoff times
Sept. 1    Nicholls State, 6 p.m.
Sept. 15   Rutgers, 11 a.m.
Sept. 29   Oklahoma State
Oct. 27    TCU
Nov. 3     Iowa State
Nov. 23    Texas, 11 a.m.

Tailgates start 3 hours before kick off. Kickoff times have not been determined for all home games. Visit kuathletics.com for KU football updates.

Tailgating space at the Adams is limited; reserve your tickets early to guarantee your spot.

To sign up, visit kualumni.org/gameday, or call 800-584-2957.

Welcome Members
finger-snap ago, Central District was nothing more robust than an artist’s rendering, a wish list, part of a master plan for what our beloved campus could one day be, how it should live and breathe and teach and embrace, for the next half-century or more.

Less than two years later—“We tried to build it as fast as we could,” said one project architect—and this thing is done.

Or, if not done, close to it, at least for now, and all those fears we might have silently nursed about too much, too soon? Park them. The newly christened Central District—40-plus acres of mostly empty or under-utilized space bordered by Allen Field House, Oliver Hall, 19th Street, Daisy Hill and Irving Hill Road—is suddenly a vibrant center of student life, faculty research and science education.
The Integrated Science Building will redefine science research and education at KU. A new Burge Union features the largest single-use room in Lawrence, along with student affairs offices, comfy study space and a grab-and-go snack shop.

A new central utility plant—which even features a classroom for engineering students and a glass exterior wall that allows pedestrians and cyclists heading to and from Daisy Hill on the newly built Jayhawk Trail to see the wizardry of a modern utility station—delivers energy-efficient heat and power across Central District and beyond. New power and water lines were brought in, much-needed stormwater collection and drainage sites were created.

There’s a new residence hall, named for Professor Cora Downs, c’1915, g’20, PhD’24, the first woman to receive a KU doctorate, and suite-style apartments, which carry the name of the outdated predecessor, Stouffer Place.

The list continues: a new dining center, full-size recreation field, parking garage, surface parking, streets, walkways.

“We take a lot of pride in this project, in that it took 40 acres of prime space on our beautiful campus and made it better,” says University Engineer Phil Ellsworth. “And not just in appearance. It’s hitting a lot of needs that KU has. I think we did a great job of making a smart improvement and investment in KU that the next generations of Jayhawks are going to use and appreciate.”

With so many pieces to the puzzle, the massive construction site was, for all of 2016 and 2017, a confusing jumble. It was hard to see how the parts could possibly become a whole, but it worked.

The only way to believe it is to see it, and the only way to see it is to be there, feet on the ground, senses open to a new energy and distinct vibe that now illuminate what was once an ill-defined hillside of haphazard development, dilapidated housing, forgotten fields.

“We’ve gone from having basically two areas on campus to having three areas,” says Mark Reiske, a’86, director of KU’s Office of Facilities Planning and Development. “We’ve taken facilities that were built before man was on the moon and we’ve replaced them. I want every researcher in ISB to have everything they need to do world-class research, and I want everyone coming back to be proud of what KU is doing. I want the guys I went to school with, if they come back to a reunion, to think I’ve done good.”

“We take a lot of pride in this project, in that it took 40 acres of prime space on our beautiful campus and made it better. And not just in appearance. It’s hitting a lot of needs that KU has.”

—Phil Ellsworth

So how did $350 million of construction across 40 acres come together as well as it did? It’s all in the planning.

The first formal layout for what evolved into Mount Oread, sketched in 1904 by St. Louis architects George Kessler and Henry Wright, called for campus to grow south and west along the ridgetop, away from downtown Lawrence. Kansas City landscape architects Hare & Hare in 1928 envisioned what became Jayhawk Boulevard, a plan that was refined and expanded four years later.

As far as is known, another campus master plan did not emerge until 1995, at the juncture of Gene Budig and Robert Hemenway’s chancellorships. Formalized in 1997, that plan called for a new western face for the Kansas Union, park-and-ride lots on West Campus, relocation of athletics facilities south of Allen Field House, the removal of World War II annexes, and relocation of professional schools, including the School of Pharmacy, to West Campus, all of which quickly came to fruition.

Not so for plans to build a new home for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and a revised, one-way traffic pattern for a narrowed Jayhawk Boulevard (which has actually been widened, with the removal of on-street parking), but the mid-1990s framework proved its worth in modernizing and updating a campus that for decades had expanded seemingly without coherent pattern. The University followed up with a landscape master plan in 2003 and, five years later, a Getty Foundation-funded campus heritage plan.

Then-Provost Jeffrey Vitter in 2014 said he began work on updating the 1997 campus master plan as soon as he arrived in 2010 but quickly saw that he needed to set that project aside to focus on what would prove to be a keystone of Chancellor Bernadette Gray-Little’s tenure, a broad strategic plan called “Bold Aspirations.”

Presented to the Kansas Board of Regents in December 2011, Bold Aspirations emphasized KU’s role in “educating leaders, building healthy communities and
making discoveries that will change the world.” With Bold Aspirations well underway, University leaders turned again to reinvigorating the physical campus’ master plan, which by then had not been updated for nearly 20 years, and emerged with a complex, comprehensive vision of how the University’s finite physical space—beautiful, yet, in too many ways, badly outdated—could serve limitless missions of education, research and service to Kansas.

Described by Vitter as an “exciting, dynamic plan,” the 2014 Campus Master Plan included a slew of proposals built around a core principle that campus should no longer be viewed as binary, with main and west campuses, and instead become a linked triad of north (Jayhawk Boulevard), central and west districts.

The “North District” nomenclature for the traditional academic core on Jayhawk Boulevard has not, thankfully, taken root, but the concept of an “Innovation Way”—a network of modern, dynamic new science structures linking the main, central and west campuses—most definitely did.

KU this spring opened Slawson and Ritchie halls, collectively known as the Earth, Energy & Environment Center, for classes and research in geology, geophysics and petroleum engineering, and on April 25 officially dedicated the dazzling complex.

“This facility is part of not just a physical change that we’re seeing across the campus,” Chancellor Doug Girod said at the grand-opening celebration, “but a physical and design transformation that we’re seeing across the University.”

The EEEC arose from what had been an unsightly parking lot along the east side of Naismith Drive, between Lindley and Learned halls, and Girod reminded the assembled crowd about the breadth of a “long string of changes” that have swept across that neighborhood of campus, including expansion of the School of Engineering complex, the School of Business’ Capitol Federal Hall, complete renovation of Swarthout Recital Hall inside Murphy Hall, and the DeBruce Center adjacent to Allen Field House.

“It was really Bernadette Gray-Little and Jeff Vitter who did the big renew with the University master plan,” Girod says. “They looked forward and said, ‘We’ve got this really exciting stuff going on on West Campus, we’ve got all the wonderful things going on on Jayhawk Boulevard, so how do we make this campus flow?’

“Everything built off that to create the continuity that you see today.”

Two days after EEEC’s grand opening, Girod returned to the same campus neighborhood for yet another grand opening: the new Burge Union. Central District was about to get real.

Eager to move the 2014 master plan from concept to reality, KU construction officials spent spring 2015 sorting through design and construction proposals, and in June 2015 entered into an informal agreement—what University Architect Jim Modig, a’73, describes as an “engagement period”—with Maryland-based Edgemoor Infrastructure & Real Estate and Clark Construction.

The University in late 2015 financed the project by issuing $326 million in bonds through a Wisconsin public financing agency in what’s known as a public-private partnership, or P3. As detailed in a June article in the Lawrence Journal-World, the unusual arrangement, under which KU will make $22 million annual bond payments, drew rebukes from Topeka; although the plan had been closely reviewed by both the Kansas Board of Regents and the Legislative Joint Committee on State Bonding Construction, it had not been reviewed by the full Legislature.

KU proceeded with the P3, officials say, because time was money. A lot of money.

“We figured out a way to put this thing into turbocharged mode,” Reiske says.
“Every day that we delayed this project, it was between $42,000 and $45,000 of lost construction budget.”

KU spokesman Joe Monaco told the Journal-World that Central District financing was not part of the over-spending referenced by Interim Provost Carl Lejuez when Lejuez recently announced the need for $20 million in budget cuts, and construction officials say they acted when they did to lock in a rate that dropped five years off the life of the bonds and saved KU more than $40 million.

With bonds issued and contracts signed in the first week of January 2016, contractors immediately began putting up fencing, demolishing Stouffer Place Apartments and the Burge Union, and working on utilities.

“Everything just seemed to explode at that point,” Modig says.

“The heartbeat of this whole project,” in Girod’s estimation, is the 280,000-square-foot Integrated Science Building, home to interdisciplinary research in chemistry, medicinal chemistry, physics, molecular biosciences and related fields. As expected, everything about ISB is state-of-the-art, yet delivered in unexpected ways.

A tiered auditorium has seating for 325 students, yet designers consider it to be more classroom than auditorium. Its white walls are actually whiteboards, and the tiered seats swivel to encourage small-group discussion. The room’s thoughtfulness even extends to comfort for lefthanders, with one writing desk on each row designed to accommodate lefties, and three 90-inch monitors halfway up the tiers display video of experiments happening below.

“This is a unique auditorium,” says project architect Donald Gibson, of Edgemoor Infrastructure. “A lot of very knowledgeable, smart people brought their expertise to the table, working very collaboratively with researchers and faculty to bring their ideas to fruition.”

The same can be said for teaching and research laboratories, which feature modular utility rigs, tables and benches that can all be disassembled and rearranged. The laboratories boast 230 fume hoods, specialized plumbing that recirculates “huge amounts” of chilled water needed for experiments, and eco-friendly heat exchangers designed and patented by KU researchers.

ISB’s features also include 10,000 square feet of “clean room” laboratories, outfitted with high-efficiency particulate air filters, for research and teaching in nanosciences, and floor-to-ceiling exterior windows on both the north and south sides of the long building that flood hallways and laboratories with light. Even open-plan office space for graduate students and postdocs is a modern marvel.

“A lot of people working in corporations don’t get office space this nice,” Gibson says.

ISB’s central atrium is bright, airy, and, to Modig’s eye, “human scaled,” with nooks—technically, “collaboration spaces”—tucked here and there along the large stairways.

“It’s not that grand volume of space,” Modig says, “it’s comfortable.”

“Think of it on a cold, rainy day,” adds Gibson, smiling. “It’s going to be cozy.”

Construction of the Integrated Science Building was completed more than a month ahead of schedule. Faculty and staff began moving into the building in May, and the building was open for students when summer classes began June 5.

The new Burge Union, though, opened in April, and by the day of its formal dedication, April 27, the Burge had already hosted events in its 10,500-square-foot public event space, known as the Forum. Campus support services—including the Emily Taylor Center for Women and Gender Equity, Legal Services for Students and the Sexual Assault Prevention and Education Center—had not only opened, but within two weeks were already reporting significant increases in student visits.

“This side of campus has completely transformed,” Chancellor Girod said at the Burge’s grand re-opening. “This spot that you’re standing on is really the crossroad of all that, and will be for generations to come.”

The crossroad Girod referenced is the Burge’s east entrance, lined in “colonial red” accents. That color scheme, used on both Burge and ISB, was not merely about aesthetics, but is intended to evoke the beloved red-tile roofs atop Jayhawk Boulevard.

KU’s traditional building materials are now far too expensive, especially with tight budgets that force designers to squeeze every dollar into tangible and useful resources, but planners feared creating a “family of buildings” that didn’t fit well with the rest of campus.

“One of the challenges that we have,” Modig says, “is to be respectful of our heritage and our tradition, which is a lot of stone and red roofs. The economics of today may not afford us the ability to use
ISB’s central atrium is bright, airy, and to Jim Modig’s eye, ‘human-scaled,’ with nooks—technically, ‘collaboration spaces’—tucked here and there along the large stairways.
those materials, but we continue to stay with a palette of materials that are warm tones, like stone, so that it has some of that continuity.”

A far bigger design challenge than color palettes was envisioning Central District as it has now risen, a welcoming layout of buildings and green space that feels entirely at home at the center of KU’s sprawling campus.

Standing between Burge and ISB a few minutes after Burge’s ribbon cutting ceremony, Modig is asked whether he’d harbored any hidden worries that Central District might not have turned out as well as it did. No amount of computer modeling and dazzling graphics can truly replicate the real thing at a life-size scale, and nobody truly knows until they’re standing on the finished site whether buildings and open spaces exist in concert and cohesion or conflict and chaos.

“The keep-you-up-at-night thing?” Modig replies. “Well ... yes. What you don’t see is, these buildings were flipped.”

He indicates the massive ISB, which runs east-to-west along Irving Hill Road, and its low-slung neighbor to the south, the new Burge Union. On that sunny April afternoon, the apron between the two buildings was bathed in lovely, inviting sunlight; had the buildings been reversed, with the taller ISB to the south, afternoon sun would have been blocked.

“This would strictly be darkness, very, very urban,” Modig explains. “I think that was a little contentious when we said we want to flip them.”

Donald Gibson, the Edgemoor architect, nods in agreement and says, “That was a major decision, to flip them.” Gibson adds that it was even more stressful because it came nearly halfway through a five- to six-month design process that was already a high-stakes, high-pressure enterprise.

“It was one of those things where you flip the drawing upside down and it just looks completely different,” Gibson says. “But once we did it, I think everybody realized it looked a lot better.”

Saved from its original fate as an urban canyon, the long walkway between ISB and Burge instead became one of those vital spaces alive with possibility. More
than a mere pedestrian thoroughfare, it is a welcoming artery that invites relaxation and conversation.

Best of all, the passageway leads to one of Central District’s finest surprises: an open space west of Burge with a large lawn, an array of fanciful concrete benches, and an unmistakable tenor of community in the making.

“It’s a new exterior living room, a plaza, and it’s an amazing space to walk into,” Reiske says. “You’re coming down Jayhawk Trail into that large, open, welcoming space, and you’ve got handsome buildings on both sides, and as you walk back through that space, all of a sudden you’re getting this big view as campus opens up right before you.”

“There’s a power to that.”

Yes, it all happened finger-snap fast, the 1,200 beds of student housing, nearly 300,000 square feet of research and teaching space, a new union outfitted with a huge catering kitchen and unrivaled convention and reception space, a parking garage, a utility plant, the open space where friends and colleagues will create generations of Jayhawk friendships, but now that we’ve spent time and resources devoted to the new, it’s time return focus to what came before: namely, Malott Hall.

Even with so much new laboratory and teaching space now online in ISB, Malott, by far the largest building on campus at 330,098 square feet, is still two-thirds occupied. Its newly vacated classrooms and offices might be reconfigured as “swing space” to house tenants from aging campus buildings crying out for renewal.

The Central Utility Plant’s colorful piping (this page, middle) is on proud display. The Integrated Science Building’s dazzling features include (p. 24, top to bottom) a 325-seat classroom-style auditorium, air-filtered “clean rooms” for nanoscience research and modular teaching laboratories. Long, airy hallways (top) stretch throughout ISB, and cozy study nooks can be found throughout both ISB and the Burge Union.
University Architect Jim Modig (l) is flanked by (standing, l-r) Code Compliance Coordinator Larry Laubhan, University Engineer Phil Ellsworth; Shannan Nelson, associate vice provost for campus operations; and Mark Reiske, director of Facilities Planning and Development. Seated are University Fire Marshal Bob Rombach and Landscape Architect Marion Paulette.

Haworth Hall, itself a 280,000-square-foot behemoth, might be first on the list—“If you have good bones to start with,” Modig says, “mid-century modern science facilities can be every bit as high-tech as what we’ve built in Central District”—but there’s also work to be done up and down Jayhawk Boulevard: Bailey, Chalmers, Lindley, Stauffer-Flint and Strong halls all need extensive attention that would work best if occupants set up shop elsewhere for eight months or a year.

Since the Campus Master Plan was unveiled in 2014, KU has completed about 1.8 million gross square feet of academic, research and student-life space, at a cost of about $744 million, including the $350 million spent on six new buildings and critical infrastructure at Central District.

“It took great vision and a lot of fortitude to get through the Central District project,” Chancellor Girod says. “It was not without its political challenges, or its financial challenges, or its construction challenges, all of which were overcome quite successfully.”

Tellingly, the “it takes a village” trope was repeatedly invoked by Central District’s cast of players, but Lisa Kring, KU Memorial Union’s director of building and event services, used the Burge’s celebration to single out two.

“The stamina that it took to complete this project is immense, folks,” Kring told the crowd April 27, “and Jim and Mark certainly shouldered much of that.”

Predictably, Modig prefers that attention and praise be directed to others, most notably Mark Reiske and Phil Ellsworth, both of whom regularly logged 80-hour weeks on the Central District alone.

Modig was so impressed by Reiske, in fact, that he relinquished his directorship and promoted Reiske from associate director to lead Facilities Planning and Development into its next adventures.

“They’re all personal,” Reiske says of the projects large and small that continually reshape Jayhawks’ sanctified ground in the heart of Lawrence. “I can’t even imagine these projects not coming out well, for all of our alumni, all of our students, all of our faculty.”

Thanks to “funky, dreamed-up responsi-

Well, Reiske says, a hint of emotion evident in his wavering voice, “when I talk about Central District, it’s the same kind of feeling.”

Now that Central District’s heavy lifting is all but complete—except for the literal heavy lifting of moving laboratories and offices from Malott to ISB—it’s time for a break, right?

“I’m looking forward to getting to that place,” Ellsworth says, “but summer is always our busiest construction time because we try to do as much as possible when the students are gone. I’m sure by the end of summer, hopefully, I’ll have some times where I can kick back and take a week off and reflect.”

Reflecting on the flurry of construction that has swept across Mount Oread since 2014, Modig says Central District will likely be his career topper, along with the Campus Master Plan. But he’s not walking away just yet.

“Now that we’ve completed as much as we have, we probably need to do an update of the master plan. That would be nice to have under my belt. I don’t know if that’s going to happen or not, but it would be a way to say, ‘OK, we’ve completed so much in the first round of master-plan improvements, now it’s time to set the stage for round two.’

“Maybe that’s the time to step away and turn it over to the younger bright minds we’ve recruited here on campus.”

Finger-snap fast, that’s how quickly change can come. And the results? Those will last for generations.

More online

View Dan Storey’s video of a memorable campus tour with longtime University architects Warren Corman and Jim Modig—and watch a time-lapse video by Clark Construction of the Central District taking shape—at kualumni.org/extras.
Saved from its fate as an urban canyon, the long walkway between ISB and Burge is a vital space alive with possibility. More than a mere pedestrian thoroughfare, it is a welcoming artery that invites relaxation and conversation.
What could the richest nation in history gain from taking in the tired, poor, homeless and tempest-tossed?

She was 18. She was bright, clearly, having scored well enough on her high school graduation exam to earn a rare exemption from China’s rigorous gaokao, a grueling, two-day college entrance exam that each summer serves as both a rite of passage and the country’s single most important factor in determining a student’s educational and professional fate. While her classmates and friends were spending long hours obsessively studying for the high-pressure test, Liyue Huang’s ticket to college was already punched.

“That was my free time,” she says. “I’ve never been so free.”

But she was 18. “Very young and naive,” she recalls. It was 1989, and all across China young people were taking to the streets to support a student-led protest movement centered in Beijing—in Tiananmen Square in particular—urging China’s communist government to adopt democratic reforms. In Shanghai, where she lived with her parents and younger brother, many of the marchers were graduates of her high school who were now in college. She’d be joining them soon. Yet they were something more than peers: She looked up to them.

Her grasp of geopolitics, after a dozen years of schooling that constantly touted the greatness of China’s communist system, was shaky.

by Steven Hill
"I like to say I was pro-democracy. I was so advanced in my understanding of the world political system, but that's not true. The reason I was doing it was because it was fun. It's to show that I did so well on my graduation exam I am free to walk in the street and do whatever I want. I get to enjoy the sun while you people are suffering and studying for the next exam. I was showing off."

Sometime in late May, the Shanghai protesters wrote an open letter to the Chinese government advocating democracy and human rights. Liyue signed her name.

Then, late on the evening of June 3, the government cracked down, sending tanks and armed soldiers from the People's Liberation Army to break up the Beijing protests and clear Tiananmen Square. The number of Chinese civilians killed is still debated, but estimates range from a few hundred to 10,000. Mass arrests followed.

Within days, Liyue and her mother were called in to the education department in Shanghai. "First they told my mom to lock me up and don't let me walk in the street again, it is illegal now," she says. Then they told Liyue that because of her participation in the movement, she was banned from attending college.

"I wasn't smart enough or didn't understand my rights, and I just walked away with my mom blaming me for being stupid, and me blaming myself for being involved with this movement. I never thought it was unfair for them to treat me this way. I didn't know any better. In China the government is always right and you cannot question government authority. I just took it and then walked away. That was the end of it."

She got a job, started dating. She met and married a foreign student studying in Shanghai. At 23 she had a daughter, Monia, and soon after her birth the marriage broke up.

In 1999 Liyue emigrated to Malaysia. Four years later she met her current husband, Stanley Sigle, director of business development for a U.S. company there, and in 2005 they married.

Without a job and with her daughter now in school, Liyue began searching for something to do.

"Stanley said, 'Why don't you go back to school?' That's when I start thinking, 'OK, what do I want to study?'" Liyue says her husband suggested school, not college. "He was thinking about me learning flower arrangement or piano."

She had other ideas. Living with Sigle, she'd been exposed to a lot of American TV. He was especially fond of courtroom dramas.

"I was just thinking to myself, 'I wish I could speak English like those people, and I can win a fight with my husband,’" she recalls. "I said, 'I'm going to law school.' He was like, 'OK, you can try, but if you fail you can come back home and continue to be a housewife.'"

Laughing, Liyue says, "That kind of pissed me off, because I was like, 'Nope, I want to show you I can do it.'"

That decision set Liyue Huang-Sigle, '13, on a remarkable journey punctuated by second chances and sustained by extraordinary determination. It would eventually lead to Mount Oread and to a role she couldn't have imagined when she set out to become a lawyer: as a JAG, a judge advocate in the Kansas Army National Guard.

She was 34. The choice to study law, she says now, was a "spur of the moment" decision.

"If I knew law school would be so difficult, I probably would not decide to go," Liyue says. "But once I started, oh my goodness, it opened a whole new world to me."

There were no American law schools in Kuala Lumpur, the Malaysian capital, so she set her sights on the University of London. A Commonwealth country, Malaysia bases its legal system on British law, and the University of London offers an undergraduate law program there. But first Liyue would have to pass the British A-Level exam. For Americans, it would be like taking the SAT or ACT—16 years after graduating from high school. Preparing on her own, she passed with highest marks.

Learning the law and the language at the same time, she struggled. "If you look back at my old textbook," Liyue says, "there is Chinese written all over it, because I literally had to translate the English law book into Chinese to understand it." Her husband kidded that she spent more time reading the dictionary than the law. "I don't remember how many times I sit in the corner of my kitchen in Malaysia pulling my hair. It was very frustrating."

But also rewarding.
“The best thing that happened to my life—the best thing—is when I start to study English law. Because it just clicked. It brought me back to what happened in 1989.”

Concepts such as human rights and democracy—abstractions to a young woman born during Mao’s Cultural Revolution and schooled in the glory of Chinese communism—suddenly became real.

“When I sit in the public law class, and the professor start to explain to us what are human rights, what is democracy, what is separation of powers, it just dawned on me that was what we were fighting for in 1989,” Liyue says. “Those ideas are the absolute best thing in the world; every country should go by these principles. And that’s why people fight so hard for it. It brought me back to 1989, each and every day when I sit in that classroom, and I was so glad I left China and I was now studying law and a Western ideology.”

Liyue says law school “totally transformed” her life.

“I couldn’t sleep at night thinking about what I heard in class. I woke up the next morning and couldn’t wait to go to class. I didn’t know these ideas existed in real life. But they are real. People are actually quoting this in courtrooms.”

Inspired, she couldn’t wait to share the new concepts she was learning with family back in China.

“I have two very close cousins; we grew up together. When I start telling them these things they shut me up, and then eventually they stopped talking to me,” Liyue says. “I can understand. If I was on the other side, if I were them, probably my reaction would be the same. Because it’s crazy talk—people never heard of these things. Even in today’s China, the majority of Chinese have no idea what real democracy looks like.”

Liyue says her family warned her not to speak against the Chinese government, fearful of the reprisals that she—and they—could face. “If you say things disparaging the government, then you are a traitor,” she says. “I am still being called a traitor.”

By 2009, Liyue had her law degree and was eager to start her career. She and Stanley decided the best thing for Monia, now 14, would be for the family to live in America. But Stanley was still needed in Malaysia, so Liyue and Monia made the move together, eventually settling in Overland Park.

No one would hire her as a lawyer.

She was 38. She spoke English with a heavy accent, had no employment record in the United States and no experience with American culture. She began looking for work as a paralegal instead, but no one would hire her for that either.

So she decided to go to law school again.

“I know she wasn’t really happy that she had to do that, because she had expected to just be able to move here and get a job fairly quickly,” Monia Sigle, c’16, says. “But she was really calm about it. She was gonna be a lawyer and regardless of how she did that it was going to happen.”

Even if it meant completing law school a second time.

“I think on this point I can speak for most immigrants: We’re here, we’re lucky, we went through so much and we’re so grateful to be here.”

—Liyue Huang-Sigle

Monia was still in high school, and talking with her mom about her decision she realized they’d have a year overlap: She’d be a freshman at KU during her mother’s last year of law school.

“I was like, ‘Mom, why are you following me to college?’” she says, laughing at the prospect of the ultimate helicopter parent.

“Can’t you just let me live my life?”

Back in Malaysia, the two had hit the books together at their kitchen table; the study sessions, Monia says, “were really inspiring to me” and helped instill a love of learning that was instrumental in her decision to pursue a career in medicine.

Now mother and daughter regularly crossed paths on Mount Oread. Liyue says the rule was that she wasn’t allowed to say hello if Monia was with friends—a rule she gleefully broke one day by waving and shouting “I love you, Monia” across a busy street when she saw her daughter with a pack of friends. Monia allows that she was a lot more comfortable with the idea once she was in college. “After I moved out, I was like, ‘OK, I miss my mom,’” she says. “It was nice that she was on campus and we could get lunch sometimes.”

She picked up something else from her mother: determination.

“She is the most hard-working person I know,” Monia says. “She’s very determined. If she wants to do something, she’s gonna do it.”

Before Liyue could apply for law school, she had to take the LSAT, the standardized Law School Admission Test. “I thought, ‘I already have a law degree, how hard can it be?’” she recalls with a laugh. “I was soooo wrong.”

After a disastrous first attempt, she spent half a year studying and scored much better on her second try.

The lesson stuck with Monia when she applied to medical school.

“I was not accepted,” she says. “I know a lot of people who weren’t accepted the first time, and they just didn’t apply again.”

When her mother found out she didn’t get into med school, she counseled Monia not to worry, she’d make it next year.

“She didn’t even assume I wasn’t gonna apply again; it was just, ‘Of course you’re gonna apply again, why wouldn’t you?’” says Monia, who starts her second year in the KU School of Medicine this fall. “Her determination really rubbed off on me, and I think that it’s awesome that she doesn’t get deterred by anything. No hurdle is too big for her. I’ve never seen her quit at something she wants to do.”

But even Monia questioned her mother when she heard about her new plan, formulated halfway through law school: to
join the U.S. Army as a judge advocate, a member of the service branch’s legal JAG Corps that advises Army commanders on a wide range of issues pertaining to military justice and military law.

“When she first told my dad and I that she wanted to join the military, I was like, ‘Mom, I love you and I think you can do anything, but you know you have to do physical activity in basic training, right? When was the last time you ran a mile?’”

Stanley Sigle flew a hydrofoil for six years in the U.S. Navy in the early 1970s. He told his wife, “I think I already served for us.”

“She says, ‘I live here now,’” Stanley recalls. “‘I’m an American now and I want to show people I’m an American. I want to do something’.”

Says Monia, “It was crazy. But she wanted to go, so regardless of what we’re gonna say, she’s gonna go. And she just started training for it. She was doing pushups in the living room, situps. She’d go on runs. I was like, ‘Mom, you’re insane.’”

Maj. Xiang Zhang, c’05, is an officer strength manager for the Kansas Army National Guard. He’s a recruiter, but one who focuses on certain select recruits: the JAGs, chaplains and medical professionals who can earn a direct commission as officers.

“Unlike normal recruiters who bring in 17- and 18-year-olds—their job is to bring ‘em in, regardless of what they think—we’re looking for professionals to represent the organization,” Zhang says. “What I go through when I meet these individuals to make sure this is a good fit is, how well do I think this person can represent the organization I’m so proudly a part of?”

Zhang met Liyue in 2015. Like her, he grew up in China. He moved to the United States with his mother in 1990, when he was 12, joining his uncle and grandfather in Topeka. He enlisted in the Army after his first attempt at KU ended in academic probation. After a year and a half of military service, he was back on the Hill, “now with focus,” and posted a 4.0 in his first semester. He graduated with degrees in economics and psychology and received his ROTC commission in 2005, when he was assigned to the Kansas Guard, based at Forbes Field in Topeka.

Also like Liyue, Zhang experienced in college an awakening that contradicted everything he’d learned in China. “There’s placards everywhere in China that say how great your government is, how great your leader is,” he says. “You sing songs about it; it’s kind of part of your life so therefore it’s second nature.” Not until he took a KU course in ethics, he says, did he understand “this freedom thing: free speech, freedom of religion, free thinking, self-expression.” In Liyue he recognized someone who, like himself, appreciated the opportunity to share in the openness of American life and who wanted to do something to repay that gift of a second chance.

“It’s pride and gratitude,” Zhang says. “I feel a lot of immigrants have that sentiment.”

According to “For Love of Country: New Americans Serving in Our Armed Forces,” a 2016 report from the National Immigration Forum, approximately 40,000 immigrants serve in the U.S. military and about 5,000 noncitizens enlist each year. As of 2016, about 511,000 veterans were foreign born. Many have served with highest distinction: More than 20 percent of America’s 3,500 Medal of Honor recipients are immigrants.

In the three years he has served as officer strength manager, Zhang has met hundreds of candidates (both foreign- and native-born) who qualify for direct commission, but Liyue stands out.

“Of the individuals that I brought in, she has the most extraordinary story of triumph,” he says. “What she has gone through as part of the political process in China, as the Tiananmen Square incident unfolded, and to be able to recover from that to where she’s a proud member and officer in the JAG Corps within the Kansas Army National Guard, I would say she is near the top of the applicants I’ve ever dealt with.”

JAG recruitment is highly selective. Even the ideal “cookie-cutter candidates,” Zhang says, have to meet strict academic criteria, interview before a panel of JAGs and face a final review from a three-star general. And given that Liyue was far from cookie cutter, “She had to really want this in order for her to actually be a JAG officer,” he says.

For starters, she was foreign born. To be an officer in the U.S. military, you must be a U.S. citizen.

Then there was her age. She was 41 when she began what would become a years’ long enlistment process.
“I went in and they told me I need citizenship,” Liyue recalls. “So I said, ‘OK, I’ll get my citizenship.’ I went back and they said, ‘You’re too old.’ I started looking around and talking to people and I realized that can actually be waived.”

With Zhang’s help it was waived, and in 2016—nearly three years after graduating from the KU School of Law—she became 1st Lt. Liyue Huang-Sigle, a judge advocate in the 35th Infantry Division of the Kansas Army National Guard, stationed at Fort Leavenworth. She was 45.

Explaining her reasons for joining the U.S. Military to Stars & Stripes in 2017, Liyue said she wanted to do something for America.

“Thinking about it was not good enough,” she said. “Doing some volunteer work—I didn’t think that was enough. I wanted to do something that was tangible and physical and ... I wanted to contribute whatever I could to protect the lifestyle of the United States and its people.”

“She feels that this nation has provided her with such an opportunity that she feels an obligation to give back,” Zhang says. “I believe that’s what drives her to do what she’s doing.”

“She’s very patriotic, and it’s funny because she hasn’t lived here that long,” Monia says. “Her finally being able to live here, and becoming a citizen, and being able to bring me here and let me grow up and go to college here, she feels like she wants to do something for the country. It’s astonishing to me that someone who hasn’t even been here that long would want to join the military, but that’s just the type of person she is.”

Liyue has heard the hurtful talk about immigrants, the accusations that countries aren’t sending us their best. But when did America ever insist on accepting only the “best”? Where on the Statue of Liberty does it say send us your rich, your thriving, your landed, your elite?

“I think on this point I can speak for most immigrants: We’re here, we’re lucky, we went through so much and we’re so grateful to be here,” Liyue says. She speaks from experience: During the Cultural Revolution her family saved their meager meat rations for her young brother and she was sent to forage for weeds and fungi—and even those were hard to find because everyone else was digging. “I didn’t plan this. I never dreamed in my wild life I would be in the United States, becoming a citizen, becoming a lawyer.”

Don’t be so hard on those who follow democracy’s beacon, she urges. “We go through so much to see this light. Most people in those other countries, like China, they never see the light their whole lives.”

Liyue has represented many of these people in her law practice: first in Kansas City, where she filled a niche helping members of the metro’s ethnic Chinese community who otherwise would be unable to find a lawyer they could communicate with, and now in Houston, where Stanley was transferred in 2016 and Liyue is trying to establish a law practice with fellow KU law graduate Shuang Leng, l’12.

Many of her clients are poor and uneducated by American standards. “They’re born in a different place, and they are just so much more disadvantaged,” she says. “To rub that in, to discriminate against these people, that’s just harsh—very harsh.”

What could the richest nation in history possibly gain from taking in the tired, poor, homeless and tempest-tossed?

“If you allow them to stay here, their children are going to be American,” she says. “They will be born here. They’ll grow up here. They’ll go to the same schools and receive the same education. They will be good, law-abiding Americans.”

And many of them will stand ready to defend “this freedom thing” that they, like their parents, believe is important enough to risk their lives for.

When she first arrived in the United States, Liyue says, “I woke up every morning feeling lucky that I’m here.” That feeling continues today. “Because there are so many people who don’t have the privilege, they don’t have the luck, to ever witness this—the freedom, the democracy, the rights that people take for granted. Americans take a lot of things for granted.”

But even among the condemnations and taunts that grab headlines and send our national discourse spiraling ever lower into coarseness, there are more quiet, private moments where Liyue has felt the gratitude of those who appreciate her service. It has taken some getting used to.

“When I just joined the Army and people started telling me, ‘Thank you for your service,’ I would flush,” she says. She felt she hadn’t yet earned their gratitude. But her first deployment, nine months in Kuwait, which she finished in March, changed that. “Now I can proudly respond, ‘You’re welcome.’ Because I did serve. I went to Kuwait. I helped soldiers. I helped commanders. I contributed, and I deserve that thanks.”

Her whole life, says Capt. Liyue Huang-Sigle, who was promoted from first lieutenant in June, she has only wanted to achieve.

“I want to feel proud of myself,” she says. “I think I did pretty good.”

What could be more worthy of America than that?—

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AFTER NEARLY 25 YEARS

as director of the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center in Hutchinson, Ed Pavey has certainly built an impressive résumé. He has led the center’s expansion from a run-down, two-building facility to a sprawling 15-building campus that boasts the latest training technology and a full-time staff of more than 50 instructors and support professionals.

He has overseen law enforcement training for more than 400 agencies in Kansas and has witnessed the graduation of nearly 10,000 new officers from basic training, many of whom have become municipal police chiefs or county sheriffs.

He has developed training programs to promote fair and impartial policing, long before concerns about officer bias became part of the national conversation. He has championed the center at state and local levels and lobbied for increased funding for facility renovations, additional courses and staff, and new technology and equipment. He has been honored with countless awards and has consulted with law enforcement groups internationally.

Despite his overwhelming success, Pavey modestly deflects all praise to his
staff, whom he wholeheartedly credits for the center’s stellar reputation in the law enforcement community.

“You can’t say, ‘Congratulations, Ed,’ or ‘Well done, Ed,’ without him pointing to the men and women who are on staff down there,” says Sharon Graham, g’86. “He’s just a great guy.” Graham is assistant vice chancellor of KU Professional and Continuing Education, the University program, now on the Edwards Campus, that has overseen KLETC for 50 years.

Pavey surely will be missed, too: In June he retired from KLETC, the state’s headquarters for all law enforcement training. Darin Beck, the center’s associate director since 2015, succeeds Pavey as executive director.

As his tenure came to a close, Pavey reflected on his time as the third director in the center’s history. “It’s just been a great run,” he says. “We’ve got a great staff here; we’ve got a great facility. The support from the University has been outstanding. The Legislature has been supportive. I’m just really proud of KLETC.”

Pavey’s career in law enforcement first took shape when he was a 15-year-old sophomore at Wichita Heights High School. Former Sedgwick County Sheriff Vern Miller, who later became Kansas attorney general, participated in the school’s career day and recruited several students for explorer posts in law enforcement.

“I went on ride-alongs and sat in the communications center on weekends,” Pavey recalls. “After a date, I’d go and spend time during the wee hours of the morning, watching the dispatchers take calls and make radio calls.”

When Pavey turned 17, the sheriff offered him a position as a full-time dispatcher, working 3 to 11 p.m. five nights a week, under the strict condition that he maintain good grades in school. “I even had to bring my report card in to show that I was making Bs or above,” he says.

Pavey was promoted to deputy when he was 20 and served nearly 21 years with the Sedgwick County Sheriff’s Office, retiring as division commander. He was hired as assistant director of KLETC in 1989 and worked under Larry Welch, c’58, l’61, the center’s director from 1989 to 1994, who departed to lead the Kansas Bureau of Investigations. Pavey took over as acting director until his permanent appointment in 1995.

One of Pavey’s first significant tasks as director was overseeing the renovation of the center’s aging facilities. In 1968, when the Kansas Legislature established KLETC as the state’s formal training operation, the University, which had directed law enforcement training since the mid-1940s on the Lawrence campus, acquired a vacant World War II-era naval air base near Yoder to serve as the center’s new headquarters.

“It had a dormitory, cafeteria, classroom and office space in two buildings,” says Pavey. But the abandoned air base needed drastic remodeling. “Inmates were living in better conditions than the new officers.”

Under Pavey’s leadership, KLETC has expanded to include two multistory
training course for new officers, as well as continuing and professional education for veteran officers who are required to complete 40 hours of continuing education annually to maintain their licenses. Many courses are offered online and at other training sites throughout Kansas.

Pavey explains that KLETC solicits feedback from professional law enforcement organizations and local agencies to its basic training structure. “We brought in a national expert to help us develop a curriculum that went from day one until the end of the 14th week, when the students graduate, to develop learning objectives that build on one another during that whole period,” Beck says. “In previous years, we had relied on each individual instructor to be responsible for the development of their own curriculum.”

The center trains the majority of municipal, county and state law enforcement officers—more than 400 in basic training or related programs and nearly 10,000 in continuing education annually—and oversees training at eight certified academy programs throughout the state, including the Kansas Highway Patrol, the Wichita Police Department and the Sedgwick County Sheriff’s Office. Last year, KLETC offered 170 training programs, including the 14-week basic training course for new officers, as well as continuing and professional education for veteran officers who are required to complete 40 hours of continuing education annually to maintain their licenses. Many courses are offered online and at other training sites throughout Kansas.

Pavey explains that KLETC solicits feedback from professional law enforcement organizations and local agencies to
determine whether the center’s courses are properly preparing officers for success. “We’ve sent instructors back out to ride with officers in their communities, to interview the officers and ask, ‘What did we prepare you to do that you feel was really beneficial, or what didn’t we prepare you to handle when you got out there on your own?’” Pavey says. The center also frequently receives emails from officers in the field, thanking instructors for the training that helped them navigate difficult situations. “That’s good feedback that what we’re doing is working and is beneficial to the officers serving their communities.”

In recent years, Pavey also has focused on incorporating modern technology into training programs. In addition to a well-equipped computer lab, which officers use to complete collision reports, crime scene narratives and other arrest and offense reports, the center also features driving simulators, which are used in conjunction with traditional track training, and judgmental use-of-force training simulators, which allow officers to experience and respond to a variety of real-world scenarios, such as suspect control and active shooter situations.

“Every time something new comes out, if it’s something we can afford, we try to see how it could help us better train officers to meet the challenges they’re seeing every day,” Pavey says.

Long before the police shooting of a black teenager sparked riots in the streets of Ferguson, Missouri, Pavey had taken steps to educate officers in fair and impartial policing (FIP), a science-based perspective that demonstrates how implicit, or unconscious, biases can affect how officers respond in certain situations. In 2009, he submitted a proposal to the Governor’s Task Force on Racial Profiling to bring the FIP model to law enforcement personnel throughout the state. A few years later, after partnering with the Kansas African-American Affairs Commission to foster dialogue between law enforcement executives and community members, KLETC implemented an FIP course in its basic training curriculum and online continuing education programs.

“It’s a tremendous point of pride for us that we were well ahead of national events, like Ferguson,” Beck says. “We were already working towards building relationships with communities and recognizing biases that officers may have. Everybody has biases and being able to recognize
More than 400 officers go through basic training or related programs each year at KLETC, the state’s headquarters for all law enforcement training. The 14-week basic training program includes courses in fundamentals and procedures, firearms, fair and impartial policing, emergency vehicle operation, and crime scene investigation.
those biases and not act on them is the essence of FIP.

The center also has introduced the Blue Courage program, a two-day leadership workshop that encourages law enforcement officers to adopt a more guardian-inspired image, as opposed to a warrior-based one. That’s a challenge, Pavéy says, because officers are often required to wear fully-equipped tactical vests to hold their gear, which inevitably make them look more militarized. “I see it all the time when I run into officers,” he says. “They have those vests on and it just doesn’t send the friendly-officer message anymore.”

The center also has adopted de-escalation training that promotes strong communication skills and professionalism. “We try to alert officers of their mannerisms, their communications skills, how they address the motorizing public or how they address somebody they’re coming in contact with during a pedestrian stop,” Pavéy says. “We’re trying to do things all the time to keep officers safe and to keep the public safe.”

Brad Schoen, a 36-year law enforcement veteran and director of the Riley County Police Department in Manhattan, credits KLETC with being ahead of the curve in training officers. “We’ve got to change our mindset,” Schoen says, “because post-Ferguson, nothing is ever going to be the same. We have to adapt to that and learn how to operate in an environment where at least a good portion of the public is, frankly, suspicious of our motives. We have to do everything we can to counter that.”

In today’s digital age, where every vehicle or pedestrian stop can be captured on video and shared on social media, the potential for public criticism is considerable, Beck says. “Sometimes the true story about what happens in a case doesn’t come out for months after a prosecution, whereas the officer is being tried on social media from the very first day,” he says. “We need to work with officers to give them skills for resiliency and help them deal with an environment where there’s self-doubt, where members of the community should be very supportive, but, because of what they’ve seen on social media, may not be. That’s a challenge for an officer.”

Gary Warner, a KLETC instructor who retired from the Kansas Highway Patrol after 28 years of service, has witnessed several changes in law enforcement training since the introduction of video-sharing platforms and body-mounted cameras. “We’re constantly reminding students about professionalism and treating people with dignity and respect,” he says. “They’re under a microscope. They’re scrutinized so closely. We can’t prepare them for all of that, but we can help them understand why they need to do the right thing the right way all the time.”

Nearly a quarter-century ago, Pavéy welcomed his first class of officers to basic training at the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center. In June, he said goodbye to his last class of graduates. “I feel real confident about the product that we’re putting out there,” he says. “There’s one thing that we always tell every new officer that comes through, and I tell them this during orientation when they first arrive here: We’re not going to teach you everything that you need to know, but we’re going to teach you the basics about policing. We can’t prepare you for every conceivable situation that you’re going to encounter. That’s just no way. But we can teach you the basics.”

While there’s no question that Pavéy leaves KLETC on solid ground for Beck, his colleague of 18 years, there will be obstacles ahead. Fewer people are going into law enforcement, and local agencies are struggling to fill staff vacancies.

“The same thing is true for KLETC,” Beck says. “We’re having trouble recruiting instructors. We’re struggling with an image that I don’t think is a fair portrayal of the profession.”

One of Beck’s first tasks as executive director will be to aggressively recruit law enforcement officers to the center. “No matter what we do with programs or with educational philosophies, if we don’t have anybody to teach, we’re not going to be successful,” he says.

Sharon Graham is confident that the center’s new leader is the right person to tackle this issue. “He knows the importance of public service,” she says, “and he can clearly send that message throughout the state.”

As Beck contemplates his new role at KLETC, he is reminded of his predecessor’s sage advice: “You can’t do it alone,” he says. “You have to have good people around you.”

Videographer Dan Storey’s coverage of firearms training at KLETC can be seen at kualumni.org/extras.
Association

Pivotal leader

KU's 17th chancellor honored with Fred Ellsworth Medallion

T he University's 17th chancellor, Bernadette Gray-Little, who retired in 2017 after eight years of exemplary service, is the recipient of the 2018 Fred Ellsworth Medallion.

Since 1975, the Association has presented medallions to individuals who have shown unique and significant commitment to KU, a tradition that celebrates the late Fred Ellsworth, c'22, the organization's longest-serving chief executive. Gray-Little will be honored at the Sept. 14 fall meeting of the Association's national Board of Directors and introduced at the home football game Sept. 15.

During her tenure as chancellor, Gray-Little and KU Endowment led the record-breaking $1.6 billion Far Above fundraising campaign, and she guided the successful proposal and implementation of new admissions standards and the launch of a new undergraduate curriculum, KU Core, both aimed to increase student retention and graduation rates. From 2012 through 2016, KU’s freshman class experienced growth for five straight years.

Gray-Little oversaw the physical transformation of the University in 50 capital improvement projects totaling $700 million in Lawrence, on the Edwards Campus in Overland Park, and KU Medical Center campuses in Kansas City, Wichita and Salina. Most notable is the Central District in Lawrence (see our story, page 18). Other highlights include the expansion of the schools of Engineering and Medicine, including the construction of the new Health Education Building at KU Medical Center; a new home for the School of Business; new residence halls; and the restoration of Jayhawk Boulevard.

KU also made historic strides in research, achieving National Institutes of Health designations for the Alzheimer's Disease Center, the KU Cancer Center and Frontiers, the KU Clinical and Translational Science Institute. KU is one of only 26 U.S. universities to house three NIH-designated research centers. The research enterprise also expanded with the recruitment of 12 Foundation Distinguished Professors, a key component of the Bold Aspirations strategic plan to enhance research initiatives across the University.

A hallmark of Gray-Little's tenure was her steadfast commitment to raising the academic profile of the University, according to Dale Seuferling, j'77, KU Endowment president. "Most, if not all, KU chancellors can be proud of their service records of new buildings, increased funding and University awards and honors," he says. "In addition, Chancellor Gray-Little left a legacy that will forever enhance the reputation and rank of the University while making a direct contribution to the success of our Jayhawk students."

The six new directors on the Board are:

- Sasha Flores Bouware, c'98, g'00, of Fairway, earned her bachelor's degree in psychology and remained at KU to complete her MBA. She formerly worked for Pfizer and Accenture Foundation, and she is currently a part-time consultant. She is a member of the Kansas City Network board, and she co-chaired this year's Rock Chalk Ball committee; she also led the group in 2017. Sasha and her husband,

Board transition

Officers, directors begin terms
July 1 on national board

Members of the Association’s national Board of Directors met April 27-28 in Lawrence and elected officers and directors, who began their terms July 1.

John Ballard III, b'73, Overland Park, joined the board in 2013 and will lead the Association as national chair. He and his wife, Cindy, assoc., chaired the 2011 Rock Chalk Ball in Kansas City and have hosted and attended numerous KU events through the years. They are members of the Williams Education Fund for Kansas Athletics and, as a former KU football player, Ballard has served as a Jayhawk Mentor for student-athletes. He is a Life Member of the Alumni Association and principal owner of Property Specialists Inc. in Leawood. The Ballards are donors to the Presidents Club and benefactors of KU Libraries. In 2000 they donated to Spencer Research Library a 3,000-year-old Egyptian scroll, now known as the "Ballard Papyrus."

Ballard succeeds Kevin Carroll, assoc., of Jupiter, Florida. He will remain on the board as immediate past chair.

Dave Roland, e'80, Shorewood, Minnesota, is chair-elect. He is president of NDC Technologies and serves on the advisory board for the School of Engineering. He joined the Association’s Board of Directors in 2015 and also was a member of the Chancellor Search Committee in 2017. Roland and his wife, Vyonne, are Presidents Club donors and have attended the Rock Chalk Ball in Kansas City. He is a Life Member of the Association.

The six new directors on the Board are:

- Sasha Flores Bouware, c'98, g'00, of Fairway, earned her bachelor's degree in psychology and remained at KU to complete her MBA. She formerly worked for Pfizer and Accenture Foundation, and she is currently a part-time consultant. She is a member of the Kansas City Network board, and she co-chaired this year's Rock Chalk Ball committee; she also led the group in 2017. Sasha and her husband,
Al, c'98, l'02, g'02, have attended numerous balls, and they have served as honorary co-chairs. Sasha also has volunteered for Jayhawks for Higher Education and the Emily Taylor Center advisory board. As a KU student, she was a member of the Hispanic American Leadership Organization, Mortar Board and the Center for Community Outreach; she received the Rusty Leffel Concerned Student Award.

F. Taylor Burch, p'88, g'90, PharmD’09, of Lantana, Texas, completed his bachelor’s and doctoral degrees in pharmacy and a master’s degree in health services administration. He is in his 20th year at Eli Lilly and Company and is currently a global operations consultant, creating strategy and supporting the various platforms used by the medical affairs teams worldwide. His roles at Lilly also include being a diabetes medical science liaison, trainer, and an executive sales representative. He remains connected to the School of Pharmacy as a donor and volunteer, creating an endowed scholarship named for his father and returning to Lawrence often as a guest lecturer to first-year pharmacy students. He also volunteers for KU Admissions. With his wife, Lisa Howell Burch, c'92, he served on KU Endowment’s Far Above campaign committee for the school. They are Chancellors Club members for Endowment and Alumni Association Life Members and Presidents Club donors.

Brenda Roskens Dicus, b’83, of Topeka, began her career in marketing, and she is involved in several nonprofit organizations in Topeka. While her three daughters were growing up, she focused her volunteer work on educational and youth sports programs. With her husband, John, b’83, g’85, she has volunteered for the Kansas Honors Program, and she has attended numerous alumni events in Topeka as well as several Rock Chalk Balls. The Dicuses are Association Life Members and Presidents Club donors as well as Chancellors Club members for KU Endowment and Williams Education Fund members for Kansas Athletics. They have remained involved with the School of Business, most notably through the Capitol Federal Foundation’s leadership gift to provide the new home for the business school.

Eric Edell, c’76, m’81, of Rochester, Minnesota, is a professor of medicine at the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine, specializing in pulmonary and critical care and interventional pulmonary medicine. He previously served as vice chair of the division of pulmonary and critical care medicine as well as vice chair of Mayo Clinic Practice in charge of the outpatient practice in Rochester. His research interests have included programs aimed at preventing, diagnosing and applying novel treatments to lung cancer. His innovative
approaches have resulted in national and international recognition, and he has traveled worldwide to train other physicians. He also has earned several teaching awards. For KU, he is a member of the Medical Alumni Association board. He and his wife, Rosemary Privitera Edell, ’77, are Life Members of the Association.

David Hoese, e’86, of Chicago, is a private wealth adviser at Goldman Sachs, based in the Chicago office. He earned his KU degree in mechanical engineering and later received an MBA from Northwestern University. As a KU alumnus, he has served on the Chicago Network Board, attended and hosted numerous KU events in Chicago, and assisted in student recruitment. He also served as a moderator for the Association’s 2017 Chicago Entrepreneurship career networking event, which became a model for future Jayhawk Career Network events. He and his wife, Joan, are involved in local church and community organizations. They are Presidents Club donors to the Association.

Peter Johnston, c’94, l’97, of Salina, is an attorney with Clark, Mize & Linville, Chartered in Salina, and now a second-generation member of the Board, following in the footsteps of his dad, Donald A. Johnston, b’56, l’66, who served from 1986 to ’91. Peter is a longtime volunteer for the Kansas Honors Program and Jayhawks for Higher Education and has served on the School of Law’s Alumni Board of Governors. He and his wife, Sara Peckham Johnston, c’96, m’00, g’03, are Life Members of the Association and Presidents Club donors. For KU Endowment, they are Chancellors Club members. Sara is a family medicine physician and part-time faculty of the KU School of Medicine-Salina and volunteer faculty of the KU-affiliated Smoky Hill Family Practice Residency.

Five directors retired from the Board June 30:
Aaron Brinkman, j’98, Dallas;
Debi Dennis Duckworth, d’79, Houston;
Jill Simpson Miller, d’01, Webb City, Missouri;
Scott Seyfarth, b’83, Chicago, who led the Association as national chair from 2016 to ’17; and
Jerry Skillett, b’81, New York City.

Each year the Association invites nominations for new directors. Nominations will be accepted from Jan. 1 through March 1, 2019. The Nominating Committee meets in April to review all nominees and select a slate for individual consideration and election by the Board at its spring meeting. The Board meets three times annually in Lawrence.

The KU Black Alumni Network is proud to honor African-American alumni who have distinguished themselves and made a difference through demonstrated leadership and/or innovation to the University, their profession or society at large. The project acknowledges the contributions of individuals who have made their mark in varied ways and highlights in photographs and text the accomplishments of our honorees.

Recipients are selected from nominations submitted to the KU Black Alumni Network Mike and Joyce Shinn Leaders and Innovators Award Committee.

The committee will accept nominations for the 2019 awards through September 30, 2018.

To nominate an individual, complete the nomination form online at kualumni.org/kublackalumni.
Life Members

The Association thanks these Jayhawks, who began their Life memberships May 1 through June 30. For information, visit kualumni.org or call 800-584-2957.

Madeline D. Cook
J. Dayton Craig
Carolyn S. Curnutt
Kenneth S. Dawson
John H. DeVries
Benjamin K. & Angela S. Dozalez
Phillip G. Duff
Todd & Karen Shriner Dumas
Doug & Becky Alexander Eason
Michael T. Edmondson
Kyle L. & Gabrielle Corsini Elliott
Laura R. Ellis
Samuel S. Fankhauser
Jake T. Faucett
Jennifer L. Faucett
Jacob A. & Katherine Franz Fisher
Matthew D. Franzenburg
Carrie Frazier
Susanna L. Geiger
Ilex C. Gelpi
Michael C. Gentemann
Ian J. Gilpatrick
Timothy A. Glassco
Kurt J. & Julee Hawk Goeser
Paige Isaacs Gonzalez
Rene R. Gonzalez
Kevin S. Gray
Michael S. Gremillion
Lisa Guild
Eileen K. Hammar
Hunter V. Harding
Jada Hayes
Lisa Ann Hazlett
Laurie A. Heaton
John L. & Shirley A. Hendricks
Kimberly Sedberry Hess
Jackie L. Hilton
Paul G. & Nancy M. Hohmann
Joshua A. & Marcy Robards Hoppes
Elizabeth L. House
Kathryn E. Hoven
Monica S. Huke
Craig L. Jackson Jr.
Kylie K. Jackson
David O. Johnson
Samuel Johnson
Steven P. & C. Jeanette Johnson
John W. & Emilee Hermreck Katzer
Gary W. Keefer
John A. & Melissa K. Keller
Michael T. Kirkpatrick
Jennifer R. Klemp
Christopher J. & Aidan Loveland Koster
Michael R. Kuchinski
Kevin D. Lafferty
Bobbie J. Laincz
Gant W. Lambertz
Marc B. Langston
Ryan D. Larson
Nathaniel J. & Ashley Biondo Lata
David W. Latimer
George R. Laughead Jr.
Dane A. Lee & Elizabeth Olmo-Lee
Karla K. Leeper
Travis D. Lenkner
Deborah Hemmen Ling
Daniel M. Lingel
Patrick M. Liston
James R. Lloyd II & Ann Steuve Lloyd
Lauren E. Luhrs
Adam S. Lyons
Patrick A. Lytle
Thomas P. Maltese
Matthew R. Maner
Katherine A. Manweiler
William Mar & Kevin S. Eng
Marcus Mattern
Matthew T. & Amy R. & McCready
Mary C. McCue
Patrick J. & Nicole L. McGuire

Mallory K. McKee
Karen L. McMurray
Tyler J. & Tatyana Fastovski Metzger
David T. & Susan Y. Millstein
Audrey N. Mitchell
Paul J. Monson
Lynsay M. Montour
Kayla C. Moore
Samantha Bowman Mortlock
Andrew M. Muccino
Pracheta & Krishna Mukherjee
Jay W. & Robin Harper Murphy
Daniel S. & Julie Numrich Murray
David W. & Teresa L. Melcher Nelson
Kathleen Gunja Nelson
Laura L. Nelson
Joe & Sarah L. Nold
William R. O’Brien
Jennifer A. O’Grady
Dorothy J. Ogden
Tim L. Ogg
Graham S. Oltjen
James S. Oswalt
Robert W. & Stephanie Palmer
James A. Para-Cremer II & Mahin L. Para-Cremer
Donald E. Perreault
Elizabeth M. Peterson
Daniel C. & Allison York Pierron
Shelby L. Plank
Adam D. Podschen
Jack R. Porter
Alison Farley Raffle
Mary M. Rapp-Purvis
Timothy W. & Sandra Blome Reddin
Wendy Reese-Flinn
Denise Kinne Reissig
Steven K. Reynolds Jr.
Debra J. Romberger
Zakk S. Roy
Eric A. Ryan
Susan P. Scannell & Teri M. Pierce

(Continued on page 45)
Hawks and Highways kicks off with stops in eight communities

More than 550 alumni, friends and University partners have participated in eight June events as part of Hawks & Highways, a multi-year effort by the Alumni Association and Kansas Athletics to host events in communities statewide. Featured speakers included men’s basketball coach Bill Self, KU admissions associate director Heidi Simon and Heath Peterson, Alumni Association president. The annual KU Alumni Invitational golf tournament drew a sold-out crowd to Prairie Dunes Country Club. Visit kualumni.org/highways for information on upcoming events in October.

Photographs by Dan Storey, Kara Rodriguez, KU Alumni and Kansas Athletics staff
(Continued from page 43)

Jason E. Schroeder & Whitney P. Bachamp-Schroeder
Sarah E. Schumacher
Allison N. Schwartz
Jonathon D. Schweer
David L. & Shannon Banes Svinr
Lynn F. & Ann M. Scott
Shalini Shanker
Courtney D. Shawley
William H. Sheehy
James A. Shelton
Cynthia J. Shutt-Brown
Christian P. Simpson
Susan Uner Sinnott
Stephen M. & Hauna Leiker Slaughter
Scott M. Smith
Melissa Ann Smith-Marshall
Kelli Riney Starr
Brandon J. Stasieluk
Janell Katzer Stifter
Charles R. Stinson
Robert Strode
Amanda Plaster Stuke
Victoria D. Sturgeon
William A. Sundeen
Joshua T. & Beth Schryer Swank
Ann E. Swegle
Edward C. Szczuka
Bobi D. Tallman
John D. Taylor
John T. Thatcher
Christopher J. Thexton
Alexander J. Thierry
David I. Tokic
Robert J. Torongo & Corinne M. Moriarty
Audrey L. Troup
Matthew W. & Angie Tucker
Clayton W. Uthoff
Praveen Vadlamudi
Chad P. Van Buskirk
Leslie Reed Vashler
Adrian P. Vega
Christopher D. & Alisa Fallon Vincent
Kristen M. Vogrin
Michelle R. Von Ruden
Brandon J. & Sarah E. Warner Megan A. Watson
Jennifer Webb
Darin R. & Heather L. Weers
Aaron P. & Ashley Denneler Weigel
Daniel J. & Lauren Williams White
William H. & Anita Faulkner White
Paige A. White
Raeann L. Whitney
Morgan Wilkerson
Thomas R. & Vicki Wilkerson
Laura R. Williams
Yvonne R. & Drew Wilson
Christopher A. Wittmann
Mark A. Young
Deborah M. Zarnow

Board of Directors

■ CHAIR
John W. Ballard III, b’73, Overland Park

■ CHAIR-ELECT
Dave B. Roland, e’80, Shorewood, Minnesota

■ EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
John W. Ballard III, b’73, Overland Park
Kevin E. Carroll, assoc., Jupiter, Florida
Carrie W. Coulson, b’02, f’05, Miami Beach, Florida
Chancellor Douglas A. Girod, Lawrence
Jay Kerutis, c’82, Mesa, Arizona
Cory L. Lagerstrom, c’94, g’98, i’98, Prairie Village
Janet Lusk Murfin, d’75, Wichita
Dave B. Roland, e’80, Shorewood, Minnesota

■ DIRECTORS TO 2019
Carrie W. Coulson, b’02, f’05, Miami Beach, Florida
Cory L. Lagerstrom, c’94, g’98, i’98, Prairie Village
Cindy Emig Penzler, c’81, m’85, Lawrence
Albert I. Shank Jr., b’77, Liberal
Timothy T. Trump, b’80, f’83, Tulsa, Oklahoma

■ DIRECTORS TO 2020
Missy Hodge McCarthy, c’86, s’88, Rancho Mirage, California
Ellen O. Remsing, c’00, Manhattan, Kansas
Dave B. Roland, e’80, Shorewood, Minnesota

■ DIRECTORS TO 2021
Ryan Colalanni, c’07, j’07, Arlington, Virginia
Jay Kerutis, c’82, Mesa, Arizona
Janet Lusk Murfin, d’75, Wichita
Portia Kibble Smith, c’78, Overland Park

■ DIRECTORS TO 2022
Steve M. Dillard, c’75, Wichita
Michael C. Flowers, c’77, Apollo Beach, Florida
Michael J. Happe, j’94, Eden Prairie, Minnesota
Rosa Aguirre Mitchell, s’85, Elkhart
Keturah Harding Pohl, f’04, g’08, Findlay, Ohio
Adam J. Wray, c’93, Medina, Washington

■ DIRECTORS TO 2023
Sasha Flores Boulware, c’98, g’00, Fairway
F. Taylor Burch, p’88, g’98, PharmD’09, Lantana, Texas
Brenda Roskens Dicus, b’83, Topeka
Eric Edell, c’76, m’81, Rochester, Minnesota
David Hoese, c’86, Chicago, Illinois
Peter Johnston, c’94, f’97, Salina

Senior Staff Members

■ PRESIDENT
Heath Peterson, d’04, g’09

■ ADMINISTRATION
Heather Hawkins, j’06, Executive Assistant & Coordinator, Donor Relations

■ ALUMNI & STUDENT MEMBERSHIP PROGRAMS
Brad Eland, b’09, g’11, Vice President, Alumni & Student Programs

■ PUBLIC AFFAIRS
Jennifer Sanner, j’81, Senior Vice President, Public Affairs; Secretary

■ DEVELOPMENT
LaRisa Chambers, c’95, Senior Development Director

■ DONOR RELATIONS
Angela Storey, b’04, g’07, Vice President

■ FINANCE
Dwight Parman, Senior Vice President, Finance and Human Resources; Treasurer

■ HOSPITALITY SERVICES
Bryan Greve, Senior Vice President, Hospitality

■ COMMUNICATIONS
David Johnston, j’94, g’06, Vice President, Strategic Communications & Digital Media

■ MEMBERSHIP PROGRAMS
Teri Harris, Vice President, Membership, Marketing & Business Development

■ RECORDS
Bill Green, Senior Vice President, Information Services
Stefanie Shackelford, Vice President, Alumni Records
Become a mentor today!

*Students who are mentored also:*
- have improved self confidence
- are more likely to hold leadership positions
- report improved career outcomes
- earn more!

Questions?
Contact Kristi Laclé at kristilacle@kualumni.org
Richard Schiefelbusch, g’47, distinguished professor emeritus of speech-language-hearing at KU and retired director of the Life Span Institute, will celebrate his 100th birthday on July 23. The Schiefelbusch Speech-Language-Hearing Clinic and the Schiefelbusch Life Span Institute are named in his honor.

Vernon Smith, g’52, a professor of economics and law at Chapman University in Orange, California, was the keynote speaker at a Samford University event in March. He received the Nobel Prize in 2002 for his work in experimental economics.

William Farrar, c’55, and Velma Gaston Farrar, j’54, live in Kansas City, where they are retired and have four grandchildren. They recently embarked on their 22nd cruise and have traveled throughout the U.S. and to Europe, China and Australia.

Edward Cleary, e’59, lives in Aloha, Oregon, where he retired as a senior engineer at Tektronix.

Richard Weinshilboum, c’62, m’67, director of pharmacogenomics and chair of the division of clinical pharmacology at the Mayo Clinic Center for Individualized Medicine, received an honorary degree May 13 at KU’s 146th Commencement ceremony. He also is the Mary Lou and John H. Dasburg Professor of Cancer Genomics at the center.

Jerry Jennett, b’63, in April received the 2018 Distinguished Alumni Award from the School of Business. He is chairman of Georgia Gulf Sulfur Corp. in Valdosta, Georgia, and endowed KU’s Jennett Finance Scholars Program with his wife, Kay.

Bryan Shewmake, c’65, e’70, and his wife Cheryl, recently took a cruise from Dubai to Dubrovnik.

Robert Mowry, c’67, g’74, g’75, an expert on Chinese ceramics from the Song Dynasty, recently retired after 25 years as senior curator at the Harvard Art Museums. He also led the university’s department of Asian art.

Janardan Reddy, m’68, professor emeritus of pathology at Northwestern University, received the American Society for Investigative Pathology’s 2018 Gold-Headed Cane Award for his long-time contributions in pathology research, teaching and leadership.

Cynthia Hill Sullivan, j’68, retired after 10 years as volunteer processing coordinator at Trinity Church in Lansing, Michigan. She recently returned to Lawrence.

MARRIED

James Merrill, j’68, g’76, PhD’82, and Ellen Cohn, d’76, Nov. 4 in Overland Park, where they make their home.

Robert Taylor, c’69, founder and director of Executive AirShare Corp., was honored in April with the School of Business’ 2018 Distinguished Alumni Award. Bob serves on the school’s advisory board and executive committee.

Dennis Nash, PhD’70, in May was inducted in the Adams State University Educator Hall of Fame. He has been a teacher for 35 years, most recently serving as associate dean of the School of Communicative Disorders at the University of Wisconsin in Stevens Point.

J. Mark Hannah, d’71, owns Stream Lake and Wetland Solutions. He makes his home in Cleveland, Missouri, with his wife, Courtney.

Diana Bartelli Carlin, d’72, g’74, was inducted in the 2018 Central States Communication Association Hall of Fame. She is past president of the association and a teaching award recipient. Diana retired from KU in 2011 as professor of communication studies and from Saint Louis University in 2016 as associate vice president for graduate education and professor emerita of communication. She and her husband, Joseph Pierron, l’71, live in Lawrence.

Richard Baldwin, EdD’73, in May was appointed to the Michigan Board of Audiology. He retired in 2013 as clinical coordinator for the state’s department of social services.
Class Notes

Andrew Wymore
Proud Member.
Realtor.

As a Presidents Club and Life Member, and in cooperation with the KU Alumni Association, I am excited to participate in the Give Back Initiative.

As your Realtor I will donate 10% of my commission directly to the KU Alumni Association.

This program applies nationwide through my vast network of referral Realtor partners.

Serving all of your real estate needs: buying, selling, and property management.

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Andrew Wymore
Proud Member.
Realtor.

Shelly Lyon Rieger, b’73, g’74, makes her home in Seattle, where she retired as director of planning and financial analysis at Foss Maritime.

Ann Vigola Anderson, c’74, is a tennis instructor for seniors at the Jayhawk Tennis Center in Lawrence.

Christopher Hahn, d’74, lives in Olathe, where he retired as president and CEO of Special Olympics Kansas after 29 years with the organization.

Lynette Schultz, d’74, is a medical speech pathologist at CompHealth in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

David U’Prichard, g’74, PhD’75, director of Arix Bioscience and advisory board chair of BioMotiv, in May joined the advisory board of CerSci Therapeutics.

Mike Goff, j’76, is chief marketing and philanthropy officer at the United Way of Greater Kansas City.

Steve Hattrup, g’76, is vice president of finance at Charter Communications in Kailua, Hawaii, where he lives with his wife, Cynthia, assoc., and their daughter, Kaley.

Shere Miller, c’76, p’78, makes her home in Seattle, where she’s a retired pharmacist.

Mike Conlin, c’77, p’79, owns Jayhawk Pharmacy & Patient Supply in Topeka.

Leah Stevens Waage, c’77, m’81, opened LazerDoc, a medical and cosmetic laser clinic, in Leavenworth, where she lives with Kato, g’13, a colonel in the Norwegian army who is retiring this summer after 38 years of service, and their son, Carl. Leah also has three older sons, William McCollum, c’05; John McCollum, b’08, ’10; and James McCollum, d’10.

MARRIED

Jamie Hutchison Kennedy, d’77, to Dick Drendel, April 22 in Greensburg. They make their home in Wichita and Haviland.

Les Burson, c’78, is an emergency room physician at Bakersfield Memorial Hospital in Bakersfield, California, where he lives with his wife, Susan.

Jeff Coey, c’78, is regional vice president for China and Taiwan at U.S. Wheat Associates. He’s based in Hong Kong.

David Dennison, PhD’78, is a periodontist in Houston.

Mark Mullinix, c’78, retired in June after 32 years with the Federal Reserve. Most recently he served as first vice president and chief operating officer at the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond in Virginia. Mark began his career in Kansas City.

Barbara Baellow Bayer, j’79, is editor of the Kansas City Jewish Chronicle. She lives in Leawood.

Andrew Lear, b’79, is a retired CPA and partner at BKD in Springfield, Missouri.

Blake Thompson, c’79, serves on the board of directors of Wyandot Inc. He’s also an investor in Snack It Forward.

Ronald Wallace, g’79, is a retired geologist and program manager for the state of Georgia. He and his wife, Holly, make their home in Roswell.
Ease Into the Swing of Summer
#KUGearAndGifts
South African Explorer
January 4–20

Astounding Antarctica
January 20–February 1

Costa Rica’s Natural Heritage
January 21–31

Sparkling South Pacific
January 21–31

The Galapagos Islands
January 23–30 SOLD OUT

Legends of the Nile SOLD OUT
January 29–February 9

New Zealand
February 20–March 7

Patagonian Frontiers
March 17–April 2

Tanzania SOLD OUT
March 20–31

Atlantic Encounters
April 5–19

Dutch Waterways*
April 17–25

Legendary Europe
May 2–10

Cruise the Heart of Europe*
May 2–17

Springtime in Provence
May 8–16

Baltic Sea
May 23–June 1

Celtic Lands
Commemorating the 75th Anniversary of D-Day
May 28–June 7

Italy’s Magnificent Lake District
June 4–12

Great Journey Through Europe
June 7–17

Ancient Empires
June 20–28

Arctic Expedition
June 21–July 1

Africa’s Wildlife
July 24–August 6

Canadian Maritimes
July 25–August 4

Switzerland
July 31–August 8

Normandy*
Commemorating the 75th Anniversary of D-Day
August 17–25

Exploring Iceland
August 29–September 8

Inspiring Italy
September 1–12

Wonders of Peru
September 26–October 7

Great Pacific Northwest
September 15–23

Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta
October 11–14

Passage Along the Danube River
October 12–24

Majestic Vistas
October 28–November 4

Cruising Coastal Vietnam
November 5–19

Island Life - Ancient Greece
November 7–15

*No Single Supplement

For the latest dates and detailed trip descriptions, visit kualumni.org/travel or call 800-584-2957.
Kelly Mirt, c’80, is the new publisher of The News & Advance, a daily newspaper in Lynchburg, Virginia. He’s the former president and publisher of the Wichita Eagle.

Erich Bloxdorf, b’81, is president and CEO of the Illinois League of Financial Institutions in Springfield.

William Evans, c’81, m’85, a former physician, in June was ordained a deacon. He will serve at Holy Spirit Parish in Kimberly, Wisconsin, before returning this fall to the seminary.

Ardena Garth, l’81, lives in Chattanooga, Tennessee, where she’s an attorney.

Sharon Minton Kirkpatrick, g’81, PhD’88, is president and co-founder of HealthEd Connect, a nonprofit organization that trains and supports volunteer health workers in underserved countries.

Barbara Cochran Mayfield, d’81, g’87, l’92, retired as director of accessibility services at the University of Central Missouri. She continues to make her home in Warrensburg, Missouri.

Darren Karst, b’82, is senior executive vice president, chief financial officer and chief administrative officer at Rite Aid Corporation. He lives in Lake Forest, Illinois.

Abigail Morris Raynolds, n’82, is a nurse practitioner at the University of Rochester in New York.

Edward Rose, g’82, is senior director of revenue management at Community Health Systems in Franklin, Tennessee.

Myron Frans, l’83, is commissioner of Minnesota Management and Budget in St. Paul.

Kent Shelley, c’83, head baseball coach at Johnson County Community College, recently celebrated his 1,000th career victory. The former KU catcher has coached at JCCC for 31 years.

Carey Gillam, j’85, is an investigative journalist in Overland Park. She wrote Whitewash: The Story of a Weed Killer, Cancer, and the Corruption of Science, which was published in October.

Tanya Treadway, l’87, is a retired assistant U.S. attorney. She makes her home in Lawrence.

Erich Bloxdorf, b’81, is president and CEO of the Illinois League of Financial Institutions in Springfield.

William Evans, c’81, m’85, a former physician, in June was ordained a deacon. He will serve at Holy Spirit Parish in Kimberly, Wisconsin, before returning this fall to the seminary.

Tanya Treadway, l’87, is a retired assistant U.S. attorney. She makes her home in Lawrence.

William Turner, c’87, l’90, is an attorney at WM Law in Olathe, where he specializes in bankruptcy law.

Carolyn Teeter DeSalvo, m’88, makes her home in Sequim,

TODAY
ALUMNI REUNION WEEKEND
October 5-6, 2018
UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS MEDICAL CENTER

View the schedule, find visitor information and register online at www.kumc.edu/alumni/reunion
Ryan Manecke, c’91, m’95, a urologist at Advanced Urology Associates in Illinois, was named 2017 Physician of the Year by Presence Saint Joseph Medical Center.

John Penny, c’91, is an investor and lives in Andover with Lynn Morris Penny, b’90, chief information officer at Koch Industries.

Nicole Vap, j’91, is an investigative journalist at KUSA Channel 9 in Denver. She and her colleagues recently won a Sigma Delta Chi award for public service in television journalism.

Brent Mills, c’92, makes his home in Austin, Texas, where he owns Canna Financial Services and is an Amazon Web Services (AWS) operations manager at AlienVault.

Bingfang Yan, m’92, PhD’95, is associate dean of research and innovation in the James L. Winkle College of Pharmacy at the University of Cincinnati.

Washington, where she’s a gynecologist and specializes in integrative medicine. 

Vincent Miller, c’88, is dean of academic support at Johnson County Community College. He lives in Overland Park with Andrea Broomfield, c’87, g’89, an English professor at the college.

Todd Schnatzmeyer, a’88, is executive director of the Indiana Limestone Institute of America in Bloomington.

89 Jeannette Bonjour, f’89, g’97, teaches Advanced Placement literature at Olathe Northwest High School and also performs in local community and professional theatre. She and Tom Hoyt, c’82, ’98, live in Overland Park and have two sons, Parker, a senior at KU, and Mason, a junior in high school.

Janice Weddle Gales, n’89, is an Institutional Review Board (IRB) administrator at the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation in Oklahoma City. She lives in Edmond with Mark, PharmD’89, a professor of pharmacy at Southwestern Oklahoma State University. 

Leslie Haack, d’89, is deputy superintendent of support services for the Lamar Consolidated Independent School District in Rosenberg, Texas.

Michael Peters, e’89, is senior vice president of Geneseo & Wyoming. He lives in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida.

Sondra White Troup, c’89, ’92, is a children’s drawing instructor in Prairie Village, where she lives with John, c’91, h’93, ’98. They have three children, one of whom, Audrey, c’18, graduated in May from KU.

Heather Brown Wingate, c’89, I’93, is senior vice president of government affairs at Delta Air Lines in Washington, D.C. She and her husband, Steven, live in McLean, Virginia, with their two children.

George Abel, EdD’91, retired as assistant superintendent at Emporia Public Schools. He continues to make his home in Emporia.

Joan Archer, PhD’91, I’92, is general counsel at Farmobile in Leawood.

Ryan Manecke, c’91, m’95, a urologist at Advanced Urology Associates in Illinois, was named 2017 Physician of the Year by Presence Saint Joseph Medical Center.

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First KU Info director earns Pioneer award

In 1970, Shirley Gilham Domer recalls, the mood on Mount Oread was “a real powder keg.”

That April the Kansas Union burned, and in July two young men were killed by police in downtown Lawrence and on campus. War protests and racial conflict added to the tinder-box atmosphere.

Recognizing that out-of-control rumors were driving tensions, Domer—then a PhD candidate in speech communications and human relations—and other students started a hotline that people could call to verify whether events had actually occurred. The University contributed Strong Hall space and phones, formalizing the effort as the KU Information Center with Domer as director.

This May the Emily Taylor Center for Women & Gender Equity gave Domer, g’68, PhD’75, its Pioneer Woman Award for her achievements as KU Info’s first director and as the University’s first director of affirmative action.

In starting KU Info, Domer played a steadying role in a “time of campus turmoil, community unrest, and rampant rumors,” according to the prize citation.

In an oral history interview in 1997, she recalled how the calls quickly expanded. “Kids would call and ask, ‘How do you cook a hamburger?’ We never knew what we would be asked, so we built vast file cabinets full of information.”

Although KU Info quickly became a valuable resource, tensions continued. In 1972, the February Sisters, a group of 20 women, occupied a campus building and emerged with a list of demands topped by calls for an affirmative action plan. KU selected Domer to direct the plan, focusing the first year on women’s issues and adding minorities’ issues in the second.

Her first success: ensuring women could participate in marching band. Soon after, she and coach Marian Washington, g’78, secured facilities for female athletes inside Allen Field House. Previously, women suited up in Robinson Gym and dashed across Naismith Drive to play.

“That made me really happy,” she says today. “They were being treated like ‘girls.’ We were righting a wrong.”

She eventually won funding for 10 administrative positions filled by women and minorities, a success she says did as much to change the atmosphere on campus as any she achieved.

Unfortunately, Domer’s KU employment included experiences she says today would be treated as sexual harassment. “I wish there had been a #MeToo movement 40 years ago,” she says. “It would have made a big difference in my life.”

She warns against forgetting the past. “There is more to be done. Don’t say, ‘It’s so much better than it used to be.’ We have to know the history and to know where we’ve been, and how hard it’s been to get where we are.”

—Mettenburg, j’91, is a Lawrence freelance writer.
Kevin Weakley, l’94, is managing partner at Wallace Saunders in Overland Park. He’s been with the firm since 2001.

Neeli Bendapudi, PhD’95, former provost and executive vice chancellor at KU, in April was named president of the University of Louisville. She also served as dean of KU’s School of Business from 2011 to ’16.

Kyle Beran, PhD’95, is a chemistry professor at Angelo State University in San Angelo, Texas.

Kristy Berg Feden, g’95, lives in Papillion, Nebraska, where she’s executive director of Sarpy County Cooperative Head Start. She’s completing her doctorate in educational leadership at the University of Nebraska Omaha.

Erik Lundgren, c’96, is senior manager at Evoqua Water Technologies in Kansas City.

Chris Martin, c’96, makes his home in Tampa, Florida, where he’s associate director of business development at Navigant.

Heather Bunker, c’97, lives in Lawrence, where she’s market manager at Manpower.

Katie Morgan, d’97, is a freelance associate producer with NBC Sports and has covered the Olympic Games nine times for the news network. She also directs creative video for University of San Francisco Athletics.

Dee Gerdes Steinle, g’97, executive director of MBA and MSB programs at KU’s School of Business, was named vice chair of Liaison International’s Business-CAS advisory board.

Kelly Druten Green, l’98, directs legal recruiting at Lathrop Gage in Kansas City.


Alisa Fallon Vincent, c’98, n’01, is a registered nurse in the public school district in Coeur d’Alene, Idaho, where she lives with Christopher, c’98, and their three daughters.

Debra Ford, PhD’99, is an associate professor in the interdisciplinary leadership doctoral program at Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska.

Drew France, c’99, directs development and strategic planning at Community Action Project of Tulsa County in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Brian Friedman, d’99, is executive director of development at Washburn University Foundation in Topeka. He commutes from Lawrence.
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¹ Retrieved on January 8, 2018, from newscenter.gmac.com/news-center/the-value-of-the-mba
Class Notes

Emily Hoffman, c’99, g’02, is associate professor of English and assistant director of University Honors at Arkansas Tech University.

Joyce Stotts, g’99, wrote Suzette Crick-ette, a children’s picture book, and the novel Condo Rondeau, both of which were published in 2016. She’s a retired teacher in Davenport, Florida.

Kami Kinkaid, a’00, was promoted to director of education design at Pfau Long Architecture in San Francisco, where she makes her home.

Jennifer Ryan Newton, c’00, g’01, PhD’12, recently moved to Athens, Ohio, where she’s an assistant professor in the Patton College of Education at Ohio University.

Lisa Crawford Shappee, j’00, is an associate professor and library director at Kansas State University Polytechnic in Salina, where she lives with her husband, Eric, and their children.

Krista Tatsch-Eyler, g’00, played the lead role of Velma Kelly in the musical “Chicago,” which was shown this spring at the Arts Asylum in Kansas City.

Ashley Bowen Cook, j’01, lives in Wichita, where she’s vice president and brand director for the Greteman Group.

Matthew Franzenburg, c’01, l’08, is an attorney in Lawrence. He makes his home in Lenexa with his wife, Kelli.

Juan Heath, c’01, is a retail branch associate at CommunityAmerica Credit Union. He lives in Overland Park.

Hilary McManus, g’01, is associate professor of biology at Le Moyne College in Syracuse, New York.

Amy Mize, PhD’01, is vice president of business development at KCAS Bioanalytical and Biomarker Services in Shawnee.

Morgan Miller Bertram, d’02, is a real estate agent at Realty Executives Access in San Antonio.

Dusten Crichton, d’02, in December earned his PhD in educational leadership from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Julia Gilmore Gaughan, c’02, l’08, works at Bert Nash Community Mental Health Center in Lawrence, where she supervises Mental Health First Aid, an eight-hour training course.

David Latta, c’02, is a submarine officer in the U.S. Navy. He makes his home in Arlington, Virginia.

Tiffany Gabel Rito, s’02, s’03, is a licensed master social worker for the Johnson County Department of Corrections.

Leah Masonbrink Vomhof, d’02, g’12, is associate principal at De Soto High School. She lives in Mission.

Autumn Jones Bishop, j’03, g’17, makes her home in Lawrence, where she’s a social media and digital communications specialist at Lawrence Memorial Hospital.

Nick Collison, c’03, in May announced his retirement from the NBA. He was a Big 12 Player of the Year and helped lead the Jayhawks to the Final Four in 2002 and 2003. Nick spent his entire 15-year
professional career with the same franchise, the Seattle SuperSonics/Oklahoma City Thunder.

**Amanda Denning Holt**, j’03, g’14, directs patient care transformation at Saint Luke’s Physician Group in Kansas City. She lives in Overland Park.

**Scott Patterson**, c’03, lives in Greensburg, Pennsylvania, where he’s a meteorologist at SESCO Enterprises.

**Matthew Sargent**, c’03, directs sales support at Artco Casket Company in Lenexa.

**Jennifer Scott**, c’03, is the country program director at the Navy International Programs Office in Washington, D.C.

**Kathleen Faricy Maiurro**, c’04, is development director at Discover Goodwill of Southern and Western Colorado in Colorado Springs.

**Meka White Morris**, j’04, is senior vice president of national sales at Learfield in Plano, Texas.

**MARRIED**

**Mary Ann Porch**, c’04, j’04, to Joel Caram, May 13 in Oklahoma City, where they make their home with their son, Jack, who will celebrate his first birthday in November. Mary Ann manages marketing and events at Richemont.

**04**

**05** **Brian Platt**, g’05, PhD’12, is an assistant professor of geology and geological engineering at the University of

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**PROFILE** by Chris Lazzarino

**Native filmmaker teaches youth to share their stories**

Myron Dewey was fresh from his participation in the multicontinent prayer run known as The Eagle and The Condor Prophesy, uniting native people from across the Americas and the wider world, when he happened upon a Facebook Live video from the “Water Protectors” movement at a proposed pipeline site on Standing Rock Indian Reservation in North Dakota.

His reaction perhaps intensified by a spiritual mindset that he describes as “deep in protocol,” Dewey, g’07, in July 2016 headed for Standing Rock, which he’d earlier visited to counsel at-risk youth.

“I heard the call,” Dewey says.

Dewey, an educator, filmmaker and digital media entrepreneur, was born and reared on a Nevada reservation, which he recalls as “a beautiful oasis in the desert.”

But the idyllic setting was under constant assault, he says, from outsiders in search of mineral and timber riches. Protests, he recalls, were a way of life: “I grew up witnessing, not knowing I would be doing that for the rest of my life.”

Told higher education was beyond his means, the “strong-headed” young man found his way to Haskell Indian Nations University, then graduate school at KU, where he created a track in digital language preservation and launched his quest to both help heal pains of “historical trauma” and point young people toward a digital future of “community journalism,” with which they can directly share their creative messages with audiences near and far.

At Standing Rock, Dewey filmed everything: clashes with police, the “several hundred thousands” of people who arrived from around the world, and diligent efforts to maintain their camp as a site blessed with a balance between intense devotion to their cause and respectful spirituality.

He also engaged in “front-line media training,” teaching young communicators how to record and document the movement with high-tech tools while observing what he terms “core values,” with which “it’s not easy to be skewed.”

“The opportunity to educate,” Dewey says, “was always in front of me.”

Dewey joined two non-native filmmakers in gathering their footage into a powerful documentary, “Awake: A Dream From Standing Rock,” which is available on Netflix and awakefilm.org.

“The hurt I’ve seen, the pain, I knew I had to become an educator, because I didn’t have the tools. So I started putting it out to the universe. People were coming into my path, spiritual people, educated people, scholars, beautiful mentors, both native and non-native. It just kept coming in my direction, even when I pushed it away.

“I listened to my spirit. When we don’t listen, our spirit listens, and it comes back full circle somewhere along the line. When we’re ready for it, it comes back.”

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Multimedia communicator Myron Dewey says Standing Rock proved “a great platform” for him to teach digital content creation “through indigenous eyes.”
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Mississippi. He recently collaborated with fellow researchers at the university to digitally preserve the first-recorded carnivorous dinosaur tracks in Arkansas.

**Ben Renn,** b’05, ’11, is assistant vice president of business banking at Emprise Bank. He lives in Wichita.

**Jennifer Widerstrom,** d’05, a fitness expert and trainer who appeared on the NBC show “The Biggest Loser,” has partnered with Laura’s Lean, an all-natural beef company. She’s the newest member of the brand’s ambassador team.

**BORN TO:**

**Ken,** b’05, g’08, and **Whitney Eriksen Chang,** c’08, j’08, son, Dawson, Jan. 17, in Fairway, where he joins a sister, Nora, 3. Ken is a market innovation specialist at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas City, and Whitney teaches second grade at Highl- lands Elementary School in Mission.

**Jaime Baggett,** d’06, g’09, teaches kindergarten and English as a second language at Lawrence Public Schools.

**Matt Beverlin,** g’06, Ph.D’11, is an attorney at Mejia & Beverlin Law in Olympia, Washington.

**Sean O’Leary,** c’06, lives in Denver, where he’s a senior enterprise account executive at BloomReach Global.

**Adam Swartz,** c’06, is managing attorney at Swartz Law Firm in Dallas.

**Laura Watkins Baker,** j’07, was promoted to senior account supervisor of digital at Edelman in Austin, Texas. She previously was a digital strategist at the company.

**Matthew Dupuy,** b’07, g’08, manages product control at Koch Supply & Trading in Wichita, where he lives with **Jaime Hornbaker Dupuy,** j’08, director of investing and strategy at the Wichita Regional Chamber of Commerce, and their two children, Hailey and Adam.

Father **Matthew Nagle,** c’07, is associate pastor at St. Michael the Archangel Parish in Leawood.

**Meghan Kinley Shreve,** c’07, directs communications at InterHab in Topeka.

**Ashley Schlotzhauer Thornton,** d’07, founded Gracefully Giving, a gift consulting business. She makes her home in Lawrence.

**Emily Bannworth,** b’08, works at ASE Group in Overland Park, where she’s a meeting and event planner.

**Lijing Du,** g’08, Ph.D’14, is an assistant professor in the College of Business & Economics at Towson University in Maryland.

**Hassan Johnson,** c’08, lives in The Woodlands, Texas, where he’s a personal trainer at 24 Hour Fitness.

**Matt Lindberg,** j’08, is managing editor at Lee Enterprises in Columbus, Nebraska, where he lives with **Sarah Stratham Lindberg,** c’09, and their two children, David and Riley.

**Mike Magnusson,** d’08, g’10, is a senior account executive at Jayhawk IMG Sports Marketing. He resides in Overland Park.

**James Para-Cremer,** g’08, is vice president of operations at NeuroRestor- ative. He makes his home in Mukwonago, Wisconsin, with **Mahin Para-Cremer,** c’97, ’03, who directs operations at Integrated Development Services.

**Daniel Pierron,** e’08, is a patent attorney and partner at Widerman Malek in Melbourne, Florida.

**Natalie Bazan,** g’09, is director of the North Riverside Public Library in Riverside, Illinois.

**Rustin Dodd,** j’09, is a staff writer at the Athletic. He covers the Kansas City Royals.

**Laura Kane,** g’09, makes her home in Liberal with her husband, **Scott,** assoc., and their son, Christian. She’s a family nurse practitioner at Southwest Family Medicine.

**Eleanor Pettus Schneider,** g’09, a fellow at the Liberty Fund in Indianapolis, received the 2018 Fraser Barron Memorial Scholarship in Renaissance and Western History from the National Association of Scholars.

**Darrell Stuckey,** c’09, hosted a football camp in June at Bishop Ward High School.
in Kansas City. He was a safety at KU and played professionally for the San Diego Chargers.

Catherine Worthy Woods, g’09, is a nurse practitioner at Children’s Mercy Hospital & Clinics in Wichita, where she lives with her husband, Thomas.

Sanjay Adhia, m’10, is a forensic psychiatrist and assistant professor of psychiatry at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston.


Erica Braker, b’10, manages marketing and communications at Great Plains SPCA in Merriam.

John Chalfant, b’10, g’11, lives in San Francisco, where he’s a manager at Ernst & Young.

Edward Lanier, g’10, is a real estate agent at Long & Foster in Alexandria, Virginia.

Ayesha Mehdi, l’10, g’10, lives in Henderson, Nevada, where she’s an attorney at Frontier Health Law.

Paul Ramseyer, g’10, is the new athletic director at Friends University in Wichita. He previously worked at Hesston College.

Katy Saunders, j’10, is a staffing manager at Accountemps in Richmond, Virginia.

Lindsey Schuler, c’10, is an associate attorney at Croker, Huck, Kasher, DeWitt, Anderson & Gonderinger in Omaha. She specializes in business and commercial law, civil litigation and real estate.

Joseph Davis, c’11, is a marketing manager for social media at H&R Block in Kansas City.

Juliann Chau Friess, h’11, g’12, an occupational therapist at Western Plains Medical Complex in Dodge City, was named Therapist of the Year by AMBUCS, a nonprofit organization that assists individuals with disabilities.

Tyler Holmes, c’11, l’14, lives in Malawi, where he’s a programme lawyer for the Irish Rule of Law International.

Megan Zumbrunn Landrith, PharmD’11, is a pharmacist at Dillons in Junction City.

Benjamin Levy, c’11, is a make-ready engineering technician at Actavo in Mission. He commutes from Lawrence.

Erin Lustig, d’11, g’17, teaches kindergarten at Briarwood Elementary School in Prairie Village. She lives in Olathe with Tyler Weigel, b’10.

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America.

12 Kirin Arnold Dowden, j’12, is a studio manager at 19 Below in Kansas City. B. Keith Edwards, c’12, is an attorney in the criminal division at Joseph, Hollander & Craft in Wichita. He previously served as a public defender in Topeka. Patrick Eland, j’12, manages accounts for GSE Live at Genesco Sports Enterprises in Dallas. Steven Foga, c’12, g’16, makes his home in St. Paul, Minnesota, where he’s a geospatial developer at the University of Minnesota.

Neil Goss, c’12, is an artist, educator and artist-in-residence at Cumulus Project Space in Kansas City. John Janes, d’12, resides in Raymore, Missouri, where he’s a teacher and coach in the Raymore-Peculiar School District. Levi Keach, c’12, recently completed his PhD in anthropology at the University of Nevada Las Vegas. Maxwell McGraw, c’12, l’17, lives in Kansas City, where he’s an associate attorney at Shook, Hardy & Bacon.

Timothy Quevillon, c’12, wrote a chapter called “The Changing Face of Jews on Television” for Race and Ethnicity on American Television, which will be published in December. Anthony “AJ” Steward, d’12, is the running backs coach for Brigham Young University football in Provo, Utah. Anna Wiber, j’12, is the digital media associate editor of Baking & Snack at Sosland Publishing Company in Kansas City, where she’s worked since 2014.

PROFILE by Heather Biele

Community partners key for health care advocate

Kim Dunback Bentrott knew at a young age that she wanted to become a doctor. Growing up in the small, rural town of Belleville, where as a high-schooler she worked at the county hospital and a local nursing home, she envisioned her future in medicine.

Today, Bentrott, m’05, is a primary care physician in Idaho Springs, Colorado, who partners with local organizations to secure health care resources for underserved populations. Her outreach efforts earned her the honor of 2017 Physician of the Year from the Center for Health Progress, a Denver-based nonprofit organization that focuses on community-driven solutions for health equity.

Bentrott’s passion for community health care began shortly after she completed her undergraduate studies, when she volunteered as a medical assistant and caregiver to homeless people in Washington, D.C.

“It was an experience that opened my eyes to the needs of the world,” she says.

Similar opportunities followed, including a trip to Guatemala during medical school. There she discovered a completely different approach to health care, one sustained despite limited supplies and equipment, a far cry from the environment she had grown accustomed to at school.

By the time Bentrott graduated from KU, she realized she didn’t want a traditional career in medicine. As she and her husband, Patrick, ‘04, a minister, searched for jobs during the last year of her residency, they discovered an opportunity to become global health missionaries. “It was just the right time,” Bentrott says. “We didn’t have a mortgage or children or anything that was tying us down in one location.”

In 2008 they were commissioned to serve four-year terms in Haiti, where Bentrott advised local medical professionals and helped them establish clinical outreach services in Port-au-Prince, the country’s impoverished capital. Within a year, Bentrott had built a small, functional family practice and was traveling with teams of medical students to provide health care to remote parts of the country.

“The idea was that it would be sustainable,” she says. “The earthquake shook that plan up.”

The magnitude 7.0 earthquake in 2010 devastated the island nation, and Bentrott lost nearly all of her students and coworkers, as well as her own home. She assisted with rescue and relief efforts for three weeks before she and her family, which includes two adopted Haitian children, were evacuated.

Since returning to the states, Bentrott has continued to serve populations in need, including uninsured patients and those in remote areas outside Denver. Much of the work she does today is influenced by her experience in Haiti, where she learned that partnerships are paramount to delivering optimal health care.

“It was really networking and community that got that clinic up and on its feet as fast as it did,” Bentrott says. “That’s probably the most important thing I learned in Haiti: Forget trying to do it by yourself. You really have to engage the working parts around you.”
Class Notes

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MARRIED

Kelsey Horton, n’12, g’17, to Anthony Altomare, April 21 in Kansas City. She’s a nurse anesthetist at the University of Kansas Health System.

Blake Tillman, b’13, and Stacy Gress, b’13, Feb. 17 in Olathe. Blake is an independent contractor at UCSF Medical Center, and Stacy is an enterprise software senior consultant at Hyland. They reside in Olathe.

Shanah Gaskill, b’14, lives in Nashville, Tennessee, where she’s a senior marketing manager at Uber.

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Raamah Campbell, c’13, makes his home in Overland Park, where he’s an auto liability representative at Travelers Insurance.

Joshua Carpenter, l’13, is an associate attorney at K&L Gates. He works in the firm’s Miami office.

Kaitlynn Howell, d’13, is an interior designer at Chipman Design Architecture in Des Plaines, Illinois.

Greg Huenergardt, c’13, is on the market development team at Gusto in Denver. He lives in Westminster, Colorado, with his wife, Courtney, and their daughter, Harper.

Brian Long, c’13, resides in Minneapolis, where he’s a graduate instructor at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities.

Joseph Moriarty, b’13, is an associate at Dayton Street Partners in Chicago. He’s responsible for underwriting prospective acquisitions.

John Nemmers, b’13, is a financial planning associate at Kavar Capital Partners in Leawood.

Nathan Wendt, c’13, is a mesoscale assistant and fire weather forecaster at the Storm Prediction Center. He lives in Norman, Oklahoma.

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Douglas Whistone, c’14, is an executive administrative assistant at the U.S. Army. He lives in Steilacoom, Washington.

Kaitlynn Winkler, d’14, is collector development program manager at Drug Free Sport in Kansas City.
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Kyle Clemons, ’15, joined three former KU athletes in April as an inductee in the Kansas Athletics Hall of Fame. He was a two-time Big 12 champion and broke three school records in the 400-meter dash and 4x400-meter relay. He won a gold medal as a member of the 4x400-meter relay team at the 2016 Summer Olympics.

Diamond Dixon, ’15, in April was inducted in the Kansas Athletics Hall of Fame. In 2012, she won the NCAA national title in the indoor 400-meter dash, and she was a member of the 2013 Big 12 indoor and outdoor championship teams. She won a gold medal at the 2016 Summer Olympics as part of the 4x400-meter relay team.

Katrina Kaus Finley, d’15, is a study coordinator at KU Medical Center in Kansas City, where she makes her home with Christopher “Fur,” g’12.

Madi Hillis Gruenbacher, b’15, is a corporate accountant at Chesapeake Energy Corp. in Oklahoma City, where she lives with her husband, Tyler.

Jamie Katz, d’15, is a pre-kindergarten teacher in Nashville, Tennessee.

Terra Marten, g’15, coordinates clinical data at Vince & Associates Clinical Research in Overland Park. She resides in Shawnee.

Cassius Sendish, c’15, was promoted to safeties coach for Kansas football. He was a team captain for the Jayhawks in 2014 and most recently worked with the team as a graduate assistant.

Hannah Barling, j’16, is a social media specialist for the Naveen Jindal School of Management at the University of Texas at Dallas.

PROFILE by Steven Hill

Intern to CEO at one firm is engineer’s 50-year arc

Gregs Thomopulos was so ready to begin his internship at Stanley Consultants, the global engineering consulting firm, he didn’t stick around for Commencement. In spring 1965 he loaded everything he owned in his new VW Beetle, donned a cap and gown and asked a friend to snap a photo of him in front of the Campanile.

Then he drove to Stanley headquarters in Muscatine, Iowa, to start work for a company that decades later he would lead as president and CEO, retiring in 2017 as chairman of the board.

In an era when graduates are told they will switch jobs and even careers multiple times, dedication to a single company seems remarkable. But Thomopulos, e’65, says he was just one of many who stuck with Stanley from first job to retirement.

“Why did I stay?” he asks. “Because they treated their employees just excellently. They cared about employees, and you were treated as an individual.”

For two summers during graduate school at Cal-Berkeley and for 50 years full time, Thomopulos worked in Muscatine and in field offices around the world. The native Nigerian convinced his boss, C. Maxwell Stanley, to assign him to the Lagos office in the late ’60s, even though civil war had brought work in the country nearly to a standstill.

He transferred to Liberia, becoming regional manager for west Africa, and was overseeing a job at Uganda’s Kampala University in 1971 when Idi Amin seized power in a coup. “After he came to power he was riding around in an open-air jeep, waving to the crowds,” he recalls.

Thomopulos—only the fourth president in the firm’s first 90 years—achieved record profits, benefiting workers at the employee-owned company.

“But making a profit was not our primary objective,” he says. “I think I continued to maintain the core values of the company; I was very proud of that.”

His rise from intern to president, CEO and, later, chairman of the board, resulted from the same people-first philosophy that kept him devoted to Stanley.

“The business is not rocket science, to be honest,” he says with a laugh. “It’s treat your clients well, treat your employees well and be fair.”

Having traveled to nearly 40 countries overseeing energy, water and other infrastructure projects, Thomopulos stays on the go in retirement as well, serving on the boards of six nonprofits, including Goodwill Industries, KU Endowment and the advisory board at the School of Engineering, where he and his wife endowed the Gregs and Mettie Thomopulos Scholarship to repay the help he received as a scholarship student at KU.

“Do things that make you happy, especially giving back,” is his retirement advice. “To be able to give your time is important. Help others. I got a lot of help myself.”

A new Beetle that held all his worldly possessions launched Gregs Thomopulos into a globetrotting, half-century career with one company.
Class Notes

Natalia Bartnovskaya, c’16, is one of four new inductees in the Kansas Athletics Hall of Fame. An All-American at KU, she was the 2013 NCAA indoor women’s pole vault national champion and holds the indoor and outdoor school records in the women’s event.

Caleb Bobo, c’16, is an assistant consumer affairs examiner at the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis.

Kaitlyn Brown, b’16, g’18, is an epic information systems analyst at Saint Luke’s Health System in Kansas City. She recently joined the board of directors of the KU School of Health Professions Alumni Association.

Brad Gibson, g’16, lives in Orlando, Florida, where he manages operations at Shaw Industries.

Ashley Hight, j’16, coordinates public relations for Levi Strauss in New York City.

Allison Kite, j’16, is a reporter at the Kansas City Star. She covers jobs, development and technology.

Steven McEwen, ’16, wrote Splintered Wood, which was published in December by Covenant Books.

Brendan Nachbar, b’16, is a business intelligence developer at Cerner in Kansas City.

Vera Stroup-Rentier, PhD’16, is a senior study director at Westat in Topeka. She co-authored several books in the Finding My Way series, a collection of stories about children with disabilities.

Matthew Battiston, l’17, makes his home in Lawrence, where he’s an export control officer at KU.

Katherine Franz Fisher, g’17, is an early-childhood teacher at Keystone Learning. She lives in Lawrence with Jacob, assoc., and their daughter, Etta.

Robert Kasper, b’17, lives in Gardner, where he’s a warehouse manager at Performance Health.

Grace Morgan, c’17, is an administrative assistant at Colorado State University in Fort Collins.

Shelby Plank, b’17, is a bookkeeper at Butler & Associates in Topeka. She commutes from Lawrence.

Terry Rombeck, g’17, g’18, is the new director of communications for Andover Public Schools. He and Jana Gruver Rombeck, c’00, reside in Andover with their two children.

Alexander Thierry, g’17, is an assistant professor of ceramics and art education at South Carolina State University. He lives in Columbia.

Tammy Estes Fry, g’18, is a teacher-education instructor at Blue Valley Center for Advanced Professional Studies in Overland Park.

Prashanth Vardireddy, g’18, lives in Lawrence, where he’s an estimator and project manager at Medco Plumbing.

SPECIAL TICKET OFFER
For Recent KU Graduates*

$150
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Tier 4 Football Season Ticket AND Your Choice of One of the Following Benefits

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• Kansas Football Apparel
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*Recent graduate includes any University of Kansas graduate between 2014-2018.
Where did you feel at home on the Hill?

Tell us about your favorite places, organizations, or activities by sending your memories to share@kualumni.org.

We’ll highlight the stories that unite Jayhawks at homecoming.ku.edu.

Check back often for the latest event details.

Thursday, Sept. 27
Homecoming Parade

Friday, Sept. 28
Late Night at Allen Field House

Saturday, Sept. 29
KU vs. Oklahoma State
In Memory

Jane Gary Duncan, ‘47, 93, March 6 in Winfield, where she served 35 years on the William Newton Memorial Hospital board of directors. She is survived by two sons, one of whom is Gary, c’71, l’74; a daughter; six grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Robert Ellis, e’48, 94, April 1 in Overland Park, where he was a retired partner at Black & Veatch. Surviving are his wife, Mary; a son, Robert, c’71; a daughter; and a grandson.

Norma Antone Geiss, f’46, 93, Dec. 26 in Ottawa. She and her husband, Glenn, owned a motel in Franklin County. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Survivors include two daughters, Anne Geiss Delse, c’69, and Susan, c’74, d’77; a son, David, c’79; three grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Don Kuebler Jr., e’49, 95, March 21 in Peachtree City, Georgia, where he was a flight test engineer for the Federal Aviation Administration. He is survived by his wife, Mary “Molly” Wilson Kuebler, ’48; four sons; seven grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Nadine Schuerman Kunz, c’42, 97, March 31 in Leawood. She was a homemaker and volunteered in her community. Survivors include two sons, William, b’72, g’75, and Stephen, m’74; eight grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

Robert Malott, c’48, 91, April 4 in Palo Alto, California. He was CEO and chairman of FMC Corporation and served on several corporate boards. He received the Fred Ellsworth Medallion in 2013 for his service to KU and KU’s Distinguished Service Citation in 1974. Surviving are a son; two daughters; a sister, Janet Malott Elliot, f’50; and six grandchildren.

Marjorie Wiley McGough, c’42, 98, Feb. 21 in Alexandria, Virginia, where she was a retired bacteriologist. Two sons survive.

Muriel Swanson Oldberg, c’46, 94, March 14 in Kansas City, where she was an elementary school teacher. Survivors include four sons, one of whom is Mark, b’75; two daughters; nine grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

James Sanders, e’48, 91, March 31 in Monterey, California. In 1982, he was appointed by President Ronald Reagan to lead the Small Business Administration in Washington, D.C. He later became president of the Beer Institute. He is survived by his wife, Maureen, three daughters, two sons and eight grandchildren.

Joyce Randolph Sumner, c’48, m’51, 91, March 10 in Hutchinson, where she was an anesthesiologist. Survivors include two sons, a daughter and four grandchildren.

Nella Bailey Altman, ’54, 87, April 8 in Clearwater, where she was a homemaker. Surviving are her husband, William “Wally,” c’56; a son, William Jr., c’76; a daughter, Katherine Altman Konen, c’79; five grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Paul Bohr, e’58, 88, March 11 in Lenexa, where he was retired director of the Federal Aviation Administration’s Great Lakes and Central regions. A son, a daughter, a sister and two grandchildren survive.

Betty Pote Bowman, h’50, 90, Feb. 8 in Lawrence, where she was a dietitian. She is survived by a daughter, Susan Bowman Adams, g’86; a son; a sister, Pat Pote Levy, ’51; and two grandsons.

Charles Burch, j’53, 86, March 1 in Deltaville, Virginia. He was retired U.S. Air Force colonel and served as a VA-accredited claims agent for the state of Virginia. Survivors include his wife, Nancy; two sons, one of whom is Marc, c’84; two daughters; two grandchildren; and four step-grandchildren.

R. Ernest Dade, ’55, 85, April 4 in Gilbert, Arizona. He is survived by his wife, Paula, two sons, a sister and three grandchildren.

Marvin Deckert, d’54, 86, March 27 in Blue Springs, Missouri, where he worked in construction and development. Surviving are three brothers, two of whom are Ronald, ’60, and James, b’62, l’65; and a sister.

Thomas “T.K.” Foster, e’51, 88, March 30 in Dallas. He had a 42-year career with Mobil Pipeline Company. Survivors include his wife, Margie, a daughter, a son, two stepdaughters, two stepsons, nine grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Leo Goertz, m’52, 95, April 17 in Prairie Village, where he was a retired radiologist. Surviving are two sons, one of whom is Kenneth, m’75; a daughter; a brother; seven grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Jerrad Hertzler, c’58, m’62, 81, March 26 in Omaha, Nebraska, where he was a retired neurologist. Survivors include his wife, Julie, assoc.; three sons; and eight grandchildren.

Edwin Hundle, ’50, 92, March 28 in Overland Park. He and his wife managed radio stations in Missouri, Nebraska and Kansas. In 1985, they received the Grover Cobb Award from KU for excellence in broadcasting. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Surviving are his wife, Zora Robertson Hundle, ’56; a son, Douglas, j’78, c’81, l’81, g’93; a daughter, Teresa Hundley Watson, d’82, g’87; a sister; and four grandchildren.

Edward Johnson, m’57, 86, Feb. 22 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. He was a retired urologist and taught at the Raymond G. Murphy VA Medical Center. Two sons, two daughters, a sister and six grandchildren survive.

Ralph Jones, c’56, 83, March 24 in Las Cruces, New Mexico, where he was a computer programmer. He is survived by a son; three sisters, two of whom are Gayle Jones Lewis, ’58, and Janet Jones Hampton, c’58; and two grandchildren.

Ruth Porter Lichtenstern, d’56, g’57, 82, April 18 in Topeka, where she was a high school math teacher. A son, six grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren survive.

LaVerne Wilson Maddix, d’55, 85, Feb. 27 in Knoxville, Tennessee. She was a coin appraiser. Survivors include two sons and three grandchildren.

Karmin Twigg McCrory, d’58, 81, Feb.
12 in Davis, California, where she was a retired teacher and also owned a retail store. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Surviving are her husband, Peter Lam, two daughters, two brothers and two grandchildren.

Charles McElhinney, c'58, m'62, 81, March 19 in Overland Park. He had a 40-year career as a general surgeon in Dodge City. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by his wife, Tamara; a daughter, Kelly McElhinney St. Clair, c'87, f'90; four sons, two of whom are Christian, c'90, m'95, and Lance, '95; a stepdaughter, Ashley Denton Lonnberg, b'03, g'10; and 13 grandchildren.

Thomas Moore, b'58, 82, March 29 in Kansas City, where he was chief financial officer for the 16th Circuit Court of Jackson County. Surviving are his partner, Lesa, a son, a daughter, five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Martha “Matt” Mueller, d's5, 83, April 4 in Alfred, New York, where she was an associate librarian at Alfred University.

William Nulton, c'53, f'58, 87, March 16 in Prairie Village, where he practiced law for 37 years, retiring as partner at Shughart Thomson & Kilroy. He is survived by his wife, Vicki; a son, Carnie, c'81, m'85; a daughter; 10 grandchildren; and a great-granddaughter.

A. Thomen Reece, c'59, m'63, 80, March 13 in Overland Park. He was a physician. Survivors include his wife, Cheryl; two daughters; three stepdaughters; two sisters, Katharine Reece Curry, '54, and Marilyn Reece Wolf, n'58; 13 grandchildren; and a great-granddaughter.

Janice Howe Ripley, c'55, 87, April 10 in Lawrence, where she was a secretary. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Surviving are a son, Joseph Wettengel, '81; three daughters, two of whom are Catherine Wettengel Ramirez, '81, and Barbara Wettengel Babcock, '84; a sister, Joan Howe Bilderback, c'57; a brother; five grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

David Rorabaugh, e'58, 82, March 17 in Leawood, where he was a structural engineer. Survivors include his wife, Donna; two sons, one of whom is Steven, e'83; and a grandson.

George Sheldon, p'51, 89, Feb. 25 in San Antonio, where he was a pharmacist for 51 years. Surviving are his wife, Carol Fusco Sheldon, d'65; a daughter; and three grandchildren.

Jacqueline Houdysshell Smith, '51, 89, Oct. 2 in Tucson, Arizona, where she volunteered in her community. She is survived by a son, Arlyn, '74; two daughters, Denise, d'77, and Dana Smith Hines, c'78; five grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and a great-great-grandchild.

William Sellner, g'51, g'54, 92, Nov. 11 in Arma. He was a reporter and scriptwriter and also performed in community theatre. Survivors include his wife, Yanju, a daughter, a son and nine grandchildren.

Patricia Perkins Timmons, '51, 88, Jan. 21 in Lawrence. She was a homemaker. Surviving are three daughters, one of whom is Priscilla, '95; a son; a brother, Neil Perkins, b'60, g'65; a sister; and two granddaughters.

Thomas White III, c'50, b'52, 89, April 27 in Carmel, California. He was a tax collector and professor of taxation at the College of Charleston in South Carolina. He is survived by a son; four daughters; a sister, Joyce White Stephens, '55; seven grandchildren; and a great-granddaughter.

Diane Wolf Dolginow, d'65, 74, April 9 in Edina, Minnesota, where she was a teacher and founding member of Bet Shalom Congregation. She is survived by her husband, Yale, c'64, g'66; three daughters, one of whom is Jamie Dolginow Rocheford, '97; two brothers; and six grandchildren.

Raymond Haines, e'63, 81, April 13 in Oklahoma City. He was a mechanical engineer at several companies, including Honeywell and General Electric. Surviving are his wife, June; a son; a daughter, a brother, Richard, b'59; and two grandchildren.

David Hall, c'67, 72, April 22 in San Dimas, California, where he was senior vice president of Hitchcock Automotive Resources. He also mentored students at Mt. San Antonio College in Walnut. Survivors include two brothers, Roger, c'62, m'66; and Bruce, c'64.

Neil Hall, e'62, 78, April 18 in Kansas City. He was an aerospace engineer and also ran a vending machine company. He is survived by his wife, Marilyn; a daughter; two stepsons; five stepdaughters; four sisters, three of whom are Francie, c'70, Patti Hall Brownback, '77, and Kathy Hall Nill, b'78; a brother, Michael, e'84; 13 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

William Hall, g'66, PhD'69, 75, March 3 in Wheat Ridge, Colorado. He was professor and chair of the political science department at Bradley University in Peoria, Illinois, where he spent most of his career. Surviving are his wife, Carla Beckett Hall, '71; a daughter; a son; a
In Memory

sister; and four grandchildren.

William Hoover, b'67, l'70, 77, Feb. 24 in Lemoore, California, where he was a retired Navy JAG Corps officer. He also taught business classes at local universities and colleges. His wife, Maria, three sons and a daughter survive.

Zelma Cunningham Loter, c'67, 73, April 1 in Corpus Christi, Texas. She was a biology research associate. Surviving are her husband, Joe, PhD'71; a son; three daughters; a brother; two sisters; and 11 grandchildren.

William Lusk, b'65, g'66, 74, April 18 in Andover, where he developed commercial and residential real estate. He is survived by his wife, Nancy Lloyd Lusk, d'68; two daughters, Alison Lusk Leukefeld, c'96, g'00, and Jessica Lusk Scheer, n'98; a sister, Janet Lusk Murfin, d'75; and four grandchildren.

John Newlin, c'68, 76, March 22 in Prairie Village, where he founded an interior design firm. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Survivors include his wife, Julie Casterman Newlin, c'60; a son; three stepdaughters, two of whom are Laura Reese Spencer-Newlin, c'60; a son; and eight grandchildren.

Gracia Carlson, d'79, 62, March 14 in Fort Worth, Texas. She taught 11th-grade history. She is survived by her husband, Stephen Lawson; a son, David Lawson, '11; a daughter; her mother; and a sister, Lora Carlson-Eaton, b'81.

Magdalene Steighorst Carttar, d'70, 95, April 30 in Lawrence. She was a teacher and also served as placement director for KU School of Law. Surviving are five sons, Paul, c'76, Peter, c'78, Stephen, b'78, Hans, c'88, b'88, and David, a'92, c'92; a daughter; 17 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Joan Griffin Dibble, s'72, 68, April 2 in Overland Park, where she taught special education. Survivors include her husband, Landis, c'72; a son; and a brother.

Michael Giessel, c'70, m'74, 70, April 29 in Topeka, where he was a retired dermatologist. He is survived by his wife, Cindy Nelson Giessel, n'74; two daughters, one of whom is Sarah Giessel Parrish, n'02; a son, Jerrod, d'06; a sister, Madalene Giessel Miller, '73; two brothers; and seven grandchildren.

Connie Henderson-Damon, n'72, g'81, 69, March 22 in Oak Park, Illinois. She was a nurse and practice administrator at Wholistic Health Center of Oak Park. Surviving are her husband, Christopher; and a daughter, Laura Damon, c'14.

Leonard Herzmark, e'72, 93, Feb. 19 in San Pedro, California. He lived in Arizona for several years, where he worked for state and county governments. Survivors include his wife, Barbara Lerner Herzmark, g'76; and three sons, two of whom are A. Michael, c'74, and Jay, c'76.

Linda Lee, c'70, l'73, 69, March 11 in Washington, D.C., where she was a supervisory trial attorney at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. She is survived by two sisters, one of whom is Ronda Lee Grace, d'78.

Ron Loewen, l'74, 70, March 14 in Columbia, South Carolina. He worked in media and insurance before founding a consulting company. He also was executive director of the University of South Carolina/Columbia Technology Incubator. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. His wife, Lissa, three stepdaughters and two sisters survive.

Cynthia Brisendine Romito, m'73, 70, March 16 in Kansas City. She was a physician and allergy specialist. Surviving are her husband, John, m'73; two sons, Nick, '92, and Marc, c'98, g'01; two daughters; and a brother.

Glen Scheib, b'74, 65, March 16 in Kansas City, where he was president of Professional Accounting Services. He is survived by his wife, Gloria Pitts Scheib, '75; a daughter; two sons; and eight grandchildren.

Francis Smyser, d'70, g'75, 69, March 16 in Overland Park. He was retired from a long career with Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance. Survivors include his wife, Laura Sundahl Smyser, g'98; two sons, Joe, '10, and Matt, b'12; and two grandchildren.

Ronald Stitt, c'71, m'75, 69, March 16 in Overland Park, where he was an orthopedic surgeon for more than 43 years. He is survived by his wife, Janet; two sons, Maxwell, c'16, and Michael, '16; a sister, Martha Stitt Schwegler, n'70; and a brother, Richard, c'75.

80s

Oscar Careaga, '85, 54, Feb. 2 in Miami, where he worked for the Personal Injury Management Group. His partner, Kelly, and his father survive.

Russell Cloon, b'86, l'90, 62, March 31 in Ottawa, where he was a bankruptcy attorney. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by his wife, Denise; a son; and three brothers, Bryson, l'75, Ted, '79, and Brett, b'80.

Doris Elliott-Watson, n'85, 85, Jan. 30 in Bonner Springs. She taught special education before becoming a gerontological nurse specialist. Surviving are a daughter, Marsha Watson Smitherman, '92; a son; and a brother.

Dennis Hendrix, b'83, 57, March 28 in Merriam, where he worked for the family business, Go Chicken Go. His wife, Jodi, two daughters, two sons, three sisters and two brothers survive.
James Kennedy, c'85, 55, April 29 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He had a long career with Ford Motor Company. Survivors include his wife, Meredith; a daughter; a son; his mother, Dorothy Kennedy, d'54; two sisters, Carol Kennedy Johnson, b'77, and Katie Kennedy Chalf- ant, j'81; and two brothers, Don, c'87, and Bill, j'92.

Robert Kennedy, g'84, g'86, 59, Feb. 25 in Doha, Qatar, where he chaired the department of English at Qatar University. Surviving are three sisters, one of whom is Patricia Kennedy Solbach, PhD'74; and a brother.

Martha Shackelford, g'85, 57, March 15 in Leawood, where she was a speech pathologist. She is survived by her husband, Richard, c'83, g'87, 1'91; three daughters, one of whom is Lydia, s'15; a son; her father; and three sisters.

Cecil Witt Jr., c'81, 60, Feb. 19 in Lenexa. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Surviving are his partner, Amy Roberts, n'92; a daughter, Suzanne Witt Stockton, '06; three sons, Trey, d'07, g'14, Taylor, j'11, and Todd, b'12; his father, Cecil, b'55; two sisters, Stephanie Witt Elliott, d'78, and Amy Witt McFarland, '88; a brother, Bruce, c'83; and two grandsons.

Doris Patton Buckner, g'97, 74, March 1 in Topeka, where she worked as a nurse for 30 years. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Surviving are her husband, Leon; four sons, one of whom is L.J., b'86; two sisters; a brother; 12 grandchildren; five step-grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

Nathaniel Hurwitz, m'96, 52, Jan. 15 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. He was a psychiatrist. Survivors include his wife, Ivy Foo Hurwitz, PhD'D00; two daughters; his mother, Judith Pfeffer-Hurwitz, m'73; and two brothers.

Thomas Armstrong, c'62, 76, June 2 in Lawrence. He was professor emeritus of physics and astronomy and managed KU’s space physics laboratory for 20 years. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Survivors include his wife, Jeanette Fry Armstrong, c'62; a daughter, Elizabeth, '87; a son; a sister; five grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

Judy Ikenberry Farmer, s'85, 54, March 10 in Olathe. She worked for several departments during her 26 years at KU, most recently with the Office of Research. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. She is survived by two sons, one of whom is Travis, '10; her parents; a brother, Alan Ikenberry, c'93; and three grandchildren.

Earl Gates, 93, April 19 in Lawrence. He was a librarian at KU. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Surviving are two sons, Mark, j'80, and Kent, c'85; a daughter, Toren Gates-Sidwell, c'82; and three grandchildren.

Michael Henderson, 75, April 2 in Lawrence, where he was professor emeritus and chair of the department of linguistics. His wife, Carol Hood Henderson, '94, survives.

Chien Liu, 97, March 11 in Fairway. He was professor emeritus of medicine and pediatrics at KU Medical Center, where he founded the division of infectious diseases. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Survivors include three sons, G. Kim, c'76, Norman, m'76, and Anthony, c'78; a daughter; seven grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Thomas McCoy, '58, 82, April 19 in Lawrence, where he was professor emeritus of architecture. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by his wife, Linda Browne McCoy, d'77, g'90, '92; four daughters, one of whom is Aimee Polson, c'94, '08; a brother, Theodore, c'55, m'60; and six grandchildren.

Howard Mossberg, 85, April 16 in Lawrence. He was dean of the School of Pharmacy from 1966 until 1991, when he became vice chancellor for research, graduate studies and public service. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Surviving are his wife, Virginia Gibson Mossberg, '76; two daughters, Kathryn Mossberg Newton, '83, and Suzanne, d'92; two grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Caryl Kelley Smith, '89, 80, April 26 in Lubbock, Texas. She worked for several universities, including KU, where in the early 1990s she served as dean of student life and associate vice chancellor for student affairs. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. She is survived by her husband, Walter, assoc.; a son, Russell, c'91; a brother; and two grandchildren.

ASSOCIATES

Lois Brunton, assoc., 85, Oct. 17 in Albuquerque, New Mexico, where she was a librarian and co-founded the Office of Navajo Nation Library. Two daughters, a son, a sister, six grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren survive.

Margaret McKinney, assoc., 87, April 4 in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. She volunteered for several organizations. Survivors include her husband, Ross, assoc.; two sons, one of whom is William, '78; two daughters; six grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Marjory Mordy, assoc., 91, March 10 in Kansas City, where she was a homemaker and volunteered at her church. She is survived by her husband, James, c'47; two daughters, one of whom is Rebecca Mordy King, f'77; a son; and six grandchildren.

LeAnn Stout, assoc., 82, March 6 in Wichita. She was a homemaker. Survivors include her husband, Mike, assoc.; two sons, Bill, '82, and Brad, b'83, f'86; three daughters, Molly Stout Moore, d'88, Mandy Stout Jordan, c'89, f'93, and Mindy Stout McCoy, j'89; and 12 grandchildren.

Joan Walrafen, assoc., 92, April 19 in Topeka, where she served on several boards in her community. Surviving are two sons, one of whom is Robert, c'73, a'75; a brother; two grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

Toni Achten, 85, April 26 in Lawrence, where she was a retired switchboard operator at KU. Surviving are two daugh- ters, Melanie Achten Manry, '82, and Betsy Achten Paradies, ’82; a son, Curtis, ’14; three grandchildren; three step-grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and two great-step-grandchildren.

Thomas Armstrong, c’62, 76, June 2 in Lawrence. He was professor emeritus of physics and astronomy and managed KU’s space physics laboratory for 20 years. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Survivors include his wife, Jeanette Fry Armstrong, c’62; a daughter, Elizabeth, ‘87; a son; a sister; five grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

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ASSOCIATES

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LeAnn Stout, assoc., 82, March 6 in Wichita. She was a homemaker. Survivors include her husband, Mike, assoc.; two sons, Bill, ’82, and Brad, b’83, f’86; three daughters, Molly Stout Moore, d’88, Mandy Stout Jordan, c’89, f’93, and Mindy Stout McCoy, j’89; and 12 grandchildren.

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Rock Chalk Review

No joke

Film professor’s newest Hollywood project—a Spike Lee Joint on the KKK—kills in Cannes

Kevin Willmott’s latest collaboration with the filmmaker Spike Lee started with a simple bit of direction. Willmott co-wrote the screenplay for Lee’s 2015 film “Chi-Raq” with the Brooklyn director. When Jordan Peele, co-creator of the Comedy Central sketch show Key & Peele and Oscar-winning screenwriter and director of the 2017 surprise hit “Get Out,” was looking for someone to rework a film script, he asked Willmott and Lee to pitch.

“The only thing Jordan really said was, ‘Make it funny,’” says Willmott, professor of film and media studies. “I knew exactly what he was saying by that. I’m sure what attracted him to the whole idea, why they bought the book, was the absurdity of the whole thing.”

The project is “BlacKkKlansman,” a film based on a memoir by Ron Stallworth. The first black officer on the Colorado Springs police force, Stallworth in the 1970s infiltrated the Ku Klux Klan by answering a newspaper ad calling for new recruits.

Directed by Lee and produced by Peele, the film showed in May at the Cannes Film Festival, where it received a 10-minute standing ovation and won the prestigious Grand Prix award.

Lee has insisted in interviews that “BlacKkKlansman” is not a comedy, and Willmott says it’s not satire either—though there are satirical elements in the film.

“It’s not jokes; it’s not trying to make people laugh,” Willmott explains. “The thing I’ve learned over the years is that by taking the material seriously, you find the humor in it. You have to take it dead seriously, and in taking it seriously the humor kind of reveals itself.”

The border between absurdity and comedy has been fertile creative ground for Willmott, whose 2004 film “C.S.A: The Confederate States of America,” skewered enduring racism by posing a historical what-if: What would America look like if the South had won the Civil War?

Lee signed on as a presenter for the film, and the two finally got a chance to work together on “Chi-Raq,” their retelling of “Lysistrata” that updates Aristophanes’ bawdy tale of women who use sex as a weapon to end war by setting the story in present-day Chicago.

“Spike is one of the few guys early in my career who ever got my stuff,” Willmott says. “‘Chi-Raq’ is that same kind of humor, too. We don’t really try to make people laugh in the film, but the laughs mainly come from the absurdity of the problem we’re trying to reveal.”

A main character in “BlacKkKlansman” is David Duke, the Klan leader who pursued a career in politics, mounting two campaigns for president and getting elected to the Louisiana Legislature.

Willmott recalls that when he was student body president at Marymount College, in Salina, he got a letter from Duke, who’d recently formed a white power group called the NAAWP (National Association for the Advancement of White People).

“At that time he was trying to make the transition from the hood and the white sheets to being a mainstream politician,” Willmott says. “That’s the period we’re dealing with in the film.”

While it has fun with the fashion and hairstyles of the 1970s, “BlacKkKlansman” is also no period piece. The film looks to the past with scenes from “Gone With the Wind.”

“It’s head-shaking humor,” Willmott says of “BlacKkKlansman,” which premiers in August, “and people are doing a lot of head-shaking right now. The humor comes from what people know is true in society, in their daily life.”
Willmott says the fanfare and the ovation at Cannes were gratifying—and a little overwhelming for someone who’s “still very much a country boy from Junction City”—but what really matters to him is that “BlacKkKlansman” is trying to do good things.

“We’re addressing the national crisis we’re having now, and addressing it in a very entertaining way,” he says. “That in the end is your job if you’re a writer or director or actor. Along with that comes the message and all the things you care deeply about, but if I can’t make you laugh, can’t make you see the absurdity, then it’s only gonna be so effective.”

—Steven Hill

Troubled waters

River journey pursues “deeper, darker” stories on the Arkansas

From where it crosses the Colorado state line near Coolidge, to its passage into Oklahoma south of Arkansas City, the Arkansas River cuts a 411-mile “public corridor” through Kansas. In Elevations, his exploration of the river and his own relationship with it, Max McCoy travels—by kayak, whitewater raft, Jeep and on foot—these miles and more to fashion a “biography of the river” that is also a personal story of reflection.

McCoy, professor of journalism and director of the Center for Great Plains Studies at Emporia State University, begins his journey high in the Continental Divide, where he pinpoints the river’s headwaters above Leadville, Colorado, before enduring a harrowing and humbling run through the rapids of Browns Canyon, a world-famous stretch of mountain whitewater that leaves the experienced river-runner bruised and more keenly aware of the limitations of his age and abilities. A frigid Christmas Eve camp-out on the river near Salida pays homage to Zebulon Pike and inspires a catharsis that leads McCoy to confront (and pledge to close) the emotional distance from his family that the holidays bring. “What I was after,” he writes in his introduction, “were the deeper and sometimes darker stories” travel books leave out. On side trips to massacre sites of Plains Indians (Sand Creek), union miners (Ludlow), and rioting convicts (Cañon City), and on a visit to a concentration camp where Japanese-Americans were interned during World War II (Camp Amache), he finds them.

Having set out to write “a sort of cultural and natural history” about the Arkansas’ journey through Colorado and Kansas, what he discovers is “the ghost of a river” that has been badly mistreated by mankind. Siphoned by irrigation and state battles over water rights, poisoned by runoff from farms and cities, salted and silted and littered with plastic shopping bags and other jetsam of urban life, the Arkansas seems paradoxically overtaxed and ignored. It is one of only three Kansas streams designated as navigable (and therefore legally open to recreational paddlers), yet it suffers from a lack of access—and, in many points in western Kansas, a total lack of water—that make connecting with large stretches of it in any meaningful way almost impossible.

So why try, as McCoy goes to such great lengths to do?

“Access to the wild is essential,” he
writes. “It has struck me that truth hides in lonely places. When you leave home and go, say, to the desert or the side of a mountain—or stand in the middle of a fast-moving river—you’re leaving your usual defenses behind. ... Once the social constructs and the polite lies and legal fictions that make civil society possible slough away, you’re left with the essential self. You may not like what you find, but you won’t know how you really feel about things until you confront yourself.”

Perhaps more important, McCoy’s well-written but often grim travelogue might nudge a few more Coloradans and Kansans to confront and reconsider a great American river that was once the heart of a thriving riparian ecosystem, but whose chief abundance these days is troubles.

—Steven Hill

Fly, birdie, fly

Kim’s solo exhibition explores unexpected connections

It was one of those sad, tender moments that we all encounter from time to time, a pang of melancholy in the midst of our day. But when Justin Kim happened to find a tiny bird that had fatefully fallen from its nest, the experience unexpectedly stayed with him.

“I took a photo of it and have been kind of obsessed with it ever since,” says Kim, c’18. “I’ve been drawing and redrawing this thing for years now.”

Repeated images of the ill-fated fledgling were woven throughout Kim’s solo exhibition in the Kansas Union Gallery, “From me, to you,” for which Kim wrote in his artist’s statement, “In drawing it over and over I’ve found myself choosing sometimes to believe it is in flight rather than fallen. In this space between what you know to be true and what you choose to believe, it is easy to get lost in the possibility of what could have been.”

A related theme within the gallery’s final exhibition of the spring semester—whose May 18 closing doubled as Kim’s graduation party—was paper letters, inspired by Kim’s employment in the Office of the Chancellor, where he often helped out in the busy mailroom. Even when safely stored as treasured memories, paper artifacts eventually yellow and age, and, as Kim notes, “important messages lose their relevance and their urgency” over time.

“The combination of permanence and fragility found in both letters and this fallen bird is somehow equally heartbreaking and hopeful,” Kim writes. “I am interested in the struggle to remain, the reminder of how few things succeed, and the persistent human desire to try and beat the odds.”

The unlikely joining of disparate subjects is a theme Kim worked with throughout his academic career. In high school in Derby, he was equally passionate for both science and art; he arrived at KU as a pre-med major, but, hoping to one day work in politics, he switched to a double-major in anthropology and visual art, later adding minors in French and business.

His exhibition in the Union gallery—a space he managed during much of his time at KU, along with serving as president of the Student Alumni Association Leadership Board as a senior—was an extension of a prestigious Undergraduate Research Award, for which Kim at first didn’t consider himself eligible.

“It’s not something I even thought to apply for,” Kim says, “because I didn’t understand that this was research. But it is an exploration. It’s trying to have a new understanding.”

Kim says his visual arts adviser, Professor Yoonmi Nam, whom
Kim describes as “the most curious and interested person I know,” taught him to trust his instincts about his interests without needing to know where they might lead.

“Sometimes you’ll be drawn to something and you’ll do it over and over and the connection will come after,” Kim says. “Sometimes there will be two things that seem really different, and just through exploring them and actually making them you start to see ways they relate to each other.”

Kim, already an Alumni Association Life Member, this fall will embark for France, where he will spend seven months teaching English in Versailles for the French Ministry of Education.

And when that’s done? Kim says he doesn’t yet know, but he’s eager for the exploration that awaits. The only certainty is that his options are many.

“I wanted to get as much as possible out of my time here,” Kim says, “so I tried to study as many things as possible and do as many things as possible.” With a laugh, he adds, “And, I’m just generally indecisive.”

—Chris Lazzarino

**Easier detection**

**Chip-based blood test could improve cancer screenings**

KU researchers have developed new technology that could soon replace standard tests in the diagnosis and treatment of several cancer-related diseases. Led by Steven Soper, Foundation Distinguished Professor of Chemistry and Mechanical Engineering and a member of the University of Kansas Cancer Center, a team of scientists created a chip-based blood test that can be programmed to detect a variety of diseases, including breast cancer, prostate cancer and blood-based cancers such as leukemia and multiple myeloma, both of which are often diagnosed with a bone marrow biopsy, an invasive and painful procedure. The new test requires only a blood draw.

The technology is based on a series of microscopic channels, roughly one-quarter the diameter of a human hair, that identify circulating cancer cells in a blood sample and isolate them from normal red blood cells, a feature that had eluded chip-based tests in the past. Based on preliminary trials, the new test performs as well as traditional diagnostics.

“In terms of efficacy and how it matches with what the oncologist will see in the bone marrow biopsy, there’s complete concurrence,” says Soper, PhD’90, who also directs KU’s Center of BioModular Multiscale Systems for Precision Medicine.

The chip, which is about the size of a credit card, is made from an injection-molded, plexiglass-like plastic—the same type of material found in most plastic containers. “The nice thing about that is that the chip can be manufactured at a very high level and also at a low cost,” Soper says. “That makes it very appropriate for clinical applications.”

In addition to detecting cancer-related diseases, the test also can be used to monitor responsiveness to therapy and recurrence of disease, making it an attractive option for patients who live in rural communities and have to travel to a major medical center for treatment. “With this test, they don’t have to do that,” Soper says. “Patients can start therapy and doctors can monitor them directly in their hometown, without having to go to a cancer center. It makes it much less burdensome on the patient.”

Soper explains that he and his team of researchers, which includes scientists from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, have been working on this technology for more than 10 years. He was motivated to create a new blood test after his father died of colorectal cancer nearly 20 years ago. “He never had a colonoscopy,” Soper says. “As a result, he was not diagnosed with colon cancer until it had metastasized to his liver. By that time, it was terminal.”

The test is currently awaiting FDA approval and will be marketed by BioFluidica, a San Francisco-based company that has an advanced research lab in Lawrence. In addition, the KU Cancer Center is setting up a clinical testing laboratory, where Soper anticipates working with oncologists and researchers from the School of Pharmacy to test new cancer therapies in conjunction with the chip-based blood test.

Soper ultimately hopes that the ease and convenience of the test will extend beyond cancer diagnosis and treatment and eventually become part of a patient’s yearly physical examination. “We’re hoping, in the very near future, that this can be used as an early detection or screening test,” says Soper. “We’ll be able to screen people who don’t have any signs of cancer to see whether they’re developing disease. That’s our high hope.”

—Heather Biele

Steven Soper, a KU professor and researcher, led a team that developed new technology for identifying cancer cells in a blood sample. He hopes the test will one day replace more invasive diagnostics.
Glorious to View  Photograph by Steve Puppe

Tucked away on the quiet terrace behind Watkins and Miller scholarship halls, the Alumni Place Fountain, whose decorative topper was damaged in fall 2016, was restored this spring to its original splendor. The charming, cast-stone landmark was purchased in 1953 at the suggestion of Chancellor Franklin Murphy and created by the Erkins Studio in New York. It was replaced in 1981 with an exact replica.
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