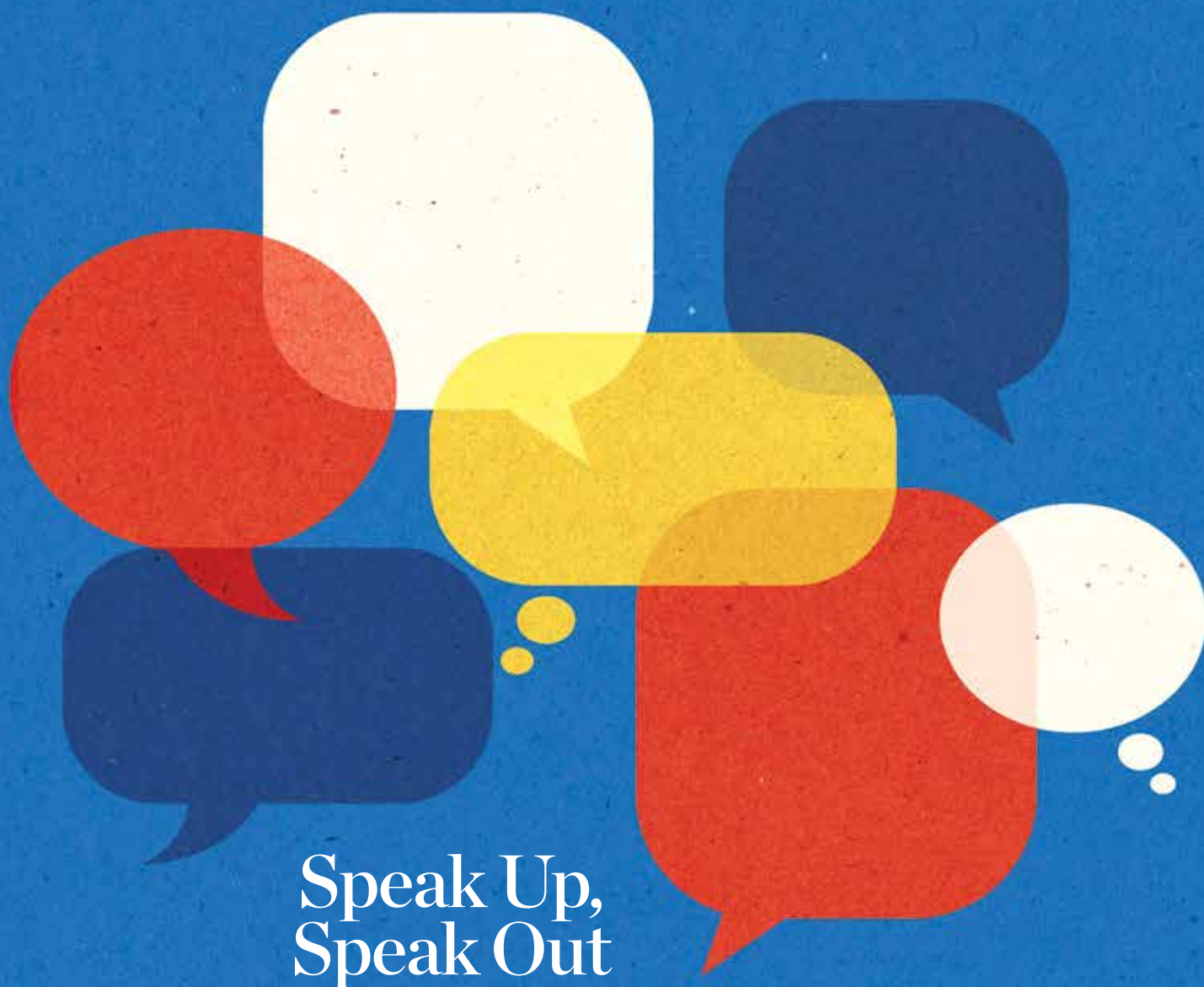


KANSAS ALUMNI

No 2, 2018 ■ \$5



Speak Up, Speak Out

*KU's Sexual Assault Prevention
and Education Center
sets standard for change*

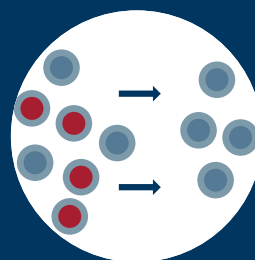
■ VIEW FROM THE HILL ■ VIETNAM REVISITED ■ A MEDAL FOR DOLE

"CAR T-cell therapy is revolutionizing cancer care."

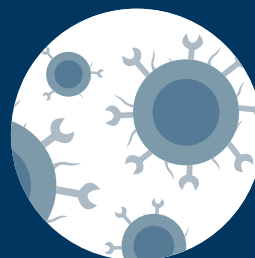
Joseph McGuirk, DO

Division Director of Hematologic Malignancies and Cellular Therapeutics

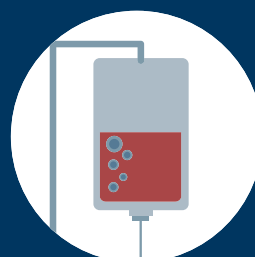
CAR T-CELL THERAPY SUPERCHARGES THE IMMUNE SYSTEM TO FIGHT CANCER



T cells are isolated from the patient's white blood cells.



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The supercharged T cells are returned to the patient where they hunt and destroy cancer cells.

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COVER STORY

Voices Spur Change

Responding to crisis, KU forges an innovative sexual assault prevention and awareness program that draws heavily on student input.

By Heather Biele

Cover illustration by Susan Younger

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Patriot

Congress awards Bob Dole its highest civilian honor.

By Mike Pettit

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View to a Thrill

At the Spencer Research Library, the stunning vista is the same, but the outlook is all new.

By Chris Lazzarino

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America's Story

A new project seeks oral histories from military veterans and others to better understand one of the most divisive periods in U.S. history—the Vietnam War era.

By Steven Hill



Lift the Chorus



Rebuilt right

THANKS FOR THE GREAT article covering KU's club hockey program ["The Mighty 'Hawks," issue No. 1]. What a good group of players and coaches who run the program.

They had a reputation to rebuild and they did it the right way: They repaid the debts of the old club team, re-established their credibility on campus and among other teams, and put a competitive team on the ice. I hope they make the playoffs and their program continues to prosper. Rock Chalk, Jay-Hawkey!

Steve Bausch, e'84, Denver

Editor's Note: The Jayhawks did qualify for the American Collegiate Hockey Association's Division 3 playoffs, losing a 5-4 thriller to Arkansas Feb. 24 in Lincoln, Nebraska. KU finished its season 20-6-1.

Scholar's hero

THANKS FOR YOUR beautiful story on Professor William Tuttle ["Freedom Fighter," issue No. 1]. The term "scholar-citizen" defines Bill, and he is a Lawrence and KU scholar's hero.

Bill chronicled the struggles

of minorities in Lawrence in his many books. I first met him while researching my KU and Hope College chemistry mentor Cal Vander Werf's commitment to the rights of KU and Lawrence minorities in the '40s and '50s. I wrote about it in my biography, *Cal Vander Werf: Anchor of Hope*.

Thanks, *Kansas Alumni*, for helping all of us appreciate those who make our past come to life.

Doug Neckers, PhD'63
Perrysburg, Ohio

Only one Rod

Editor's Note: Just after *Kansas Alumni* came off the press in January, we learned the sad news that Rod Ernst, c'57, longtime proprietor of Ernst & Son Hardware, staunch Jayhawk and subject of a feature story in issue No. 1, died Jan. 23. His In Memory notice appears on page 64. The following letter is one of those we received noting Ernst's passing.

I AM ONE OF THOUSANDS

who entered that establishment with mouth agape ["He's Got It If He Can Find It," issue No. 1]. Over the years I had many occasions—when I worked for Brown Cargo Van and E & E Specialties or for any home project—to revisit in search of an obscure item. Anytime I needed something out of the ordinary, I always went to Ernst & Son first, and I always came away fulfilled. Rod Ernst will indeed be sorely missed.

Perry Sprague, d'70, c'76
Wichita

Pride of Mayetta

THANK YOU SO MUCH for your article on Bill James and his daughter, Rachel, and their sleuthing ["Murder Most Foul," issue No. 6, 2017].

I grew up in Mayetta, as Bill did, and I was 12 when he was born. His family lived across the street from our church,

and I was actually teaching Sunday school class to two of his sisters that year.

I did my graduate degree at KU and then taught in the English department two years, from 1959 to 1961. Even after all these years, I think of Lawrence as one of my favorite places to live. I have wonderful memories of being on campus and teaching two classes as a graduate teaching assistant.

Thank you again for the write-up on Bill. What a wonderful small world we have.

Patricia Hafer Buck, g'58
Indianola, Iowa



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March 2018

KANSAS ALUMNI

Publisher	Heath Peterson, d'04, g'09
Editor	Jennifer Jackson Sanner, j'81
Creative Director	Susan Younger, f'91
Associate Editors	Chris Lazzarino, j'86 Steven Hill
Photographers	Steve Puppe, j'98 Dan Storey
Graphic Designer	Valerie Spicher, j'94
Staff Writer	Heather Biele

Advertising Sales Representative

Teri Harris

Editorial and Advertising Office

KU Alumni Association
1266 Oread Avenue
Lawrence, KS 66045-3169
785-864-4760
800-584-2957
www.kualumni.org
kualumni@kualumni.org

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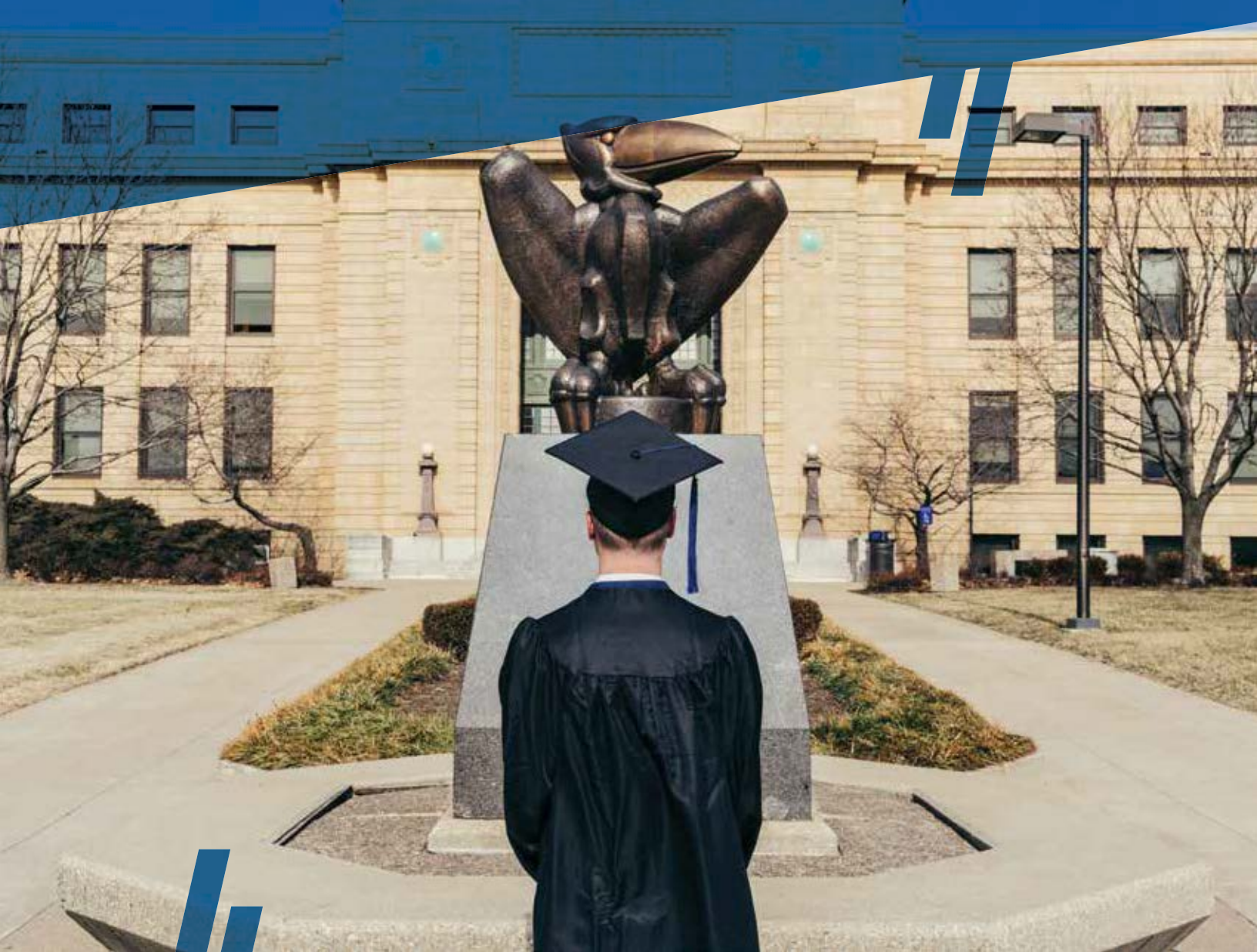
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Scene on campus



IGNITE POTENTIAL

The indomitable Jayhawk spirit is a beacon of hope in Kansas and beyond.

Private support fuels KU's success by transforming students into leaders and ideas into discoveries. Most gifts are \$500 or less, but regardless of size, each one opens doors to new opportunities.

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Before the nation's recent days of reckoning about sexual misconduct in the workplace captured the spotlight, higher education leaders began to face the harsh realities of sexual assault in college and university communities. For KU, time was up in September 2014, when an anonymous student's complaint against the University, Lawrence police and the district attorney for mishandling a reported sexual assault made national headlines.

In November 2014, *Kansas Alumni* first reported on campus efforts to improve procedures for reporting, investigating—and ultimately preventing—sexual assault.

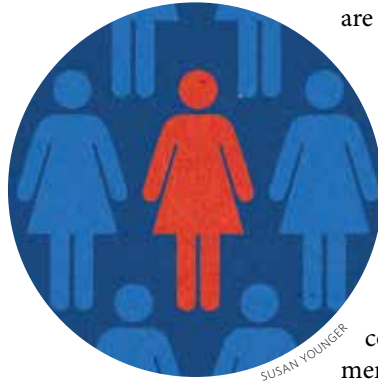
From the start of KU's reckoning, Chancellor Bernadette Gray-Little clearly declared the mission: "Our goal is not to do the minimum required by law or policy. Our goal is to be a national leader in how universities prevent and respond to sexual assault on campus." She formed a Sexual Assault Task Force, and in fall 2015 said KU would implement 22 of its 27 recommendations.

In our cover story, Staff Writer Heather Biele reports on one of the University's most substantive improvements, which soon will be its most visible: the Sexual Assault Prevention and Education Center (SAPEC). Created in 2015, SAPEC in mid-March will move to the new Burge Union, in a dedicated space that is rare among U.S. universities. Director Jennifer Brockman and her team, including devoted student volunteers, are setting new standards for innovations as they confront and try to halt dangerous misconceptions and behaviors.

It's no surprise that issues related to sexual misconduct galvanized students and administrators at U.S. universities before the national #MeToo and Time's Up movements gained momentum. Often in U.S. history, honest discourse and harsh dissent over the nation's grim challenges have occurred first on college campuses—the same places where potential solutions and hopeful signs of healing first appear.

During the Vietnam era, anti-war activism and protests rocked KU and many other campuses. By the early 1980s, KU student leaders and alumni had resolved to create a memorial to Jayhawks who had fought and died in the war. In 1986, KU dedicated the first Vietnam Memorial on a university campus.

John Musgrave, '74, who was wounded twice as a Marine infantry rifleman in Vietnam, spoke to the Student Senate in 1983 as an advocate for the memorial. "I was involved with the anti-war movement when I came back from 'Nam, and many of the people I knew who were against the war are now supportive of the memorial idea," Musgrave told students. "They realize the vets



are not representative of the government's actions in Vietnam."

More than 30 years later, Musgrave's experience became a central theme of "The Vietnam War," filmmaker Ken Burns' recent documentary. Kansas Public Radio producer Kaye McIntyre also featured Musgrave in a recent edition of her weekly show, "KPR Presents," and he is helping her gather other veterans' memories for "Kansas Stories of the Vietnam War," a project of the Kansas Humanities Council in partnership with the Library of Congress. In our feature, Associate Editor Steven Hill describes the statewide effort to collect stories from combat veterans, military medical corps members and veterans advocates as well as conscientious objectors. Varied perspectives from a pivotal, painful era can provide invaluable lessons as the nation navigates current and future conflicts.

One of our state's most well-known veterans, Sen. Bob Dole, '45, is the focus of an essay in this issue by his longtime chief of staff, Mike Pettit, c'76, l'79, who traveled to Washington, D.C., in January, when Congress presented Dole, 94, its loftiest civilian honor, the Congressional Gold Medal. Pettit captures highlights from the celebration.

Throughout his long career, Dole burnished his reputation as a plainspoken, practical statesman with a knack for rising above partisan rancor to forge compromise and find long-term solutions—qualities now sadly in scarce supply among our leaders. In 2003, during the dedication of the Dole Institute of Politics at KU, Dole said he hoped the institute would encourage the kind of politics "where conviction co-exists with civility, and the clash of ideas is never confused with a holy war." Surrounded by fellow World War II veterans and leaders of both parties, Dole vowed that the institute would offer bipartisan discussions of history and public policy. "Public service is an honorable calling, in my view," he said. "I'm not saying we're going to turn the world around at the University of Kansas and the Dole Institute of Politics, but we can make a dent; maybe we can make a start.

"It's about the future. It's always about the future."



On the Boulevard



Nazanin Amiri, *Brilliance of Science*, March 26-30. Amiri designs alluring and contemplative spaces, which are inspired by traditional Persian courtyard houses and influenced by her experience living and working in Iran.

Chancellor's Inauguration

APRIL

- 14** The Big Event at KU
- 18** Chancellor's Concert: KU Wind Ensemble and Jazz Ensemble I, Lied Center
- 19** Chancellor's Inaugural Research Symposium, Edwards Campus
- 20** Installation Ceremony for Chancellor Douglas A. Girod, Lied Center

25 Earth, Energy & Environment Center (EEEC) Dedication

26 Center for Service Learning: Service Celebration, Burge Union

27 The Burge Union Grand Reopening

28 Rock Chalk Ball, The Grand Ballroom at Bartle Hall, Kansas City

29 KU Wind Ensemble & Jazz Ensemble I: World Premiere of Freedom from Fear, Washington, D.C.

Student MFA thesis installations will be on display in March and April at the Art & Design Gallery, on the third floor of Chalmers Hall. The gallery is free and open to the public.

Exhibitions

"Above Ground: 40 Moments of Transformation," Spencer Museum of Art, through April 1

"Women's Athletics at KU," Kenneth Spencer Research Library, through April 30

"Race, Gender, and the 'Decorative' in 20th-Century African Art: Reimagining Boundaries," Spencer Museum of Art, through May 7

"Big Botany: Conversations with the Plant World," Spencer Museum of Art, March 27 through July 15

"Pledges of Allegiance," The Commons, through July 31

Lied Center

MARCH

- 30** Frank Waln
- 31** KU Powwow and Indigenous Culture Festival

APRIL

- 5** KU Jazz Ensemble I with Anat Cohen, clarinet and saxophones

5 Dance America presents Dance Competition 2018

8, 9 John McCutcheon, folk singer and instrumentalist

11 Yekwon Sunwoo: 2017 gold medalist, Van Cliburn International Piano Competition

17 Hypnotic Brass Ensemble

18 Chancellor's Concert: KU Wind Ensemble and Jazz Ensemble I

24 Pete Souza presents his "Intimate Portrait" of President Obama

26 University Band and Jazz Ensembles II and III

27 Olate Dogs

MAY

- 1** KU Symphony Orchestra
- 3** Symphonic Band

University Theatre

MARCH

30-31 "Perfect Arrangement," directed by James Dick, William Inge Memorial Theatre

APRIL

5-8 "Perfect Arrangement," directed by James Dick, William Inge Memorial Theatre



Renee Springer, *Feed Me*, March 26-30. Springer explores images and behaviors that reflect our connection to digital space, using her work to investigate the relationship between technology and pop culture.

8 “Ashes to Ashes,” directed by Rana Esfandiary and “Henry’s Law,” directed by Michelle Cowles, William Inge Memorial Theatre

21-22, 27-29 “Spring Awakening,” directed by Mechele Leon, Crafton-Preyer Theatre

6 Visiting Artist Series: Craig Rutenberg, Opera Gala with KU music students

7 Faculty Recital Series: Michael Kirkendoll, piano

8 Helianthus Contemporary Ensemble

9 Kansas City Lyric Resident Artists

10 KU Choirs: Chamber Singers

12 World Percussion Ensembles

23 KU Jazz Combos

24 KU Saxophone Quartets

24 KU Trombone Choir

MAY

1 KU Choirs: Bales Chorale

2 KU Choirs: Concert Choir and Women’s Chorale

3 KU Opera Workshop

Murphy Hall

MARCH

26 Faculty Recital Series: Matt Otto, saxophone

27 Faculty Recital Series: Joyce Castle, mezzo-soprano

29 KU Tuba Euphonium Consort

31 Visiting Artist Series: Molly Barth, flute

APRIL

4 KU Percussion Group

6 KU Percussion Group featuring music of Robert Honstein

Academic Calendar

MARCH

19-25 Spring break

MAY

3 Last day of classes

4 Stop day

7-11 Finals week

13 Commencement

Alumni Events

MARCH

1-31 KU Libraries Commemorate the Gr8s events (for more information, visit kualumni.org/commemorate)

21 Houston: Jayhawks & Java

24 KU Night with the Colorado Rapids, Commerce City, Colorado

24 Oregon Food Bank Packing, Portland

29 The Emmett Till Memory Project, Wichita

APRIL

1-30 KU Libraries Commemorate the Gr8s events (for more information, visit kualumni.org/commemorate)

1 KU Night with the Trail Blazers, Portland, Oregon

6-7 Gold Medal Club Reunion Weekend, Adams Alumni Center

13 Jayhawk Roundup, Murfin Stables, Wichita

18 Houston: Jayhawks & Java

28 23rd-annual Rock Chalk Ball, The Grand Ballroom at Bartle Hall, Kansas City

MAY

16 Houston: Jayhawks & Java

17 Denver: Jayhawks & Java

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.



Marissa Shell, *Untitled*, April 8-13. Shell’s sculptural vignettes depict fictional landscapes constructed with synthetic and industrially manufactured materials, mimicking life and land forms found in the natural world.

Jayhawk Walk

Marine-turned-movie mogul salutes old C.O.

He's got fame, wealth and star power. He's adored by A-list beautiful people, most of whom would fight each other in cage matches if he so commanded. But for all the reasons we've long been insanely jealous of The Rob Riggle Experience, he's finally topped them all:

In his latest role, Riggle, c'93, gets to play his former boss. As in, his *for-real, real-life* former boss. In a movie.

Even for us schleps, the scenario feels lined with laughs; in the hands of a brilliant comic actor like Rob Riggle?

Comedy gold!

Except ... the boss Riggle portrays in "12 Strong" isn't Lorne Michaels or some other show-biz fat cat ripe for parody, and the setting for sure isn't 30 Rock, the Vegas strip or a SoCal sound stage.

The boss—heavy emphasis on boss—is Lt. Col. Max Bowers, and the setting is Mazare Sharif, Afghanistan, in October 2001, a month before a real-life young Marine officer, Capt. Rob Riggle, real-life reported for real-life duty with the U.S. Army's very-much-real 3rd Battalion, 5th Special Forces Group, commanded by really-larger-than-life Lt. Col. Bowers.

"I just wanted an honest portrayal," Riggle told The Kansas City Star. "Col. Bowers is an outstanding commanding officer. ... He knew his job and he knew it well. And he cared about his men."

And clearly his men cared about him. Even the Hollywood honchos.



gift counts), "One Day. One KU." challenged Jayhawks around the world to support their favorite KU program or priority.

Nearly 1,900 donors responded. Highlights included a successful challenge resulting in a \$40,000 gift for study abroad scholarships, \$25,000 in matching gifts from Wichita's medical community and more than \$31,000 for the Alumni Association's Jayhawk Career Network. Most donations were more modest, and a few came with pithy dedications, including one from former basketball player Eric Chenoweth, c'11: "In Honor of Greg Gurley. World class eater, below average radio broadcaster and good guy."

What a difference a day makes.

Big man throws down at beachy bowling bash

IF ANYONE CAN TRANSFORM a bowling alley into a tropical party hub, it's Scot Pollard. The former NBA player returned to Lawrence Jan. 26 with his wife, Dawn, for the fourth-annual Pollard Beach Bowling Party, a family-friendly event to benefit the School of Education's Multicultural Scholars Program.

Pollard, d'97, decked out in a tank top, camo shorts and a straw hat, declared that he and Dawn would visit each team's lane, where bowlers could select a Pollard to throw a strike. "Choose wisely," he cautioned. "One of us is a really good bowler and one of us is really good looking."

With prizes for Best Team Attire and Best Lane Design on the line, alley 'Hawks sported Crimson and Blue leis, tropical shirts and other beachy attire, and teams transformed Royal Crest Lanes with party lights and inflatable palm trees, pink flamingos and beach balls.

Alumni Association staff and at least a dozen board members, who were in town for their winter meeting, joined in the fun,

Cold cash

AN ICE STORM THAT CANCELED classes and made for hazardous commuting on the Lawrence campus did nothing to dampen the generous spirit of KU's first 24-hour giving campaign, "One Day. One KU."

Led by KU Endowment, the fundraising push from midnight to midnight Feb. 20 marshaled internet and social media word-of-mouth and more than \$230,000 in matching gifts and challenges to raise \$734,621, setting a record for the most gifts in a single day.

The date marked the 155th anniversary of an 1865 bill locating KU in Lawrence—a bill that passed the Kansas House by only one vote. Building on the idea that one person *can* make a difference (and every



including national chair Kevin Carroll, assoc., who paired his new Member APPreciation T-shirt with a bright blue grass skirt. After Pollard rolled a strike for one of the Association teams, board members kicked in for the cause and handed him \$1,000. Ten bills for ten pins—not bad for one frame.



Dawn and Scot Pollard

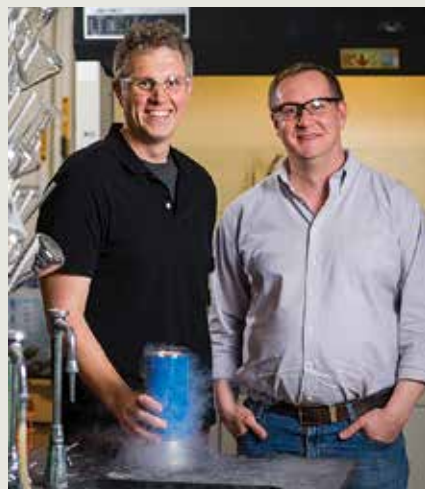
Better living through chemistry

Ever wonder what's really behind that buzz you get from a cup of coffee? Or what gives tattoos their staying power? The answers to these questions and more can be found right here on Mount Oread.

Last semester, Timothy Jackson divided freshmen in his honors chemistry class into 15 groups and asked them to identify campus spots where chemistry plays a critical—yet not always obvious—role in our daily lives.

For inspiration, students headed to Ambler Student Recreation Fitness Center, the Spencer Museum of Art, Watkins Memorial Health Center, the Roasterie coffee shop in the Union and other popular sites. Each group created a poster that teased a topic and featured a QR code that took viewers to a website packed with student-produced information on science found at each location.

"I want students to think about what they learn in class and how it relates to the world around them," says Jackson,



Jackson and Vartia

associate professor of chemistry, who worked with Drew Vartia, PhD'13, a postdoctoral teaching associate, to refine the assignment.

Not only did the young chemists embrace the assignment, but most campus partners also were eager to participate. "Once they fully wrapped their heads around it, everybody was really pretty enthusiastic," says Vartia, who hopes to expand the project beyond campus, asking students to explain the chemistry of our favorite college town.



Nightmare on Naismith Drive

That yappy know-it-all perched at the end of the bar? Your sister's ex-boyfriend: tight shorts, bad haircut, played a semester of juco ball before he got kicked out of school, reasons still unclear? Great-uncle Fred, insisting for decades now that he was Wilt's roommate sophomore year? The guy across the street, still sore about that damn sideline call on Jo Jo?

Yeah, that's the dude. Seems he finally snapped. Udoka Azubuike's six awful free throws in the final minutes of KU's Jan. 23 loss at Oklahoma were to blame.

Mid-afternoon the following day, KU police officers were summoned to McCarthy Hall, the

players' digs, to answer a call about an "older gentleman" in a red-and-blue windbreaker who kept showing up to dish his free "free-throw advice."

No arrests were made, no reports filed, and pretty much everyone had a good laugh about the overeager superfan, including the guy who gets paid to dish free-throw advice.

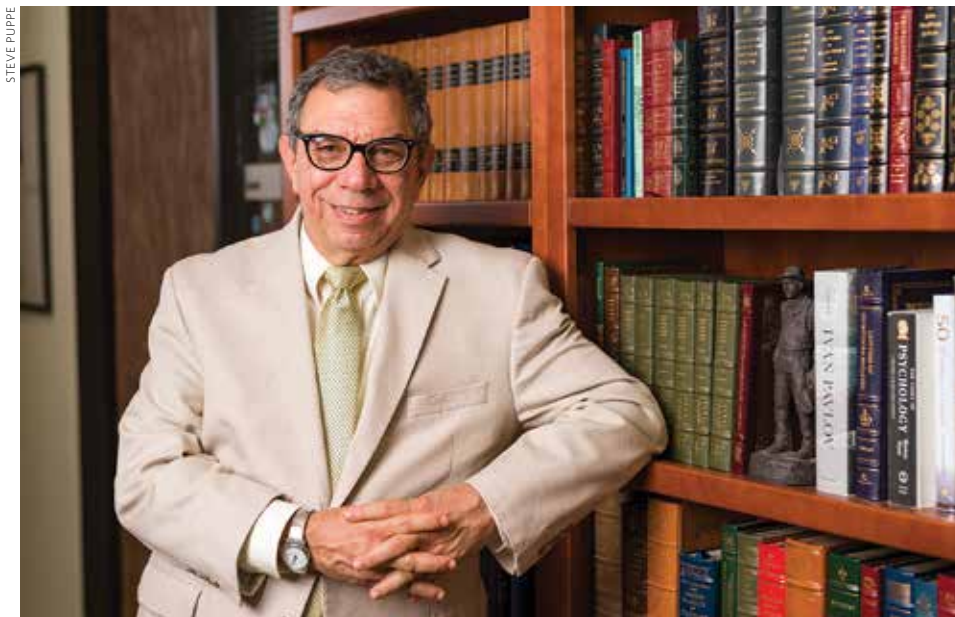
"If it's Rick Barry," coach Bill Self said, referencing one of the best free-throw shooters in hoops history, "I'm all for it."

Of course, the dude wasn't Rick Barry. Or Scooter Barry. More like the guy watching games alone in the basement who screams at the TV and scares the dog.

"Apparently he told everybody he was coming to see me next," Self said, grinning. "So as long as it's not Freddy Krueger, I'm OK with it. Everybody's got their own opinions."

Cousin Freddy, eh? Was he a baller, too?

Hilltopics



Barohn

Frontiers medicine

NIH awards \$25 million to boost bedside research

The post-World War II boom in life sciences flourished by focusing on what neurologist Richard Barohn, vice chancellor for research at KU Medical Center, describes as “the building blocks of how cells live and die.” While such research “is still going on and still very important,” it’s also time to shift some attention from laboratory to bedside and cure what ails us.

“There’s been much more of an emphasis in the last 20 years,” Barohn says, “on these more practical ways to apply some of our scientific discoveries to improve the health of our population.”

Such “clinical and translational sciences” underway across KU campuses and among metro KC partners recently got a huge boost with a nearly \$25 million grant—the second-largest in KU history and the largest KU grant currently active—from the National Institutes of Health.

Awarded in September and publicly

announced in January, “Frontiers”—formally, Frontiers: University of Kansas Clinical and Translational Science Institute, worth \$24.97 million over five years—has already awarded nearly \$2 million in pilot grants to help accelerate about 40 studies.

“It’s a huge grant that helps us support what I think are my goals as the research leader on the Medical Center campus,” Barohn says, “and that’s to support our current researchers as much as we can, to train the next generation of researchers, and then to expand and grow the number of researchers in our research base. This grant allows us to do that, across all disease areas.”

With the NIH award, KU is now one of only 26 U.S. universities with a cancer

center, Alzheimer’s disease center and clinical and translational science institute, all NIH-designated. Along with KU faculty in Kansas City, Lawrence and Wichita, the call for funding proposals also attracted the attention of researchers at Children’s Mercy, St. Luke’s and UMKC.

Among the many projects already getting a “rocket-ship boost” from Frontiers funding, Barohn cites as a particular favorite the congestive heart failure research being conducted by Janet Pierce, University Distinguished Professor and Christine A. Hartley Centennial Professor of Nursing. After focusing her laboratory research on heart-cell mitochondria, Pierce designed a clinical trial to test the compound known as Ubiquinol. Shortly after landing an NIH grant, though, Pierce’s funding was unexpectedly cut and she was forced to dial back the goals of her clinical study.

Thanks to a boost from Frontiers funding, Pierce’s study is back on track, with 200 patients expected to enroll over two years.

“By the time we’re done with the five years of this grant, we’ll be touching hundreds and hundreds of faculty and students,” Barohn says. “This covers research from across the spectrum, from babies to geriatrics, nursing, medicine, allied health. It leverages our current talent and makes them more productive, more able to reach their research goals, and it also helps them accelerate their research projects with the tools we can give them.”

—Chris Lazzarino

“By the time we’re done with the five years of this grant, we’ll be touching hundreds and hundreds of faculty and students.” — Richard Barohn

The Sphinx speaks

Thomas shows affable side
in latest KU visit

He is famously reticent during oral arguments, once going 10 years without asking a question of attorneys presenting cases before the nation's highest court. Away from the U.S. Supreme Court, though, Justice Clarence Thomas is lively and engaged when discussing the American legal system, as KU School of Law students have discovered during his numerous Green Hall visits.

Following trips to Mount Oread in 1996, 2000, 2002 and 2004, Justice Thomas in January spent three days interacting with law students in a first-year Introduction to Constitutional Law Course and a special intersession course, Landmark Supreme Court Cases, which he co-taught with Professor Stephen McAllister. Thomas concluded his KU visit by swearing in McAllister, c'85, l'88, as U.S. Attorney for the District of Kansas, in a private ceremony at the Dole Institute of Politics.

During the three Landmark Supreme Court Cases class sessions—each of which lasted 90 minutes, with an additional 30



MEG KUMIN, KU MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS

Professor (and now U.S. Attorney) Stephen McAllister recalls that the first time he brought Justice Clarence Thomas to Green Hall, in 1996, Thomas was irritated by a busy schedule that left no time for student interaction. "We had booked him from class to class to class, and he objected. He said, 'No, you have to give me time in-between things so I can really talk to the students and spend time with the students.'"

minutes allotted for mingling with students—Thomas flashed a quick humor rarely seen outside of his closest personal and professional circles, as well as a willingness to engage in arguments about the most fundamental aspects of American justice.

"He'll say, 'I hear you; I don't agree with

that, but I understand what you're saying,'" says McAllister, who clerked for both Thomas and the late Justice Byron White, and immediately began a three-year unpaid leave of absence from KU upon his swearing in as U.S. attorney. "He's very courteous and respectful, and his personality is disarming. One of his messages is,

UPDATE



STEVE PUPPE

A project to replace the Dyche Hall grotesques, the mythical limestone beasts that have adorned the seventh floor of the Natural History Museum since Dyche was built ["Monsters of the Mind," issue No. 6, 2017] received a boost from two major gifts this spring.

Historic Mount Oread Friends donated \$10,000 to the project, and the Frazee Family, descendants of the sculptor who carved the

grotesques, Joseph Roblado Frazee, donated \$5,000.

"We're thrilled to have the opportunity to help in restoring one of the most beautiful historic buildings on Mount Oread," says Dale Slusser, president of Historic Mount Oread Friends. "From a preservation perspective, you want to capture as much of the building's original character as possible. The grotesques are an essential part of this highly ornamental building,

and anything less would be a misrepresentation of how those at the time saw and appreciated Dyche Hall when it was built."

Fundraising continues for the project, which aims to replace eight of the original 12 carvings, which are badly eroded by a century of exposure to Kansas weather. For more information, contact dslusser@kuen-dowment.org.

—Steven Hill



GRAD RATE: KU's four-year graduation rate is tops among the six Board of Regents universities, according to a recent update of the Regents' "Foresight 2020" report. 41.1 percent of KU freshmen from fall 2010 graduated in four years. Four-year graduation percentages were 31.1 percent at Kansas State, 25.6 at Pittsburg State, 22.7 at Emporia State, 21.5 at Wichita State and 18.1 at Fort Hays State.

"Don't assume that just because we're the Supreme Court that we know everything."

During one of the landmark-cases class sessions—which *Kansas Alumni* was invited to attend, with the Supreme Court's approval—Thomas led discussions about a wide range of precedent-setting cases and legal history, even offering insights into his own thought processes and research methods in cases he helped decide.

While helping students grasp details of each case, Thomas invariably steered the discussion toward legal fundamentals, often within what he views as the imperative of originalism, or the theory that the Constitution should be read only for what it actually says, rather than broader views that find authority beyond the text.

His often-repeated message was that the court can stray into arbitrary findings unsupported by the Constitution—"A lot of these cases aren't about what you decide, but who gets to decide"—and that the court tends to reach into political arenas that should be reserved for voters and their elected representatives.

"Justice [Antonin] Scalia referred to me as a 'bloodthirsty originalist,'" Thomas said, drawing laughs from students. Smiling, he added, "I don't know where he got that."

Discussions that Thomas eagerly dove into included school desegregation, *Bush v. Gore*, what he views as the shaky concepts of "substantive due process" and precedent-enforcing "stare decisis," legislative redistricting, advances in

technology as law-enforcement tools, and prisoners' rights. When McAllister opened a discussion about state-mandated restrictions on workers' rights, the former KU law dean offered an example of the state requiring "eyebrow threaders" to complete 750 hours of training.

"What?" Thomas asked, dumbfounded. After a stylishly coiffed student at the front of the room explained the practice of precise eyebrow plucking and shaping to the bewildered associate justice, Thomas responded, in reference to the hundreds of required training hours, "Yeah, I think it should take *at least* that."

McAllister left time at the end of class for students to meet Thomas and pose for cellphone selfies. Famously a fan of University of Nebraska sports teams, a passion acquired from his Omaha in-laws, Thomas was delighted when former KU volleyball star and current law student Cassie Wait brought him a KU volleyball T-shirt; the justice was quick to pick up on Wait's reference to KU playing Nebraska in the 2015 volleyball Final Four.

"The sentiment around the building is that this is not just a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, but a real gift," said law student Ben Stringer, of Lenexa, "As a law student, you think of Supreme Court justices as the end all, be all, but here he's chatting about Huskers football, KU basketball ... so it's great to get that personal side of someone you revere as a member of the legal profession."

—Chris Lazzarino

Students engineer a hat trick

Three Jayhawk teams win at aerospace competition

School of Engineering faculty members have grown accustomed to their students doing well in design competitions that require them to translate theoretical learning into practical solutions.

But the recent sweep of top prizes by a trio of student teams at one of the most prestigious international competitions was a first for KU—and perhaps for the competition itself.



Three teams of engineering students won first place in design competitions sponsored by the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) during the 2016-'17 school year.

"We're led to believe that's the first time that's happened anywhere," says Richard Hale, C.E. and M.J. Spahr Professor and chair of aerospace engineering, "but it's definitely the first time it's happened at KU."

A nine-member undergraduate team led by Thomas Row, e'17, and advised by professor Saeed Farokhi and Ray Taghavi, PhD'89, Sharp Professor and associate chair, won the international aircraft engine design competition. The challenge: Design an engine to replace a popular turboprop that has been used in light aircraft for more than 50 years. Students took advantage of lighter modern materials to create a design that was judged simpler and more efficient than the current model.

A 10-member graduate team (which included students from RMIT University in Australia) led by PhD student Marwan Dessouki, e'16, and advised by professor Ron Barrett-Gonzalez, e'88, PhD'93, won the graduate team aircraft design competition. Students were asked to design two light business jets—one six-passenger plane and one eight-passenger plane—with a range of 2,500 nautical miles and a cruising speed of Mach 0.85. Feedback received during presentations to manufacturers such as Boeing and Lockheed helped the team whittle 18 potential designs down to one winner.

A seven-member undergraduate team led by Bailey Miller, e'17, and advised by Mark Ewing, associate professor and director of the flight research laboratory, won the space design competition, which challenged students to design a spacecraft capable of traveling to Mars and orbiting the planet without landing. The design for a craft called Pytheas combines hard metal walls and a soft inflatable capsule—much like the International Space Station, which

features both design elements. The Pytheas design calls for solar power with a nuclear backup, and includes a stasis chamber where astronauts can sleep for up to two weeks, reducing the need for supplies.

"We're proud of the students; they put in a great deal of effort, and that effort is its own reward," Hale says. "Winning a design competition is icing on the cake, but what the students are really doing is getting a much better education. For the faculty, of course it's nice to have external professionals have the same opinion that we have of our students. That's validating the curriculum."

KU has won more first and seconds in the AIAA competitions than any other aerospace engineering program.

"I think success builds on itself, because when you have success it's a challenge to the next years to meet or exceed that performance," Hale says.

Next year's teams have their work cut out for them.

—Steven Hill

Milestones, money and other matters

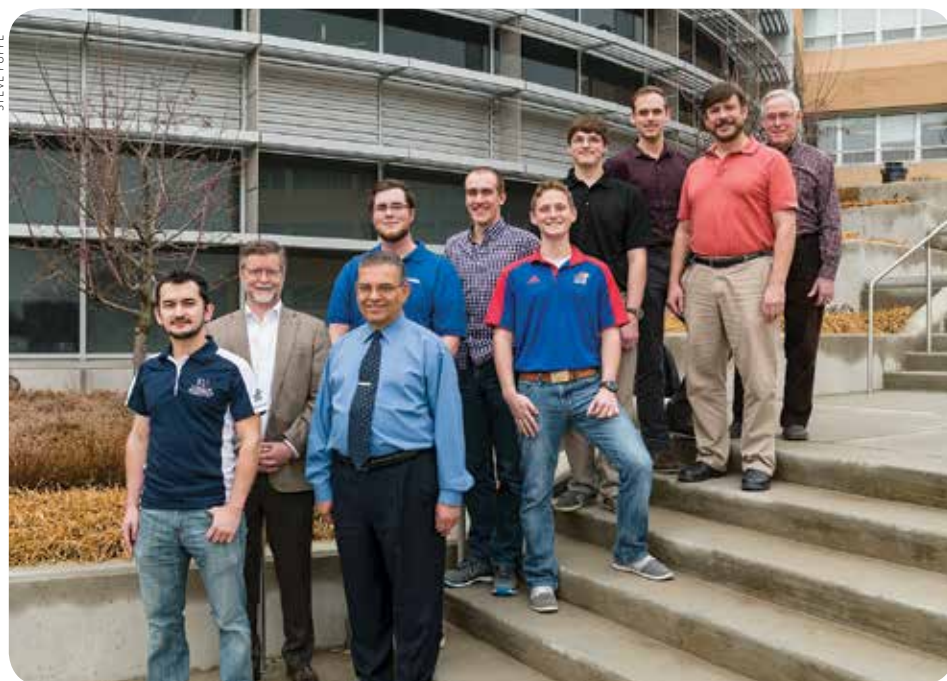


STEVE PUPPE

■ **Gov. Sam Brownback**, l'82, resigned at the end of January to take a job in President Trump's administration as the ambassador-at-large for religious freedom. Lt. Gov. Jeff Colyer, m'86, was sworn in as the state's 47th governor in a Jan. 31 ceremony at the Topeka statehouse. Colyer, who is seeking the Republican nomination for governor in 2018, will serve the remainder of Brownback's term, which ends in January 2019.

■ **A \$1 million** gift from Tracy Ashlock, d'83, will establish an endowed fund to provide international travel for students in the environmental studies program. With an interest in environmental issues that dates back to elementary school, Ashlock earned her bachelor's degree in health education with a minor in biology before there was an environmental studies program at KU. She works for TSR Group, an environmental company that does soil and ground-water remediation of contaminated property.

■ **Harold Godwin**, p'64, professor emeritus in the School of Pharmacy, received the 2018 Remington Honor Medal, the highest honor bestowed by the American Pharmacists Association. Established in 1918, the Remington recognizes distinguished service on behalf of American pharmacy. Godwin recently retired as professor of pharmacy practice and association dean for clinical and medical center affairs at the University of Kansas Health System.



STEVE PUPPE

Among the students and faculty members who helped School of Engineering teams achieve three first-place finishes in AIAA competition are Martin Mendoza, Richard Hale, Ray Taghavi, Cody Hill, Riley Sprunger, Bailey Miller, Kyle Herda, Arno Prinsloo, Ron Barrett-Gonzalez and Mark Ewing.

Hilltopics

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR OUT-OF-STATE RESIDENTS

Starting in Fall 2018, the University of Kansas is pleased to announce new scholarship amounts for out-of-state students. It is not too late to apply for Fall 2018 to receive these scholarships.

Type	Criteria	Award
KU Excellence	30 ACT or 1390 SAT + 3.75 GPA	\$64,336 (\$16,084/yr)* (Equivalent to paying in-state tuition)
KU Distinction	28 ACT or 1310 SAT + 3.5 GPA	\$54,320 (\$13,580/yr)*
KU Achievement	24 ACT or 1160 SAT + 3.25 GPA	\$44,308 (\$11,077/yr)*

Midwest Student Exchange and Jayhawk Generations Beginning Fall 2018, students who qualify for these programs will be awarded the KU Excellence, KU Distinction or KU Achievement based on GPA and test score.

*Partial tuition waiver. Amount varies based on tuition. Tuition for the 2018-'19 school year is contingent on Kansas Board of Regents approval in summer 2018.

SCHOLARSHIPS

New scholarship grid delivers for Kansas and nonresident students

CHANGES IN HOW KU allocates scholarships and tuition waivers will result in larger awards for both resident and nonresident freshmen this fall.

Under a tuition waiver expansion rolled out in January, incoming nonresident

freshmen will receive more generous scholarships under the three-tiered system that takes into account their standardized tests scores and high school GPA. Out-of-state students whose academic achievement puts them in the highest tier (the KU Excellence scholarship) will receive \$16,084 in annual tuition waivers, making their tuition cost the equivalent of in-state tuition. Students in the second tier (KU Distinction) will pay 125 percent of

in-state tuition, while students in the third tier (KU Achievement) will pay 150 percent of the in-state rate. Details are available at admissions.ku.edu/tuition-scholarship/freshman.

Money freed up as a result of shifting scholarship dollars from KU Endowment funds to waivers will instead support aid for academically qualified Kansas students who have documented financial need based on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid.

The awards are automatic (students need not apply to receive them) and are renewable for four years as long as students complete 30 hours per year and maintain a 3.25 GPA.

Implementation of the new scholarship grid means that the Jayhawk Generation Scholarship, which KU and Alumni Association leaders launched in 2009, and the Midwest Student Exchange program will no longer be separate scholarships. Instead, students will receive the new, larger KU Excellence, KU Distinction or KU Achievement awards.

The changes do not affect the KU Edwards Metro Rate, international students or current KU students.

—Steven Hill

VISITOR

Executive order

Richard Norton Smith, a nationally recognized authority on the presidency, discussed the C-SPAN Presidential Historians Survey, in which he and other experts rank U.S. presidents, as part of the 2018 Presidential Lecture Series.

WHEN: Feb. 25

WHERE: Robert J. Dole Institute of Politics

BACKGROUND: Smith has led several presidential libraries,

including those for Abraham Lincoln, Ronald Reagan, Gerald Ford and Herbert Hoover. As the first director of the Dole Institute, he supervised construction and launched the Presidential Lecture Series. The Feb. 25 event, "Ranking the Presidents," was the first of four talks he's giving in February and March for a series titled "1 to 44: The Best and the Worst of American Presidents."

ANECDOTE: Now at work on a comprehensive biography of Gerald Ford, Smith judged Ford's No. 25 ranking "about

right." He noted that Ford did not mind being underestimated—a trait he shared with his role model, Dwight D. Eisenhower, who ranked fifth. "Someone said Ford was like without the medals," Smith quipped. "In politics it is better to be underestimated than overestimated. You can surprise on the upside."

QUOTES: "There are very few subjects where erudite scholars of the presidency can

carry on the same conversation with C-SPAN viewers," Smith said when asked if polls matter. "We live in such a compartmentalized society that anything that promotes 'talk amongst yourselves' is admirable."

—Steven Hill



Smith

STEVE PUPPE



Sears

GREEK LIFE

KU Greeks launch marrow match program

TEN KU FRATERNITIES and nine sororities in January joined forces to recruit 535 new registrants for Be the Match, a national stem cell and bone marrow donor registration program. The community service project, organized by the Kansas Fraternity Landlord's League, was first launched in 2017 at the Sigma Nu chapter, thanks to the efforts of Hodgkin's lymphoma survivor Steve Sears, b'83, of Kansas City.

Sears' second bout with the disease required stem-cell transplants, and his experience motivated him to suggest Sigma Nu focus the chapter's philanthropy on stem cell and marrow donor registration.

"Once it became clear how easy and efficient it was to register one fraternity," Sears says, "I set a goal of enlisting others in the KU Greek system."

In addition, the fraternity landlords group also established a \$1,000 scholarship for any new registrants who end up becoming stem cell or marrow donors.

—Chris Lazzarino

ADMINISTRATION

Top roles filled by veteran leaders and alumni

TWO KU-EDUCATED administrators already holding key leadership positions at the University were chosen to fill new roles this spring.

Robert Simari, executive dean of the School of Medicine since 2014, was chosen as the Medical Center's new executive vice chancellor. Simari, m'86, had held the role as interim since July 1, when longtime executive chancellor Doug Girod was name chancellor of KU. Before joining KU, Simari served in several administrative, research and teaching roles at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota.



Simari

COURTESY KU MEDICAL CENTER

Reggie Robinson, c'80, l'87, was named vice chancellor for public affairs, replacing Tim Caboni, who left KU to become president of Western Kentucky University.

Robinson, who has served as interim vice chancellor since August, previously directed the School of Public Affairs since 2014. Earlier in his career, he was president and CEO of the Kansas Board of Regents and chief of staff to KU Chancellor Robert Hemenway.



Robinson

COURTESY KU MAR/COWM

Milestones, money and other matters



EARL RICHARDSON

■ **A mock trial team** of third-year students from the School of Law will compete at nationals this spring. Jordan Kane, c'15; Ben Stringer; and Joe Uhlman beat teams from 11 law schools in seven states to win Region 9 of the competition, sponsored by the Texas Young Lawyers Association. Nationals will be held April 4-8 in Austin, Texas. KU's moot court program ranks 17th in the nation, according to rankings published by the University of Houston Law Center.

■ **A \$1 million gift** from Chad Leat, b'78, will support LGBTQ students at KU. Leat retired in 2013 as vice chairman of global banking at Citigroup after a 30-year career on Wall Street. He created the Chad A. Leat student scholarship at KU in 2006 to assist students committed to helping KU foster a multicultural, inclusive environment. The new \$1 million gift, announced during a campus visit in February, "will establish this scholarship as a much larger and more meaningful investment in the LGBTQ community here at KU for a long time," Leat said.

■ **Billy Mills**, d'62, who won Olympic gold in the 10,000 meters in 1964, will lend his name to a Lawrence middle school. The Lawrence school board in February approved a motion to change the name of South Middle School to Billy Mills Middle School effective July 1. The change honors Mills' work on behalf of Native Americans and his athletic achievements at KU and at Haskell Indian Nations University, which donated the land on which the school is built.

"I think the more you know about the American past, the more you can be confident in the American future." —Richard Norton Smith



The streak lives

Hoops 'Hawks rally to win 14th-consecutive Big 12 title

When coach Bill Self met with reporters on the frigid morning of Dec. 27, his Jayhawks were 10-2 heading into the Big 12 opener, Dec. 29 at Texas, scoring 87.5 points per game, with a defensive field-goal percentage of 38.6, and were ranked No. 11 in the country even without freshman forward Billy Preston, who had yet to be declared eligible (and never would be) in the wake of questions about a car he'd brought with him to campus.

But attention then still lingered on two stunning losses: Dec. 6 to Washington, in Sprint Center, and Dec. 10 against Arizona State, in Allen Field House.

"If you take five days out of six weeks, we've been pretty consistently good," Self said at the time. "But this is not a team that is anywhere close to being a championship-caliber team—yet—in our league. Not even close. We make so many mistakes. Our energy level is still average and we've got to get a couple of individuals pumping some energy into the room.

"I like our guys a lot, but we're still a big-time work in progress. We haven't developed an identity yet. Who are we? How do we make people play bad? Are we only going to win when we make shots? But that's the personality we have right now, and we've got to get out of character to get tougher. We're not as tough as we need to be."

When it comes to developing championship teams, Self values no trait higher than toughness. Without it, a successful campaign in the country's deepest conference would be all but impossible.

"We've shown people we have a chink in our armor, so to speak," Self continued. "It's not like people are saying, 'We gotta play perfect to beat 'em.'"

So how many wins would it take to top the Big 12? Self paused for a moment, seeming to run through some

Coach Bill Self had plenty to smile about thanks to a late-season surge led by senior Svi Mykhailiuk (10) and Big 12 Player of the Year Devonte' Graham (4), above guarding midseason Player of the Year favorite Trae Young, of Oklahoma, and below celebrating with junior Lagerald Vick.

mental calculations, and replied, "I think 13-5 will get it free and clear. ... Everybody in the league is going to lose two in a row. Everybody is going to lose. So how you respond to those negative performances will be very, very important."

Yet more evidence for why Bill Self is a hall of fame coach: The Jayhawks won the Big 12 at 13-5, and, after losing two of three conference games in early February, responded with a five-game streak that vaulted senior point guard Devonte' Graham to unanimous selection as Big 12 Player of



the Year and put him in the conversation for national player of the year awards.

"It's been a grind. A lot of people had doubt and lost faith," Graham said Feb. 25, a day before his Senior Night game against Texas, an 80-70 victory that gave KU outright claim to its 14th-consecutive Big 12 championship, an NCAA record that eclipses the great UCLA teams from 1967-'79. "We went through some rough patches, back-to-back losses, losing at home, and through it all we just kept grinding and believing in each other. We didn't want to be that team to end the streak, as we always say, so we went out and grinded and did it."

Asked whether "don't be that team to end the streak" is a motivational attitude that is actually verbalized or is instead simply understood among the players, Graham answered, "No, that's what we say. We don't want to be the team to end the streak."

After an ugly 16-point loss Feb. 10 at Baylor, KU's third loss in six games, it appeared the Jayhawks' Big 12 title streak might grind to a halt at 13. Texas Tech had plastered Kansas State in Manhattan that weekend, 66-47, "to take control of the league race," in the estimation of the Kansas City Star's Blair Kerkhoff, a widely respected observer of Big 12 athletics. Yet even from the rare perspective of looking up at a conference foe atop the standings, Self was still banking on the rigors of the Big 12's February circuit to give his 'Hawks a chance to return to their traditional perch.

"I don't think we need to play with desperation," Self said Feb. 15, two days before KU beat West Virginia, 77-69, in Allen Field House. "I think we need to play with urgency, purpose and focus. It's a long season."

The Jayhawks had earlier followed the humbling loss at Baylor with a six-point win at Iowa State, but it was the West Virginia victory that seemed to turn KU's fortunes.

West Virginia led by 12 with 10 minutes remaining, and an 11-3 KU run cut the deficit to four. The furious final minutes saw both sides trading 3-pointers, steals and rebounds. Sophomore guard Malik

"We put our hearts into it. ... It's tradition. It's a historic place. It's all about winning. I don't know why, but it's a blessing to be a part of."

—senior guard Devonte' Graham, Big 12 Player of the Year

Newman hit a trey to tie the game, 66-66, with 2:13 remaining, and KU took the lead for good with 1:40 left on a pair of free throws by senior guard Svi Mykhailiuk.

The difference, though, was sophomore center Udoka Azubuike, who led KU with 21 points, along with five rebounds, three blocks and two steals. Just as impressive as his high-energy defense were his free throws. When the amiable Nigerian was asked to comment on making seven of his 10 attempts, Graham, seated at Azubuike's side, quickly scanned a stat sheet and exclaimed, "You were seven for 10?" Azubuike smiled and nodded shyly as Graham continued, "Oh, you went crazy! My boy! Just like me!"

As the regular season wound toward its finale following revenge victories over Oklahoma and Texas Tech, Graham reflected on Azubuike using his 1-for-8 free-throw shooting performance Jan. 23 at Oklahoma as motivation; had he not dealt well with the ridicule that followed and slid into a February funk, KU would have been sunk.

"Ever since that OU game he's been focused, especially on his free throws," Graham said. "Just being locked in on what coach has been wanting him to do. His attitude has been real great in practice, working hard. Out of everybody on the team, I feel like coach has been on him the hardest all year, and he's responded."

The Jayhawks closed their regular season with an 82-64 loss at Oklahoma State, the first conference opponent to sweep KU in Self's 15 seasons. But for the Jayhawks, the hard work leading up to the final third of their campaign, the all-important NCAA Tournament, had already been done, and they'd emerged as Big 12 champions exactly as predicted: 13-5.

Free and clear.

"You come in as a freshman, you don't really understand," Graham said. "You don't get the streaks, you don't get all the people, all the history, all the tradition. But then coach keeps telling you about it, that it's bigger than you, it's bigger than us. It's the Jayhawk nation, it's everybody who's been here before you. Once you get ahold of that, you really just kind of fall in love with the place and it starts meaning a whole lot more.

"We put our hearts into it. I think we all love each other like one big family, we love playing for each other, we love the coaches. It's tradition. It's a historic place. It's all about winning. I don't know why, but it's a blessing to be a part of."

Infield bruiser

Second baseman aims to top Freshman All-American season

Sophomore second baseman James Cosentino helped his high school team, St. Thomas Aquinas in Overland Park, to a



Cosentino

JEFF JACOBSEN

Sports

75-19 record in his four seasons with the Saints, including two Kansas Class 5A state championships, and he's second in career RBI and fourth in runs scored—much of which is to be expected for a baseball player talented enough to advance to the Big 12 and be named to Collegiate Baseball's Freshman All-America team.

But Cosentino also proved his overall athleticism—and toughness—by setting the Saints' season rushing record with 1,298 yards, including a school-record 261 yards in a single game.

A middle infielder who's also a bruising running back? Don't expect Cosentino to be intimidated when holding his ground against a baserunner intent on breaking up a double play.

"I think football helped me out a ton," says Cosentino, of Leawood. "When I step out on the field, I'm a gamer. I'm going all out, all nine innings."

Cosentino hit .271 as a freshman, with 11 doubles, four home runs, 31 RBI and 10 stolen bases. Through the first 11 games of 2018, Cosentino was hitting .286, with two home runs, three doubles, a triple and 14 runs scored.

"He had a great year, not only offensively, but nobody in the country played second base better than he did," coach Ritch Price said after Cosentino was named freshman All-American and second-team All-Big 12. "If he continues to work hard and develop his skill set, he's going to be a really high draft pick before his time is done."

Although only a sophomore, Cosentino is already the veteran of KU's middle infield following junior shortstop Matt McLaughlin's departure for the Colorado Rockies' farm system. He's been replaced by sophomore shortstop Benjamin Sems, who notched six assists in KU's 4-1 victory

over Murray State Feb. 18 at Hoglund Ballpark, part of the Jayhawk's 8-2 season-opening home stand.

"It took a little bit, obviously since McLaughlin left, but we've been out here every day, getting comfortable," Cosentino says of his new infield partner. "He's doing a great job up the middle. We both feel comfortable."

The Jayhawks opened 2018 with their entire starting rotation intact, along with nine position starters, from the 2017 team that went 30-28 overall but finished a seventh in the Big 12.

"Our competitiveness and our drive to win ball games is getting better and we're definitely getting more confident," Cosentino says. "We've got a lot of pitchers and our bats are stepping up. I think we'll make a big step forward. It will be a little bit different in the Big 12 this year."

UPDATES

Softball swept the Carolina Invitational March 2-4, thanks in part to freshman utility player **Tarin Travieso's** stellar relief work in the event's finale against Elon. After senior starter **Sarah Miller** injured her arm on the first pitch, Travieso threw seven innings with five strikeouts with one run allowed. "Tarin was put in a tough spot to start a game, but she was ready from her first pitch to her last," said coach **Megan Smith**. KU was 16-3 heading into the March 8-11 Jayhawk Invitational. ...

Sophomore golfer **Andy Spencer** tied for fourth and four other Jayhawks placed in the top 20 to push KU to a 21-stroke victory over Purdue and Michigan at the Desert Mountain Intercollegiate March 3-4 in Scottsdale, Arizona. ...

Junior **Sharon Lokedi** won the 5,000- and 3,000-meter runs at the Feb. 23-24 Big 12 indoor meet at Iowa State, pushing the KU women to a second-place finish. Sophomore **Bryce Hoppel** won the men's 800, and senior **Megan Linder**, sophomore **Mariah Kuykendoll**, junior **Nicole Montgomery** and freshman **Honour Finley** won the women's 4x400 relay. ...

Sophomore right-hander **Ryan Zeferjahn** was named Big



Spencer

12 Pitcher of the Week after striking out 14 March 4 against Texas Southern for his third win of the season. Coach **Ritch Price** called it "one of the more dominant performances I have seen in my time at Kansas. Not only was he throwing mid-90s, but his command with his off-speed pitches was off the charts." KU will represent the U.S. at the World University Baseball Championships July 6-16 in Taiwan. ...

Adrian Mitchell, c'80, on Jan. 28 became the fourth women's basketball alumna to have her jersey retired to the Allen Field House rafters. Mitchell was the first KU player to reach 2,000 points, and she remains second on the Jayhawks' career scoring list, trailing only **Lynette Woodard**, c'81. ... Junior **Anastasia Rychagova** retained



Rychagova

her No. 1 national ranking and ran her singles record to 17-2 with a straight-set win March 4 against Gonzaga. Their 6-1 team victory was the Jayhawks' sixth-straight at home. ... The **Marlene Mawson** Exemplary Student-Athlete Award went to volleyball senior All-American **Madison Rigdon**, a three-time Academic All-Big 12 honoree. Former teammate **Taylor Soucie**, d'17, won the award last year.

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14



CHAMPIONSHIPS!



After clinching at least a share of their record-setting 14th-consecutive conference championship Feb. 24 at Texas Tech, the Jayhawks and unanimous Big 12 Player of the Year Devonte' Graham (4) on Feb. 26 won the title outright with an 80-70 victory over Texas in Allen Field House.

Photograph by Steve Puppe. Download this poster at kualumni.org/extras.



PATRIOT

Congress hails Dole's allegiance to American ideals

When Congress honored Sen. Bob Dole, '45, in January, Mike Pettit attended the ceremony. Pettit, c'76, l'79, who served as Dole's chief of staff in the 1980s and was a senior advisor to his two presidential campaigns, shares his account of the memorable day.—The editors

A rare bipartisan spirit prevailed in the U.S. Capitol Jan. 17, when the nation's leaders presented Sen. Bob Dole, 94, the Congressional Gold Medal, the highest civilian honor bestowed by Congress, for his long career as a leader in the House and Senate and a standard-bearer of the Republican Party. The ceremony summoned nostalgia for an era when Dole and other leaders valued country over party and took the long view, striving to solve the nation's problems.

Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer described Dole as “a son of the heartland, born to an era of Depression and war, who unblinkingly answered his country's call to arms; who bravely fought in the Second World War and, at the age of 21, sustained grave injuries for which he earned two Purple Hearts and the Bronze Star; who, after returning home, did not pass the mantle of service but rather continued carrying the torch in an altogether different way, elected by the people of Kansas to serve them in Congress for more than 35 years.”

Before the war, Dole, '45, competed in football, basketball and track at KU and planned to become a surgeon. The life

he had known ended April 14, 1945, in a Nazi ambush in the jagged hills of Italy. Dole returned home to Russell with limited use of his limbs, spent 39 months in hospitals and endured countless surgeries—paid for by local townspeople who deposited what they could into a cigar box at Dawson's Drugstore. As Dole said when he resigned from the Senate in 1996 to run for president, “I rose from the hospital bed and was permitted by the grace of God to walk again.”

After serving in the Kansas Legislature and as county attorney in Russell, Dole was first elected to U.S. House of Representatives in 1960. Nine years later, he won a seat in the Senate, where six times his colleagues elected him as Republican Leader. He was President Gerald Ford's vice presidential running mate in 1976; 20 years later, he was the Republican Party's nominee for president.

During the Jan. 17 ceremony, House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi of California thanked Dole for a lifetime spent defending, advancing and exemplifying our proudest American ideals, recalling one of Dole's most memorable statements: “Our challenge is not to question American ideals or replace them, but to act worthy of them.”

House Speaker Paul Ryan of Wisconsin described Dole as one of the giants of unrivaled courage who propelled our country beyond the threshold of greatness.

★ **by Mike Pettit**

Rep. Steny Hoyer, D-Md., said few living Americans have demonstrated Dole's courage—a kind of courage that imbued Dole with the conviction to stand up for what he believed to be right and just.

Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., said, “A good and effective leader must keep his or her

word. Bob Dole is a man of his word.”

When Dole announced his retirement from the Senate to devote all of his

evoking the memory of him looking at Arlington Cemetery and “the countless heroes who rest there. ... They practiced many faiths, spoke many tongues.

But this much they had in common: Patriots before partisans, they put their country before self.”

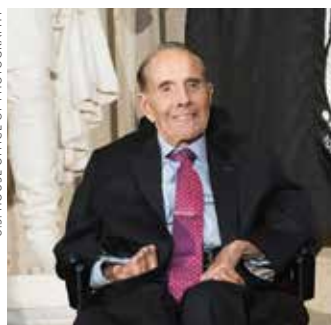
DOLE ARCHIVES (3)



EARL RICHARDSON



U.S. HOUSE OFFICE OF PHOTOGRAPHY



word. Bob Dole is a man of his word.”

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky noted that Dole, a soldier, statesman and American hero, has never stopped fighting for vulnerable people, and that commitment is the true measure of servant leadership.

Dole's record includes early support of civil rights legislation, sponsorship of the Voting Rights Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act, and co-sponsorship with his longtime friend Sen. George McGovern, D-S.D., of food stamp and school-lunch legislation. McGovern attended the 2003 opening celebration of the Dole Institute of Politics at KU, and he received the Dole Leadership Prize in 2004.

Dole entered politics as a mainstream conservative with some skepticism about the role of government in citizens' lives. But he also had a sixth sense that many people needed help on their way up, and that help would come from the government or not at all. As county attorney in the 1950s, he had signed welfare checks for his grandparents and an uncle. He was a compassionate conservative before the phrase was coined.

Dole observed that most families don't spend money they don't have, and he thought the same should apply to the government. He never pretended that closing tax loopholes or raising taxes

energies toward the presidential campaign, he quoted his own hero and fellow Kansan, President Dwight Eisenhower:

“As we peer into society's future, we—you and I and our government—must avoid the impulse to live only for today, plundering for our own ease and convenience the precious resources of tomorrow. We cannot mortgage the material assets of our grandchildren without risking the loss of their political and spiritual heritage. We want democracy to survive for all generations to come, not to become the insolvent phantom of tomorrow.”

Many who worked with Dole recognized that he possesses virtues we crave in our presidents: authenticity, a spectacular sense of humor, a spine of steel, the magic to appeal to the better angels of our nature, a principled pragmatism with the competence to make government work, and the simple willingness to tell the truth and do the right thing.

McConnell said, “Bob's accomplishments reshaped public policy. But his most memorable legacy would be either his unimpeachable integrity or his world-class sense of humor. Bob showed us that a leader needs a backbone and a funny bone. In his case, neither was in short supply.”

Sen. Elizabeth Dole described her husband's tireless fight for veterans,

Dole through the years: As a young Army lieutenant; a senator in 1970; with President Jimmy Carter and Jack Lucas, Medal of Honor winner, during the Dole Institute dedication, 2003; at the U.S. Capitol in January

President Donald Trump noted Dole's efforts to help build the World War II Memorial, reminding us that “tens of thousands of veterans have boarded honor flights to visit the National World War II Memorial, thanks to Bob Dole. Nearly every day, at the memorial, you can see tough war heroes in their 80s and 90s moved to tears. And many recount the unforgettable experience of being greeted at their memorial, and much to their surprise, by Sen. Dole.”

Bob Dole's life and career are well chronicled at KU's Dole Institute, where visitors of all political stripes get a sense of why the Republicans and Democrats in Congress unanimously awarded him the Congressional Gold Medal. He is a living embodiment of his home state's motto: “Ad Astra Per Aspera—To the stars through difficulty.”

—Pettit is on the board of advisors for KU's Dole Institute of Politics, and he is CEO of MSP Strategic Communications.



RENOVATED NORTH GALLERY
HELPS REINVENT
SPENCER RESEARCH LIBRARY'S
PUBLIC PERSONA





VIEW TO A

Thrill

by **Chris Lazzarino**

Photographs by Steve Puppe

*B*eth Whittaker worked in Spencer Research Library while pursuing her master's degree; nine years ago she returned as its director. She is intimately familiar with the imposing white edifice, and while she's busy planning a yearlong celebration of her professional home's 50th birthday in November, Whittaker also acknowledges that Mount Oread's archival stronghold still needs an introduction to Jayhawks who never venture inside or don't even know what the place is.

"Why is there this huge building at the top of the Hill, by the Campanile?" Whittaker says, voicing the confusion she


knows exists. "What's the story with that?"

The uncertainty is understandable, she concedes, because for much of its half-century the Kenneth Spencer Research Library, although always open to the public, did little to openly encourage casual visitors. A lack of widespread clarity about its accessibility and purpose perpetuated an air of mystery.

Why? For starters, it shares the Spencer name with the popular art museum across Marvin Grove. Brand distinction was never in the research library's destiny. Important, too, is that the Spencer's holdings, although accessible to one and

all with help from research librarians, are kept within closed stacks—unlike KU's other libraries.

Even more crucially, perhaps, is its location. Although Spencer Research Library is nestled within the heart of KU's traditional academic core, it is hidden behind Strong Hall and can't be seen from Jayhawk Boulevard. Entrances are hardly welcoming, one facing a little-used terrace, the other tucked within a covered parking alcove. To the north, folks traversing Memorial Drive are probably paying more attention to the Campanile and a vista glorious to view than they are the big

A portrait of Beth Whittaker, a woman with short brown hair and a warm smile, standing in a library. She is wearing a dark green, long-sleeved, high-collared dress. Her hands are clasped in front of her. The background is filled with wooden bookshelves packed with books. To her right, a comic book titled 'OTHER WORLDS' is visible on a shelf.

*"If you have
10 minutes,
come in, you'll
learn something,
you can explore
something..."*

—Beth Whittaker, Director

white building overlooking the road.

Rather than bemoan its limitations, Whittaker, c'92, g'94, and her colleagues made changes.

"It's a special place, and it's always been a special place," says Whittaker, assistant dean of distinctive collections. "We would love for alumni who have never been in here, if they're on campus, just come by."

Those who do can expect to be rewarded: A breathtaking secret is just around the corner, and even regular visitors will be startled by new views of timeless treasures.

"If you're so inclined, I'll think you'll be glad you did."

That could be a general reference to visiting Spencer Research Library. But in this case, Whittaker is suggesting that a visitor remove a shoe, if even for a moment, because the red carpet encircling the renovated North Gallery is so sumptuous that it must be felt underfoot.

"When we did this project," Whittaker says, "we thought for about two minutes about whether we would replace the original wool carpet with a similar wool carpet, and there was just no question. It's such a signature look."

Spencer Research Library's North Gallery is reached via its exhibit space—currently featuring the splendid "Women's Athletics at KU: From Physical Education to Recognized Athletic Program," through April 30—which is directly behind the main lobby.

Even when new signage above the North Gallery's entrance is added, there still will be little hint of what's to be discovered around the first corner: a sea of red carpet, rich wood paneling, high ceilings, and a glass-walled enclosure that offers visitors a taste of what's within the closed stacks.

The design of a U-shaped public gallery encircling a staff-only storage area, the two separated only by glass, is iconic and, in Whittaker's estimation, "genius."

A few problems, though, needed to be addressed: Books visible behind glass partitions were but a sliver of the Spencer's holdings, with no hint about the breadth and depth of collections that stretch across



North Gallery visitors (above) stand before panels loaded with text, images, interactive video displays and even artifacts. One of the treasures on display (below) is a leather-covered "hornbook," which holds a 16th-century paper alphabet. Hornbooks were so named for the thin sheets of translucent animal horn that protected rare and valuable printed pages—typically alphabets or prayers that would need to be used repeatedly, for many years and generations—from damage wrought by young readers.

four floors. And, just as confusing, current librarians could make little sense of why certain books were chosen for the shelves visible to the public.

"Everything that had been here originally had been shelved here since 1968," Whittaker says. "You came here once and

you'd seen it all. There was nothing different, and it represented whatever choices were made to shelve things in 1968 for whatever criteria we don't know."

The renovated, reimagined and reorganized North Gallery—much of which was made possible by an estate gift from former librarian Ann Hyde, c'60,—opened last September with a festive celebration. It features books arranged by specific collections with interactive panel displays that offer up easy-to-digest lessons about that collection's topic and the holding's history at KU.

The new gallery, in the description of KU News Service's Mike Krings, blends "the resources and expertise of an academic library with the accessibility, technology and feel of a 21st-century museum," creating "one of the most unique library spaces on an American college campus."

First up is the Wilcox Collection of Contemporary Political Movements, an internationally prominent collection of





Paige Harding, a Dodge City freshman and member of the Student Alumni Network, inspects the gallery's interactive trove of campus life images. Directly behind Harding are windows offering a memorable view of Marvin Grove and buildings perched on Jayhawk Boulevard. "I love this one," director Beth Whittaker says of the eastern view. "This is my favorite."

thousands of books, manuscripts and ephemera from America's diverse political landscape. Its creator and donor, Laird Wilcox, '67, was on hand for the September grand opening, and he gladly offered visitors musings about a passion he's nurtured since boyhood.

"When I look at the books up there," Wilcox says, gesturing toward high shelves behind glass, "I can remember when I got each and every one of them. And I've got four more big boxes sitting in the garage right now to bring over."

Other highlighted exhibitions include the Kansas Collection, the Langston Hughes Collection, science fiction, the University's extensive Irish and Central American literature and history holdings, the priceless Gould and Ellis natural history collections, 4,000-year-old cuneiform tablets, the early history of

printing, and extensive displays from University Archives about campus life.

"It's a genius idea to say that this is a closed-stack library but we can expose a small bit of what we have so that people can get a taste of it, but the idea that this wasn't as effective as it could be haunted me," Whittaker says. "We needed to expand it, and we also needed to honor the space and the intention."

All of which leads to ...

*T*hat view. Oh, that view. The Campanile, the Hill, Marvin Grove, the golden valley, as you've never seen them before.

Yes, you can easily stand anywhere along Memorial Drive and look north. But there's something about seeing that view literally framed within high, crystal-clear

windows that makes the scene almost surreal.

"You feel closer," Whittaker says, gazing at the Campanile from the North Gallery's new north wall, created from a little-used reclaimed balcony that for decades had been the source of water intrusion bedeviling collection caretakers.

The gallery has always been open to visitors and has long been used for occasional small events. Even game-day visitors who ducked in to use the library's restrooms sometimes found their way back to the gallery in search of what they'd heard was a splendid view.

But the experience was rather ill-defined, as in, "Oh, a balcony that overlooks the stadium. Nice." Ho-hum. If visitors even noticed shelves of rare books behind them it was almost by accident.

Now visitors are encouraged to come

enjoy a view like no other on campus, and, oh by the way, irresistible temptations that represent the heart of the University's academic mission also await.

"That was really one of the big motivations for trying to refresh this space," Whittaker says, "so that the bookshelves weren't just background noise. If people want to come look at the view, that's fine. We're happy to have them come and look at the view. But they're going to see a couple of other things along the way."

The tall windows and their unrivaled access to the beauty of Mount Oread also foster another defining feature of the North Gallery: serenity. The mellow, quiet room is suffused with a calm that encourages the quiet pause.

"It's definitely a reflective space, and people appreciate it for aesthetic and emotional qualities, too," Whittaker says. "I come back here when I'm having a rough day, and I just sit here and soak it all up. So we didn't want to overdo it [with exhibits and displays], and I think we struck a really nice balance."

Ready to check it out? Here's how: Enter from ground level and take the elevator or stairs one floor up, or enter directly from the Strong Hall terrace. Step up to the front desk—newly repositioned from its former less-than-helpful location at the back of the entry lobby—and say, "Hi! I want to see what's here." ("Howdy" and "hello" work, too.)

It's that easy.

"Nobody needs to know how to do anything," Whittaker says. "They just need to get to this person here"—she gestures toward a student receptionist—"who will walk you through the whole process."

To the left is the splendid Marilyn Stokstad Reading Room, which opened in 2011. It is where researchers perch at heavy tables to study materials brought to them by Spencer librarians. But don't be intimidated: It is also open to the public, and visitors are welcome to browse books shelved in the reading room—including Jayhawker yearbooks, *Kansas Alumni* magazines, and city and county directo-



Estate papers across 500 years of England's prominent North family—including Frederick North, prime minister during the American Revolution—include what today looks to be a fanciful "file" of legal writs, written on parchment, strung onto thread or wire and bundled and hung for storage (above). If unfurled, they remained in order.

ries—or make a request of the reading-room receptionist for materials within Spencer Research Library's vast holdings.

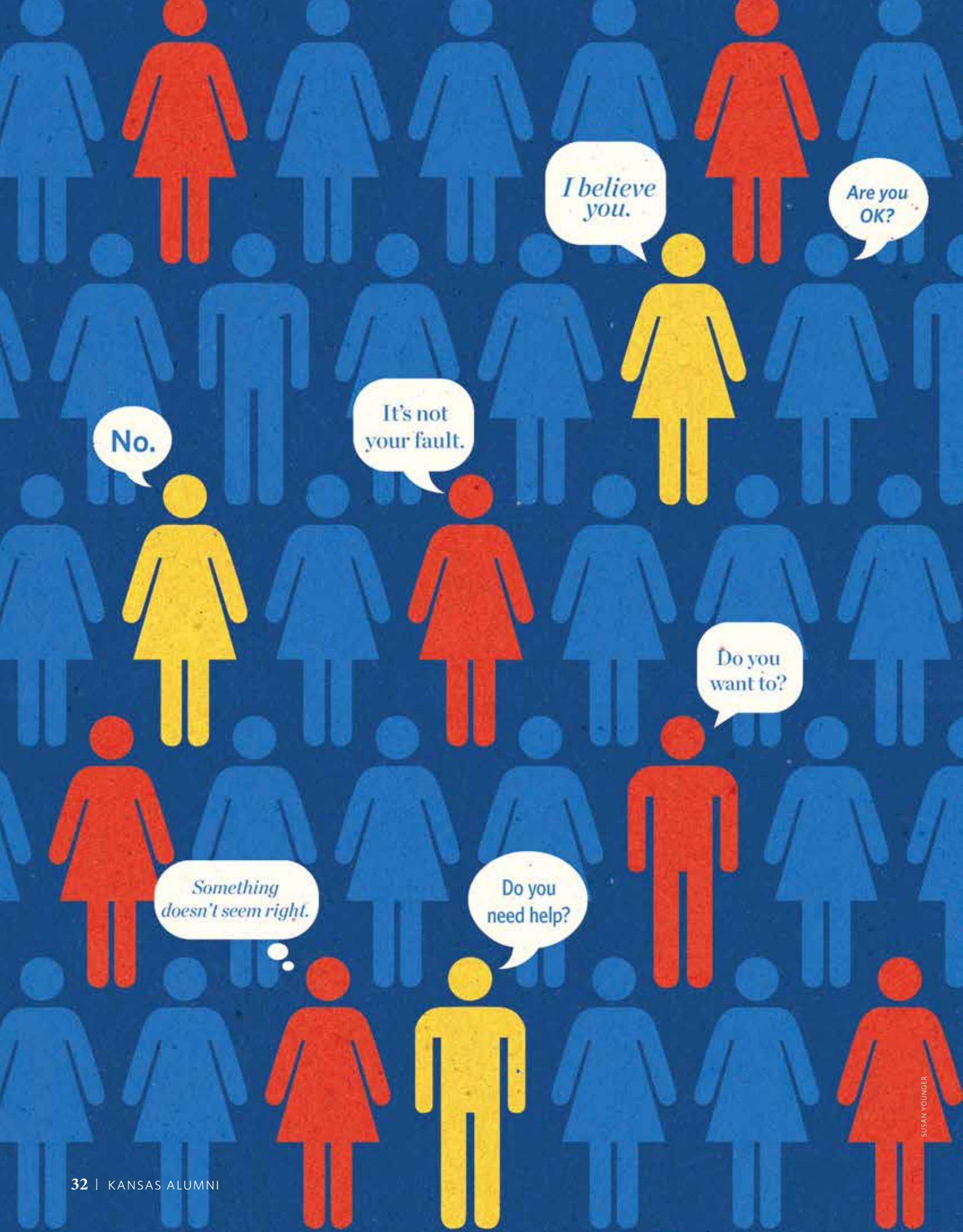
Reading-room visitors are required to sign in, with a photo ID, and, in the spirit of protecting rare books and manuscripts from "wet umbrellas and hot dogs," in Whittaker's delightful description, visitors must put bags and coats in secure lockers.

The process takes mere minutes, and the rest of the library's public areas—the lobby, exhibition space and North Gallery—are open for visits with no registration required, and coats and bags need not be stuffed into lockers. (As a common courtesy, though, hot dogs might be better enjoyed elsewhere.)

"If you have 10 minutes, come in, you'll learn something, you can explore something, and I just don't think we did that before," Whittaker says of the Spencer's refreshed public spaces encouraging visits. "It's a way for alumni to connect with what's happening at the University right now, because this is a part of what's happening at the University right now."

For those who love books and beyond, it's a view to a thrill. Come see for yourself.





I believe you.

Are you OK?

No.

It's not your fault.

Do you want to?

Do you need help?

Something doesn't seem right.

SUSAN YOUNGER

Voices Spur Change

**KU's Sexual Assault
Prevention and Education
Center motivates
Jayhawks to speak out
about sexual violence**

In September 2014, back-to-school excitement quickly turned to painful turmoil after the online Huffington Post detailed the story of an anonymous KU student who accused the University, Lawrence police and the local district attorney of failing to properly respond after she reported her sexual assault. Student demonstrators occupied the lawn of Strong Hall to protest the administration's handling of sexual misconduct on campus and to voice their support for change.

Within days of the article's release and the backlash that followed, Chancellor Bernadette Gray-Little assembled a task force to examine how the University prevents and responds to sexual assault. Alesha Doan, associate professor with a joint appointment in the School of Public Affairs & Administration and the department of women, gender and sexuality studies, co-chaired the task force, which met 13 times during the 2014-'15 academic year to review KU's policies, practices and sanctions regarding sexual assault.

As the 2015 spring semester came to a close, the task force delivered a report to the chancellor with 27 recommendations for improvement in the areas of policy and process, prevention practices, support and advocacy for student victims of crime, and evaluation of the Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities.

Gray-Little approved 22 of them.

"I was stunned," says Doan, who hadn't

expected to receive the go-ahead on so many recommendations, especially considering statewide budget cuts that had limited University resources.

One of the recommendations that Doan was particularly pleased to see greenlighted was the creation of a sexual assault prevention and education center, a hub that would streamline the University's efforts to provide more training, programs and activities for the KU community.

"That was monumental," she recalls. "That was a game-changer."

KU in fall 2015 established its first centralized office for sexual violence prevention and education programming, the Sexual Assault Prevention and Education Center (SAPEC), which has called Carruth O'Leary Hall home since 2016. This spring, SAPEC joins the Emily Taylor Center for Women & Gender Equity and Legal Services for Students in a stunning new space in a coveted location—the recently completed Burge Union in the booming Central District.

When Jennifer Brockman arrived on Mount Oread in January 2016 as the first director of SAPEC, she embraced the significant task ahead of her. "One of the things that brought me to this position, which I loved, was that this really was a build-up program," Brockman says. "There are not many programs in the country that have a dedicated

prevention office. What we see for most programs is that it's a hybrid: Offices are doing prevention work, but also direct service and advocacy work. And as it should, advocacy takes priority. You respond to crisis and then when you have time you do prevention."

Brockman has spent her career providing support for those affected by sexual and domestic violence. She has coordinated educational and awareness programs for several community organizations and learning institutions, including the University of Arkansas, where she was a sexual assault prevention educator. Before moving to Lawrence, she served as executive director of the University of Iowa's rape victim advocacy program, the largest comprehensive sexual assault program in the state.

Today, Brockman leads a SAPEC staff that includes two full-time prevention educators: Dustin Struble, who's currently working on his doctoral degree in higher education, and Sony Heath, c'07, j'07, g'10, who worked as an academic adviser for the School of Education and as assistant director in the Emily Taylor Center for Women & Gender Equity. Kierra Simmons, an MBA graduate student and former student-athlete, joined the team this year to assist with programs for athletes.

by Heather Biele

Photographs by Steve Puppe

The center also recruits peer educators to help raise awareness about sexual assault. Many of these student volunteers have been on board since day one. “We didn’t plan to have peer educators so soon,” says Brockman. “We thought we needed to get about a year under our belts, figure our world out and then bring students on, but the students just kept coming.”

Zyrie Berry-Hendricks, a Topeka sophomore majoring in social welfare and gender studies, was one of the first 13 students to join the center as peer educators. He was eager to participate after meeting Brockman during student orientation. “I was already interested in trauma prevention and trauma care,” he says. “But she got me really motivated to get this work done.”

Students are the center’s focus and have always played a prominent role in SAPEC’s work. “We utilize the philosophy of ‘nothing for us without us,’” Brockman explains. “We have grassroots

origins that come from our student activism on campus, which is a huge motivator for us. Because we were born of student voices, we don’t put out any programming, any marketing material, any curriculum that has not been influenced by, reviewed by or created by students.”

The center not only seeks input from its peer educators in developing programs and new educational material, but it also enlists the services of the greater KU student population, including affinity groups and student groups that are statistically known to have higher rates of victimization or exposure to sexual violence. “We do listening posts,” Brockman says. “If we’re rolling out new curriculum, we bring those students in and have them review the material and give us feedback.”

The center currently has six core programs for students:

- **“Think About It,”** an online training tool that addresses sexual and intimate

“Because we were born of student voices, we don’t put out any programming, any marketing material, any curriculum that has not been influenced by, reviewed by or created by students.”

—Jennifer Brockman

partner violence prevention. The course is mandatory for all new and current undergraduate, graduate and non-degree seeking students. The material rotates yearly, so students will never take the same online course twice.

- **“Jayhawks Give a Flock,”** a cleverly named bystander intervention program that encourages students to take action when they recognize behavior that puts others at risk for violence, victimization or perpetration.

- **“Consent @ KU,”** an interactive workshop that uses videos, images and role-playing to help participants understand, request and assess consent.

- **“Healthy Relationships,”** a presentation that helps students develop skills to identify healthy and unhealthy behavior in intimate and other relationships.

- **“Sexual Violence Awareness & KU Policy,”** a training tool that defines sexual assault and gender-based violence and gives students access to support resources at KU.

- **“Drug & Alcohol Facilitated Rape,”** a presentation that uses images, film and case review to recognize this particular type of sexual violence.

Brockman notes that the issue of drug and alcohol facilitated rape has become an increasingly critical conversation on campuses across the country. “What we hear over and over again from students is that they need consistency, especially when folks are talking about alcohol or drugs as it relates to sexual activity.”



“I’ve never worked on a campus or in a community with this much involvement,” says Jennifer Brockman, director of KU’s Sexual Assault Prevention and Education Center, which moves into the new Burge Union this month.

During the 2016-'17 academic year, SAPEC reached 43,797 students, faculty, staff and community partners through staff presentations, online training tools and other awareness programs, including education on how drugs and alcohol can influence sexual violence. The center's comprehensive campus outreach and engagement strive to ensure that all Jayhawks—especially students—receive clear, consistent communication about sexual assault.

"No matter where they turn on campus, they're hearing the same thing," Brockman says. "They're hearing the same message."

Brockman has been overwhelmed by the support she and her team have received since SAPEC joined the campus community. One of her most memorable experiences at KU came during her first year, as she trekked down Jayhawk Boulevard to the Watson Library lawn with 3,000 flags to display for Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Fully expecting to tackle the daunting task alone, she was surprised to find nearly 30 faculty and staff from various University departments eager to lend a hand.

"That's reflective of what our experience has been like at KU," Brockman says. "We're not having to fight to get people to understand the importance of what we're doing. When we need doors to open, they open. When we need partners to collaborate with across campus, the partners are there and they're willing. More often than not, they're coming to us and saying, 'How can we help with this?'"

One campus partner that SAPEC works closely with is the Office of Institutional Opportunity & Access (IOA), which is responsible for administering the University's non-discrimination policies and procedures and ensuring that all KU students have equal opportunities to all aspects of education. The office is also widely known for enforcing Title IX, the federal law that prohibits gender discrimination at educational institutions that receive federal money. The law also guides universities in their response to reports of sexual violence and misconduct.



Shane McCreery and Alesha Doan are among campus leaders working with SAPEC to promote a safe, supportive environment for all KU students, faculty and staff.

.....

The IOA office provides several resources for students, faculty and staff who report acts of discrimination, harassment and sexual misconduct, including interim and protective measures, such as academic accommodations and alternative housing placement; information about legal and health support resources in the Lawrence and Edwards campus communities; and assistance with informal conflict resolution and mediation as well as formal investigations.

"The whole goal is to promote that we can help," McCreery says. "It all comes down to giving the person who's engaging us control. They can control how much they share with us, what resources they use. They can drop out of the process at any time."

McCreery and his team have taken several steps to ensure that the Office of Institutional Opportunity & Access is a visible resource on campus. Last year IOA staff conducted 60 training sessions on campus, including programs with the

Shane McCreery, who directs KU's IOA office, joined the University in September 2016 after spending 12 years as director of the Office of Equal Opportunity, Ethics and Access at Illinois State University.

"It's a team lift," McCreery says of working with SAPEC. "You have to work cross-functionally to make an impact. We joint train and that works well. [Students] get to see the yin and the yang, the prevention and the response. We complement each other really well."



"What Were You Wearing?," a powerful art installation featuring re-creations of outfits worn by survivors of sexual assault, returns to the Kansas Union Gallery April 9-27 as part of Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

entire Kansas Athletics community, and they aim to do an additional 15 this year. The office also has distributed 10,000 informational brochures across campus, which detail how discrimination and harassment are defined, what services are offered through IOA, and how students, faculty and staff can seek help.

"The main goal is remember *us*," says McCreery. "If they don't know we exist or they have a fear of the unknown, they're not going to engage us."

The University's widespread dedication and support for SAPEC are unlike anything Brockman has seen in her years working in sexual violence education and prevention. She knows many communities

and campuses don't have that advantage, which is why she's particularly proud of KU's participation in the Heartland Sexual Assault Policies & Prevention on Campuses Project, otherwise known as the Heartland Project.

The project is funded by a three-year, \$750,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office on Women's Health; KU was one of nine grant recipients nationwide.

Doan leads the project, which includes researchers Juliana Carlson, assistant professor of social welfare, and Natabhona Mabachi, g'05, PhD'09, g'12, a research assistant professor of family medicine at KU Medical Center. Both women also participated in Gray-Little's sexual assault task force.

Doan, Carlson and Mabachi selected eight campuses in Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska to evaluate current policies on sexual assault and help implement successful, research-based prevention strategies. Doan says her team intentionally chose a variety of campuses, including research universities, faith-based and predominantly black universities, and community colleges. The Heartland Project researchers also selected KU to participate.

"We still wanted to work with KU, because obviously we're very invested in it," says Doan. "It's not only our place of

work, but we put our heart and soul into this issue on campus. We want to continue that work."

Doan explains that part of the grant requirement is that each institution establish a task force to examine sexual assault in its community and identify gaps in services. Last year, the researchers administered a comprehensive survey to measure several issues on campuses, including student behavior related to health and drinking. In addition to the survey, Doan and her team have conducted student interviews and met with focus groups to further assess the status of each campus and determine needs for long-term success.

"Our goal is to have a prevention plan, a comprehensive one, in place that's sustainable beyond the life of the grant and our intervention on these campuses," she says.

Doan understands that addressing sexual assault on college campuses is a challenging one, but she believes that engaging in difficult conversations and tackling those issues head-on will only strengthen post-secondary learning institutions. As one of the co-chairs of KU's sexual assault task force in 2014, she knows firsthand how rewarding the outcome can be.

"The fact that KU went from this point of crisis and literally, in the span of a

"The fact that KU went from this point of crisis and literally, in the span of a couple years, is now a national leader on what to do around this issue is remarkable. That's a stunning turnaround."

—Alesha Doan

couple years, is now a national leader on what to do around this issue is remarkable,” she says. “That’s a stunning turnaround.”

As Brockman prepares to move her SAPEC team into the new Burge Union, she’s also gearing up for Sexual Assault Awareness Month in April. This year’s theme for the national event is “Embrace Your Voice.”

The center has several events lined up, including the return of the “What Were You Wearing?” installation, which debuted at KU last September. Brockman and a former colleague at the University of Arkansas, Mary Wyandt-Hiebert, created the project in 2013 after finding inspiration in a poem written by Mary Simmerling, which detailed the clothing she wore when she was sexually assaulted.

To create the installation, Brockman interviewed survivors of sexual assault and used their stories to recreate the outfits for display, all of which were donated. She hosted the installation at the University of Arkansas and later took it to Iowa, but it wasn’t until the exhibition was featured at the Kansas Union that it received widespread attention.

The story of the University’s haunting and powerful new installation was picked up by several news outlets, including the Lawrence Journal-World, Huffington Post and the Chicago Tribune, and soon Brockman was fielding requests on how to recreate it. She assembled an installation packet with a curation guide and other helpful tips, which she offers at no cost. The only requirement is that hosts partner with a victim advocacy group or mental health program to provide resources for

survivors of sexual assault. To date, more than 200 organizations and universities worldwide have received installation packets.

Brockman attributes part of the installation’s success to its timing: It debuted in Lawrence as detailed reports of sexual assault and harassment hit several industries, including film and media, and gave significant momentum to the #MeToo movement.

“Folks were ready to have a vehicle for their voice,” she says. “This created a very accessible vehicle for them to use.”

The opening of this year’s installation, which will feature more than 18 outfits donated by KU students, faculty and staff, coincides with an April 9 forum in the Burge Union. Three speakers, all of whom are prominent activists against sexual violence, will give brief presentations, followed by an opportunity for participants to break into groups for workshop-style sessions.

Sara Li, a Topeka junior majoring in creative writing with a minor in journalism and a certificate in entrepreneurship, is one of the speakers. Li founded Project Consent, a nonprofit organization that raises awareness about sexual assault, when she was a junior in high school. It originally started as an Instagram page, but as the page gained global interest, she realized she was on to something.

“It’s definitely grown past awareness,” she says. “Now we want to take action, whether it’s working with domestic shelters or working with policymakers.”

Two years ago, Project Consent teamed up with an advertising agency to create “Consent is Simple,” one of its many seasonal campaigns that highlight some aspect of sexual violence. The innovative

video campaign features animated body parts that explain consent in clever and playful ways. The campaign won a Webby Award in 2017.

“It’s ridiculous when you explain the concept,” says Li, “but I think it got people talking. We were able to start a conversation about what consent is and isn’t.”

In just three years, Project Consent has grown to include more than 50 employees



Sara Li

who volunteer their time or receive college credit for their work.

Just as Project Consent has seen substantial growth in its volunteer base, Brockman can anticipate her team of student volunteers more than doubling by 2019.

“I’ve never worked on a campus or in a community with this much involvement. The students could not be more enthusiastic to have this legacy of change be theirs.”

Sexual Assault Awareness Month at KU

- **April 3-7:** Awareness flags at Lawrence campus, Watson Library lawn
- **April 9:** “Embrace Your Voice” forum, featuring Syard Evans, Tracy Wright and Sara Li, Burge Union

- **April 9-13:** Awareness flags at KU Medical Center
- **April 9-27:** “What Were You Wearing?” survivor art installation, Kansas Union Gallery

- **April 16-20:** Awareness flags at Edwards Campus, Overland Park
- **April 18:** “Drink Talk Learn: Consent,” Hashinger Hall theatre
- **April 27:** SAPEC Open House, Burge Union



A^{AMERICAN} STORY

**As part of Kansas Humanities Council project,
KPR seeks to record the oral histories of Vietnam vets**

by Steven Hill | Photographs by Steve Puppe

Kaye McIntyre kept hearing that John Musgrave's story was one she needed to listen to.

The first call came from Steve Nowak, executive director at the Watkins Museum of History. The Lawrence museum was hosting a talk, "Vietnam Comes to Lawrence: Remembering a Bitter War," at which Musgrave, '74, would discuss his experiences as a Marine infantryman in Vietnam and upon his return home.

Then McIntyre, who produces Kansas Public Radio's weekly public affairs program, "KPR Presents," learned that Ken Burns and Lynn Novick would visit Kansas City in early September to promote their new documentary film, "The Vietnam War." Burns, deservedly lauded for his quintessential films on the Civil War, baseball, jazz and other iconic American topics, had turned his attention to one of the most divisive periods in U.S. history, producing an ambitious 18-hour epic. A big reason Burns and Novick were coming to Kansas City, hosted by public television station KCPT, McIntyre learned, was that one of the film's main storylines belonged to John Musgrave.

"I've always said that if some evil genie took away all of our hundreds of inter-

views and left us with just one," Burns told McIntyre in an interview broadcast on KPR Sept. 10, "I'd pick John Musgrave's and retitle the film 'The Education of John Musgrave.'"

"I thought, 'All right, I guess I'll call him,'" McIntyre says, laughing. "They were both so powerful in their statements about John, and he lives right down the road. So I called."

What followed was an interview that McIntyre, who has conducted hundreds in her 17 years at KPR, called "easily the most moving interview of my entire career." She devoted an entire show to Musgrave's story, which aired Oct. 1. The next night he participated in an event at Liberty Hall hosted by KCPT, Watkins Museum, the Dole Institute, KU Libraries and the Lawrence Public Library. "What It Means to Be a Patriot: The Vietnam War with John Musgrave" screened clips from the documentary followed by a discussion with Musgrave.

McIntyre attended, and at the end the moderator asked the Vietnam veterans in the audience to stand. About a third of the room, McIntyre says, stood as the rest of the packed theatre applauded.

"They all looked so proud and so glad,"

she recalls. "It was a profoundly moving experience to see how moved they were at finally being recognized."

The moment reminded her of something Musgrave said during the interview: There are so many veterans who deserve to have their story told, and most of them will never be asked.

"Looking around the room, I thought, 'These are the men he was talking about; these are the men who deserve to have their stories told, and they're right here in our community.' I just wished I could run around the room taking names. I walked out of there feeling like, 'Wow, I would love to jump in and try to do some small part in helping collect those stories.'"

And then came the email from the Kansas Humanities Council.



Maj. Murl Riedel serves in the 130th Field Artillery Brigade of the Kansas Army National Guard, based in Manhattan. Riedel, g'14, joined the guard in 1998 and received his officer commission in 2001. From 2003 to 2005 he was deployed in Iraq, providing force protection at checkpoints, and operating



COURTESY KANSAS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Soldiers in the Vietnam War, 1968



gates and towers on a compound.

"We weren't actively patrolling areas," Riedel says, "but we had our own threats and hazards to deal with." When he arrived, part of the second wave of troops sent to Iraq, his brother, who served in the 82nd Airborne as part of the invasion force, was just leaving. When Murl left, his sister's National Guard unit was just arriving. "For about three years there was a Riedel in Iraq," he says. "My mom's got a big investment in Iraq at this point."

Riedel directs grants for the Kansas Humanities Council and leads "Kansas Stories of the Vietnam War," a project that's enlisting 12 community organizations from across Kansas to collect oral histories from the Vietnam veterans in their community. The council provides grants and training expertise to the 12 groups—one of which is Kansas Public Radio.

The mission of the project is twofold, Riedel explains.

The first goal is to rectify the shortage

of oral histories from the Vietnam era.

The second is to foster the sort of community-level discussion that might lead more Kansans to reach out to Vietnam veterans in their families and communities.

"As part of the way that the war was viewed as veterans returned, there was not a lot of oral history recorded with the soldiers coming back," Riedel says. "In fact, soldiers were often reluctant to talk about their experience at all. Now we have the opportunity, 50 years later, where it has become OK to talk about these things."

"Kansas Stories of the Vietnam War" grew out of a 2016 humanities council project, "The Things They Carried Home." Kansans were encouraged to read Tim O'Brien's classic Vietnam War novel, *The Things They Carried*, participate in community book discussions and attend workshops where they learned to care for the mementoes soldiers brought home from war. Organizers discovered that most attendees were focused on earlier wars.

"So often the family members who were

KPR producer Kaye McIntyre hopes Vietnam War veterans such as (clockwise from top) David Hann, c'70, g'73, John Musgrave and Professor Emeritus David Dinneen, g'54, will share their experiences as part of "Kansas Stories of the Vietnam War," a statewide history project organized by Julie Mulvihill and Murl Riedel (opposite page) at the Kansas Humanities Council.

telling stories were from that older Greatest Generation," says Julie Mulvihill, d'91, g'01, executive director of the Kansas Humanities Council. "When we say veterans, I think for a lot of Kansans we still think of the World War II generation. And they deserve all the respect we can give. But we thought, as we move forward, let's really see if we can start to treat our Vietnam War veterans with the same respect, and sort of bring Kansans along with us as we look at this particular

chapter in our nation's history.”

Where the 2016 project focused on the objects soldiers carried home, “Kansas Stories of the Vietnam War” is concerned with more intangible things—emotions, memories, feelings—that veterans carried off the battlefield.

“What’s really important to so many local museums and historical societies around the state is to have a section honoring their veterans, but so often there’s not much there from the Vietnam War,” Mulvihill says. “And I think that’s because so many of us just didn’t know how to respond. That war was more complicated in some ways, and it’s still complicated for people to talk about.”



Just how complicated the Vietnam War was is writ large in the twists and turns of John Musgrave’s journey.

In 1967, when he arrived in country as an infantry rifleman, he was as gung-ho as they come. He’d grown up in Fairmount, Missouri, idolizing the generation who served in World War II, including both his

“As part of the way that the war was viewed as veterans returned, there was not a lot of oral history recorded with the soldiers coming back. In fact, soldiers were often reluctant to talk about their experience at all. Now we have the opportunity, 50 years later, where it has become OK to talk about these things.” —Murl Riedel

father and mother. “If we were looking for heroes, all we had to do was look across the dinner table,” he says. “These were people who saved the world.”

For Musgrave, a proud Eagle Scout who believed deeply in service to community and country, joining the Marine Corps was a logical progression, “the next step to another uniform, a more serious type of service.” He was tired of not counting.

“I knew I wasn’t going to be a man when I graduated from boot camp,” Musgrave says, “but I knew I’d be a Marine, and that would be enough for me.”

Musgrave was 11 months into his 13-month tour when he was wounded for the second time, shot in the chest at close range by a North Vietnamese machine gunner. One Marine died and others were shot retrieving him from the battlefield. Three times he was triaged as too badly wounded to operate on, but somehow he survived long enough for a surgeon to save his life. He returned stateside to recover at a military hospital near Chicago and eventually wound up in college in Kansas, where he discovered what America really thought about the war.





"In 1969, the last thing you wanted to be on a college campus was a disabled combat veteran," Musgrave says. "I had people I'd gone to high school with cussing at me, calling me a war criminal. People would spit on the ground in front of me."

Military men on campus gave him some friendly advice: Grow your hair, don't wear anything that connects you with the military and never talk about Vietnam. He went straight home, dug his jungle boots and field jacket out of his seabag, and wore nothing but that on campus from then on.

"I refused to act as if I had something to

be ashamed of," Musgrave says. "Fortunately for me, I was a Marine and that gave me a tremendous amount of attitude. I had a chip on my shoulder the size of the Rocky Mountains."

But over time, Musgrave came to oppose the war. In the same way that he'd felt driven to serve his government, he now felt obligated to stand against it. He joined Vietnam Veterans Against the War and was part of the group's successful effort to win treatment and benefits from the Veterans Administration for soldiers who experienced post-traumatic stress or were

exposed to Agent Orange. He also began working with combat veterans, from Vietnam and subsequent wars, encouraging them to open up about their war experience.

"I don't think any of us can really come home until we tell our story," Musgrave says. "How else can we come to terms with our experience? A lot of guys say, 'I don't think about it; I have come to terms with it.' Well, that's horseshit, and I always call them on it. If it remains unsaid, it remains undealt with. They need a conversation."

We need a conversation, Musgrave and

others say: for our veterans but also for our Kansas communities.

"These sorts of conversations are timeless," Julie Mulvihill says. "They honor the past, but they also help us think about where we're at right now and presumably even project into the future about how we want to welcome back our soldiers from other wars, or what is the right way to think about opposition to current events."

The best oral histories, she believes, aren't those that ask people to reflect generally on their lives, but those that gather many different perspectives on a specific shared experience. The Library of Congress will provide exactly that kind of training to the 12 community groups, whose individual projects target not only combat veterans, but also conscientious objectors, military medical corps members and veterans service advocates. In addition to oral histories, the groups will also offer memoir writing workshops for those who feel more comfortable telling their stories in written form. At the conclusion of the

.....

"America had not liked the war, America was not comfortable with the war and America did not want to be reminded of their responsibility of it when we came home," says Marine veteran John Musgrave, who helped bring a Vietnam memorial to campus and has counseled survivors of Vietnam and subsequent wars. "Hundreds of thousands of veterans bottled it up. Getting on with their life did not mean making peace with it."

“ I don’t think any of us can really come home until we tell our story. How else can we come to terms with our experience? A lot of guys say, ‘I don’t think about it; I have come to terms with it.’ Well, that’s horseshit, and I always call them on it. If it remains unsaid, it remains undealt with. They need a conversation.” —John Musgrave

project, participants can donate their stories to the Library of Congress, where they will become part of the Veterans History Project, a trove of some 108,000 firsthand accounts of U.S. veterans who served in wars and conflicts from World War I to Iraq and Afghanistan.

"It has taken us a long time as a society to be able to divorce the war from the warriors," says Kaye McIntyre, who is enlisting Musgrave's help in convincing veterans to share their stories with KPR as part of "Kansas Stories of the Vietnam War."

She points to StoryCorps, an oral history project that since 2003 has collected, preserved and shared thousands of stories, some of them broadcast on National Public Radio and published in books.

"One of the guiding principles behind StoryCorps is that listening is an act of love," McIntyre says. "I feel like collecting stories of our veterans is a way to say,

'America loves you.' Whether you believe in what they were doing in Vietnam or not, their stories are important and it's important that we hear them and value them. It's a way, I guess, to go beyond just saying, 'Thank you for your service.'"

That October night at Liberty Hall, after the applause died, several veterans in the audience approached Musgrave. "They came up and told me, 'That's the first time anybody's ever done that for me.' It was the first time, and it made them weep. We take for granted that 'Thank you for your service' is commonplace, that everybody's hearing it, but not everybody is."

So, yes, it's complicated. And simple: The stories of John Musgrave and thousands of Kansas veterans—from Vietnam and other wars—are stories we need to listen to.

"This is America's story," Musgrave says, "It's a story that America has for 50 years not been particularly interested in hearing, but it's America's story." —S.H.

Kansas Stories of the Vietnam War

The following 12 organizations are participating in the Kansas Humanities Council project to collect oral histories from the Vietnam era:

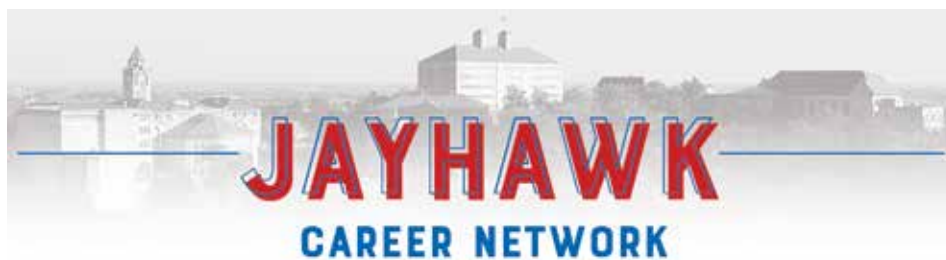
- ★ Kansas Public Radio, Lawrence
- ★ Do Good Productions, Leawood
- ★ Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum, Abilene
- ★ Emporia Public Library
- ★ Jetmore Public Library

- ★ Kansas Studies Institute at Johnson County Community College, Overland Park
- ★ Mary Cotton Public Library, Sabetha
- ★ Mid-American All Indian Center, Wichita
- ★ Newton Public Library
- ★ Onaga Historical Society
- ★ Salina Public Library
- ★ Winfield Public Library

To share your oral history with Kansas Public Radio, contact **Kaye McIntyre**: mcintyre@ku.edu. More information on the statewide project can be found at <http://kansashumanities.org/programs/kansas-stories-of-the-vietnam-war/>.

—S.H.

Association



Professional connections

New program boosts resources for students and alumni

Through the years, many alumni have relied on the advice, encouragement and connections of fellow Jayhawks to advance their careers. To formalize and coordinate Jayhawk connections, especially for students—and to enhance and promote the University’s career services—the Alumni Association has created the Jayhawk Career Network (JCN), a multifaceted program to link students and alumni, providing career resources for Jayhawks at every life stage. The Association will collaborate with the University Career Center, professional schools and other campus units to roll out this new initiative.

“One of the greatest assets the University of Kansas has is its powerful network of 250,000 alumni around the world,” says Heath Peterson, d’04, g’09, president of the Alumni Association. “We must do more to connect students to Jayhawk industry leaders and help them grow their alumni network before they leave the Hill.”

The Association’s investments in the JCN are made possible by a \$250,000 gift from Brad Garlinghouse, CEO of Ripple in San Francisco and recipient of a 2015-’16 Distinguished Alumnus Award from the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences.

“KU helped my career take flight, and there is no doubt that I still highly value and lean on my KU network,” says Garlinghouse, c’94. “I think the Jayhawk Career Network can replicate and expand upon my fortunate experience for lots of

current and future Jayhawks. I’m pleased to be able to lend a hand in its success.”

Key JCN components will include:

- KU Alumni Mentoring, an online, career-focused platform that connects students to alumni and alumni to alumni for long-term and one-time mentorships. The Association will launch this digital service in fall 2018 in partnership with the Schools of Architecture & Design, Business, Engineering and Journalism, as well as the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences and the University Career Center.
- Rock Chalk Connect events that unite students with alumni experts in various professions. In the past year, the Association has hosted successful events in Kansas City and Chicago featuring leaders in engineering, media and entrepreneurship. Plans are underway for programs in other major metropolitan areas that have large Jayhawk networks.
- Opportunities for job shadowing, internships and employment with alumni who work in these key metropolitan areas. The Association will partner with the

University Career Center to provide these services.

Leading the new program is Kristi Durkin Laclé, c’99, who worked in marketing and event planning for Sprint and Cerner before joining the Association in February as assistant vice president of the Jayhawk Career Network. She will work closely with Mark Mears, j’84, an independent consultant after a long career as a marketing executive with several national corporations. Mears, who also is executive-in-residence for the KU journalism school, will assist with the program’s development over the next year.

The JCN effort results from two common themes that have emerged from recent alumni surveys. Alumni, especially recent graduates, have voiced their desire for more tangible and convenient ways to connect professionally with fellow Jayhawks, and alumni of all ages have voiced their desire to give back to KU by assisting students as well as fellow graduates.

Jerry Skillett, president and co-founder of Citizens Parking in New York City and a national board member for the Association, has served for nearly two years as a mentor for the School of Business. He wanted to help KU students in the early stages of their career exploration and preparation.

“It’s an opportunity to touch outside of the college bubble,” says Skillett, b’81. “The opportunity to begin building a network with successful business people is an additional natural outcome.”

Laclé anticipates that the program will provide students with lasting and powerful



Laclé



Mears



Garlinghouse

DAN STOREY (2)

COURTESY BRAD GARLINGHOUSE

connections to the University, far beyond their years on the Hill. “One of the biggest takeaways from my career is that I met Jayhawks along the way,” she says. “At every organization, there was always somebody who was tied back to KU, and they were always a sounding board. It was a bond and a familiarity that was a comfort.”

In addition to connecting students and alumni at every stage and providing lifelong resources for professional success, the Jayhawk Career Network aims to enhance new student recruitment by showcasing the distinct advantage of a KU degree.

“Preparation for career success will continue to have growing implications on enrollment throughout higher education,” says Peterson. “The Jayhawk Career Network will allow us to showcase for prospective students the value and versatility of the KU degree and alumni career success. We are well positioned to provide new opportunities and real value for all Jayhawks.”



STEVE PUPPE

Alumni Association President Heath Peterson (l) presented a check to KU alumnus and retired Marine Corps colonel Mike Denning (r), c'83, director of KU's Office of Graduate Military Studies and president of the KU Veterans Alumni Network, during the Jan. 27 KU-Texas A&M men's basketball game. With Mike is former Marine Maria Santiago, a pre-engineering student, and her daughter, Ashley. The Association donated \$5,500 in membership dues in November to the Wounded Warrior Scholarship Fund as part of its first KU Cares Month of Service.

GAME OF HAWKS

JAYHAWK ROUNDUP 2018

Friday, April 13, 2018
 6 p.m. VIP entrance
 6:30 p.m. Event begins
 Murfin Stables
 14515 E. 13th North (13th and 143rd streets), Wichita

For tickets, visit kualumni.org/jayhawkroundup

Event hosts Dave and Janet Murfin





ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
 The University of Kansas



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

Association

Life Members

The Association thanks these Jayhawks, who began their Life memberships Jan. 1 through Feb. 28. For information, visit kualumni.org or call 800-584-2957.

Candice A. Ackerman
Erik S. & Sarah Hochstetler
Anderson
Heidi V. Anderson
Taylor D. Atwood
Lyle E. Baade
Collin J. & Abigail Bartlow
Kristen E. Brau
W. Dale Brownawell
Mary C. Carter
Derek P. & Deborah K. Rogers
Case
Cheryl L. Catron
Sean D. Christensen
Brian E. & Amy Lebsack Dillon
Joseph M. & Jami Dix
Kristen N. Dondlinger
James N. & Mary Lew
Edmonds
Gary D. Erlich
Christopher W. Farabee
Bradley C. Fishman

Andrea N. Fulmer
John B. Gallon
Erica D. Golditch
Jamie L. Haines
Joel G. Harding
Jason O. & Stephanie
Wilkinson Hargett
Shanda C. Hayden
James L. Helt
Katelyn E. Houtz
Ebony S. Howard
Darrin L. Johnson
Evan S. Jones
Roxanne Longenecker Kos
Linda L. Kruger
Joshua D. Lang
R. Thorsten Liebers
Jennifer Shoulberg Lyon
Leslie Catron Manthei
Caroline Martin
Judith Clements Mason
Katie A. McCurry

Lisa M. Mescher-Schlueter
Patricia Hackney Miller
Kathleen Minner
Anthony & Susan Mitchell
Crysta R. Moon
Nancy Todd Noches
Ronald W. Peterson
Scott H. Raymond
Sarah Frazier Redick
Lee A. & Tandy Beckett
Reussner
James A. & Nang M. Rives
Daniel S. Rose
Catherine E. Ruhl
Tonda F. Rush
Jean M. Schrader
Reuben A. Shelton
John G. & Ashley R. Sparks
Keon & Carley M. Stowers
Daniel T. Suitor
Katherine Evans Tepper
Thomas W. & Starr Smith
Wagstaff
Reeves W. Wiedeman
Robert A. & Mary Beth
Williams
Stephanie J. Wittman

New Staff



DAN STOREY

Crysta Moon, c'17, joined the Association in January as coordinator of membership, marketing and business development after spending the past two years as an intern. The Mission native, who's also a third-generation Jayhawk, majored in Spanish and was part of the Homecoming Steering Committee.



DAN STOREY (2)

Amanda Landes Adkins, c'98, vice president of population health for Cerner Corp., was one of four alumni professionals who shared their insights Jan. 18 during the Association's KU Biosciences in KC event at KU Medical Center. She described Cerner's research to develop "personal health intelligence systems" to help individuals combine their medical records, behavioral data and genetic data. Nearly 60 participants attended the event, part of the Jayhawk Career Network's Rock Chalk Connect series.



Rock Chalk Ball 2018

The Greater Kansas City Network
and the KU Alumni Association present



Rock Chalk Ball 2018
Crimson and Blue
Forever KU

at the Grand Ballroom at Bartle Hall, Kansas City,
Saturday, April 28, 2018

Honoring the Chancellor

Chancellor Doug Girod and Susan Girod are honorary chairs for 2018. Rock Chalk Ball is the final celebration in a week of activities and tributes marking his formal installation as the 18th chancellor of the University of Kansas.

Registration

- Please make reservations no later than **Friday, April 13, 2018.**
- Respond online at **rockchalkball.org** or call 785-864-9769.
- Valet parking will be available at The Grand Ballroom at Bartle Hall.
- For questions or concerns, please call Kelsey Hill at 785-864-9781.

Title Sponsor



**ALUMNI
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The University of Kansas

Presenting Sponsor



Order of Events

Saturday, April 28

The Grand Ballroom at Bartle Hall
301 W. 13th St., Kansas City, MO 64105
(Use "Grand Ballroom" for GPS)

5-6:30 p.m.

Silent Auction
Hors d'oeuvres and Cocktails

6:30 p.m.

Rock Chalk Chant with the KU Band
and Spirit Squad
Live Auction and Dinner

8:00 p.m.

Silent Auction closes
Dancing to the music
of the Patrick Lentz Band

Black Tie

Creative KU-inspired
black tie apparel applauded!

Open Bar

Proceeds from the event will support the Association's programs to advocate for KU; communicate to alumni and friends in all media; recruit students and volunteers; serve current students, alumni and KU; and unite all Jayhawks.

Class Notes by Heather Biele

53 Shirley Thomson Burbank, d'53, retired after a long career in education, social work and sales. She lives in Ellicott City, Maryland, with her husband, Carl.

55
MARRIED

James Duncan, e'55, and **Beverly Sue Wright Brownlee**, d'55, g'58, Dec. 23 in Prairie Village, where they make their home.



59 John Kelso, c'59, is retired and lives in Cincinnati. His career included posts as director of investigations and regulatory compliance at the Food and Drug Administration and director of quality assurance at Duramed Pharmaceuticals.

60 James Quinn, e'60, chairs the site planning and architectural commission for the City of Medford in Oregon, where he lives with his wife, Mary. Jim also is CEO and chairman of White Mountain Apache Timber Company in Whiteriver, Arizona.

62 Dale Taylor, d'62, g'71, PhD'84, in November received the Legacy Award from the American Music Therapy Association's Black Music Therapy Network. He founded the music therapy program at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire and has published several articles and books on the subject.

63 Charles Long, PhD'63, professor emeritus of biology at the University of Wisconsin, wrote *Poems of Charles Alan Long*, which was published last year. In 1968 he founded the university's Museum of Natural History and served as director and curator for 30 years. He makes his home in Stevens Point, Wisconsin.

64 Harold Godwin, p'64, professor emeritus at the KU School of Pharmacy, in March received the 2018 Remington Honor Medal, the highest honor given by the American Pharmacists Association. Before retiring he served as professor of pharmacy practice and associate dean for clinical and medical center affairs at the University of Kansas Health System. He directed the hospital's pharmacy from 1969 to 2004.

66 Lawrence Williams, d'66, is a retired math teacher in Emporia, where he makes his home with his wife, Gae.

67 Mel Ehrlich, d'67, l'74, is retired and lives in Bakersfield, California, with **Yvette Leerskov Ehrlich**, l'90.

69 Keith Culver, b'69, g'70, lives in Palm Springs, California, where he fulfilled his 2017 resolution of running a half-marathon every month, a goal which has taken him to Madagascar, Estonia and Cuba for races.

Dana Dirks Metcalf, d'69, is a retired teacher and lives in Tallahassee, Florida, with her husband, **Richard**, b'70.

Jo Ann Marinelli Weber, j'69, is a sales executive at Reece Nichols Real Estate in Overland Park, where she and her husband, Ronald, make their home.

70 Paul Gray, d'70, is a minister and writer whose third book, *Convertible Conversations*, was published in November. He and his wife, **Margaret "Kitsy" Waggoner Gray**, d'69, live in Lawrence.

71 H. Thomas Chapman, '71, a former KU football player and member of the 1969 Orange Bowl team, is CEO of V.L. Chapman Electric in Grand River, Ohio. He also is a retired pastor and volunteers his ministry services at the local jail. He and his wife, Claudia, live in

Painesville and have four children and nine grandchildren.

Stephen Hines, d'71, wrote *A Prairie Girl's Faith: The Spiritual Legacy of Laura Ingalls Wilder*, which was published in February. It's his 10th book about the children's author.

72 Robert Briscoe, c'72, g'74, is retired principal at Mercer. He continues to make his home in Long Beach, California.

John Nixon, j'72, received the National Sports Media Association Sportscaster of the Year Award for the state of New Mexico. He's the play-by-play announcer for New Mexico State University athletics. This is the third time Jack has been honored with this award in his 38-year career at NMSU.

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

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

Andrew Wymore

Proud Member.

Realtor.



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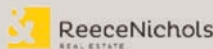
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73 J. B. Forbes, j'73, a Pulitzer Prize-winning photographer at the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, in March was inducted in the St. Louis Media Hall of Fame.

Judith Sample Thompson, d'73, is retired and lives in Fort Collins, Colorado. She taught in the Shawnee Mission School District for several years and also worked for two publishing companies.

74 Joseph Holman, l'74, is an attorney at the Whitlock Company in Kansas City.

75 James Mason, c'75, retired after nearly 40 years with the City of Wichita Park & Recreation, where he recently served as director of the Great Plains Nature Center.

76 Rex Niswander, c'76, lives in New York City, where he's of counsel at Morrison & Foerster and vice president of artist and repertoire at GLP Music. He produced singer Lea Salonga's latest CD,

"Bahaghari: Traditional Songs of the Philippines."

Lisa Scheller, h'76, g'03, recently retired from KU Endowment, where she worked as a writer and editor for 10 years. Last year she published *The Story of the Bear*, a book for children who have lost a loved one to suicide.

Joel Waxman, c'76, m'79, is a physician in the department of otolaryngology at KU Medical Center.

Craig Weinaug, g'76, in October received the Career Development Award from the International City Managers Association. He lives in Lawrence, where he's the Douglas County Administrator.

77 James Barker, c'77, m'80, is a pulmonary and sleep medicine specialist in Gatesville, Texas, where he and his wife, Karen, make their home.

Beth Black, s'77, is a physical therapist at Rust Medical Center in Rio Rancho, New Mexico. She lives in Albuquerque with her wife, Gail.

George Docking, j'77, is a consultant at

Gordon Docking Consulting in Overland Park.

Ann Hastings Frigon, c'77, lives in Dodge City, where she's a senior wealth adviser at Pinnacle Financial Group.

John Jeter, c'77, m'81, in January retired as president and CEO of HaysMed, which is a partner in the University of Kansas Health System.

Patricia Cleary Miller, g'77, PhD'79, professor emerita of English at Rockhurst University in Kansas City, will receive the university's Rashford-Lyon Award in April for her leadership and service in the classroom and in Kansas City's arts community.

78 Stuart Kowalski, b'78, l'81, lives in Wichita, where he retired as general counsel from Slawson Companies.

Rob Rains, j'78, a longtime St. Louis sports reporter and author of more than 30 books, in March was inducted in the St. Louis Media Hall of Fame. He was inducted in the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame last May.

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The Rev. **Julie Williams Johnson Staples**, j'78, is executive director of Intersections International in New York City. She recently served as interim senior minister at Flatbush-Tompkins Congregational Church in Brooklyn, New York. Julie was a 2015 recipient of the KU Black Alumni Network Mike and Joyce Shinn Leaders and Innovators Award.

79 Ron Altman, j'79, retired in December as an account manager at AT&T. He makes his home in Overland Park with **Julie Moses Altman**, d'80, g'04, the principal at Horizon Academy, a private school for students with learning disabilities in Roeland Park.

Bill Pollard, g'79, is a respiratory therapist and sleep technologist in Sebring, Florida. He's currently running for Congress in the 17th District of Florida.

Mark Strand, c'79, g'81, lives in Lawrence, where he's retired director of facilities management, academic and administrative services at the KU School of Business.

80 Molli Hasenbank Anderson, d'80, g'86, is assistant head of school at the National Child Research Center in Washington, D.C., where she lives with her husband, Brian.

J. Brooks Augustine, b'80, is chief customer officer at Jyve, a technology-optimized merchandising company. He lives in Naperville, Illinois, with his wife, Jane, and has two sons, one of whom is **Reid**, b'15, g'18, who earned his MBA from KU in December and is a financial analyst at Key Bank in Overland Park.

Alison Banikowski, g'80, PhD'81, retired as deputy superintendent after 34 years in the Olathe School District. She's currently teaching at Baker University.

Bill Graves, '80, former governor of Kansas and past president and CEO of the American Trucking Association, is on the board of directors of Openforce. He lives in McLean, Virginia, with his wife, Linda.

Adrian Mitchell Newell, c'80, who played women's basketball at KU and earned All-Big Eight honors, had her jersey retired in January at Allen Field House. She was the first KU player and

one of only two players to score 2,000 career points and record 1,000 rebounds.

John Nuss, c'80, is chief scientific officer at Oppilan Pharma and Escalier Biosciences.

Reggie Robinson, c'80, l'87, in January was named KU vice chancellor for public affairs after serving as interim leader of the Office of Public Affairs. The KU Black Alumni Network named him a Mike and Joyce Shinn Leader and Innovator in 2017.

81 Russell DeTrempe, s'81, is director of maximum security and chief of operations at Fulton State Hospital, where he's worked for more than 30 years. He makes his home in Hartsburg, Missouri.

Mehdi Jalayerian, e'81, g'82, is executive vice president and chief of innovation for global practice at Environmental Systems Design in Chicago.

Brian Purdy, j'81, is Dallas market president at CBS Radio.

82 Laura Kang, d'82, is head of school at East Woods School in Oyster Bay,

New York. She's the first woman to lead the private school.

Thomas King, g'82, is interim CEO of VIVUS, a pharmaceutical company in California.

Bradley Masterson, b'82, lives in Kansas City, where he's vice president of architecture and delivery at DST Systems.

83 Barbara Durbin, h'83, supervises rehabilitation at St. Luke's East Hospital in Lee's Summit, Missouri.

84 Tom Bené, b'84, is president and CEO of Sysco Corporation in Houston. He previously served as the company's chief operating officer.

Jerry Green, j'84, is an online community strategist at The Community Roundtable. He and **Karen Wayne Green**, c'85, lead implementation manager at Companion Protect, live in Overland Park.

85 Robert Arrocha, c'85, is office manager at State Farm Insurance in Baldwin Park, California. He and his wife,

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Patricia, assoc., live in Pasadena and have a son.

Gregory Botteron, e'85, m'89, is a physician at Mercy Medical Clinic in St. Louis. He has three daughters and lives in Chesterfield, Missouri.

Jay Craig, b'85, g'87, is vice president and senior project executive at MSI General. He makes his home in Fox Point, Wisconsin.

Diane Yetter, b'85, a sales tax professional and educator who founded Yetter Consulting Services and the Sales Tax Institute in Chicago, was named one of 2017's 100 Most Influential People in Accounting by Accounting Today.

86 Jeff Colyer, m'86, in January was sworn in as the 47th governor of Kansas. He has served as lieutenant governor for the past seven years.

Isaac Holland, c'86, is city administrator of Willmar, Minnesota.

Michael Kuss, e'86, directs defense at Spirit AeroSystems in Wichita.

Robert Simari, m'86, in January was

named executive vice chancellor for KU Medical Center, where he served in an interim role after Chancellor Doug Girod's departure last summer. He continues his role as executive dean for the School of Medicine.

87 Lisa Frerker Austin, j'87, '93, directs communications for Blue Valley Educational Foundation in Overland Park.

Deborah Brewton Dailey, g'87, is director of institutional research and effectiveness at Birmingham-Southern College in Birmingham, Alabama.

Stephen Johnson, f'87, f'87, has been commissioned by Johnson County Library to construct a mosaic art installation for the new Lenexa branch. Stephen won the Caldecott medal in 1996 for his children's book, *Alphabet City*, and he also created one of the Alumni Association's sesquicentennial Jayhawks in 2016.

88 Laura André, c'88, a'91, manages the book division at photo-eye, an online photography bookstore. She and

her partner, Candace, live in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Kirklin Bateman, c'88, a retired U.S. Army colonel, chairs the department of war and conflict studies at National Defense University in Washington, D.C. He and **Amber Lauderdale Bateman**, '90, make their home in Nokesville, Virginia.

Kendall Draeger, g'88, lives in Kettering, Ohio, where he's a computer engineer for the U.S. Air Force.

89 Michael Blumenthal, c'89, l'92, a partner at Seyfarth Blumenthal & Harris in Kansas City, was selected as a 2018 Legal Champion by Missouri Lawyers Weekly.

Gwen McKillip O'Brien, j'89, is associate director of internal communications at the University of Notre Dame.

Peggy Plunkett Petrovich, c'89, is diplomat-in-residence for the U.S. Foreign



Service East-West Center in Honolulu.

Scott Seifert, j'89, in January was named president of Hiersche, Hayward, Drakeley & Urbach in Addison, Texas. He has been with the firm for more than 20 years.

Christopher Shirling, b'89, is chief financial officer at Intouch Solutions in Overland Park.

Sharon Stolte, l'89, works at Sandberg Phoenix & von Gontard in Kansas City, where she recently was named office managing attorney.

Donald Wilson, c'89, is an orthodontist

at Hamilton, Wilson & Hendrickson Orthodontics in Topeka.

90 Kendall Harris, c'90, is provost and vice president for academic affairs at Texas Southern University.

Ruth Watkins, PhD'90, in January was named president of the University of Utah in Salt Lake City. She's the first woman to lead the university.

Nancy Winchester, c'90, PhD'94, is vice president of technology and innovation at Danchem Technologies and Innovations in Danville, Virginia.

91 Kathy Lambrecht Kocour, d'91, is an appraiser at UMB Bank in Kansas City. She and her husband, Vincent, live in Olathe.

Roscoe Pebley Jr., c'91, is vice president of risk management at Anschutz Entertainment Group in Los Angeles.

92 Jeffrey Hook, j'92, in January was promoted to executive vice president of development and marketing for Hard Rock International. He lives in Lighthouse Point, Florida.

Jeffrey Risley, j'92, resides in Oklahoma

PROFILE by Steven Hill

With Cabela's deal done, alumnus seeks new chapter

As president of Cabela's, Scott Williams liked to ask customers of the hunting and fishing retail giant to share a memory of their introduction to the great outdoors.

"I found that a lot of people who really love the outdoors get introduced to it by a parent, a grandparent, an aunt or uncle," says Williams, b'85, who recently left Cabela's after leading the sale of the \$4 billion company to Bass Pro Shops. "They have that cool memory of fishing or hunting with Grandpa, and they say, 'Hey, I want to share that with my kids or friends.'"

His enthusiasm for the outdoors was kindled by family trips to western Kansas for pheasant hunting, a Bourbon County quarry for bass and crappie fishing, and an Ontario lodge for walleye, pike and muskie angling. Joining Cabela's gave him an opportunity to branch out by learning to hunt big game and to fly fish.

"I found there's a unique skill set to each," Williams says. "You can transfer some skills, but you also need to learn new ones."

The same can be said of the Topeka native's career. Involved in online commerce since 2000, he ran e-business for OfficeMax and Sam's Club before joining

the World's Foremost Outfitter in 2011. As executive vice president, chief marketing and e-commerce officer, Williams oversaw the company's marketing and branding while running *cabelas.com*. In 2015 he became chief commercial officer, adding merchandising and real estate (including site selection and construction of Cabela's expanding chain of tourist-destination stores) to his portfolio. On becoming president in 2016, he also took responsibility for operations of all 85 stores in the U.S. and Canada.

Williams says he couldn't have known where his early focus on marketing would lead; the internet, after all, didn't even exist when he studied business at KU. That's why he tells students to embrace adaptability. "The most important thing you learn in college now," he advises, "is how to learn."

The Bass Pro acquisition pushed Williams to master yet another new skill: merging two big retail competitors.

"You have to keep one foot on the dock and one foot in the boat," he says of



Williams says meeting loyal Cabela's customers is a bit like encountering fellow Jayhawks: "You have something in common you're really excited about sharing."

running a company while pursuing its sale. "Let the boat drift and you end up in the water. It can be a challenge."

Completing the deal closed a successful chapter on his career, Williams says, and as he looks to open a new one he's enjoying a fringe benefit: more time to hunt and fish.

"It's been fantastic, being able to take both of my daughters hunting while I take a bit of a breather," he says of a recent deer- and turkey-hunting trip to Texas.

"Often the best outdoor experiences aren't your own, but having time together in the field with others to see their success."

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City, where he's chief strategy officer at Saxum, an integrated marketing communications agency.

93 Melissa Grace Callari, c'93, is a software specialist at FreeWheel. She lives in Smyrna, Georgia, with her husband, James.

Lois Mouton McMillan, g'93, retired after 21 years with the USDA. She and **Frederick**, assoc., who had a 31-year career with the U.S. Navy and also worked for Allen Press, live in Lawrence.

Rich Reda, c'93, in February was promoted to president of benefit communication insourcing at Lockton Companies in Kansas City, where he's worked for the past 17 years.

94 Frederic Degeorges, g'94, works at Lukoil Marine Lubricants. He and his wife, Anne, make their home in Suresnes, France.

Brad Mason, c'94, lives in Chicago, where he's a senior client consultant at

Health Care Service Corporation.

Marlene Dearing Neill, j'94, wrote *Public Relations Ethics: Senior PR Pros Tell Us How to Speak Up and Keep Your Job*, which was published in December. She's an assistant professor in the department of journalism, public relations and new media at Baylor University.

95 Timothy Calvert, b'95, is partner and managing director at the Boston Consulting Group in New York City. He works remotely from his home in Overland Park.

Travis Gorenc, c'95, lives in New York City, where he's in R&D planning, strategy and operations at Regeneron Pharmaceuticals.

Shawn Morrow, '95, an orthopedist at the Surgery Center of Kansas, was named a 2018 Top Doctor in Wichita.

Paul Neidlein, e'95, is Midwest region president at JE Dunn Construction in Kansas City. He previously served the company as senior vice president.

John Pepperdine, c'95, g'04, is principal at MPW Strategies in Aurora, Colorado. He and **Carrie Hoffmann Pepperdine**, e'96, make their home in Broomfield with their three children.

David Stras, c'95, l'99, g'99, in January was sworn in as a judge on the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

96 John Blosser, s'96, '98, lives in Overland Park, where he's president of Integrated CareGroup and Pharmacy Distribution Partners.

Jennifer Heller, c'96, d'96, g'98, PhD'07, directs institutional effectiveness at Park University in Parkville, Missouri.

Janice McLean, c'96, g'11, is senior project manager at R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates in Lawrence, where she lives with **Robert Conrad**, '94, an archeologist at the same firm.

97 Kristin Crain, c'97, j'97, directs marketing at ZGF Architects in Portland, Oregon. She's also an instructor at the University of Oregon School of Architecture.

Colleen McCain Nelson, j'97, is vice president and editorial page editor at the Kansas City Star. In 2017 she was inducted in the KU Women's Hall of Fame.

Samer Saba, c'97, is assistant manager at Baron MINI in Merriam.

99 Brian Goodman, l'99, is chief operating officer at R.A. Industries in Santa Ana, California.

Curtis Keyes, c'99, is professor of history and African-American studies at City Colleges of Chicago.

Lisa Reed, a'99, c'99, g'07, was promoted to associate architect at Cho Benn Holback in Baltimore.

MARRIED

Spencer Duncan, c'99, j'99, to Barbara Heller, Oct. 14 in Topeka, where they make their home. Spencer is owner and president of Capitol Connection.

00 Michael Blundell, c'00, g'01, is director of information technology at Palomar Health. He lives in Carlsbad, California.



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2. Retrieved on January 8, 2018, from gmec.com/-/media/Files/gmec/Research/curriculum-insight/gmegs-2013-stats-brief.pdf

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Class Notes

MARRIED

Jennifer Wittman, j'00, to Ethan Rost, Sept. 30 in New Hampshire.

01 Matthew Kenton, c'01, lives in Nolensville, Tennessee, where he directs regional sales at REACH Health.

Parisa Esfahani Weiss, c'01, is an attorney and shareholder at Seltzer Caplan McMahon Vitek in San Diego.

02 Shanda Powell Hayden, c'02, g'09, is assistant athletics director for Kansas Athletics.

Kris Koenig, c'02, a financial adviser at Prime Capital in Overland Park, recently earned the Accredited Investment Fiduciary designation. He lives in Lee's Summit, Missouri, with his wife, Caycee, and their daughter, Olivia.

BORN TO:

Christopher Crow, j'02, and his wife, Savanna, daughter, Annabelle, Aug. 3 in Wichita. Christopher is vice president of sales at Textron Aviation.



03 Douglas Donahoo, j'03, manages public relations for the Kansas and western Missouri division of The Salvation Army.

Kimberly Downs Gorombey, s'03, is a social worker in the Liberty School District in Missouri.

Beau Jackson, c'03, l'09, is partner at Husch Blackwell and works in the firm's Kansas City and Washington, D.C. offices. He continues to live in Fairway with **Laura Sutton Jackson**, b'08, and their son, Hank.

Sarah Smarsh, c'03, j'03, was named a 2018 fellow of the Shorenstein Center on Media, Politics and Public Policy at Harvard Kennedy School. She's a freelance journalist who covers politics and economic inequality for The Guardian.

Jake Wayne, e'03, g'05, is a lighting designer and leads the lighting group at Arup in Boston.

04 Tanya Brown-Giammanco, c'04, g'07, was promoted to vice president of research at the Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety in Richburg, South Carolina.

Tiffany Kruggel Hansen, b'04, is senior reference strategist at Cerner in Kansas City, where she makes her home with her husband, Dave, and their two children.

Sean O'Grady, j'04, lives in Denver, where he manages local marketing at Monster Energy.

Christina Warinner, c'04, is a molecular anthropologist and assistant professor of anthropology at the University of Oklahoma.

05 Michael Barnicle, c'05, is a government contracts trial attorney and partner at Duane Morris in Chicago.

Jessica Sueper Corcoran, c'05, is a part-time pediatric ICU nurse at Nebraska Medicine in Omaha, where she makes her home with her husband, Timothy, and their two children.

Amity File Dannefer, j'05, manages

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senior talent at VML in Kansas City.

Monica Delaorra, j'05, g'10, lives in Gainesville, Florida, where she's marketing manager at the University of Florida College of Pharmacy.

Ryan Greene, j'05, directs communications for the Las Vegas Lights Football Club.

Joel Kammeyer, b'05, works at Cerner in Kansas City, where he's team lead and senior program manager of contingent workforce.

Jasmin Smith Moore, c'05, in January was named Lawrence-Douglas County's

new sustainability director. She previously served as the Johnson County sustainability program manager.

Nate Mundy, c'05, was promoted to senior vice president and chief operating officer at Lockton in Los Angeles. He oversees the company's Pacific operations.

BORN TO:

Jim Lewis, c'05, and his wife, Natalie, son, Cameron Joseph, Dec. 26 in Hillsborough, New Jersey, where he joins two brothers, Charles, 6, and Griffin, 3. Jim manages the builder division at Miele Inc.

06 Lisa Coble-Krings, g'06, lives in Lawrence, where she coordinates marketing communications for KU's department of theatre.

Ashlea Kramer Lytle, d'06, DPT'10, is center director at Activcore in Denver. She and her husband, Jeremy, reside in Castle Rock, Colorado.

Zach Renn, b'06, is a commercial producer at Stephens Chapin Insurance in Lawrence. He commutes from Lenexa.

Stefany Samp, b'06, g'08, manages commercial compliance at Molex in Lisle, Illinois. She lives in Chicago.

PROFILE by Heather Biele

Opportunities on tap for adults with disabilities

Four years ago, Tiffany Fixter moved to Denver to manage a day program for adults with disabilities. The special-education teacher, who earned her master's degree in autism spectrum disorders from KU, had hoped to promote independent living by teaching participants practical skills they could use outside of the program. She grew discouraged when they spent most of their time making crafts and coloring.

"It was a lot different than I expected," says Fixter, g'12. "We had some really, really great people with some amazing skills, and we're sitting around making yarn dolls."

Determined to find better opportunities for adults with disabilities, Fixter left the day program and purchased a turnkey brewery in northeast Denver. "I wanted to do something cool and different," she says, noting that the methodical processes in craft beer production appeal to many individuals on the autism spectrum.

Since opening in 2016, Brewability Lab has provided meaningful jobs for several local residents with special needs. As the name implies, the brewery's concept centers on people's abilities, not their disabilities. Fixter employs six individuals with various developmental conditions

who assist with the brewing process, interact with customers and serve the brewery's six beers on tap. She tailors the work environment to suit each person's needs, using checklists, photos and videos to help her employees learn. Fixter and head brewer Tanner Schneller also teach through repetitive modeling.

Customers at Brewability Lab are part of the process, too. Because many of Fixter's "beertenders" can't read, she color-codes each beer and labels the tap handles accordingly, so customers order their drinks by color rather than by name. "We try to make it as easy as possible," Fixter explains. "Just having those extra supports there helps."

The brewery's nurturing environment has already benefited its employees, including Patrick, an autistic man Fixter knew from the day program. When Patrick first joined Brewability Lab, he could speak only a few words during his five-minute shifts. Fixter patiently worked with him and encouraged him to try a new task each time he came in, such as holding a glass and eventually pouring a beer. Now, after a year at the brewery, Patrick works 10 hours a week and speaks in full sentences.

Although teaching new skills is a top priority, Fixter strives to make the atmosphere fun for staff and customers alike. She stocks card games in Braille for



COURTESY TIFFANY FIXTER

"The boys are the stars of it, not me," says Tiffany Fixter, a special-education teacher who employs individuals with disabilities at Brewability Lab in Denver.

Alex, a beertender who's visually impaired, and plays everyone's favorite music during their shifts, much to the delight of Nick, who can be found serving beers and singing along to Pink and Lady Gaga every Thursday evening.

Witnessing this kind of social growth is one of the most satisfying parts of her job, Fixter says.

"They're definitely different people: they're confident, they're proud, they love working, they're building relationships with the community. It's really awesome to see that every day."

Class Notes



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Jonalan Smith, PharmD'06, is senior vice president of health plan operations at Sunflower Health Plan in Overland Park.

07 Elyse Weidner Bradley, c'07, j'07, is creative director at Pace in Greensboro, North Carolina.

Sarah Gietschier-Hartman, d'07, a physical-education instructor at Wydown Middle School in St. Louis, was named 2017 Missouri Middle School Physical Education Teacher of the Year and 2018 SHAPE America Central District Middle School Physical Education Teacher of the Year.

C.J. Moore, j'07, co-wrote *Beyond the Streak: Untold Stories from Kansas Basketball's Unrivaled Big 12 Reign*. He's a freelance sports writer in Shawnee.

Joyce Zurkowski, '07, is executive director of assessment for the State of Colorado.

MARRIED

Laura Callaway, c'07, to Jeffery Suderth, June 25 in Lawrence. They make

their home in Magnolia, Texas, where Laura is a teacher.

08 Blake Cripps, j'08, lives in Wichita, where he's play-by-play announcer for basketball and baseball at Newman University.

Justin Ellrich, e'08, is a senior oil and gas process engineer at Black & Veatch in Overland Park. In June he will speak at the World Gas Conference in Washington, D.C.

Marc Langston, c'08, lives in Washington, D.C., where he's an attorney.

Taylor Miller, c'08, j'08, is assistant professor at the University of Georgia Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communication. He also serves as academic director of the college's Peabody Media Center.

Shaun Whisler, f'08, directs music at Corpus Christi Catholic Church in Lawrence, where he lives with his wife, Janelle, and their two daughters. Shaun also sings bass in the quartet BoomTown, which placed 21st at the Barbershop

Harmony Society International in Las Vegas last year.

MARRIED

Ian Staples, c'08, and **Teija Cheung**, '10, Oct. 14 in Lawrence. They live in Washington, D.C., where Ian is legislative director for Rep. Susan Davis, and Teija is private dining director for Mindful Restaurant Group.

09 Karen Beckman, g'09, is an associate attorney at Merchant & Gould in Minneapolis. She specializes in litigation and intellectual property.

Samuel Jeter, c'09, lives in Denver, where he directs corporate counsel at DaVita.

Jade Martin, c'09, f'13, is an attorney at Spirit Aerosystems in Wichita.

B.J. Rains, j'09, was named Idaho Sports Writer of the Year by the National Sports Media Association. He's the Boise State beat writer for the Idaho Press-Tribune.

Caitlin Tew, j'09, directs global brand development at 20th Century Fox. She lives in Agoura Hills, California.

10 Josh Berry, f'10, is an attorney at Hall & Evans in Denver, where he makes his home with his wife, Bridget.

Robert Nye, PhD'10, lives in Canandaigua, New York, where he's president of Finger Lakes Community College.

Luchara Sayles Wallace, PhD'10, an associate professor of special education at Western Michigan University, serves on the Michigan Board of Behavior Analysts.

MARRIED

Kegan Scrivner, b'10, and **Eli Woody**, '11, Aug. 5 in Lawrence. They live in Englewood, Colorado, where Kegan is a human resource management system analyst at Prologis, and Eli teaches speech and debate at Cherokee Trail High School.

11 Haitham Al Ghulaiga, g'11, is director general at the Institute of Finance in Saudi Arabia.

Jessica Nelson Palm, j'11, in September received the 2017 ATHENA Young Professional Leadership Award from the Greater Kansas City Chamber of Com-



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merce. She's managing director of TeamKC: Life + Talent, a program of the Kansas City Area Development Council.

Ian Sadler, d'11, '14, is an assistant athletic trainer at the University of Tulsa.

Ryan Sloop, d'11, lives in Olathe, where he's an athletic trainer for the University of Kansas Health System.

12 Elizabeth Brittain, d'12, manages customer engagement at Service Management Group in Kansas City.

Devinee Fitzgerald, j'12, '17, is an account executive at Yelp in San Francisco.

Ashley Martin, b'12, lives in Austin, Texas, where she manages recruitment at Hyatt Regency Lost Pines Resort & Spa.

Brenton Miller, c'12, is an academic advisor in the College Advising & Student Services Office at KU.

Heather Pierce Neisen, g'12, directs account services at Enliven in Nashville, Tennessee, where she makes her home with her husband, Devon, and their daughter, Holly.

Bea Raemdonck, c'12, manages design and delivery at Verus Global in Portland, Oregon.



Allison Todd Ramsing, g'12, is an academic coordinator at Washington State University Vancouver. She and her husband, Peter, live in Portland, Oregon.

Kyle Roggenkamp, c'12, is an employment and training specialist at SER Jobs for Progress National in Kansas City.

Ashley DeSandre Scarlett, d'12, g'14, a physical-education instructor at Center

PROFILE by Chris Lazzarino

Former pro caps career with rich Topgolf title

When Kevin Ward decided in 2009 to retire after four years of professional golf on the Web.com Tour and other similar circuits, he knew he wanted golf to remain a big part of his life. As a sideline to his day job as a senior wealth consultant with Mariner Wealth Management, he and a partner started a golf fitness company to help others build success in a sport that places unusual stresses on the body.

SwingFit, the fitness component of a company Ward and his partner call The Golf Stable, incorporates functional movement patterns, posture work, mobility and low back injury prevention to help golfers develop sport-specific fitness.

"A lot of these guys are 60 years old and they're in the best shape of their life, which is cool," says Ward, d'05, a three-time tournament winner during his KU career.

While no longer playing professionally, Ward keeps his game "fairly fresh at all times," so he was ready to roll when his pal Chris Mabry, assistant golf professional at Lake Quivira Country Club, suggested they enter the regional qualifier for the Topgolf Tour World Championship.

Topgolf, which in recent years added Overland Park to its rapidly expanding portfolio, is a high-tech golf range that

rewards accuracy over distance in a format that is equally popular with serious golfers who want to work on their games and social groups looking only for fun.

After winning the Overland Park qualifier in July, Ward and Mabry in October flew to Las Vegas, where they faced Topgolf teams from across America and even London. After beating teams from Atlanta and Las Vegas, the K.C. duo beat the U.K. squad to win the Topgolf title—and split \$50,000.

"We had fun with it, for sure," Ward says. "There were definitely some experienced players there, but we felt confident that we could be competitive in that situation because we both played golf in college and professionally."

Although Topgolf competition doesn't require putting—a nervy skill that usually separates winners from losers at golf's elite levels—it does have its own unique challenge: Out on the course, a golfer can recover from a wayward tee shot and still make par; in Topgolf, a bad shot is a bad score, with no recovery possible.



After his years on the KU team, Kevin Ward ventured onto professional golf's mid-level tours: "It's a grind. There's a fine line between who makes it and who doesn't."

"That's why it was intense and stressful," Ward says, "and everybody was feeling it. There were guys who were melting down, for sure, under the pressure."

Winning the Topgolf Tour World Championship was not Ward and Mabry's only victory that fall weekend in Las Vegas: They also made it home from Vegas with their winnings intact.

"Chris had a tournament out near the Ozarks and had to leave Monday morning, and I had a meeting in Wichita, so we flew back two hours after we won," Ward recalls with a laugh. "Unfortunately we didn't get to blow it."

Class Notes

Senior High School in Kansas City, was named 2017 Kansas City High School Teacher of the Year.

Jerry Smith, PhD'12, is chief curator at the Dayton Art Institute in Ohio.

Lon Strauss, PhD'12, lives in Woodbridge, Virginia, where he's assistant professor of military history at U.S. Marine Corps Command and Staff College.

Joshua Wrigley, g'12, is assistant natural resources director in Sandwich, Massachusetts.

MARRIED

Ty Buller, c'12, to Jacqueline Maleski, Oct. 21 in Tiger, Georgia. Ty is an investment banker at JPMorgan Chase & Company.

13 Amanda Salisbury Augustine, g'13, manages projects at Lickel Architecture in Kansas City. She and **Nicholaus**, c'13, e'16, make their home in Olathe.

Lauren Baldwin, c'13, lives in Wichita, where she directs education at Mark Arts.

Regina Bird, c'13, is a meteorologist at NTV and KFXL in central Nebraska.

Wendy Lowe Curry, c'13, lives in Paola, where she manages accounts at DuPont.

Christopher Galle, d'13, manages sales at the Parking Spot. He lives in Kansas City with **Kelsey Hill**, c'12, assistant director of Kansas City programs at the Alumni Association.

Kathleen Gier, j'13, directs marketing and communications for Equip-Bid.com Auctions in Kansas City.

Amber Kadolph Kasten, c'13, is a clinical audiologist at Newport Mesa Audiology Balance and Ear Institute in Newport Beach, California. She resides in Costa Mesa with her husband, Jacob.

Claire McInerney, j'13, is the education reporter at NPR affiliate 90.5 KUT-FM in Austin, Texas.

Demetria Obilor, j'13, is traffic anchor at WFAA Channel 8 in Dallas.

Kim Overdyck, l'13, is senior investigator at the University of California in Riverside.

Stanton Parker, b'13, is a senior internal auditor at Kansas City Southern Railway. He's also a freelance writer.

Phillip Pemberton, l'13, lives in Celina,

Texas. He's an attorney at Strassburger & Price.

Sarah Stern, c'13, j'13, manages public relations for Netflix's Latin America consumer division.

Alexander Todd, b'13, is a regulatory engagement leader at Cerner in Kansas City.

Thomas Ward, c'13, is an office broker at Kessinger Hunter in Kansas City. He lives in Fairway with **Christine Pringle Ward**, c'13, who's a commercial broker at the same firm.

14 Renee Brune, g'14, is an intern architect at KAI in Dallas.

Cassandra Dickerson, l'14, works at Ohio State University, where she's a commercialization strategy manager.

Caitlin Doornbos, j'14, is a foreign correspondent for Stars and Stripes. She's currently covering the U.S. Navy in Japan.

Joseph Farha, e'14, is a maintenance engineer at Amsted Rail in Kansas City.

Bradley Foster, c'14, lives in Seattle, where he's a business analyst at Amazon.

Cody Heston, m'14, is a pediatrician at HaysMed.

Henry Wear, g'14, is a lecturer in the sport management program at Deakin University in Melbourne, Australia.

Eric Wreath, e'14, resides in Grapevine, Texas, where he's a technical sales engineer at SNF Holding Company.

15 Nathan Coons, g'15, manages broker deal operations at Waddell & Reed. He lives in Lenexa.

Elizabeth Geekie, a'15, g'17, is an architect at LS3P Associates in Charleston, South Carolina.

Eric Gormly, c'15, coordinates student veteran services at Appalachian State University in Boone, North Carolina.

Hugo Macias, g'15, is an academic counselor at Uplift Williams Preparatory in Dallas.

16 Lauren Armendariz, j'16, is a social media strategist at Anthology Marketing Group in Honolulu.

Casey Craig, b'16, lives in Portland,



Oregon, where he's an associate sourcer at Adidas.

Taylor Ermoian, s'16, recently returned from Jerusalem, where he spent a year working as a human rights researcher and a social worker and teacher at a local school. He now lives in Los Angeles.

Frederick Gayles, g'16, makes his home in Colorado Springs, Colorado, where he's a logistics officer for the U.S. Army.

Austin Maness, g'16, is co-founder and chief operating officer of Harvest Returns, a financial technology company in Fort Worth, Texas.

Jacob Marshall, s'16, is a sign-language interpreter for Kansas City Public Schools. He lives in Prairie Village.

Alan Parsons, c'16, is an academic adviser for the Veterans Upward Bound program at Arkansas Tech University. He's a U.S. Army veteran who served nine years in active duty.

Francesco Rossi Jane, e'16, b'16, lives in Kansas City, where he's an energy analyst at Black & Veatch.

Vera Stroup-Rentier, PhD'16, is a senior study director at Westat in Topeka.

MARRIED

Aaron Pope, PharmD'16, and **Abbey Whisler**, c'16, Oct. 28 in Overland Park. Aaron is a pharmacist at Kramer Pharmacy in Ottawa and Abbey is a cartographer at Garmin. They live in Olathe.

17 Mason Brightbill, d'17, is an operations coordinator for Sporting KC.

Candace Miller, j'17, lives in Kansas City, where she's a consulting analyst at Cerner.

Matthew Pohlen, b'17, is an audit analyst at JPMorgan Chase & Co. in Wilmington, Delaware.

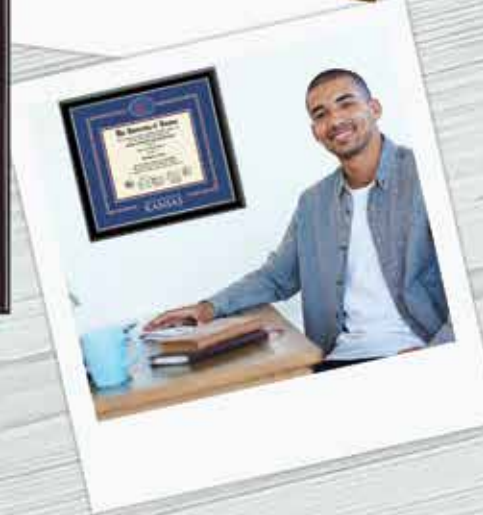
Abby Stuke, j'17, is a communications specialist for the Spring Hill School District. She lives in Lenexa.

Alison Peterson Tyler, j'17, resides in Denver, where she coordinates social media for Red Robin.

ASSOCIATES

Bruce Linton, assoc., lives in Lawrence with his wife, **Chris**, assoc. Bruce retired as professor at the KU School of Journalism.

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In Memory

40s Clara Brenneman Bair, n'44, 96, Dec. 15 in Urbana, Illinois, where she was a nurse and homemaker. She is survived by two daughters, Kathleen Bair Ruhter, c'74, and Sheila, c'75, l'78; four grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Bernadine Hall Burton, f'41, 97, Dec. 26 in Lawrence. She was a homemaker. Survivors include three daughters, Linda, d'70, Kristin Burton Johnson, c'72, and Bernadine Burton Brown, d'77; a son, John, c'77; seven grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Don Carlos, c'47, 94, Oct. 14 in Glendale, California, where he retired as general manager of the international exploration and production division at Getty Oil Company. His wife, Jacquelyn, two daughters and a son survive.

H. William Davis, b'48, 93, Oct. 14 in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, where he had a 35-year career at Merrill Lynch. Surviving are a son, Philip, b'73; five grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Bertha "Scottie" Scott Johnson, b'40, 99, Dec. 29 in Topeka, where she was a member of P.E.O. Sisterhood and several other organizations. She is survived by a daughter, Jill Johnson Gilliland, '82; a sister, Claudine Scott Lingelbach, b'44; and a grandson.

David Robb, e'43, g'48, PhD'64, 95, Dec. 21 in Salina, where he owned an engineering consulting firm. He also was a professor of electrical engineering at Iowa State University. A memorial has been established at KU Endowment. Surviving are a daughter, Mildred, s'77; a son; four grandchildren; and a great-grandson.

Robert Satzler, '47, 92, Dec. 18 in Sand Springs, Oklahoma. He was an HVAC technician and owned Bob Satzler Air Conditioning in Topeka. He is survived by two daughters, a son, eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Larry Winn Jr., c'41, 98, Dec. 31 in Prairie Village. He served 18 years as a U.S. Representative in Kansas' 3rd Congressional District, and in 1977 he was appointed

congressional ambassador to the United Nations. Survivors include two sons, Larry III, c'66, l'68, and Douglas, c'68, g'76; two daughters, Janet Winn Payne, d'71, and Cynthia Winn Burr, '73; eight grandchildren; and 16 great-grandchildren.

50s Roger Adams, e'50, g'60, 92, Nov. 25 in La Grange Park, Illinois, where he was a retired mechanical engineer. He is survived by three sons, one of whom is Scott, c'73, g'75; two daughters, one of whom is Alison Adams Tappan, c'78; two brothers, Dwight, c'53, m'56, and Nolan, '53; and five grandchildren.

Bill Akright, b'51, 90, Dec. 13 in Leawood. He worked for the Internal Revenue Service for more than 34 years. Surviving are his wife, Mary Lou Brewer Akright, c'49; three sons, one of whom is Bruce, '80; 10 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Joseph Brown, a'54, 87, Dec. 19 in Hillsboro Beach, Florida, where he retired as president of Black & Veatch after 41 years with the company. He is survived by his wife, Betty Tudor Brown, b'55.

Donald Burnett, c'56, l'58, 83, Dec. 18 in Larned, where he had a 59-year career as an attorney and partner in a law firm. Surviving are his wife, Deanne LaGree Burnett, d'67; a daughter, Georgia Burnett Martin, j'95; three sons, two of whom are Lowrey, c'96, and Brooks, j'02; and four grandchildren.

Terry Burton, b'55, 85, Dec. 8 in Topeka. He worked at Blue Cross Blue Shield for 32 years, where he was vice president of marketing. He is survived by two sons, one of whom is Trey, g'94; a daughter; and six grandchildren.

Wendell Castle, f'58, g'66, 85, Jan. 20 in Scottsville, New York, where he was an artist and sculptor. Known as the "father of the art furniture movement," he also was artist in residence at the Rochester Institute of Technology, where he served as a faculty member since 1962. He received a KU honorary doctorate in 2013. Survivors include his wife, Nancy, a brother, two

children and two grandchildren.

Philip Coolidge, a'56, 83, Dec. 3 in Topeka, where he owned Coolidge Architectural Services. Surviving are his wife, Collette Peterman Coolidge, c'57; two daughters, Paige Coolidge Miller, j'82, and Janet, c'84; a brother, Thomas, c'55, m'59; and a granddaughter.

Melvin Dageforde, c'50, 94, Dec. 19 in Hagerstown, Maryland, where he was an intelligence production coordinator at the Defense Intelligence Agency. A daughter, a son and two grandchildren survive.

Bobby Gene Davidson, e'59, 85, Dec. 27 in Port Isabel, Texas. He had a long career at McDonnell Douglas, where he worked on the Gemini spacecraft and the Harpoon missile system. His wife, Lucille, a son and a granddaughter survive.

William Dunn, c'53, 89, Aug. 24 in Greendale, Wisconsin, where he was a physical therapist. Two daughters, two sons, seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren survive.

Philip "Rod" Ernst, c'57, 84, Jan. 23 in Lawrence, where he was third-generation owner of Ernst & Son hardware store. Surviving are his wife, Shirley; three daughters, Lynda Miller Allen, d'75, g'98, Rebecca Miller King, '88, and Lisa Miller Roth, s'93; a son, Mike Miller, c'82; eight grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; and a great-great-grandchild.

James Foster, d'56, g'66, EdD'75, 83, Dec. 30 in Olathe. He retired as superintendent of Caddo Parish Public Schools in Shreveport, Louisiana, and also served in several school districts in Johnson County. He is survived by his wife, Sandra Muntzel Foster, d'76; a son, Michael, c'82; a daughter, Elisabeth Foster Horner, '85; a brother; and five grandchildren.

John Fox, b'52, 89, Nov. 9 in Greeley, Colorado, where he was a CPA and partner in an accounting firm. He is survived by his wife, Mae, two sons, a daughter, seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Donald Gordon, e'50, 91, Nov. 25 in Schenectady, New York, where he retired from a 36-year career as sales manager at General Electric. His wife, Norma, survives.

Joyce Thomas Hines, g'54, 89, Sept. 19

in North Carolina. She was a teacher and an English tutor. Survivors include two sons and a brother.

George Hitt, e'57, 82, Nov. 19 in Wellington, where he was a retired lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Air Force and a project manager at Battelle. He is survived by two daughters; five sons; a brother, Ellis, e'60; a sister; and 10 grandchildren.

Jo Ann Jarrett, d'51, 89, Dec. 8 in Russell, where she was an elementary school teacher and received Teacher of the Year honors in 1988. Several nieces and nephews survive.

Donna Zavesky Peters, '59, 80, Dec. 2 in Baltimore, where she was a homemaker. She is survived by her husband, Paul, e'57; and a son.

Thomas Pettit, '58, 84, Dec. 30 in San Diego. He had a long career in consumer product marketing. His wife, Lynn, two daughters and a half-brother survive.

John Prosser, a'55, 84, Nov. 19 in Denver, where he was an architect and urban designer and professor emeritus at the University of Colorado. Survivors include his wife, Ann, two daughters and three sons.

Jack Reams, b'57, 83, Oct. 4 in Eau Claire, Wisconsin. He owned several auto repair shops and service stations in St. Louis. He is survived by his wife, Becky; three sons, one of whom is Mark, '90; and seven grandchildren.

Gerald Robertson, d'57, g'67, 82, Dec. 2 in Boiling Springs, Pennsylvania. He was professor of humanities and fine arts at Harris Area Community College, where he also directed the choir and produced musical theatre. Surviving are his wife, Deborah; two sons; two daughters; a brother, Kenneth, c'64, g'66; 10 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Helen Graves Ross, '51, 89, Jan. 1 in Denver. She made her home in Wellington, where she was a volunteer and member of P.E.O. Sisterhood. She is survived by a son, Richard, c'75; two grandchildren; and a great-granddaughter.

Helen Shively Satzler, c'50, 91, Dec. 15 in Sand Springs, Oklahoma. She was a bookkeeper at her husband's company in Topeka and a longtime member of

Daughters of the American Revolution. Survivors include two daughters, a son, eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Gad Smith, b'55, 83, Nov. 28 in Kansas City, where he was a retired attorney and partner at Spencer Fane. He is survived by his wife, Jean; two sons, one of whom is G. Clarke, j'87; two daughters; a brother, Vernon, d'54; and four grandchildren.

Paul Smith, b'56, 83, Dec. 29 in Mercer Island, Washington. He was a commercial mortgage broker. Surviving are his wife, Jane Henry Smith, n'57; three daughters; two brothers, George, e'54, and Carl, e'65, b'65; and two grandsons.

Vinita Bradshaw Sturgeon, d'53, 86, Nov. 8 in Boulder, Colorado, where she was a real estate agent. Survivors include her husband, H. Lee, b'51, g'54; a son; two sisters; and two grandchildren.

Martha Jane "Janie" Heywood Dressler Van Rheen, b'53, 86, Dec. 19 in Olathe. She worked for the family business, C.R. Calvert Co., in Kingman. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Surviving are two daughters, Nancy Dressler Borst, j'79, and Susan Dressler Martin, c'83; a son; five stepdaughters; two stepsons; 20 grandchildren; and 24 great-grandchildren.

Robert Young IV, c'51, m'53, 89, Oct. 31 in Williamsburg, Virginia. He was a family practitioner and faculty member at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by his wife, Clarissa, a son, a daughter, a sister and three grandchildren.

60s Robert Becker, b'62, 77, Nov. 16 in Wichita, where he was president of Plains Petroleum. He also owned a music recording company in Los Angeles. Survivors include his wife, Jennie; a daughter; two sons, one of whom is Barry St. John, c'04; a brother, Frank, e'58; two sisters, one of whom is Betty Becker Timmerman, c'55; and six grandchildren.

Larry Blackman, c'63, 76, Jan. 13 in Pittsford, New York. He was retired professor of philosophy at the State University of New York College at Geneseo. He is survived by his wife, Fran;

a son; a daughter; a stepson; and a sister, Marilyn Blackman Pearl, c'64.

Donna Gaeddert Brewster, d'66, 73, Nov. 24 in Spokane, Washington. She was a teacher and led children's Bible study for 25 years. Surviving are her husband, Bob, c'64, m'68; a son; two daughters; and five grandchildren.

Ralph "Win" Campbell, '66, 75, Dec. 27 in Lawrence, where he owned several downtown businesses, including Campbell's Clothing and Winfield House. He is survived by his wife, Linda Midyett Campbell, '65; two daughters, one of whom is Carrie Campbell Gerace, b'86; a son, Ken, '89; two sisters, Nancy Campbell Byers, '56, and Susan Campbell Noon, '59; and eight grandchildren.

Wayne Cattlett, b'60, g'61, 92, Dec. 8 in Blacksburg, Virginia. He had a 31-year career as controller at Hercules Powder Company. Surviving are his wife, Miriam, a daughter, two stepsons, 12 grandchildren, two step-grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Fernon Clark Jr., e'61, 79, Oct. 6 in Tulsa, Oklahoma, where he was a mechanical engineer with American Airlines for nearly 40 years. A son, a daughter and six grandchildren survive.

Patti Duncan Crawford, c'63, 76, Dec. 19 in Shawnee, where she owned a building company, Crawford and Kinder, with her husband. She also participated in and organized several equine endurance rides and races. Survivors include her husband, Sam; a son; two stepdaughters, one of whom is Kimberly Jensen, b'81; a stepson; a sister, Judith Duncan Stanton, a'61; four grandchildren; and five step-grandchildren.

Ronald Dalby, b'61, 78, Dec. 8 in Ann Arbor, Michigan. He was an attorney, real estate developer, and president and owner of Arcadia Corporation. He is survived by his wife, Lillian Blair Dalby, d'63; a daughter; two sisters, Kay Dalby Berglund, d'59, and Jane Dalby Fox, d'70; and seven grandchildren.

Gordon Leonard, c'61, 78, Dec. 29 in Naples, Florida. He lived in Milwaukee for several years, where he was a supervisor for Milwaukee Public Schools. He also taught psychology at Cardinal Stritch

In Memory

College and Manhattan Area Technical College. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Survivors include his partner, Jan, and two daughters.

Barbara Linn Lindstrom, d'61, 77, Nov. 29 in Memphis, Tennessee, where she was an administrative assistant and volunteered in her community. She is survived by her husband, Jim, c'61; and a brother, Thomas Linn, d'64.

Mary Barnett Maxwell, d'60, 82, Nov. 22 in St. Joseph, Missouri, where she was an elementary school teacher for more than 40 years. Surviving are her husband, William, a'62; two sons, one of whom is David, c'89; a sister; and three grandchildren.

William Neeley, c'63, m'67, 76, Dec. 23 in Michigan, where he was medical director at Detroit Medical Center University Laboratories and a faculty member at Wayne State University School of Medicine. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Survivors include his wife, Andrena, a daughter, two sons, a stepdaughter, a stepson and nine grandchildren.

Carol "Margo" Falzone Nicholas, '63, 75, July 19 in Waterloo, Iowa. She was a social worker and a teacher at Tri-County Head Start. Surviving are her husband, Lee, b'62; two sons; two daughters; two sisters; and seven grandchildren.

Cynthia Blackhall Shaw, d'62, 82, Dec. 8 in Lawrence, where she was an elementary school teacher. Survivors include a son; a stepson, Daniel Shaw, c'83; two stepdaughters, one of whom is Jennifer Shaw, f'98; and four grandchildren.

Gordon Sieker, e'60, 84, Nov. 13 in Denver, where he was chief of contracts for the U.S. Department of Defense. He is survived by his wife, Sara; two sons; a brother, Will, e'57; and eight grandchildren.

James Tharp, c'65, l'68, 74, March 21, 2017, in Kaneohe, Hawaii, where he was an attorney and also performed in community theatre. Two daughters, a son and three grandsons survive.

Robert Wagstaff, l'66, 75, Oct. 8 in Carmel, California. He was assistant attorney general for the State of Kansas and later became a trial attorney and

appellate advocate in Alaska. Surviving are his wife, Cynthia; a brother, Thomas, l'72; a sister; three sons; a stepdaughter; three grandchildren; and three step-grandchildren.

Joseph "Jo Jo" White, '69, 71, Jan. 16 in Middleton, Massachusetts. He played basketball at KU from 1966 to '69 and was named a two-time All-American and three-time MVP. His professional career included 10 seasons with the Boston Celtics, during which time he earned NBA All-Star honors. He later became the team's director of special projects. He won an Olympic gold medal with the U.S. team in 1968, and he was inducted in the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in 2015. Survivors include his wife, Deborah; five daughters, two of whom are Meka White Morris, j'04, and Jamie, c'13; a son; and several grandchildren.

70s Darrell Abernathy, c'71, m'76, PhD'76, 68, Nov. 18 in Annapolis, Maryland, where he was a clinical pharmacologist, internist and scientist. He held faculty appointments at several universities and retired as associate director of drug safety at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. A brother survives.

Lois Allen, PhD'71, 90, Nov. 7 in Shawnee, where she retired as director of mental health at Samuel U. Rodgers Community Health Center. She is survived by several nieces and nephews.

Marjorie King Blank, EdD'78, 92, Dec. 18 in Lenexa. She was retired dean of student services at Kansas City Kansas Community College. Survivors include three sons, two of whom are Ray, b'85, and Doug, g'88; and four grandsons.

Bonnie McKenzie King, g'73, EdD'81, 88, March 12, 2017, in Red Bluff, California, where she was a retired resource specialist teacher. Surviving are a son, Daniel, m'74; a sister; a brother; three grandsons; and a great-granddaughter.

Margaret Stites Leo, c'77, 95, Nov. 2 in Prairie Village. She was a homemaker. Survivors include three daughters, Kathy Leo Lord, d'68, Jan, c'74, m'77, and Nancy, c'95, '96; a son, Bill, c'93; a brother, John Stites, b'50, l'56; six grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Shay Aura Blackman Meckenstock, '79, 59, Nov. 17 in Colorado Springs, Colorado. She directed ministries and was senior elder at Hays Fellowship House Church in Hays. Surviving are her husband, Bobb, c'76; three daughters, one of whom is Sarah Meckenstock Weimer, c'02; her parents; a sister; two brothers; a half-brother; and nine grandchildren.

Patrick Price, c'71, m'75, 68, Dec. 6 in Mission Hills, where he was an ophthalmologist and regional medical director at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas. He is survived by his wife, Cyndy Kuntzelman Price, d'72; a son; a daughter; his mother; a brother; and a grandson.

Ann Clogston Warren, '77, 81, Nov. 25 in Lawrence, where she was a homemaker and member of P.E.O. Sisterhood and Daughters of the American Revolution. Two daughters, a son, seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren survive.

Mari Carpenter Wylie, c'74, 65, Nov. 19 in Austin, Texas. She was a physical therapist. Surviving are her husband, Thomas; a son; a daughter; her mother; two brothers, one of whom is John, c'82; three sisters, two of whom are Susan Carpenter, g'82, and Nancy Carpenter Flax, d'85; and three grandchildren.

80s Louis Cantilena, PhD'81, m'84, 63, Dec. 16 in Indiana. He was professor of medicine in clinical pharmacology at the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences in Bethesda, Maryland. Surviving are his wife, Kathleen "Cathy" Conry Cantilena, '81; two daughters; and a son.

Curtis FitzSimmons, c'89, m'93, 50, Dec. 29 in Kansas City, where he was an infectious disease specialist. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by his wife, Laura Broers FitzSimmons, n'95; three sons; his father, Robert, b'62; his mother; and two brothers, one of whom is Clark, c'91.

Carroll Clausing Hoke, l'89, 71, Dec. 15 in Appleton, Wisconsin. She was an attorney at Kansas Legal Services in Wichita. Surviving are her husband, Charles, b'71, l'75; a daughter, Etienne Hoke Olson, j'88; her mother; two brothers, one of whom is Kurt Clausing,

c'82; three sisters; and three grandchildren.

Meredith Level, g'86, 56, Oct. 5 in Orlando, Florida, where she was a real estate attorney at Lowndes, Drosdick, Doster, Kantor & Reed. Survivors include her mother; a brother, Kurt Level, c'89, l'92; and two sisters.

Carole Logan Louk, '83, 83, Dec. 19 in Prairie Village, where she was a retired elementary school teacher. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. She is survived by her husband, Frank, b'55; three daughters, one of whom is Stephanie Louk Barnow, '87; 10 grandchildren; and a great-grandson.

Betty Selby Robinson, g'83, 81, Dec. 25 in Prairie Village. She was a special-education instructor in the Shawnee Mission School District. Survivors include a son, George, c'89, m'95; a daughter, Kathryn Robinson Cameron, m'95; a brother; and five grandchildren.

90s Matthew Sumpter, m'94, 56, Dec. 31 in Pueblo, Colorado, where he was a cardiologist and managing partner at Pueblo Cardiology Associates. He is survived by his wife, Diane, two sons, a sister and two brothers.

00s Henry Fortunato, g'07, 62, Feb. 5 in Overland Park, where he directed public affairs for Kansas City Public Library. He founded the KU History Project in partnership with KU Memorial Union, and in 2001 he led the creation of kuhistory.com. He also designed programs for graduate students at the Hall Center for Humanities, including Humanities Bootcamp. Survivors include his wife, Eileen; two sons, one of whom is Alexander, c'15; a daughter; and a sister.

Kay Kelly, c'00, 40, Oct. 30 in San Diego. She was on the diving team at KU. Her parents and two brothers survive.

10s Amy Cantilena, PhD'18, 31, Dec. 16 in Indiana. She recently earned her doctorate in molecular and integrative physiology, and she was a student at KU School of Medicine. Surviving are her mother, Kathleen "Cathy" Conry Can-

tilena, '81; two sisters; and a brother.

UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

Remi Amelunxen, g'57, PhD'59, 91, Dec. 24 in Prairie Village, where he was professor emeritus of microbiology at KU Medical Center.

Virginia "Jinny" Harris Ashlock, '86, 84, Dec. 8 in Lawrence, where she was an editor at the KU Paleontology Institute and also served as president of the League of Women Voters. She is survived by two sons, Daniel, c'84, and Joseph, c'93; and three grandchildren.

Rolf Borchert, assoc., 84, Nov. 23 in Lawrence. He was professor emeritus of plant ecophysiology and led several study abroad programs at KU. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Survivors include his wife, Laura Zandegiacomo de Lugan Borchert, c'87, g'94; three daughters, one of whom is Monika Borchert-Hillman, g'86; a sister; and six grandchildren.

George Byers, 94, Jan. 1 in Lawrence, where he retired as professor emeritus of entomology. He is survived by three sons, two of whom are Bruce, '82, and Douglas, e'88; and a daughter.

Raymond Davis, assoc., 76, Jan. 4 in Olathe. He directed the Edwin O. Stene Graduate Program in Public Administration and founded and chaired the department of health policy & management. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Survivors include his wife, Kathleen Thompson Davis, '94; a son, Paul, c'96; a sister; and a granddaughter.

Robert Friauf, assoc., 91, Dec. 3 in Lawrence, where he was professor emeritus of physics, astronomy and Western Civilization. Surviving are three daughters, one of whom is Ann, c'74; a brother; four grandchildren; and a great-granddaughter.

Katherine "Kac" Carr Giele, assoc., 94, Dec. 1 in Lawrence, where she was assistant director emeritus at Kansas Memorial Union. In 1980, she was inducted in the KU Women's Hall of Fame. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. She is survived by a son, John, c'86; a brother; and two granddaughters.

Fred McElhenie, g'61, 81, Jan. 4 in Lawrence. He worked in student affairs for 45 years and retired as associate director of student housing. Surviving are his wife, Marilyn; two sons, Timothy, c'81, and Patrick, c'89; a daughter, Erin, '84; a sister; and five grandchildren.

Marjorie Newmark, 95, Nov. 30 in Lawrence. She was associate professor emerita of biochemistry. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. A son, William, '77; and two daughters survive.

Neil Salkind, 70, Nov. 18 in Lawrence, where he was professor emeritus of education and psychology research. He also wrote and edited several publications. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Surviving are his wife, Leni, '91; a daughter; a son; and a sister.

Virginia Seaver, 97, Dec. 25 in Lawrence. She was managing editor at the University Press of Kansas. Two sons, three grandchildren and five great-grandchildren survive.

ASSOCIATES

Mary Ball, assoc., 72, Nov. 28 in Atchison. She managed the family business, Ball Brothers Gift Shop, for 19 years. Survivors include two sons, Bradley, d'92, '93, and Chadwick, c'96, PharmD'01; a brother; a sister; and five grandchildren.

Dave Curnutt, assoc., 79, Dec. 1 in Topeka, where he owned Restaurant Services Inc. and operated several Pizza Hut restaurants in North America. He is survived by his wife, Carolyn, assoc.; two daughters, Cheri Curnutt Clatterbuck, j'82, and Christy Curnutt Wiedeman, h'88; and nine grandchildren.

Deborah Sundblom, assoc., 65, Dec. 5 in Kansas City. She had careers as an emergency medical technician and a real estate agent. Surviving are her husband, Stuart, '75; her parents; and a brother.

Maxine Wright, assoc., 83, Nov. 30 in Lawrence, where she worked at a medical office. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. She is survived by three daughters, one of whom is Kathleen Wright Gillihan, '81; three sons, two of whom are Kevin, '85, and Shawn, '86; nine grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Rock Chalk Review

Light-bulb moments

Incidental Comic Grant Snider sketches prizes and pitfalls of creativity in his debut

Thomas Edison famously said, “Genius is 1 percent inspiration, 99 percent perspiration.”

Cartoonist Grant Snider will tell you it’s way more complicated than that.

Snider opens his debut book, *The Shape of Ideas: An Illustrated Exploration of Creativity*, with a drawing called “Genius Is ...” that breaks it down like this: 1 percent inspiration and 29 percent perspiration, with the remaining 70 percent a mix of improvisation, aspiration, contemplation, exploration, imitation, desperation, daily frustration and just a smidgen—0.1 percent to be precise—pure elation.

Each of those “-ations” is also a chapter in Snider’s whimsical, wondrous collection

of one- and two-page comics exploring various aspects of creativity.

Snider’s colorful drawings display the artist’s flair for visual puns and wordplay, even as he explores some of the darker corners of creative angst.

The chapter titled Aspiration, for example, features drawings that address resolve, daring, disappointment and ambition. Daily Frustration includes comics whose very titles—“Negative Thinking,” “Creative Blocks,” “Rejection” and “Lost Ideas”—telegraph their focus on the pitfalls and pressures of creativity. But there are sublime moments, too. “Partly Cloudy” celebrates the joys of skygazing with wispy cloud shapes and a palette of pale blues and creams; “Apartment Living”

cleverly riffs on the stubborn persistence of human connection in an impersonal city, represented by a single building facade; “My Favorite Things,” with its rhyming couplets and quirky juxtapositions (“Squirrels in the mood/Tai Chi Dude”) is just plain charming.

In a 2013 *Kansas Alumni* feature [“The Incidental Comic,” issue No. 6], Snider, ’07, said his highest hope was to someday publish a book of his work.

“That’s probably been my highest hope since I was about 8 years old, so it’s pretty surreal to realize that accomplishment,” Snider says. “It feels just as good as I thought it would, but at the same time it only sets the bar for my next book higher.”

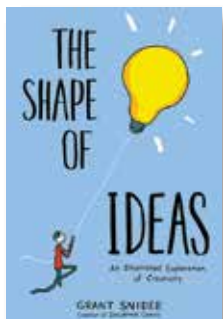
A father of three with a busy career at a Derby orthodontics practice (“It’s the world’s lamest superhero,” Snider quips: “Orthodontist by day, cartoonist by night”), he carves out creative time with early morning sessions at the drawing table. In addition to his first book, which came out last summer, he also has published a 2018 *Shape of Ideas Wall Calendar*, and a *Shape of Ideas* sketchbook will appear later this year. A second book, with comics about reading, writing and literature, is due out next year.

MARK WOLCOTT



“A lot of them are pretty personal,” Grant Snider says of the drawings in *The Shape of Ideas*. “Hopefully there’s some good humor in there as well.”





*The Shape of Ideas:
An Illustrated
Exploration of Creativity*

by Grant Snider

Abrams ComicArts,
\$16.95



*The Shape of Ideas
2018 Wall Calendar:
A Year of Thinking
Outside the Box*

Abrams ComicArts,
\$14.99

Snider began drawing as a kid, often working at back-to-back easels with his twin brother, Gavin. At KU he drew a daily strip for the University Daily Kansan; in 2008 he won the \$10,000 Charles M. Schulz Award for college cartoonists, which he parlayed into a weekly strip for the Kansas City Star. His work has appeared in The New York Times Book Review, The New Yorker and *Best American Comics*.

The inventiveness Snider celebrates with such insight and verve in *The Shape of Ideas* is not the professional talent of people in creative industries, but the imagination and everyday originality of ordinary folks.

"I think more people are creative than people who label themselves as creative," Snider says, "and when I do talks about the book I try to emphasize that even if you don't see yourself as a creative person, you are being creative in a lot of aspects of your life."

His ideal reader could be the 13-year-old who likes to draw, the 20-something hipster who works at an ad agency, or the Baby Boomer with a world-class beer can collection.

"All those people," Snider says, "are creative in my book."

—Steven Hill

Kiowa comeback

Linguist wins grant to aid native language's renewal

For decades following the creation of reservations in the 1870s, official U.S. government policy forbade Native Americans from expressing, creating and sharing their dances, art, history, religion and language. Dancing and powwows began to re-emerge in the 1930s and '40s, and other expressions of Indian culture continued to grow through the 1960s and '70s.

"But language didn't really catch on," says Assistant Professor Andrew McKenzie, a linguist who studies Kiowa, as did his great-grandfather, the pioneering Kiowa linguist and cultural historian Parker McKenzie. "I think one of the reasons it didn't catch on is because it's so hard to transmit. Languages are extremely complicated in ways that many other cultural artifacts aren't."

North America was once home to a fantastic cornucopia of more than 300 native languages; now perhaps only two dozen are routinely learned by children, McKenzie says, and the rest have disappeared or are severely endangered.

McKenzie, who learned snippets of Kiowa at his great-grandfather's knee while growing up outside Oklahoma City and later wrote his undergraduate thesis on Kiowa at the University of Oklahoma, recently received a three-year, \$150,000 grant from the National Science Foundation and National Endowment for the Humanities' Documenting Endangered Languages program. With support from the grant, he will write a Kiowa "semantic grammar," to aid in the linguistic study of the threatened language, as well as teaching tools such as booklets, games and flash cards.

Although realistic about the prospects for his forebears' language, McKenzie also says there is reason for optimism. As with other tribes, he says, language acquisition is now viewed by Kiowa people as a prestigious and worthy endeavor. The Kiowas have hired grant writers and



STEVE PUPPE

Andrew McKenzie with some of the equipment he carries into the field to record Kiowa speakers for later study.

teachers, and their language is taught to children in Head Start programs.

McKenzie cautions that teaching a language in after-school programs is not the same as acquiring it naturally in the home, but it's an encouraging start.

"Usually the first sign that a language is in trouble is if it's not being picked up by children," McKenzie says in his Blake Hall office. "Once that acquisition chain is broken, it's really hard to start it back up, and to do that takes a lot of dedicated community members."

"For Kiowa, we now have a solid body of dedicated community members, so they're trying to keep this flame going. This research project will essentially fill in a lot of the gaps that will help them do that on the ground."

Kiowa, linguists discovered, is part of the Kiowa-Tanoan language family, which also includes Pueblo languages of what is now northern New Mexico. Kiowa oral tradition places the tribe originally in the Yellowstone area of northern Wyoming before the nomadic people migrated south to what is now the western Kansas plains,

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yet details of what McKenzie describes as an “ancient connection” between Kiowa and Pueblo tribes remain a mystery.

“We have no archaeological or historical record of it, either on the Kiowa side or on the Pueblo side,” McKenzie says. “So whatever split happened would have happened a long time ago. But with linguistic evidence, and with oral historical evidence, and then some genetic evidence, you can paint a picture.”

As a cycle of language renewal—successfully begun in the 1970s by Mohawks, Crees, Chickasaw and Cherokees—takes hold among the Kiowa, McKenzie hopes his and his great-grandfather’s work can help save a language that features linguistically tantalizing “extreme peculiarities” that are unique in the global sphere of human language.

“There are some things we don’t find anywhere else in the languages of the world, but since it is in these languages, then it’s part of the human capacity to build languages. If it happens in one language, it is possible in all. It tells us something about how our minds are capable of organizing and building language, and we learn something about us, about the human mind.”

—Chris Lazzarino

Kill Creek horror

Supernatural Kansas explored in TV veteran’s debut novel

No house is born bad.

So begins *Kill Creek*, the debut horror novel by Scott Thomas, c’98, a veteran writer and producer of light-hearted sci-fi, fantasy and horror TV shows and movies for kids and teens. For his day job, Thomas and his writing partner “tend to lean toward comedy.” *Kill Creek* has no such inclinations, but it does have a tender side.

The farmhouse at the center of the novel, built in 1859 on the banks of Kill Creek, east of Lawrence, was born as an act of love by a young bridegroom planning his family’s future. The newlyweds’ happiness was intense, but did not



Thomas

last. They were murdered in their Kill Creek home in a brutal hate crime committed in August 1863, by the same raiders who would continue their bloody spree by sacking Lawrence.

Others tried over the years to live there, to make the house their own, but the house resisted.

It was as if the house refused to absorb their warmth.

That’s when the stories began. The house, said local gossips and parents eager to scare their children away from exploring the abandoned homestead, was evil.

As life raced forward and simple times grew ever more hectic, the house on Kill Creek became just another empty farmhouse, left for the prairie to reclaim. ... The house must have been lonely then, the passion that had built it lost, pulled down into the earth like morning fog.

“The first sentence,” Thomas says from his Los Angeles office, “was inspired by a line in Shirley Jackson’s *The Haunting of Hill House*: ‘Some houses are born bad.’ I really wanted to explore the idea that this is a house that was *not* born to be bad. This was a house that was built to be something good, and even the tragedy that happened in the house may not have caused the haunting.”

Instead, the haunting, as Thomas imagines it, was preceded by local legend that naturally began to attach to an abandoned old house where two people had been gruesomely slain. As the ghost stories became more grim and intense, their dark energy began to take root; born of bad things thought and said about the

house, the evil now lurking within needed ongoing renewal of fear to sustain itself.

Such is the environment where four horror writers, including one who teaches horror fiction at KU, find themselves after they’ve agreed to a lucrative offer to spend a few nights in the house at the invitation of an outrageous TV host looking to stir up a Halloween ratings jackpot—a plot device that allows Thomas, a lifelong fan of horror stories, to explore horror writing through characters that represent four of its primary subgenres.

“I wrote my first story when I was in first grade, about a detective who finds a headless body on a cruise ship,” Thomas says, laughingly conceding that a 6-year-old who wrote such a story today would likely be sent for counseling. But his parents and Coffeyville teachers were supportive, and Thomas continued to write, inspired by a delightful menagerie of horror and fantasy source material, including ghost stories, UFOs, Bigfoot, the Bermuda Triangle, “Nightmare on Elm Street,” and, most crucially, Stephen King’s novels and short stories.

“I loved the way that he showed how something horrific, how something supernatural, can invade everyday life,” Thomas says. “All of his stories were very rooted in the real world. The characters were very real, they were dealing with real-life problems, and then this evil would start to infect their world. And I really responded to that.”

Three months after his 1998 graduation, Thomas, a film and creative writing major, packed his car and left for Los Angeles, where he spent two years as an assistant to Mike Robe, j’66, g’68, a veteran director, writer and producer of TV movies. As



Kill Creek

by Scott Thomas

Inkshares Paperback,
\$15.99

Thomas moved through early stages of his career, producing and writing specials and clip shows for VH1 while grinding out writing samples at night, he also wrote the first manuscript for the novel that became *Kill Creek*.

His TV and movie work blossomed, with creator, producer and writing credits for popular fare such as “Randy Cunningham: 9th Grade Ninja,” “R.L. Stine’s The Haunting Hour,” and Disney’s “Raven’s Home” and “Best Friends Whenever.” *Kill Creek*, though, languished in a desk drawer for a dozen years, until Thomas in 2016 happened upon The Tracking Board’s online manuscript competition, The Launch Pad.

Kill Creek didn’t win, but its top-10 finish was enough to attract the attention of Inkshares, a small, energetic publishing house in Oakland, California. With the help of Inkshare’s capable editors, Thomas rewrote 70 percent of the book while also working 12-hour days on the first season of “Raven’s Home.”

The resulting novel, published in 2017, was named the year’s top horror debut by Barnes & Noble’s Sci-Fi & Fantasy blog and top horror novel by the American Library Association, and was among five finalists for the Horror Writers Association’s Bram Stoker Award for superior achievement in a first novel. Among the many fans who praised the book online was the author Joyce Carol Oates, who described *Kill Creek* as “intensely realized and beautifully orchestrated Gothic horror.”

“Reaction,” Thomas says, “exceeded my expectations.”

Discussions for a film version are underway, as is the writing of his follow-up novel, which Thomas anticipates Inkshares will release in late fall.

“It’s a separate story with similar themes: average people going through their own difficulties, and then having their lives overtaken by something supernatural.

“It’s a very Kansas story, and *Kill Creek* is a very Kansas story. I wanted to create a supernatural Kansas mythology with this book, and I’m continuing to grow that world in the next book.”

—Chris Lazzarino

Summer school

Alumni volunteers keep KU Mini College going strong

Plans are underway for KU Mini College, the popular educational program that brings alumni and other lifelong learners back to campus each year. Several Jayhawks are coordinating the 2018 session, which will be June 4-6 at Spooner Hall and the Adams Alumni Center. Mini College is open to all alumni as well as adults with no KU affiliation, and there is no charge to participate.

The program was created in 2009 by Jessica Proctor Beeson, c’05, who then worked in the dean’s office for the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, as a brief summer retreat for alumni and community members to take classes on the Lawrence campus.

After budget cuts forced the University to withdraw support of Mini College in 2016, alumni volunteers Judy Farrell Corcoran, j’66; Rich Lovett, j’68; Robert Mall, c’69; Ann Irving Smith, c’74, m’92; and Meg Buckley Viezbicke, c’97, stepped in to keep the tradition alive.

“Mini Collegians are some of the most dedicated Jayhawks on the planet,” says Beeson, who now manages programs and external relationships for KU’s Office of Innovation & Collaboration. “They have shown their love for KU and for this program by keeping it going.”

Viezbicke is a longtime participant from Portland, Oregon. She views the experience as a great excuse to return to Lawrence, reconnect with campus and learn something new. “It’s just a nice opportunity to exercise your brain,” she says. “It’s like a nerd vacation.”

Chancellor Doug Girod plans to welcome campers June 4, and this summer’s courses span a wide range of topics taught by University faculty, staff and alumni from several campus units, including the School of Journalism, the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, and the Biodiversity Institute. Social activities will include a reception at the Adams Alumni Center.

Robert Rowland, professor of communication studies and director of graduate studies, was one of the first instructors recruited for Mini College and has yet to miss a year. He looks forward to teaching participants who are engaged and passionate about learning.

“The people who come back for Mini College are exceptionally interested in things that are going on in the world and that makes them a wonderfully attentive audience,” says Rowland, who’s teaching a course this year on politics and presidential rhetoric.

Beeson is thrilled to see the program endure and applauds alumni volunteers for their dedication to its success. “Their continued commitment to this event is a testament to how special Mini College really is for KU,” she says.

For more information about Mini College, visit kuminicollege.org.

—Heather Biele



GARY SMITH



RICH LOVETT

Each year nearly 150 KU alumni and community members sign up for Mini College, a popular adult-education retreat on the Lawrence campus.

Glorious to View

Photograph by Steve Puppe



With cellphone flashes in Allen Field House bleachers providing a rock-concert backdrop for Senior Night festivities Feb. 26, Mitch Lightfoot (44) and his teammates watched Rock Chalk Video's special scoreboard tribute to the Jayhawks' 14th-consecutive Big 12 championship and seniors Devonte' Graham, Svi Mykhailiuk and Clay Young.

A TIMELESS TRADITION

After more than 50 years, Watson Library's beloved study carrels are undergoing an incredible redesign and renovation, thanks to KU students in the School of Architecture & Design's Studio 509. Now, with upgrades including stable power, improved lighting, and modern furniture, KU Libraries are meeting student needs in new ways.

Limited naming opportunities remain available, allowing you to secure your place in history on the KU campus. Special, engraved plaques will be placed in each named space to recognize your gift. We invite you to visit the freshly updated third floor carrels that will live on as a library legacy for generations of Jayhawks to come!

Contribute to the legacy:

To learn more, visit lib.ku.edu/carrels or contact Debbie McCord, senior director of development at the KU Endowment Association at 785-832-7372 or dmccord@kuendowment.org.

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