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Jayhawk Welcome Center

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Colombia's Reconciliation

*Juan Manuel Santos
on his country's Battle for Peace*

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HEARD BY THE BIRD

Talk and squawk in the news



"I missed the camaraderie. I miss the interactions with the players, the general give-and-take you have in those situations where you're helping a kid through something."

—Danny Manning, c'92, explaining to The Washington Post why—after a year out of coaching—he signed on as an assistant to former teammate Mark Turgeon, c'87, at the University of Maryland.



KU ARCHIVES

"There's no question. Being with my family holed up for 11 months has been one of the true gifts of my life."



INSTAGRAM/MANDYPATINKIN

—Mandy Patinkin, '74, Tony and Emmy award-winning actor and unlikely social media star, who in February was profiled in The New York Times with his wife of 41 years, actress Kathryn Grody. Their irreverent posts on Twitter, Instagram and Tik-Tok about COVID-19 isolation attracted millions of views.

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION/SUSAN YOUNGER



"In American terms, it's a bit like as if Duke, North Carolina and Kansas announced they'd have a breakaway from March Madness, in which they're guaranteed participation every single year. It's really an enormous decision point, which will transform European soccer, possibly destroy the Premier League. And that's devastating."

—Roger Bennett, co-anchor of the "Men In Blazers" podcast, on National Public Radio's "All Things Considered" April 19, when premier clubs including Manchester United and Real Madrid flirted with the idea of forming their own European Super League. The idea fizzled.

"This isn't about me and what I did. It's more so about what this could do to help others out."

—Anureet Hans, '21, graduate student in business, programmed a website that provides links to every Kansas City-area pharmacy offering COVID vaccines. Hans told KSHB news he was inspired by seeing his parents vaccinated. "The biggest thing I noticed is that people don't know where to get it from," Hans said. "I just thought it would be a nice thing to do."



PORTRAIT COURTESY ANUREET HANS PHOTO ILLUSTRATION/SUSAN YOUNGER

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COVER STORY

'Forgiveness is Infinite'

The former Colombian president and Nobel Peace Prize-winner recounts a pivotal moment in his battle to bring peace to his war-torn country: finding justice for the victims.

by Juan Manuel Santos

Cover image by Mads Nissen/Politiken



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Next Chapter

Designed with prospective students and visiting alumni in mind, a welcoming new home for Jayhawks is set to rise on Oread Avenue.

by Jennifer Jackson Sanner



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All in the Eyes

A Wichita doctor's spare, straightforward portraits of colleagues create a stark record of the pandemic's toll on health care professionals.

by Chris Lazzarino



Profile: Jonathon Westbrook

Father's example of public service leads police officer to White House.

by Heather Biele

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Hoch Auditorium's fiery finale shouldn't obscure its flaws—or its place in our hearts.



SPRING 2021

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Established in 1902 as
The Graduate Magazine
Volume 119, No. 2, 2021

ONLINE EXTRAS

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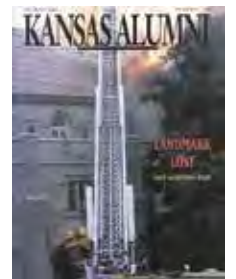
Big Events past and present showcase KU's service spirit, Modig and Corman tour Hoch Auditorium, and grads and families make the best of Commencement rainout.



Digital Feature
The Jayhawk Welcome Center

From the Archives

Thirty years ago, lightning from a summer squall sparked a blaze that nearly leveled a Jayhawk Boulevard landmark.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

Kansas Alumni welcomes letters to the editor. Our address is *Kansas Alumni* magazine, 1266 Oread Avenue, Lawrence, KS 66045-3100. Email responses may be sent to the Alumni Association, kualumni@kualumni.org. Please limit your comments to 350 words. Letters appearing in the magazine may be edited for space and clarity. For letters published, we'll send a free KU gift, a \$5 value.

KANSAS ALUMNI MAGAZINE (ISSN 0745-3345) is published by the KU Alumni Association four times a year in February, May, August and November. \$60 annual subscription includes membership in the Alumni Association. Office of Publication: 1266 Oread Avenue, Lawrence, KS 66045-3100. Periodicals postage paid at Lawrence, KS.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *Kansas Alumni* Magazine, 1266 Oread Avenue, Lawrence, KS 66045-3100
© 2021 by *Kansas Alumni* Magazine.
Non-member issue price: \$10



“REMEMBER YOUR NEST. RETURN TO IT OFTEN.”

- Dr. Ambler, University of Kansas



tend more definitely than wealth towards discretion and good manners.”
 -William Bradley, c’77, l’80
 Overland Park

Day brightener

HOORAY FOR OUR Jayhawk’s bright colors found in the winter issue of *Kansas Alumni*. The excellent writing, colorful design and photo layouts are terrific examples of a magazine standing among good company from other colleges and universities. An award-winning production perhaps?

-Janis Brown Hutchison, ’72
 Lawrence
 Care correspondent for the KU
 Retirees’ Endacott Society

Redesign all good

SOMETHING WONDERFUL happened yesterday, thanks to you and yours! I actually read the new alumni magazine. All the way through. For the *very first time*.

What a metamorphosis! Everything makes for good reading. Good content, layout, topics and writing. I even like the non-reflective paper stock! Thank you, thank you. I’m only a Jayhawk by marriage, but am thoroughly devout.

-Wilda Sandy, assoc.
 Prairie Village

Editors’ note: Due to a reporter’s misunderstanding, a profile of Brig. Gen. Kevin Admiral [“Army commandant relishes dynamic career in tanks, not Tomcats,” issue No. 3, 2020] incorrectly described Admiral’s father as a student at the Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth. His father worked at the fort’s Directorate of Information Management. We regret the error.

And I quote

A LETTER YOU PUBLISHED [Lift the Chorus, issue No. 1] “instantiates” for me this quotation from Henry Fowler.

“Display of [supposedly] superior knowledge is as great a vulgarity as display of superior wealth—greater, indeed, inasmuch as knowledge should

DROP US A LINE

WE WELCOME letters to the editor. The Alumni Association and the University remain committed to free speech and the rights of all individuals to express their differing personal views, including those that others might find challenging or inappropriate. Letters appearing in Lift the Chorus represent only the authors’ opinions, and *Kansas Alumni* reserves the right to edit as needed for clarity and as space requires. Please limit responses to 350 words, and send them to kualumni@kualumni.org or 1266 Oread Avenue, Lawrence, KS 66045-3100.

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RYAN WAGGONER



MEETING STUDENTS as I walk into the Spencer Museum of Art has been one of the treasured daily joys across my years at KU. As we pass one another, I imagine future generations of Jayhawks—seeking, learning, hoping for a place to belong and a way to make a difference in the world. Our well-considered campus restrictions during the time of COVID abruptly ended these person-to-person encounters, which we once took for granted.

As the museum has begun reopening, we are again greeting students, and still I wonder how they will discover friends, mentors, a calling, research paths, a desire to embrace adventures abroad, or, like me, find sustained and intense engagement with creative work. Will they go to art museums throughout their lives, attend concerts, look forward to reading slowly and deeply, and develop curiosity and empathy?

Educational alchemy can occur at a large public research university because artists, designers, nurses, engineers, historians, planners, writers, scientists and philosophers encounter one another at work and play. They tangle with unfamiliar ideas and perspectives and learn from different ways of knowing the world. I watch in eager anticipation for the students who will elevate, jostle, challenge and rock the KU we know. They are all around us—students who will bring us new visions of who we can be. I strive to be ready for

them and their committed and focused perspectives on climate change, racial justice, disparity, accelerating technology and global connectedness. KU students today are thoughtful and informed. They are digitally fluent and comfortable with classrooms in dispersed locations, welcoming the opportunity to connect and engage with people beyond the borders of their own hometowns. They embrace others in their otherness.

The University is an organic system of opportunities to experience, enact and practice ways of working and learning together in global societies. KU offers the chance to learn and respect difference and to live on a shared planet, and at the Spencer Museum we strive to represent a diverse range of lived experiences and encourage exploration and understanding through art. I fervently hope that in the days to come, students receive what I have been so generously given by the University—a chance to be part of a legacy larger than myself.

“Legacy” does not call us to adhere to sameness or protect the world as it used to be; “legacy” calls us to carry core purposes tightly, but, as artist Grayson Perry advises, to “hold your beliefs lightly.” To advance our most fundamental purposes, we must change and adapt, question, listen and learn again. Legacy goes beyond the surge of waving wheat and the throat-catching sight of graduates proceeding through the



JEFFREY MCKEE



RYAN WAGGONER

Campanile. Our legacy in action will be rethinking our future by repairing past ignorance and harm. To shape the future in a KU tradition is to live the inquiry, embrace contradictions and devote ourselves to education and research that strive for a sustainable and equitable future.

As we join arms and sing the alma mater, it is important to remember that we have work to do—good, worthy work—to make KU a golden valley for all.

As we plan beyond the grim days of pandemic, a first step for the University we love is to remind ourselves to never again take for granted our seemingly small interactions, the daily opportunities to learn and flourish in each moment. KU is a place where we can take our inherited world and grow it in a new direction—glorious to view.

—SARALYN REECE HARDY, C’76, G’94
Reece Hardy is the Marilyn Stokstad Director of the Spencer Museum of Art and a member of the KU Women’s Hall of Fame.



STEADY RAIN CANCELED three ceremonies for the Class of 2021 May 16, but graduates and their families, including future Jayhawks, celebrated at the Memorial Campanile throughout the day.

For more Commencement coverage, see pp. 14 and 54. For additional photos, visit kansasalumnimagazine.org

PHOTOGRAPH BY STEVE PUPPE



“We just want to give back to the community as students, faculty and staff, because the community gives to KU all year long. They support a college campus and it’s definitely a big thank you to them.”

—Jacob Hammil



STEVE POPPE (5)

STUDENT LIFE

The Big Event

KU’s dedicated day of community service returns after COVID cancellation

BY 10:30 ON A CRISP, overcast Saturday morning in April, four students are hard at work rebuilding a retaining wall in Suzi Cammon’s backyard. Before most college students would even think about getting out of bed, these volunteers have already moved bags of mulch, assembled three birdbaths and relocated a piece of antique garden décor for the Lawrence homeowner.

“They’ve been here since 9:30,” says Cammon, g’70, a retired high school counselor. “They’ve just worked their tails off, and we’re not quite an hour into it.”

The students were participating in The Big Event, KU’s annual day of community service, which brings together thousands of Jayhawks to help local residents with home projects such as raking leaves, painting fences and washing windows. This year marked the 11th anniversary of the event, which was canceled last spring because of COVID-19.

Though the April 17 event was scaled down compared to previous seasons, no less effort went into ensuring its success. Wichita senior Jacob Hammil, executive director of The Big Event, led a team of

about 15 student organizers who worked diligently throughout the academic year to prepare for the occasion, coordinating campus and community outreach and fundraising.

“We just want to give back to the community as students, faculty and staff, because the community gives to KU all year long,” Hammil says. “They support a college campus and it’s definitely a big thank you to them.”

The Big Event took shape in 2010 as a partnership between KU’s Center for Community Outreach, Student Union Activities and Student Senate, but as the effort gained traction, it branched off as a separate, student-led organization. In recent years, as many as 3,000 students, faculty and staff have served more than 400 job sites in the community; this year, because of lingering COVID-19 concerns, organizers limited the event to just over 400 volunteers, who worked at nearly 90 locations across town. All work was performed outdoors.

The No. 1 job request from Lawrence residents? Raking, Hammil says with a laugh. “We have over 6,000 rakes, which is a lot of rakes,” he says, explain-



ing that nearly all Big Event funds raised during the first few years purchased tools, which were supplied by area retailers at a discount. “We’ve got rakes, shovels, loppers, clippers, basically anything other than power tools.”

Despite COVID-19 restrictions, the atmosphere at the Burge Union courtyard was lively the morning of the event, as masked volunteers arrived as early as 9 a.m. to check in, mingle with friends and grab some Big Event swag and a breakfast burrito before gathering supplies and heading to their designated job sites for the four-hour work shift.

Natalia Gonzalez, a sophomore pre-nursing major and member of the coed pre-health fraternity Delta Epsilon Mu, was among the volunteers eager to see the event return. “I was really sad that we weren’t able to do it last year,” she says, “so I wanted to do everything I could to get out there and help the community.”

Gonzalez teamed up with three friends to haul landscaping rocks into flower beds with Michelle

More than 400 students, faculty and staff volunteered April 17 at The Big Event, KU’s dedicated day of service in the Lawrence community. “I am super proud of our team for putting on a safe event during a pandemic,” says Wichita senior Jacob Hammil (above), executive director of The Big Event.



STUDENT LIFE

Further isolation

Research identifies pandemic stresses endured by LGBTQ youth

THE 2020 SPRING SEMESTER began on an encouraging note for Assistant Professor Megan Pacey, thanks to creation of a leadership group of LGBTQ youth who had pledged to help Pacey and KU's Office of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging create community-based programs to address their specific needs.

The young people chose to coalesce under the banner "Pride Alliance," and gathered for in-person meetings in January and February. As with everything else at the onset of COVID-19 restrictions, the meetings moved online in March, and by April, just a month into the pandemic's forced isolation, Pacey, coordinator of diversity, equity and inclusion for the School of Social Welfare, already could see the unique challenges the 15- to 19-year-olds were facing.

"For youth versus adults, there's already a difference with isolation and anxiety, those sorts of things," says Pacey. "But then when you add in having a gender or sexuality that is stigmatizing, that your parents may not be accepting of, and suddenly you can't leave your house and can only be in a space that might be hostile, that's pretty difficult, right?"

Working with colleagues and co-authors from KU, the University of Minnesota-St. Paul, the University of Maryland and Ohio State University, Pacey summarized a rapid round of research with an essay published in the journal *Qualitative Social Work*. The paper intends to alert social workers, educators and others about challenges LGBTQ youth faced in the past year and how they might best emerge from social isolation.

"We have a whole year of potential identity development," Pacey says, "that has maybe been stalled for a lot of young people."

Pacey, who soon will be promoted to associate professor, notes that when she began interviewing the Pride Alliance's young leaders in April 2020, they reported challenges such as parents eavesdropping on their phone calls and video chats. When researchers suggested text-based messaging to protect privacy, some of the youths reported that parents were checking their phones, too.



Compton-Muñoz, program coordinator for KU's Self Graduate Programs. "It's a huge help," says Compton-Muñoz, g'15, who has worked with Big Event volunteers for the past five years. "We never would have been able to accomplish this without them. My husband and I have already been working for months getting this all ready for them, and moving this rock would have taken us days more."

Bailee Myers, who served as executive director when she was a senior at KU, coordinates marketing and events for KU Memorial Union and advises Big Event organizers. She knows firsthand how much work goes into the communitywide effort and commends the students for persevering in the face of the pandemic. "That's been tough," says Myers, b'17, who explained that students raised just shy of \$10,000 for the 2021 event, compared to nearly \$20,000 in previous years. "But I think it's really been finding the positive in everything. If a sponsor says, 'No, we can't do anything,' we're just excited that they actually responded. We get that the community is hurting just as much as everyone else, and we appreciate their support for us."

Hammil has kept his focus on the positive, too. "Getting to have an opportunity for students to serve the Lawrence community is always an awesome thing to do," he says. "I know that sometimes students kind of get siloed within college, and showing them that Lawrence is a vibrant and amazing community and being able to create those connections is priceless."

—HEATHER BIELE

Watch video of this year's Big Event and take a look at the history behind the day of service at kansasalumni.org.

"It wouldn't have occurred to me, but they shared that," Pacey says. "I knew that reducing isolation is important, but how that happens, for me, would be coming from an adult lens, so talking to them about what they need and what is important."

Even early in the pandemic, LGBTQ youth reported depression and suicidal thoughts brought on by issues such as not being able to present as authentic while living at home or stress-related weight gain. Young people who might have only recently come out—"Even if just to themselves," Pacey notes—were forced to endure a full year without face-to-face access to peers, counselors and other support systems.

While their research confirmed the need for supportive and affirming queer resources accessible to the teens, Pacey and her colleagues also learned that the young people also hope sincerely caring adults reach out with an approach that validates their concerns rather than serving up one-size-fits-all platitudes.

"Recognizing the trauma that comes from isolation, that comes from the pandemic, while also living in a society that marginalizes you and your identity is important. They're not just students here to learn; they're people, human beings with experi-

ences, and a lot of those experiences, at least for this past year, have been traumatic. [Isolation] is hard for all of us, but even harder for teenagers, and then even harder for teenagers who don't have others around them who share similar identities.

"I do know they're super resilient, but that doesn't mean it's not going to be hard."

—CHRIS LAZZARINO



Pacey

"Recognizing the trauma that comes from isolation, that comes from the pandemic, while also living in a society that marginalizes you and your identity is important."

—Megan Pacey

In March, the Kansas Association of Broadcasters confirmed what Jayhawks have known for years: KU's student-run radio station, KJHK 90.7 FM, totally rocks. Competing against dozens of college radio and television stations across the state, our student DJs and staff tallied 15 awards, including seven first-place honors and best website—an incredible feat, considering the challenges they faced this year.

"I couldn't be more proud of our staff at KJHK," boasted Mike MacFarland, f'97, general manager and adviser at KJHK. "Their hard work, enthusiasm and creativity throughout the pandemic have been a constant inspiration for me. I'm thrilled to see their efforts acknowledged and recognized by industry professionals as well."



STUDENT LIFE

Commencement

Severe weather cancels May 16 events, but Jayhawks still celebrate

AS WAVES OF SEVERE WEATHER moved through Lawrence, the University was forced to forgo all three May 16 Commencement ceremonies for the Class of 2021. To minimize crowds and maintain social distancing, KU had scheduled events at 10:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. for graduates and a limited number of guests, but persistent storms prevailed. Shortly after the cancellations, Chancellor Doug Girod invited the Class of 2021 to join the Class of 2020 in a combined ceremony at 10:30 a.m. May 23.

Despite the rain and lightning, hundreds of students converged on the Hill for impromptu celebrations with their friends and families, snapping photos, popping bottles of champagne and taking the much-anticipated walk through the Campanile.

In a virtual celebration posted on KU's website late Sunday evening, Girod said, "Let's start with the obvious: This is not how any of us wanted to celebrate this Commencement, here online, with a video, something we're all very tired of doing after this past year."

The digital tribute continued with the presentation of student awards for both the Lawrence and Kansas City campuses, as well as the hooding

of Barney Graham, m'79, deputy director of the National Institutes of Health Vaccine Research Center, who received an honorary Doctor of Science for notable contributions to the fields of immunology, virology and vaccinology. Graham is the chief architect of the first authorized COVID-19 vaccines, which were developed based on his coronavirus spike protein research.

As Graham described the relief and pride in knowing that his 13-year-old grandson recently received a COVID-19 vaccine that his research made possible, he reminded graduates, "The lesson here is that everything important at some level becomes personal."

—HEATHER BIELE



In a May 16 Commencement video celebration, Robert Simari, m'86, executive vice chancellor of KU Medical Center, and Chancellor Doug Girod bestowed on Barney Graham an honorary Doctor of Science. Graham's research laid the foundation for the COVID vaccines.



Buzbee to Post: *The Washington Post* on May 11 introduced Sally Streff Buzbee as its new executive editor. Buzbee, j'88, joined the Associated Press after her KU graduation and since 2017 led the global news machine as its executive editor; she now becomes the first woman atop the Post's editorial masthead.

Publisher Fred Ryan praised the Post's "runaway unanimous choice" as an "inspiring leader" with "credibility and gravitas."



For the fourth- consecutive year, KU received Military Friendly Schools designation, securing a No. 5 ranking among Tier 1 research institutions across the country, up one spot from last year. KU also was one of 162 schools nationwide to earn Gold Award status, an honor reserved for institutions with outstanding practices, outcomes and programs for military-affiliated students. The University has been a Gold Award recipient since 2017. More than 1,200 schools participated in the Military Friendly Schools 2021-'22 survey, which assesses services and support for military-affiliated students and includes data on core standards, such as retention, graduation and job placement for student veterans.

Andrew Wymore

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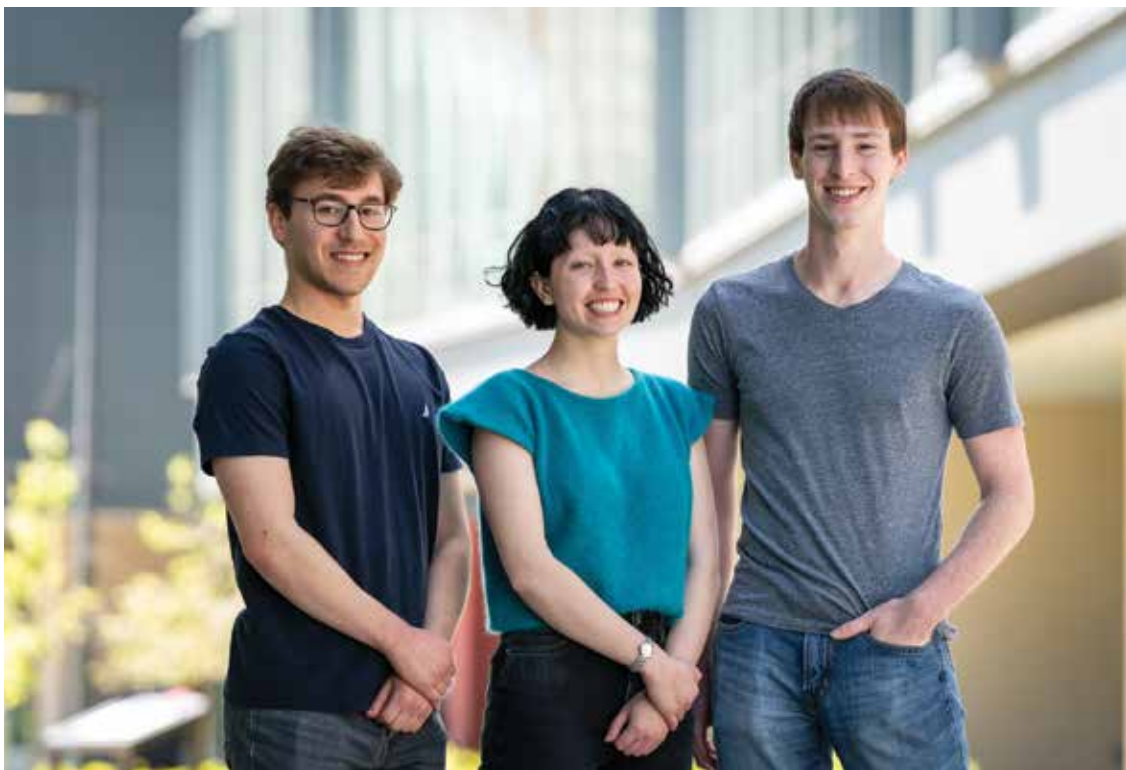
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University Distinguished Professor Jorge Soberon (“A Long View,” issue No. 1, 2019), a renowned scholar of biodiversity modeling, has been named director of the KU Biodiversity Institute & Natural History Museum, following the retirement of longtime leader Leonard Krishtalka. Since joining the Biodiversity Institute and the department of ecology & evolutionary biology in 2005, Soberon has helped establish KU as a world leader in the rapidly expanding field of biodiversity informatics. “He is well known,” said Simon Atkinson, vice chancellor for research, “for both his scholarship and his collegiality.”



STEVE PUPPE

SCHOLARS

Three of a kind Goldwater Scholar trio vaults KU to nation’s top rank

CHEMISTRY PROFESSOR Mikhail Barybin was still in an online consultation with his doctor when his phone began lighting up with incoming text messages. It was 11:01 a.m. on March 26, and, knowing that Goldwater Scholarships are announced midday on the last Friday of March, Barybin safely assumed good news awaited him after his telemedicine appointment.

Happy news, indeed, as KU was once again shining in the Goldwater glow, but *three* Jayhawks, all Kansans, all juniors, all members of the University Honors Program, all chemistry majors and all members of the KU Chemistry Club’s executive board, honored with the country’s premier undergraduate award encouraging excellence in science, engineering and mathematics?

“This is really amazing,” says Barybin, who has chaired KU’s Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship nomination committee since 2014. “The culture of

undergraduate research in our department is what sets us apart.”

Barybin recused himself from the nomination process this year because his son, Anton, was among the KU students being considered for nomination—and later announced as one of the winners. Once the committee finalized its choices, Barybin rejoined the process, working closely, as always, with Anne Wallen, c’03, director of KU’s Office of Fellowships.

Along with Anton Barybin, this year’s honorees, who bring KU’s Goldwater total to 71 since the scholarships—worth up to \$7,500 annually for school and housing expenses—were first awarded in 1989, are Emma Cosner, of Overland Park, and Jonah Stiel, of Topeka.

Anton Barybin became fascinated with brain research while attending the Duke Talent Identification Program camp in middle school, and he began conducting research in the lab of Susan Lunte, Ralph N. Adams Distinguished Professor of Chemistry and Pharmaceutical Chemistry, the summer after his graduation from Lawrence’s Free State High School. His research is in neurodegenerative and neurotransmitter diseases, including multiple sclerosis, Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s.

“Of course we need to broaden and deepen our

understanding of fundamental mechanisms of disease,” he says, “but I think the questions we want to ask as researchers should be driven by the patient, so that all of our research can eventually be actualized and make a difference in people’s lives, which is ultimately what every researcher wants.”

Cosner, a chemistry major with a minor in physics, hopes her research in Associate Professor James Blakemore’s lab, on harnessing renewable energy using electrocatalysis, will help her one day realize her dream of becoming an astronaut. Also promoting her cause is research she’s conducting with Christopher Rogan, assistant professor of physics and astronomy, on the strength of sensors that one day will be subjected to extreme conditions in the CERN Large Hadron Collider.

“My key thing is, always set the bar really high, as you can see from my goal of being an astronaut,”

Cosner says. “Even if you don’t make it, you’ll still be proud of yourself for trying, and you’ll still have made it to a spot that’s good.”

Stiel, like Cosner, conducts research in Blakemore’s lab, focused on environmentally beneficial catalysis. Professor Barybin notes that one KU *research group* had as many Goldwater chemistry honorees as did Cal-Tech, and more than Harvard, MIT, Stanford and Berkeley.

“I think this is unheard of nationally,” Barybin says. “It tells you the quality of our students is on par, and obviously might be better, than many of those institutions.”

Says Chancellor Doug Girod, “I never won a Goldwater, but as a chemistry major myself, I’m certainly proud. These folks are going to go out and change the world.”

—CHRIS LAZZARINO

OPPOSITE: Anton Barybin (l-r), Emma Cosner and Jonah Stiel are all proud to represent their academic home on the Chemistry Club’s executive board. “Not to brag,” Cosner says, “but we have a great department. The professors are great and there’s a lot of research going on. It’s not surprising to me.”

Sweet guys of Sigma Chi

Phil Hammons was that one special sort of college pal we all had, or wish we had. Always laughing, quick to poke fun, more often than not at himself. His family and fraternity brothers alike treasured his happy demeanor, so when Hammons in February faced the darkest days of his life during lung and liver cancer treatments, praying he might fall asleep and never again awaken, their concern was very real.

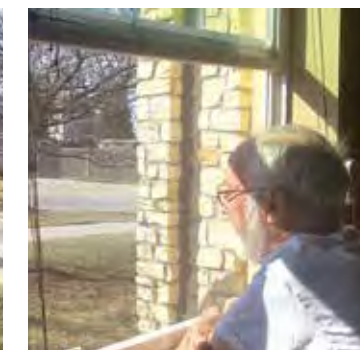
Hammons, c’66, only recently retired from the family real estate firm in Fort Scott, was recuperating at an Olathe rehab center when one of his Sigma Chi brothers, Chuck Warner, b’67, l’70, reached out to Carey Parks and asked whether her father might be up for a visit, of sorts: 1960s-era Sigma Chis from across the area who in recent years had reconnected over monthly gab sessions in Kansas City barbecue joints decided it was time to serenade the serenader.

And so, with blessings from both Carey



and Phil, the men of Sigma Chi on March 10 assembled on a tiny strip of lawn and sang three of their favorite tunes from back when Hammons held down harmony, wrapping up with perhaps the most famous fraternity song of ‘em all, “The Sweetheart of Sigma Chi.”

“That’s when I lost it,” Hammons said with a chuckle from his Fort Scott home, where he was under the care of home health specialists, along with nurses and a surgeon who lived nearby and Roxy, his beloved rescue dachshund. “It’s a feel-good story, isn’t it? And I think people need more of those.”



COURTESY CAREY PARKS (2)

On May 2, an impromptu “friendship parade” 100 strong marched outside Hammons’ bedroom window, where he greeted each of his well-wishers by name. Two days later, Phil Hammons passed away.

Recalling in his obituary their patriarch’s “quick wit, his roaring laughter, and his irrepressible personality”—along with his abiding dedication to family, friends, church, community, KU, Sigma Chi, The Wheel and golf—his family summed up the memory of the man with this:

“He was his own laugh track.”



KU Debate finished a strong season with three students winning national honors. Azja Butler, Lansing sophomore, in March became the first Black woman to win the Ross Smith Top Speaker award at the National Debate Tournament, where she and teammate Ross Fitzpatrick, Leawood senior, reached the Final Four. Nate Martin, Lansing senior, won the second speaker award. In April, Butler was named National Debater of the Year, and assistant coach Jyleesa Hampton, c'15, g'18, '21, was named the Graduate Student Coach of the Year by the Cross Examination Debate Association. Butler is KU's third Debater of the Year, joining Hampton (2015) and Kenny Delph, '21 (2020). KU Debate has won six national championships and competed in 18 Final Fours.

BOOKS

Jacksonia

Books by and about Wes Jackson trace personal and philosophical journey of an American original

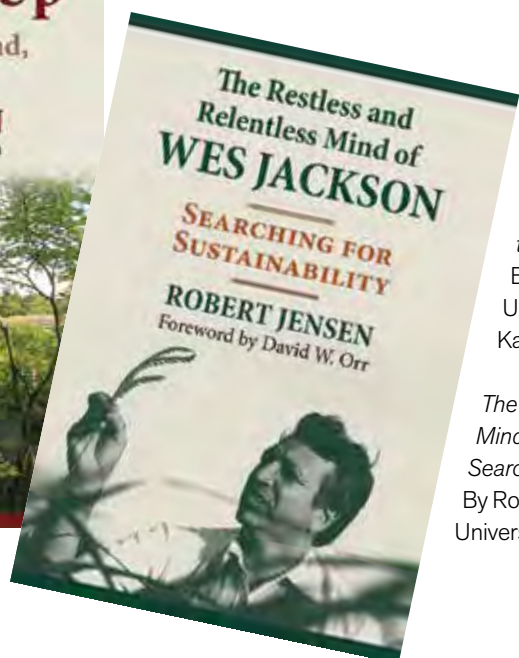
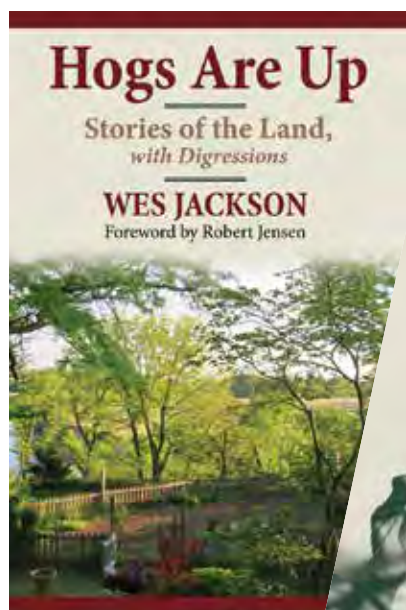
WES JACKSON RECALLS the Topeka farm where he was born, in 1936, as “an agricultural paradise, with an abundance of plants for food, for flower gardens, for beauty.” In that way it’s typical of the Depression and familiar to advocates of today’s local food ethic: Strawberries, blackberries, asparagus, rhubarb, radishes, tomatoes, peas, carrots, onions and forage like sweet clover and alfalfa for horses, mules, milk cows, hogs and chickens were tended by men, women and children who provided the hard work needed to keep crops growing and weeds at bay. “It was local and largely, but not completely organic,” he writes in *Hogs Are Up: Stories of the Land, with Digressions*. “People ate what was in season,” and got through the cold months on produce canned in summer and meat butchered in fall and winter.

Much of that plant, animal and human diversity has disappeared from rural America. But Jackson, g’60, MacArthur Fellowship-winning founder of



COURTESY WES JACKSON

The Land Institute in Salina, isn’t waxing nostalgic for a lost golden age of farming. His frame of reference is far too broad for that, taking in deep geologic time and man’s own brief run of days through the eons, all the way back to our Paleolithic origins as hunter-gatherers. Seen through this wide viewfinder, farming (even farming in the Edenic agrarian mode envisioned by Thomas Jefferson on his Virginia mountaintop) becomes what Jackson calls “the problem of agriculture.” Agriculture, in other words, isn’t the answer to our many ecological, cultural and social ills; it’s the root of them.



Hogs Are Up: Stories of the Land, with Digressions
By Wes Jackson
University Press of Kansas, \$26.95

The Restless and Relentless Mind of Wes Jackson: Searching for Sustainability
By Robert Jensen
University Press of Kansas, \$26.95

This realization came early, when, at 16, Jackson worked for the summer on a South Dakota grassland ranch owned by relations. The introduction to the prairie ecosystem that would become the focus of his life’s work suggested two ways to experience land. “One, which became known later to me as the Jeffersonian agrarian ideal, was where culture dictated that ground be plowed, worked, and planted,” he writes. “The other, rangeland life, was where the plow had no place and was even anathema. I preferred the grassland.”

For more than 40 years, Jackson led the Land Institute’s quest to develop a new agricultural model based on perennial grains that combine the biodiversity of prairie systems with the high yields of annual crops, all delivered by deep-rooted plants that eliminate tillage and contribute to building, rather than eroding, precious soil. He envisions a biodiverse plant community that’s the opposite of the corn-and-beans monoculture that dominates great swaths of the heartland. It’s an approach that, to borrow Jackson’s typically pithy phrasing, relies more on the cleverness of nature than the cleverness of man.

While doing this important work to improve agriculture, the well-known sustainability advocate (whom KU awarded an honorary doctorate of science in 2013 for notable contributions to the environment) also began questioning the assumptions on which modern life is built: consumerism, growth economics, reliance on technology and fossil fuels, and an industrial farming model that separates ecology and agriculture into warring camps that work least well for farmers and consumers and best for corporate middlemen. His conclusion: As a species we need to curb consumption, need to “power down” and wean ourselves off the easy energy of dwindling fossil fuels “while we still have slack”—in farming, yes, but also in nearly every facet of our lifestyle. “We’ve lived with the assumption that there’s always more,” Jackson writes. “But I believe the future is going to be defined by living within limits, with learning to adapt to less.”

Hogs Are Up sketches the backstory to

the braided, iconoclastic worldview of a man who grew up with a hoe in hand, trained as a botanist and geneticist, and deeply engaged with books and people who, each in their own way, have something to teach a curious mind. Jackson is a gifted storyteller, and his tales feel at times like simple recollections and at others like environmental parables—elliptical stories that often begin and end with questions, and whose frequent digressions aren’t beside the point but usually *are* the point.

Alongside this survey of the people and places that shaped Jackson’s intellectual journey, *The Restless and Relentless Mind of Wes Jackson*, by Robert Jensen, University of Texas professor emeritus of journalism, stands as an up-to-date primer on the ideas themselves, synthesizing Jackson’s philosophy in one compact package. “It’s the book I wanted you to write, but you were busy with other things,” Jensen told Jackson during an online conversation hosted in April by Lawrence’s Raven Book Store, “so I wrote it.” Jackson has explored these ideas extensively in a generous handful of books, but Jensen deftly hits the highlights, combining a journalist’s ear for Jackson’s memorable phrases with a clear

analysis of his crucial insights about mankind and the natural world. Writing about a key moment after Jackson left a plum job in academia to return to Kansas, for instance, Jensen describes the breakthrough insight of how his home state’s wheat fields might mimic the self-sustaining prairie as “the simple but revolutionary idea of pulling agriculture back toward nature’s circle.” That description sums up perfectly the balance of boldness and humility in Wes Jackson’s work.

“For longtime readers of Jackson, many of the phrases will be familiar but may be organized in a new way that can spark new thinking,” Jensen writes. “For those unfamiliar with his work, the book can serve as an introduction to the worldview that Jackson has built from a lifetime of experience, drawing on a range of disciplines.” Read together, the two texts crackle with the spark of an original mind always pushing (restlessly, relentlessly, but also playfully) against assumption and accepted wisdom. Here gambols man’s cleverness, to be sure, but in service of the seriously radical idea that perhaps Mother Nature knows best after all.

—STEVEN HILL



Marty Baron, retired editor of *The Boston Globe* and *The Washington Post*, received the William Allen White National Citation during a virtual event hosted by the School of Journalism April 21. In his speech, Baron—whose newsrooms won 17 Pulitzers under his leadership— noted the resonance White’s own 1922 Pulitzer-winning editorial, “To An Anxious Friend,” holds now. “Today it could be called, ‘To An Anxious Nation,’” Baron said, decrying the political polarization, “coarsening public discourse” and erosion of press freedoms that White championed. A complete list of National Citation recipients is at journalism.ku.edu.

“We said, ‘Well, instead of focusing on what we can’t do, what does moving to an audio format make possible that we couldn’t do otherwise?’”

—Henry Bial



STEVE PUPPE (4)

ACADEMICS

Air play

In pandemic pivot, KU Theatre adapts radio drama to modern age

THE THEATRE INDUSTRY has been hit hard by COVID-19: In New York City alone, where all 41 Broadway theatres shut down in March 2020, ticket sales from the pandemic-shortened season amounted to only about \$300 million, compared with \$1.8 billion the season before.

At KU, where University Theatre mounts a half-dozen full productions in a typical academic year, faculty had to rethink plans for the 2020-'21 season.

“With COVID we can’t have an audience in our space, and we can’t really even have actors in each other’s personal space safely, so how do you keep doing what we do?” says Henry Bial, professor and chairman of the department of theatre and dance.

While many theatre companies have embraced the latest technology to ensure that the shows go on, Bial was inspired by a more historic media format: the radio drama.

In the spirit of the 1930s radio plays created by

Orson Welles and his Mercury Theatre company, Jayhawk Theatre on the Air set out to present live, script-in-hand readings of contemporary plays, including works by KU playwrights, for broadcast to remote audiences.

In the process, they discovered that a pandemic pivot could be about more than just making the best of a bad situation; it could also open up new opportunities.

“For me the inspiration was not so much the ‘War of the Worlds’ scary part of it,” Bial says of the Mercury Theatre model, “but the idea that during the Depression they made theatre available via radio to people who otherwise wouldn’t be able to access it.”

For audiences today, the biggest hurdle to access is often the high price of tickets, and that hurdle is even greater with so many people losing jobs in the past year. But there are also access problems on the production side.

“If it costs \$50,000 to put on a show, producers are going to be more risk-averse,” Bial explains. “If it’s Broadway and it costs \$5 million to put on a show, producers are going more for the broadest common denominator” in deciding which plays to produce. “And that’s not always where the best stories are.”



For safety, performers spread out onstage and used clear plastic face shields during their rehearsal of “Goodnight, Tyler.” The April performance was beamed by video link to viewers.

With the script-in-hand format decided, KU Theatre embraced the chance to rethink its approach.

“We said, ‘Well, instead of focusing on what we can’t do, what does moving to an audio format make possible that we couldn’t do otherwise?’” Bial says.

Because actors read directly from scripts, rehearsal time is greatly reduced, which can draw students—and, on occasion, alumni—who could not commit to five-nights-a-week rehearsals because of class or work schedules. The digital broadcast expands the potential audience for a performance and allows playwrights to participate in talkbacks with actors and audience members. The absence of sets and costumes lowers the financial investment for the theatre department, which “allows us to take a chance on newer, less recognizable work, because we don’t have to think about box office in quite the same way,” Bial says. “Lower risk economically allows us to take a bigger risk creatively.”

The second production in the Jayhawk Theatre on the Air series, “March Madness,” a work-in-progress by Darren Canady, associate professor in the graduate creative writing program, allowed students to collaborate not only with a local playwright, but also with an experienced alumni actor, Jack Wright, g’67, PhD’69, professor emeritus of theatre. “It’s a nice treat for our students to work with people they might not have had a chance to work with if we were putting on a full-blown production,” Bial says.

The scramble to salvage classroom and extra-curricular activities for students is just part of the survival strategy faced by colleges and universities across the country in the past year. The same is true for KU, where in addition to Jayhawk Theatre on the Air, the department of theatre and dance also has hosted virtual dance recitals and hired established playwrights to write new monologues for KU students to perform.

It’s all part of an effort not merely to get through the logistical challenge posed by a global pandemic, but to use that challenge to find new ways of approaching age-old arts.

“We’re constantly trying to put an emphasis on, what does this give us a chance to do that we couldn’t have done before?” Bial says. “It doesn’t make up for the fact that they have to wear a mask in tap class; it doesn’t make up for the fact that we can’t have a traditional cast party or some of the other accoutrements of college life. But we’re doing what we can.”

—STEVEN HILL



The fourth-annual One Day. One KU. fund drive on Feb. 18 generated more than 5,400 gifts totaling nearly \$3.4 million, including a surprise \$1 million gift to benefit the KU Alzheimer’s Disease Center and a \$10,000 gift through Facebook, the largest gift received via social media since the 24-hour fundraising whirlwind began in 2018. “I grew up in Santanta, Kansas,” said Mary Haddican, c’73, l’76, of St. John, who made the \$10,000 gift to benefit the KU School of Medicine-Salina. “I know the importance of rural health care.” This year’s drive saw 2,000 more gifts than in 2019 and a boost in donations by more than \$2 million. “Donors stepped up at record levels to support KU in these times of great need,” said KU Endowment president Dale Seufferling, j’77. “We couldn’t be more thankful for every meaningful gift that totaled such a tremendous result.”

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RESEARCH

At-home test progresses

PRODUCTION IS UNDERWAY on an at-home COVID-19 test developed in spring 2020 by KU researchers. Led by Steven Soper, Foundation Distinguished Professor of chemistry and mechanical engineering, a team of graduate students has worked throughout the year to repurpose a chip-based blood test that KU launched in 2018 to detect a variety of cancers and other diseases. The COVID-19 test uses the same technology to isolate virus particles from a saliva sample and delivers an accurate result in about 15 minutes.

Although testing for COVID-19 has decreased in recent months, thanks in large part to the widespread availability of vaccines, Soper insists it remains an important component in combating the virus, especially as new variants emerge. "This is such a dynamic event," he says. "Who knows what's going to happen in the next few months. Are new variants, in addition to the ones that are already out there, going to be generated that might require more rigorous testing?"

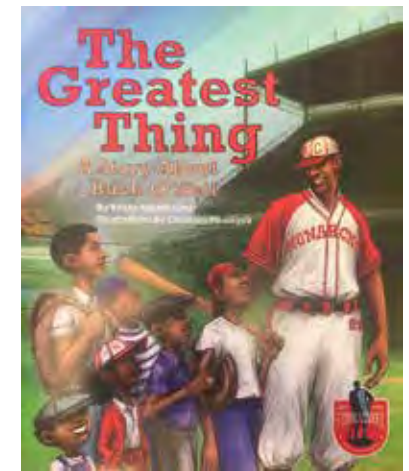
If so, says Soper, PhD'90, this chip technology could easily be reprogrammed—in just a few weeks—to detect new COVID-19 variants or other SARS-related diseases. In addition, the test will be helpful in determining if and how affected persons should be quarantined during a pandemic.

Both the chip and the cell-phone-sized handheld device in which it's housed are in the end stages of development, and Soper's team will work with two large-scale commercial manufacturers to produce the quantities needed for distribution. As with KU's other blood-based chip tests, the COVID-19 test will be marketed through BioFluidica, a San Francisco-based company that has an advanced research lab in Lawrence. Soper hopes the tests will be available by the end of 2021.

Though it will take more than a year to get the test from laboratory conception to commercial readiness, Soper points out that a project of this scale usually takes two to three years to complete—and his graduate students have done it in about one-third the time. "The way we were able to get that done is just mobilizing a lot of students to work on this and work as a team," he says. "And we didn't have millions and billions of dollars to do this. We had a very tight budget, and we were still able to pull this off."

Book briefs

THE INSPIRING TRUE STORY of baseball legend Buck O'Neil is revealed for younger audiences in *The Greatest Thing: A Story About Buck O'Neil*, by Kristy Nerstheimer, d'89, g'94, with illustrations by New York artist Christian Paniagua. Told in O'Neil's enthusiastic and loving voice, *The Greatest Thing* shares his passion for baseball, education and a fair and just society, and brings to life the many legends he played alongside, include Satchell Paige and "Cool Papa" Bell. Published in connection with the 100th anniversary of the Negro National Leagues, *The Greatest Thing* benefits both the O'Neil family's First Base Enterprises and Kansas City's Negro Leagues Baseball Museum.



The Greatest Thing
By Kristy Nerstheimer, with illustrations by Christian Paniagua
The Little Fig, \$21.95



Color-Rich Gardening for the South
By Roxann Ward
The University of North Carolina Press, \$24

AFTER A FEW SEASONS of mixed success in her first forays in Southern gardening, Roxann Hargrave Ward moved with her family to England, where for two years she "was living every American gardener's dream." Ward, j'81, spent her final summer overseas studying garden design at a local agricultural college and returned home to Georgia energized to become a master gardener with the skills and creative artistry worthy of the South's flowering palettes, as seen in "botanical jewels" of Charleston's famous window boxes and Victorian-era flowering shrubs. Now her *Color-Rich Gardening for the South*, a delicious new paperback and e-book from The University of North Carolina Press, delivers that expertise

and eye for design with a spirited flair both inspirational and technically detailed. Ward notes that while plant materials discussed in her book are geared toward regions of mild winters, her garden designs can be adapted to any area of the country.

In issue 3, *Kansas Alumni* will feature a story on Jeff DeWitt, KU's new CFO, who arrived in Lawrence in early April. DeWitt most recently was CFO of Washington, D.C., where leaders credit him for directing a dramatic financial recovery. DeWitt also earned praise from leaders in Phoenix, where he led the city's recovery from the Great Recession.



STEVE PUPPE

BUDGET

Financial reckoning

Legislature partially restores funding; KU plans to correct structural deficits

THE KANSAS LEGISLATURE reduced base-budget funding for the state's six public universities by 2.5% for fiscal year 2022. Gov. Laura Kelly, who had proposed a 5.5% cut in January, signed the legislation.

The Kansas Board of Regents had asked the governor and the Legislature to maintain stable base-budget funding at last year's level for all universities, but appropriations fell short of that goal.

KU, Kansas State and Wichita State universities heard encouraging news earlier in the session, when the Legislature easily approved the Regents' second priority: renewal of the Kansas Engineering Initiative Act. Gov. Kelly added her signature to extend the program for another 10 years. The original 2011 initiative aimed to double the number of annual engineering graduates for a combined total of 1,365 engineers by 2021. The state funded each of the three engineering schools \$3.5 million annually to expand, which each school matched. In 2020, the three schools graduated nearly 1,700 new engineers.

In the omnibus budget bill passed May 9, lawmakers added \$53 million to the public higher

education system to partially comply with the U.S. Department of Education's stipulation that states show "maintenance of efforts" in funding education to receive another round of COVID relief funds. Kelly signed the bill May 21, but at press time, KU's portion of the \$53 million had not been determined.

According to federal calculations, Kansas needs to add \$105 million for higher education in each of the next two years, but legislators hope to receive a waiver by showing "good faith" in restoring half the funds. The U.S. Department of Education on May 11 released \$36 billion in emergency funding under the American Rescue Plan's Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund. KU's total allocation is \$41.12 million, including:

- \$20.63 million (minimum for student aid)
- \$20.49 million (maximum for institution)

In early May, KU announced cuts to academic and administrative units ranging from 1% to 12% beginning July 1 as part of an overall shift in financial management to correct a structural budget deficit on the Lawrence campus caused by the state's disinvestment, decreasing enrollment and other factors. Jeff DeWitt, KU's new chief financial officer, explained his plan to resolve the ongoing shortfall in a video with Chancellor Doug Girod and Provost Barbara Bichelmeyer, j'82, c'86, g'88, PhD'92; to watch, visit rockcha.lk/FinancialUpdate.

—JENNIFER JACKSON SANNER



STEVE PUPPE

Taussig

UPDATE

From script to screen

ALMOST A YEAR AFTER the publication of her widely praised memoir, *Sitting Pretty: The View from My Ordinary Resilient Disabled Body*, Rebekah Taussig has another reason to celebrate: ABC Signature is developing her book for television.

Taussig, PhD'17, a disability advocate who has been paralyzed from the waist down since she was 14 months old, will co-write the TV adaptation and work with executive producers from Mandeville Films, as well as director-producer Randall Einhorn, who's known for several hit television shows, including "The Office," "Parks and Recreation" and "Modern Family."

Sitting Pretty is Taussig's first book ("In Her Words," issue No. 1) and was published in August 2020 by HarperOne. The collection of essays is rooted in the mini-memoirs she began sharing five years ago on her Instagram account, which detail the challenges and complications she faced growing up in a wheelchair. The opportunity to expand her book's reach as a TV show and shine a spotlight on the disabled community is exciting, she says.

"It's about time we had a show with a wheelchair-using woman at the center," Taussig says, "and it means the world to me that I get to participate in making it."

Mass Street & more Shot and a show

A SPOONFUL OF SUGAR helps the medicine go down, but an injection calls for something stronger: show tunes.

Since February, Sigler Pharmacy, run by Jeff Sigler, p'84, PharmD'12, teamed with Theatre Lawrence director Mary Doveton, g'79, and staff to host about 30 clinics administering more than 10,000 COVID-19 vaccinations and a healthy dose of song and dance.

Vaccine-seekers check in at Will Call, receive their jabs in the lobby, then take seats onstage to wait out the observation period with a video serenade from past productions.

The collaboration was a chance to utilize shuttered space, highlight the "heavy hit" borne by theatres in the pandemic, and help the needle-phobic tune out their terror.

"There's a lot of anxiety about getting a shot—especially this shot—so maybe it made them a little more comfortable," Sigler says of the Broadway backdrop. "I think it worked well."

Indubitably. In a most delightful way.



STEVE PUPPE (2)



CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

Here are a few virtual offerings this summer. For full listings of events, visit the links below.

Dole Institute of Politics

June 10 A conversation with Juan Manuel Santos

doleinstitute.org

Lied Center

July 8 Allégresse: The Joy of Musical Outreach, virtual talk and performance

July 20 FlamenKcmo Kansas City—Sevilla: Building Bridges, virtual talk and performance

lied.ku.edu

Spencer Museum of Art

"Healing, Knowing, Seeing the Body"

spencerart.ku.edu

Natural History Museum

"The New Grotesques"

biodiversity.ku.edu

Alumni events

June 3 "Digital Body Language: Collaborate Faster and Further, Together," a webinar with author Erica Dhawan

kualumni.org/kuconnection

Academic Calendar

Aug. 23 First day of fall classes

Oct. 9-12 Fall Break

Mass Street & more

Kristin Bowman-James, University Distinguished Professor of Chemistry, has been elected to the American Academy of Arts & Sciences. A KU faculty member since 1975, Bowman-James directs the Kansas National Science Foundation's EPSCoR and has helped bring as much as \$20 million over five years in NSF research grants to the state. Her research focuses on the challenges of nuclear waste site cleanup and the depletion of the world's phosphorus reserves.



Forbes hails Weaver's tenacity

WEAVER'S DEPARTMENT STORE, for more than 160 years downtown's stalwart anchor, recently received well-deserved recognition on Forbes.com, which hailed Lawrence's traditional retail hub for its decidedly modern touches. "As an independently run department store in 2021," wrote Michael Lisicky, a Forbes contributor who specializes in department stores, "Weaver's is a very rare breed. Fifty years ago, 22 such stores operated throughout the state of Kansas. Today, barely a half dozen are still open for business across the entire country." Lisicky noted that after weathering a two-month closure



STEVE PUPPE (2)

and pandemic-related supply chain delays that are still ongoing, Weaver's is poised to continue offering its loyal customers good selections at attractive prices, along with amenities that distinguish it from soulless big-box stores: "Weaver's assortment of apparel and home goods satisfies the definition [of a department store], especially according to today's standards—perhaps more accurately even than Nordstrom and Von Maur."

New art brightens old corner

"PARADOXICAL SYNAPSE," the gleaming new sculpture at Eighth and Vermont, is 10 feet of cold-cast aluminum poured and polished over a durable frame of steel, wire mesh and fiberglass, perched seemingly weightlessly atop a 3-foot tall base. Sculptor Jacob Burmood, g'13, created the elegant, playful piece to hold its own on a downtown corner dominated by heavy brick buildings without drowning out historic elements of the structure whose renovation it celebrates, Fire Station No. 1 and Douglas County Senior Services. Lawrence's latest public art installation is a joy for all passersby, but its shiny skin and abstract forms are special delights for schoolchildren. "The response I get from kids is totally priceless," Burmood says from his Kansas City studio. "They see things in abstract works that always surprise me."

JAYHAWKS!



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—Director of Athletics
Travis Goff



KANSAS ATHLETICS

KANSAS ATHLETICS

New leaders bring renewed hope

Tumultuous year salved with hiring of new athletics director, football coach

THE STATED PURPOSE of the May 3 press conference inside KU football’s indoor practice facility was to introduce Lance Leipold as the Jayhawks’ new football coach. As the event got underway, however, the realization could hardly have been missed that KU was doing far more than introducing a coach.

When Leipold, a rising star with successful runs at Wisconsin-Whitewater and Buffalo, took his place at the dais with Travis Goff, the newly minted director of athletics, the moment seemed to finally right the ship after one of the most frenzied years in the history of Kansas Athletics.

Rocked hard by COVID, which gutted attendance revenue and thrust unrelenting health-and-safety burdens across every aspect of every sport—training, competition, travel, academics, housing, meals—the department furloughed employees,

accepted voluntary pay cuts from its top earners and put out a rare call for its supporters to step up in a time of great financial need. Football failed to win a game and men’s basketball exited the NCAA Tournament’s first weekend.

Bad became worse with unseemly allegations that cost Les Miles the football job, shortly followed by Chancellor Doug Girod accepting Jeff Long’s resignation as athletics director.

“I know the past week has been challenging for those of us who love Kansas Athletics,” Girod wrote in a campus email announcing Long’s departure, “but I am heartened by the passion of our university community.”

With KU stalwart Kurt Watson, d’75, called upon to assume interim command of the department—and with the assistance of an alumni search team of Linda Ellis Sims, e’79; Ray Evans, b’82, g’84; John Ballard, b’73; and Wayne Simien, c’05—Girod on April 5 announced that Dodge City native Travis Goff, c’03, j’03, had agreed to leave his post as Northwestern University’s deputy director of athletics to take over at KU, where he began his career as a part-time student employee in the Williams Education Fund.

“Travis stood out,” Girod wrote in his campus newsletter, “due to his experience, his reputation as



KANSAS ATHLETICS

A month after celebrating his first day on the job (above), Travis Goff and Chancellor Doug Girod (opposite) flanked football coach Lance Leipold at his own KU debut.

a man of integrity, and his demonstrated ability to connect with faculty, staff, alumni and donors.”

Goff’s first task would also be his most crucial: hiring the next football coach. But first Goff allowed himself a few moments to bask in his return, pausing to snap a photo when he saw Allen Field House’s scoreboard announcing his arrival.

“This is my destination job,” Goff said. “This is where I received an incredible education, where I started my career, and where I fell in love with college athletics.”

Before the month was out, Goff announced he’d hired the well-respected Leipold, a six-time national champion and five-time conference coach of the year. After three rebuilding years at Buffalo, Leipold’s teams won 24 games over the next three seasons; in his eight years at Wisconsin-Whitewater, Leipold’s teams went an astounding 109-6.

“He is a man of integrity, a developer of young men, a program builder and a winner,” Goff said of Leipold. “His track record of sustained excellence is exactly what we were looking for in our next

leader, and is what the University of Kansas and our fans deserve.”

Two weeks after accepting a six-year contract at KU, Leipold announced that he would retain Emmett Jones as wide receivers coach, after Jones proved to be a popular leader as interim head coach during spring practice. Among the assistants Leipold will import from Buffalo are offensive coordinator Andy Kotelnicki and defensive coordinator Brian Borland.

“Every single coach is ready to dig in,” Leipold said, “and get this team ready to compete at the highest level.”

Also of significant note: Retired NFL star and former team captain Darrell Stuckey II, c’09, a member of KU football’s Ring of Honor, returned to Mount Oread as director of football relations.

“If we’re all on the same page,” Stuckey wrote in an open letter to Jayhawks everywhere, “this team is going to grow fast—very, very fast.”

She’s a keeper Peters takes aim at rare soccer records

NOBODY AROUND the KU soccer program breezily throws around comparisons with the program’s best players, so it’s no small matter that goalkeeper Sarah Peters is mentioned alongside All-American Meghan Miller, who from 2001 to 2004 recorded 28 shutouts.



KANSAS ATHLETICS

Shrugging off personal accolades and individual records, Sarah Peters (center) cites team camaraderie and chemistry as defining aspects of KU soccer. “It’s awesome,” she says, “to have lifetime friends that I’ve made here.”

Even with her junior year mangled by COVID’s schedule disruptions, Peters recorded six shutouts to bring her three-season total to 26, along with a career goals-against average of 0.88, compared with Miller’s 0.98.

“I think the girls are confident in me, and that shows on the field, how strong we are defensively,” Peters says. “That’s been a great comfort, knowing a team has your back.”

Peters finds herself in Miller’s rare company for two primary reasons: She’s that good, and she’s been the starter since her first game as a freshman—which happened to be a shutout—and both 22nd-year head coach Mark Francis and associate head coach Kelly Miller, who has coached KU goalkeepers during the entirety of Francis’ long tenure, are loath to start freshmen in goal.

“We’ve only had that happen one other time, and that was Meghan Miller,” Francis says. “Freshmen make mistakes, and as a goalkeeper, when you make a mistake, usually it means the other team scores.”

Peters, of Lee’s Summit, Missouri, won and kept the job as a freshman, helping the defense to nine shutouts and four 200-minute shutout streaks—most of which was attributable, her coaches say, to her natural ability.

Kelly Miller explains that he prefers to spend time coaching incoming goalkeepers on intricacies of the position, including both technique and tactical decision-making. He adds that when Peters won the job

as a freshman, he decided that rather than bogging her down with changes to her game that would dampen her instincts and slow her reactions, he opted to step back and allow her to rely on what he describes as “explosive” athletic ability.

At the conclusion of the season, Miller says, he told Peters that she was “probably one of the worst goalkeepers I’ve ever put on the field as a starter,” but he quickly adds that was only because she was so inexperienced that asking her to start every game of the season “was not fair to her.”

Peters took the frank conversation to heart, honing the position’s demanding skill set along with a dedication to fitness that has impressed even Francis, for whom fitness is a constant talking point.

“She’s really committed to her fitness,” Francis says, “which has made a massive difference in terms of her ability to train at a high level, consistently.”

Her maturation as the team’s on-field leader this year reached beyond the pitch, as coaches scrambled to adjust team-building concepts that had to be put aside for COVID restrictions. Freshmen could not be matched with upperclassmen for room assignments on the road, for instance, because players had to keep the same roommates as at home, and even the simple notion of dispersing table assignments at team meals evaporated as players were forced to eat in their rooms.

“All those situations where your team is bonding, we didn’t have those,” Francis

says. “Having people to guide the group, players like Sarah, was really important.”

Consistently honored as Academic All-Big 12 First Team as an exercise science major—“I always put my head in the books and work hard”—Peters says she is aiming for graduate school to become a physical therapist. That could be put on hold if she decides to test her fortunes at the professional level, but she adds that enduring academic and athletic disruptions over the past year has prepared her for whatever might be next.

“I think it’s really taught us a lot of lessons,” Peters says. “We have to be accountable for all the work we have to do outside of soccer. It’s a balancing act. It’s been a good challenge for us to have.”



UPDATE

After winning both races in the weather-shortened Sunflower Showdown against K-State May 1 at Wyandotte County Lake, rowing celebrated the careers of seniors **London Acree, Heidi Burns, Katie Donnellan, Lauren Fee, Hannah Roemer, Laurel Salisbury, Anna Van Driel, Emma Yowell** and manager **Megan Akers**. ... In a Mizzou meet forced indoors by weather, sophomore **Zach Bradford** set KU’s new indoor pole vault record at 19-0.75 feet. KU moved into postseason competition with the first team in NCAA history boasting four 18-foot vaulters, including

senior **Hussain Al-Hizam** (18-8.25) and senior **Christian Champen** and junior **Kyle Rogers** (both 18-1.25). The May 1 Rock Chalk Classic featured school records by junior **Alexandra Emilianov** in the discus (197.8 feet) and shot put (55-4.25 feet), and senior **Gleb Dudarev** won the hammer throw with the NCAA’s second-best mark of the season (242-6 feet). ... Senior **Jenny Mosser** and freshman **Caroline Crawford**, both outside hitters, earned First Team All-Big 12 volleyball honors, and Crawford was also named to the All-Rookie Team. ... Senior **Manon Manning** on Feb. 27 won KU’s first Big 12 title in the 200-yard backstroke,



While celebrating seniors at the May 1 Sunflower Showdown (left), KU rowers also honored one of their sport’s time-honored traditions (above) by dunking freshman coxswain Sydney Johnston.

and KU placed second in the team standings, at the conference meet at Texas. ... Sophomore **Lauren Heinlein** took second April 12-13 at


Baylor with a 10-under 206, a 54-hole KU record. Junior **Ben Sigel**’s ace on No. 17 highlighted his final-round 67 April 18 at Iowa.

KANSAS ATHLETICS (2)



Goalkeepers coach Kelly Miller expects Sarah Peters to be challenged in fall camp by three worthy goal patrolers. “That’s never really happened during Sarah’s career here,” Miller says. “I’m excited for her because that’s going to push her.”

PHOTOGRAPH BY STEVE PUPPE

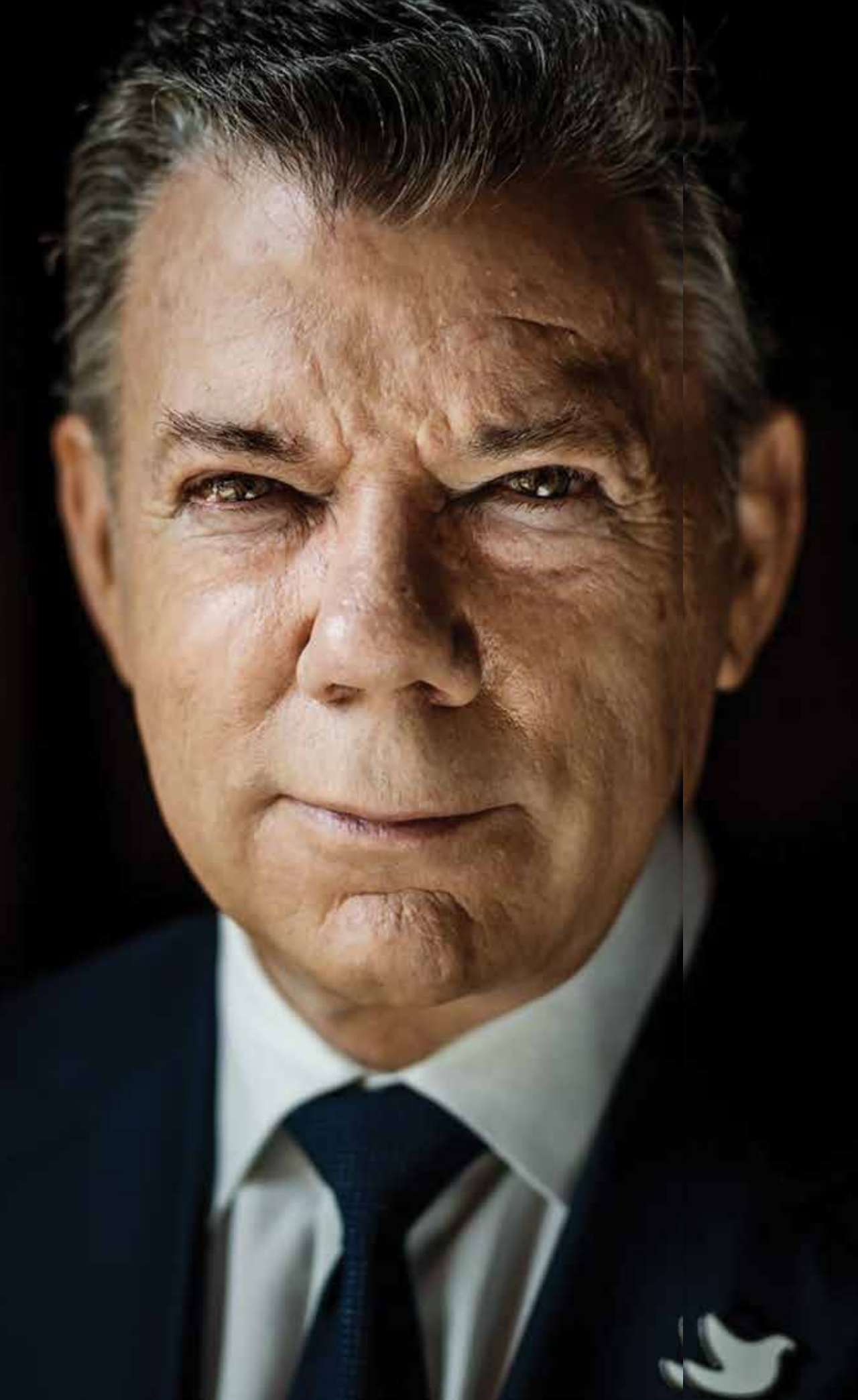


A 2011 *KANSAS ALUMNI* cover story, “The Gamble,” recounted how Colombian president Juan Manuel Santos’ skill at bluffing fraternity brothers during all-night poker games at KU’s Delta Upsilon house carried into a political career propelled by a willingness to take “audacious risks.” In 2016, Santos, b’73, saw his greatest gamble—negotiating peace with the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), a rebel guerrilla army that had waged war on the country since 1964—pay off when his government signed (and the Colombian people ratified) a peace agreement with the FARC. Santos, KU’s first head of state, was awarded the 2016 Nobel Peace Prize.

The Battle for Peace: The Long Road to Ending a War With the World’s Oldest Guerrilla Army, published in April by University Press of Kansas, is Santos’ account of that process, begun in earnest at the start of his two-term presidency but rooted in earlier stints leading Colombia’s ministries of foreign trade, finance and national defense. This excerpt details a key element—and a crucial negotiating hurdle—in the president’s quest for peace: recognizing the rights of the victims.

Santos visited KU in 2012 to accept the Alumni Distinguished Achievement Award from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and in 2017 to accept an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters for outstanding contributions to achieving peace in his country and the world. He is currently founder and chairman of the Compaz Center of Resources for Peace.

—THE EDITORS



‘Forgiveness is Infinite’

The years-long bid to forge peace between the Colombian government and FARC rebels reaches its most difficult but most essential stage—delivering justice to the victims of a half-century of civil war

by Juan Manuel Santos

In Havana, we had reached partial agreements on rural development, political participation, and the problem of illegal drugs. But the debates ahead of us were not going to be easy. We still had to discuss the point on the agenda devoted to victims, and that included guarantees with regard to the victims’ right to know the truth, to see justice done, and to be assured of reparation and nonrepetition. Another point to be dealt with was the end of the conflict, which included the thorny question of laying down arms and the reincorporation of ex-combatants into civilian life.

OFFICIAL NOBEL PORTRAIT BY
MADS NISSEN/POLITIKEN

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Bearing this in mind, my address on August 7, 2014, at the inauguration of my second presidential term, included the following:

“I will use all the energy I have to comply with this mandate for peace. However, rather than celebrate what we have achieved, I remind you that we are entering the final phase of talks. And like all last efforts, this stage will be the most difficult one, and the most demanding. It is going to demand sacrifices from us all. And above all, it is going to require decisions. More than anything else, decisions about the victims.

“Can there be any family in Colombia that does not have a father or mother, a brother or sister, a cousin or a friend, who has not been a victim of this conflict? With the Law of Victims, we took an important step. But the crucial step is to put an end to the conflict, to guarantee that there will be no more victims and that the victims’ rights will be respected in the best possible way.

“We must see a genuine willingness to tell the truth, to clarify what happened and explain why, as well as to participate in the process of reparation and find a formula for justice that the victims and all Colombians will find acceptable.”

Little did we know then that discussions on the victims were going to occupy us for a year and a half. They began on May 7, 2014, with a joint declaration by all delegates at the negotiating table on the principles that would serve as guidelines for debate on this issue. But discussions did not conclude until the end of 2015 and at times had the process teetering on the brink of an abyss, especially because of the difficulty in reaching an agreement on the question of justice.

Mao Tse Tung, before beginning his famous Long March in 1934, recalled an adage of Lao Tzu that I always like to bear in mind: “A journey of one thousand miles begins with the first step.” That’s how I understood the difficult path I had embarked on when, back in 1996, I organized that meeting at the Monserrat Abbey to seek creative solutions that might lead to peace in Colombia. Indeed even before that, in 1991, when I was in New York as minister for foreign trade and listened to a businessman telling me that there would be no real investment in Colombia so long as an armed conflict subsisted, I began to dream of peace. And that dream would become a reality only if we could find an adequate solution to the problem of the victims.

Over half a century, the armed conflict had produced more than eight million victims, and to recognize them, make reparation to them, and accompany them

constituted a moral and historical debt that Colombian society had contracted. Paying it was going to take years, but we had to begin as soon as possible. We had to take the first step. And that first step, even before we had begun peace talks with the FARC, was the Law of Victims and Restitution of Land, to which I have already referred.

I kept constantly clear in my mind and heart that the goal of peace is twofold: on the one hand, to respond to the rights of the victims that the war has been responsible for, and on the other, to make sure there will be no more victims. And this conviction, which I transmitted to the government’s negotiators, became the central axis of the process, an emphasis that made it unique in the world because the Colombian process was the first to place the victims at the center of the solution.

If we were seeking to end the conflict, it was to have no more victims. And if a form

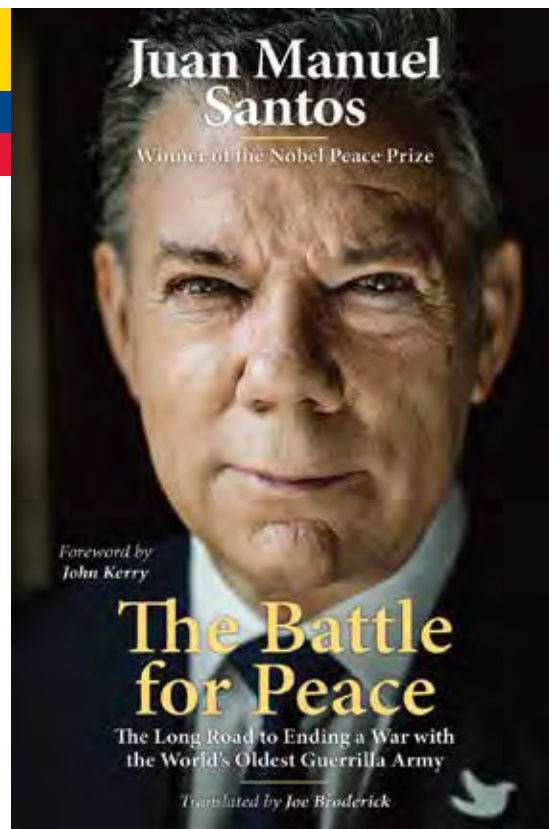


RIGHT: Santos signs the final peace agreement with the FARC, Teatro Colón de Bogotá, Nov. 24, 2016.



COURTESY UNIVERSITY PRESS OF KANSAS

“I met with the victims on countless occasions and in many parts of the country ... and each time I was given proof of their courage, generosity, and solidarity. I was deeply moved by everything they told me.” —Juan Manuel Santos



ABOVE: "The Nobel Prize arrived at just the right moment, like a gift from heaven, and made us feel as if the whole world was giving us a pat on the back and urging us to go ahead and bring the peace process to a successful conclusion." Maria Clemencia de Santos celebrates the news with President Santos and their daughter, Maria Antonia.

RIGHT: "Among the crowd there were a lot of Colombian flags waving, and when I heard cries of 'Viva Colombia!' my soul was filled with joy." Torchlight procession, Oslo, Norway, Dec. 10, 2016.



of justice was to be agreed upon, it would have to be a system of justice that was above all for them, and that would not be inspired by vengeance but by reparation.

At the very start of the process, I had a visit in Bogotá from Ronald Heifetz, founder of the Center for Public Leadership at Harvard's Kennedy School, where I had studied. And he gave me some sound advice. "Whenever you feel disheartened, tired, or pessimistic, talk to the victims. They, with their stories, their dramas, their courage, will give you the will and the strength to go on."

His words were always with me. And I put them into practice in the course of those years when, very often, there were dark clouds on the horizon and there seemed to be no way out, or when continuous criticisms began to make inroads on my resolve. To meet the victims, talk with them, listen to their tales of personal pain, but also to witness their courage and resilience, always helped me to persevere.

If they were able to keep fighting, if they did not lose hope in the possibility of peace, if they were ready to forgive their tormentors, what right did I have to fall by the wayside?

What I discovered in all my conversations with the victims was something wonderful: while many people who had never been personally scarred by the conflict were insisting that the FARC be subjected to the most implacable justice, that the ex-guerrillas should be locked up in prison for years—something that is simply not viable in a peace process, since no subversive organization is going to sign an agreement to go to prison—the victims were telling me that, for them, more important than punishment for their persecutors was that they be told what had happened to their loved ones, many of whom had disappeared and whose mortal remains they had never been able to recover. Above all else, even more than reparations or justice, the victims wanted to be told the truth.

And there was something even more noteworthy: the victims expressed their solidarity with the peace process and did not place their personal pain ahead of the possibility of ending the conflict and thus ensuring that other Colombians would not endure what they had suffered. What a marvelous example they gave us, and continue to give us. For me, it has been an important lesson for my life.

I met with the victims on countless occasions and in many parts of the country, in events where the government was providing free homes or some other kind of state assistance, and each time I was given proof of their courage, generosity, and solidarity. I was deeply moved by everything they told me.

I especially remember one occasion when we were inaugurating the government's provision of free housing in Neiva, the capital of the department of Huila, and I handed the keys of a new apartment to a man who was missing a leg. José Plutarco

Valencia was his name. "What happened to your leg?" I asked him, in presence of all those who were attending the act of inauguration.

"I lost it in the war, in the conflict. I'm a displaced person from Putumayo."

"Well, cheer up, Don José!" I said. "You now have a home of your own, where you can be with your children." José Plutarco looked at me with a sorrowful expression in his eyes and replied very faintly: "I lost them too, Mr. President. Both my sons were killed in the war."

On another occasion, a woman came up to me and said: "President, I need your help."

"How can I help you?" I asked.

"I am displaced from Urabá, and lost my husband. The guerrillas killed him. And the paramilitaries took three of my sons. One died, but I never found out what happened to the others. They were taken from me by force. Please help me to find them."

My eyes filled with tears. What can you say to someone who has survived such pain? The murderers might be guerrillas, paramilitaries, or even agents of the state, but the victim's suffering is the same. We had to put a stop to this torrent of violence. And we had to do so at once. The conflict had become an implacable and efficient factory producing victims.

My memory is full of these stories. One particularly painful case was that of the Turbay Cote family, some of whose members were political leaders in the department of Caquetá. Toward the end of the 1990s, the FARC exterminated almost the entire family. Constanza Turbay, who survived, lost her mother and two brothers, all three assassinated by the guerrillas. Her older brother Rodrigo, who was president of the Chamber of Representatives in Congress, was kidnapped and then murdered in 1997. Her younger brother Diego, who was president of the Chamber's peace commission, was shot

along with his mother on the roadside in Caquetá on December 29, 2000.

Constanza took her courage in her hands and traveled to Havana with one of the five delegations of victims that went there to tell their stories and to give their point of view. She actually sat down beside members of that same guerrilla group that had destroyed her life. Iván Márquez, head of the FARC's negotiations, asked her forgiveness in the name of his organization and acknowledged the great error they had committed. And Fabián Ramírez, another guerrilla commander who had been in Caquetá when the family was murdered, told the truth—the very painful but necessary truth—about what had occurred. There in Havana, fifteen years after the tragic loss of her family, Constanza forgave the guerrillas. "Forgiveness is infinite," she said. And before she left Cuba, she made a statement in which she declared: "We the victims are exchanging our pain for the hope of peace."



When I was asked who I would like to attend the ceremony in which I was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in Oslo in December 2016, the first thing that came to my mind was that representatives of the victims should be invited. It was for them that we had made such an effort, and they had given us the moral support we needed to persevere. This recognition belonged to them more than anyone else.

And so it was that part of the official delegation that accompanied me consisted of victims of different actors in the conflict, among whom were the following: Pastora Mira, a courageous and generous woman whose father and husband had both lost their lives in partisan violence and whose two sons were murdered by paramilitaries, a story that brought Pope Francis to tears when he heard it during his visit to Villavicencio; Leyner Palacios, an extraordinary human being who survived the Bojayá massacre in Chocó;

Liliana Pechené, a leader from the Misak community in Cauca, who represented the suffering of the indigenous people trapped in the middle of the conflict; Fabiola Perdomo, widow of one of the eleven deputies from the Valle del Cauca Assembly who had been kidnapped and murdered by the FARC in 2007; Ingrid Betancur and Clara Rojas, held captive for years by that same guerrilla organization; and the renowned writer Héctor Abad Faciolince, whose father, a medical doctor and human rights defender, was murdered by paramilitaries, a crime his son describes with a masterly pen in the most personal of his works, *El olvido que seremos* (published in the United States as *Oblivion*).

But they were not the only ones. When I looked around at the men and women who were on the flight with me to Oslo, several of them had been victims of the violence that has affected most of us Colombians in one way or another. There was my minister of the interior, Juan Fernando

ABOVE: "There, in the solemn hall of the Norwegian capital, stood the representatives of eight million victims celebrating the end of a conflict that had robbed them of their loved ones or had stolen years from their lives."

Cristo, whose father was killed by the ELN; the journalist Maria Jimena Duzán, whose sister was murdered by the paramilitaries, and the former senator Piedad Córdoba, who had been kidnapped by paramilitaries.

One of the most emotional moments during the Nobel Prize award ceremony was when I paused in my address and asked the victims of the Colombian conflict to stand up and receive the homage they deserved. And they did so, holding hands, and the expression on their faces reflected the sentiments of so many years of repressed anguish. All those present

broke into a long and moving applause. There, in the solemn hall of the Norwegian capital—where people like Mikhail Gorbachev, Nelson Mandela, Yitzhak Rabin, Jimmy Carter, Barack Obama, and Malala Yousafzai had been paid homage—stood the representatives of eight million victims celebrating the end of a conflict that had robbed them of their loved ones or had stolen years from their lives and who, now that the war was over, once again could experience faith and hope.

There in Oslo, I recounted the story of Leyner Palacios, a joyful man and a proud representative of our Afro-Colombian ethnic group, who survived one of the war's most atrocious acts, one that occurred on May 2, 2002, in a tiny village called Bojayá, in the department of Chocó. That day, FARC guerrillas in combat with a group of paramilitaries fired a mortar that landed in the middle of the town's church where families had taken refuge. Some eighty people died, mostly children, and about one hundred were wounded. That day Leyner lost thirty-two members of his family, including his parents and three brothers. But he refused to give himself over to lamentations and a desire for revenge. He became a positive leader of his community and had the courage—because this requires courage—to pardon those who had committed this crime when they, members of the FARC, returned to Bojayá in June 2015 to beg forgiveness from the people whose town they had destroyed.

Forgiveness has a twofold liberating effect: it liberates the one who is forgiven, but the one who forgives is also liberated from the weight of rancor and the darkness of hate.

To learn more about the Colombian peace process, join an online conversation with President Juan Manuel Santos, 7 p.m., June 10, at doleinstitute.org.

Presidential homecoming



Santos received an honorary doctorate from Chancellor Doug Girod and former Chancellor Bernadette Gray-Little at the Lied Center in 2017. During a 2012 campus visit, he spoke at the Dole Institute for Politics, met with students and received a commemorative basketball jersey.

New Chapter

By sharing stories of success, traditions and the global alumni network, the Jayhawk Welcome Center and renovated Adams Alumni Center aim to make prospective Jayhawks—and all generations—feel right at home

by **Jennifer Jackson Sanner**

Renderings by Helix Architecture + Design

The room buzzed with energy and animated conversations, fueled by anticipation and semester's-end anxiety, as second-year architecture students met their clients—alumni whose graduation years spanned five decades—on April 28, 2017, in the Adams Alumni Center. This was no time or place for small talk. With detailed drawings and intricate 3D models, the students presented their big ideas for a

new structure that could one day connect to the Alumni Center and become the starting place for prospective students and their families to tour KU.

Gabrielle Foster, then a sophomore from Chicago, recalls those fateful conversations with her Jayhawk elders, members of the Alumni Association's national Board of Directors.

"I remember the excitement in the room, both from the students who were ready to present and from the alumni who

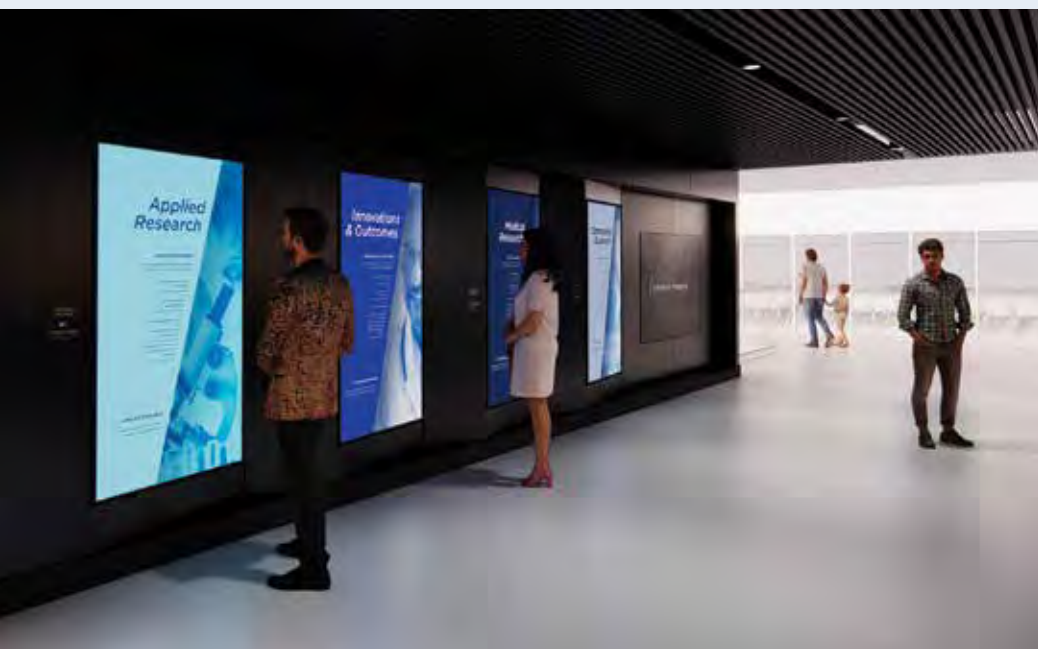
had come back," says Foster, g'20. "We were seeing the future of KU and the encompassing idea of past, present and future all in one building. As we explained our ideas and walked them through our plans, their eyes were glowing."

Former board member Jerry Skillett, b'81, marveled at the "brilliant" students, who took the assignment to heart. "I actually had tears in my eyes because I couldn't believe how committed they were to the

vision," he recalls. "This is where you start, and this is where you finish, and this is where you're mentored, and this is where you finish—this whole 360-degree view of your life at the University all in one place. They were really trying to create that story."

After the presentations, when the board members resumed their meeting, Skillett was among the first to speak. "We saw through the students' eyes what would attract them to KU," he said.





The notion of a new welcome center, atop Mount Oread at the entrance to historic Jayhawk Boulevard, had first surfaced two years earlier, in summer 2015, in a casual “what if?” email between KU colleagues. Matt Melvin, vice provost for enrollment management, posed the question. Heath Peterson, then interim president of the Alumni Association, suggested lunch. Weeks later, when they walked back from lunch at The Oread hotel, they stopped in front of the parking garage and gazed across the street at the Adams Alumni Center. “The more we talked, the more compelling this project became in terms of how we could really position the University to win the campus visit through a storytelling experience,” says Peterson, d’04, g’09, who became the Association’s president in November 2015. “We thought how great it would be if we could bring to life this symbolic idea of marrying the past to the future.”

Melvin, who arrived in Lawrence in 2010 to lead a transformation of student recruitment, worked with the KU Admissions team, campus leaders and alumni to revamp scholarships, recruiting strategies, data analysis and other aspects of attracting new Jayhawks, especially in an era of declining populations of high school graduates. Next on his wish list was a better launching point for campus visits, which since 1999 have most often started at the KU Visitor Center, the remodeled first floor of Templin Hall, near 15th Street.

“The campus visit will always be the most important strategy and factor in students’ decision process,” Melvin says. “Our campus visit is good, but we want it to shine.”

The location, limited space and outdated technology in the current Visitor Center prevent KU from showcasing

A two-story lobby display will feature personalized greetings, videos, slideshows and social media feeds, and a digital exhibit will highlight KU research and innovation. Solar screens will filter the western sun while showcasing the view of campus.



Interactive displays will highlight the global network of alumni mentors, KU-led companies and career resources available through the Jayhawk Career Network. Visitors will scan individual QR codes to see content tailored to their academic, geographic or professional interests.

what Melvin calls “the arc of the Jayhawk experience,” including campus life, stories of Jayhawk career successes, research and innovation, history and traditions, and KU’s global reach. “One of the sustainable competitive advantages of KU is the alumni network,” he says, “We want to be very intentional and purposeful with communicating to students and their families the value add—the power—of that network.”

In the six years since Melvin and Peterson first imagined a new place for future and current Jayhawks, momentum for what became known as the Jayhawk Welcome Center has grown. Chancellor Doug Girod, who in 2017 succeeded Bernadette Gray-Little as KU’s leader, added his strong endorsement of the project to the green light she had signaled. The need has only increased in an era of intense competition for new students, and recent enrollment results affirmed the pivotal power of the campus visit. In 2019 and 2020, prospective students who visited KU enrolled at twice the rate of those who did not visit.

Girod calls the Jayhawk Welcome Center “a real game-changer” for KU’s future: “Across the nation, we are seeing fewer high school graduates, and that trend will continue for the next decade. That puts a lot of pressure on enrollment, which is why the Jayhawk Welcome Center is so important to our University and our mission.”

Since the Adams Alumni Center opened in 1983, the alumni population has grown by more than 40% and the Alumni Association has transformed its programs and services for Jayhawks.

“If you really inventory the challenges facing higher ed today—the state’s general disinvestment, increasing tuition—you see families wanting to see a return on the investment they make,” Peterson says. “How are we helping students make career connections? What kind of resources can we provide to enhance the student experience? The Alumni Association is uniquely positioned to drive that value.”

To expand its services and impact, the Association, in partnership with KU Endowment, invested in the Student Alumni Network. Since 2017, the organization has grown from 1,200 members to 6,000, becoming the largest student group on campus and the largest of its kind in the Big 12. The Jayhawk Career Network, launched in 2018 with gifts from alumni donors, connects students with successful alumni worldwide for mentorship and career resources; more than 8,000 alumni and students currently participate in mentoring.

Encouraged by donor support for expanding both student and career programs—and mindful of the need to boost student recruitment by creating an unrivaled campus visit—KU Endowment and the Alumni Association began to seek

contributions to fund the new Jayhawk Welcome Center and renovated Adams Alumni Center.

Donors endorsed the project’s purpose and location, according to Dale Seufferling, j’77, KU Endowment president. “Donors understand that this is a critical time in the life of the University and KU must be competitive in recruiting the next generation of Jayhawks. The time has arrived for KU to up its game,” he says. “As alumni reflect on their first impressions of KU, they immediately embrace the concept of a Welcome Center on Jayhawk Boulevard. That’s the right location.”

Thus far donors have committed \$21 million for the 30,000-square-foot expansion. The Association and KU Endowment continue to seek gifts to fund \$8 million in remaining renovation costs, including \$3 million to support new technology and \$5 million to modernize the Adams Center and connect the existing structure to the new Welcome Center’s event spaces.

As designs for the project began to take shape, KU architecture students continued to offer their ideas. Following the spring 2017 studio course, associate professors Marie Alice L’Heureux and Kapila Silva each spring have challenged their second-year students to explore designs for the project.

Peterson says the ongoing student involvement was critical to the design pro-

“When they say, ‘Meet me on campus,’ this will be the spot.”

cess. “We spent an incredible amount of time on the design, and we engaged many stakeholders—campus leaders, our national board of directors, our team. We wanted to protect the past, the history and the elegance of the Adams Center while also positioning the project to resonate with the next generation,” he says. “We felt like the most effective way to do that was not for all of us to be sitting in a room talking about what we think students want, but to actually engage students in the process. Ultimately that led to a more contemporary design. What we heard loud and clear was that students want the views and the beauty of the Hill, the natural light, more modern space that isn’t quite as closed off.”

To create the final design, project leaders from the University, the Alumni Association and KU Endowment turned to Helix Architecture + Design, a Kansas City firm led by founders Reeves Wiedeman, a’79, a’82, and Jay Tomlinson, a’82, a’82. Helix also designed the KU Medical Center’s Health Education Building, which opened in 2017 on the Kansas City campus.

Wiedeman says the Helix team was invigorated by multiple challenges—to create a dynamic first impression, integrate the design with the traditional architecture of the Adams Alumni Center and highlight the spectacular campus views. “We wanted people to feel like they were actually connected to the campus,” he says, “so you can actually feel and see the Hill, the Boulevard, the sunset.”

But western sun pouring through walls of glass presented another challenge, especially for a firm that prides itself on creating energy-efficient designs. Helix found the solution in solar screens, which provide “an attractive, artistic approach ... but are also very functional,” Wiedeman explains. “They calm that warm sun down and filter the light into the building, reducing heat gain and therefore reducing energy costs.”

Sustainability and innovation also guided another project partner, Black & Veatch. The global engineering, construction and consulting firm based in Kansas City will provide solar panels atop

the Welcome Center, along with battery storage and a display board to track energy collection for the new structure.

Clint Robinson, e’85, g’91, Black & Veatch associate vice president, says the features will “stimulate kids and parents to thinking about the future” and symbolize the firm’s collaboration with KU through the past century and into the next. Founded in 1915 by Jayhawks E.B. Black, e1906, g’24, and N. T. Veatch Jr., e1909, g’24, Black & Veatch has hired countless Jayhawks in engineering and many other fields through the years. Both founders led the Alumni Association as national chairs, as did more recent CEOs of the firm, P.J. “Jim” Adam, e’56, and Jack Robinson, e’49, Clint Robinson’s father.

In fact, the Robinson family traces its KU lineage back to Clint’s great-grandfather, David H. Robinson, one of three professors (with Elial Rice and Francis Snow) who welcomed the first KU students to Old North College on the first day of classes, Sept. 12, 1866.

“Nearly 156 years later, we’re still talking about welcoming students to the University of Kansas,” Clint says. “I’m proud of that my family and the company that I represent, Black & Veatch, are part of that welcoming process.”

To build the Jayhawk Welcome Center, renovate the Adams Alumni Center and bridge the modern and traditional structures, project leaders selected McCownGordon, another Kansas City company that includes many Jayhawks. McCownGordon has constructed notable KU projects, including the Integrated Science Building, focal point of the Central District on the Lawrence campus, and the nearby Horejsi Family Volleyball Arena, home of the KU volleyball team.

On the other side of campus, the company also renovated a treasured symbol of the past: Corbin Hall, KU first residence hall, a stone’s throw from the site of Old North College.

Matt Glenn, McCown Gordon project executive, says the Jayhawk Welcome Center’s modern exterior will honor Kansas tradition. “One of the iconic features of the building is going to be on the west façade, these twisted, stainless-steel metal fins that go up the building,” Glenn says. “They’re going to be replicating the waving wheat that is always going to make the building memorable as your gateway into the campus.”

Stories of KU’s past and present, including notable traditions and Jayhawk successes, will greet visitors to the Jayhawk Welcome Center and renovated Adams Alumni Center in digital experiences and exhibits created by Dimensional Innovations of Kansas City. For KU, the firm has created exhibits in Allen Field House, the Booth Family Hall of Athletics and Capitol Federal Hall, home of the School of Business.

Dimensional Innovations is known for designing interactive experiences that visitors can customize based on their own preferences. In the Jayhawk Welcome Center, prospective students’ information and interests will translate into individual QR codes, which students can scan to select relevant stories, explains Tucker Trotter, f’97, the firm’s CEO. “If we do it right, which we will, you will want the people to choose the stories that matter most to them. Everybody is different and everybody has a different interest,” he says. “They have to be able to see themselves here ... then drill down if they’re interested and learn more about what that might look like.”

The stories of individual Jayhawks,



including alumni mentors, will send a powerful message about the KU network. “We can help people understand not just how amazing this place is, but how amazing the alumni are,” Trotter says, “and how supportive they are of each other and of students and how much they are willing to do things to help them get ahead. It’s a really unique characteristic of Jayhawks.”

In spring 2020, just before she graduated, Gabrielle Foster and her architecture classmates met with that semester’s second-year studio class to review their designs, offer critiques and share ideas. The future architects also met the professionals from Helix, who presented their designs. Foster laughs as she recalls comparing her work for an assignment three years earlier with the drawings that will guide the real project. “Well, they definitely designed it better, more realistically, than my second-year studio brain could have done,” she says.

But she also noted the similarities: “I was just nodding my head during their presentation because there were key points we had touched on—incorporating the past, present and future and KU traditions, and the sight lines to campus that were the defining feature.”

Wiedeman says the students’ ideas made

an impact on the decision-makers, who saw that “this was an opportunity to say something about KU, to be forward-thinking, to be progressive,” he says. “When the students presented their ideas to the Alumni Association board, I think it opened up a lot of eyes and people said, ‘Wow, this isn’t just another building. There is an excellent opportunity to do something special, something that just resonates on so many levels.’ Those students had a big impact on the confidence to go forward with a project like this.”

Former Association board member Jerry Skillett agrees. “They changed the way we looked at the whole project, not just from a visual basis but just how important it really was,” he says. “They brought to life the Alumni Center as something for everyone to participate in, not just when you’re 60 years old. It was just amazing.”

Foster says her discussions with alumni in April 2017 sparked her confidence, spurring her to become a student ambassador for KU Admissions and a leader in the Student Alumni Network. “Interacting with alumni made me more comfortable in reaching out to them later in my career at KU, to land an internship in Kansas City and put on events for students and alumni, where we could ask their advice about their experiences.”

Skillett, who with his wife, Leonor,

Virtual exhibits will capture experiences in classrooms, laboratories and Allen Field House as well as the walk down the Hill at Commencement.

assoc., often mentors students, says, “This younger generation really does seek out mentors and advice. There’s a lack of fear of having those discussions. Maybe our generation was out to prove ourselves and the last thing we wanted to do was talk to someone older.”

Leonor says the Jayhawk Welcome Center as a student project “gave those students an opportunity to create a legacy, to have foresight into the future, and that’s honorable. We normally don’t think about our legacy until we’re older. That experience opened doors for them.”

Wiedeman harks back to his years on the Hill when he describes the project as “the highlight of my career, no question about it. Being an architecture student, you’re trained for a building like this. This is what we’re here for—important buildings, legacy buildings, such as this one is going to be, a building that will become the spot for the University. ... I think this will be the meeting place for future, for all Jayhawks.

“When they say, ‘Meet me on campus,’ this will be the spot.”

For more information on the Jayhawk Welcome Center, including construction progress, building features and donor support, visit jayhawkwelcomecenter.org.



All in the Eyes

*Wichita physician documents
caregivers combating COVID*

by Chris Lazzarino

SHOULD THAT DAY ARRIVE WHEN YOU FIND YOURSELF HORIZONTAL IN A HOSPITAL, DANIEL DEJONG IS A PHYSICIAN YOU SHOULD WANT AT YOUR BEDSIDE.

The Wichita hospitalist is, by all evidence, low-key, attentive, kind. He cares about his patients, colleagues, co-workers and employer. He promotes productive interaction and positive outcomes, for the illnesses he treats and the professional relationships that envelop his working day.

He is a medical doctor and a photographer, a physician-artist who humbly says that his journey includes “no real dramatic story.”

DeJong, c’10, m’14, m’18, grew up in Overland Park, and, thanks to the blessings of a healthy childhood, his exposure to health care professionals was mostly limited to visits with his pediatrician. For some reason, though,

he decided he wanted to become a doctor—“It was always something I felt like I wanted to do,” DeJong explains—so he studied biology as a KU undergrad, taking up the photography hobby while working as a residential adviser on Daisy Hill, and continued on to the School of Medicine, first in Kansas City and then Wichita, and remained in Wichita for his residency.

He and his future wife, Courtney Rooney DeJong, d’10, DPT’13, met in middle school, but did not become close until reconnecting at KU Medical Center, where Courtney, a sport science major, studied physical therapy. She joined him in Wichita during his residency, both presuming they would return to Kansas City when Daniel finally became an attending physician. They discovered instead that Wichita was the place to start their family. They liked the community, their church, their work, and saw no need to look elsewhere.

“It was kind of a long string of events,” DeJong says dryly, happily, of his undramatic arc.

Then came the drama.

Photographs by Daniel DeJong

Last year, as the grind of COVID-19 wore on and on and on, and each 10-plus-hour shift blurred into the next, day after day, week after week, Daniel DeJong thought to bring his camera to work.

The hobby he'd first nurtured as an undergrad had long since taken hold, and he'd spent hours studying online instructional videos while carefully exchanging and upgrading expensive camera bodies and lenses. Finally established with a family and career and an active life away from Ascension Via Christi St. Francis—the Wichita hospital where he works as a member of the Sound Physicians hospitalist group—DeJong never lacked for new and exciting opportunities to make images. A young son and daughter saw to that.

Until, that is, the pandemic locked him into the cycle now so achingly familiar to caregivers the world over. It finally occurred to DeJong that if he wanted to make some new photographs, his options were limited to boundaries imposed by the pandemic.

"I didn't have a grand vision initially," he says. "In fitting with the theme of my photography, it was much more of a process of finding my way there, rather than any big plans, like saying, 'This is a project I want to do.'"

Careful not to interrupt life-saving work or ever photograph any patients, DeJong began making images of his St. Francis colleagues wearing their personal protective equipment, "just to have a portrait, something to remember, to kind of document it." He shared the photographs with his subjects, and word began to spread on social media and online chat rooms for hospital employees.

His hospitalist group asked DeJong whether he'd be willing to contribute images for a yearbook, of sorts, to document the remarkable time of COVID. For those photographs, DeJong occasionally brought in an inexpensive backdrop, but as he again began roaming hospital corridors, seeking nurses, pulmonologists, infectious disease specialists, respiratory therapists, pharmacists, housekeepers and cafeteria workers, he trimmed the process to its raw basics.

Usually working with no tripod, backdrop or supplemental light, DeJong would come in on his days off to photograph exhausted caregivers during their breaks—nurses leaning against a random wall or a doctor standing defiantly in the middle of a long hallway. Most wore their full complement of PPE, although one young nurse chose to reveal the nose bandages and bruising brought on by endless hours working in an N-95 mask.



Daniel DeJong

"He was able to really bring out the spark in people's eyes. This is about a whole team, and how a whole team of hospital providers came together to take care of patients."

—Sam Antonios, Ascension Via Christi's chief clinical officer



"While you can't recognize many of us behind our PPE," pulmonary disease physician Maggie Kennedy Hagan, m'88, m'91, m'94, said in January, "his photos allow the community to get a glimpse of what our world has been like the past 10 months."

DeJong is too modest to claim a grand creative vision, but his decision to shoot in black and white reveals true artistic instinct.

"It simplifies a lot of what's going on," he says. "We have these big blue gowns, different colors of hats and gloves, there's all these flashing lights and machines, it's all very chaotic, almost cartoonish. Black and white gets down to the emotional piece of it."

His co-workers came to admire DeJong's photogra-

phy and wanted their own portraits to be memorable, so some chose not to shower or shave beforehand, preferring instead to "look how it feels, being worn down and rugged and tired." With limited visual distraction, and most subjects wearing heavy-duty masks, DeJong's images tell the story of COVID-19 through one particular portal.

"He was able to really bring out the spark in people's eyes," says Sam Antonios, m'09, Ascension Via Christi's chief clinical officer. "This is about a whole team, and how a whole team of hospital providers came together to take care of patients. They really, really stepped up, and he was able to capture that in ways that I would have a hard time describing just using words."



As the story of his remarkable images began to spread outside the hospital's insular walls, from a Via Christi news release to a prominent feature in the Wichita Eagle and beyond, DeJong fretted about attention falling upon himself and his images rather than the daily achievements he chose to document and celebrate.

Yes, the creative outlet was personally beneficial "as a way to help process through grief and loss," but the photographs themselves were *always* about, and for, others, honoring their relentless dedication to the grind, he says.

"OK, come in, put on all this gear, put your mask on, put your hat on, put gloves on, put your gown on. You can't really talk to people very well, or you're shouting through your mask. Do what you have to do, get

through the day, go home, rest, and come back and do it again. And again.

"And so, for me, it was important to have a way to thank everybody, and acknowledge what everyone was doing. My hope and focus were on giving something to people who were going through this so they could remember."

Rather than prompt particular poses, DeJong told his subjects, "Just do you want." He required mere seconds to capture the moment in time, preferring documentary-style authenticity over stage-managed portraiture.

"It was genuine," he says. "The people who are smiling are just smiling on their own, the people who are tired are genuinely tired, and everything in-between. There's some cool moments that happened spontaneously, whatever people felt at that time."

Stark, black and white images of utter exhaustion, exhilaration, fear, pride and peril invariably call to mind a certain style of combat photography that focuses on individual combatants and medics rather than sweeping views of complex battlefields. DeJong hesitates to link his images, or even his work as a physician fighting through COVID, to actual combat experienced by members of the military.

"I have seen plenty of things in the news that make that connection," he says, "but I cannot imagine. I've never been in a combat scenario, so I don't mean to belittle anything that people have gone through in those situations."

And yet ...

"When it was at its thickest, there were a lot of days when it was notably emotionally hard. Not just, 'We have this sick person, what are we going to do for them?', but the weight of all of it. There's just too much death or too much suffering, and it definitely has an emotional toll on all those involved."

As COVID's chaos stretched into a seemingly endless test of will, DeJong's colleagues embraced his photography as a reminder of the delicate balance of focusing on patients as people, not statistics, while also caring for their own well-being.

"These photographs certainly feel, to some extent, like a time capsule," Antonios says. "What I think it will show, years from now, is that what really matters to people are other people, and the sense of community. What mattered was not the news, not the numbers; what surfaces, at least to me, is that people care about people and care about being nice to each other and capturing each other's essence."

"When we look back at this, what we'll remember the most is how people cared for each other. The humanity is what we'll all remember."

It is the only dramatic story that matters.



CAREER

Virtual connection

Student lands job-shadowing opportunity 700 miles from home

WHEN SOPHIE MOORE RETURNED to her hometown of Plano, Texas, for spring break on March 6, 2020, she had no idea she would remain there for the rest of the academic year, let alone the following one. But after KU shifted to online instruction because of COVID-19, Moore, like the rest of the Jayhawk community, had to quickly adapt to remote learning. The speech-language-hearing major also had to find a way to continue the valuable, on-the-job training she needed to get into a master's degree program.

"When the pandemic started, the opportunity to shadow speech-language pathologists in various settings, like a clinic or school, was not available," she says. "So I started looking for virtual observation experiences, just to get to know the profession and learn what it's like to be a speech-language pathologist."

Moore reached out to a handful of professionals through the Alumni Association's KU Mentoring platform and connected with Melissa Kurrle, a speech-language pathologist at UCHHealth in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Using the video-conferencing site Microsoft Teams, Moore observed several of Kurrle's sessions with patients, logging about eight hours of shadowing experience last October.

"I would watch her go through documentation, evaluations, assessments or treatments with different patients," says Moore, who received permission from the health center to participate. "She would tell me about patient background and case history, then I would observe the whole session. Sometimes she would stop to explain what they were working on or if they were utilizing a diagnostic evaluation tool, she would show me what it was and explain it. She would share her screen at times, too, so I could see what she was writing. That was really helpful."

Kurrle started and ended each session by answering Moore's questions about cases or the profession in general, and she made sure Moore could interact with the patients, as she would have during an



COURTESY SOPHIE MOORE/MELISSA KURRLE

Texas senior Sophie Moore (left) used the KU Mentoring platform to connect with Melissa Kurrle, a speech-language pathologist in Colorado, to learn more about the profession.

in-person shadowing experience. "She was good," says Kurrle, g'17, of the senior student, "really respectful of the situations and respectful to patients. I thought she had great questions, given her level of exposure and education."

When Moore returns to Mount Oread this fall for her final semester, she's confident she'll be better prepared to participate in an elective clinical practicum in speech-language pathology, thanks to this virtual opportunity with Kurrle. "I had no shadowing experience in a clinic or a hospital setting, so I learned a lot more about what that looks like," says Moore, who recommends KU Mentoring to any student interested in learning more about a particular profession. "I really think that if anybody has the opportunity to log on and participate, they should. It really helped me"

STUDENTS

'Member Madness'

Alumni Association campaign brings scholarships to students in need

FOUR UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS received \$1,000 scholarships as part of the KU Alumni Association's "Member Madness" campaign in March. They are:

- Emily Burt, an Abilene sophomore majoring in biology

- Cynthia Esiaka, a junior from Asaba, Delta State, Nigeria, majoring in educational psychology and research, and community health
- Roy Ricaldi, a Lima, Peru, senior majoring in management and business analytics
- Paul Samberg, a Sandy Hook, Connecticut, senior majoring in journalism, Jewish studies and political science

The program aimed to capitalize on the excitement of the basketball season and the NCAA Tournament by bringing in new and returning members with a specific premise: help win a scholarship for a student in your school of choice.

Each membership purchase, renewal or donation to the Association meant a point for one of KU's 13 schools; the four that amassed the largest point totals earned a scholarship for a student applicant. The four recipients are from the schools of Business, Education and Human Sciences, and Journalism and Mass Communications, and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Winners were selected based on their career aspirations and the impact of the pandemic on their college experiences.

"This scholarship will help me continue my education to exploit my potential and take my career to the next level," Ricaldi says. "I think education is the greatest investment one could make. I come from a family of educators that I look up to. The financial barriers that come with continuing to higher education stop many bright minds from taking that path. I am thankful for my family's support as well as the KU Alumni Association for making this award possible."

"With the Member Madness campaign, we were able to engage our alumni as well as help support student success, two key goals of the Alumni Association," says Megan McGinnis, assistant director of student programs. "Alumni were eager to engage and contribute to this campaign because they could see the direct benefit they were providing to students. Additionally, being able to help aid students in a year that has been fiscally challenging has proven to be rewarding for our organization."



Students receiving March Madness scholarships are Paul Samberg, Cynthia Esiaka, Emily Burt and Roy Ricaldi.



New Life Members

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

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Ana Ruiz Beck | Zachary S. Juarez |
| Sarah L. Bluvas | Zachary M. Kerr |
| Phyllis A. Bock | Matthew J. & Jennifer L. Klopp |
| Shane T. Bouchard | Russell D. & Tara Sweany |
| Richard W. Boyer | Kroenke |
| R. Patrick & Paula B. Brooks | Chandler J. Leonard |
| Pamela S. Calbeck | Reid W. Leonard |
| Stephen J. & Kelly Kuhlman | Scott W. & Janelle White |
| Carey | Leonard |
| Paul M. Castro | Daphne Polatty Magnuson |
| Michael A. Coats | Michael & Kelli Lynn McClure |
| Jamie Wilson Collins | Jim & Donna Miller Moody |
| Troy D. & Susan Cook | Paul C. Pierce II & Carolina |
| Michael J. Eamigh | Gutierrez Pierce |
| Hannah M. Ehmcke | Harrison J. Rasmussen |
| Brian L. Faust | Nancy J. Reinking |
| Mark L. Filerman & Robin C. | John J. Russell |
| Beery | J. Michael & Cathy L. Sanner |
| Travis C. & Nancy Goff | Erin K. Scarano |
| Emma K. Greenwood | Michael J. & Tuija K. Schmidt |
| Jeffrey R. Guenther | Meghan M. Smith |
| Porter B. & Cynthia S. Guttery | Jenny L. Unger |
| Avery P. Hall | Walter J. & Blanca Unruh |
| Aaron Head & Sarah N. | Lauren J. Vanek |
| Hinrichsen | David M. & Stefani Slayline |
| J.D. & Nasdina C. Heithoff | Voorhees |
| Kirk H. & Mary L. Hoffman | Susan F. Whalen |
| Grant S. & Michelle Raines Horst | Christopher P. Willits |
| Lori Hubbart | Lindsay Betts Wing |
| Madison E. Ireland | James J. Zahourek |
| Gavin J. & Kelly Jeter | |



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Members ignite student and alumni success and career growth! Visit kualumni.org/join.



"When the pandemic started, the opportunity to shadow speech-language pathologists in various settings, like a clinic or school, was not available."

-KU senior Sophie Moore

COMMENCEMENT

Class of 2021 graduates took advantage of a brief respite from rain to stage their unofficial walk down the Hill. Throughout the day, grads and proud family members gathered at favorite photo spots on campus.

For more coverage, see pp. 8 and 14. For additional photos, visit kansasalumni.org



DAN STOREY



STEVE PUPPE



SUSAN YOUNGER (3)



STEVE PUPPE



STEVE PUPPE



DAN STOREY



STEVE PUPPE



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- National Discount program
- Invitations to alumni network events
- *Kansas Alumni* magazine in print, online and via the app.
- KU wall calendar
- Merchandise discount at the KU Bookstore (in store and online)
- Savings on insurance
- And much more! Visit kualumni.org/benefits for a complete menu of benefits

Jayhawk Profiles

JONATHON WESTBROOK

Police officer's service leads to fellowship at White House

by HEATHER BIELE

White House Fellow Jonathon Westbrook thought he had his career path all mapped out. The Kansas City, Kansas, native, who idolized his father growing up, planned to follow in his footsteps by joining the Air Force and dedicating his life to serving in the military. But a chance sighting of police officers, who were simply patrolling Westbrook's neighborhood, changed all that.

"I'd never thought about law enforcement, but I saw those police officers, and was like, man, that looks like kind of a cool job," says Westbrook, who at 20 had just earned his associate's degree from Donnelly College and was stuck doing unfulfilling work at a local bank. "They're out in the community; no day's ever the same. I just didn't want to sit behind a desk all day."

Westbrook joined the Kansas City, Kansas, Police Department in 2007, when he was just 21 years old, and immediately extended his services to the public, participating in the Black Police Officers Association, which hosted community fundraisers and donated backpacks and other necessities to area children, and volunteering as a mentor at the Leavenworth federal penitentiary through the Life Connections program. He also served as a youth director at Bread of Life Outreach Ministries and led the local OK program, a mentoring initiative that pairs at-risk Black youths with area police officers, educators and other members of the community to encourage academic achievement and success in all areas of life.

His contributions in his hometown didn't go unnoticed. In 2017, he was appointed by Gov. Sam Brownback, l'82, to serve a two-year term on the Kansas



COURTESY JONATHON WESTBROOK

Human Rights Commission and was invited to join the Kansas African American Affairs Commission, a position he still holds today. He also caught the attention of the KCKPD police chief, who asked Westbrook to serve on the department's Professional Standards Unit.

Through the years, as his career flourished, Westbrook aspired to further his education. He returned to Donnelly College in 2013 to earn his bachelor's degree in organizational leadership and enrolled

at KU a year later to pursue a master's degree in public administration, a grueling three-year undertaking he managed while juggling the midnight shift as a police officer and a wife and newborn child at home.

But it wasn't just the pursuit of higher education that drove Westbrook to succeed: His father, who passed away in 2010, also had earned a master's degree. "He was my role model," Westbrook, g'18, says. "I didn't join the Air Force, but I wanted to get my master's, just like he did."



COURTESY KANSAS CITY, KANSAS, POLICE DEPT. (2)



"I'd encourage others to step outside the box, step outside their comfort zones," says Jonathon Westbrook, a Kansas City, Kansas, police officer currently serving a one-year term as a White House Fellow. "Just take that leap of faith and go for it."

At KU, Westbrook met the late Reggie Robinson, c'80, l'87, who at the time directed the School of Public Affairs and Administration. Decades earlier, Robinson had received a White House Fellowship and he encouraged Westbrook to apply for the prestigious program, which provides ambitious young men and women opportunities to work for top-ranking officials and senior government staff. In 2020, after a few attempts, Westbrook was one of 14 individuals selected from hundreds of applicants to serve a one-year term as a White House Fellow.

Though he joined an elite group of proven leaders in the program, he explains

that the experience has been much more about learning than leading. "This is an opportunity to sit back and see leadership in action, to take in as much as possible," says Westbrook, who was assigned to the Office of American Innovation and also has worked for the Domestic Policy Council, the Office of Public Engagement and the Small Business Administration. "I've had the opportunity to sit in on top-level meetings with executives across the federal government and be able to advise on certain policies from a law enforcement perspective. D.C. is full of a lot of educated folks, but they haven't actually had that on-the-street experience as a police officer."

When his term ends in August, Westbrook will return to the KCKPD, where he recently was promoted to sergeant. He resolves to bring a fresh perspective to his work and apply the critical problem-solving and resource-management skills he acquired during his fellowship, an experience that will undoubtedly open doors for him professionally. And whether he continues his career in law enforcement or pursues other opportunities, he's confident that community service will always remain a top priority.

"I don't really have a select path right now, but my desire is to be used in the community," he says, "and to bring other people up and out and push them forward, as was done for me."

CARRIE MCADAM-MARX

Pharmacy holds 'key to the world' for small-town Kansan

by STEVEN HILL

In high school Carrie McAdam-Marx landed her first job, as a soda jerk at her hometown drugstore. Clark Pharmacy, owned and operated by James Coast, p'72, was "the hub" of the southwest Kansas county seat of Cimarron.

"A lot of things centered around the pharmacy," she recalls. "Coffee breaks and meeting friends after school. It was just a critical part of our community."

Over time McAdam-Marx, p'88, learned precisely how critical was the pharmacy's role in Cimarron, population less than 1,500.

The town lost its doctor and attempts to recruit a replacement failed. "At that time, it was just about impossible to get doctors to move to small towns," McAdam-Marx says. "We had a series of practitioners coming from Dodge City and Garden City to help, but the pharmacist was the one really stable medical aspect for Cimarron. After we lost the doctor, people really depended on the pharmacy."

"We got by without a permanent health care provider, but it was much more possible and much better for the community that we had an independent pharmacist who was so committed to the patients he served."

Planning to become a doctor and return home, McAdam-Marx entered KU on the advice of another Clark pharmacist, who urged her to consider pharmacy school for her pre-med training. Before the end of her first semester, she says, "I switched to pre-pharmacy and never looked back."

So began an academic marathon that included a School of Pharmacy degree from KU, a residency and master's degree in hospital pharmacy from the University of Minnesota, a PhD in health policy from the University of the Sciences in Philadelphia, and a master's in clinical investigation from the University of Utah. Along the way she held jobs in managed care pharmacy and the pharmaceutical industry that took her to England and Australia. She's now professor and director of the master's program in pharmacy practice and science at the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha.

"I fell in love with pharmacy when I discovered that a pharmacy degree can be a key to the world, not just a key to the pharmacy," she says of the nontraditional career path that took her far beyond a goal—still firmly in place when she started her last year at KU—to return to southwest

“I fell in love with pharmacy when I discovered that a pharmacy degree can be a key to the world, not just a key to the pharmacy.” —Carrie McAdam-Marx

Kansas and buy her own pharmacy.

“As so often happens in life,” McAdam-Marx says, “the world changed and my eyes opened to other opportunities.”

That’s a message she stresses now to pharmacy students who, for the first time in years, are facing “an equilibrium” between the supply and demand for pharmacists.

“Our graduates used to be able to pick and choose where they wanted to go,” she says. “Now everybody is cutting back, there aren’t as many positions and students realize there’s competition for jobs. Most start school thinking they’ll either work in a retail or a hospital pharmacy and that those are pretty much the options. What I communicate is there’s so much more you can do with a pharmacy career if you want. I got to do some super-cool stuff, and it’s all because I had a pharmacy degree.”

In the workplace McAdam-Marx was drawn to the management aspect of pharmacy; now her research focuses on big-picture analysis that generates data

to support policy decisions about which drugs work better and are more cost-effective across a broad patient population. One project examines the benefits of having a pharmacist on staff in primary care clinics: In that scenario, currently more common in academic medical centers, doctors delegate responsibility for prescribing medications to the pharmacist, who sees patients and counsels them on how to manage their medications. Researchers are still analyzing data, but the arrangement “definitely demonstrates better outcomes for the patients,” McAdam-Marx says. “When they have a pharmacist on their health care team to help their doctor, patients tend to demonstrate better responses to the drug therapy and better control of their disease state.”

Though her professional journey has been wide-ranging, “with every move I tend to get a little closer to southwest Kansas, and to smaller and smaller communities,” she notes. “So I guess there’s still some small-town girl in me.”



McAdam-Marx

The lessons of her first job endured, too. “I’m happy with the way my path has gone, but I wouldn’t have had the journey I’ve had without knowing the value of a pharmacist, and I was lucky enough to experience that in a small-town setting where our pharmacist was practicing in a way we strive to practice today,” McAdam-Marx says. “I would like to see my research go back to supporting the role of a pharmacist as a respected, integrated member of the patient’s care team, and not somebody who’s so busy behind a counter and has so much pressure that they don’t have time to interface with patients like they did in the past.”

“That’s my ultimate goal—get the pharmacist back in front of the patient a lot more.”

JENNIFER ANTONETTI

Busy band teacher touts benefits far beyond beautiful music

by CHRIS LAZZARINO

Jennifer Richard Antonetti, recently honored by Yamaha’s “40 Under 40” music education advocacy program, teaches music every school day to about 300 students in eight grade levels at three Topeka schools, and she continues to refine an organizational app now used by colleagues in 12 states.

Her daily schedule is full, as is her spirit, especially the recent morning when her top-level band students finally returned for in-person instruction at Topeka High.

“Literally that first note, even though it wasn’t beautiful, it was *beautiful*. A B-flat scale never sounded so good,” says Antonetti, f’07, g’14. “Just to hear actual music and instruments and to be around kids again, that was brightening, and a sense of relief, and a feeling that everything was coming back to normal again.”

Exposing young people to the joys and possibilities of music is Antonetti’s professional passion, yet for a brief moment years



Antonetti

ago she considered an entirely different direction: Energized by attending one of KU’s Women in Engineering days while a student at Topeka’s Seaman High School, Antonetti initially envisioned herself studying mechanical engineering.

Instead Antonetti began her undergraduate career on Mount Oread as a music therapy major, then switched to music education as a sophomore and went on to earn undergraduate and master’s degrees in the field.

Within band rooms at Meadows Elementary and Robinson Middle School, and at Topeka High, where she is assistant band director, music education is about more than reading notes on a page and mastering an instrument. Antonetti uses music as a passport to exploring the wider worlds of history, geography, culture and, perhaps in a nod to the varied interests she embraced

when she was her students’ age, mathematics and science, including human physiology, which enables musicians to summon intricate sounds from their instruments.

“We try to bring in a little bit of everything,” she says. “It’s all encompassed in music.”

If a daily workload of teaching hundreds of students was not daunting enough, Antonetti added still more to her playlist when, after plowing through an inventory in her middle-school band room one hot summer day—with the assistance of her husband, Kris, ’11, himself a KU Band alumnus—the Antonettis were horrified to discover the next day that the school’s computer technicians had come through and wiped all the computers clean. Their work was lost.

The frustration lit their entrepreneurial spirit—*There must be a better way!*—and together they created a cloud-based asset-management app, called BatonSync, that helps band teachers track instruments, uniforms, sheet music and more, and even documents repairs and instrument depreciation, valuable data when band directors are asked to justify their budget requests. The Antonettis are currently rewriting the app to include a music library and recording functions.

Despite her hopes for success for the family side gig, Antonetti does not foresee a future for herself that does not include teaching band, which allows her to encourage her students’ creative, intellectual and social development.

“The whole social aspect of being in band is, in some ways, just as important as the musicality. It’s a massive part of the process,” she says. “I always tell students, ‘If you don’t turn in your homework in your math class, it only affects you; but if you don’t play your part in band, it affects everyone around you.’ We also spend a lot

of time teaching and helping kids how to get along with each other, manage disputes and coach each other, so we’re working on all of those social aspects while we’re working on music, too.”

As Antonetti explained in her application for the Yamaha award, the beautiful music of a band room, even a seemingly mundane B-flat scale, is to be treasured.

“We still keep coming up with evidence that music is one of the ways that can really help students be successful—not only in school, but ultimately in life as well, through higher test scores or meeting friends or being coachable or being resilient, all those buzzwords in education right now.

“The most important thing is that any child has the capacity to learn.”

BEN FREEMAN

Scientist guards forests that sheltered family in African civil war

by MICHAEL PEARCE

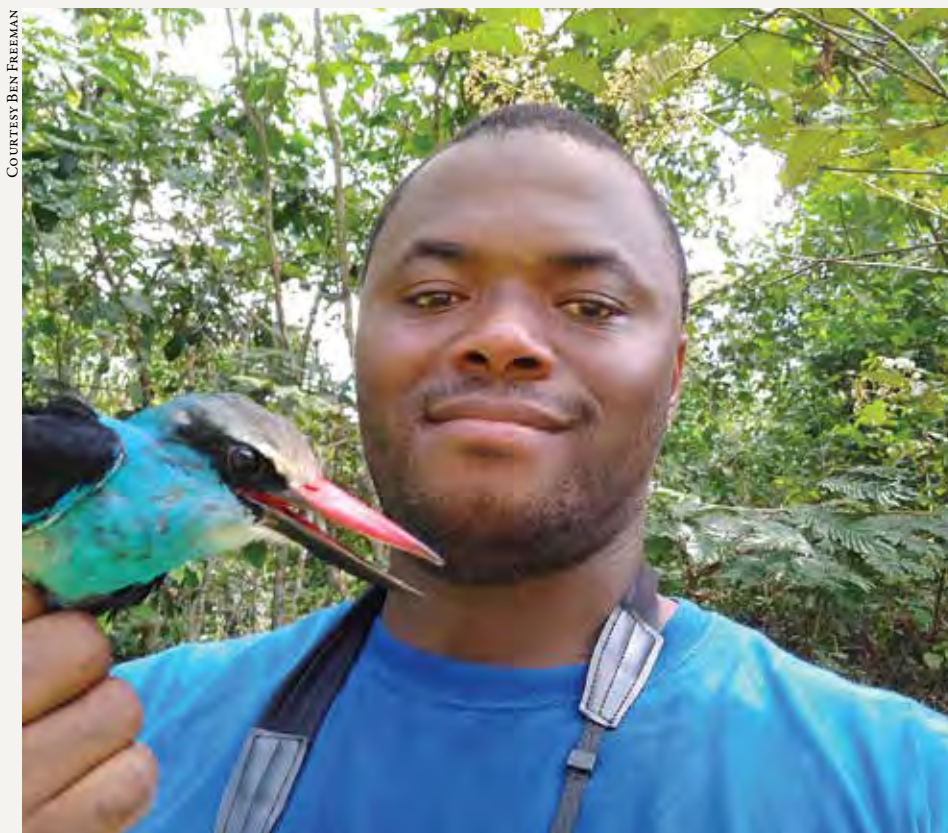
After finishing his graduate work this spring, Ben Freeman, PhD’21, left Lawrence for his native Liberia with a doctorate in ecology and evolutionary biology and a goal: to study and protect some of the world’s most diverse rainforests and their wildlife.

He remembers when his family ran into those same forests, literally for their lives.

“I was only 5 or 6 years old, but I remember we ran into the forest to escape the rebels,” Freeman says of his youth amid the Liberian Civil War. “The forest was our source of refuge and sustenance. It was not a good time.”

Freeman was 6 when his father, Victor, died during their time in the rainforest. The war prevented him from finding proper medical attention for his treatable malaria. Freeman’s mother, Lucy, was left to fend for her seven children.

The horrific conflict killed more than 250,000 of Liberia’s 5 million people.



Wildlife such as the blue-breasted kingfisher of Liberia's Sapo National Park could benefit from Ben Freeman's work to study and protect African rainforests.

Many were children, younger than 10, conscripted into battle. Freeman's family were among the 1 million Liberian refugees. Eventually his family left the towering woodlands and have since thrived.

Now it's Liberia's forests that are in grave danger. As is the case across most of western Africa, Liberia's once vast forests are being gnawed away by an expanding human population and their need for croplands and grazing pastures for food. Palm oil plantations have claimed massive areas as have legal and illegal mining.

As happens when there's such habitat destruction, some of Liberia's populations of brilliantly colored birds are in serious decline.

Freeman's educational process has always included those woodlands and the wildlife within. He earned his undergraduate degree in forestry from the University of Liberia. His master's, from the University of Jos, in Nigeria, is

in conservation biology and ornithology.

While researching places to continue his education, Freeman contacted Town Peterson, University Distinguished Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology and senior curator at KU's Biodiversity Institute. Peterson is well known for his work in Africa. He quickly saw Freeman's potential.

"It was just so very clear Ben was a motivated young scientist," Peterson says. "He's a very engaging guy, very intelligent and so very motivated."

Freeman has had to be very patient throughout an education that should help him help the forest and its wildlife.

Peterson and Freeman were repeatedly told he couldn't be admitted to KU because of a language technicality. (English is Liberia's official language and Freeman speaks it perfectly, but due to a glitch in its system, the University didn't recognize Liberia as an English-speaking country

and insisted Freeman pass a standardized test not offered there.) Peterson persisted and eventually convinced admissions staff of Freeman's mastery of English. Then Freeman endured lockdowns in Liberia from Ebola and COVID during his doctoral studies.

Though his studies were in Lawrence, Freeman's focus remained 5,000 miles away in Africa, where he twice led Biodiversity Institute research expeditions. He also authored or co-authored a dozen articles pertaining to African wildlife or habitats published in scientific publications. His dissertation used a variety of high-tech methods to chart how populations of birds in Liberia will respond to climate change through 2050.

Now a professional working in Liberia, Freeman is helping the U.S. Forest Service as it assists in building better forestry and biodiversity conservation in his nation. He's also an adviser for a forestry training institute.

He'll use what he learned at KU, along with his many professional contacts such as Peterson, to find ways for a burgeoning, and often impoverished, human population to co-exist with wildlife.

Freeman knows educating his fellow Liberians will be important. He'll need their support to preserve the native woodlands and so many species of threatened wildlife.

"Here, for so long, people thought everything in the wild was meant to be eaten," he says. "If you saw a bird, you killed it and ate it. We have to work to change attitudes."

Freeman sees more interest in wildlife and habitat in his country. Educating the nation's youth, through schools, is in its early stages but shows promise.

"I'm very happy people in Liberia are beginning to take an interest in nature but I know it takes time to teach people," Freeman says. "We have a long way to go, compared to the U.S., but I think over time things will be changing. It's a good start, so far."

—Pearce, '81, is a Lawrence freelance writer and former outdoor columnist for the Wichita Eagle.



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—Jessica Guardiola, c'20, who landed a job as a paralegal in Washington, D.C.



"It's been really helpful getting me prepared and feeling more confident about applying for jobs and internships."

—Senior Emma Greenwood, on KU Mentoring and her mentor, Crystal Fong, c'15, j'15

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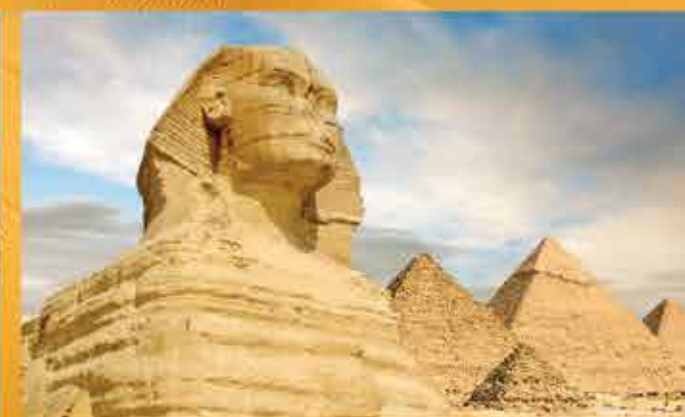


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by HEATHER BIELE

1949 Albert, d'49, and Marjorie Garten Blakeslee, d'49, in August celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary. The retired teachers make their home in Hutchinson and have a son, a daughter, five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

1959 Lynn Miller, c'59, g'62, published a memoir, *Postcards from Delphi*, in 2020. He continues to make his home in Philadelphia, where he's professor emeritus of political science at Temple University.

Bruce Voran, d'59, lives in Strawberry, Arizona, where he wrote *Trembling Before God*, which was published in January.

1960 Jerry Alice Lineback, c'60, g'61, is a retired geologist in Paradise, California. Four years ago, at age 78, she came out as a transgender woman. She remains happily married to her wife of 15 years, Carol Jane Harlow.

1962 Kay Welty Gilles, '62, retired as a research scientist at Hewlett Packard Laboratories. She lives in Capitola, California.

William Griffiths, '62, makes his home in Westminster, South Carolina, with his wife, Cheryl. He retired as

a quality analyst at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

1963 Lewis Wiens, b'63, is founder and owner of the True North Hotel Group in Overland Park.

1965 Lester Langley, PhD'65, in December received the Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award from Marquis Who's Who. He lives in San Angelo, Texas, where he retired as professor emeritus of history at the University of Georgia.

1966 Marnie Hall, f'66, is a Medicare insurance broker in New York City.

1967 John Carter, f'67, c'73, in October received the Martin Dewey Memorial Award, the highest honor given by the Southwestern Society of Orthodontists. He retired in 2000 as clinical associate professor and director of predoctoral orthodontics at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Dentistry and is currently on faculty as clinical associate professor of surgery at KU Medical Center, where for more than 20 years he has served as the orthodontic consultant for the cleft palate and craniofacial anomalies team.

John and his wife, **Colleen,** assoc., make their home in Leawood.

William Underwood, c'67, is a research scientist at the University of Maryland in College Park.

1969 Paul Monty, f'69, retired in January after nearly 15 years as a district magistrate judge in the 12th Judicial District. He makes his home in Washington.

1970 Z.J. Czupor, j'70, wrote *The Big Weird: Haikus in Times of Pandemic and Chaos*, which was published in December. He's the principal co-founder of the InterPro Group, a marketing consulting and public relations firm in Denver.

1972 Mark Robinett, d'72, g'77, is an attorney at Brim, Robinett, Cantu & Brim in Austin, Texas.

Marcia Hunn Turner, e'72, g'81, is an assistant contracts engineer at the Kansas Department of Transportation in Topeka.

Jeffrey Van Sickle, a'72, lives in Wichita, where he retired as CEO of GLMV Architecture.

1973 Tuck Duncan, j'73, is an attorney in Topeka. He

specializes in administrative law and beverage alcohol licensing.

Alice McMillan Lockridge, d'73, makes her home in Renton, Washington, where she's an exercise physiologist.

1974 Jane Rieke Lang, n'74, lives in Stilwell, where she retired as a post-anesthesia care unit nurse at AdventHealth Shawnee Mission.

James Maddock, e'74, is retired and lives in Whitesboro, Texas.

1976 Pamela Honnold Bacon, p'76, g'91, recently retired after 43 years in hospital pharmacy and GPO consulting. She received Applied Jewelry Professional designation from the Gemological Institute of America and now works part time at Marks Jewelers in Lawrence.

Kenna Giffin, c'76, j'76, retired after teaching political science at South Texas College in McAllen.

Michael Smyser, a'76, a'77, retired as vice president at HDR design firm. He lives in Nellysford, Virginia.

1977 Douglas Griswold, e'77, g'80, owns G2 Systems Design in Wichita, where he lives with **Peggy Hodson Griswold, d'75.**



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Dennis Keller, g'77, m'81, PhD'81, is retired and lives in Leawood.

Gayle Miller Sims, c'77, lives in Cedar Hill, Texas, with her husband, **Alan**, c'87, c'88. She retired after a 30-year career in human resources and serves as secretary on the board of trustees for the Cedar Hill Independent School District. Alan is a Cedar Hill city council member.

James Utt, p'77, is the medical science director at Helsinn Therapeutics. He lives in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

1979 Donna Fletcher, h'79, lives in Lenexa, where she's a data quality manager at Children's Hospital Association.

Alexander Stewart, h'79, wrote *Add Thou To It: The*

Selected Writings of Robert Clarence Lawson, which was published in 2019 by Seymour Press. It's a collection of essays about a Harlem civil rights activist and preacher who participated in the March on Washington in 1957.

Timothy, d'79, PhD'05, and **Susan Wesche Todd**, c'80, g'97, '99, are retired and live in Lenexa.

1980 J. Augustine, b'80, is senior vice president of sales at Simbe Robotics in Naperville, Illinois.

Daniel Kellerman, e'80, lives in Overland Park, where he's vice president at HNTB Corp.

1981 Bill Griffith, b'81, lives in McKinney, Texas, where he owns M2DS Media,

a digital services and marketing company.

MaryAnn Romski, PhD'81, is a speech-language pathologist and Regents professor of communication, psychology and communication disorders at Georgia State University in Atlanta.

1982 Christian Erzinger, c'82, owns Specialty Fulfillment Services Corp. in Lake Forest, Illinois.

Howard Fox, b'82, is a real estate executive at Better Homes & Gardens Real Estate and a consultant at Fox Consulting. He and **Laura Sandborn Fox**, d'83, make their home in Kansas City.

1983 James Albertson, g'83, retired as CEO of University of Kansas Physicians.

He lives in Overland Park.

Chris Biggs, l'83, an attorney at Knopp and Biggs in Manhattan, in December was selected to serve on the Riley County indigent defense panel.

Carole Engelder, e'83, lives in Santa Fe, New Mexico, where she's deputy area project manager at Triad National Security.

Dawn Struthers Sigmen, c'83, is vice president and director of client strategy at Angell Marketing in Phoenix.

Scott Spangler, c'83, lives in Laguna Niguel, California, where he works at Vesper Energy Development.

Sarah Owens Steele, b'83, is a shareholder and director of Gilmore Bell's Wichita office.

1984 Mark Cairns, c'84, received the 2021 Most Disting-

uished Athletic Trainer Award from the Mid-America Athletic Trainers' Association. He's the District 5 representative for the National Athletic Trainers' Association ATs Care Commission, which provides critical incident stress management services to trainers and students nationwide. Mark works at Neu Physical Therapy Center in Lawrence and at Olathe Health.

Michael Dankwerth, b'84, is a senior adviser at Humanity-Corp in Radnor, Pennsylvania.

1986 Pamela Prieb Reed, c'86, lives in Carmel, Indiana, where she's director of claims at Travelers Insurance.

1987 Doug Anderson, d'87, g'93, PhD'02, is executive director at Keystone Learning Services in Ozawkie.

Julia Riggle McKee, c'87, founded FineLine HR Consulting in Kansas City.

John Selzer, g'87, is an IT business analyst at Commerce Bank in Kansas City. He and his wife, **Suzanne**, assoc., live in Leawood.

Ahmad Kawesa Sengendo, g'87, PhD'88, is assistant secretary general in charge of economic affairs at the Organization of Islamic Cooperation. He previously served for 16 years as rector of the Islamic University in Uganda.

Stephen Sullivan, PhD'87, practices law in New York City.

Irvetta Williams, a'87, lives in St. Louis, where she's a consultant for municipal government at iJay Enterprise.

1988 Dawood Al-Dawood, e'88, vice president for marketing, supply and joint venture coordination at the Saudi Arabian Oil Company

(Saudi Aramco), in December was honored with the 2020 Lifetime Achievement Award of S&P Global Platts. He was inducted in the KU School of Petroleum Engineering Hall of Fame in 2010.

Jeff Foster, c'88, '00, is vice president of revenue development for the Kansas City Monarchs baseball club. He lives in Parkville, Missouri.

William Mar, c'88, manages software engineering at WePay in Redwood City, California. He and his husband, **Kevin Eng**, assoc., live in San Francisco and have two children, Chaya and Chance, who are 1.

Debora Early Price, c'88, is a substitute teacher at Morgan Hunter Education. She and her husband, Robert, live in De Soto and have two children, Garret and Elaine.

1989 Sergio Abauat, e'89, lives in Bogotá, Colombia, where he's CEO of Las Quinchas Resources Corp.

Sean Davern, e'89, is a senior data scientist at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory.

Daniel Pennington, j'89, lives in Edwards, Colorado, where he's president of Vail Health Foundation.

Viola Brauer Straley, b'89, is an accountant at Varney & Associates in Manhattan.

1990 Lisa Arzu-Zuniga, e'90, lives in Houston, where she's a project control manager at Worley.

Rick Guess, c'90, g'19, is a user interface/user experience designer at GEHA insurance company. He lives in Kansas City.

1991 Ashwin Gollerkeri, m'91, is senior vice president and head of development at Kymera Therapeutics in Waretown, Massachusetts.

Patrick Sullivan, d'91, g'98, is an associate professor of mathematics at Missouri State University. He and his wife, **Dawn**, assoc., make their home in Ozark, Missouri, and have three daughters, Emma, Lily and Gwen.

Thomas Thompson, c'91, g'93, directs business analytics at Havas Edge in Irving, Texas. He and his wife, Paige, live in Rockwall.

1992 Cathy Moore Macfarlane, j'92, owns Blue Eagle Investigations in Overland Park.


Matt McColley, c'92, is vice president and chief claims

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officer at KW Specialty Insurance in Scottsdale, Arizona. He lives in Phoenix with his wife, Rae, and has three children, Madison, Liam and Noah.

Amy Forker Mounts, j'92, is senior vice president of technology at High Touch Technologies in Wichita. She and her husband, **Milt**, assoc., make their home in Andale.

Christine Lynn Norton, c'92, is a professor of social work at Texas State University in San Marcos. She and her husband, Billy, have three children, William, Wendell and Mahalia.

1993 Gregory Belshe, c'93, j'93, lives in Overland Park, where he's division director of IT at the American

Academy of Family Physicians. **Charles Branson**, b'93, l'96, is an attorney at Fisher, Patterson, Saylor & Smith in Overland Park.

Michelle Mahaffey, b'93, l'96, is executive vice president and chief human resources officer at Community Health Network in Indianapolis, where she makes her home.

Bob Wiltfong, j'93, wrote *The BS Dictionary: Uncovering the Origins and True Meanings of Business Speak*, which was published in April 2020. He was a correspondent on "The Daily Show with Jon Stewart" and also was featured in commercials for Nationwide Insurance as "The World's Greatest Spokesperson in the World."

1994 Christopher Bader, g'94, in December was honored with the Water Wheel Award by the North Dakota Water Users Association and North Dakota Water Resource Districts Association. He works for the State Water Commission.

Carla Rabb Bukalski, e'94, is director of specification at GE Current. She lives in Oak Park, Illinois.

Geoffrey Farley, a'94, is an architect and project manager for the U.S. Air Force. He and **Michelle Volk Farley**, c'93, live in Chugiak, Alaska.

Rachel Waltner Goossen, PhD'94, professor of history at Washburn University in Topeka, wrote "Repent of the Sins of Homophobia: The Rise

of Queer Mennonite Leaders," which was published in February in the religious studies journal *Nova Religio*.

Brian Phillips, e'94, is senior vice president, general counsel, chief compliance officer and corporate secretary at Inspire Medical Systems in Osseo, Minnesota.

Jamar Pickreign, g'94, PhD'97, is associate dean of assessment and accreditation in the School of Education, Health and Human Services at the State University of New York in Plattsburgh, where he lives with **Kelley**, g'00, an academic adviser at the university.

Chad Tenpenny, c'94, l'97, lives in Leawood, where he's general counsel to U.S. Sen. Roger Marshall.

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KU School of Business

¹ Retrieved on March 23, 2021 from usnews.com/education/online-education/university-of-kansas-155317

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David Van Daff, c'94, lives in Elmhurst, Illinois, where he directs health club relations at the National Academy of Sports Medicine.

Corine Wegener, g'94, g'01, directs the Smithsonian Cultural Rescue Initiative in Washington, D.C.

1995 LaRisa Chambers, c'95, joined the board of directors of the Mental Wellness Center, a nonprofit organization in Santa Barbara, California. She's senior gift officer at Cottage Health.

Devon Coffey, c'95, is senior manager of the Kansas City regional development team at the Opus Group. She lives in Prairie Village.

Matthew Hydeman, j'95, g'97, coordinates matching gifts at University of Arizona Foundation in Tucson.

Stephen Long, PhD'95, wrote *The 7 Deadly Sins of Youth Sport: How to Raise Happy, Healthy and High Performing Kids*, which was published in October. He lives in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Cathy O'Hara Weiss, a'95, makes her home in Madison, Wisconsin, where she's a senior architect and planner at the University of Wisconsin System Office of Capital Planning & Budget.

1996 Shashi Jain, e'96, manages strategic innovation at Intel Corp. He lives in Portland, Oregon.

Scott Moore y Medina, a'96, is founder and president of Blue Star Integrative Studio, an Indigenous American creative firm in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Libby Swed Robertson, j'96, is a professional service veterinarian at IDEXX Laboratories in Lenexa.

Chris Ronan, j'96, g'11, was promoted to senior public relations manager at Geocaching HQ in Seattle.

1997 Jeffrey Blunt, g'97, is chief financial officer at the Loeb Electric Company in Columbus, Ohio.

John Bryant, b'97, f'01, in February was appointed by Gov. Laura Kelly as the 1st Judicial District judge in Atchison.

Stuart Canning, g'97, lives in San Francisco, where he's co-founder and senior vice president of business development at CyberOne Security.

Matthew Meier, c'97, is an assistant clinical professor of psychology at Arizona State University in Tempe.

Chris Millspaugh, f'97, is a freelance creative designer in Lawrence, where he lives with **Lowen Sapp Millspaugh**, c'05, an administrative associate at KU's department of theatre & dance.

Steven Brian Murray, g'97, is an investment adviser at the ETF Store in Overland Park. He lives in Olathe with his wife, Amy.

1998 Carmen Chase, m'98, is a psychiatrist and directs the mental health unit at Advocate BroMenn Medical Center in Normal, Illinois.

Travis Perret, d'98, owner of Exercise Therapy in Kansas City, spoke with Concordia High School students in January as part of the school's career exploration program.

Kristin Farrar Tope, d'98, '99, is a STEM teacher at Marion City Schools in Marion, Ohio. She and **Daniel**, c'97, a data analyst at US Bank, live in Dublin.

Samuel Wendt, c'98, an attorney at Wendt Goss in Kansas City, in January was named 2021 president of the Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association.

1999 Gwendolyn Gage Clark, j'99, directs circulation and marketing at Linux New Media in Lawrence.

John Gieler, '99, is a senior endpoint administrator at Empower Retirement. He and **Valerie Crow Gieler**, j'96, who directs publications at KU Endowment, live in Olathe and have three children, Drake, Quentin and Sloane.

Gary Hamilton, e'99, is a senior electrical engineer at Intuitive Research and Technology Corp. in Huntsville, Alabama, where he lives with **Kimberly**, '05.

Shino Kamizono, f'99, lives in Tokyo, where she's a senior designer at Yahoo! Japan Corp.

William Perkins, g'99, is director of engineering at Trioptics. He and his wife, **Claudia**, assoc., live in Hawaiian Gardens, California.

Amy Spencer Wade, c'99, teaches kindergarten at Northeast Schools in Arma. She and her husband, Shane, live in Pittsburg and have two children, Spencer and Allie.

2000 Brian Allers, c'00, is senior vice president of business development at the Television Bureau of Advertising. He lives in Leawood.

Kerrie Crites-Greenfelder, e'00, was promoted to manager of engineering for the Kansas City water division at Burns & McDonnell. She makes her home in Olathe with her

husband, Matt, and their son, Carter.

Michael Hoelscher, a'00, lives in Fairway, where he's a senior architect at Populous.

Jason Hohman, d'00, g'04, is a project manager at Philips. He lives in Lawrence with **Jenny Schierbaum Hohman**, c'04, director of life marketing at Advisors Excel.

Brian Holmes, e'00, manages sales at OptaSense in Centennial, Colorado, where he lives with his wife, Emily.

Cory Littlepage, b'00, is CEO and founder of Tribal Diagnostics, the first American Indian owned and operated reference laboratory, based in Oklahoma City. He's a member of Chickasaw Nation.

Leslie Potter, j'00, lives in Chicago, where she's practice manager at Balanced Awakening.

Ryan Westhoff, e'00, '02, is a senior software engineer at Intrepid Direct Insurance in Overland Park.

2001 Julie Anderson Banninger, n'01, is a registered nurse at Salina Surgical Hospital. She and her husband, Chris, live in Salina and have two children, Corbin and Brooke.

Michael Coats, a'01, is a senior architect and project manager at Burns & McDonnell in Kansas City. He was included in an online feature for the Kansas City Chapter of the National Organization of Minority Architects, which highlighted local designers during Black History Month.

Eliza Darmon, j'01, was promoted to co-executive director of development and operations at Van Go in Lawrence.

Kelly Donnelly Davis, c'01, g'03, makes her home in Kansas City, where she's a speech-language pathologist in the Raymore-Peculiar School District.

Scott Gillaspie, c'01, works in information technology and operations at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston. He lives in Rutland, Massachusetts.

Laura Gosa, c'01, g'06, is chief financial officer and chief operating officer at ReflectUS in New York City. She and **Kevin**, f'02, g'04, founder of OCTANT8 and Nonprofit Velocity, live in Jersey City, New Jersey.

Catherine Davis Krammer, d'01, g'02, PhD'07, is associate professor and director of special education at Lake Erie College in Painesville, Ohio. She and her husband, Edmund, have two sons, Trey and Quinn.

2002 Ryan Jacobsen, c'02, m'06, associate professor of emergency medicine at KU Medical Center, in January received the President's Award from the National Association of EMS Physicians.

Jennifer Bacani McKenney, c'02, m'06, in March was named 2021 Rural Health Practitioner of the Year by the National Rural Health Association. She's a physician at Bacani & McKenney Family Medicine and Surgery in Fredonia, where she practices with her father, O.C. Bacani. She also serves as the Wilson County health officer.

Jason Nicolay, b'02, g'03, is managing director at Houlihan Lokey. He makes his home in Mission Hills with his wife, Sarah-Beth.

Brian Powers, b'02, is a senior software engineer at

DMSi in Omaha, Nebraska.

Shanmuga "SV" Purushothaman, c'02, g'02, is senior partner enablement manager at VMware in Bellevue, Washington.

Amy Smith, b'02, g'03, lives in Overland Park, where she's vice president of finance at the United Way of Greater Kansas City.

2003 Beth Williams

Brockway, b'03, is regional vice president of managed business services at Protiviti. She lives in Waukee, Iowa.

Kelly Conner, f'03, '10, is a jeweler at MeritMade in Kansas City.

Dan Cranshaw, l'03, a shareholder at Polsinelli in Kansas City, was appointed to the Missouri Development Finance Board.

Aaron Hedrick, c'03, is a lieutenant colonel and B-52 instructor pilot in the U.S. Air Force. He's based in Louisiana.

David Meall, b'03, makes his home in New York City, where he's a talent acquisition leader.

Sarah Smarsh, c'03, j'03, was selected by the National Book Critics Circle as one of five finalists in the nonfiction category for her latest book, *She Come by It Natural: Dolly Parton and the Women Who Lived Her Songs*, which was published in October by Simon & Schuster. Her first book, *Heartland: A Memoir of Working Hard and Being Broke in the Richest Country in the World*, was a finalist in 2018 for the National Book Awards.

Michael Stern, j'03, is chief marketing officer at Crisp in Northbrook, Illinois.

Leita Schultes Walker, c'03, j'03, l'06, an attorney and partner at Ballard Spahr in

Minneapolis, was named to the Minnesota Lawyer Attorney of the Year list for 2020.

Born to:

Ian, c'03, and **Elizabeth Kretzmeier Devlin**, c'10, g'12, a son, Coyne Everest, Dec. 26 in Conifer, Colorado, where he joins a sister, Ezlyn, who's 2. Ian is a Salesforce consultant at Coastal Cloud and Elizabeth works in sales operations at Degreed.

2004 Erin Rodvelt

Aldridge, j'04, is executive director of the Library Foundation in Topeka, where she makes her home with **Brandon**, '05, who owns Brandon Aldridge State Farm Insurance Agency. They have two children, Kaitlyn, 12, and Reid, 5.

Justin Bauman, d'04, g'06, is executive chief operations assistant at Children's Mercy Hospital in Kansas City. He and his wife, Stacy, live in Overland Park and have a daughter, Tatum, who's 8.

Benjamin Burgen, c'04, lives in Pensacola, Florida, where he's an adjunct professor of anthropology at the University of West Florida.

Miguel Catano, g'04, DPT'06, is clinic director at PT Solutions Physical Therapy in Olathe.

Andrew Heinicke, c'04, coordinates special services in the Olathe School District. He and **Sara Flynn Heinicke**, c'04, g'12, '19, who teaches early childhood special education, live in Olathe and have two daughters, Bryant, 6, and Reed, 4.

Brian Kennalley, b'04, is a senior data privacy specialist at Amazon. He lives in Seattle.

Owen Newman, l'04, was

promoted to partner at Duane Morris in Chicago. He's a litigation attorney.

Emily Melnyk O'Neill, j'04, is senior director of retail marketing at Edelman Financial Engines in Overland Park.

Jay Quickel, g'04, lives in Overland Park, where he's CEO of Agway Farm & Home.

Peter Riggs, l'04, is an attorney and partner at Spencer Fane in Kansas City.

2005 Jon Amundson, g'05, is interim city manager of Richland, Washington. He served as the city's assistant manager for the past 13 years.

Matt Beat, j'05, is the co-host of "Jobsolate," a new iHeartMedia podcast.

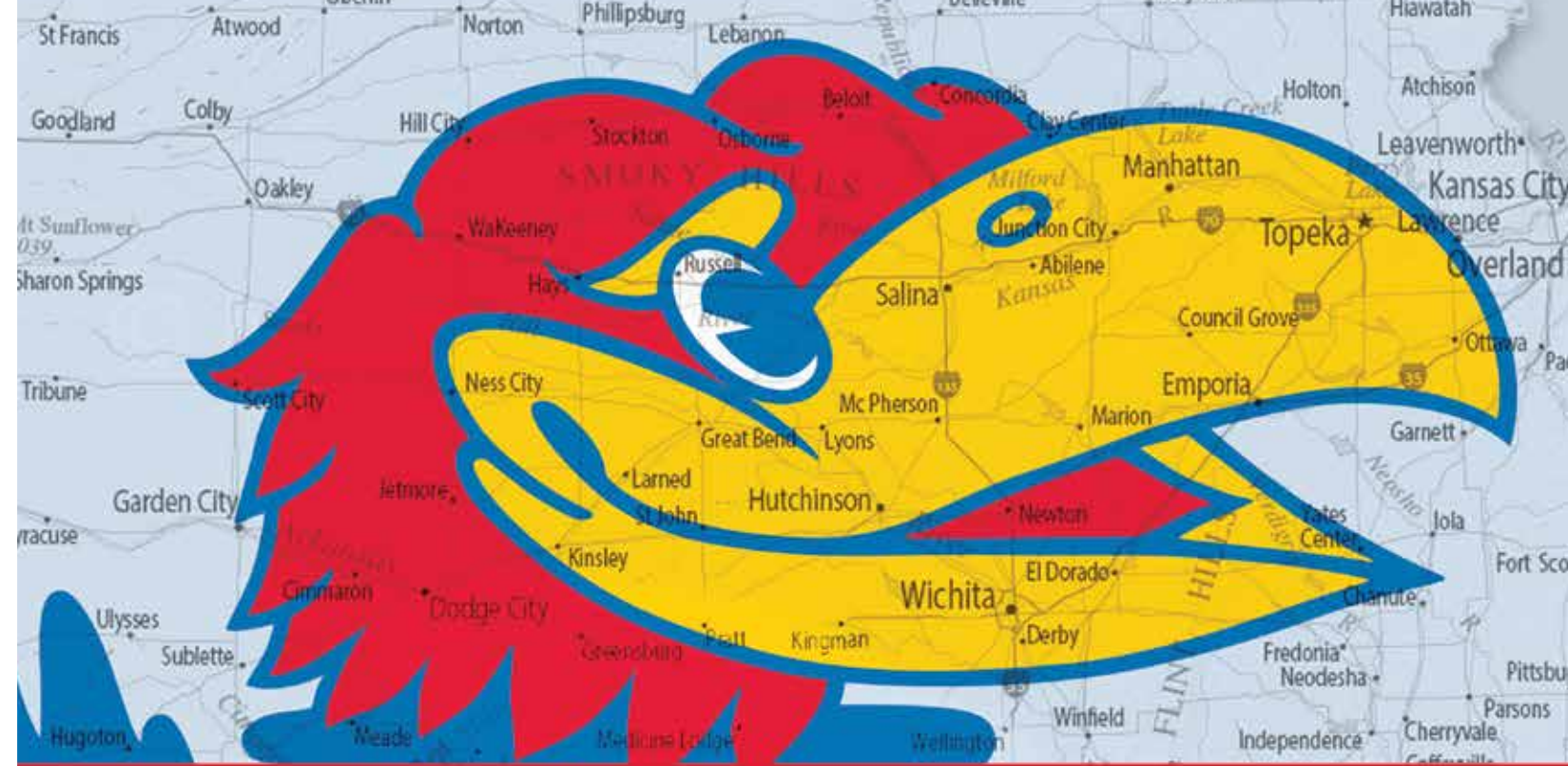
Allan Hemmy, c'05, '07, is a geologist at Kolibri Global Energy in Newbury Park, California.

Danny Lewis, d'05, was promoted to director of sports sales at Shield Lockers in Kansas City. He and his wife, **Laura**, assoc., live in Eudora with their children, Carter, 11, and Hadley, 7.

Kate Schmidt McMahan, c'05, lives in Seattle, where she's senior HR lead at Microsoft Corp.

2006 Khalil Alleyne, m'06, in February was promoted to chief of family medicine at South Shore Medical Center in Norwell, Massachusetts. He has practiced at the hospital since 2014.

Jason Arribas, c'06, '07, is a physician at St. Luke's Health System in Overland Park. He and **Stephanie Kroemer Arribas**, b'05, live in Lee's Summit, Missouri, and have two daughters, Elizabeth and Lyla.



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Ankur Dayal, g'06, lives in Richmond, Texas, where he's a manager at Codeup.

Samuel Deutch, c'06, g'08, is a neuropsychologist at Associates in Neuropsychology in Overland Park. He and his wife, Charity, live in Leawood.

Derek Emery, c'06, directs strategic business development at SKF USA. He lives in Perysburg, Ohio, with his wife, Jessica, and has two children, Tera and Kellan.

Muhammad Asif Iqbal, g'06, lives in Cary, North Carolina, where he's vice president and head of project management and engineering for the Americas at Bayer.

Gregory Meitl, a'06, is a critical facility engineer at Jones Lang LaSalle real estate company. He and **Kathy McVey Meitl**, d'05, g'09,

a science teacher, live in Norwalk, Iowa, and have two children, Holly and Chase.

Born to:

Lindsey Kinkelaar Wyatt, d'06, and her husband, Tate, daughter, Mallyn Elaine, Sept. 18 in Overland Park, where she joins a sister, Ellery, who's 2.

2007 Ryan Hogan, c'07, is a software engineering manager at Garmin in Olathe, where he makes his home with **Elizabeth Olson Hogan**, c'11, and their children, Lucas, 3, and Cara, 1.

Nathan Ladd, b'07, lives in Kansas City, where he's vice president of sales at Labconco Corp.

Joshua Ridder, l'07, is farm loan chief for the U.S. Depart-

ment of Agriculture. He makes his home in Manhattan.

Kenneth Simmons, g'07, lives in Arlington, Virginia, where he's chief of construction at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Grant Snider, '07, lives in Derby, where he's an orthodontist and illustrator who calls himself "the incidental comic." He has published several books, including *There Is A Rainbow*, which came out in January.

Married

Jacob Vander Velde, d'07, and **Annie Clancey**, c'09, Nov. 14 in Rosemary Beach, Florida. They make their home in Prairie Village, where Jake is a sales representative at PepsiCo and Annie works in sales at the Clancey Company.

2008 Tyler Buck, c'08, g'11, lives in Thornton, Colorado, where he's global product manager at Hach Company.

Richard Fursetzer, b'08, is an email operations marketing analyst at Bluestem Brands in Eden Prairie, Minnesota.

Cameron Manuel, b'08, g'08, is president and general manager at Reliable Caps in Olathe.

Beryl New, EdD'08, director of certified personnel and equity for Topeka Public Schools, in February was a featured speaker for Black History Month at Pittsburg State University. She is chair of the Kansas African American Affairs Commission.

Ryan Northup, c'08, is a physician at Children's Mercy Hospital in Kansas City.

Mark Terry, g'08, is chief certification officer at the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians in Columbus, Ohio.

Anita Faulkner White, b'08, directs accounting at Saint Luke's Health System in Kansas City. She and **William**, b'04, g'08, l'08, a senior operations manager at Amazon, make their home in Shawnee and have four children, Charles, Cailin, Gwendolen and Winifred.

Annie Hundley Yungeberg, c'08, is a preschool teacher at Washington County Schools. She and her husband, James, live in Washington.

2009 Brad, c'09, m'13, and **Maggie Fey Cardonell**, m'13, make their home in Columbia, Missouri, where Brad is anesthesia medical

director at University Hospital and Maggie is co-director of pediatric ophthalmology at the hospital. They have three children, Caroline, 5, and twins James and Eloise, who will be 1 this year.

Patrick Housby, c'09, is an account manager at Worldwide Beverage Group in Lenexa.

Elizabeth Gonzalez James, g'09, wrote *Mona at Sea*, which will be published in June by Santa Fe Writers Project. It's her first novel.

Diana Taylor Knight, c'09, g'12, is an operations research analyst at the National Guard Bureau. She makes her home in Colorado Springs, Colorado, with her husband, Daniel, and their son, Olin, who's almost 3.

Erin Lewis Mannen, e'09, PhD'15, is an assistant professor of mechanical and biomedical engineering at Boise State University in Boise, Idaho.

Mallory Gaunce Nachbar, j'09, is director of human resources and operations at Grapevine Designs in Lenexa. She and her husband, **Jeffrey**, assoc., live in Prairie Village.

Reid Petty, '09, is district director for Rep. Tracey Mann in Kansas' 1st Congressional District. He lives in Garden City with his wife, Hannah, and their son, Nicholas, who's 1.

Allison Lohrenz Snyder, a'09, is assistant town manager of Wake Forest, North Carolina. She lives in Durham.

Brian Teefey, b'09, g'09, directs transaction advisory

services at Weaver, an accounting firm in Dallas.

Mara Ankerholz Winiarz, b'09, c'09, is a human resources strategy and operations lead at Google. She and her husband, Chris, live in Chicago and have a son, Enzo Rian, who just turned 1.

Married

Lacey Anderson, g'09, to Timothy Blaufuss, Oct. 3 in Fargo, North Dakota, where they make their home. Lacey is a behavioral health therapist.

2010 Tessa Fall Gutierrez, s'10, is a licensed specialist clinical social worker and addictions counselor and owns New Leaf Counseling in Junction City. In February,

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she spoke to students at Concordia High School as part of the school's career exploration program.

Inga Schuchard Kingland, a'10, is an attorney at Larkin Hoffman in Minneapolis, Minnesota. She has two stepdaughters, Claire and Greta, and a daughter, Evan, who will be 1 in September.

Manjiri Namjoshi, g'10, lives in Laguna Hills, California, where she manages software engineering at Paciolan.

2011 Sudha Yegyanaray Anand, g'11, is a library systems administrator at DePauw University in Greencastle, Indiana, where she lives with **Anand Srinivasan**, g'12, a senior technical specialist at Cummins.

Erin DeKoster, g'11, f'11, is senior manager of accreditation at the American College of Surgeons in Chicago.

Michael Gray, c'11, is a member of the cardiovascular discovery group-interventional cardiology at the University of Sydney in Australia.

Matt Greeno, e'11, was promoted to lead master distiller at MGP Ingredients in Atchison. He has been with the company since 2011 and recently was a distillery process engineering manager.

Scott, b'11, g'12, and **Danielle Larrabee Johnston**, d'11, '12, live in St. Louis with their son, Theodore, who just turned 1. Scott is an associate attorney at Greensfelder, Hemker & Gale, and Danielle is a teacher.

Stephanie Joseph, g'11, is a compliance officer at Indian Health Service. She lives in Keams Canyon, Arizona.

Corbin Kline, e'11, is a proj-

ect manager at Schlumberger in Houston.

Jay Kramer, f'11, lives in Leawood, where he's president of OAS.

Jessica Nelson Palm, j'11, is vice president of marketing and public relations at the Kansas City Area Development Council.

Lindsey Piper, h'11, lives in Shawnee, where she's a senior process improvement professional at Humana.

Andrew Posch, j'11, is a copywriter at Signal Theory. He lives in Overland Park with his wife, Alexandra.

Kyle Roberts, g'11, is principal and civil engineering department manager at Burns & McDonnell in Kansas City. In January he was named to the 2021 class of Engineering News-Record Midwest's Top Young Professionals.

2012 James Gentile, b'12, g'19, manages application development at BlueScope Buildings North America in Kansas City.

Nic Langford, c'12, was promoted to director of redevelopment for the city of Clarksville, Indiana. He previously served as the city's redevelopment associate.

Mike Lavieri, j'12, manages public relations at Husch Blackwell in Kansas City. He and his wife, Jaymee, live in Overland Park.

Erin Locke, g'12, m'13, is the Shawnee County health officer. She makes her home in Topeka.

Timothy Miller, f'12, lives in Austin, Texas, where he's an attorney at Allen Boone Humphries Robinson.

Brandon Monroe, b'12, directs digital marketing

at Notley Ventures in Austin, Texas.

Kassie Altergott Murphy, c'12, is a retail broker at Newmark Zimmer in Kansas City. She lives in Overland Park with her husband, Brice, and their daughter, Teagan, who's almost 3.

Noah Smutz, c'12, is a book conservator and owns NS Conservation in St. Louis. His work recently was featured in Design STL magazine. He and his wife, Sophie, live in Affton, Missouri.

Samantha Stultz, j'12, directs social media at Zircon Laboratory in Overland Park.

Clay Westerlund, c'12, works in acquisitions at I-Deal Homes in San Diego.

2013 Ashley Dillon, f'13, was promoted to partner at Stinson law firm in Kansas City.

Stephanie Johanning, c'13, is the business operations manager at A Budget Disposal in Nashville, Tennessee.

Katie Leech, b'13, lives in Denver, where she's a tax accountant at CohnReznick.

Nicholas Shields, g'13, is a nurse anesthetist at Cameron Regional Medical Center in Cameron, Missouri.

Elizabeth Vinyard, c'13, is a wildlife biologist at the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources. She lives in Charleston.

2014 Thomas Chambers, g'14, is a 3D visualization specialist and managing member at ICT Visualization in Wichita.

Edgar Damian, b'14, g'15, lives in Lenexa, where he's a financial analyst at Dickinson Financial Corp.

Dillon Davis, c'14, is a communications strategist at Terracon, a consulting and engineering company in Olathe.

James Ferguson, g'14, is an analyst at Mitsubishi Electric Trane HVAC US in Suwanee, Georgia.

Corrine Baliel Haukap, g'14, teaches special education at Goddard Public Schools. She and her husband, Matthew, live in Cheney with their daughters, Layne, 4, and Remi, 1.

Angela Hawkins, j'14, manages grants compliance at the Literacy Lab. She lives in Overland Park.

Christopher Hayden, c'14, is an attorney at Gimmel, Reilly, Guerin & Brown in Milwaukee.

Caleb Hays, g'14, '20, lives in Alexandria, Virginia, where he's general counsel for the U.S. House Committee on House Administration.

Ashleigh Lee, j'14, '21, is a communication specialist at Mississippi State University Foundation.

Davina Litt, b'14, is a technical analyst at T-Mobile in Overland Park. She and her husband, Yevgeniy Khariton, live in Kansas City.

Nicole Nunes, j'14, manages marketing for Peacock TV at NBCUniversal Media. She makes her home Jersey City, New Jersey.

Jennifer Ohler, d'14, lives in Parkville, Missouri, where she's a senior product owner at Cerner.

Philip Ozorkiewicz, c'14, is an associate at Matthews Real Estate Investment Services in Austin, Texas.

2015 Megan Hazelwood, j'15, lives in Lawrence, where

she's an administrative associate at KU's department of film & media studies.

Evan Rattenborg, j'15, is a senior web content specialist at the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley.

David Thomas, c'15, is a business analyst at Farmers Insurance Group. He makes his home in Gardner.

2016 Kelly Huff, PhD'16, lives in Topeka, where she's a lecturer in music history and theory at Washburn University.

Rebecca Levine, c'16, directs youth and family programming at Congregation Beth Shalom in Overland Park.

2017 Cora Burgoyne, c'17, g'19, is the clinical enterprise policy coordinator at Centura Health in Denver. She also managed the health center's COVID-19 emergency response effort in 2020.

Nikhila Gunda, g'17, g'21, is assistant transit researcher at KU's Transportation Center. She lives in Lawrence.

Francesca Haynes, c'17, lives in Lawrence, where she's the diversity coordinator at the Lawrence Public Library.

Jaden Scott, j'17, l'20, is associate legal counsel at Hill's Pet Nutrition in Topeka.

Joshua Smith, j'17, is senior social marketing manager at Kevin Hart's Laugh Out Loud Network. He lives in Shawnee.

Caitlin Ungerer, j'17, manages influencer marketing at Octagon in Chicago.

Ashley Williamson, s'17, is chief replication officer at the Giving Grove, a nonprofit organization serving food-insecure communities in Kansas City.

2018 Alyssa Barratt, c'18, g'20, teaches mathematics at Free State High School in Lawrence.

Kenneth Beck, c'18, is a graduate of KU ROTC, is a first lieutenant weapon systems officer on the B-1 at Dyess Air Force Base. He lives in Abilene, Texas, with **Priscila Ruiz Beck**, a'20, an architectural associate at Jacob Martin.

Mackenzie Haun, c'18, is senior associate for measurement at Hillel International. She lives in Brooklyn, New York.

Jackson Kurtz, j'18, lives in Lenexa, where he's a reporter at KMBC/KCWE.

Megan Lowcock, b'18, is associate manager of benefits and human resources analytics at Intouch Group. She lives in Overland Park.

Marysa Bradshaw McCartney, b'18, g'19, teaches business at Salina Central High School in Salina, where she lives with her husband, Justin, a first-year medical student at KU.

Nazanin Amiri Meers, g'18, is a mixed-media artist and textile designer. She recently moved from Lawrence to California.

Elizabeth Peterson, e'18, makes her home in Omaha, Nebraska, where she's a cost engineer at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Harrison Quinn, b'18, is founder and managing partner at HDQ Wealth in Leawood, where he lives with **Kyrie Killen Quinn**, j'17, who directs marketing at Quinn Real Estate Company.

Alexis Ray, g'18, manages program events for the Great Overland Station at Shawnee

County Parks and Recreation in Topeka.

Married

Alex Lierz, e'18, to Laura Rush, Nov. 28 in Robinson. They live in Holton, where Alex is a design engineer at Schenck Processes.

2019 Robert Adams, c'19, lives in Indianapolis, where he's a communications consultant.

Stephen Dunlap, g'19, is an IT infrastructure project manager at Eurofins Clinical Diagnostics in Lee's Summit.

Allison Ellis, c'19, is an adviser at Warby Parker in Houston.

Riley Jay, j'19, lives in Los Angeles, where he's an assistant programmatic trader at Mediahub Worldwide.

Shannon Baxter Jones, c'19, is a clinical trial specialist at PRA Health Sciences in Lenexa.

Anna Perrone, j'19, is an account executive and services client partner at SAP in San Francisco.

Kailin Stinson, j'19, coordinates digital media at the Greteman Group in Wichita.

2020 Hannah Bedford, l'20, makes her home in Marshall, Missouri, where she's assistant prosecuting attorney at the Saline County Prosecutor's Office.

Jack Fowler, b'20, is a graduate associate in supply chain management at XPO Logistics in Ontario, California. He lives in Phoenix.

Haley Hannaman, g'20, coordinates student organizations and clubs at the Colorado School of Mines in Golden.

Kyle Herda, e'20, is an associate engineer at Northrop

Grumman Corp. in Melbourne, Florida.

Maya Minocha, j'20, lives in New York City, where she's an account coordinator at the Brandman Agency.

Hadley Oehlert, j'20, coordinates marketing at Payless in Topeka.

2021 Alison Bryce, g'21, is a news editor at Banner-Press in Brenham, Texas.

Ceri Holland, d'21, a professional soccer player for Liverpool FC Women, was named the FA Women's Championship Player of the Month for February. She was a three-time Big 12 Offensive Player of the Week at KU and a member of the 2019 Big 12 Championship All-Tournament Team.

Ronnie Lozano, j'21, is a news producer at KCTV5 and KSMO in Fairway.

Catherine Pallesen, c'21, is a combat engineer for the Kansas Army National Guard. She lives in Lansing.

Malcolm Proudfit, g'21, was promoted to CEO of Good Energy Solutions in Lawrence. He previously served as chief financial officer and chief operating officer.

ASSOCIATES

Dennis Forbes, assoc., is the new-sales manager at Bill Knight Lincoln-Volvo Cars of Tulsa. He lives in Owasso, Oklahoma.

Keith Rogers, assoc., lives in Lee's Summit with his wife, **Brenda**, assoc. He retired as project manager at Hallmark Cards.

Cheryl Wonnell, assoc., retired as president at Creative Advertising. She makes her home in Lawrence.

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1940s Mary Lou Brewer Akright, c'49, 92, Dec. 25 in Overland Park. She was a long-time volunteer at St. Joseph's Medical Center in Kansas City. She is survived by three sons, one of whom is Bruce, '80; 10 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Barbara Morrison Barnes, b'49, 91, May 11, 2020, in Chicago, where she retired as a supervisor at the U.S. General Services Administration. Survivors include a daughter and a sister, Catherine Morrison Newton, f'57.

Shirley Carl Brothers, c'46, 97, Dec. 13 in Waco, Texas, where she served on the boards of several service organizations. Surviving are three sons, one of whom is Bob, g'76; seven grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Ellen Wagenfield Church, d'45, g'49, 97, Jan. 26 in Nevada, Iowa, where she taught piano. Two sons, a daughter, five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren survive.

Beverly Balocca Clemens, '45, 94, Dec. 3 in Kansas City. She was a homemaker. Surviving are two daughters, one of whom is Frances "Tibby" Clemens Fort, b'76; a son; five grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Dorothy James Crawford, j'49, 92, Dec. 17 in Topeka, where she was a retired preschool teacher and volunteered in her community. She is survived by a daughter; two sons; a sister, Alberta James Daw, c'52; two brothers, one of whom is Don James, e'56, g'61; six grandchildren; and two great-granddaughters.

Robert Crawford, e'49, 94, Dec. 17 in Peoria, Arizona. He worked for more than 40 years at Wilson and Company Engi-

neers and Architects in Salina. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Surviving are two daughters, one of whom is Jann Crawford Rudkin, c'73; four grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Leatha Sanford Davison, c'47, 94, Dec. 17 in Raleigh, North Carolina. She was active in her community. Survivors include two daughters, Teresa Davison Daniels, b'79, and Diane, c'80; three grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Dorothea Thomas Dickey, c'48, 93, Dec. 8 in Kansas City, where for 25 years she volunteered at Children's Mercy Hospital. She is survived by a son, Joe III, f'81; a daughter, Sarah, '81; a brother, Christopher Thomas, m'48; a sister, Elizabeth Thomas Shafer, b'52; and a grandchild.

Lois Harkleroad Gooch, c'47, 95, Dec. 2 in Lee's Summit, Missouri. She was an accountant at Halls and later worked part time at H&R Block. Surviving are a son; two stepdaughters, one of whom is Carolyn Smith, f'67; a sister, Joyce Harkleroad Smith, c'50; four grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Evelyn Hoffman Hamilton, f'49, 93, Dec. 7 in East Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania. She was an artist. Survivors include two sons; two daughters; a brother, James Hoffman, '56; and five grandchildren.

Richard Hitt, b'49, 94, Dec. 6 in Lenexa. He worked in sales management. A daughter survives.

Reed Hoffman, b'46, 97, July 24 in Manhattan. He was president of Dickinson County Bank. Surviving are a stepson, three step-grandchildren and seven step-great-grandchildren.

Ross Howard, b'48, 96, Oct. 26 in Mission. He was a CPA and internal revenue agent at the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

William Jensen, c'48, 97, Nov. 26 in Yarmouth, Maine. He had a long career in internal medicine and held administrative, clinical and academic roles throughout the United States and in Saudi Arabia. Surviving are his wife, Joan Weigand Sargent-Jenson, '52; three daughters; a son; five stepchildren; and four grandchildren.

William Johnson, c'47, 94, June 20, 2020, in Medford, Oregon. He was a physician. Survivors include two sons, a daughter, a sister, five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Norma Falconer Keck, c'41, 100, Aug. 31 in Lenexa, where she was active in her church and P.E.O. Sisterhood. Two sons, three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren survive.

Marilynn Konantz Miller, d'41, 100, Dec. 7 in Hastings, Nebraska. She was a music teacher. Surviving are two daughters, Mary Miller Koepke, d'68, and Annie Miller Young, d'72; a son, Martin, '75; four grandchildren; two step-grandsons; and three great-grandchildren.

Adrienne Hiscox Mitchell, c'48, 93, Aug. 12 in Hillsborough, California, where she was active in several nonprofit organizations and served on the Grand Council for Pi Beta Phi sorority.

Robert Sparling, d'48, g'51, 98, Nov. 19 in Topeka. He began his career as a teacher and later worked for the CIA's Office of Security. Surviving are a daughter, Rebecca Sparling Hinton, c'75; two sons; four

granddaughters; and eight great-grandchildren.

1950s Merilyn Richards Abel, a'53, 90, Jan. 25 in Estes Park, Colorado, where she retired as a school psychologist. She is survived by her husband, Clifford, d'51, g'58; a daughter; two sons; a sister, Virginia Richards King, n'60; four grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Theodore Bernard, e'50, 95, Dec. 24 in Topeka, where he retired at General Dynamics. Survivors include two sons, one of whom is John, c'80, m'85; two daughters; 11 grandchildren; and several great-grandchildren.

Ivan Carper, m'59, 92, Dec. 8 in Westminster, Colorado. He was a general practitioner and surgeon for nearly 30 years in Halstead and Newton. He also participated in several international medical missions. Surviving are two daughters, Kristin Carper Trollinger, c'86, and Robin Carper Kluge, l'87; three sons, one of whom is Mike, c'84; a brother, Owen, m'64; a sister; eight grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

James Detter, c'55, m'62, 87, Nov. 26 in Seattle, where he was professor emeritus of laboratory medicine at the University of Washington. He is survived by his wife, Carol Rogers Detter, n'60; two sons; a daughter; a sister, Rose Detter Alderson, s'86; a brother; and five grandchildren.

Jeanne Gaston Fehrenbaker, '59, 82, Sept. 22 in Naples, Florida. She lived for many years in Virginia, where she and her husband founded a local chapter of the Juvenile Diabetes and Research Foundation. Survivors include her

husband, Lawrence, a daughter, a son and five grandchildren.

Wayne Gerstenberger, c'56, 86, Dec. 9 in Antioch, California. He was a retired U.S. Navy captain and worked for nearly 30 years in executive management at San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency. He is survived by three sons, one of whom is Terry, d'83, g'89; a daughter; eight grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Moulton Green, c'50, 92, Jan. 7 in Kansas City, where he taught English as a second language at Guadalupe Centers and Della Lamb Community Services. Surviving are his wife, Jean, '92; two sons, one of whom is Stuart, g'80; two grandchildren; and a great-grandson.

John Greer, a'59, 85, Dec. 17 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. He co-founded Greer Stafford Architects and earned several awards for his design projects. He is survived by his wife, Judith Nelson Greer, f'80; two sons, one of whom is Brandon, e'84, g'91; a sister; six grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Albert Heckes, e'52, g'56, 90, Oct. 17 in Albuquerque, New Mexico, where he retired as a chemical engineer. Two sons, two daughters, seven grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren survive.

Richard Heiny, e'50, 90, Nov. 19 in Midland, Michigan. He retired as director of discovery development at Dow Chemical Company. Surviving are his wife, Suzanne; a daughter, Katherine, c'89; two sons; and six grandchildren.

Charlene Turner Houts, '51, 92, Dec. 13 in Rancho Santa Margarita, California, where she was a homemaker. Three daughters, two sons, six grand-

children and two great-grandchildren survive.

Martha Balding Jenkins, d'56, 86, Jan. 10 in Wichita. She lived for many years in Topeka, where she taught piano and was a reading specialist. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. She is survived by a son, a sister and two grandchildren.

John Kiefer, '59, 88, Jan. 26 in Lawrence, where for nearly 55 years he owned Kief's Record and Stereo Supply. Survivors include his wife, Helen, '95; a son, Michael, '88; a daughter, Alison, '90; two stepdaughters, Heather Brown Wingate, c'89, l'93, and Hilary Brown, h'94; and five grandchildren.

Alexander McBurney, c'54, m'58, 87, Oct. 26 in Kingston, Rhode Island, where he was a physician and founded Urology Associates. In retirement he volunteered at a local hospital. Surviving are three sons, a daughter, a stepson, 11 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

William McGinty, c'57, 89, Nov. 20 in Overland Park. He was a dentist for nearly 45 years. He is survived by his wife, Lavonne Hartter McGinty, '58; a daughter, Suzanne, c'83; and two grandchildren.

John Meyer, e'50, 94, Jan. 24 in Tulsa, Oklahoma, where he had a long career at Cities Service Company. Surviving are his wife, Marge "Sherry;" three daughters, two of whom are Jan Meyer Nicodemus, d'75, and Betsey Meyer Wieding, '78; a son; three stepdaughters; a stepson; six grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Jesse Milan, d'53, g'54, 92, Feb. 8 in Overland Park.

He was the first Black public school teacher in Lawrence and was appointed in 2002 by President George W. Bush to the commission commemorating the 50th anniversary of Brown vs. Board of Education of Topeka. He received the KU Black Alumni Network's Mike and Joyce Shinn Leaders and Innovators Award. Two sons, two daughters, a brother and two granddaughters survive.

Robert Morey, j'54, 92, Oct. 17 in Doylestown, Pennsylvania. His career in sales at the Hess Corporation spanned nearly 30 years.

William Oliver, c'57, 85, Dec. 5 in Walnut Creek, California. He had a long career in publishing and most recently worked at Harcourt. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by his wife, Doreen, two daughters, four stepsons, 16 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Albert Park, p'53, 90, Dec. 4 in Overbrook. He owned Park Pharmacy in Osage City for more than 30 years. Survivors include his wife, Lois Edwards Park, d'57; two daughters, Sarah Park Granger, p'84, and Susan Park Patton, f'86; two grandchildren; and two great-grandsons.

Manouchehr "Manny" Pedram, g'59, PhD'63, 94, Dec. 8 in Kansas City. He was a teacher for more than 35 years, and he founded the nonprofit organization Global and Multicultural Education Center in 1982. Surviving are his wife, Sara; a daughter, Jaleh Pedram Ellis, n'84; a son, Cyrus, '99; a stepson; a brother; five grandchildren; two step-grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Richard Peters, a'54, 92, Dec. 30 in Lawrence. He was president of Peters Kubota and Glenn architecture firm, which designed several notable buildings in Lawrence, including the public library and City Hall. Survivors include his wife, Carol Freeman Owen Peters, c'61; a daughter, Laura, '83; two sons, one of whom is Chris, c'83, m'89; a stepson, Dan Owen, c'87, l'90; two stepdaughters, one of whom is Cislely Owen Thummel, c'95; five grandchildren; six step-grandchildren; and a great-grandson.

Ruth Abercrombie Pickrell, d'52, 90, Nov. 13 in Salina, where she was a teacher and volunteer in her community. She is survived by a daughter, Tina Pickrell Leiker, b'77; a son, Rob, '81; three grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Wallace Richardson, b'58, 84, Nov. 19 in Lincoln, Nebraska, where he was an attorney and managing partner at Knudsen, Berkheimer, Richardson and Endacott. Survivors include his wife, Martha; two daughters, one of whom is Carrie, c'92; a brother, Jay, c'61, m'65; and a grandson.

Barbara Nichols Rubin, n'57, g'84, 85, Jan. 19 in Elgin, Illinois. She had a long career as a nurse and was assistant professor of nursing at Arkansas State University. Surviving are two daughters, a son, a sister and three grandsons.

Donald Schoeni, b'52, 90, Dec. 18 in Grove, Oklahoma, where he was a retired U.S. Air Force major and underwriter at an insurance company. He is survived by his wife, Donna Summers Schoeni, '55; a son, Doug, '80; two daughters,

Diane Schoeni McLennan, c'84, and Deborah Schoeni Barnes, '88; a brother, Terry, d'62; and a grandson.

George Schrader, g'55, 89, Dec. 31 in Dallas, where he had a long career in city management and also served on several boards in his community. Surviving are his wife, Barbara; two stepchildren; a brother, Gordon, g'64; and six grandchildren.

Richard Smith, c'54, 87, Jan. 11 in Wichita. He was founder and president of Range Oil Company and president of the Kansas Oil and Gas Association. Surviving are his wife, Sondra Hays Langel, d'63; a son, Pete, c'82; a daughter; a brother; and two stepchildren.

Richard Smith, m'57, 89, Jan. 23 in Walnut Creek, California, where he had a 50-year career in internal medicine and rheumatology. He also served as medical director of rehabilitation services at John Muir Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Gretchen; two sons; and a brother, Robert, m'56.

LaVannes Squires, b'54, 90, Feb. 19 in Pasadena, California, where he retired after a long career in the banking industry. He was the first Black men's basketball player at KU and a member of the 1952 NCAA National Championship team.

Oura Lee Swart, b'59, 84, Jan. 17 in Fort Payne, Alabama, where he retired as a major in the U.S. Army. Survivors include a sister, Ethel Swart Smoots, f'49; and a brother.

George Tappan, c'51, 95, Nov. 7 in Kingwood, Texas, where he was a consultant in international petroleum exploration. He is survived by two sons, Gray, c'78, g'81, and Jonathan, '81; a daughter; a brother; and five grandchildren.

Alice Schoonover Weltmer, c'50, 92, Nov. 21 in Salina. She was a homemaker. Surviving are two daughters, Patricia Weltmer Korb, c'74, and Carrie Weltmer Mayhew, d'78; a son, John, j'78; 10 grandchildren; and 17 great-grandchildren.

Barbara Bailey Yeokum, d'58, 84, Dec. 29 in Overland Park, where she worked as an accountant and volunteered at Shawnee Mission Medical Center. She is survived by a son, Dan, b'84; a daughter, Sarah Yeokum Kelly, b'86; a brother; and two grandchildren.

1960s Drew Anderson, d'69, 73, Oct. 24 in Red Bank, New Jersey. He had a long career in corporate travel and event planning. His wife, Patricia, survives.

Charles Bowlus, c'60, g'70, 82, Dec. 23 in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. He was professor emeritus of history at the University of Arkansas in Little Rock. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Surviving are his wife, Barbara Frey Bowlus, '61; a daughter, Cordelia, c'90, g'01; a son; a sister, Judith Bowlus Cronin, c'62; and four grandchildren.

Donna Reese Carlson, d'68, 74, Dec. 23 in Longmont, Colorado, where she taught for more than three decades at Longs Peak Middle School and in retirement became an elder caregiver. She is survived by her husband, Marc, d'68; a daughter; a son; a sister, Janet Reese, f'79; and seven grandchildren.

Edward Collister, c'61, l'64, 81, Dec. 1 in Lawrence, where he was an attorney and served as the Kansas Assistant Attorney General from 1968 to 1972. He also was a lecturer at KU and Washburn University

schools of law. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by his wife, Anita Kopmanis Collister, c'63, h'82; three daughters, two of whom are Laurie Collister Hay, n'88, and Sherri Collister Wagner, c'90; a brother, Richard, b'65; a sister, Christine, c'71, d'71, g'83; seven grandchildren; and two step-grandchildren.

Franklin Hamilton, EdD'61, 97, Feb. 3 in Flushing, Michigan. He taught English, American literature and creative writing at Mott Community College in Flint, Michigan. Surviving are two daughters, a son, six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Jack Hennington, g'66, 90, Oct. 8 in Rogers, Arkansas. He taught math at Lawrence High School and later joined the faculty at Johnson County Community College, where he taught for nearly 25 years. Survivors include his wife, Vernella White Hennington, '64; a sister; four grandsons; and five great-grandchildren.

Patricia Roberts Hunt-Volmer, n'62, 80, Nov. 3 in Lake Saint Louis, Missouri. She worked as a nurse and retired as a quality assurance manager at Medical Transportation Management. Her husband, Melvin, two sons, a stepdaughter, a stepson and eight grandchildren survive.

Jo Ann Johnson Klemmer, g'63, 94, Dec. 31 in Belleville. She lived for many years in Topeka, where she was an administrative assistant at Menninger and also taught English at local schools. Survivors include a sister, a stepdaughter, three step-grandchildren and six step-great-grandchildren.

Ron Koger, g'64, EdD'75, 81, Jan. 3 in Marietta, Georgia.

He was an administrator at several colleges and universities and served as president of the National Association of College Admission Counseling. Surviving are a son; two sisters, one of whom is Patrice Simpson, assoc.; and five grandchildren.

Robert Kroenert, b'61, 81, Dec. 12 in Centennial, Colorado. He retired as a corporate defense attorney after nearly 40 years at Morrison, Hecker, Curtis, Kuder & Parish in Kansas City. He is survived by his wife, Susan Aldrich Kroenert, d'61; two daughters, Kathleen Kroenert Bahr, d'86, and Ann Kroenert Morris, c'88; a son; and three grandchildren.

James Laidlaw, c'60, m'64, 82, Dec. 13 in Kansas City. He was an orthopedic surgeon in Kansas City and Kalispell, Montana. Surviving are his wife, Lilburne Quinn Laidlaw, n'63; a son; a daughter; and five granddaughters.

Sharon Kampmeier Malcolm, d'67, 75, Jan. 31 in De Soto. She lived for many years in Kansas City, where she was a teacher. Survivors include her husband, Kenneth; two daughters, one of whom is Marni Malcom Mills, d'97, g'03; and two grandchildren.

Larry Markel, b'60, c'60, m'64, 83, Jan. 19 in Olathe. He was a urologist and practiced in Kansas City and Bartlesville, Oklahoma. He is survived by his wife, Kay Renfrow Markel, '58; a daughter, Lori Markel Elliott, b'86; a son; a brother; and two granddaughters.

Phyllis Wertzberger McAdoo, p'63, 80, Dec. 22 in Lawrence, where her career as a pharmacist spanned nearly 50 years. Surviving are a daughter, Lynne, c'93, j'93; and a brother, Ken Wertzberger, c'69, m'73.

James McDaniel, b'62, 80, Nov. 20 in Henderson, Nevada. He retired as regional vice president at BrooksAmerica Mortgage Company. He is survived by his wife, Mindy; three sons; a brother, Phil, c'65; and three grandchildren.

John McElhiney, e'61, g'63, 81, Sept. 29 in La Jolla, California, where he was a chemical engineer at Marathon. Survivors include his wife, Annette, two sons and three grandchildren.

Sharon Stalcup Mendlick, d'66, g'70, 76, Jan. 25 in Omaha, Nebraska, where she was a paralegal in a family law firm and also volunteered as a court-appointed special advocate for children. She is survived by her husband, Michael, c'66, m'70; two daughters, one of whom is Marcia, '03; a son; a sister; and a brother.

Brenda Johnson Mitts, d'60, 82, Nov. 30 in Topeka. She was a school counselor and later worked at St. Francis Hospital. Survivors include her husband, Donald, b'60; a son; and five grandchildren.

Lawrence Monahan, m'68, 79, Nov. 23 in Roanoke, Virginia, where he was an internist and clinical professor of internal medicine at the University of Virginia School of Medicine. He is survived by his wife, Davida, a son, a daughter and three grandchildren.

Elizabeth Simpson Munroe, d'67, g'74, 78, Dec. 18 in Olathe. She taught for 43 years at Gardner Elementary School. A memorial has been established at KU Endowment. She is survived by her husband, Richard, d'65; three daughters; a sister; and four grandchildren.

Jane Bushfield Norton, d'64, '00, 72, Jan. 3 in Leawood. She was a teacher and volunteered in her community.

Surviving are a son, Jay, c'91, l'96; two daughters, one of whom is Sallie Ben Norton Attar, c'92; a sister; and eight grandchildren.

James Powell, d'69, 73, Jan. 12 in Andover, where he was teacher and also owned Jim Powell Photography. His wife, Barbara, two sons and nine grandchildren survive.

Ron Rardin, c'65, g'67, 80, Nov. 9 in Liberty, Missouri. He retired from a career with the federal government and later volunteered in his community. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Surviving are his wife, Nancy; a son; a daughter; a stepson; a stepdaughter; a brother, Eugene, e'64, d'71; 11 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Roy Rawlings, e'67, 76, Jan. 19 in San Luis Obispo, California, where he retired as senior vice president for electric and gas distribution operations at Southern California Gas Company and Sempra Energy. He is survived by his wife, Linda Bahr Rawlings, d'66; two sons; a daughter; a brother, Roger, d'68; and six grandchildren.

Byron Redding, j'62, 85, Oct. 16 in Mission. He was a supervisor at Ketchum advertising company.

Judith Todd Roehrman, n'62, 81, Dec. 17 in Prescott, Arizona, where she was a registered nurse. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. A son, two daughters, a brother, a sister and two grandchildren survive.

Jean Alan Sanders, m'60, 91, Jan. 7 in Lawrence, where he was a pathologist at Lawrence Memorial Hospital and founded Lawrence Clinical

Laboratory. He also was active in his community. Survivors include his wife, Diane Sandberg Sanders, c'58, c'59; two sons, Karl, c'85, m'89, and Curtis, c'88; and five grandchildren.

Rosalinda Mastricola Strand, d'68, 74, Nov. 8 in North Liberty, Iowa. She was a kindergarten teacher and homemaker. Surviving are a son, two sisters, a brother and three grandchildren.

Margaret Thrasher, c'61, 80, April 29, 2020, in Bowie, Maryland. She had a long career in library systems and retired as manager of the New Carrollton Branch Library.

Cynthia Caignon Wood, c'69, 73, Oct. 10 in Sonoma, California, where she was a real estate agent at Sotheby's International. Surviving are her husband, Francis, two daughters, a son, a sister and four grandchildren.

William Zagar, c'61, 81, Jan. 23 in Overland Park. He was a dentist and owned a practice in Topeka. Survivors include his wife, Sandra Lee Zagar, c'62; three daughters, Meya Zagar Kindred, c'87, m'91, Kesa Zagar, c'91, '96, and Trina Zagar Brown, j'95; and 10 grandchildren.

1970s Jeff Allen, p'78, 65, Nov. 19 in Hutchinson, where he worked at his family's business, Hutchinson Vending Company, and also was a pharmacist. Surviving are his wife, Cynthia "Chi-Chi" Coe Allen, c'78; a daughter, Rachel Allen Stone, d'10, g'15; a son, Danny, g'14; a brother, David, b'67; a sister, Diane Allen Hudson, d'71; and two grandchildren.

Andrew Banta, g'79, 82, Dec. 2 in Fort Bragg, Califor-

nia. He taught engineering design for nearly 35 years at several universities, including California State. Survivors include his wife, Linda, '78; a daughter, Lois Banta Eberhardt, '82; two sons; a sister; and three grandchildren.

Terry Billam, '73, 69, Jan. 5 in Olathe, where he had a long career in the auto industry. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by his wife, Luan; two sons, one of whom is Jason, l'00; his mother; a brother, Tom, j'75, l'85; a sister; and four grandchildren.

Nancy Cook Farrar, d'75, 68, Jan. 28 in Rock Island, Illinois. She was a homemaker. Survivors include her husband, Ben; two daughters; and three brothers, two of whom are Charles, c'76, and Richard, '80.

David Fields, b'76, 66, Jan. 1 in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, where he retired after a 38-year career in management at JC Penney. Surviving are his wife, Carol Yarnevich Fields, j'76; a daughter, Kathryn Fields Wilkinson, c'11; a son, Christopher, c'12; a brother, Tom, '79; three sisters, two of whom are Susie Fields Phalen, '81, and Jane Fields Gaunce, j'82; and four grandchildren.

Frederick Hesse, c'72, m'75, 69, July 23 in Lawrence. He was an internist at the Dwight D. Eisenhower Veterans Administration Hospital in Leavenworth. Surviving are two brothers, one of whom is Robert, c'65, m'69; and a sister, Rosemary Hesse Cromer, c'83.

Stephany Brown Hughes, g'72, PhD'03, 78, Dec. 16 in Excelsior Springs, Missouri. She taught in the Blue Valley School District and later

volunteered at an elementary school. In 2014 she received the Volunteer of the Year Award from the local chamber of commerce. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Surviving are a son, Blake, c'90; a daughter; a brother; and three grandchildren.

James Iliff, e'71, 72, Oct. 7 in Olathe, where he was a civil engineer at Black & Veatch and General Services Administration. His wife, Linda, a son and two granddaughters survive.

Doug Kelley, b'76, g'77, 66, Jan. 20 in Missouri City, Texas, where he retired as executive vice president at Colt International. He is survived by his wife, Jana Dye Kelley, j'76; a daughter; his parents; four brothers, one of whom is Mark, d'85, c'90; four sisters; and two granddaughters.

Sue Brown Lollis, g'76, 80, Nov. 4 in Norman, Oklahoma. She taught English literature, composition and humanities for nearly 25 years at Rose State College in Midwest City, Oklahoma. Surviving are her husband, David, two sons and eight grandchildren.

Nancy Snow Hale Martinko, EdD'79, 74, Jan. 7 in Lawrence, where she retired as assistant superintendent of Ottawa Public Schools. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. She is survived by her husband, Edward, and a brother.

Harold Wayne Powers, j'70, 72, Jan. 3 in Leawood, where he was an attorney and partner at Wallace Saunders. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by his wife, Jerre Dunaway Powers, '71; a daughter; and three grandchildren.

Terri Hill Snyder, j'77, 65, May 15, 2020, in Plano, Texas, where she retired as chief marketing officer and executive vice president of Checker's and Rally's drive-in restaurants. She is survived by her husband, Steve, b'76, g'78; a daughter; and a brother.

Thomas Vaughn, g'78, l'78, 68, Nov. 26 in Chicago, where for more than 25 years he was professor of accounting and finance at Chicago State University. He also chaired the department from 1985 to '93. He led the KU Black Alumni Network as president from 2010 to '11 and received the Mike and Joyce Shinn Leaders and Innovators Award. In 2011 he was honored with the Association's Dick Wintermote Volunteer of the Year Award for outstanding service in his network. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Survivors include his wife, Corliss, assoc.; two sons; and a daughter.

1980s Marion Palmer Jewell, c'80, 98, Dec. 16 in Lawrence, where she was a longtime volunteer at KU's Audio-Reader. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. She is survived by two daughters, Kathy Jewell Schilmoeller, c'69, g'73, PhD'78, and Glee Jewell Garlie, d'81; three sons, Jim, j'77, Glenn, c'85, and Bill, '15; eight grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Marianne McGarry Lafex, d'83, g'99, 73, Jan. 31 in Olathe, where she retired after teaching for 25 years. Surviving are her husband, Arthur, g'13; three daughters, Suzanne Lafex Ciotti, c'91, m'95, Elizabeth Lafex Czamanske, c'94, g'20, and Sarah Lafex McDonald,

'04; two brothers; and six grandchildren.

Steven Replogle, c'84, 63, Dec. 11 in Southern Pines, North Carolina, where he was director of sales for Legacy Golf Management. Survivors include his mother, Lois Lacy Replogle, '52; and three sisters, Jane Replogle Barber, c'78, Susan Replogle Debes, '82, and Anne Replogle Kutina, '85.

Daniel Winter, j'80, 62, Feb. 3 in Portland. He lived for many years in Kansas, where he had a long career in banking before becoming the executive director of the ACLU of Kansas and Western Missouri. Surviving are his husband, John Forsgren; three sons; his mother, Nancy Morsbach Winter, '54; two brothers, Winton, c'75, l'78, and Adam, b'86; and two sisters, Mary Winter-Stingley, d'77, and Anne "CeCe," '86.

1990s Amy Asher, f'98, 43, Dec. 9 in Kansas City. She was an artist and landscape designer. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Surviving are her husband, Arian Gimbutas; a daughter; her parents, Bob and Marie Hutcheson Asher, d'69; and a brother, Bob Jr., a'97.

Karen Mitchell Finkbinder, PharmD'92, 52, Jan. 10 in Lawrence, where she managed the oncology pharmacy at Lawrence Memorial Hospital. Survivors include her husband, Eric, p'91; two sons, one of whom is Ian, d'18; her father; and a sister, Suzanne Mitchell Broddle, d'84.

Greg Shaw, '96, 51, Dec. 12 in Pittsburg, where he was a teacher and theatre director at Pittsburg High School. He earned many awards for his productions. Surviving are

his wife, Angela Casey Shaw, c'92, m'05; two daughters; his parents; a sister, Jana Shaw Fevurly, j'88; and a brother.

Kendell Warren, c'95, '96, 49, Oct. 24 in Petersburg, Virginia. He taught history and coached the girls' soccer team at Prince George High School. He is survived by his wife, Angelina; a son; a daughter; his mother; a brother, Christopher, c'98; and two sisters.

UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

Leonora Elkin Barker, '43, 96, Jan. 21 in Lawrence, where she retired after nearly 30 years as an administrative assistant at the School of Education. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Surviving are a son, Bruce, j'70; a daughter, Bonnie Barker Meeder, c'72; four grandsons; and five great-grandchildren.

Howard Boyajian, 94, Dec. 4 in Lawrence, where he was professor emeritus of music and chaired the strings section. He is survived by a daughter, Julie Boyajian Lind, c'82; a son, Mark, c'89; and six grandchildren.

John "Jack" Bushman, g'66, 80, Dec. 8 in Ottawa. He was professor emeritus of teaching and leadership. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Surviving are two sons, one of whom is Eric, '07; a brother; and two grandchildren.

Robert Carlson, 82, Nov. 26 in Lawrence, where he was professor emeritus of chemistry. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by his wife, Nancy; a daughter, Christina, '88; a son; and a granddaughter.

Marcia Adelman Cooper, '02, 73, Dec. 20 in Kansas City. She worked in member-

ship development at KCUR and KANU radio stations and was a graduate adviser in the School of Business. Surviving are two daughters, one of whom is Jenifer, c'13, '19; and two brothers, one of whom is Ernest Adelman, c'61, l'65.

Shirley Gilham Domer, g'68, PhD'75, 85, Jan. 30 in Baldwin City. She was the founding director of KU Info and the University's first director of affirmative action. In 2018 she received the Pioneer Award from the Emily Taylor Center for Women & Gender Equity. She is survived by her husband, Dennis, g'69, PhD'80; a son, James "Oz" Wille, '80; two daughters, Nancy Masterson Reinking, j'83, and Carol Masterson Fraser, f'85; a brother; six grandchildren; and a great-grandson.

Patricia Friedman, 82, Dec. 2 in Lawrence, where she was a records clerk at KU Endowment. Survivors include her husband, Phillip, c'59; two sons, one of whom is Shawn, '87; a sister, Elizabeth Hiss Brower, c'65; and a brother.

Goodwin "Goody" Garfield, PhD'80, 95, March 11 in Lawrence. He was professor emeritus of social welfare and served as director of field practicum from 1984 to '99, and also served as faculty adviser to KU Hillel in the '80s and '90s. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Surviving are his wife, Shirley Smith Garfield, '80; two sons, one of whom is David, c'88; a daughter; and a grandson.

Samuel Gunther, 71, Jan. 14 in Lawrence, where he retired as senior plumber at facilities services. Two daughters, a son and five grandchildren survive.

Robert Hohn, 79, Dec. 25 in Lawrence, where he was professor of educational psychology

and research. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Surviving are his wife, Norma Lee, g'92, '99; two sons, Robert Jr., c'93, and Keith, e'95; a brother; and two grandchildren.

Frances Degen Horowitz, 88, March 15 in New York City. She was the founding chair of the department of human development and family life at KU and later served as associate dean in the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences and vice chancellor for research, graduate studies and public service. She led the Graduate Center at the City University of New York from 1991 to 2005. Survivors include two sons, Benjamin Levi, '79, and Jason Horowitz, '87.

Virginia "Ginny" Johnston, 91, Dec. 5 in Deer River, Minnesota. She was the first chair of the department of clinical laboratory science at KU Medical Center. Two daughters, a son, eight grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren survive.

Lynne Hinkel Lipsey, g'02, 73, Jan. 10 in Lawrence, where she worked in continuing education. She is survived by her husband, Dick, g'88, g'96; two daughters, Kelly Lipsey Yates, d'99, and Kerry Lipsey Smalley, d'99; a brother; and a sister.

Rheta Jo Noever, '59, 84, Jan. 5 in Lawrence, where for more than 40 years she was an administrator at the School of Business. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. A brother, Kenneth Noever, b'72, survives.

Kirby Ostrander, d'81, 62, Dec. 27 in Hiawatha. He was a custodial supervisor at KU Memorial Unions. He is survived by two sons, one

of whom is Ian, c'05, g'08; a brother, Troy, h'91; and a grandson.

Glenn Price, 96, Jan. 17 in Topeka. He was professor emeritus of speech and drama. Surviving are two daughters, Mary Ann Price Johnson, d'79, g'81, and Marsha Price Bales, '80; two sons, Kenneth, f'84, and Jeffrey, e'84; three sisters; 13 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Verlyne "Brownie" Remund, 87, Jan. 23 in Lenexa, where she retired after a 20-year career as an operating room nurse at KU Medical Center. A daughter, three grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren survive.

Mark Richter, 69, Dec. 26 in Lecompton. He was professor of molecular biosciences and twice served as department chair. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Survivors include his wife, Kimber Paschall Richter, g'94, g'96, PhD'98; three sons, two of whom are Nicholas, '13, and Loren, '16; a daughter; a sister; three grandchildren; four step-grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and eight step-great-grandchildren.

ASSOCIATES

Hans Fischer, assoc., 87, Aug. 27 in Lawrence. He was an architect and worked on more than 50 library projects in Kansas. Surviving are his wife, Iris, assoc.; four sons; a sister; and four grandchildren.

Mark Hill, assoc., 68, Dec. 30 in Hoxie, where he ran the family farm. He is survived by his wife, Sueanne, assoc.; three daughters, one of whom is Kelsey Hill Galle, c'12; a son; two sisters; a brother; and six grandchildren.

Scott Kane, assoc., 58, Jan. 10 in Liberal. He was an insurance agent. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. Survivors include his wife, Laura, g'09; a daughter; and seven sisters, one of whom is Salley Zirger, '98.

Marion "Chris" Linton, assoc., 96, Jan. 11 in Lawrence, where she was a homemaker. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. She is survived by her husband, Bruce, assoc.; a son, Marc, d'74, g'81; a daughter, Wendy Linton Blackwell, c'77, g'92; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Joan Rice, assoc., 93, Oct. 9 in Walnut Creek, California, where she managed John Burton Machine Corp. Survivors include her husband, Harold Burton Rice, e'49; and a daughter, Lynn Rice Knize, '73.

Roger Sevedge, assoc., 84, Oct. 27 in Shawnee. He was president of Artco Casket Company. Surviving are a son, Keith, j'80, l'83; a daughter, Amy Sevedge Ogden, assoc.; a sister; five grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Vincent Vermooten, assoc., 82, Jan. 3 in Lawrence. He was an attorney and volunteered at KU's Audio-Reader. A memorial has been established with KU Endowment. He is survived by his wife, Virginia "Ginger" Koger Vermooten, c'68; a son, David, e'00, l'06; a daughter; a sister; and two granddaughters.

Gene Wuellner, assoc., 86, Dec. 7 in Leawood, where he was a builder and developer. Surviving are his wife, Cindy Henley Frewen Wuellner, a'77, PhD'09; a son; a daughter; and a brother.



ACROSS FROM Twente Hall, spade work by campus caretakers—not “The Pioneer”—in one of Mount Oread’s more hidden nooks led to a bounty of blossoms, harbingers of spring and of better days to come.

PHOTOGRAPH BY
STEVE PUPPE



MOUNT OREAD

Gone, but not forgotten

Anniversary of Hoch Auditorium's fiery finale rekindles memories, fond and otherwise

JUNE 15 MARKS the 30th anniversary of Hoch Auditorium's destruction by lightning strike and raging fire. The "academic and cultural matriarch of the University family," as then described in these pages by Bill Woodard, j'00, Hoch has been gone nearly half as long as it existed.

Nostalgia for old Hoch comes easily now, thanks to the distance of decades. But at the time of its demise, the 1927 structure, designed to serve too many purposes (all adequately, none elegantly), was remembered—at least in part—for its notable blemishes.

"Hoch Auditorium wasn't easy to love," observed Jerri Niebaum Clark, j'88, in the July/August 1991 issue of *Kansas Alumni*. Ugly water stains from a leaky roof. Uneven—to be kind—acoustics, lighting and sight lines. A dangerous chandelier hovering high above like a sword of Damocles, reminding all of the perilousness of their perches. "Backstage," Clark wrote, "was as accommodating as an alley. The dressing

room was a janitor's closet, and performers had to cross through the basement to get to the other side of the stage."

And don't forget the basketball games. Nearly 30 years of basketball games. Yes, the stage was designed in the 1920s to accommodate a court, but only barely, and it was supposed to be a temporary measure until the state came up with funds for KU to open an indoor sports arena—which, surprise surprise, didn't happen until 1955.

Hoch's most notable feature, the Collegiate Gothic façade that lent an air of majesty to Jayhawk Boulevard, was, of course, saved. Thanks to tireless work by Chancellor Gene Budig and other determined Jayhawks, the structure was rebuilt with three high-tech (for the time) auditoria, prep areas for chemistry and biology lectures and much-needed computer labs in the basement.

It's safe to say that Budig Hall is a busier daily hub than Hoch Auditorium ever was, and it is clean and safe and conducive



KU ARCHIVES (2)

to learning. Basketball will never again be played there, thankfully, but gone, too, are the performances and public lectures that made for memorable Mount Oread evenings.

Ella Fitzgerald. Coleman Hawkins. Benny Goodman. Sen. John F. Kennedy. Walter Cronkite. Edward Albee. Truman Capote. George Carlin. Louis Armstrong. Will Durant. André Previn and the London Symphony Orchestra (four performers fainted during that September 1974 concert, Clark noted; when Previn returned with the Pittsburgh Symphony in 1981, his musicians, upon being told they'd have to change into their formal attire down the Hill in Murphy Hall, retaliated by performing in jeans).

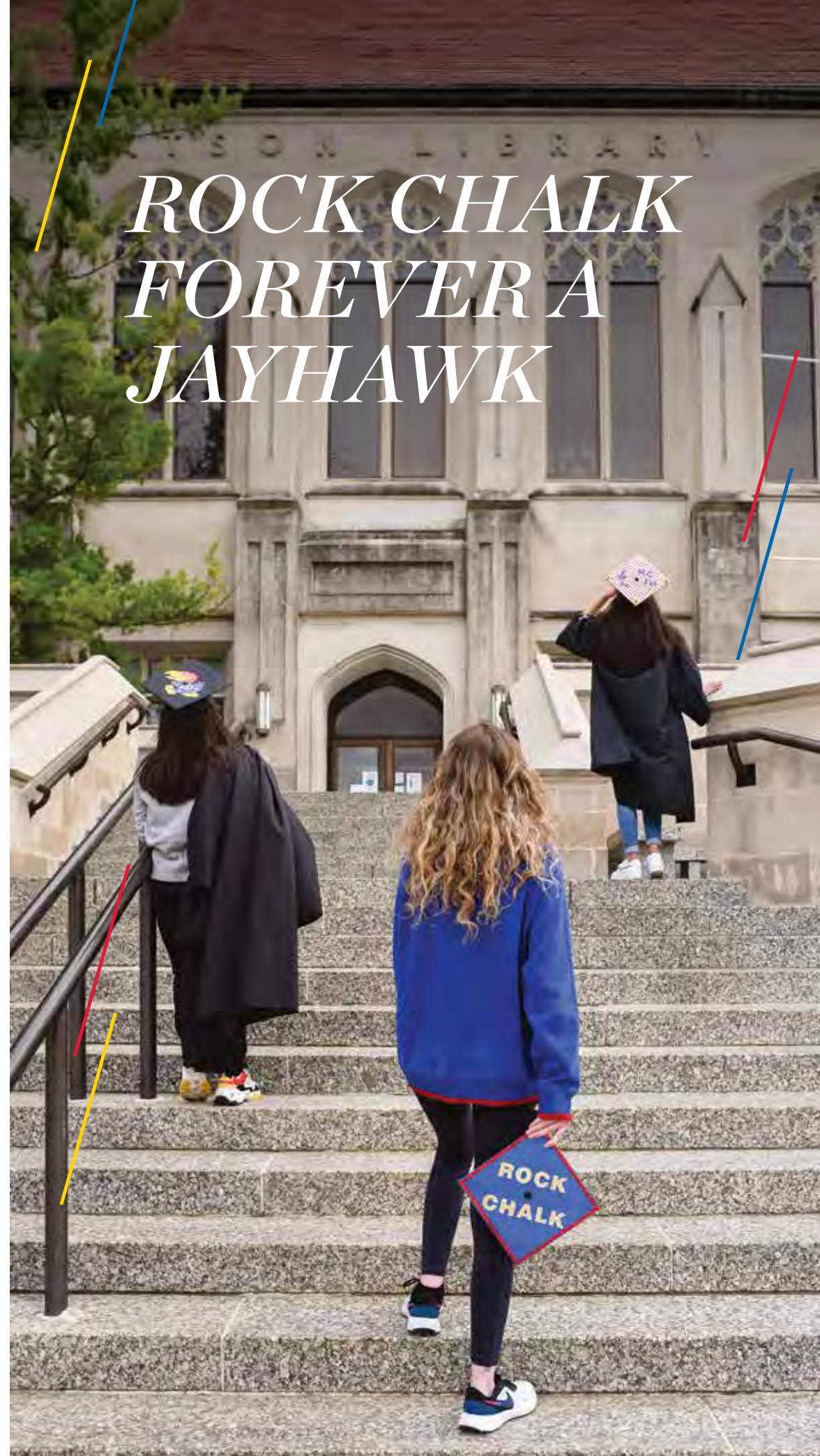
Philip Glass. Leontyne Price. Itzhak Perlman. Isaac Stern. Tom Wolfe. Allen Ginsberg. Kurt Vonnegut. The Bill T. Jones and Alvin Ailey dance companies. Bob Marley, Louis Farrakhan, Steve Martin. Lynyrd Skynyrd. Molly Hatchet. The Beach Boys.

And let us not—now nor ever—forget Vespers' candlelight processions down Hoch's long aisles. Even Hoch looked good when so illuminated. Yes, Vespers and Rock Chalk Revue have a stunning new home at the Lied Center, but might those of us of a certain classic vintage be allowed to retain our special fondness for Hoch's hallmark events?

We shall not forget, but neither shall we be maudlin. At the time of its dramatic finale, Hoch Auditorium was a dangerous dinosaur, long past its due date. We mourn its loss, but mostly remain thankful that its rapid demise came on a stormy summer Saturday afternoon, empty and alone, injuring none with its funeral pyre.

—CHRIS LAZZARINO

ROCK CHALK FOREVER A JAYHAWK



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