**An out of office odyssey**

Automatic e-mail responses range from direct to amusing

While you were out this summer, you likely left one of those funny messages on your e-mail account. You know, the kind stating where you are, why you’re gone and when you’ll be back. Sometimes there’s even an alternative contact listed to help answer the inquiry. Others have made the out of office auto reply an art. We’ve collected some of our favorite replies to the messages we’ve sent this summer.

**The brutally honest...**

I plan, upon my return about July 17, to delete my messages en masse. Please write again after July 17 to reach me.

This is a true vacation, no e-mail, no voice mail, and no internet. If there is something that can’t wait, I apologize.

It’s summer. I’m working at a more leisurely pace, and from the mountains. I’ll get to your e-mail eventually (unless you are asking for money).

As of June 1, 2007, I no longer work at the University of Kansas.

The humorous...

I am out of the office through July 2nd and will not be available by e-mail. Until then, play fair and look both ways before crossing the street—especially those one-wayers.

Out of the office and my mind until July 2nd.

The specific...

Greetings, I am out of the office until August 17. I will be effectively on ‘leave’ until I am back in my office on Wednesday, July 4th.

I will be on leave until July 17 to reach me. Sometimes there’s even an alternative contact listed to help answer the inquiry. Others have made the out of office auto reply an art. We’ve collected some of our favorite replies to the messages we’ve sent this summer.

**I am currently out of the office and the e-mail account.**

You know, the kind stating where you are, why you’re gone and when you’ll be back. Sometimes there’s even an alternative contact listed to help answer the inquiry. Others have made the out of office auto reply an art. We’ve collected some of our favorite replies to the messages we’ve sent this summer.

**The humorous...**

I am out of the office through July 2nd and will not be available by e-mail. Until then, play fair and look both ways before crossing the street—especially those one-wayers.

Out of the office and my mind until July 2nd.

**By Mike Krings**

The way Jeremy Struemph sees it, compared to the 53 women and children who are victims of domestic violence in Kansas every day, jumping out of an airplane is no big deal.

So he did it 53 times.

Struemph, a grant specialist at the Center for Research, broke the Kansas record for most skydives in one day on June 14 when he made 53 jumps to raise awareness of domestic violence and sexual assault. The previous record was 40 jumps.

“ar’s that the 53 reported cases are only about 20 percent of all incidents. We were thinking about a charity event and thought domestic violence and sexual assault doesn’t get a lot of attention,” he said.

Struemph’s record-breaking day also raised about $3,000 for the Kansas Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence.

He made his jumps at Skydive Kansas headquarters in Osage City. The first flight took off at 6:10 a.m. By 2:30 p.m. he had parachuted into the record books. And he only had to use his backup parachute once.

Normally, a skydiver jumps from an altitude of about 10,000 feet. To keep a quicker pace, Struemph jumped from about 2,200.

“I’d jump out, immediately deploy my chute, spin down, and someone would be waiting there for me on the ground with a new rig. While I was putting it on, the plane would be landing. Then I’d get on and do it again,” he said.

About 15 fellow skydivers volunteered to pack chutes and fly the plane. They raised money by taking pledges and selling jumps from the five-seater plane during his runs. All of the funds raised went to the coalition.

Struemph, who monitors, bills and makes sure grants are spent properly, started jumping just a few years ago. Now he jumps from a plane nearly every weekend and is a skydiving coach. He recently made his 500th jump.

“A couple of years ago, some friends and I jumped. I landed and immediately made my appointment to go back the next weekend,” he said.

The rush of jumping from a moving plane and being able to help new jumpers experience the same feeling kept him coming back.

Next year, he hopes to stage another charity jump. Except next time, he plans to up the stakes to 100 jumps. He has no immediate plans of trying to break the world record of more than 600 jumps in one day.

The effort generated a good amount of publicity, with several media outlets covering the jumps and a radio station broadcasting live from the site.

“That was the main thing we wanted to do,” Struemph said. “Raising the funds was great, but we wanted people to know there’s an organization out there that helps.”

**How to help**

For more on the Kansas Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence, visit www.kcsdv.org. For information on how to donate, visit www.skydivekansas.com.

By Brendan Lynch

Multiple Sclerosis Society, attacks the central nervous system, leaving sufferers with impaired mobility, blindness and other symptoms. A KU researcher is investigating ways to fight back.

Linda Sahaan, professor of pharmaceutical chemistry, has won a research grant from the National Multiple Sclerosis Society to investigate experimental treatments for Multiple Sclerosis involving a promising compound of his own discovery.

“We’re thrilled that Dr. Sahaan has joined the movement to a world free of MS,” said Kay Julian, president of the Mid America Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. “Research by scientists like Dr. Sahaan will one day find the cause and the cure for multiple sclerosis, a debilitating disease that affects more than 400,000 individuals nationwide.”

Kay Julian, president, Mid America Chapter, National Multiple Sclerosis Society

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It is believed that MS affects the central nervous system.
Cara Burnidge and Meghan Walsh, fifth and sixth from left, are pictured with
Web site. and fire facts are
dardds, along with
code requirements
the campus. The
works to protect
and students and
fire for faculty, staff
reduced risk of
Marshal Authority,
University Fire
ON FIRE: KU has a
utero. Ongoing research in this
mothers and their fetuses in
effort to explore improved
KU SCHOOL OF MEDICINE:
nomics and neuroimaging.
ogy, bipolar disorder, psychot-
Department of Psychiatry and
adolescent psychiatry,
sor of psychiatry and pedi-
the new chair of psychiatry
PEACE OR POWER POLITICS: Paul
D’Anieri, associate dean of the College of
Liberal Arts and Sciences, explores the
recent democratic history of Europe’s second largest nation in his
book “Understanding Ukrainian Politics: Power, Politics and
Institutional Design.” More than once
the former Soviet state has appeared
to be woefully behind the
and democracy, only for those efforts to be
trumped by power politics. D’Anieri’s
book helps provide an understanding
of Ukrainian politics and why such problems are common to former
Soviet states and developing nations.

THE ROOF IS NOT
ON FIRE: KU has a
University Fire
Marshal Authority,
which sets policies to
reduce risk of
fire for faculty, staff
works to protect
the campus. The
authority’s policies,
code requirements,
and fire facts are
all available on the
Web site.

KU SCHOOL OF MEDICINE -
PAUL Sheffer is the new
chair of psychiatry and
behavioral sciences. He
was formerly associate profes-
sor of psychiatry and pedi-
atrics, director of child psychiatry,
division of pediatric psychiatry and
adolescent psychiatry, Department
of psychiatry and behavioral sciences
and medical
director of Children’s
Hospital of Wisconsin.
Recognized as an international
researcher, Sheffer’s research
interests include psychopharmacol-
ogy, bipolar disorder, psychotic
disorders, ADHD, depression, pharmaco-
genetics and neuropsychiatry.
KU SCHOOL OF MEDICINE:
Principal investigator J oan
Hunt has been awarded more
than $4.8 million in funding
from the National Institutes of
Health to lead a collaborative
effort to explore improved
communication between
mothers and their fetuses in
uterus. Ongoing research in this
field is designed to reduce the
number of miscarriages and
other fertility problems, which
affect nearly one in 10 couples.
The research at KU Medical
Center is housed in the new
Kansas Life Sciences
Innovation Center, designed
to foster collaborative work by
university scientists engaged
in life sciences research.

EDWARDS CAMPUS: Audio-
Reader will host a donation
drive for the FoY on
March 1 from 3 to 7 p.m.
uly 1 at the Edwards
Campus in the
parking lot of J ayhawk
Central. Donations are
accepted at Audio-Reader year
round. The following items will
be accepted: CDs and CD play-
ers, records, LPs, stereo
and stereo speakers, turntables,
receivers and amps, iPods/MP3
players, books on CD, tape,
musical instruments, car stereo
speakers, kids’ electronics,
DVDS/bluray videos and home
theater equipment. The sale,
which is held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Saturday, March 1, is a major fundraiser for
Audio-Reader.

NET NARCISSSISM: Nancy
Bayn, associate pro-
Fessor of communications studies, was
quoted in a recent Chicago Tribune article
about a study that people born after 1982 are the most
narcissistic generation in recent history. Social
networking sites are thought to have much to
do with it. She said young people are often fail-
ing to target their messages. “They’re thinking
about ‘Who am I and how can I show myself
to the world?’ Bayn is quoted saying about
the generation. They’re not thinking about parents,
teachers, employers and all the other people who
can see this.”

BILL OF CLEAN HEALTH: Nina Shik,
a nurse and infection control professional at KU Medical
Center, was quoted in a recent article in Newsweek
about reducing infections caused by unclean hospi-
dust on the floors? Ask yourself, ‘Does it appear
like a safe hospital?’ Shik offered as advice
for determining if a hospital is clean as it should
be. The NEXT WARREN BUFFETT: Business Week
asked several business and financial experts
who they thought could be a suitable replace-
ment for billionaire investor Warren Buffett
when he retires. Mark Hirschey, the
Anderson W. Chandler Professor of Business,
was among those asked. His answer: “Bruce Berkowitz,
Fairholme Capital Management’s founder,”
which would be terrific. He has a wonderful record
and knows the culture as a longtime Berkshire stock-
holder.”
KUDOS

Marc Greenberg, chair of the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, participated in the second annual Slavic Literature Festival, held May 30-June 1 in Iowa City. Greenberg played in many of the festival's events, including seven-string with guitarists Vladimir Markuluchev (Moscow), Dmitri Ilarionov (Moscow), Tariel Berimeladze (Tbilisi, Georgia), and other students.

Bob Clark, vice chancellor of the Edwards Campus, was featured on a third-rate metasite for Kansas City education leaders in Ingram's Magazine's special education publication. Becky Schulte invited Clark to share his view on Kansas City's higher-education climate.

Sarah Hargus Ferguson, assistant professor of speech-language-hearing, presented the paper “Language and Rates of talker-reported clear speech intelligibility” at the 56th meeting of the Acoustical Society of America. Held June 3-8 in Salt Lake City, this four-day conference is one of the largest in the world.

Marvin Hunt, assistant dean of Continuing Education, presented “Symposium and Innovation in Three Other Lifelong Learning Initiatives and Three Universities: Mutual Interests and Shared Problems” at the International Lifelong Learning Institute conference held in April in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. Hunt also presented “The Nexus Between Qualitative Lifelong Learning Research and Marketing” at the “Building a Sense of Community Among Members: A Case Study of Online Message Boards” at the National Lifelong Learning Institute conferences in April in Braggton, Ga.

Chris Johnson, financial system administrator for student financial services, presented a talk titled “The Dialects of the Germans from Russia” at the 38th International Convention of the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia on June 13 in Havana. A media guide written by Chris Johnson, assistant professor of information technology, and Beau White, assistant director for student communications, received third place at the College Sports Information Directors of America conference.

Bill Klein, assistant director of IT, presented “The Advanced Network Services Registry” during the Great Plains Network annual meeting June 1 in Kansas City.

Brian Rosenblum, scholarly digital initiatives librarian, presented “Building Student Publications Services in the aca
demic library” at the Colorado Academic Library Summit held June 1 in Denver. Rosenblum also presented “Libraries as Publishers: Partnering with the Community to Improve Access to Scholarship” at the 2007 Colorado Academic Library Network held June 4 in Supavoa, Slovakia.


Becky Schulte, university archivist, participated in the “Successes, Myths, and Challenges: Managing Academic Electronic Records,” an annual Midwest Archives Conference held May 3 in Columbus, Ohio. Schulte also participated in the “Application of Copyright Laws to Historical Records” panel at the Archive Access Issues Symposium at the Dwight D. Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum held May 24 in Abilene.

Rich Ring, librarian at Watson Library, chaired two sessions on honor of KU professor Emeritus Richard “Skip” Kay. He also organized and presided over the Saturday night humor panel “Psuedo Society” during the International Medieval Congress.

Susan Craig, head of the Art and Architecture Library, received the WorldWide Books Award for Electronic Resources, presented by the Art Libraries Society of North America. The award recognizes her decades-long effort in creating a rich repository of graphical Dictionary of Kansas Artists (active before 1943), a KU Scholarworks e-book featuring 1,700 Kansas artists.

Jane Ingrue, Global Awareness Program coordinator, and Charlie Bankart, assistant dean of International Programs, presented “The Student-Guided Student and Global Awareness and the Internationalization Program” at the annual New Directions in Faulkner Studies.”
Four members of the English department have been named Conger-Gabel Teaching Professors: Philip Barnard, associate professor; Byron Caminero-Santangelo, director of graduate studies; Frank Farmer, associate professor; and Marjorie Swann, associate professor. All four were honored for their outstanding teaching. Caminero-Santangelo teaches a variety of courses in American literature, the novel, U.S. cultural history, and contemporary cultural theory. Farmer teaches a variety of theory and history. He also teaches undergraduate writing courses. Swann regularly teaches adaptations of Shakespeare. She also teaches a graduate seminar in Renaissance Studies that focuses on the theory and history of collecting.

The Conger-Gabel Teaching Professorships were endowed in 2001 through a gift from KU graduates Wren Gabel and Esther Conger-Gabel. The professors are chosen by the dean of the School of Liberal Arts and Sciences in consultation with the provost on service and policy — that the university incurs to complete purchase and transportation to and from KU. The transportation service is the most cost-effective program, said Danny Kaiser, assistant director of Parking and Transit. MV Transportation submitted the most cost-effective proposal to provide transportation, the provost said.

Although MV Transportation's fleet will be ADA-compliant, KU on Wheels' lift-van service will still be available. One fan-free bus route will be added to the current schedule to provide transportation to and from lots 90, 91 and 94. This will bring bus service to the Student Recreation and Fitness Center and JRP Hall. The remaining routes and schedules will remain the same.

KU on Wheels is currently funded and operated by KU's Student Senate Transportation Board. This summer, all of its operations will be transferred to Parking and Transit, a joint commission of students, faculty and staff who will be formed to advise the provost on service and policy matters related to the system.

**New fleet of buses rolls across campus**

**Black Faculty, Staff Council presents awards**

Research reimbursement rate to increase 4.5 percent

A successful negotiation with the federal government will net KU an initial 4.5 percent increase in the amount of money the government is willing to pay for student services for costs associated with federally funded research. The reimbursement rate for the past four years and covers “indirect costs” — research facilities and maintenance, utilities, libraries and research administration.

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TROUTH TENDING IN AMERICA
LIED CENTER
AUG. 17

26 Thursday
Camp. Kansas Soccer Camp. Residential camp for girls in grades 4-12 begins. Ends Jly 29. 9:30 a.m.-9 p.m. Sponsor: Kansas Soccer Camp. Call 864-1020.


Workshop. "Conducting Unclassified Professional and University Searches." 9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. Budig Hall. Sponsored by Instructional Services. Call 864-4450.


1 Monday
New student orientation. 8 a.m. 9 a.m. J. Russell Pearson Hall. Sponsored by Human Resources and Equal Opportunity. Call 864-4648.

1 Tuesday
New graduate student orientation. 8 a.m. 9 a.m. J. Russell Pearson Hall. Sponsored by Human Resources and Equal Opportunity. Call 864-4648.

1 Wednesday
New graduate student orientation. 8 a.m. 9 a.m. J. Russell Pearson Hall. Sponsored by Human Resources and Equal Opportunity. Call 864-4648.

1 Thursday
Workshop. "Developing that "Blackboard" site." 2 p.m. 3 p.m. Budig Hall. Sponsored by Instructional Services. Call 864-0410.


2 Friday
Workshop. "Conducting Unclassified Professional and University Searches." 9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. Budig Hall. Sponsored by Instructional Services. Call 864-4450.


3 Saturday

4 Sunday
4th of July Celebration. 2 p.m. J. Russell Pearson Hall. Sponsored by Human Resources and Equal Opportunity. Call 864-4648.

7 Tuesday
Workshop. "Conducting Unclassified Professional and University Searches." 9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. Budig Hall. Sponsored by Instructional Services. Call 864-0410.


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11 Saturday
New student orientation. 8 a.m. 9 a.m. J. Russell Pearson Hall. Sponsored by Human Resources and Equal Opportunity. Call 864-4648.

14 Tuesday

16 Thursday
New student orientation. 8 a.m. 9 a.m. J. Russell Pearson Hall. Sponsored by Human Resources and Equal Opportunity. Call 864-4648.

18 Saturday
Public event. "White glove" tour of Dole Archive. 10 a.m. 1 p.m. Dole Institute of Politics. Free. Sponsored by Dole Institute of Politics. Call 864-1440.

Professor gives Emporia gift of song for its 150th anniversary celebration
With a little help from his friends, James Barnes, professor of music and dance, gave the city of Emporia a timeless gift for its 150th anniversary. Barnes composed a song that was performed by the Emporia Municipal Band on July 5 at a city commemoration. "Beacon on the Prairie" is a march, is Barnes’ musical tribute to the city.

Gary McCarty, conductor of the Emporia Municipal Band, approached Barnes about composing the song. "Gary and I go way back. We were in the KU Marching Band together many years ago," Barnes said. McCarty developed an appreciation for Barnes’ music from their time as bandmates and friends. "It sounds good. It’s fun to do," Barnes said. And you can extract much teaching from the band music," McCarty told the Emporia Gazette.

The title "Beacon on the Prairie" alludes to Emporia’s travels between the groups and different community environments. While passing through Emporia, the city’s water tower reminded him of a lighthouse, or beacon, for those traveling through the area.
Siahaan has shown that PLP-BPI of the new compound immune cells from damaging the proteins and molecules that stop BPI, which contains myelin of the cells. “It’s actually a piece of protein and its side effects. Because it has to be safe.”

“Since then, research space has grown 50 percent, the volume of KU’s national ranking climbed 10 places. Jim was part of all of this as a strong and effective advocate for the university’s mission, research and graduate studies. “There are few people more knowledgeable of this superb institution than Jim Roberts. As associate vice provost, Warren will report to Warren. She joined the university’s national association’s many resources and class of five fellows from each state. The effectiveness of mid-career training in research, graduate studies. A consortium of six health foundations has pledged support for a major research program and will provide excel- lent stewardship during the inter- im period,” said Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor Richard Lariviere.

Warren, Rosen named to leadership roles in research, graduate studies

A consortium of six health foundations in Kansas and Missouri has pledged $217,595 to establish the Midwest Health Journalism Program, an annual fellowship program for reporters and editors from both states. The program involves a cooperative effort among the Association of Health Care Journalists, the Kansas Health Institute and the William Allen White School of Journalism and Mass Communications at KU.

The program aims to provide established journalists with the tools need- ed to improve the depth and amount of coverage focused on critical state and local health issues. The result should be a better-educated public and more accountability for policymakers, say program planners.

The Association of Health Care Journalists, based at the University of Missouri School of Journalism, will conduct the training program through its Center for Excellence in Health Care Journalism at the Kansas Health Institute will administer the grant and coordinate overall development and marketing efforts, while KU will eval- uate the training project and its results.

The funding organizations include The Kansas Health Foundation, Wichita; The Sunflower Foundation, Lawrence; United Methodist Health Ministry Fund, Hutchinson; the REACH Healthcare Foundation, Merriam; the Health Care Foundation of Greater Kansas City, Kansas City, Mo.; and the Missouri Foundation for Health, St. Louis.

“The funding foundations jointly agreed that a formal training program was needed given the increasing importance of the health policy discussion at the state and national levels,” said Jim Roberts.

The program will begin in the coming weeks with selection of the first year’s class of five fellows from each state. The fellows will be able to tap the health jour- nalists’ association’s many resources and access to special training events and conferences.

“Jim was present at the cre- ation of the KU Center for Research in 1997,” said Lariviere. “Since then, research space has high throughput screening laboratories link molecular biolo- gy and drug discovery. Beginning Aug. 31, the high throughput screening lab at KU will be directed by Raghu Chaguturu, Distinguished Professor and chair of medicinal chemistry. “This position needs leadership and direction. Dr. Chaguturu will build and develop the high throughput screening facility and assay development efforts. He’ll help us to discover new drugs.”

High throughput screening programs are becoming increasingly sophisticated as the interest in drug discovery increases. The $217,595 grant will sup- port Siahaan’s work on a com- pound developed be called PLP-BPI, which contains myelin proteins and molecules that stop immune cells from damaging the nervous system.

“It is actually a piece of protein we form using an automated syn- thesizer in our lab,” Siahaan said. The new compound Siahaan has shown that PLP-BPI halts the progress of EAE, a dis- ease similar to MS that affects mice. We induce the mice to get EAE and then we challenge them with a very small amount of the molecule that we’ve discovered, said Siahaan. “We basically sup- press the progression of the dis- ease compared with animals that get injected with the control mol- ecule.”

With the National Multiple Sclerosis Society grant, Siahaan will examine the effects of PLP-BPI on mice already suffering the onset of EAE. He will also attempt to shield light on the com- pound’s mechanism for fighting the disease. Eventually, the grant-funded work could lead to thera- pies for people with MS.

“If we can, we’ll move to humans in the future with clinical trials,” said Siahaan. “First, we’ll look at the stability of the mole- cule and its side effects. Because it has to be safe.”

A committee of more than 70 eminent scientists who peer review hundreds of research pro- posals each year awarded the grant to Siahaan.

Steve Warren, director of KU’s internationally known Schiefelbusch Institute for Life Span Studies, will become interim vice provost for research and graduate studies in August. Warren will succeed Jim Roberts, who has decided to step down after a decade at the KU Center for Education and Research. Roberts will remain as a professor of electrical engineering, full time. Sara Thomas Rosen, professor and chair of the Department of Linguistics, has been named asso- ciate vice provost and dean of graduate studies.

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Steve is intimately familiar with the challenges and opportu- nities of running a major research program and will provide excel- lent stewardship during the inter- im period,” said Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor Richard Lariviere.

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Unclassified Senate names officers

Unclassified Senate has announced officers for the 2007-08 academic year. Dana Dick, assistant director of Parking and Transit, is president. He succeeds Jason O'Connor, assistant director of the University Advising Center, who will serve as past president.

Other unclassified staff members elected to office are:
- Paul Farran, technology support specialist, president-elect
- Angie Claussen, adviser, Student Senate, secretary
- Lisa Shave, business manager

John Zwer John Thomas Zwer, 78, died May 24. He worked as a custodian for many years. Survivors include his wife, two sons, three daughters, two stepchildren and two grandchildren.

John Stubbs Brushwood John Stubbs Brushwood, 87, died May 27. He was a Roy A. Roberts Professor of Latin American Literature from 1967 until he retired in 1990. Survivors include his wife, two sons and two grandchildren. The family suggests memorial gifts to KU Endowment, sent in care of Warren-McEwin Mortuary.

Edwin A. Bracken Edwin A. Bracken, 81, died May 20. He was an administrative officer for 11 years and retired in 1992. Survivors include a daughter, a brother, two sisters and two grandchildren.

Elaine Erna Vick Elaine Erna Vick, 84, died May 31. Vick worked in the physics and astronomy department. Survivors include her husband, two sons, two grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

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IN MEMORY

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Volunteers sought to work state fair booth

Volunteers are being sought to staff the KU booth at the Kansas State Fair in Hutchinson. The fair, held Sept. 7-16, offers an outreach activity for the university that provides an opportunity to showcase what KU serves the state. Shifts last only five hours.

Volunteers arrange their own travel, but KU provides motel accommodations, free admission and a KU T-shirt. An orientation for volunteers will be held in August. To learn what shifts remain available, or to volunteer, e-mail Terri Stringer Leonard at tstringer@ku.edu.

Domestic long-distance phone rates reduced

Information Services has renegotiated an exemption from the Kansans domestic calling contract to reduce KU’s domestic long-distance rates.

The charge for domestic long-distance calls will be $0.065 per minute, a $0.03 per minute reduction from the previous rate. The change went into effect July 1, and the new charges will appear on the online bill for August. For more information call 844-9800.

Notice: Newspapers request employee salaries

The Lawrence Journal-World has requested, through the state’s open records law, a list of all state employees and their salaries. As a public institution, KU is obligated to comply. The Wichita Business Journal also has asked for a list of the top 20 salaries at the university.

Offices encouraged to proofread phone directory

Proofreading of updates to the 2007-08 KU Directory will be held July 16 — 20. Offices and departments are encouraged to send representatives to the Wesley Building from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Only the administrative pages will be proofread. Changes to personnel listings in the blue-bordered pages may be made through each department’s personnel liaison or by contacting Human Resources.

CLAS Graduate Division rejoins administration

The College of Liberal Arts and Science’s Graduate Division has moved back into the College’s administrative structure and will be known as the College Graduate Office. The Graduate Admissions Office will remain part of the Office of the Vice Provost for Research and Graduate Studies.

Associate Dean Barbara Romzek will oversee the operation of the College Graduate Office. Rebecca Peterson will eventually lead the office.

Study shows diversity leads to productivity

A study conducted by James Guthrie, William and Judy Docking Professor of Business, and the University of Limerick in Ireland has found that companies with diversity and equality strategies show increased productivity and reduced turnover. The study focused on companies in Ireland, where the workplace is more diverse with increasing numbers of women, gay men, people with disabilities, and ethnicities.

Audio-Reader will host donation drive july 28

Audio-Reader will host a donation drive for the annual “For Your Ears Only” sale. The drive will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. July 28 at the 6th Street Hy-Vee in Lawrence. The following items will be accepted: CDs and CD players, records/LPs, stereos and stereo speakers, turntables and record players, tape players and record players, books on CD/tape, musical instruments, car stereos/speakers, DVD/VHS videos and home theatre equipment.

CLAS seeks nominations for distinguished alumni

Nominations for the 2007-08 College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Alumni Distinguished Achievement Award should be submitted by Aug. 15. The home department of alumni selected as award recipients will receive $1,000 in unrestricted funds. Nominations may be submitted online at www.ku.edu. Click on the “Alumni and Friends” link.

Correction

In the May 14 Oread, an incorrect photo was published with the story “Five to earn KU’s highest honor.” For the entry about Christine Knudson, a photo of Karla Knutson was inadvertently published. Oread regrets the error.

Frank Ford, the Larry D. Horner/KPMG Distinguished Teaching Professor of Accounting at the University of Kansas, received the 2007 Outstanding Service Award for the Midwest Region of the American Accounting Association.

The award was presented at the Midwest Region’s annual meeting April 14 in St. Louis. The Outstanding Service Award is given in “recognition and appreciation of lifetime service to the Midwest Region.”

Scott Weiss will join KU as director of bands this fall. Weiss is the associate director of bands and associate professor of music at Indiana University’s Jacobs School of Music, where he also earned his bachelor’s degree. He received master’s and doctoral degrees at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Before working at Indiana University, Weiss was director of bands and an associate professor of music at Lamar University in Beaumont, Texas.

Leon earns book subvention award


The award provides financial support from the Office of the Provost for Research to a faculty member for the costs related to the publication of a manuscript based on humanities research. It is awarded annually by the Hall Center for the Humanities.

Williams to lead research library

Sherry Williams has been named interim head of Spencer Research Library. Williams will assume full responsibility for the library when William Crowe, Spencer librarian, enters phased retirement in October.

The Spencer Research Library is home to more than 350,000 rare books, 500,000 manuscripts and approximately 2.5 million photographs. It houses University Archives, the Kansas Collection and Special Collections.

Williams joined KU Libraries more than 28 years ago. She is curator of the Kansas Collection, the regional history division of KU Libraries.

Schultz takes home psychology award

Jerry Schultz, associate director of the Work Group for Health and Development at the Life Span Institute, is the 2007 recipient of the Distinguished Contribution to Practice in Community Psychology award, given by the American Psychological Association’s Division of Community Psychology.

Schultz was recognized for his work on utilizing knowledge to practice and research into how community groups can successfully address public health and community development issues. As developer of the Internet-based Community Tool Box, which helps families tackle complex social problems.

Notable Alums: KU grad Cynthia Leitich Smith has become a well-known writer in and around Austin, Texas. The Library of Congress recently announced she is among 70 writers chosen to participate in the seventh annual National Book Festival. Smith has co-written several books for young readers. She graduated from KU and the University of Michigan Law School. She won the 2001 Wordcraft Circle Award for children’s literature, but her latest novel, “Tantalize,” is a dark fantasy.

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Bob Basow, associate professor of philosophy, was awarded the Katchik Creativity Award on May 8. He was nominated by fellow faculty members.

“His endless explorations of new areas of knowledge give him an overflowing warehouse of ideas to combine with those research findings,” a colleague wrote. He has been a member of the faculty for 28 years.

Jeffery Schultz was recognized for his work on utilizing knowledge to practice and research into how community groups can successfully address public health and community development issues. As developer of the Internet-based Community Tool Box, which helps families tackle complex social problems.

Harmon named University Ombuds

Kelle Harmon has been named University Ombuds. She has more than a decade of experience in human relations and interim ombuds since 2006 and in assistant roles since 1993.

Harmon has master’s degrees in higher education administration and religious studies, as well as a bachelor’s in religious studies, all from KU.

Johnson to join IDEA Center

Tim Johnson, executive director of the Information and Telecommunications Center, will join the IDEA Center, an organization that assists institutions of higher learning in improving teaching, learning and administrative processes. Johnson has been with KU for 16 years, and in 1996 helped form ITTC. During his time, Johnson and royalty fees have earned KU more than $1 million.

Hultine to join board of parking institute

Donna Hultine, director of Parking and Transit, has been elected to serve on the board of directors for the International Parking Institute. The institute provides leadership, information and education for professionals in the parking and transit industry. Hultine has been the director of Parking and Transit since 2002.

During her tenure, she oversaw the transition from the depart- ment from strictly parking to parking and transit.

Redeker seeks funding for continuing ed group

Jean Redeker, assistant dean of Continuing Education, has been elected secretary/treasurer for the Great Plains Region of the University Continuing Education Association. She will become chair-elect of the region next year, following a one-year term. The Great Plains Region includes Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota and Wyoming.

Burke awarded Dow creativity fellowship

Matthew Burke, assistant professor of art, was recently awarded an Alden B. Dow Creativity Fellowship by Northwood University in Midland, Mich. Burke is attending a working retreat through Aug. 17.