

The teacher has become the student

Klayder finishes doctorate while excelling at teaching

Being on the Hill, proudly watching her students culminate their academic careers is nothing new to Mary Klayder. This year, she'll be there again, only this time, she's going to be one of them.

Klayder, University Honors Lecturer in English, will take part in the doctoral hooding ceremony marking the successful completion of her doctorate. She finished her dissertation while continuing to teach and advise the students who will be joining her on commencement day.

Klayder is a long-time Jayhawk, earning her bachelor's in art history and master's in English education from KU. She taught high school for several years before coming back to KU in

1985. Over the course of her career, she's worked at what she calls "the triangle," teaching English, serving as associate director of the University Honors Program and regularly directing three study abroad programs. On top of that, she's been an adviser for many years, one of the duties she says she enjoys the most.



Jaelyn Lippelmann/University Relations

Mary Klayder, University Honors Lecturer in English, recently finished her doctorate while continuing her teaching

and advising. She'll walk down the Hill with the students she taught and with the senior class that chose her for the H.O.P.E. Award.

An English major at heart, Klayder never stopped writing and had plans to complete her doctorate. She began working on her dissertation in the mid '90s. Not all went according to plan, though.

"Life took over," she said.

Her husband passed away. She had started a dissertation in metaphor theory in literature but had to put it aside. She returned to what she knew and loved: teaching and advising. For the next several years, Klayder focused on her career.

"I just didn't think about it for awhile," Klayder

said of finishing her doctorate. “But I felt good about what I had written. It really represented who I am.”

The thought of finishing didn’t go away completely. With the friendly encouragement of some of her colleagues, she decided to finish what she had started. This time she did things differently. She continued teaching and advising while finishing her dissertation. She also decided to change course on her dissertation, writing a “memoirist collection of essays and poetry.”

“I’m using a lot of the ideas I had originally, but it’s now a nonfiction, personal work instead of the critical analysis it was earlier.”

Klayder said being both student and teacher was not too much of a stretch. Because she had only her dissertation to finish, she wasn’t attending classes with students she was

instructing. The biggest challenge, she said, was taking the time after her teaching and advising duties to devote to her dissertation, “Painted Ponies: Essays on Memory and Loss.” She completed it in December.

Her teaching didn’t suffer either. In November, students chose her as winner of the HOPE Award, the only teaching award given solely by students. Nominations for the award are gathered annually from the senior class. The Board of Class Officers and its Senior Advisory Board select the winner after interviews with the candidates. Her name was announced as the winner at a KU football game one week before she defended her dissertation.

“That was very meaningful, I really appreciated being honored by the students,” said Klayder, who had seen both her teachers and colleagues receive the award.

Come commencement day, she’ll walk down the hill with the same senior class that chose her for the award.

With her doctorate in hand, Klayder will continue doing what she loves, teaching, advising and working with Study Abroad programs. She’ll also continue some of her favorite writing: recommendation letters. Klayder jokes that while many authors have collections of letters, some day she’ll publish a collection of recommendation letters.

The results of the letters are no laughing matter. She’s watched students go on to medical school or law school or become teachers — one even became an “imagineer” for the Walt Disney Co.

While most graduates only walk down the Hill once, or maybe twice, Klayder plans to be there for years to come, watching her students make the memorable walk.

Commencement 2009: Six faculty members earn distinguished teaching awards

Six faculty members will be honored for outstanding teaching during commencement ceremonies May 17.

The Chancellor's Awards for Outstanding Classroom Teaching annually honor faculty from the KU Medical Center for excellence in teaching. This year's recipients are Gary Gronseth, professor of neurology; Judith J. Warren, professor of nursing; and Michael J. Werle, associate professor of anatomy and cell biology.

Three faculty members from the Lawrence campus will be honored as well. Sheyda Jahanbani, assistant professor of history, will be the recipient of the Silver Anniversary Award. The award, presented by the 25-year anniversary class, includes a \$2,500 cash

prize. It is presented annually to tenure-track faculty members who have not yet received tenure.

Scott Murphy, associate professor of music theory, is the winner of the Byron Shutz Award. The award was founded in 1978 to honor exceptional teaching in economics and business. It was modified in 1985 to include faculty from all disciplines in alternate years. Winners receive a \$4,000 cash prize and present a lecture on their topic of expertise during the fall semester.

Joseph O'Brien, associate professor of curriculum and teaching, will receive the Ned N. Fleming Trust Award. The award recognizes distinguished teaching, scholarship and service and carries a \$5,000 cash prize.



Gary Gronseth



Judith J. Warren



Michael J. Werle



Scott Murphy



Sheyda Jahanbani



Joseph O'Brien

Commencement 2009: Ten seniors earn Chancellor's Student Awards

Ten graduating seniors are 2009 Chancellor's Student Award recipients. The awards recognize the students' academic, volunteer and leadership accomplishments during their time at KU.

Marlesa Roney, vice provost for Student Success, and Ann Eversole, assistant vice provost for Student Success, made the following award presentations:

— Donald K. Alderson Award: Christopher James Reine of Kansas City, Mo., and Norfolk, Va.

— Class of 1913 Award: Zachary Josef

Abramovitz of Overland Park and Stephanie Hill of Shawnee

— Alexis F. Dillard Student Involvement Award: John Babcock of Fort Scott and Holton, and Kevin McCormick Campbell of Leawood

— Rusty Leffel Concerned Student Award: Nathan Andrew Mack Jr. of Lawrence and Alyson M. Rodee of Wichita

— Caryl K. Smith Award: Jade Marie Martin of Rose Hill

— Agnes Wright Strickland Award: Rachel Elizabeth Burchfield of Topeka and Fairmount, W.Va., and Todd Christopher Crawford of Leawood

As part of the 137th commencement, the Chancellor's Student Award recipients will be honored at a reception May 16 at the Kansas Room in the Kansas Union. The honorees also will be among those on the platform with the chancellor during commencement May 17 in Memorial Stadium, and their portraits will be in the

commencement program.

The Chancellor's Student Awards committee selected the winners from university-wide nominations submitted by students, faculty and staff. The 15-member selection committee includes students, faculty and staff. Winners receive cash prizes, except recipients of the Agnes Wright Strickland Award, which comes with lifetime membership in the KU Alumni Association.

The Class of 1913 Awards annually go to a graduating man and woman who show evidence of intelligence, devotion to studies, personal character and promise of usefulness to society.

The Donald K. Alderson Memorial Award goes to a graduating senior who has demonstrated loyalty to and interest in the university and who has been active in events and services that benefit other students. The award was established in memory of Alderson, former dean of men and dean of student services.

The Alexis F. Dillard Student Involvement Award goes to a graduating student who has unselfishly contributed to the university through campus involvement. The award was established in 1993 by Dillard's family and friends to remember and honor him.

Rusty Leffel Concerned Student Awards annually go to students who demonstrate a concern for furthering the ideals of the university and higher education. The award was established by a group of seniors in 1973 to honor their fellow student, Leffel.

The Caryl K. Smith Student Leader Award goes to a graduating fraternity or sorority member who has demonstrated commitment to the local chapter, the KU Greek community, the university and the Lawrence community. The award was established in 1993 to honor Smith, a former dean of student life.

The Agnes Wright Strickland Awards were established in 1953 in

memory of Strickland, a member of the class of 1887. The awards annually go to graduating seniors in

recognition of their academic records, demonstrated leadership in matters of university concern, respect among

fellow students and indications of future dedication to service in the university.

Commencement 2009: Eight earn graduate teaching assistant awards

The Office of Research and Graduate Studies honored eight exceptional graduate teaching assistants with \$5,750 in awards at a reception April 29.

KU students and representatives of departments and academic programs throughout the university nominated graduate students for the awards. A selection committee chose winners based on their dedication to teaching, departmental and student comments and level of responsibility.

Elisa Williams Bickers, doctoral student in

music from Lawrence, and Theresa Clare Brown, a doctoral student in physical education from Overland Park, received \$1,250 Carlin Graduate Teaching Assistant Awards. Diana Carlin, professor of communication studies, endowed the awards, which were first presented in 1993. Carlin is the former dean of the Graduate School and International Programs and recently returned to KU from an academic appointment in Washington, D.C.

Regan L. Postma, a doctoral student in Spanish from Holland, Mich., received a \$750

Distinguished Service Award. Five students received \$500 Outstanding Graduate Teaching Awards: Mary Asbury, doctoral student in communication studies from Lawrence; Lara Kuykendall, doctoral student in art history from Lawrence; Kiley Larson, master's student in communication studies from Lawrence; Emily McCave, doctoral student in social welfare from Lawrence; and Kelly Berkson, master's student in global indigenous nations studies and linguistics from Swanzey, N.H.

Commencement 2009: More than 4,000 to take traditional walk down the Hill

Ceremony set for May 17

More than 4,000 members of the Class of 2009 will make the traditional walk down Mount Oread during KU's 137th commencement May 17.

Graduates will assemble along Memorial Drive at 2 p.m. They will march into Memorial Stadium at 2:30 p.m. Chancellor Robert E. Hemenway will offer remarks and confer degrees beginning at about 3:30 p.m.

Participants in the ceremony include students who completed degree requirements in summer or fall 2008 and candidates for degrees for spring 2009.

The tradition of a commencement procession began in 1907 when faculty and graduates walked from old Fraser Hall to the then-new Robinson Gymnasium, where

Wescoe Hall is now located. The commencement procession moved in 1924 when Memorial Stadium, built in honor of World War I veterans, was completed.

The commencement ceremony will be shown live in Woodruff Auditorium on the fifth floor of the Kansas Union. The broadcast is provided for people for whom the physical conditions in Memorial Stadium would be a barrier to their attendance.

Commencement also will be broadcast on campus television station KUJH TV-14 (channel 31 on Lawrence's Sunflower Broadband).

Sign language interpreters will be available in the bowl of the stadium. Reserved seating also will be available for people who

need special assistance, including people in wheelchairs.

Commencement information and an up-to-date schedule of events are available at www.commencement.ku.edu. KU Info is available at (785) 864-3506 or kuinfo@ku.edu. The information center's walk-up booth on the fourth level of the Kansas Union will open at 10 a.m. May 17. KU Info also will set up five tents around campus with staff available to direct guests and graduates and answer questions. The KU Visitor Center, 1502 Iowa St., will be open 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. May 16 and 17.

The consumption of alcohol and cereal malt beverages on university property is strictly prohibited.

If it is raining the morning of

commencement, an announcement will be made at 1 p.m. about arrangements for a postponed ceremony. The announcement will be posted at alert.ku.edu; on radio stations KJHK (FM 90.7), KANU (FM 91.5), KLZR (FM 105.9), WIBW (AM 580), KMBZ (AM 980) and KLWN (AM 1320); and on Sunflower

Broadband (cable channel 6 in Lawrence). KU Info also will post the information at kuinfo.ku.edu.

If the weather begins to clear in early afternoon, the first attempt to hold a postponed ceremony will be at 4:30 p.m. Graduates will assemble on Memorial Drive at 4 p.m. If the weather doesn't begin to clear in

time for a 4:30 p.m. ceremony, a second attempt will be made at 6:30 p.m. Graduates will assemble on Memorial Drive at 6 p.m. The last attempt to hold the ceremony will be 9 a.m. on Monday, May 18. Graduates will assemble on Memorial Drive at 8:30 a.m.

Commencement 2009: Outstanding students selected as banner carriers

KU students who have excelled academically will carry banners for KU's 12 professional schools and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences during commencement May 17.

As banner carriers, the 13 students will lead their fellow graduates in the traditional march down Mount Oread into Memorial Stadium.

Banner carriers will join university officials on a platform in the stadium for the ceremonial conferring of degrees.

Banner carriers first became a part of KU commencement activities in spring 1908, according to the late Robert Taft, a KU chemistry professor from 1922 to 1955 and author of "Across the Years on Mount Oread," published in 1941.

Banner carriers and their represented schools and hometowns are:

Eric Scott Gourley, School of Pharmacy, Lebo; Bethany Constance Shelton, School of Law, Overland Park; Aric J.

Naeger, School of Architecture and Urban Planning, Lawrence; JoAnn Stovall, School of Social Welfare, Lawrence; Matthew Dean Erickson, William Allen White School of Journalism and Mass Communications, Olathe; Kayla Marie Klein, School of Engineering, Olathe; Valerie A. Chapple, School of Education, Overland Park; Abbey Leigh Saathoff, School of Fine Arts, Overland Park; Joseph D. Isaac, School of Business, Wichita; Sounitha Amanda Vilayvanh,

School of Nursing, Wichita; Robert J. Gordy, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Omaha, Neb.; Carrie Elizabeth Hodges, School of Allied Health, Arlington, S.D.

This year KU debuts new school banners, retiring the worn

banners that served a key Commencement role for 40 years.

Class banners are a tradition stretching back almost as far back as the university itself. The KU Alumni Association preserves class banners dating since 1873. The Class of 2009 banner features the Jayhawk

statue in front of Strong Hall that was commissioned by the Class of 1956 and designed and cast by Elden C. Tefft, professor of sculpture. The senior class motto is “Above the Golden Valley ... Ahead in the World.”

Kansas IDeA Network lands \$18.5 million grant to aid bioscience infrastructure

The Kansas IDeA Network of Biomedical Research Excellence, known as K-INBRE, headquartered at the KU Medical Center, has received an \$18.5 million National Institutes of Health grant that will continue to promote the building of bioscience infrastructure in Kansas. The grant brings the total NIH awards for K-INBRE to \$44.2 million. In addition to NIH support, Medical Center, KU, Kansas State University and Wichita State University, as well as the Kansas Technology Enterprise Corporation and KansasBio, have

provided funds for faculty and student research projects.

K-INBRE, which was established in 2001, is designed to improve the ability of Kansas researchers to compete effectively for NIH funds by building a “critical mass” of junior and senior biomedical investigators. Within the area of cell and developmental biology, K-INBRE provides financial support for undergraduates ready for research experiences, their mentors and junior and senior investigators, and encourages the development of cutting-

edge biomedical research technology. The program is a multi-campus effort with collaborations among researchers at at the Medical Center, lead campus, Lawrence campus, Kansas State University, Emporia State University, Fort Hays State University, Haskell Indian Nations University, Langston University (Oklahoma), Pittsburg State University, Washburn University and Wichita State University.

The K-INBRE program comprises four basic cores: administrative, headed by Joan Hunt,

principal investigator and director, Medical Center; bioinformatics, led by Gerry Lushington Lawrence campus; partnerships for translational research, directed by Dianne Durham, Medical Center; and communication, led by Peter Smith, Medical Center. Major undergraduate and post-doctoral committees are headed by Keith Chapes, K-State and Bob Cohen, KU.

The \$18.5 million grant, awarded by the National Center for Research Resources at the NIH, will promote continued success of this multi-campus effort in encouraging undergraduates to consider biomedical careers, faculty to strengthen their biomedical research programs and both trainees and faculty to utilize bioinformatics approaches for data acquisition and analysis. This renewal provides funds for new efforts to support post-graduate trainees, stimulate translational research and apply systems

biology to research projects.

“The nice thing about this new core is that it supports ongoing translational research initiatives in the state, such as the Institute for Advancing Medical Innovation, the University of Kansas Cancer Center and the General Clinical Research Center,” said Greg Kopf, executive director of the Research Institute at the Medical Center.

Through competitive grant processes, K-INBRE awards funds for undergraduate and graduate research and equipment for laboratories. Jim Orr, professor of molecular biosciences, said students greatly benefited from K-INBRE because they work one-on-one with faculty researchers.

“Any undergraduate who is able to conduct research alongside a faculty mentor will benefit, because they will have a stronger application to graduate or medical school,” said Orr.

Because one major goal of the program is to provide for the educational development of students, Joan Hunt, University Distinguished Professor, vice chancellor for Biomedical Research Infrastructure and principal investigator of K-INBRE, said the grant will continue to contribute to the future of biological enterprises in the state. The U.S. Department of Commerce estimates that every \$1 million in grants generates 40 jobs in Kansas, and Hunt remarked that biomedical research positions are highly desirable and well-paid, increasing the overall economic growth of Kansas.

“Higher education is vital to career development, and the K-INBRE grant permits us to foster the growth of new scientists who, we hope, will choose to pursue their research careers in Kansas,” said Hunt.



Mike Krings/University Relations

Toni Achten, center, laughs at a retirement reception held in her honor. Achten was the last university operator. Calls that she fielded soon will be answered by KU Info.

The end of an era: Last university operator hangs it up

Calls to be fielded by KU Info

When Toni Achten left work on a Thursday afternoon last month, it marked the end of an era that stretches back as far as the telephone. Achten, KU's last university operator, retired, and the position is being restructured.

The role of the university operator has

changed over the years, as trends in communication have shifted. Originally, a dozen or more operators answered calls 24 hours a day, then about five operators took calls during business hours only. When Achten started 12 years ago, there were four full-time operators. In her last few

years, Achten was the only operator, and she had a phonetic assistant.

A few years ago, Information Technology and KU adopted a phonetic operator, an automated system that can direct callers to necessary offices. But when the phonetic operator didn't have the

answer, the operator was there.

“The phonetic operator doesn’t understand bad cell phone connections and it doesn’t understand some accents,” Achten said. “I also get the people who dial zero, and when I answer say ‘Oh thank God, a person.’”

While there will no longer be a university operator, callers will still be able to get answers. Currently, Information Technology staff are taking the calls. When the summer semester begins, KU Info will field them.

“We’ll still be there in the background,” said Ann Ermey, manager in Information Technology. “A lot of the questions that went to the operator are questions that KU Info can answer. People

looking for information can still call 864-2700. We have worked with KU Info and we decided this is the move that makes the most sense.”

Achten regularly answered the kinds of questions that would make any KU Info staffer proud. “How do you spell Jayhawk,” “how do you get to Salina from Kansas City International Airport” and “are there tickets available for the basketball game” were just a few of the queries she regularly fielded.

“I thought to myself ‘KU Info is the best place to go,’” Achten said “People still ask me if KU has that line that will tell you anything.”

Curtis Marsh, director of KU Info, said callers looking for campus phone numbers should still call 864-2700.

Callers who have questions and don’t know who best to ask, should call KU Info at 864-3506.

Whether it was providing a phone number, giving bookstore hours or hearing complaints, Achten managed to calmly help all callers, her coworkers said.

“For the last seven years or so, Toni has been our only operator, and she’s answered the bulk of the calls,” Ermey said. “She’s always had this great ability to come to work every day and deal positively with people who were negative, cranky, happy and everywhere in between. She’s been there for the long haul and she’s been absolutely great. It’s been fun working with her.”



Submitted/University Career Center

KU basketball player Sherron Collins warms up before a game with the KUCareerHawk.com logo in the background. The University Career Center won a national award for its innovative project to reach students through a basketball pregame show.

University Career Center lauded for innovative pregame program

So what's an office to do when its mission is to serve students, but its location isn't exactly easy to find? The University Career Center came up with a solution that not only got students' but national attention.

The center was selected for a National Association of Colleges and Employers Chevron Award for its "University Career

Center — Center Court" program. The award recognizes a college career center for a groundbreaking development in the field. For its efforts, the University Career Center won \$1,000 and a plaque that will be presented at the association's national conference and will be featured in the association's online journal.

The center partnered with Kansas Athletics and Jayhawk Sports Marketing to reach the students they serve. Given KU's basketball tradition, the center developed a plan to reach the Jayhawks' devoted basketball-following students. Students regularly camp out for days to get good seats at basketball games and are allowed in Allen Fieldhouse

before the rest of the public on game days.

They developed a series of videos about the center, its services and things students should know about seeking a job after school.

Students are asked questions such as: “Where is the University Career Center?” and “What is a résumé?” David Gaston, director of the University Career Center, said up to 4,000 students attend each game and as many as 2,000 students enter in the first 30 minutes after the doors open. The result is a captive target audience.

“Center Court has been a great way to share career-related information with students in a fun and entertaining way,” he said. “We want students to know we are here to assist them with any career concerns they

may have, and this was a perfect opportunity to speak directly to our target audience.”

The videos are played on the scoreboard, and ads featuring the center’s Web site, KUCareerHawk.com, are displayed on more than 30 LED screens throughout the arena. Before each game, an emcee introduces students to the “University Career Center —Center Court” student pre-game show. After the video plays on the big screen, the emcee leads students in a series of games and events that have included career-related scavenger hunts, trivia contests and charades. Student representatives are selected to lead their section in the contests. Winning students receive a prize pack of gifts from the center and a gift card from an employer partner. T-

shirts bearing the KUCareerHawk.com logo are also launched into the winning section.

The program has proven to be effective.

“On average, we have seen a 10 to 15 percent increase in web traffic on days following games,” Gaston said. “In addition, we have seen a 30 percent increase in scheduled student appointments this spring over last year and a 50 percent increase in student participation in spring networking events over last year.

By the way, the University Career Center is located at 110 Burge Union.

The center’s pre-game videos are available online at http://www.youtube.com/view_play_list?p=713EB9293E0415D.

KU group works with organizations to make a difference in the community

Unit offers resources, assistance for local, international efforts

Like virtually all social agencies, Aim4Peace was facing a dilemma. The program saw real results in supporting efforts to reduce homicides and assaults in some of Kansas City's most dangerous neighborhoods. However, the city budget was short, and the program had to fight to keep its funding.

Aim4Peace is a program dedicated to supporting violence prevention by promoting community change and development. Jeffrey Colvin, a doctor at Children's Mercy Hospital in Kansas City and a former member of the task force, was looking for someone to help review its effectiveness. That's when he found the Work Group for Community Health and Development, a research group affiliated with the Life Span Institute and the Department of Applied Behavioral Science, directed by Stephen Fawcett and Jerry Schultz, professors of behavioral psychology.

"He was looking for a community-based approach to development and change programs and came across the Community Tool Box," said Jomella Watson-Thompson, research associate with the Work Group and a member of the evaluation team that worked with Aim4Peace. Colvin served on the evaluation team for the Aim4Peace initiative with Watson-Thompson and graduate research assistants Teresa Dailey and Daniel Shober.

The Community Tool Box is a free online resource supported by the work group, which aims to improve community and public health, youth health and development and community and capacity development. The toolbox contains more than 7,000 pages of resources devoted to community development projects aimed at affecting change. It offers customizable support for organizations through a service called the Work

Station. The Work Station assists organizations through functions such as tracking tasks and progress, communicating in real-time with multiple group members, sharing tips and tools for community change and improvement, advising group members and providing evaluation of organizational progress through the Online Documentation and Support System, a related feature and service.

Since its inception, the Community Toolbox has been used by developers in more than 15 countries around the world. It includes resources in Spanish, and will soon include Arabic translations as well.

"I am facilitating the creation of safer communities for women, children and other vulnerable people in our rural communities," said Kathleen O'Malley, a project facilitator in Christina Lake, Canada. "We have just

completed the development of an action plan using data collected through community consultations...developed by 50 people representing all sectors of the community. We are now seeking funding for its implementation. I think this is one of the most useful sites that I have found on the Internet.”

While the online component has helped share resources with community-minded groups around the world, the Work Group has collaborated extensively with local and regional groups as well through collaborative research, teaching and public service. Currently, the group is co-supporting the evaluation of the Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive grant awarded to the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitative Services to partner with 14 community-based coalitions throughout the state. The groups are working together to identify at-risk individuals and reduce alcohol use among minors. The workgroup

is also partnering with organizations in Kansas City, Mo.’s Ivanhoe neighborhood to improve substandard housing and reduce crime rates.

The work group assists a variety of community-based initiatives and provides access to resources and helps bring coalitions together and communicate and support their mission. In the case of Aim4Peace, the group provided curricular support, performing a review of the organization’s work and offering recommendations on how it can improve its services. The work group evaluated the program’s efforts throughout 2008. Based largely on a program called Operation Cease Fire in Chicago, the program instituted 43 policy, practice and program changes, the group found. A 2005 study showed the leading cause of homicides and assaults in Kansas City resulted from personal conflicts and disputes. Among the steps it took to reduce violence, Aim4Peace workers negotiated a cease-fire between two rival gangs and started a

“hater free movement.”

The movement worked with high school-age students to identify individuals at risk of violent behavior and present them with safe alternative behaviors. The group also worked with individuals to help them find jobs and educational opportunities. They also worked directly with neighborhood groups to reduce tolerance of violent acts and encourage residents to take action.

The evaluation team prepared a report showing the program had measurable success in its goals, which was presented to the Kansas City city council and in the community. The program did receive a reduction in city funding, but the city provided temporary transitional financing.

Watson-Thompson said Aim4Peace is just one example of programs the work group has been associated with that has affected change in its community.

“It’s wonderful to be engaged and on the ground, and to be able to work with your

community partners and see the differences they are making,” she said.

More information about the work group is online at www.communityhealth.ku.edu.

The Community Toolbox is online at <http://ctb.ku.edu>.

Retiring faculty, staff to be honored at luncheon

Annual event set for May 22

KU will honor retiring faculty and unclassified staff members with a lunch at noon May 22 in the Kansas Union Ballroom.

Senior Vice Provost Don Steeples and Professor Kathleen McCluskey-Fawcett will recognize the employees during the lunch.

Retirees and one guest will be welcomed by the chancellor. Cost for additional guests is \$15. For reservations, send a check payable to KU to Debra Bia, Chancellor’s Office, 230 Strong Hall. Reservation deadline is May 15.

Retiring employees, their department and years of service are listed below:

Barbara Armbrister, research and graduate studies, 36; Susan Bashinski, Bureau of Child Research, 14;

Barry Baysinger, business, 14; Christine Berger, pharmacy practice, 31; James Bresnahan, 24, Animal Care Unit; Jack Brown, molecular biosciences, 33; Robert Brown, mathematics, 46; Louis Burmeister, mechanical engineering, 43; Helen Carr, Edwards Campus, 54; Glenda Carter, student information systems, 39; Ronna Chamberlain, social welfare, 14; Nancy Chien, Information Services/Information Technology, 28; Gary Clark, special education, 38; R. Steve Dick, University Relations, 27; David R. Downing, aerospace engineering, 28; M. Ann Eversole, Student Success, 35; Annie Francis, Information and Telecommunication Technology Center; Don Green, chemical and petroleum engineering, 45; David Hann, research and graduate

studies, 17; Mary Hawkins, KU Libraries, 39; Anna L. Hines, Information Services/Information Technology, 32; Susan Holt, Edwards Campus, 15; Carl Kurt, civil, environmental and architectural engineering, 27; Dennis Laughrey, Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center, 3; Carol Leffler, University Relations, 39; Lynne Lipsey, Continuing Education, 20; James Long, Continuing Education, 26; Larry Lovell, Information Services/Information Technology, 31; James McCauley, Kansas Geological Survey, 32; Susan McRory, University Press of Kansas, 5; Rex Martin, philosophy, 41; James Neeley, KU Libraries, 31; Laura Raymond, Edwards Campus, 20; Gaylord Richardson, architecture and urban planning, 34; Karen

Roberts, Information Services/Information Technology, 17; Norman Saul, history, 39; Harry F. Shaffer, economics, 53; Stephen

Shawl, physics and astronomy, 37; David Shulenburger, Office of the Provost and School of Business, 34; Carol Smith, Continuing

Education, 20; Patsy White, Bureau of Child Research, 42; Bob Zerwekh, engineering management, 38.

Dobson named Jefferson Science Fellow by U.S. State Department

Geography professor to advise on using science to form global policy

Jerome Dobson, professor of geography has been selected to work in and advise the U.S. State Department during 2009-10 as a Jefferson Science Fellow. The prestigious distinction is conferred on only five to seven faculty members each year nationwide.



Jerome Dobson

“My work at KU has a global dimension that could benefit federal decision making on key international issues. I’m honored to be named a Jefferson Science Fellow and I look forward to starting this important assignment in the fall,” Dobson said.

All of the appointees are now awaiting diplomatic security clearance approval. Once that’s completed, Dobson and the others will attend a formal recognition ceremony with Secretary of State Hillary Clinton.

The Jefferson Science Fellows program was established in 2003 as a way of elevating the role of science and technology in the formulation of U.S. foreign policy. Funding is provided by the State

Department, but participants are chosen by independent panels of experts at the National Academies of Science, based on the applicants’ professional stature, recognition and experience, and ability to articulate science and technology issues to the general public.

Dobson is president of the American Geographical Society and a fellow of the Royal Geographical Society and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He came to KU in 2001 following a distinguished career at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory. He is recognized internationally for his work with geographic information systems, notably the LandScan

Global Population Database that is the world standard for estimating populations at risk during wars and natural disasters.

His current research includes developing new cartographic and statistical tools to support humanitarian removal of land mines and cluster bombs in 40

countries around the world. He has also led five expeditions in recent years to conduct fieldwork in Mexico, Colombia, Jordan, the Antilles and Kazakhstan. Earlier in his career, he served for 14 years as a contributing editor and columnist for GeoWorld magazine.

Dobson is the first KU faculty member to be named a Jefferson Science Fellow. The 2008 class included Mohammed Zikry, a 1983 KU graduate who is now a professor of mechanical and aerospace engineering at North Carolina State University.

Worster named to American Academy of Arts and Sciences

History professor joins Nobel laureates, notable scholars

Donald Worster, the Joyce and Elizabeth Hall Professor in U.S. History, has been named to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, one of the nation's most prestigious honorary societies. He joins Nobel and Pulitzer Prize winners as well as Academy Award, MacArthur Fellowship, Tony Award and National Medal of the Arts recipients in the 2009 class.

Worster, a KU faculty member since 1989,

joins 2007 Nobel Prize in medicine or physiology winner Mario Capecchi and 19 Foreign Honorary Members such as former South African President Nelson Mandela in the academy. Worster is a nationally renowned historian and the author of several books, including "A Passion for Nature: The Life of John Muir," "A River Running West: The Life of John Wesley Powell," "Rivers of Empire," "Dust Bowl" and "Nature's Economy." "A River Running West" won the Byron

Caldwell Smith Award, while "Dust Bowl" won a Bancroft Prize and three of his books have been nominated for a Pulitzer Prize.

Worster said he is honored to be selected by the academy.

"The University of Kansas and the state of Kansas as a whole have been very good to me and given me an excellent academic home where my work could thrive," Worster said. "I am grateful to the Academy for electing me, but even

more I'm grateful to KU for its steadfast support."

A native of Kansas, Worster earned a bachelor's degree at KU in 1963 and a master's in 1964. He earned his doctorate in American history and literature at Yale University in 1971. A noted pioneer in the field of environmental history, he has been president of the American Society for Environmental History and has served as editor of the Cambridge University monograph series "Studies in Environment and History."

"Since 1780, the academy has served the

public good by convening leading thinkers and doers from diverse perspectives to provide practical policy solutions to the pressing issues of the day," said Leslie Berlowitz, chief executive officer and William T. Golden chair. "I look forward to welcoming into the Academy these new members to help continue that tradition."

Worster and his fellow inductees will be honored at a ceremony Oct. 10 at the academy's headquarters in Cambridge, Mass.

Founded by John Adams, James Bowdoin, John Hancock and other founding fathers, the

Academy has elected some of the world's most influential leaders and thinkers, including George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Daniel Webster, Albert Einstein and Winston Churchill. It is a center for public policy research and undertakes studies in complex and emerging problems. Current interdisciplinary research by the society is taking place in science, technology and global security; social policy and American institutions; the humanities and culture; and education.

Graduate programs rise, hold top spots in U.S. News World Report rankings

Three KU graduate programs advanced significantly and another held its No. 1 spot among public institutions in national rankings, recently announced by U.S. News and World Report.

Overall, KU has 40 nationally ranked academic programs, 28 of which are ranked in the top 30 among public schools.

Psychology tied for 21st among public

universities, up from 46th in previous rankings. The Department of Psychology is part of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

"We are very gratified by our graduate

program's improvement in these national rankings," said Gregory B. Simpson, chair of the Department of Psychology. "The rise reflects the hard work of a productive faculty and the recent hiring of some outstanding young scholars. It also reflects, and should further improve, our ability to attract excellent students to our program."

The School of Education tied for 10th, up from 13th a year ago, continuing an impressive climb in recent years. The school was ranked 15th among public universities in 2006, 20th in 2005 and 25th in 2004. The school's special education program maintained its long-standing No. 1 ranking among public schools.

"Even in these difficult financial times, we have been able to continue producing at a very high level, and that performance is recognized by these 2009 rankings," said Rick Ginsberg, dean of the School of Education.

The School of Law climbed to 32nd among

public schools, up from 37th in prior rankings.

"Here in Green Hall, we know, without reference to any ranking, that the KU School of Law offers a high-quality program of legal education provided by an outstanding faculty at a very reasonable cost to our students," said Gail Agrawal, dean of the School of Law.

U.S. News released only selected rankings today with additional rankings to become available in the days to come. Only selected academic disciplines are ranked annually.

KU programs ranked in the top 30 among public schools nationally are:

1. City Management and Urban Policy (Master)

1. Special Education (Master/Doctorate)

2. Community Health (Master/Doctorate)

2. Occupational Therapy (Master/Doctorate)

3. Paleontology (Doctorate)

3. Public Management Administration (Master)

4. Public Affairs (Master)

4. Speech-Language-Pathology (Master)

7. Audiology (Doctorate)

9. Nursing-Midwifery (Master)

9. Petroleum Engineering (Master/Doctorate)

9. Public Finance & Budgeting (Master)

10. School of Education (Master/Doctorate)

11. Social Work (Master)

12. Music (Master)

12. Physical Therapy (Master/Doctorate)

13. Clinical Child Psychology (Doctorate)

18. Clinical Psychology (Doctorate)

18. Pharmacy (PharmD)

21. Psychology (Doctorate)

22. Healthcare Management (Master)

23. Drama/Theatre
(Master)

24. History (Doctorate)

25. Nursing-Anesthesia
(Master)

26. Fine Arts (Master)

28. Nursing (Master)

30. Biological Sciences
(Doctorate)

30. Political Science
(Doctorate)

Five chosen as Senior Administrative Fellows

Five faculty members have been named Senior Administrative Fellows for 2009-10. They are Mary Banwart, associate professor of communication studies; Marta Caminero-Santangelo, associate professor of English; Paul Kelton, associate professor and chair of history; David Smith, professor of sociology; and Lorie Vanchena, associate professor of Germanic languages and literatures.

Under the direction of Mary Lee Hummert, vice provost for faculty development, the program allows selected faculty the opportunity to explore senior administration through meeting with senior administrators, visiting administrative units across campus and discussing national

trends in higher education.

Now in its 17th year, the fellows program has given faculty a "bird's eye view" of the nuts and bolts of educational administration.

Many of the participants in the program are department chairs and faculty leaders like current fellow Liz Kowalchuk, associate professor of design, who will begin her position as associate dean for the new School of the Arts on July 1.

"Over the course of the academic year, the Senior Administrative Fellows provided me an opportunity to learn about the lives, achievements, responsibilities and challenges of the people who occupy the most important administrative

positions at KU," Kowalchuk said, adding that she appreciated having candid conversations with senior administration in small, informal and confidential settings.

The group of five fellows is selected from nominations each year to work together for approximately four hours per month. There is no stipend or release time offered or expectation of an administrative position at the conclusion of the year.

The current Senior Administrative Fellows are: Arvin Agah, professor of electrical engineering and computer science; Allard Jongman, chair of linguistics; Stephen Kapp, associate professor of social welfare; Kowalchuk;

Keith Diaz Moore, associate professor and chair of architecture; Terry Slocum, associate professor and chair of

geography; Ric Steele, associate professor of psychology, applied behavioral sciences, and clinical child

psychology; and Holly Storkel, associate professor of speech-language-hearing.

Professor lends expertise to question of how to move Swedish city

Lance Rake, professor of industrial design, recently returned from a two-week workshop, City Move Interdesign, where he worked with an international team, brainstorming proposals and ideas on how to successfully relocate a city.

Icsid Interdesign is a two-week workshop where an international team works collaboratively on a predetermined issue of regional and/or international significance. The workshop took place from March 23-April 4 in Malmberget, a section of Gellivare, Sweden. It was arranged by the Swedish Industrial Design Foundation and funded in part by the European Union European Regional Development Fund.

The City Move Interdesign program focused on physically relocating Malmberget, a mining area in Swedish Lapland. According to Anna Bellander, the communications manager for City Move Interdesign, the area is one of the most profitable in Europe. The mining company LKAB is extremely important for the community, but because of the mining, the ground could become risky and unsafe for the inhabitants.

City officials formed the City Move Interdesign workshop to brainstorm plausible ways to move an entire community. Forty people from 18 countries participated in the relocation workshop, including urban planners, architects,

artists, designers, educators and students. The workshop took place in the sports arena in Malmberget. The arena was converted into a design studio and the participants were divided into six groups to work on relocation approaches. After two intense weeks of multi-disciplinary meetings, work sessions, lectures and seminars, the groups prepared presentations to present to Swedish government officials.

"It was an amazing experience," said Rake. "It was a great opportunity to work in a way that we always say we should work- in collaboration with experts from other disciplines. These international, multidisciplinary teams were able to come up with a variety of

interesting and, I hope, viable concepts that might solve some of the problems in Malmberget,” Rake said. “The interdisciplinary approach is needed because the problems are complex and interrelated- problems of politics, communication, planning, architecture and design. On a personal level, I learned a lot about putting together an effective team, and finding strategies to get the most out of tremendous talent we had available.”

According to Anna Bellander, a large amount of work will be done now that the workshop has ended.

“We are compiling the workshop group work and then we will deliver it to the municipality of Gellivare,” Bellander said. “We will have a session with the municipality and the mining company to review the materials and recommend a way to utilize the learnings for the future development

of Malmberget. We are also working to create an exhibition that shows the results of the workshop on tour both in Sweden and hopefully abroad, and we have a long-term plan to establish an ‘innovation/knowledge center’ in Gellivare that is a forum for exchanging knowledge and experiences for other communities on issues regarding resettlement and planned city moves.”

KU center named lead business industry and data center by U.S. Census Bureau

Institute for Policy, Social Research leading source of economic data

Kansas communities, companies and individuals in need of reliable economic data have long turned to the Institute for Policy and Social Research. Recently the institute, known as IPSR, received wider recognition of its role, as the U.S. Census Bureau designated it the

Business and Industry Data Center lead agency for the state.

IPSR compiles and publishes the annual on-line Kansas Statistical Abstract, and has been part of the Census Bureau’s State Data Center partnership program for many years. Much of the information produced by IPSR is

available free on the Internet at <http://www.ipsr.ku.edu/> or at modest cost in other forms.

Steven Maynard-Moody, director of IPSR, sees the designation as recognition of the staff and research resources developed over a number of years.

“We are a primary source for easily accessible information about the Kansas economy,” he said. “That is useful to small communities seeking to attract new businesses. It’s also useful to businesses – in Kansas and elsewhere – that are

looking to locate or expand in the state.”

Xan Wedel, pronounced Zan Weedle, an information specialist at IPSR, has responsibility for the designation. She has been at IPSR since 1999 and is a past chair of the National State Data Center Steering Committee.

“With this designation the state has its first center dedicated to meeting the needs of users of economic data,” she said. “It’s another opportunity to serve the state and fulfill our mission as a research university.”

Hemenway named Kansan of the Year

Washington, D.C., society chooses chancellor, Wefald for honor

Chancellor Robert Hemenway has been named Kansan of the Year by a group of Sunflower State natives in the nation’s capital.

Hemenway was selected for the honor, along with Kansas State University President Jon Wefald, by the Kansas Society of Washington, D.C. They will receive the award at the society’s annual banquet April 28 in Washington. The society is a non-profit organization that serves Kansans and friends of Kansans in the nation’s capital. The society brings people together

throughout the year for fellowship and to support charitable causes in their home state.



Robert Hemenway

“I’ve had the good fortune to work with outstanding Kansans every day for the past 14 years,” Hemenway said. “I’m truly honored and humbled to be chosen

for this award from the endless list of deserving candidates from our state. I’m especially pleased to be honored with my friend and colleague Jon Wefald.”

Hemenway will be joined at the banquet by Reps. Jerry Moran and Dennis Moore. He will address the group after receiving the award.

As chancellor, Hemenway has made service to the state one of his top priorities. Under his watch, the university has increased its efforts to fight cancer, develop new drugs to combat the

disease and serve patients throughout the state. KU's School of Pharmacy is set to expand and produce more pharmacists to address a growing shortage in the state. Virtually every school and department oversees programs that work with Kansas families, business and

communities, whether it is by analyzing cropland, building community arts centers or aiding children with autism.

Both Hemenway and Wefald announced they will step down from their respective leadership positions at the end of this academic

year. Hemenway will have completed 14 years in the position when he steps down at the end of June. Wefald led K-State for 23 years, respectively.

For more on KU's service to Kansas, visit <http://www.kuworks.ku.edu/>.

Jayhawk Generations tuition plan approved

A program providing incentives for high ability out-of-state students with ties to KU attend the university has been approved by the Kansas Board of Regents.

Under a two-year pilot project beginning this fall, the Jayhawk Generations Scholarship will provide partial tuition waivers to students who meet certain academic requirements and who have a parent or grandparent who graduated from KU.

"By bringing talented students to KU, we help strengthen the Kansas economy," said

Chancellor Robert Hemenway. "Many of these students will stay in Kansas after graduation, providing the educated workforce our state will need to prosper. I thank the Board of Regents for their support of this program, as well as Gov. Sebelius and the Kansas Legislature for their quick action on the legislation that makes it possible."

Under the Jayhawk Generations Scholarship program, students with a 3.25 or above high school grade-point average and an ACT score of 26 to 29 (or SAT equivalent) will be eligible to receive a 12 percent discount on the

out-of-state tuition rate. Students with an ACT score of 30 or above will be eligible to receive a 20 percent discount on that rate.

For example, in fall 2008, a 12 percent waiver would have saved a student \$1,952, based on 30 credit hours per year. A 20 percent waiver would have equaled \$3,254.

Students will have to maintain a minimum 3.25 GPA while enrolled at KU to remain eligible and the scholarship would be good for up to four years. Only new nonresident freshman whose parent, stepparent, legal guardian, grandparent or

step-grandparent graduated from KU will be eligible. All other nonresident admissions requirements also will apply.

The program will not reduce tuition for these students below the actual cost of providing their education, meaning their tuition would still be above the current in-state rate and will continue to help fund the education of Kansas students. This also ensures Kansas tax dollars will not subsidize out-of-state students.

The plan takes advantage of a new state law that allows the Board of Regents to consider a range of innovative student recruitment proposals. HB 2007 was passed overwhelmingly by the Kansas Legislature and then signed into law by Gov. Kathleen Sebelius on March 27.

Oklahoma, Missouri, Nebraska and Iowa have similar out-of-state legacy programs, previously putting KU at a significant competitive disadvantage in recruiting students to Kansas.

More details on the Jayhawk Generations Scholarship, a downloadable application and other ways KU makes college affordable can be found at www.tuition.ku.edu.