



University Archives image

This photo from 1911 shows a regatta on Potter Lake. The lake may not host regattas anymore, but it is getting a new lease on life with a dredging and runoff improvement project.

# Preserving Potter

## Historic campus lake to be dredged, restored

The little pond north of Strong Hall has been many things: a fire control reservoir, a swimming hole, a home to regattas, an ice skating pond and a peaceful place to unwind. But for the past several years, it's been

overgrown, full of algae and slowly filling with silt.

Potter Lake is about to get a boost, though, as projects to dredge the lake and fix runoff

that feeds into it have been slated for the summer.

Completed in 1911, the lake, named for state senator and former Board of Regents member Thomas M. Potter,

was built to help protect the new buildings sprouting up on Jayhawk Boulevard from a catastrophic fire. The water lines in place at the time would only provide about five minutes' worth of water in the case of a fire. The lake would be able to provide four 80-foot streams of water for up to 48 hours, according to a KUHistory.com article by Douglas Harvey.

As technology improved, the lake was no longer needed for fire prevention. Students and faculty had plenty of other ideas for it, though. Former Athletics Director James Naismith led regattas and diving contests at the lake, and a diving board was even installed at one point. Canoe races were also a common sight.

By the mid-1920s, water quality problems had set in, and swimming was discouraged. But that wasn't enough to quell the lake's place in campus happenings. Glee Smith, a former state legislator and Regents member, who started his KU career in 1939, remembers plenty of hijinks happening at the lake.



University Archives image

A photo from 1913 shows a gathering of cattle on the hill near Potter Lake.

“The fraternities would use it as part of their indoctrination of new members,” he said. “They’d take them down there and toss them in. In the 1940s, when we won a big football game, people would tear down the goalposts and toss them in Potter Lake.”

In recent years, few have been brave enough to jump in or even throw their friends in. Storm water runoff from Jayhawk Boulevard drains in the lake, bringing with it nutrient rich soil. The soil has led to plant growth that chokes the rest of the life out of the pond.

“A big part of the problem is an overload of nutrients in the water,” said Marion Paulette, landscape architect with Design and Construction Management. “That’s why we had complete green overgrowth there last summer. This project should restore the ecological balance of nutrients and oxygen in the lake.”

The project is a \$125,000 plan to dredge the lake, recently approved by Chancellor Bernadette Gray-Little. KU’s Student Senate Finance Committee, the Office of the Chancellor and gifts to KU Endowment from Philippe Adam of Paris, France; Pat and Brenda Oenbring of Houston; and Gary Schmedeman of Morrilton, Ark., are funding the work. The project is scheduled to start in June and be completed before the fall semester.

Gray-Little praised the Potter Lake Project, a group of

students behind the lake’s restoration.

“The students of the Potter Lake Project have shown tremendous leadership throughout this endeavor,” she said. “They helped raise awareness of the need for improvements to the lake and worked very hard to secure funding and coordinate clean up events. I am proud of their efforts in preserving a landmark that is very dear to so many Jayhawk alumni.”

## DREDGING

The dredging will be done hydraulically, meaning it will not be necessary to drain the lake. Suction pumps located on a barge will remove sediment from the bottom of the lake, which will then be disposed of. The hydraulic dredging will greatly reduce the amount of damage to the landscape surrounding the lake, said Jim Modig, director of Design and Construction Management.

The lake has been dredged only once, in 1957, in its first century of existence. When it was originally constructed, the lake was about 16 feet deep. Before the first dredging it had receded to depths of about 6 feet. Measurements taken last year showed depths of about 11 feet. When the pond was drained, car bodies, tires, goal posts and various debris were removed. That is not likely to be the case this time, as the water level will be relatively unchanged. There has been talk, however, of a potential display of any interesting items that may be found.

A second project will reduce soil runoff and erosion that feeds into the lake. A \$200,000 project will improve undersized inlets on Jayhawk Boulevard, then construct new, bigger inlets and add a sedimentation basin to collect runoff. The improvements will be funded by American Reinvestment and Recovery Act funds. The project also will begin this summer. Modig said he does not anticipate the work will cause street closures or loss of parking spaces.

The Potter Lake Project has introduced plant-eating carp, installed aerators and hosted

clean ups at the lake over the past year. Testing by the Kansas Biological Survey and engineering firm Burns and McDonnell has indicated that dredging is the most sustainable way of reducing excess plant growth and improving water quality.

Paulette and Modig also gave credit to student leaders who have pursued the lake's restoration. The Potter Lake Project helped secure funding, coordinate efforts between students, faculty, staff and volunteers and raise awareness of the need for work at the lake.

"They've been the driving force behind all of the activity," Paulette said.

"Potter is an icon. It has its own place in university lore," Modig added. "Hopefully when the project is complete it will be able to both maintain its beauty and be healthy ecologically."

Smith, like many alumni, said he and his family have fond memories of Potter Lake.

"It adds a lot to the beauty and ambience of campus," he said. "I think it's great that it's going to be preserved."



Submitted/School of Pharmacy

An artist's rendering shows what the exterior of the new School of Pharmacy building will look like. Set to open in August, the building will feature cutting-edge technology and a nod to the history of pharmacy.

# Museum, soda fountain, dining facilities among features of new School of Pharmacy building

## Facility will greatly expand educational opportunities

The future and past of pharmacy will meet. Students will have access to the newest techniques and the history of a venerable profession will be preserved when KU's new School of Pharmacy building opens its doors this fall. The facility will also be key in addressing a crucial shortage of pharmacists across the state.

Slated for an August opening, the new School of Pharmacy building is quickly taking shape on west campus. The building will be open for classes for the fall 2010 semester, and will be officially dedicated Oct. 22. The building will allow KU to expand its pharmacy enrollment from 105 to 150 students per year and feature classrooms, labs, a pharmacy museum and dining facility.

Most importantly, students will learn in state-of-the-art settings. A pharmacy complete with a robot that fills prescriptions will be staffed with students and professionals.



Ken Audus

“We will have a functional pharmacy in the near future that’s an extension of the pharmacy at Watkins Memorial Health Center,” said Ken Audus, dean of Pharmacy. “It will be set up for potentially high volume. Our students will be exposed to working with technologies like the robot that they’ll see in large hospitals and even in more and more retail pharmacies throughout Kansas.”

The building will house an extension of the drug information center at the KU Medical Center as well. All pharmacy students are required to spend four weeks at the center as part of the program. Center staff provide expert information on pharmaceuticals to health care professionals. The Food and Drug Administration relies on KU’s drug information center for up-to-date black box warnings on serious adverse drug effects, and Audus said he hopes the Lawrence center will eventually be more accessible to the public. He cited the ever-growing number of people caring for aging parents and family members as an example of who could be served by the center.

While students are learning about the future of pharmacy, the trade’s past will be on display for the public. A pharmacy museum on the building’s second level will feature a timeline on notable developments in the field, displays on milestones in KU pharmacy research, historic

drug ads and information on modern techniques.

“We started in 1885. We’re the oldest professional school at KU and we’re also the third oldest public school of pharmacy west of the Mississippi,” Audus said. “We have a lot of history to share.”

Pharmacies have long been a central part of a community, both as a center for health care and a social gathering place. KU’s new facility will embrace the sense of community with an old-fashioned soda fountain reminiscent of those in many pharmacies of yesteryear. Audus notes that soda fountains, which serve up ice cream, malts and cold beverages, are making a comeback in many Kansas communities.

Ice cream won’t be the only item on the menu. The building will be home to the Mortar and Pestle Café, the first dining facility on west campus. Nona Golledge, KU Dining Services director, said the café will offer grilled sandwiches, salads, wraps, hot entrées, a Pulse coffee shop and a student store that will sell healthy snacks, sandwiches and cold beverages. Patio seating will be open to visitors to the soda fountain and café.

While the building will allow KU to enroll more pharmacy students, the larger classrooms — including a 75-seat and two 175-seat auditoriums — will also allow the school to open its classes to other majors. Previously, graduate students and those in other majors who could benefit from pharmacy classes were unable to take them, Audus said. The facility will also allow the school to reach out to pharmacy students at the KU School of Medicine-Wichita and others around the world through video conferencing and distance education.

“We’ll look at this building as a global pharmacy education facility,” Audus said.

#### **GREEN RESOURCES**

The school will also be able to add a pharmacy library and resource center, which had not been possible previously because of a lack of space. The additional space will also house a student lounge, a pharmacy skills and biochemistry lab, offices for the pharmacy practice program and an atrium designed to be welcoming to the public and potential students.

Audus said the building will be among the most energy-efficient on campus. It will also be green on the outside, with gardens and plantings around the building maintained by the Native Medicinal Plant Research Program.

The KU School of Medicine-Wichita is part of the expansion as well. A floor is being added to the pharmacy facility on the campus, which will house as many as 40 students as part of a new satellite program. Both expansions are funded by nearly \$50 million in state bonds and \$5 million raised by KU Endowment.

“Pharmacists are an important part of the health care system, but there are too many communities in Kansas where people have to drive to the next county to see one,” then-Gov. Kathleen Sebelius said at a ceremonial bill signing when the expansion was announced. “That’s very hard on seniors and people with limited mobility, not to mention making it that much harder to recruit new families and businesses to the community. Expanding KU’s School of Pharmacy here in Wichita and in Lawrence will make it so we can start to fill this gap, which will help Kansans live healthier lives and be an economic benefit to the state.”



Submitted/Edwards Campus

This artist's rendering shows what the new BEST Building, foreground, at the Edwards Campus will look like. A groundbreaking ceremony will be held April 21.

# Edwards Campus to break ground on BEST Building

## Facility to open in August 2011

The Edwards Campus is expanding its footprint in more ways than one.

The university community is invited to a formal groundbreaking April 21 that will initiate construction of a 75,000-square-foot, \$25 million building for Business, Engineering, Science and Technology, or BEST, programs.

The project consists of a classroom component, a business conference center and a laboratory/faculty office component, which will enable Edwards Campus enrollment to grow by 1,000 students. The building is scheduled to be completed in August 2011.

### **TEN NEW DEGREE PROGRAMS**

The size and state-of-the-art design of the BEST Building — which will be built to meet LEED energy efficiency standards — will demonstrate the commitment by KU to Johnson County. Far more significant, however, is the teaching and learning that will take place inside and its impact on the community.

The new building will be home to 10 new undergraduate and graduate

programs to be introduced on the Edwards Campus over the next several years, all of them in the four BEST categories.

“The size, scope and flexible design of the building – and the university’s commitment to offering high-value degree programs here – ensure the Edwards Campus will become an even more valued contributor to the economic growth and development of Johnson County,” said Bob Clark, vice chancellor.

### **Triangles and Architecture**

Funding for the building and the new BEST degree programs come from the Johnson County Education and Research Triangle initiative, which voters approved in 2008. “The Triangle” is designed to solidify and expand the county’s leadership position as an economic development engine in the region.

To help ensure the facility will attract top-tier students and meet the needs of KU faculty, architects met with faculty representatives as plans were drawn up.

Gregory Freix, lecturer in information systems for the School of Business, was one faculty member deeply involved in the process.

“Different faculty have different teaching styles, different disciplines have different teaching styles, and we wanted the configurations of the classrooms to support those differences,” Freix said.

For example, several of the tiered classrooms have extra-wide tier platforms, which give students an opportunity to spin their chairs around and do team exercises and breakouts. Flat-mode classrooms emphasize the ability to reconfigure tables and chairs, with electrical grids set up across the floor to allow laptop plug-ins in a variety of configurations.

Freix said some classrooms were even designed to accommodate the lifestyles of the high percentage of adult learners enrolled at the Edwards Campus. Side and rear entrances allow students arriving late to enter with a minimum of distraction.

“Working adults can’t always show up on time,” Freix said. “When the boss says to stay late, you stay late.”

### **DETAILS:**

- The BEST building will include:
- two 15-seat seminar rooms

- two 40-seat classrooms
- eight 45-seat classrooms
- four 65-seat tiered lecture halls
- one 100-seat tiered lecture hall
- 36 faculty and administrative support offices
- five computer labs
- one 250-seat conference center
- Parking will be increased to accommodate a larger student population
- Edwards Campus faculty and students will have access to internal and external electronic communication throughout the building. Video conferencing, recording of classes and shared resources will be readily available.
- The conference center will allow the campus to host symposiums and conferences as well as be available to the community for business and cultural programs.

# Appointments of promotions, tenure announced

The Kansas Board of Regents has approved the following promotions and appointments of tenure at KU.

Promotions

## To full professor

Brian Blagg, medicinal chemistry

JoAnn Browning, civil, environmental and architectural engineering

Geraldo deSousa, English

Charles Epp, public administration

Hume Feldman, physics and astronomy

Jie Han, civil, environmental and architectural engineering

Michelle Heffner Hayes, dance

Douglas Huffman, curriculum and teaching

Gregory Madden, applied behavioral science

Deborah Smith, ecology and evolutionary biology

Ward Thompson, chemistry

Thomas Tuozzo, philosophy

Elizabeth Weeks, law

## To associate professor

Robert Bayliss Jr., Spanish and Portuguese

Shannon Blunt, electrical engineering and computer science

Barbara Bradley, curriculum and teaching

Nathaniel Brunsell, geography

Jae Chang, architecture

Chris Fischer, physics and astronomy

Philip Gallagher, health, sport and exercise sciences

Jennifer Gleason, ecology and evolutionary biology

Kirsten Jensen, ecology and evolutionary biology/Natural History Museum (to associate scientist)

Audrey Lamb, molecular biosciences

Jennifer Laurence, pharmaceutical chemistry

Xingong Li, geography

William Lindsey, religious studies

Jeremy Martin, mathematics

Laura Mielke, English

Jackob Moskovitz, pharmacology and toxicology

David Neely, music

Kristi Neufeld, molecular biosciences

Jennifer Ng, educational leadership and policy studies

Jorge Perez, Spanish and Portuguese

Erik Perrins, electrical engineering and computer science

Emily Scott, medicinal chemistry

Aaron Scurto, chemical and petroleum engineering

William Skorupski, psychology and research in education

Brent Steele, political science



Carlton (Paul) Tucker, music

Leslie Tuttle, history

Margot Versteeg, Spanish  
and Portuguese

Douglas Ward, journalism

Robert Ward, IV, molecular  
biosciences

Jennifer Weber, history

Michael Zogry, religious  
studies

**Award of tenure**

Mary Morningstar, special  
education

**To full librarian**

Judith Emde, University  
Libraries

**Research and graduate  
studies**

Mary Adair, Biodiversity  
Institute, to senior curator

Andrew Bentley,  
Biodiversity Institute, to  
associate specialist

Zachary Falin, Biodiversity  
Institute, to senior specialist

Lawrence Hoyle, Institute for  
Policy and Social Research,  
to senior scientist



Chuck France/University Relations

Joe Pruitt, chef de cuisine for KU Dining Services, recently took part in an "Iron-Chef"-style regional competition for university chefs, earning a silver medal.

# KU chef earns silver in culinary showdown

## Pruitt blends mushroom, Peruvian spices in dish

As any parent can attest, it's not easy to prepare a tasty, healthy meal for a demanding crowd while working against the clock with limited supplies. Joe Pruitt recently had an hour to prepare a dish that had to please three master chefs.

Pruitt, chef de cuisine for KU Dining Services, recently took part in a competition similar to the "Iron Chef" television show at the National Association of College and Union Food Services' Midwest Regional Conference Culinary Challenge at the University of Akron. He went up against chefs from the University of Notre Dame, University of Northern Michigan, University of Missouri-Columbia, Northwestern University, Ashland University, University of Iowa, Central College and Iowa State University and came away with a silver medal.

Competitors were given 30 minutes to prepare ingredients, such as washing and chopping vegetables, and five minutes to set up their cooking stations. They had 60 minutes to prepare a set number of hot entrees, side

dishes and sauces featuring an selected primary ingredient. This year's ingredient was a 4 ½- to 5-inch portobello mushroom. The dish also had to be nutritionally balanced, contain protein and a limited number of calories. He decided to go vegan with his dish, a quinoa and black lentil gateau.



Submitted/Joe Pruitt

Joe Pruitt's dish, a portobello quinoa and black lentil gateau

"I was intrigued by it," Pruitt said of the portobello mushroom main dish. "Vegan is the way it ended up going. I thought adding a meat to it would detract from the main feature, the portobello."

Quinoa, a grain used commonly in Peruvian cooking, accompanied black lentils, which provided the protein. Pruitt also blended in

tourned carrots and julienne aji peppers, red pepper and leeks. He credits the Peruvian influence to his supervisor, Janna Traver, executive chef at KU Memorial Unions, who grew up in Peru. Pruitt cut and shaped the portobello to resemble a flower for one of the requirements. The entree was one Pruitt had been experimenting with before the competition.

"I'd been working on the dish for months," he said. "I'd change it, take pictures, try again. I sent it to my old instructor at Johnson County Community College, he looked it over and gave me some tips."

Once the dish was plated, it was presented to the judges. They tasted it, asked questions and literally dissected it, inspecting for presentation and proper cuts. Officials watched for sanitation as well, using the chefs' jackets as an indicator of cleanliness.

"The white coat tells all," Pruitt said. "They're looking for your coat to be as white as when you started."

Dishes were graded on a scale of 40 possible points. While judges didn't tell competitors their total score, he knows he did well enough to earn a silver medal.

Though the chefs were in unfamiliar kitchens, they at least knew they'd be working

with familiar tools. All that was provided were a few basic tools like a cutting board, induction burners and a chafing dish. Pruitt brought along part of his own kitchen, including pots, pans, knives, a strainer and blender. They were also required to bring along their own raw,

uncooked, unprocessed ingredients.

The KU community will get a chance to judge the entrée as well. Pruitt's medal winning dish will be served at the Impromptu Café in the near future.

# KU programs hold top spots, rise in U.S. News and World Report rankings

KU graduate programs continue to excel nationally with more than 40 ranked programs, according to preliminary 2011 U.S. News and World Report rankings. At least 35 programs ranked in the top 40 among public institutions.

Once again, city management and urban policy and special education rank No. 1 among public institutions. City management and urban policy also is No. 1 overall. Special education is No. 2 overall. The School of Education is ninth among publics and 17th overall.

"Our success is directly attributable to our strong, caring and productive faculty members, staff and students who do their work well and represent us admirably out in the field," said Rick Ginsberg, dean of the School of Education.

The doctoral program in paleontology, in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences geology department, was ranked fourth among publics and seventh overall.

Also on this year's list is the School of Law, which ranked 33rd among public institutions.

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 40 among publics 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. Public Management Administration (Master)

3. Fiber Arts (Master)

4. Paleontology (Doctorate)

4. Public Affairs (Master)

4. Speech-Language-Pathology (Master)

5. Metals/Jewelry (Master)

7. Audiology (Doctorate)

9. Nursing-Midwifery (Master)

9. Petroleum Engineering (Master/Doctorate)

9. Public Finance and Budgeting (Master)

9. School of Education (Doctorate)	22. Healthcare Management (Master)	29. Political Science (Doctorate)
11. Social Work (Master)	22. Psychology (Doctorate)	30. Biological Sciences (Doctorate)
12. Music (Master)	23. Drama/Theatre (Master)	33. Law (JD)
12. Physical Therapy (Master/Doctorate)	25. Nursing-Anesthesia (Master, with Bryan LGH Med Ctr)	36. Earth Sciences (Geology-Doctorate)
13. Clinical Child Psychology (Doctorate)	26. Fine Arts (Master)	37. English (Doctorate)
18. Clinical Psychology (Doctorate)	27. History (Doctorate)	38. Mathematics (Doctorate)
18. Pharmacy (PharmD)	28. Nursing (Master)	39. Chemistry (Doctorate)

## Five inducted into KU Women's Hall of Fame

Five women connected to KU have been inducted into the KU Women's Hall of Fame.

The new inductees were honored during the annual Women's Recognition Program to honor outstanding women in the KU community April 8.

The five inductees are

— **Carol Marinovich**, the first woman elected mayor of Kansas City, Kan. Marinovich received a master's degree in education from KU in 1982. She is senior vice president at Fleishman-Hillard in Kansas City, Mo.

— **Karen Miller**, dean of KU's schools of allied health and nursing and senior vice chancellor for academic and student affairs at the KU Medical Center campus in

Kansas City, Kan. She has served the KU Medical Center campus since 1996, when she began as dean of the School of Nursing.

— **Janet Murguia**, president and chief executive officer of the National Council of La Raza, the largest national Hispanic civil rights and advocacy organization in the United States. Before taking the helm at La Raza, she was KU's executive vice chancellor for university relations for two and a half years. Murguia earned a law degree in 1985 and bachelor's degrees in journalism and Spanish in 1982, all from KU.

— **Mary H. Murguia**, the first Latina to serve as Arizona district court judge, recently nominated by President Obama for a vacancy on the U.S. Court of

Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Murguia earned a law degree in 1985 and bachelor's degrees in journalism and Spanish in 1982, all from KU.

— **Judy Locy Wright**, assistant vice president of KU Endowment and director of the Chancellors Club, KU's premier giving society. Wright has a 1986 doctorate in communication studies from KU. She has served in professional roles in the Lawrence community and on the KU campus, including director of membership and development at the Spencer Museum of Art and the development director for fine arts at KU Endowment.

KU has inducted outstanding leaders into its Women's Hall of Fame since 1970. The Women's Hall of Fame site is

on the fifth floor of the Kansas Union.

In all, 15 KU students, staff, faculty and alumnae were honored at the Women's Recognition Program for their outstanding contributions and achievements. Six students received awards for their contributions in athletics, community service, the international community, leadership and science and recognition of their partnerships and achievements as single mothers. In addition, a number of women were recognized for outstanding contributions to on-campus housing and sororities.

The 2010 Pioneer Woman award will honor Mary Strong, wife of Frank Strong, KU's sixth chancellor.

Cheryl Holcomb, director finance and human resources in the School of Pharmacy, will receive the Outstanding Woman Staff Member award. In addition to her leadership skills with the pharmacy faculty and staff, Holcomb serves on the boards of the Lawrence chapters of the American Heart Association and Soroptimist International. Dale Urie, lecturer in humanities and western civilization, will be named Outstanding Woman Educator. Students consistently rank Urie as a favorite instructor and as one who has influenced their decisions to major in history or the humanities.

Melissa H. Birch, associate professor of business, will receive the Kathleen McCluskey-Fawcett Women Mentoring Women award. As

a leader in international business education, Birch has demonstrated excellence in the KU business school and as the director of the Center for International Business Education and Research (KU CIBER). Appointed by the U.S. Secretary of Commerce, Birch serves on the Mid-America District Export Council. She is also a member of the Board of Directors of the Kansas City International Trade Council and the Kansas International Trade Coordinating Committee.

The program is sponsored by the Commission on the Status of Women, a student organization on campus since the 1960s, and the Emily Taylor Women's Resource Center, a program of the Student Involvement and Leadership Center.

## Effort to take Multicultural Scholars Programs to community colleges paying dividends

### Pilot project to continue at Kansas schools

A grant-funded partnership between KU and three Kansas community colleges to expand opportunities for multicultural students has proven successful enough to lay the groundwork for permanent programs.

Renate Mai-Dalton, professor of business and former executive director of the [Multicultural Scholars Program](#), received a three-

year, \$515,000 grant in 2006 to establish similar pilot programs at three Kansas community colleges. The Department of Education grant, which helped launch Multicultural Scholars Programs at Kansas City Kansas Community College, Donnelly College and Cowley College, has been extended for a year. Officials at Cowley are working to

establish the program on a permanent basis.

Mai-Dalton founded KU's first Multicultural Scholars Program in 1992 in the School of Business. There are now 10 programs at KU, under the direction of Fred Rodriguez. The programs help students from underrepresented ethnicities, first-generation students and those eligible for Pell grants

succeed in college and prepare for graduate school.



Renate Mai-Dalton

The programs match students with faculty mentors, arrange monthly group meetings and provide access to speakers and cultural events, such as plays and concerts.

“The mentoring part of the program helps show students new opportunities and a broader picture of education than they may have had before,” Mai-Dalton said. “The cultural component adds to the educational experience. I’ve always felt

education is more than learning classroom material.”

The first year of the grant helped identify faculty mentors and program directors at the community colleges. The subsequent years enrolled students and tracked their progress in the program. The goal is to encourage and help students complete their associate degrees and continue their education. All three programs have met the goal.

“Our students have always had higher grade point averages and higher retention and graduation rates than the KU undergraduate population. Many have gone on to graduate school,” Mai-Dalton said.

At Cowley, nine of the 13 original students who enrolled in the program have either graduated or are still in the program. About 90 percent of students surveyed upon entering the program said they did not intend to go on to a four-year college. However, upon graduation nearly all of them have.

Amy McWhirt, humanities instructor and co-sponsor of students at Cowley, said she has seen students’ confidence and self-esteem steadily rise as they progress through the program.

“We’ve been very pleased with the program, particularly the one on one mentoring component,” McWhirt said. “We regularly see students gain confidence and set bigger goals for themselves than they may have when they started.”

Faculty and Administration at Cowley are now working to continue the program after the grant expires.

Mai-Dalton said she was confident the partnership has shown the programs can work at the community college level, and credited faculty mentors for their dedication.

“They are the ones who make their students successful,” she said.

# Council formed to support gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender employees

A new group has been formed to support the interests of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender

employees at KU. The Lambda Council, established in 2009, is open to any KU employee.

In October 2009, members of the newly formed group met with Chancellor Bernadette Gray-Little and provided her

with a briefing book that identified potential avenues for better supporting LGBT faculty and staff. With her support, the council has been working to pursue policy changes, supporting the University Senate Domestic Partner Benefits Task Force and assisting Human Resources and Equal Opportunity in developing policies addressing bereavement leave and nondiscrimination. The group also operates a listserv and Web site to alert faculty and staff about news and activities of interest on campus.

“We are excited about this opportunity to help make KU a more supportive place for LGBT employees,” said Lori Messinger, an executive committee faculty representative and the outreach coordinator. “The Lambda Council is here to be

a resource for departments and professional schools in hiring and retaining quality faculty and staff. We can meet with job candidates and provide information about the climate and institutional supports. We also want to provide support for LGBT graduate student interns, instructors and researchers.”

The Lambda Council is governed by the membership-at-large. Meetings are held twice a semester and feature networking and discussion of current topics of interest to participants. The council will hold a meet-and-greet social event at 5 p.m. April 22 at Stone Creek restaurant, 3801 W. Sixth St. The council is also working with the women, gender and sexuality studies department to coordinate KU’s first Lavender Graduation to recognize graduating LGBT students. That ceremony will

be held from 6 to 7:30 p.m. May 14, at the English Room in the Kansas Union.

A volunteer executive committee meets monthly to oversee the business of the group. Members of the executive committee include Saida Bonifield, Student Involvement and Leadership Center; John Connolly, molecular biosciences; Annie McKay, Student Involvement and Leadership Center; Richard McKinney, budget office; Messinger, social welfare; Diana Robertson; student housing; Beth Warner, libraries; and Julie Warrick, libraries.

To find out more about the group, visit <http://groups.ku.edu/~lambda/> or sign up for the listserv by sending an e-mail to [lambda@ku.edu](mailto:lambda@ku.edu).

## Lied Center announces 2010-11 schedule

The Lied Center of Kansas has announced its 2010-11 season. The season’s events will kick off with a free concert by Jeffery Broussard and the Creole Cowboys Aug. 20 and continue through April. Ticket packages go on sale today, and individual tickets are on sale beginning May 3. The Lied Center Ticket Office can be reached at 864-2787 or 864-2777/TDD.

### Free Lied Center Concert

Jeffery Broussard and the Creole Cowboys

7 p.m. Aug. 20

Family Arts Festival, 6 p.m.  
Aug. 20

### Neil Berg’s 100 Years of Broadway

7:30 p.m. Sept. 30

### Punch Brothers featuring Chris Thile

7:30 p.m. Oct. 2

### Adam Gyorgy

2 p.m. Oct. 3

### Bayanihan Philippine National Folk Dance Company

7:30 p.m. Oct. 8

### Turtle Island Quartet

7:30 p.m. Oct. 9

### “Fiddler on the Roof”

7:30 p.m. Oct. 21

### Big Bad Voodoo Daddy

7:30 p.m. Oct. 22

**Spring Awakening** 7:30 p.m. Oct. 27

Parental discretion is advised. Mature content.

**Armitage Gone! Dance**

7:30 p.m. Nov. 5

**Peter Goodchild's "The Real Dr. Strangelove: Edward Teller and the Battle for the H-Bomb"**

L.A. Theatre Works

7:30 p.m. Nov. 12

**Interpreti Veneziani**

7:30 p.m. Nov. 13

**"Legally Blonde The Musical"**

7:30 p.m. Dec. 7

**Jim Brickman**

7:30 p.m. Dec. 11

**Black Violin**

7:30 p.m. Feb. 8

**Alexander String Quartet**

7:30 p.m. Feb. 15

**William Inge's "Bus Stop"**

7:30 p.m. Feb. 19

**The Spencers: Theatre of Illusion**

7:30 p.m. Feb. 24

**Kansas City Symphony**

Maestro Michael Stern conducts Brahms

7:30 p.m. March 6

**An Evening with Garrison Keillor**

7:30 p.m. March 9

**"Carnival of the Animals and Peter and the Wolf"**

Frederic Chiu, pianist & David Gonzalez, storyteller

2:30 p.m. March 13

**Alpin Hong, pianist**

7:30 p.m. April 8

**Preservation Hall Jazz Band and Del McCoury Band**

7:30 p.m. April 14

# Multitude of major earthquakes powerful, but not out of ordinary

## KU's quake expert says recent tremors do not buck trend

With major earthquakes reported in Chile, Haiti, Indonesia, China and southern California and Mexico this year, earth scientists continue to hear the question: is it unusual?

The short answer is no.

Don Steeples, the McGee Distinguished Professor of Applied Geophysics and senior vice provost for scholarly support, said anywhere from 15 to 20 earthquakes with a magnitude 7 or higher occur annually throughout the world.

Thousands more occur with magnitudes in the 4 or 3 range and a more than a million are recorded annually that are rarely felt by humans.

Steeple has researched earthquakes in Kansas and elsewhere. He is



internationally known for near-surface, high-resolution seismic reflection research that has been employed for many shallow-subsurface investigations. Practical applications of his work range from mapping bedrock and detecting faults at potential construction or drilling sites to what Steeples has described as the Holy Grail of near surface geophysics: locating clandestine cavities of interest to border authorities.

“There are two things to look at with recent earthquake activity,” Steeples advised. “One is that unnecessary concern and loss of sleep on the part of the public is not healthy, given the amount of misinformation or partial information that is out there.”

Second, news of natural disasters can serve to increase the awareness of policy makers, engineers and architects of the need to be prepared for a potential occurrence or reoccurrence.

The 7.7 magnitude earthquake in Sumatra, Indonesia, and the 7.2 magnitude earthquake this month in Baja California, Mexico, occurred in areas with active faults. Scientists are working to determine which fault produced the Easter Sunday earthquake that was widely felt in southern California and parts of Arizona.

Steeples noted the 8.8 magnitude earthquake in Chile on Feb. 27 was significant in that it was the fifth largest recorded in the world since 1900 and it

shifted the Earth’s axis by a tiny amount. It was far more powerful than the magnitude 7 earthquake in Haiti on Jan. 10. Chile, which was also the site of the world’s largest recorded earthquake, a 9.5 magnitude in May 1960, was better prepared.



Don Steeples

Movement in the Earth’s crustal plates cause a majority of earthquakes, especially along the rim of the Pacific Ocean. Haiti’s earthquake occurred along an area where the Caribbean plate separates from the North American plate.

Closer to home, ancient rifts below the Mississippi River Valley may account for an earthquake zone named for the southern Missouri town of New Madrid. From December 1811 through February 1812, four powerful earthquakes in the New Madrid area produced seismic waves that were felt from Canada to the Gulf of Mexico and from the Rocky Mountains to the Atlantic coast. The force of these

earthquakes formed lakes in Arkansas and Tennessee, toppled chimneys in Cincinnati and St. Louis and rang church bells in Boston.

Estimated to be comparable in magnitude to the recent earthquakes in Haiti and Mexico, the New Madrid series set a record for the size of the area shaken in the United States and continue to rank among the largest in the lower 48.

Geologic evidence, Steeples noted, indicates that an earthquake of about magnitude 7 occurs in the New Madrid zone about every 400 to 600 years.

“It’s been 200 years since the last time an earthquake of that magnitude occurred,” Steeples said. While an earthquake in the magnitude 6 range could occur at any time around New Madrid, he points out that, “an earthquake in low 6’s might topple chimneys and knock dishes from shelves, but it isn’t going to destroy Memphis or St. Louis.”

Although a New Madrid earthquake could do minor damage along the Kansas-Missouri borders, events are rare. A more frequent source of earthquakes in Kansas is the Humboldt fault that runs from near Omaha to about Oklahoma City. In April 1867, an earthquake estimated to be about a 5.5 magnitude near Wamego, east of Manhattan, toppled chimneys, cracked plaster and was felt as far away as Dubuque, Iowa.

From 1977 to 1989, Steeples recorded more than 200 small earthquakes in Kansas and Nebraska. His research was initiated by a request by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission during the 17 years that Steeples was with the Kansas Geological Survey.

Steeples' seismic data combined with the historical records indicate that a 6 or 6.5 magnitude earthquake in north central Kansas could occur once in about 2,000 years. Scientists don't know when the last earthquake of a magnitude 6 occurred in this area.

"An earthquake of that magnitude would affect a big area, 10 to 15 counties in a fairly major way," Steeples notes, given the population of the area now.

The seismic data and new evidence of California dam failures in earthquakes prompted a \$175 million seismic stabilization project on Tuttle Creek dam north of Manhattan completed last fall.

Because no seismic record exists of the 1867 earthquake, Steeples has the distinction of recording the biggest earthquake in Kansas. It was a 4.0 magnitude in 1989 near his hometown of Palco in Rooks County, northwest of Hays. Steeples, who farms more than 2,000 acres with his brother, David, of Stockton, regularly makes the four-hour drive from Lawrence to Palco during planting and harvest seasons.

On a June 1989 trip to Palco, he packed along a portable seismograph and set it up before turning in for the night. A rumble woke him the next morning. "I knew immediately that it was aftershock — I could hear the needle wiggle back and forth on the seismograph paper in the next room."

A 2008 Kansas Alumni magazine story profiling Steeples dubbed him the "Master of Disaster." Although he works more closely with graduate students in KU's geophysics program, Steeples is widely known among undergraduates for teaching a basic geology course

"Earthquakes and Natural Disasters." The class enrolls more than 650 a semester. Since his appointment as a vice provost in 2003, he teaches the class every third or fourth semester.

Steeples designed the course to teach earth science by focusing on natural disasters — earthquakes, volcanoes, tornados, hurricanes, floods, drought, wildfires and meteorite strikes. In addition to understanding the geophysical causes of disasters, students focus on how to mitigate their impact. On the first day of class, Steeples counsels: "I can guarantee that some of you in the next five or 10 years are going to be in some type of disaster. If you pay attention, this class will help you know what to do."

Asked whether Kansas and Missouri residents should be more concerned about an earthquake or a tornado, Steeples responded wryly, "I tend to have more concerns about the economy than immediate worries about an earthquake in New Madrid or for that matter a tornado."

# Governance bodies elect new senators, officers

KU governance bodies recently held elections to name new senators, officers and executive committees. The newly elected individuals will begin their

terms after the end of the 2009-10 academic year.

UNIVERSITY, FACULTY  
SENATE

Barbara Phipps, associate professor of curriculum and teaching, is the fiscal year 2011 president of Faculty Senate.

New faculty members elected to the University Senate and Faculty Senate are: John Broholm, journalism; Jae Chang, architecture, design and planning; Geraldo de Sousa, English; Gerrit deBoer, ecology and evolutionary biology; Frances Devlin, libraries; Sandra Gautt, special education; Megan Greene, Center for East Asian Studies; Lori Messinger, social welfare; Scott Murphy, music; Blake Peterson, medicinal chemistry; Hossein Saiedian, electrical engineering and computer science; and Andrew Torrance, law.

The University and Faculty Senate executive committee, University Senate president-elect and Faculty Senate president-elect will be elected at the organizational meeting on April 29.

The incoming president is Ben Eggleston, philosophy.

#### UNCLASSIFIED SENATE

Diann Burrigh, University Advising Center, is president-elect. Senators elected in the academic category are: Abby Coffin, engineering; Rick Whitmore, Continuing Education; Chris Wiles, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; and Karen Hester, law. Administrative senators are: Mike Krings, University Relations, and Elizabeth Phillips, public safety. Traci Fullerton, information technology, was elected in the information services category. In research, Kari Woods, Center for Research on Learning; Susan Sloop, Higuichi Biosciences Center; Roberta Pokphanh, research and graduate studies; and Paula Shaver, Bureau of Child Research, were elected.

#### UNIVERSITY SUPPORT STAFF SENATE

Officers and representatives are: Dennis Constance, Facilities Operations custodial services, president; Chris Wallace, housing maintenance, vice president; Lea Chaffin, Admissions and Scholarships, secretary; Sharon Lee Green, Undergraduate Biology Program, treasurer; Brooke Unruh, registrar's office, professional/non-faculty; Delores Barnard, educational leadership and policy studies, secretarial/clerical; Maggie Mahoney, Dole Institute of Politics, technical/paraprofessional; Peggy Robinson, housing maintenance, skilled crafts; and Pat Argueta, registrar's office, service/maintenance.

For a full list of committee members, visit [uss.ku.edu/mem.shtml](http://uss.ku.edu/mem.shtml).

## \$10 million gift expands Self Engineering Leadership Fellows Program

A \$10 million gift will benefit KU students in the School of Engineering. The gift, from alumni Madison "Al" and Lila Self, of Hinsdale, Ill., brings the total they have donated to KU Endowment to more than \$44 million, making them the university's largest individual donors.

In late March, they contributed \$6 million to expand the Madison A. and Lila Self Engineering Leadership Fellows Program, which provides enrichment

and financial support to select students studying engineering and computer science. The Selfs committed an additional \$4 million over the next three years.



Madison "Al" and Lila Self

"Through my years in business and industry, I've been able to identify key attributes such as leadership, interpersonal communications, motivation and problem solving ability that lead to success," said Al Self. "Lila and I are happy to be able to contribute to the personal growth of these KU students with the goal that they continue on as exceptional leaders working to build positive change in the American economy."

The SELF Program is designed to develop engineering and computer science graduates who are goal-oriented and bring the entrepreneurship, business skills and vision needed to guide technology-based corporations. The program enables students to refine their skills through mentoring and academic and leadership opportunities.

The students also attend exclusive meetings with some of the world's top leaders in business and industry, including KU alumni Alan Mulally, president and CEO of Ford; Brian McClendon, vice president of engineering for Google; and Linda Zarda Cook, former executive director of natural gas and power, Royal Dutch Shell Co.

"We are grateful to Al and Lila Self for their continuing support of KU students," said Chancellor Bernadette Gray-Little. "Their remarkable generosity is helping the School of Engineering shape the next generation of leaders for a challenging technological field that is vital to our state and nation."

The latest donation from the Selfs supports the School of Engineering's long-term

vision titled "Building on Excellence Initiative." The gift allows the SELF Program to expand the number of students selected each year. Moreover, beginning in fall 2011, freshmen admitted to the program will be eligible to receive up to \$24,000 over four years. Students will participate in additional educational opportunities, including workshops, retreats and lectures from guest speakers. The donation also provides funding for an additional staff member to coordinate program activities.

There are 43 students in the SELF Program; the first class started in fall 2007. That class is due to graduate in 2011. In a typical year, 16 to 18 incoming freshmen are admitted to the program. Several additional students are selected to join the program in their junior year. With the gift, the program will be able to expand to a total of 80 students.

"The SELF Program has had an amazing impact on the School of Engineering, the students and the university," said Stuart Bell, dean of engineering. "The enhanced program will follow this success and we will build one of the foremost leadership programs in the country."

Both Al and Lila Self are native Kansans. They met as KU students and married in 1943, the year Al Self earned his bachelor's degree in chemical engineering. In 2000, Self was honored with the School of Engineering's Distinguished Engineering Service Award. The university awarded him a Distinguished Service Citation in 1997. Last month, he was recognized as a life trustee of KU Endowment. Other areas in which the Selfs have supported KU include the Self Graduate Fellowship, the Mossberg Pharmacy Professorship and the Society of Self Fellows.

In 1947, the Selfs acquired Bee Chemical Co. in Lansing, Ill. Self used his technical and business skills to guide the firm from a three-person operation to an international producer of polymers and polymer coatings for use on plastics. When they sold the company 37 years later, it had five U.S. manufacturing sites and operations in Japan and England. Al later served as chairman and CEO of Tioga International. He currently is president of Allen Financial, LLC.

# KU study shows doctors who sit during visits perceived better by patients

Sitting down on the job has its advantages. New data from the KU Hospital finds that patients perceive doctors who sit down during their hospital room visits stay longer than doctors who stand during the visit – even when doctors who sit don't stay as long as doctors who stand.

The study found that doctors, when standing, spent an average of one minute, 28 seconds with the patient but were perceived as staying average time of three minutes and 44 seconds. Conversely, when doctors sat down during their visits, patients perceived them as spending more than five minutes in the room, even though the average sit-down visit was just over one minute — a shorter amount of time than the stand-up visits. Based on the results of this study, doctors who sat during their visit were perceived by patients as spending 40 percent more time in the room.

“I remember being taught in medical school that you

should always sit down when speaking with a patient because it will seem like you are staying in the room longer,” says study author Paul M. Arnold, director of the KU Hospital's Spinal Cord Injury Center. “Unfortunately, there isn't any data to back up that claim which is why we embarked on this study.”

As a result of the increased perceived length of time with the physician, patients are more satisfied with their care and report a better understanding of their condition, when the physician sits during the visit. When the physician is seated, 95 percent of patients' post-visit comments are positive. However, when the physician stands, only 61 percent of the patient comments are positive.

When patients think the doctor is in the room longer, they express a better understanding of their condition and greater satisfaction with their care, which can be factors in decreased lengths of stay,

decreased costs, improved clinical outcomes and decreased litigation.

Researchers stress that, while sitting can impact patient perception, it does not take the place of good communications skills.

“Communication skills are taught at 65 percent of medical schools across the country, including The University of Kansas,” Arnold said. “This survey provides the exact type of qualitative and quantitative data that we need to support teaching these skills. Taking the time to listen and respond to patient concerns is a significant part of this job. At the end of the day, whether you sit or stand, what's most important is that the patient receives the best possible care.”

The data is based on a prospective, randomized, controlled study conducted at The KU Hospital among post-operative neurosurgical inpatients.