Go for green

Awards recognize employees, students making KU more sustainable

One staff member helped educate teachers and students in green sciences. One faculty member helped students pursue environmental education and supported campus-wide green efforts. A student, campus group and campus project have promoted recycling,

Stacey Swearingen White, associate professor of urban planning, standing, works with her class. Swearingen White received the faculty Sustainability Leadership Award for her efforts in making KU more sustainable, encouraging students to pursue careers in environmental fields and playing a leadership role in developing a campus sustainability plan.
reduced waste and increased efficiency. All were recognized for their part in making KU more green.

The Center for Sustainability recently presented its fourth annual Sustainability Leadership Awards. Awards were given in five categories, recognizing outstanding efforts to address sustainability by students, staff, faculty and campus programs and projects. The award program recognizes outstanding leadership and creativity in addressing issues of environmental, economic and social responsibility on the KU campus and in the broader community.

**STAFF AWARD**

Claudia Bode, education director for the Center for Environmentally Beneficial Catalysis, was presented with the Staff Award. In addition to leading the Students for Green Chemistry and Engineering organization at KU and communicating complex research to the public in creative ways, Bode has helped educate the next generation of scientists through a Research Experiences for Teachers program called SHIFT, or Shaping Inquiry from Feedstock-to-Tailpipe. Through the National Science Foundation-funded program, Bode coordinated activities for nine high school and community college teachers participating in a six-week summer program. Educators participating in SHIFT worked to transform research projects into innovative lessons for their classrooms, that will raise awareness about issues of sustainability among a broad and diverse audience.

“What a wonderful surprise,” Bode said of the award. “Through SHIFT we reached out to teachers so that they can better engage their students year after year in real-world research. Ultimately, our hope is that these engaging lessons will stimulate students’ interest in science and engineering careers.”

**FACULTY AWARD**

Stacey Swearingen White, associate professor of urban planning, was recognized with the Faculty Award for making sustainability an important part of campus culture by integrating concepts of sustainability into her classes, inspiring students to advance their education in environmental fields and supporting sustainability efforts on campus. Most recently, her courses have contributed to the Campus Sustainability Plan, “CAP-KU: A Climate Action Plan for the University of Kansas,” and she worked with Kansas communities on a range of sustainability-related issues. Swearingen White also served on the Sustainability Task Force that was established in 2004 and was a driving force behind the effort to create the Center for Sustainability.
“I’ve been honored to be part of KU’s progress on campus sustainability over recent years,” Swearingen White said. “Working with other faculty and students on these issues is really exciting, and shows how committed so many people on this campus are to making KU a sustainable institution. This year I am especially happy to have the opportunity to involve my students in the development of our campus sustainability plan, which can help position KU as a leader in this area.”

**CAMPUS PROJECT**

The KU Transit Maintenance Facility is nearing completion. The facility will house both city and KU buses.

The Campus Project Award was presented to the KU Transit Maintenance Facility, currently under construction. The facility will be shared by the KU and city of Lawrence bus systems starting in December. Because it is acting as one headquarters for two similar operations, it cuts down on duplicative expenses, providing storage and maintenance for the two bus systems. All furniture for the facility has been collected from the KU Surplus Property Recycling program, which significantly reduces waste from discarded furniture as well as expenses, resources and greenhouse gas emission related to production and shipping of new furniture. Additionally, the new facility is designed to meet new energy efficiency standards that are a 30 percent improvement over code, and includes a bioswale for improved storm water management on the site.

**STUDENT ORGANIZATION**

Environs, a KU student organization, was recognized for its involvement in issues of environmentalism and sustainability for the past 25 years. Its rich history includes efforts to expand recycling on campus, create a Student Environmental Advisory Board and halt the use of Styrofoam at KU. Over the past year, Environs has been active on a number of fronts, participating in protests, educational programs, and community outreach efforts. With approximately 40 active members focusing their efforts in five committees: preservation, conservation, local foods, education and creative hands, Environs has promoted the KU Student Farm, researched installing LED lights on Jayhawk Boulevard, screened environmental films and helped collect aluminum cans for Cans for the Community at football games.

**STUDENT**

Nick Benson, a junior majoring in environmental studies and minoring in geographic information systems, received the Student Award. Benson
is one of 12 coordinators for the KU student organization Environs and has coordinated activities with the Wetlands Preservation Organization. Benson can often be found working at the KU Student Raingarden, attending Student Environmental Advisory Board meetings or tabling at campus events to raise awareness about important environmental and social issues, providing leadership through example.

"His passion for environmental issues is an inspiration to others," Benson’s nominator wrote.

In addition to his volunteer efforts, Benson is employed by KU Recycling, where he helped develop a printer cartridge recycling program for the university. To date, the program has recycled an estimated 1,400 cartridges.

Winners were surprised with award presentations and recognized along with all the nominees during a Campus Sustainability Day event last month. The event featured presentations from some of the nominees, an overview of the campus sustainability plan, and recognition of charter members in a newly developed Green Office program at KU.

School of Medicine adding four year program in Salina, expanding Wichita

Moves will help educate doctors for rural Kansas

To address the critical shortage of rural physicians in the state, the School of Medicine will add a four-year program in Salina and expand its existing Wichita branch from a two-year clinical program to a full four-year program.

In addition to increasing the number of rural health physicians in Kansas, the Wichita expansion will contribute an estimated $30 million to the Wichita economy.

The Wichita and Salina sites will each welcome their first class of four-year medical students next fall.

Presently, students in KU’s 35-year-old Wichita program spend their first two years at the Kansas City, Kan., campus before going to Wichita for two years of clinical training. Students will now be
able to spend all four years in Wichita.

An existing rural track program in Kansas City sent four students to Salina for clinical training. With the expanded program, students interested in rural health careers may now complete all four years of their training in Salina.

The university’s plans are officially moving forward after this week’s announcement of a favorable review by the Liaison Committee for Medical Education, the accrediting authority for medical education programs, which visited the Wichita campus and the proposed Salina site in July.

“The University of Kansas contributes to the success and vitality of our state by educating students who fill vital workforce needs, such as in health care,” said Chancellor Bernadette Gray-Little. “KU’s School of Medicine is the only medical school in the state, and the expansions in Wichita and Salina will enable us to educate more physicians who will go on to improve the lives and health of Kansans.”

“For the past hundred years we have been successful in fulfilling our mission of training excellent physicians to meet the needs of our state,” said KU Medical Center Executive Vice Chancellor Barbara Atkinson.

“Approximately half the physicians in Kansas received medical education at the KU School of Medicine. Still, there is a growing need for physicians in our state. These campus expansions will help us achieve our common goal: that many of our students will ultimately practice primary care in underserved areas of Kansas.”

State health care leaders agree.

“This is the most significant thing to happen to rural Kansas health care in a long while,” said Jerry Slaughter, executive director of the Kansas Medical Society.

Medical center leaders believe the Salina program could be a model for other areas of the country where there are critical shortages of rural physicians.

“We’re not the only state that has huge, sparsely populated geographic areas where people need medical care,” said William Cathcart-Rake, a Salina-based oncologist who will direct the School of Medicine-Salina. “The whole mission of the Salina campus is to train physicians in nonmetropolitan areas of the state and show these young medical students that life can be good and practice can be challenging outside of the big city.”

The School of Medicine-Salina will be housed primarily in space provided by the Salina Regional Health Center, where clinical faculty will facilitate small-group learning. Students will listen to lectures along with their peers in Kansas City and Wichita via interactive television and podcasts, while Web-based systems will support most of the curriculum’s laboratory components.

“With today’s technology, we can bring the best elements of a large academic
health center to complement the strengths of a community like Salina and give students the best of both worlds,” said Heidi Chumley, senior associate dean for medical education at KU Medical Center.

Cathcart-Rake and Chumley both praise the medical community in Salina for its support of KU programs.

“It’s a great model of a partnership between a community and an academic health center,” Chumley said.

Sentiments are the same in Wichita. The School of Medicine there has already served as a model for other medical schools that have started community-based, branch campuses. In partnership with the Robert J. Dole VA Medical Center, Via Christi Health and Wesley Medical Center, the Wichita campus has about 130 faculty members and more than 900 volunteer faculty physicians in a range of specialties. The school supports 13 residency programs, including a large number of residents in family medicine and other primary care programs.

“Thanks to our partners in the community, the support of KU and the KU Medical Center, and so many gracious donors, Wichita’s goal to have a full, four-year medical school campus will soon be a reality,” said H. David Wilson, dean of the School of Medicine-Wichita.

University leaders estimate that the annual economic impact of the Wichita campus will increase from $49.7 million to about $80 million with the growth of the medical school and the addition of the School of Pharmacy-Wichita.

Juola helps program robot to serve elderly

'Nao' can help people stay in homes, replace caregivers

The 2-foot-tall humanoid machine looks like something out of “The Jetsons.” But this home-based robot isn’t part of a cartoonish future.

According to a KU researcher, within five years, “Nao” — a robot manufactured in France by Aldebaran Robotics — could replace human caregivers in the homes of older people.

James Juola, professor of psychology, is part of a team reprogramming the robot to be more responsive to the elderly. He said that a rapidly aging population in the developed world requires a technological solution to the booming demand for in-home care.

“Demographics are really what spurred this project,” said Juola. “In
western nations and parts of Asia, the aging population is increasing enormously. We have a much larger percentage of the population aged 65 or older — and about half the population over 85 is showing signs of dementia. At the same time, the proportion of people available to provide the needed services and economic resources to support the elderly population is declining.”

Juola, who splits his time between KU and the Eindhoven University of Technology in the Netherlands, is a lead investigator in the Knowledgeable Service Robots for the Aging project, dubbed K-SERA. The European Commission supports the work, which aims to customize robots to serve aging people.

“It’ll have to track and follow the human and be available to it,” Juola said. “It’s being trained to recognize a certain individual and be constantly on-hand as an aide to communication — to remind the person of things they need to do, like take their medicine or have a drink of water — and also as an immediate link to medical personnel or family members in case the user needs assistance.”

Indeed, monitoring its human partner will be one of the most important tasks for the K-SERA robot; linked with infrared sensors in the home and video cameras, the robot will know if a person’s behavior is abnormal.

“In some cases, the robot will initiate conversations,” said Juola. “If a person does anything unusual — like oversleep, or stay too long in the bathroom or fall down — then the robot will be attentive to these unusual aspects of a person’s behavior. The robot will form inquiries and, if necessary, interventions to call attention to the fact that that person is having a problem.”

For now, Juola and his fellow researchers are programming the K-SERA robot to avoid obstacles around the home, recognize a person’s gaze and conform to the kind of societal norms that people might expect from their fellow human beings.

“People don’t like robots to be in their face,” Juola said. “There’s actually an acceptable social distance both for communicating with people and for robots. For detecting gaze, if you’re looking at the robot then the robot should know that and return the gaze. If you’re looking at something else the robot tries to figure out what you’re looking at by interpreting the direction of your gaze.”

Within a year, the K-SERA robot will be put into service in test environments such as nursing homes and hospitals. Ultimately, the technology could improve life in a cost-effective way for millions of aging people around the world.

“This robot off-the-shelf costs about $25,000,” Juola said. “But a year in a nursing home costs about $50,000. If this assistant could be readily programmed and could help people stay in their homes for even a year longer, it could provide an economic
Professor profile: Focusing on the solution

Johnny Kim, assistant professor of social welfare

Too often when someone is trying to help an individual correct a problem behavior, they focus only on the problem. Johnny Kim specializes in a way of helping solve problems by focusing on what they do right.

In a new KU YouTube video, Kim, assistant professor of social welfare, discusses solution-focused brief therapy, how it can be used in schools to help both disruptive students and frustrated teachers and the importance of educating future social workers.

“solution-focused brief therapy is a strengths-based intervention that has really gotten very popular, especially among social workers and mental health professionals,” Kim said. “It’s a different way of working with clients. Usually the typical approach when working with clients in a therapy session is around what we call ‘problem talk.’”

Kim, a specialist in solution-focused brief therapy, studies how the practice can be applied in schools. A classic example of focusing on the problem, schools for decades have removed disruptive students from the classroom. Then, conversation focuses on the problem behavior. Kim has studied how focusing on what students do right can help them be more successful.

“We wanted to see how we could implement solution-focused brief therapy in school sessions, especially around the issue of class management behaviors,” Kim said. “We train teachers to use solution-focused brief therapy techniques in interacting with their students to try to focus on their positive strengths.”

Results from Kim’s studies have shown early success in using the technique as an alternative to simply removing students. The idea has the potential to pay dividends for teachers as well.

“We know through research that teachers who are dealing with classrooms that are highly disruptive can lead to higher burnout rates as well as frustration and stress levels,” Kim said. “So we’re hoping to examine how this WOWW (working on what works) intervention will impact those issues for
Kim said one of the reasons he was drawn to KU was its reputation for strengths perspective, an approach very similar to solution-focused brief therapy. The School of Social Welfare places great emphasis on teaching in addition to research. The work students do once they are in the field is too important not to.

“We take teaching very seriously because we’re training students to go out and work with vulnerable populations,” Kim said. “These are people who are going to be in crises, who may be suicidal, that may be at a point where they feel like they have no hope, that they have no outlets to help them with their issues and problems and so they turn to professional social workers to help them.”

To see the video, visit http://oread.ku.edu/~oread/2010/november/15/stories/profile.shtml

One year later, KU shown to be leader in open access

Practice grows on campus, across world

It’s been just more than a year since KU became the first public university in the United States to implement an open access policy for published scholarship. In that time, the practice of making research available to anyone — not just journal subscribers — has grown at KU and around the world.

KU recently celebrated international Open Access Week along with about 900 institutions from more than 50 countries. The weeklong series of events was part of the ongoing effort to help more faculty and grad students understand the issues before them and make their published research available to anyone with internet access, not just those who can afford often-costly academic journal subscriptions. KU is also becoming a resource for other universities looking to institute similar policies.

“I’d categorize the steps we’ve taken to be supportive to other campus open access advocates as aggressive,” said Lorraine Haricombe, dean of libraries. “We saw an opportunity for the libraries to have a strong supportive role in and be a catalyst for the adoption of open access here at KU and to
continue to help other universities as needed.”

The libraries oversee KU ScholarWorks, the online open access repository that houses published KU research. The repository can show which works were added specifically in accordance with the open access policy and what documents were added simply to share research. Ada Emmett, associate librarian for scholarly communications, said KU ScholarWorks can show faculty authors how often their research is being downloaded, and where the download is coming from. She cited ecology and evolutionary biology as a department that is taking advantage of open access as a way to expand the reach of its research. Last year, the department had just over 3,000 of its documents downloaded from the repository. So far this year, more than 13,000 have been downloaded. The downloads have been made in more than a dozen countries including the United States, United Kingdom, China, Mexico, Russia and Brazil.

“There’s been a significant amount of increase in our activity here at the Center for Digital Scholarship,” Emmett said. “This department is showing the open access movement can make a transformational difference in the accessibility of the scholarship authored at KU and funded by the citizens of Kansas.”

To help encourage more departments and faculty members to make their research available via open access, the libraries have identified early adopters and “open access liaisons.” The liaisons work with faculty within their departments to learn more about the policy and utilize the services of the library for help participating. Library staff now offer a “full service” submission process by uploading articles for authors, both to encourage participation and avoid adding another task to the already full schedules of faculty members. Anyone who would like to be an open access liaison can contact Emmett at aemmett@ku.edu.

Emmett and her colleagues are making presentations weekly to faculty and graduate students across campus to answer questions and show the benefit of open sharing of research in general and the policy specifically.

“The idea is to build on the success and satisfaction of the people we’re serving,” Emmett said. “This is not just a libraries thing, it’s of direct benefit and concern to scholars and meant to be viral, to encompass all of campus.”

KU is also answering questions from across the country about how to implement such a policy and encourage faculty authors to take part.

Haricombe said the Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition regularly refers people with questions about open access to KU. Institutions such as the University of Utah, Emory University, University of Hawaii and University of Illinois-Carbondale have all been in contact within the last year.
“This shatters the myth that there are no alternative or complementary publication channels,” Haricombe said. “It’s also a point of pride for KU. It shows we are absolutely committed to making our research available to as many people as possible.”

KU ScholarWorks is available at http://kuscholarworks.ku.edu/dspace/. KU’s open access policy is available in the KU Policy Library at https://documents.ku.edu/policies/governance/OpenAccess.htm.

Godwin to help lead cancer center's drug discovery

A leading scientist in the field of personalized medicine and drug development has joined the KU Cancer Center.

Andrew K. Godwin will be the cancer center’s associate director of translational research, filling a key leadership position and moving the cancer center closer to its goal of attaining National Cancer Institute designation.

Godwin arrived at the KU Cancer Center on Oct. 25 from Fox Chase Cancer Center in Philadelphia, where he was the director of the Clinical Molecular Genetics Laboratory, the co-leader of the Women’s Cancer Program and the initiator and director of one of the top biospecimen repositories in the country. His specialty is developing tests to determine whether a drug will work on a particular patient or tumor.

The KU Cancer Center already has unique expertise in the area of drug discovery. Godwin will make that aspect of the cancer center’s research even stronger.

“The wave of the future is drug discovery,” said Roy A. Jensen, director of the KU Cancer Center. “Now that Dr. Godwin is here, we have one of the best people in the world to do that.”

For example, Jensen said, it’s now common practice for people who are diagnosed with colon cancer to take a test to determine whether a particular gene (known as the K-RAS gene) will respond to a specific drug. Godwin’s lab helped establish that test, Jensen said.

Godwin, who earned his bachelor’s in cellular biology from KU before going on to earn a doctorate in molecular biology from the University of
Pennsylvania, says he is happy to be back in the area after 26 years on the East Coast.

“I am excited about the opportunities at the cancer center and am looking forward to working with its leaders to achieve our goal of establishing a comprehensive cancer center in the middle part of America,” Godwin said. “I felt it was time to give back to my home state and help provide a place for cancer patients in the area to come for the latest therapies so they can remain near family and friends.”

KU Cancer Center leaders are especially proud of the fact that their newest recruit is from Kansas.

“He grew up in Lawrence, graduated from KU, then spent 20-some years at Fox Chase, which is one of the premier cancer centers in the world,” Jensen said. “He’s a Kansas native who made good, and now he’s coming home.”

Godwin will also be a professor of pathology and laboratory medicine and director of molecular oncology at the KU Medical Center and holds the Chancellors Distinguished Chair in Biomedical Sciences endowed professorship.

For more information about the KU Cancer Center, see cancer.kumc.edu/.

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**Parking to be restricted for home basketball games**

The 2010-11 basketball season has tipped off. Home games mean extra traffic on campus and changes to parking regulations.

There are 11 games scheduled on weeknights when classes are in session. The games are listed below by date, day of the week, opponent, tip off time and time parking lots will close.

- Nov. 15, Monday, Valparaiso, 7 p.m., 5:30 p.m.
- Nov. 19, Friday, North Texas, 7 p.m., 5:30 p.m.
- Nov. 23, Tuesday, Texas A&M-Corpus Christi, 7 p.m., 5:30 p.m.
- Dec. 2, Thursday, UCLA, 8 p.m., 5:30 p.m.
- Dec. 18, Thursday, USC, 11 a.m., 8 a.m.
- Feb. 7, Monday, Missouri, 8 p.m., 5:30 p.m.
- Feb. 21, Monday, Oklahoma State, 8 p.m., 5:30 p.m.
- March 2, Wednesday, Texas A&M, 8 p.m., 5:30 p.m.

Student parking lots 71, 72, 90, 125 and 127 will
be preempted. Students attending classes after 5:30 p.m. can park in lots 34, 61 and 62 with a valid parking permit.

Faculty/staff parking lots 19, 33, 54 and 70 will be preempted. Lots that have “reserved” signs, including 6, 7, 17, 35, 37 and 129, are reserved for faculty and staff permits.

On Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings, faculty and staff are encouraged to use Park and Ride. Any faculty or staff member with a valid KU parking permit may park in lots 301 and 302, near the Multidisciplinary Research Building. A bus will take riders to the main campus. The Park and Ride buses run every 30 minutes from 5:30 to 10:30 p.m.

Parking lots 91, a red lot, and 94, yellow, at Memorial Stadium also have a bus connection to reach Jayhawk Boulevard and buildings near Allen Fieldhouse. The bus route, No. 42, runs every 30 minutes during the evenings until 10:30 p.m.

For more information, visit parking.ku.edu or call at (785) 864-PARK.

E-mail servers to be upgraded; inbox storage to be increased

KU will upgrade its e-mail system during winter break. The upgrade will provide users with many benefits including additional inbox storage — two gigabytes by default — a more robust version of Outlook Web Access and the ability to access the full Outlook Exchange e-mail client remotely without having to use KU Anywhere.

In preparation, staff and faculty may need to upgrade their current e-mail client. Information Technology is working closely with departmental technical support staff so that if upgrades are needed, they will be in touch with employees to make the necessary software updates. Additionally, staff and faculty will not have access to their e-mail mailboxes for a brief period during their mailbox upgrade. To help individuals plan for the brief period in which they will not have access to their mailboxes, KU Information Technology will be providing a “real-time” timeline for mailbox moves as well as e-mail notifications 24 hours before mailbox moves. Mailboxes will begin moving at midnight on Dec. 26.

As KU IT’s mailbox migration plan solidifies, details will be available via the Exchange Upgrade website. Information

Getting ready for the upgrade
about configuring mobile devices, tips about the new e-mail clients as well as a real-time schedule for mailbox moves can also be found on the site.

**Resources and assistance**

Anyone who would like to learn more about the e-mail upgrade, view the features for the new version of Outlook Web Access or ask questions can attend one of the two all-campus meetings hosted by Information Technology.

- 10 to 11 a.m. Nov. 19, 150 Joseph R. Pearson Hall
- 2 to 3 p.m. Dec. 1, Alderson Auditorium, Kansas Union

If users have questions about the upgrade or need additional information, they are welcome to contact the IT Customer Service Center at 864-8080 or itsc@ku.edu.

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**Search committee named to find new business dean**

Provost Jeff Vitter has announced a search advisory committee to find a new dean for the School of Business.

Dean William L. Fuerst will step down in June after serving 11 years, the second-longest tenure of any business dean at KU.

The committee will conduct a nationwide search. The committee will be co-chaired by James P. Guthrie, the William and Judy Docking Professor of Business, and M.D. (Mike) Michaelis, president and chairman of the board of Emprise Bank.

Other members include:

- Christopher Anderson, associate professor of business
- Danny Anderson, dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- Audra Boone, associate professor of business
- Marnie Clawson, president, Clawson Benefits Concepts
- Fred Coulson, managing director, Five Elms Capital
- DaNeale Diggins, junior in accounting
- Michael Ettredge, Crown/Sherr Professor of Business
- Mary Lee Hummert, vice provost for faculty development
- Jennifer Jordan, director of Business Career Services
- Kissan Joseph, associate professor of business
- Laura Poppo, professor of business
- Joshua Rosenbloom, associate vice chancellor of research and graduate studies and professor of economics
Five faculty members nominated for HOPE

Award to be given at Nov. 20 football game

KU seniors have selected five faculty members as finalists for the 2010 HOPE (Honor for an Outstanding Progressive Educator) Award.

The finalists will be honored at a private reception Tuesday, Nov. 16, in the Kansas Union. The winner will be announced Nov. 20, during the KU-Oklahoma State University football game in Memorial Stadium.

The finalists are

— Kerry E. Benson, lecturer in journalism
— Francis Bernard “Bernie” Kish, facilities director for health, sport and exercise science
— Denise Linville, lecturer in journalism
— Diane Nielsen, associate professor of education
— Tara S. Welch, associate professor of classics

Established by the Class of 1959, the HOPE Award is the only honor given exclusively by students for teaching excellence. Winners receive a monetary award and recognition on a permanent plaque displayed in the Kansas Union.

Nominations were solicited from the senior class by e-mail. The senior class then voted on the top nominations. Five faculty receiving the most nominations were interviewed by representatives of the Board of Class Officers and its Senior Advisory Board.

At the reception, Kelly M. Unger, president of the Board of Class Officers, will welcome the finalists and guests. Megan Do, HOPE awards chair, and Mathew Shepard, Board of Class Officers vice president, will join Unger in providing cameos of each finalist’s teaching career at KU.

In Memorial Stadium, Provost Jeffrey Vitter will present the award to the 2010 winner. The Board of Class Officers and Lori Reesor, associate vice provost for Student Success, will join the provost in the award presentation. Reesor is adviser for the Board of Class Officers.

In some years, more than one award has been bestowed. In 1972, three professors each received a HOPE Award: the late John Bremner in...
journalism, Arno Knapper in business and Elizabeth Schultz in English. In 2007, Craig Martin, professor and chair of ecology and evolutionary biology, and Edward McBride, lecturer in civil, environmental and architectural engineering, received the award. Three professors have received the award more than once: the late Clark E. Bricker in chemistry received the award four times; the late Charles “Rick” Snyder in psychology, three times; and Martin twice, in 2002 and 2007.

KU more than doubles neurosurgery department

The KU Medical Center, KU Hospital and KU Physicians Inc. have more than doubled the size of their neurosurgery department with the arrival of five neurosurgeons. All five join the KU Medical Center faculty and the hospital medical staff from the Kansas City Neurosurgery Group.

They are:

- Paul Camarata, who will serve as interim chair of the department
- Phillip Hylton
- Darren Lovick
- Matthew Rendel
- Timothy Stepp

“We’re incredibly excited to be part of an academic medical center, expanding and enhancing neurosciences at the premier center in the Midwest,” Camarata said. “One of the things that impressed me about KU is that, everywhere you go in the University of Kansas Hospital, you see the mission: to deliver world-class patient care and to ensure the excellence of future patient care through exceptional learning, teaching and research. We’re eager to be joining an institution with that mission.”

Rendel and Stepp will also practice at a North Kansas City clinic location, maintaining a previous relationship with the Clay County (Mo.) facility.

“These well-known and respected surgeons provide us with more depth in our subspecialties, and will make our training programs for residents even stronger,” said Barbara Atkinson, executive vice chancellor of the KU Medical Center.

Atkinson said the surgeons bring particular expertise in the areas of stroke and other cerebrovascular diseases.

“They complement a very strong existing program, which has been a national pioneer in such critical procedures as deep brain stimulation surgery to treat Parkinson’s and other movement disorders,” said Bob
Page, president and chief executive officer of the KU Hospital.

“Our existing neurosurgery staff plays a major role in the extraordinary success of our multi-disciplinary spine center, as well as leading a remarkable team in successful brain cancer surgery,” Page said.

The arrival of the neurosurgeons also strengthens the opportunity for research at the medical center’s Institute for Neurological Disorders. Launched in March 2009, the institute’s mission is to turn scientific discoveries into preventions and cures for nervous system diseases. They will also coordinate with research at the Hoglund Brain Imaging Center.

“It’s imminently important that practicing neurosurgeons be involved in research, because we know the questions to ask,” Camarata said. “We are eager to participate in the research mission.”

Answers given for frequently asked severe weather questions

With the arrival of winter comes the possibility of severe weather. Here are the answers to frequently asked questions about work and class cancellations, closing information and the university’s policies regarding inclement weather.

How will I know if classes are canceled or if the workday has been delayed?

A delayed start or class cancellation on the Lawrence campus will be announced after 6 a.m. Call KU’s Inclement Weather Policy Line, 864-SNOW, or KU Info, 864-3506; check the KU Web site; or listen to local broadcast media, including Kansas Public Radio 91.5 FM, KLWN-AM 1320, KLZR-FM 105.9 or KJHK-FM 90.7, and Topeka and Kansas City radio and television stations. Students, faculty and staff who signed up for emergency text messaging notification will receive a message about closures and delays on their cellular phones.

How will I know when the university is open?

KU does not make announcements when classes continue to meet as scheduled.

What about class cancellations at the Edwards Campus?

Decisions to cancel classes or curtail operations at the Edwards Campus are independent of the decisions made for the
Lawrence campus. The Edwards Campus has its own weather line – 864-8499 from Lawrence or (913) 897-8499 from the Kansas City area — or visit edwardscampus.ku.edu.

What happens if severe weather develops during the day?

KU officials may declare a weather emergency. In this case, afternoon and/or evening classes on the Lawrence campus will be canceled and nonessential employees will be dismissed early. Employees will be contacted through an established calling tree and may be dismissed on a staggered basis.

How are decisions made to cancel classes?

In consultation with the Office of Public Safety, the Lawrence police, the highway patrol and the National Weather Service, the provost or the chancellor decides to cancel classes or curtail activities based on road conditions and weather forecasts.

What if I’m driving from out of town during a snowstorm?

KU does not have a mandatory attendance policy. If you can’t travel safely because of poor road conditions, you should not drive to campus. Employees should use accumulated paid leave after seeking supervisory approval.

How will overnight shift employees be affected?

Inclement weather is usually declared in one-hour increments at either the beginning or the end of a normal 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. work shift. For example, if an employee works a shift that begins after midnight, ends before 8 a.m. and inclement weather is declared in the morning, the employee may leave work an hour early. Conversely, if inclement weather is declared at 4 p.m., an employee with an overnight shift may arrive at work one hour late.

How does invoking the inclement weather policy affect emergency employees?

Employees who have been designated by their departments as emergency employees are expected to report for work at the beginning of their work shift to maintain vital services.