Students play basketball in the gymnasium area of the Ambler Student Recreation Fitness Center. The facility will soon install new, energy-efficient lights as the first project of the Green Revolving Fund, a pool of money dedicated to sustainable energy projects.

Passing the savings around

New Green Revolving Fund to support campus sustainability projects

Visitors might not realize it, but the lights above them while they play basketball, run on the track and work out are saving money at the Ambler Student Recreation Fitness Center and will help fund sustainable energy projects across the university.

The fitness center will install new high-efficiency lights through the Green Revolving Fund, a new project that will help improve energy efficiency in projects across campus through a pool of money that replenishes itself through money saved on utility costs. The fund, a student initiative, was born when Student Senate and Student Success contributed $10,000 each for its launch. The Provost’s Office contributed $20,000.

Jeff Severin, director of the Center for Sustainability, said the fund works by paying for initial upgrades, such as the higher efficiency lighting at Ambler. Units will then pay back 85 percent of what they save to the fund, which will then pay for future projects.

“The idea is to capture some of those savings,” Severin said. “They (Ambler) are immediately seeing 15 percent savings and they’re going to help grow the fund.”

Mary Chappell, director of Recreation Services, which is contributing $10,000 specifically for the lighting project, said they were approached about the idea of upgrading their lighting system, and jumped at the opportunity.

“It’s really important for us that we use our student dollars in the most efficient manner possible,” Chappell said. “If we can see a decrease in our energy use while doing that, it’s a positive as well.”

The project is replacing lights in the gymnasium areas, both in the original wing of the building and the Oread side, the expansion that opened in 2008. The area includes basketball courts, a track and space for numerous other activities. The area housing exercise equipment and weights will not be affected. The new lights are expected to have a life of 15 years and save an estimated $8,400 in energy and about $720 in maintenance annually.

The initial project will help determine how the fund is used in the future. Severin said a committee that oversees the Green Revolving Fund will monitor the project and determine what kind of future initiatives to invest in. The goal is to increase the frequency of funded projects and potentially draw in more investors.

The fund is still in its infancy, but it has already garnered KU national acclaim. The university was one of 52 institutions to land a spot on “Greening the Bottom Line: The Trend toward Green Revolving Funds on Campus,” a recent report by the Sustainable Endowments Institute.

Such funds have proven successful at increasing efficiency, easing the burden on tight university budgets and garnering a return for investors.

“The trend is clear both in terms of money saved and reduced energy consumption,” said Mark Orłowski, executive director of the Sustainable Endowments Institute. “The
number of green revolving funds has more than quadrupled since 2008. A major incentive is the financial benefit. Our survey found a median annual return on investment of 32 percent.”

Some schools have had even more success. Western Michigan University has financed 101 projects in just over a decade with an average annual return on investment of 47 percent, the report said. Stanford University estimates it has saved more than 240 million kilowatt-hours of electricity since it implemented a similar fund in 1993 and prevented 72,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions.

Chappell said Recreation Services is proud to be part of the Green Revolving Fund’s first project and looks forward to seeing future initiatives grow from it.

“All time it’s a student situation and project like this it’s exciting for us, because that’s who we’re here for,” she said. “But in this day and age anything that can help the whole university is a good thing.”

Four faculty members win first University Scholarly Achievement Awards

Blagg, Darby, Hawley, Purnaprajna noted for contributions to their respective disciplines

Four faculty members have been chosen for the inaugural University Scholarly Achievement Awards. The awards recognize mid-career scholars who have made significant scholarly or research contributions to their respective fields. They will be honored at an awards ceremony at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 3, in the Commons at Spooner Hall.

The recipients — Brian Blagg, professor of medicinal chemistry; Derrick Darby, associate professor of philosophy; Patricia Hawley, associate professor of psychology; and Bangere Purnaprajna, professor of mathematics — were chosen by a panel of their peers from arts and humanities; science, technology and mathematics; clinical science; and social science and professional programs.

“As a research university, KU is responsible for the discoveries and innovations that improve lives, create jobs and enable us to better understand our world,” said Chancellor Bernadette Gray-Little. “KU faculty members contribute to our world every day through their teaching and through their scholarly achievements. This award recognizes the value of those achievements to the state, nation and world and honors some of the world-class professors we have here at KU.”

The award winners were chosen for contributions that advance the field of scholarship, exhibit novelty and originality, promote scholarly and research activity at KU and enhance the university’s national and international reputation. Recipients were nominated by their colleagues from KU and from across the nation.

More information about the recipients:

Brian Blagg
Brian Blagg

Blagg is being honored for developing inhibitors of heat shock protein 90. Known as Hsp90, it is a “molecular chaperone” essential for the function of all cells that assists in the maturation of numerous proteins. Molecules that inhibit Hsp90 are highly sought as possible treatments of cancer and neurodegenerative diseases like Alzheimer’s or Parkinson’s. Blagg and his colleagues have found new ways of modulating Hsp90 function that have led to compounds that lack the toxicity of those in many medications. Blagg and fellow researchers have also developed compounds capable of reducing neuropathies associated with diabetes. He has previously been recognized with the Robertson Award from the American Chemical Society for his achievements.

Derrick Darby

Darby is receiving the award for his book “Rights, Race and Recognition,” published by Cambridge University Press in 2009. In the book, Darby examines theories of rights as related to the experience of African-Americans, before the Civil War and during segregation. He also defends a theory that states social recognition of rights is necessary for a society to claim that it upholds those rights. The book’s insight into the struggles of multiracial societies and their struggles to extend rights to all citizens has brought it wide acclaim in the United States, Brazil, South Africa and the United Kingdom. Darby currently is conducting research on racial disparities in education, based on his theory of rights.

Patricia Hawley

Hawley was selected for her development of "resource control theory." A theory on social dominance, RCT was spawned from her efforts to bridge literatures on social development and peer relationships and evolutionary basis of behavior. Since its inception, RCT has generated numerous novel predictions that have changed how scientists think about human social relationships, individual differences and evolution. RCT and the research that has grown from it has challenged the prevailing view in psychology about aggression and led to documentation of new patterns through questions that were never previously asked. Hawley’s work is widely received and is featured in most widely used textbooks on child and adolescent development.

Bangere Purnaprajna

Purnaprajna is being recognized for his contributions to algebraic geometry and the classification of algebraic surfaces. Classification surfaces has been an area of study in algebraic geometry for more than a century, but the work is notoriously
difficult and progress has been slow. Purnaprajna and his colleagues have developed a new framework of techniques and methodologies to solve problems in classification and its related applications. He was a pioneer in bringing forth the study of deformations of surfaces of general type. The idea has led to the discovery of a considerable amount of information about the geography of a large class of surfaces of a general type. His work has been published in the top journals in the field of mathematics.

Faculty sabbaticals approved

The following faculty members have been approved for sabbatical leaves during the 2011-12 academic year. The Kansas Board of Regents made the approvals. They are listed below by semester or academic year, topic and location.

• Omofolabo Ajayi-Soyinka, associate professor of theatre and women, gender and sexuality studies; fall semester; write three chapters of a book manuscript on Efua Sutherland that explores her contributions to theatre studies and theories of performances in Africa and the Diaspora; Lawrence.

• Vincent Barker III, associate professor of business; fall semester; work on two related research projects developing new perspectives in the large-scale organizational change literature; Lawrence.

• Michael Baskett; associate professor of film and media studies, fall semester; conduct research for a manuscript on the cultural history of the Japanese film industry during the Cold War; Cambridge, United Kingdom.

• Henry Bial, associate professor of theatre; fall semester; generate a draft of a book, “Playing God,” that is a study of 122 Broadway theatre productions that have been based explicitly on narratives from The Bible; Lawrence; New York City.

• Sharon Billings, associate professor of ecology and evolutionary biology; fall semester; develop geochemical indicators to assess forest responses to climate change and develop a synthesis paper promoting the use of geochemical indictors to explore Earth responses to anthropogenic climate change; Newfoundland, Canada.

• Hannah Britton, associate professor of political science; spring semester; examine strategies to combat gender-based violence in South Africa and extend the literature on gender-based violence policy implementation and feminist engagement with the state in a new context: democratizing, post-conflict states; Lawrence; South Africa.

• Byron Caminero-Santangelo, associate professor of English, fall semester; conduct research on Nigerian writing from 1960 to the present for a book project, “Shifting the Center: A Tradition of Environmental Literary Discourse from Africa;” Lawrence.

• Michael Crawford, professor of anthropology, fall semester; compile and analyze interdisciplinary data collected on field expeditions to the Aleutian Island populations from 1999 to 2006; Lawrence; Alaska.

• Ann Cudd; professor of philosophy, fall semester; write or review four chapters of a book on the normative concept of intervention that examines the paradox of intervention; Lawrence.

• Gregory Cushman, assistant professor of history, spring semester; complete research and writing of chapters 2-4 of a book-length study of the historical relationship between climate science and colonialism in the Western Hemisphere; Lawrence.

• Michael Detamore, associate professor of chemical engineering, fall semester; collaborate with faculty and students at NUI Galway to build a scaffolding biomat to ultimately be used for TMJ tissue regeneration; Galway, Ireland.
• Johannes Feddema, professor of geography, academic year; conduct research at the National Center for Atmospheric Research on the sensitivity of Community Earth System model/Community Climate System model to land cover change; Colorado.

• Alison Gabriele, assistant professor of linguistics, fall semester; build on previous research that investigates how second language learners establish connections between form and meaning; Nagoya and Tokyo, Japan; New York City.

• Sivaprasad Gogineni, professor of electrical engineering and computer science, and director, CReSIS, academic year, conduct interdisciplinary research on the analysis and interpretation of radar data to determine bed conditions and the correlation of radar data with the NEEM deep ice core; Copenhagen, Denmark.

• James Guthrie, professor of business, spring semester; examine the impact of various indices of “employment volatility” on customer satisfaction and firm performance; Auckland, New Zealand.

• Mary Lynn Hamilton, professor of curriculum and teaching; spring semester; investigate the current research on teacher effectiveness and teacher quality and their relationship to teachers’ lives; Lawrence.

• Allan F. Hanson, professor of anthropology; fall semester; examine the impact of technology on the cultural construction of the self using case law from American society as a lens; Lawrence.

• Paul Hanson, professor of chemistry; fall semester; work on several grants including the renewal of R01; Lawrence.

• John Harrington, professor of English; spring semester; write the fourth and final volume of a series of books, collectively titled “Dead Mom Scrolls;” a literary work that combines poetry, prose narration, primary documents, dramatic dialogue and pictures; Lawrence.

• E. Bruce Hayes, associate professor of French and Italian; fall semester; conduct research for, and write, two chapters for a book, “Casting Comedy: Polemical Humor before and during the French Wars of Religion”; Lawrence.

• John Head, Distinguished Professor of Law; fall semester; undertake a project focusing on the international legal regimes that are needed to strike an appropriate balance between the protection of grassland areas and their use for food production; Washington DC; Salina, KS; Lawrence.

• Douglas Huffman, professor of curriculum and teaching, spring semester; initiate a longitudinal study of elementary teachers and their vision of science education, examining the relationship among teachers’ views of science, science instruction, and background in science; Lawrence.

• Kissan Joseph, associate professor of business, spring semester; investigate the science behind decision support systems to aid salesperson price setting, Muenster, Germany.

• Van Kelly, associate professor and chair of French and Italian; spring semester; revise the draft of the book, "Against the Sense of an Ending: Modern French Poet Rene Char and the Effects of his Passage Through World War II." Paris, France; Lawrence.

• Terry Koenig, associate professor of social welfare; fall semester; conduct research on professional ethical decision making and eastern philosophy to more closely examine the impact of complex Central Asian cultural norms and values on the development of social work, social policies, and programs; Astana, Kazakhstan; Lawrence.

• Stephen Leisring, associate professor of music; spring semester; write a method book for trumpet performance and technique specifically for trumpet students and professionals in China; Chengdu, China; Lawrence.

• Mechele Leon, associate professor of theatre; spring semester; conduct research for a new book project: a monograph on the history of French theatre companies, directors, and master acting teachers in the United States,
• Marie Alice L’Heureux, professor of architecture; academic year; teach town planning history and theory courses at Tallinn University of Technology in Estonia and write the introduction to and complete the last chapter of a manuscript-in-progress on Estonia; Tartu, Estonia.

• Todd Little, professor of psychology; spring semester; complete a book on longitudinal data analysis using structural equation modeling techniques; Lawrence.

• Jeremy Martin, associate professor of mathematics; spring semester; conduct joint research on simplicial and cellular spanning trees with Art Duval (University of Texas, El Paso) and Caroline Klivans (University of Chicago); El Paso, Texas; Chicago, Ill.; Minneapolis, Minn.; Lawrence.

• Kirk R. McClure, professor of architecture; fall semester; conduct research on modifications to the Housing Choice Voucher program and the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit program; Washington, DC.

• Amy McNair, professor of history of art; academic year; complete NEH-funded annotated translation of the Catalogue of the Imperial Painting Collection in the Proclaiming Harmony Era, a 12th-century Chinese text that profiles a legendary lost art collection; Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minn.

• Brent Metz, assistant professor of anthropology; fall semester; complete the writing of a book about the politics of indigeneity based on research and analysis undertaken in Central America from 2003-2008; Central America; Lawrence.

• Devon Abbot Mihesuah, professor of indigenous nations studies; spring semester; write a book manuscript documenting the heretofore unexamined survival strategies of five major tribes: Cherokees, Choctaws, Chickasaws, Muscogees and Seminoles; in Indian Territory, now Oklahoma, after their removal from the Southeast in the 1830s; Kansas; Oklahoma.

• Sanjay Mishra, associate professor of business; fall semester; study the factors that influence technology commercialization in India, especially in university settings; Kharagpur, India.

• Jackob Moskovitz, associate professor of pharmacology and toxicology; spring semester; conduct research on the role of methionine oxidation of specific proteins on neuronal development and degeneration; Israel.

• AnnaNeill, associate professor of English; spring semester; conduct research and write two chapters of a proposed book manuscript studying the link of evolutionary science to literary analysis; Lawrence.

• David Nualart, professor of mathematics; spring semester; conduct research on topics related with the fractional Brownian motion, rough path analysis, and the application of Malliavin Calculus to derive rates of convergence in the central limit theorem; Nancy, France; Lausanne, Switzerland.

• Joseph O’Brien, associate professor of curriculum and teaching; spring semester; research how three high school U.S. history teachers use primary sources to promote their students’ ability to engage in historical thinking and discipline specific literacy; Eastern Kansas.

• Yajaira Padilla, assistant professor of Spanish and Portuguese; fall semester; conduct research on street art by Central American-Americans and write a chapter based on this work for second book-length project about Central Americans in the U.S.; Los Angeles; Lawrence.

• Andrew Peterson, professor of ecology and evolutionary biology; spring semester; incorporate ecological Niche Modeling into public health disease transmission risk mapping and develop a proposal for a book on these new approaches; Brazil.

• Mabel Rice, professor of speech, language and hearing; spring semester; preparation of scientific reports for data collected as part of two ongoing programs of research funded by NIH, investigating behavioral symptoms and genetic underpinnings of Specific
Language Impairment; Sydney and Perth, Australia; Lawrence.

• Judith Roitman, professor of mathematics; fall semester; continue work on whether the box product of countably many “nice” spaces such, as compact metrizable, is paracompact; Lawrence.

• John Rury, professor of educational leadership and policy studies; fall semester; conduct a history study of how the process of suburbanization contributed to educational inequality across the greater Kansas City region; Lawrence.

• Paul Schumaker, professor of political science; fall semester; conduct research and draft a book on consensual ideas in pluralist societies; Wisconsin; Lawrence.

• Thomas Skrtic, professor of special education; academic year; conduct research on integrating pragmatism and the capabilities approach to justice and examine race and class discrimination in special education; Lawrence.

• Geraldo de Sousa, professor of English; spring semester; conduct research for an interdisciplinary monograph on Jacobean “city comedies” — a group of plays written by Shakespeare’s principal playwrights satirizing everyday life and socio-economic conditions in early 17th-century London; London, England; Lawrence.

• Rajendra Srivastava, professor of business; fall semester; write a comprehensive research monograph on the Dempster-Shafer theory of belief functions that will serve as an important research material for researchers and educators in the field; Fresno, Calif.

• Patrick Suzeau, professor of dance; fall semester; study Odissi style of East Indian classical dance to enhance current research of the choreographic explorations in fusion between Indian classical and western contemporary dance; New Delhi, India.

• James Thorp, senior scientist, Kansas Biological Survey; fall semester; participate as a Fulbright Senior Specialist through the University of New England in Australia in a program focusing on river science education in developing countries; Armidale, Australia; Winona, Minn.; Lawrence.

• Andrew Torrance, associate professor of law; fall semester; study the behavior of inventors, manufacturers and competitors under experimental conditions simulating variety of patent and non-patent systems; MIT, Cambridge, Mass.

• Francisca Velasco, associate professor of visual art; spring semester; create large-scale digital prints and an animation inspired by a book of poems that treats the topic of child sexual abuse; Buenos Aires, Argentina.

• Margot Versteeg, associate professor of Spanish and Portuguese; fall semester; conduct research for a book-length project on the dramatic production of one of Spain’s most prominent female authors, Emilia Pardo Bazán; Spain; Lawrence.

• Joy Ward, associate professor of ecology and evolutionary biology; fall semester; study ice age trees to gain a better understanding of the physiological and evolutionary changes that occurred in response to limiting carbon dioxide availability in the geologic past; Sydney, Australia; Lawrence.

• Andrea Wertzberger, associate professor of design; spring semester; explore the origins, inspirations, anatomy, optics, geometry and the process of designing a typeface and create materials for an exhibition and a series of lectures; Kansas City, Mo.; Lawrence.

• Nathaniel Wood, assistant professor of history; spring semester; continue researching and writing of book project, “Backwardness and Rushing Forward: Technology and Culture in Poland’s Age of Speed, 1890-1939;” Lawrence.

Mazza named permanent law dean
Stephen W. Mazza, interim dean of law since July 1, has been named to the permanent position, replacing Gail Agrawal, who left July 1 to become dean at the University of Iowa College of Law.

Mazza joined the KU law faculty in 1998. An honors graduate of the University of Alabama School of Law, he received his master of laws degree from New York University School of Law, where he was managing editor of the Tax Law Review. After practicing in the tax section of a large Atlanta law firm, he returned to NYU as an acting assistant professor.

“I’m excited about working with the provost, the faculty, the students and the alumni base to build upon KU School of Law’s outstanding reputation. At the same time, I’m humbled by their willingness to place their trust in me, particularly my faculty colleagues who I admire and respect,” Mazza said. “Given the current legal market, there will be challenges ahead, but responding to those challenges will provide opportunities for the school to enhance its reputation and better serve its students, the state of Kansas and the national legal community.”

Mazza has expanded the number of tax offerings at KU, teaching courses in taxation of mergers and acquisitions, tax procedure and tax policy. He also coordinates the law school’s tax certificate program and Voluntary Income Tax Assistance program. Mazza is a member of the tax section of the American Bar Association and a frequent speaker on tax issues. Besides numerous journal publications, he is co-author of the leading text on tax procedure; this text has become a standard work used at law schools throughout the United States and was cited by the Supreme Court in an important tax procedure case.

Chancellor Bernadette Gray-Little praised the selection.

“Stephen is a nationally recognized scholar, a gifted teacher and a resourceful administrator,” Gray-Little said. “He has helped reform the law curriculum and is instrumental in recruiting and alumni activities. Stephen’s leadership will be a key factor as we embark on strategic planning initiatives and a major fundraising campaign.”

Search committee chair Chris Drahozal, John M. Rounds Professor of Law and associate dean for research and faculty development, said Mazza was selected from an international pool that included faculty and administrators from prestigious law schools.

“I’d like to thank Chris and the search committee for their dedication in finding the right fit for KU and the law school,” Vitter said.
Employees honored for years of service to university

The annual KU employee recognition ceremony will be held from 1:30 to 4 p.m. May 5 in the Kansas Union ballroom. The event honors employees of all classifications who have reached landmark years of service.

Human Resources and Equal Opportunity has created a searchable list this year of honored employees. It is accessible through the kyou portal. Individuals can search the list by name or department. In the portal, click on HR notices and scroll down to recognition.

Individuals who have a correction to the recognition honoree list, should contact HREO at 864-4946 or hrdept@ku.edu by 4 p.m. April 13.

Employees who will be honored are:

**Five years**


15 years


20 years


M. Haverkate-Ens, Teresa
Lynn Herberger, Shirley A.
Hill, Jack L. Hofman, Phillip
Hofstra, Karen S. Hummel,
Dennis Lee Ireland,
Catherine J. Johnson, Sheila
R. Johnson, Peter G. Kitos,
Thomas Carl Kurtz, Michael
Joseph LaBonte, Robert J.
Linzer, Stanford Leonard
Loeb, Leah Luckeroth, G.L.
Macpherson, O. Yvonne
Martinez, Mary Jane
McLendon, Stuart C. Mills,
Janice Marie Moore, Michael
Karl Neighbors, Kathleen
Marie Olson, Brian K.
Patton, Barbara J. Phipps, Pat
Pisan, Sheila Annette Rials,
James Michael Richey,
Michael C. Roberts, Randall
W. Rock, Sara Thomas
Rosen, James R. Rupprecht,
Mary E. Ryan, P. Diane
Salyers, Muriel D. Saunders,
Teruna J. Siahana, Janice E.
Simmons, Greg B. Simpson,
Diana M. Skill, Deborah
Ruth Roan Smith, Reta M.
Solwa, Myra Louise Strother,
Barbara Jean Sutterfield, Rya
Rahmat Taghavi, Thomas M.
Tuozzo, Marykay Ulrich,
Jianbo Zhang

25 years
Janet M. Ackley, Jeffrey
Aube, Kenneth L. Audus,
Kenneth L. Bateson, Linda
Marie Benitez, JoAnn E.
Berner, Carol J. Bray,
Margaret S. Bricke, Michael
Joe Briggs, James Johnson
Butler Jr., Elizabeth Byleen,
Gale P. Carter, Swapan
Chakraborti, Margaret
Pogemiller Coffey, Jennifer
Lynn Coker, Carol A.
Cooper, Deborah Louise
Dandridge, Denise Linville
Del Pico, Fernando E. Diaz,
Dennis E. Domer, Lois L.
Elmer, Randall V. Erney,
Terry Norman Faddis, Lisa
A. Flaig, Michael L. Flaig,
Doris M. Gasper, Thomas E.
Glavinich, Debra R. Graber,
Jo L. Hardesty, Irene M.
Hardy, Martha J. Harris, L.
Diane Hendry, Nancy E.
Hettwer, Jane J. Hoyt, Mary
A. Jordan, Danny Paul
Kaiser, Linda S. Kerr, H.
Steve Kincaid, Man Cheong
Kong, Bobbi Lara, Michael J.
Laskowski, Lars E. Leon,
Thomas D. Lorenz, Karen L.
Loudon, Susan K. McKeelvay,
Leland C. McMeachan, Janet
D. Mears, Adrian L. Melott,
Patricia Moore, Kristine
Lynn Moyer, Molly Mulloy,
Beaver J. Nightingale,
Patricia C. Oslund, Barbara
P. PaschkeKathryn Jean
Peterson, Raymond E. Pettit,
Clifton L. Pye, Ross Randall,
Ann M. Riat, Joan S. Ring,
Kayne Sue Schoor, Jerry A.
Schultz, Thomas G. Stacy,
Ruth A. Stoner, Jon K.
Swindell, Maria S.
Thompson, Robert Mark
Timm, Jean Wright Valk,
Barbara Jean Walker, Linda
K. Weeks, Jerry L. Whistler,
Linda Jean Wiley, Mary A.
Williams

30 years
Ronald A. Ash, Franklin H.
Barthell III, Lynn M. Bretz,
Kirk W. Brinkman, Bruce A.
Coburn, Susan V. Craig,
Gloria J. Davis, Robert A.
Deay, Debra A. Douglass,
Megan E. Gannon, Leon
Garcia Jr., Ellen Gaele
Gillespie, Dana Goble,
Sharon Lee Green, Steven D.
Green, Katherine Greene,
Douglas A. Houston, Patricia
A. Howard, Lawrence E.
Hoyle, Gary D. Jennings,
Susan Marie Johnson, Robin
Kidney, James W. Kleoppel,
Debra K. Kramer, Sherilyn
K. LaDuke, David R. Leach,
Michael Ray Lemon, P. Allen
Macfarlane, Ann E. Matter,
Danny L. Michael, Nancy L.
Miles, Gary J. Minden,
William Jeffrey
Montgomery, Steven M.
Moody, Cynthia K. Nitcher,
Kimberly J. O’Bryon, Terri
J. Osborn, Brenda J. Owens,
Alfred D. Parr, James C.
Peterson, Gloria J. Prothe,
Kenneth L. Ratzlaff, Tracey
Schafer, Rebecca A. Schulte,
Belinda Jane Schuman,
Charles A. Seibel, Louise J.
Shirer, Terry A. Slocum,
Kenton F. Speckelmeyer, John
A. Stephens, Laura
Kriegstrom Stull, Lynne I.
Tidwell, Judith Colleen
Tomei, Sheryl A. Umscheid,,
Cheryl A. Wagner, Leanea C.
Wales, Michael E. Watkins,
Scott C. Watson, Karen A.
Whipple, Sara Henderson
White

35 years
Corinne D. Anderson, Linda
L. Brock, William L. Dentler
Jr., Janet K. Dreiling, Charles
C. Eldredge, Susan R. Elkins,
Jolene M. Fairchild. Ned
Allen Ford, Carla J. Harris.
Linda L. Keeler, Elizabeth
Anne Kuznesof, Dennis Del
Lane, Nancy Louise Larsen,
Stanley F. Lombardo,
Narciso L. Luna, Leonie A.
Marx, Johnny Nalbandian,
Thomas G. Ramirez,
Kathleen A. Sheldon, Joseph
M. Sicilian Jr., Thomas M.
Skritic, Shapour Vossoughi,,
Susan B. Wachter, Willard
Lynn Watney, Edward Wiley
III, Christine A. Winters,
Cynthia A. Woods, Patricia
F. Woods, Jack B. Wright

40 years
Robert J. Antonio, Ronald T.
Borchardt, Michael H.
School of Pharmacy ranks fourth NIH research funding

KU continues to be a national leader in pharmacy research, as evidenced by new rankings that show the School of Pharmacy is fourth in the nation in National Institutes of Health funding.

The American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy reported that KU received more than $18,400,000 in NIH research funding in fiscal year 2010. The NIH is the primary source of federal funding for schools of pharmacy. Support is considered an important part of a pharmacy school’s national reputation.

KU is the only Big 12 institution in the top 10. The University of Texas-Austin and the University of Colorado rank 13th and 14th, respectively. The University of California-San Francisco was ranked at the top of the list. Ken Audus, dean of the School of Pharmacy, said the numbers are a validation of the hard work and cutting-edge research the school’s faculty do year round.

“Although NIH funding rises and falls over time, the KU pharmacy faculty’s continued success when funding rates are down around 10 percent is purely remarkable and a tribute to their cutting-edge creativity and persistence,” Audus said. “That’s why we remain among the top five programs year after year.”

The School of Pharmacy also ranked in the top 10 for percentage of full-time faculty members who receive NIH grant funding. Forty-five percent of KU’s 40 pharmacy professors received funding in fiscal year 2010. Faculty members are maximizing the grants they earn as well, as the school ranked fifth in amount of funding per professor, at more than $489,000.

KU is regularly near the top of the NIH funding rankings. This marks the 10th consecutive year the school has been ranked in the top five; it has been in the top 10 every year since 1995.

The American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy rankings are not the only measure of success the School of Pharmacy has had in recent years. In August, the school opened a new 110,000-square-foot facility on the Lawrence campus, and an expansion of the program at the School of Medicine-Wichita will open soon. The expansions allow KU to greatly increase the number of pharmacy students it enrolls each year, which will in turn result in more pharmacists to serve the state of Kansas.

Prisinzano wins pharmaceutical sciences outstanding young investigator award

Thomas Prisinzano will be honored by a national organization for outstanding early career achievement in the science of drug addiction.
Prisinzano, associate professor of medicinal chemistry, will receive the 2011 College on Problems of Drug Dependence Joseph Cochin Young Investigator Award at the organization’s 73rd annual meeting June 19 in Hollywood, Fla. He is only the second chemist to receive the award.

An internationally recognized leader in the chemistry of drug abuse, Prisinzano has contributed widely to the understanding of the substance Salvia divinorum. His research also focuses on formulation of new drugs that draw on the benefits of opium alkaloids such as morphine and codeine without side effects such as tolerance, dependence and respiratory depression. The research aims to lead to potential new medications for the treatment of drug dependence.

“It is an amazing honor to receive the Cochin Award,” Prisinzano said. “I have been very fortunate to work with an outstanding group of scientists. Without the assistance of my past and present group members and many great collaborators, this award would not have been possible. Drug dependence is a terrible disease and I hope that our continued research efforts will help make a difference.”

The College on Problems of Drug Dependence annually presents the Joseph Cochin Young Investigator Award to recognize outstanding research contributions by a young scientist. The organization is the largest and oldest for the study of drug dependence and addictions.

Prisinzano has a bachelor’s in chemistry from the University of Delaware and a doctorate in pharmaceutical sciences from Virginia Commonwealth University. He received postdoctoral training at the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md.

“Dr. Prisinzano provides a very unique and fascinating area of research that complements other areas of interest in our department,” said Barbara Timmermann, University Distinguished Professor and chair of medicinal chemistry. “He has the knowledge, enthusiasm and intellectual curiosity to succeed in his endeavors. I wish him the best as he ascends through the academic ranks while being a role model to his students and colleagues.”

Gillath lands two early career psychology research awards

This year’s annual conference of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology was a good one for Omri Gillath. Not only did he learn more about the current state of research in the field and interact with colleagues, as is often the case at such events, he was honored twice for early career achievements.

Omri Gillath

Gillath, associate professor of social psychology, received both a SAGE Young Scholars Award from the Foundation for Personality and Social Psychology and the Caryl Rusbult Close Relationships Early Career Award at the conference.

The SAGE award is given annually to five young researchers in personality and social psychology. The honorees receive a $5,000 award to be used at their discretion for research, study or conference travel. The five
recipients were chosen from among more than 10,000 scholars of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology around the world.

The Rusbult award is given each year to one young researcher who is making significant contributions in the field of close relationships. Gillath said he was honored by both awards and was excited to receive both at the same conference.

“I had to pinch myself and say, ‘This is really happening,’ ” Gillath said. “I look around and see all these great colleagues and the work they’re doing in psychology and it’s amazing to be a part of it. It is also encouraging to see that close-relationships-related research is being recognized for its importance.”

Gillath came to KU in 2006. He has written more than 35 papers in refereed journals and seven book chapters and is on the editorial boards of six major academic journals. In 2009, Gillath and colleagues organized the “Mini-conference on New Directions in Research on Close Relationships: Integrating Across Disciplines and Theoretical Approaches,” which brought leading scholars in the discipline to KU.

Gillath’s research explores the underlying mechanisms of close relationships. He uses neuroimaging, physiological measures and endocrine markers as well as traditional social-cognitive methods to explore social behavior and questions such as whether certain people are predisposed to particular types of relationships.

Receiving two awards in one day was an honor, but Gillath credits his department and graduate student assistants for helping him achieve success.

“I’m happy I can contribute in this way and help continue to put Kansas on the map,” he said.

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KU-developed school improvement system draws rave reviews in Washington, D.C.

A system developed in Kansas to help ensure success for all students is drawing rave reviews in the nation’s capital.

U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan, after a March 14th visit to Ann Beers Elementary School in the Washington, D.C., school district, commended the faculty, staff and families on their efforts to ensure the academic success of all students, including students with disabilities and noted the school’s “extraordinary job at inclusion.”

Wayne Sailor, professor of special education and associate director of the Beach Center on Disability at KU. Major collaborators were Blair Roger, an educational consultant from San Francisco, as well as Amy McCart, assistant research professor, and Nikki Wolf, Model, a comprehensive school reform program that engages the entire school staff and works to achieve a safe and orderly learning environment where all students receive the support they need, including students with disabilities. The system was developed by Wayne Sailor, professor of special education and associate director of the Beach Center on Disability at KU. Major collaborators were Blair Roger, an educational consultant from San Francisco, as well as Amy McCart, assistant research professor, and Nikki Wolf.
Sailor and Roger provide research, training and technical assistance activities on contract to the Washington, D.C., school district through SAMSCHOOLS LLC.

SAM was first implemented in the Kansas City, Kan., school district at White Church Elementary School. In 2005, White Church became the top performing elementary school in the state of Kansas. Douglas Elementary School in Kansas City, Kan., followed suit and made strong gains over a two-year period. The SAM model was then exported to the Ravenswood City School District in East Palo Alto, Calif., where it became operable at scale in all of the district’s schools. In 2003, Ravenswood was the second-lowest performing school district in the state of California. They have shown impressive gains year by year since that time.

“Typical schools tend to be fragmented with respect to services and supports for particular populations,” Sailor said. “When you integrate these resources such that all students can benefit from all resources, you get the demonstrably better academic outcomes. We call that a school-wide approach hence the term Schoolwide Applications Model.”

Duncan visited Beers Elementary with Alexa Posny, assistant secretary for special education and rehabilitative services, who was commissioner of education for Kansas from 2007 to 2009.

During their visit, Duncan and Posny visited second- and fourth-grade SAM classrooms and participated in a roundtable discussion with school administrators, teachers and parents. Beers Elementary is one of 16 public schools in the District of Columbia that participate in SAM.

“They told me repeatedly that they’re preparing all their students for success in one society, not a general ed society and not a special ed one. That world simply doesn't exist.”

Sailor is training doctoral students to continue and expand the SAM model through a U.S. Department of Education grant that specifies students should receive training and experience on SAM school sites.

More information about Duncan’s visit can be found on the U.S. Department of Education website.

Information about SAM is at samschools.org.
Florence Boldridge, director of the School of Engineering's diversity and women's programs, was recently named a Golden Torch Award winner by the National Society of Black Engineers.

**Boldridge named Minority Engineering Program Director of the Year**

Florence Boldridge has been a guiding light for hundreds of minority and female students at the KU School of Engineering for nearly 30 years. The National Society of Black Engineers shined a light on her career achievements earlier this month by naming her a Golden Torch Award winner as the Minority Engineering Program Director of the Year. Boldridge, who has been director of the School of Engineering’s diversity and women’s programs since 1983, received special recognition March 26 at the NSBE annual convention in St. Louis, Mo. A total of 14 Golden Torch Awards were given out during the ceremony to student and corporate leaders, as well as NSBE chapters around the nation. A full list of winners is available online.

“This award means a lot to me — and even more to the KU School of Engineering,” Boldridge said. “This is for the current students, as well as the ones in the past, who helped build the program, and those who will be here in the future to take us to even greater heights. Most importantly, I’m accepting this award on behalf of all the minority engineering program directors around the

Submitted/School of Engineering
country who do this on a daily basis.”

Boldridge oversees a program that started in 1971 in the wake of racial unrest and violent protests against the Vietnam War on the KU campus. At its inception, the program served African-American engineering students. Over the years and after a few name changes, it’s been expanded to include Hispanic, American Indian and female engineering students. There are approximately 75 students active in the program today.

“I’m truly humbled by this award,” Boldridge said. “It means a lot to me, because it’s a reflection of what this program has come to mean to all the students who have come through and what they have been able to accomplish over the years.”

Boldridge was nominated for the award by Carles Miller, a 2006 KU graduate who earned a master’s degree in engineering management. He now works for Burns & McDonnell in Kansas City, Mo., serving as business development manager for the firm’s energy group. After graduation, Miller was invited to address KU NSBE members on how to succeed in their engineering careers. It was then, he said, that he truly saw Boldridge’s dedication to her students.

“I noticed that the current and former KU NSBE members are dedicated to NSBE’s mission, ‘To increase the number of culturally responsible Black engineers who excel academically, succeed professionally and positively impact the community,’ ” Miller said. “(So many of these students) are great examples of the passion, dedication and commitment to the NSBE mission that students mentored by Ms. Boldridge share.”

Boldridge continues to provide strong leadership and foster the development of students.

“Florence’s commitment and passion to this program throughout the years has had a tremendous impact on her students and the School of Engineering,” said Stuart Bell, dean of the school. “She ensures that students are successful academically and are ready to enter the workforce as future industry leaders. We are extremely proud of her accomplishments and this recognition from NSBE.”
This photo shows Potter Lake in its first year, 1911. A celebration will be held April 30 to mark the lake's centennial and the work of the last few years to restore it to health.

Celebration to mark 100 years of Potter Lake

Final public work date to be held as well

KU will celebrate both 100 years of Potter Lake’s time on campus and the new life it’s taken on in the last few years. The Potter Lake Project, a group of students that has collaborated with faculty, staff, students and community members to restore the lake has two events planned April 23 and 30.

On Saturday, April 23, the Potter Lake Project is hosting a final work day at the lake. Beginning at 10 a.m., volunteers are welcome to help plant switch grass, remove trash from the area and prepare the lake for its centennial celebration the following week. The switch grass will be planted on the south side of the lake, near a new sediment basin to help maintain the lake’s health.

“Our goal there is to help filter out the sediment before it gets into the lake,” said Matt Nahrstedt, a member of the Potter Lake Project.

The clean-up event is open to anyone who would like to help and will last about two hours.
The lake’s history will be celebrated at a centennial celebration from 2 to 5 p.m. Saturday, April 30. The event will follow the KU football spring game and will include food, drinks and live music from local performers.

“It should have a nice, picnic-like atmosphere,” Melissa Allen of the Potter Lake Project said about the celebration. “It’s an opportunity to enjoy the day, but also to learn more about Potter Lake, its history and where it’s going.”

Chancellor Bernadette Gray-Little will address the crowd, and presentations about the lake’s life will be made. Individuals who have worked to restore the lake’s health will share information on steps taken over the last few years.

Originally built in 1911 as a fire control method for Jayhawk Boulevard, Potter Lake has had a changing role in campus life over the years. It hosted regattas and swimming meets in its early years. In recent years, though, it had become overgrown with excess plant life and filled with sediment. Funding was provided by Student Senate, the Office of the Chancellor and alumni donations to remove the excess vegetation, install aerators, dredge the pond and remove sediment. Facilities Operations donated the switch grass. The work was a collaboration between faculty, staff, students and community members.

For more information about the cleanup and celebration events, visit the Potter Lake Project Facebook page.

Advocacy Corps marks one year of serving community, seeking more to help

The KU Advocacy Corps is marking one year of serving the community by welcoming more faculty, staff and students to serve as someone who can help bring the resources and expertise of the university to area service organizations.

The Corps is hosting a training event from noon to 1 p.m. April 19 in the Jayhawk Room of the Kansas Union. The event will match up interested advocates with community groups. Advocates can partner with organizations seeking a partnership or propose a new pairing. Lunch will be provided to the first 40 people to RSVP.

Amanda Schwegler, assistant director of the Center for Service Learning, described advocates as someone who can serve as a “front door for the university” and use their individual skill sets to enhance a partnership between KU and a charitable organization. The relationship is mutually beneficial.

“I think it’s obvious how this can help the community, but as an advocate it can be very helpful personally, because the skills you learn from that relationship are transferrable in so many ways,” Schwegler said.

The corps was formed a year ago in connection with Chancellor Bernadette Gray-Little’s inauguration. Gray-Little wanted to include a service component, which led Linda Luckey, assistant to the provost, and Erica Dvorske, director of the United Way of Douglas County, to propose the idea.

“We decided we wanted something that would be more lasting than a single day of service, though those are also very important,” Schwegler said.

After the first year, there are already 50 advocates signed up to work with community organizations. At the April 19 recruitment event, Keith Wood, former director of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Douglas County Will speak about the difference between an advocate and a volunteer, the role of an advocate and the benefit of the partnerships. Schwegler will speak about university resources and supports for advocates.
To RSVP, email kuadvocate@ku.edu.

Advocates can play a meaningful role for community organizations.

“KU Advocates are a critical resource for community organizations in a time when resources are scarce,” Dvorske said. “An advocate who is willing to take time to learn about an organization and all that they are trying to accomplish, and then connect to the knowledge and resources at KU is priceless.”

Several of the advocacy pairings have been highly successful in their first year. Diana Seely Frederick, executive director of Douglas County CASA, an organization that advocates for children navigating the court system, said the assistance provided by KU advocates has been exceptional.

“We are extremely grateful for this wonderful support from the KU community,” Frederick said. “The KU Advocacy Corps is making a positive difference for the vulnerable children served by CASA. With such a small staff at CASA, the additional assistance from KU has been priceless.”

For more about the KU Advocacy Corps, visit kuadvocates.ku.edu.

Office of Capital Planning, Space Management formed to guide building projects

A new office has been created to oversee large building projects on the Lawrence and Edwards campuses. The Office of Capital Planning and Space Management is an expansion of what was previously called the Office of Space Management.

The new organization will handle space accounting and reporting for large projects. It will also project needs for space-related programming and coordinate initial stages of project definition, development and justification along with capital investment requirements. Office staff will report to the vice provost for administration and finance.

“In the earliest stages, large building projects can be vague yet at the same time potentially complex,” said Provost Jeffrey Vitter. “The successful planning and staging of building projects, large and small, within a large university require insight into overlapping activities. Bringing more details to this early stage of project definition is a primary role for CPSM.”

The office will work closely with the senior vice provost for academic affairs and will support the university-wide Capital Projects Council. The council will be chaired by the chancellor and comprise leaders from the academic, research, financial, philanthropic, architectural and operation units. It will also oversee the campus master plan.

Tracy Horstman, assistant vice provost for capital planning and space management, will direct the office. Tom Waechter has been named director of capital planning. He was previously assistant director of Design and Construction Management.

“KU needs a point of coordination when capital projects are proposed,” Vitter said. “It is the responsibility of this office to establish the appropriate agenda, gather the necessary information and work with the many stakeholders to accomplish the task.”
Week of events set to celebrate Elizabeth Watkins' 125th, contributions to KU, community

If not for Elizabeth Miller Watkins, KU and the city of Lawrence would be very different today. She is one of the most magnanimous donors the university has ever had.

To celebrate the sesquicentennial of her birth, KU Endowment is coordinating with area organizations and hosting a series of events in her honor in April. The city of Lawrence has named April 16-23 Elizabeth Miller Watkins Week.

Her gifts to KU include 23,000 acres of Kansas farmland that are still managed today; her home, “The Outlook,” which is used as the chancellor’s residence; two scholarship halls for women; and Watkins Memorial Health Center, among others. She also funded the original building for Lawrence Memorial Hospital.

“Elizabeth Watkins’ generosity has had a profound, lasting legacy at KU,” said Dale Seuferling, president of KU Endowment. “Her impact can been seen throughout the university. Her gift of farmland alone has enabled KU Endowment to support academic programs and fund student scholarships for many generations.”

In honor of her birthday, the following events are planned:

• April 16 — A new play, “Elizabeth, Betsy and Bess: A Conversation with Elizabeth Watkins,” chronicles the life of Watkins. Sponsored by KU Endowment’s Women Philanthropists for KU, the play begins at 2 p.m. at Swarthout Recital Hall in Murphy Hall. It is free and open to the public. Ronald Willis, professor emeritus of theatre, researched and wrote the 30-minute play. Jack Wright, professor of theatre, is directing the play’s cast of three — students Maggie Parker and Shannon Buhler; and Gail Trottier, theatre staff member.

• From April 18-23, Watkins Memorial Health Center will collect contributions from students in honor of Watkins’ legacy of giving. Donations will support the Roy and Pat McClain Good Samaritan Fund, which provides emergency aid for needy students, as well as maintenance of Danforth Chapel. The center also will have a display about Watkins’ support for health services.

• April 19 — KU Endowment is serving cookies in Watkins’ honor from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Kansas Union.

• April 17 — The women’s scholarship halls built by Watkins invite the halls’ alumnae to return for their annual spring teas. Watkins Scholarship Hall’s tea will be at 1 p.m. and Miller Scholarship Hall’s tea is set for 2 p.m.

• April 21 — Douglas County Historical Society and Watkins Community Museum of History invite the public to a conversation about Watkins, led by historian Mary Burchill. The program starts at 6:30 p.m. at the museum, 1047 Massachusetts St.

• April 26 — Each year, KU Endowment celebrates Watkins’ birthday at the Watkins Society Luncheon. The Watkins Society recognizes individuals who have developed an estate plan or other deferred gift arrangement with KU Endowment. This year, the event will be at noon on the KU Medical School campus.
New class of inductees enshrined in KU Women's Hall of Fame

Six women, all distinguished in their fields and connected to KU, have been inducted into the 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 5.

The 2011 inductees are:

Sheila C. Bair is chair of the U.S. Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. An Independence, Kan., native, Blair earned a bachelor’s degree in philosophy in 1975 and a law degree in 1978, both from KU. She was sworn in as chair of the FDIC in June 2006, having previously served on the organization’s Advisory Committee on Banking Policy. Her innovations have transformed the FDIC with programs that provide temporary liquidity guarantees, increases in deposit insurance limits and systematic loan modifications to troubled borrowers. In the 1980s, she was research director, deputy counsel and counsel to then-Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole, R-Kan. Last fall, Forbes magazine listed Bair among the 25 most powerful women in the world and Time magazine’s “Time 100” listed her among the most influential people in 2009.

Gloria Farha Flentje is senior vice president of Spirit AeroSystems, an international firm with more than 13,000 employees, based in Wichita. Flentje received a bachelor’s degree in mathematics and international relations from KU in 1965. She earned a law degree from Southern Illinois University in 1976. She is widely recognized for her 20 years of work with a premier law firm in Kansas and in the aerospace industry and her involvement in the Wichita community. She was the first woman president of the Wichita Bar Association. She is a fellow of the American College of Employment and Labor Lawyers, a distinguished group of leading employment and labor lawyers in the nation. At KU, she has served as a leader with KU Endowment and the Chancellors Club Advisory Board.

Lynn Bretz is director of University Communications at KU. She earned a bachelor’s degree in English in 1971 and master’s degree in journalism in 1979, both from KU. She also received a master’s degree in English from the University of Denver. She has had essays published in two books, “Landscapes in Kansas: Paintings by Robert Sudlow” and “Through the Looking Glass: Elizabeth ‘Grandma’ Layton,” and written articles for Ms Magazine, Kansas Alumni Magazine and the Kansas City Star Magazine. Before joining the staff at KU, Bretz worked for Commodity News Services, a division of Knight Ridder, in Kansas City and for the Lawrence Journal-World. She began at KU as a writer/editor for University Relations, where she
progressed to become director in 2002, having served as interim director for three years. She was appointed to her current position in July 2006.

Hannah Britton

Hannah Britton is director of the Center for International Political Research at KU’s Institute for Policy and Social Research. She is also co-director of a workshop on leadership for women from Egypt and Morocco funded by the U.S. Department of State. She joined the KU faculty in 2005 and is widely recognized for her research of women in South Africa. Britton’s many awards include a Ned N. Fleming Award and a W.T. Kemper Fellowship for Teaching Excellence. She will spend next year in South Africa for two new research projects: one focusing on gender-based violence in southern Africa and the other on governance and AIDS in Africa.

Katherine Rose-Mockry

Katherine Rose-Mockry is program director of KU’s Emily Taylor Women’s Resource Center. She is a doctoral student in educational leadership and policy studies at KU. She received a bachelor’s degree in music education in 1978 and a master’s in education in 1984, both from KU. She has held her current position since 1998. Previously, she directed the Women’s Center at the University of California-Los Angeles. She serves on several boards, including the KU Women’s Studies Advisory Board, KU Diversity Council and the GaDuGi SafeCenter Community Coalition. She also serves as adviser for the Commission on the Status of Women, Moms at KU and International Women Connect. She implemented KU’s Women of Distinction calendar, which is distributed every fall to highlight women students, staff, faculty and alumnae for outstanding achievements and service to the campus and community. She was the first recipient of the Kathleen McCluskey-Fawcett Women Mentoring Award. Other honors include receiving the KU Learning Communities Outstanding Educator Award and the 2011 CLASS Award.

Patricia A. Thomas

Patricia A. Thomas is associate dean for cultural enhancement and diversity at KU Medical Center and cancer biology researcher. In her administrative position, she has created a model program that supports the recruitment and development of minority faculty, identification of health disparities in research and improvement of community partnerships and health literacy. Her research focuses on the differences in survival between ethnic groups following a breast cancer diagnosis. She has nationally been recognized for advancing women’s leadership and career opportunities. Thomas earned a bachelor’s degree in biochemistry from Harvard University, a master’s degree in biology and biochemistry from KU and a medical degree from New York University’s School of Medicine. She joined KU Medical Center in 1997 as a professor of pathology and laboratory medicine, where she remained until 2009 and served as chair for the past six years.

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, 33 students, staff, faculty and alumnae will be honored at the Women’s Recognition Program for
their outstanding contributions and achievements. Twenty-one students will receive 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 will be recognized for outstanding contributions to on-campus housing and sororities.

The 2011 Pioneer Woman award will honor Elizabeth Miller Watkins (Jan. 21, 1861-June 1, 1939), a Lawrence philanthropist once known as “Lady Bountiful” for her substantial contributions to KU. Watkins, who had been unable to complete her education because of family financial difficulties, specifically used her wealth to assist women students in getting an education, including funding two scholarship halls that were the first organized housing for women students and endowing scholarships for women.

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.

Goldstein named associate dean of natural sciences and mathematics in CLAS

Weaver to retire from position after 30 years

Dean Danny J. Anderson has named Robert H. Goldstein the next associate dean of natural sciences and mathematics in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Goldstein, Merrill W. Haas Distinguished Professor of Geology, will succeed Robert Weaver as associate dean effective July 1. Weaver, a professor of biochemistry, will retire after 40 years at KU as a faculty member and administrator.

The position is a key administrative role in the dean’s office of the largest academic unit at KU. Goldstein will supervise 13 departments and programs. He brings to the position several years’ administrative experience as chair of the Department of Geology. He served as chair from 2004-2009 and has served on the faculty since 1985. He is an award-winning teacher and researcher.

Robert Goldstein

Robert Weaver

“Robert’s leadership in the Department of Geology has equipped him with invaluable skills for this challenging role. He brings a wealth of expertise in teaching,
research and service; fundraising; and fostering a strong alumni network,” Anderson said. “I look forward to his insight as we continue to enhance the stature of the College and KU as an international research university.”

Goldstein earned his doctorate from the University of Wisconsin. He specializes in research on carbonate rocks, a group of sedimentary rocks composed of the minerals calcite and dolomite, and containing more than half of the world’s oil. His research program integrates large-scale fieldwork in various areas around the world and microscopic and geochemical analyses of mineral precipitates in pore systems of rocks. In particular, Goldstein has pioneered the fluid inclusion technique for determining the pressure, temperature and fluid chemistry of mineral precipitation. His research addresses fundamental scientific questions as well as research that directly applies to oil and gas exploration.

Goldstein’s dedication to teaching at KU has been recognized with a faculty fellowship in the Center for Teaching Excellence, the Silver Anniversary Teaching Award and a William T. Kemper Fellowship for Teaching Excellence.

KU Cancer Center receives $4 million in gifts to aid in NCI designation

New gifts totaling $4 million will enhance the KU Cancer Center’s efforts to achieve designation as a National Cancer Institute center. The gifts bring the total raised for the initiative to $50 million since 2009.

Tom and Teresa Walsh, of Leawood, and the Walsh Family Foundation are donating $2 million. Two Kansas City foundations — the Victor E. and Caroline E. Schutte Foundation and the John W. and Effie E. Speas Memorial Trust — contributed another $2 million.

The gifts to KU Endowment were announced at an event in which area leaders voiced their support for the quest to achieve designation from the National Cancer Institute, with six months remaining before the application deadline. Speakers included Kansas Gov. Sam Brownback, KU Chancellor Bernadette Gray-Little, Kansas Board of Regents Chair Gary Sherrer and Cancer Funding Partners Co-chair Drue Jennings.

“Our vision of creating a nationally recognized cancer center in Kansas City is closer to reality today,” said Roy Jensen, director of the cancer center. “Thanks to the support of these and many other donors, we are conducting breakthrough research and providing some of the best cancer treatment in the nation.”

The gifts from Tom and Teresa Walsh and their family’s foundation will support patient care and faculty recruitment, which is the top fundraising priority in the quest for NCI designation. The Schutte Foundation and the Speas Memorial Trust gifts will establish a chair in blood-related cancers.

Teresa Walsh co-founded Silpada Designs, which Avon purchased in 2010. Her husband, Tom, is an entrepreneur who has a degree in business from KU.

“Our ultimate goal is to help the cancer center achieve NCI designation, not only for cancer patients, but for our entire city,” said Tom Walsh. “It will raise the level of care in Kansas City, boost our economy and enhance people’s lives. It’s one of those special causes that you come across once in a lifetime.”

The gifts from the Schutte Foundation and the Speas Memorial Trust will create the Schutte/Speas Chair in Hematological Malignancies. The announcement was made by their trustees: David Frantze and Bank of America, co-trustees of the Schutte Foundation, and Bank of America, trustee of the Speas Foundation.
of America was represented by its Kansas City market president, Spencer Heddens.

“As past chair of the national board of directors of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, I am passionate about providing top notch treatment and achieving cures for people with blood cancers,” said Frantze, a partner at Stinson Morrison Hecker LLP in Kansas City. “This gift will fund the recruitment of an eminent researcher who will build on the national reputation KU already has in this area, particularly in cancer drug development.”

The late Victor and Caroline Schutte worked in the family business, Schutte Lumber Co., founded in 1889. In her will, Caroline Schutte established a foundation to support charitable causes focused in Kansas City. She was particularly concerned about health care.

The John W. Speas and Effie E. Speas Memorial Trust was established in 1943 by the late Victor E. Speas to honor his parents. The trust’s directive was to support and promote quality educational, cultural, human services and health care programming in metropolitan Kansas City.

Officials aim to raise an additional $11 million before September, the deadline for NCI application.

KU conference to explore public energy policy

Kansas Gov. Sam Brownback will speak at the KU Energy Conference April 14 in Lawrence.

Sponsored by the KU Energy Club and the KU Energy Council, the one-day event at the Oread hotel seeks to prompt conversation on all aspects of energy policy. The conference starts at 8:45 a.m. Brownback’s speech is scheduled for 9 a.m., followed by a question and answer session with conference participants.

Other confirmed conference speakers include:

- John Hofmeister, the retired president of Shell Oil Co. and the author of the 2010 book "Why We Hate the Oil Companies," who will give the keynote address. After retiring from Shell in 2008, Hofmeister founded Citizens for Affordable Energy, which advocates for nonpartisan affordable energy solutions. Today he is the chief executive of the nonprofit group.

- Larry Kinder, founder of Lily Pad EV, which makes and sells public charging units for electric vehicles

- Bill Eastman, director of environmental services, and Don T. Ford, project manager, both of Westar

- Jim Loving, president of NCRA, a McPherson-based refinery

- Matt Gilhousen, senior vice president of project development of the Lenexa-based wind developer TradeWind Energy

- Rep. Tom Sloan, R-Lawrence, a nationally known expert on energy policy

- Michael Bruce, senior adviser to the Department of Energy’s Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

KU Endowment is the independent, nonprofit organization serving as the official fundraising and fund-management organization for KU. Founded in 1891, KU Endowment was the first foundation of its kind at a U.S. public university.

The KU Cancer Center is a partnership that includes cancer research and health care professionals associated with the KU Medical Center and KU Hospital in Kansas City, Kan., KU’s Lawrence campus, KU’s School of Medicine in Wichita and members of the Midwest Cancer Alliance Partners Advisory Board and Clinical Trials Network.
• Colin Hansen, executive director of Kansas Municipal Utilities

• Ward Burns, from the Region 7 office of the Environmental Protection Agency

• Susan Williams, associate professor of chemical and petroleum engineering at KU and director of KU’s Biodiesel Initiative

The conference costs $45. Students from any university may attend for free, but they must register. Register online and use the student coupon code KUEC123 when prompted. Student IDs will be checked at the door. Westar Energy and ExxonMobil provided financial support for the conference.

The KU Energy Club is a student organization that was founded in 2010. The KU Energy Council was formed in 2007 to provide the state and industry with energy research, development and education. Led by KU distinguished professors, the council is a division of the KU Center for Research.