LIFE IN THE COLLEGE THROUGH THE YEARS

STEP BACK in TIME

1933 DEAN LAWSON

1975 DEAN CORB

1995 DEAN FROST-MAISON

2006 DEAN STERNMETZ
Changing Face of Campus

by Courtney Grams

As of press time, construction of the Docking Family Gateway and fountain was underway thanks to the generosity of KU alumni Jill Docking, a former CLA&S Advisory Board member, and her husband, former Kansas Lt. Governor Tom Docking. The Dockings pledged $500,000 for the beautification project located at the campus entrance near 13th Street and Oread Avenue. The gateway, made primarily of stone and brick, will form an oval-shaped structure about 16 feet wide and will feature vertical jets of water in a round plaza with landscaping and stone signage.

A $3.5 million expansion to Wescoe Hall is currently taking place with a scheduled completion date in March. The addition will enclose the south terrace and provide 24,000 square feet of additional office space and meeting rooms. It also will include rows of windows in the new offices. The departments of History and Spanish and Portuguese will be housed in the new offices, more than doubling the number of offices they have now.
After 19 years at Indiana University, Joseph E. Steinmetz took over as dean of KU’s College of Liberal Arts and Sciences on July 1. Steinmetz, a former executive associate dean and chairman of the Department of Psychology, makes time for his research lab to study how the brain encodes learning and memory. In a conversation with KU Collegian magazine, Dean Steinmetz shared his thoughts on preparing students for the workforce, his vision for moving the College forward and life in the Heartland.

You are credited with turning Indiana’s psychology department into one of the top departments in the nation. What lessons from that endeavor did you bring with you to Kansas?

In 1987, I decided to join the faculty of the psychology department at Indiana University because it had a long-standing reputation as a very strong department. In many ways it was somewhat easy to build on those traditional strengths when I became department chair in 1995. It all starts with recruiting outstanding faculty who complement faculty already in place. Outstanding faculty also attract outstanding graduate students. Here at KU, I hope to facilitate that same process in all of the College’s departments and programs. I see my major roles as dean as providing the necessary resources for faculty, students and staff in the College to succeed and to provide a vision or blueprint that moves the College forward.
Shortly after accepting the appointment as dean, you said you plan to engage the College in a strategic planning process. What do you hope to accomplish? The support of the research and teaching of existing faculty, the recruitment of outstanding new faculty and the education of undergraduate and graduate students require the commitment and expenditure of funds. The stark reality is that it is becoming more difficult every year to maintain the standing and reputation of a top-notch institution like KU. Therefore, as dean, I have to be very selective about where the College invests its resources. Key to this decision-making process is solid strategic planning.

With today’s emphasis on college as career preparation, why should students study arts and sciences? A fundamental goal of a liberal arts and science education is to provide undergraduate students with a solid educational background that will allow them to succeed in any career they eventually choose. We do this by providing them experiences in a wide variety of areas that make them rounded, well-educated employees, consumers and citizens. A liberal arts and science education emphasizes the development of problem solving skills, enhanced creativity, and novel thinking, all tools that will help them in an ever-changing world. Students should study the liberal arts and sciences because this experience will prepare them well for the current world in which we live.

You and your wife, Sandy, toured several Kansas communities in the month before taking over as dean. What were your impressions, and how are you both finding life in the Heartland? Prior to moving to Lawrence in June, the only part of Kansas that Sandy and I had seen was a small part of Kansas City, about 25 miles of I-70 and, of course, Lawrence (which, incidentally, we have found to be wonderful). Later in June, we decided to familiarize ourselves with Kansas by taking an auto tour of the state. We ended up covering about 1,275 miles in four days, visiting a number of historical sights, big and small towns, and other attractions this state has to offer. I have to say we were bowled over by what we saw. The geography of the state is much more varied than we thought and incredibly beautiful, such as the gypsum hills, flint hills and high prairie areas. The people we met were very warm, friendly, and helpful and it was clear that they were proud to be Kansans.

As a natural scientist, you brought a lab and staff to KU to study how the brain encodes learning and memory. What can you tell us about your research? For the last 25 years, I have been interested in how the brain is involved in learning and memory. My work has been a combination of basic science and clinical research that has involved the use of a variety of behavioral and neural experimental procedures aimed at studying how brain activity changes as human and non-humans learn basic tasks. I have two lines of NIH-funded research underway. In one series of experiments, we have developed an animal model of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome and are studying how prenatal exposure to high levels of alcohol affects brain development and subsequently brain activity related to learning. In a second series of studies, we are exploring the involvement of a brain structure called the cerebellum in schizophrenia. Two members of my current research group from Indiana University have moved to KU, and a new postdoctoral scholar is joining me here. Finally, I expect that several KU undergraduates will be working with us as undergraduate research assistants.

What do you do for fun when you are not managing the University’s largest and most diverse academic unit on campus? I am a very avid reader of anything I can get my hands on. I read at least one book per week including mysteries, science fiction, biographies, science, and history. Sandy and I took up golf about four years ago. I am a pretty bad golfer, but enjoy chasing the ball around when I can. Sandy and I also love to travel when we can. Because my son Jacob, his wife Kristen and our grandson Andrew, as well as my son Adam, still live in Bloomington, Indiana, I have a feeling that many of our upcoming trips will be there instead of to other locations!

What is your vision for the future for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences? My vision for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences is actually quite simple: I want to make this outstanding College even better. I hope to accomplish this by facilitating the research and scholarship of the existing faculty, recruiting excellent new faculty, strengthening graduate programs, and providing innovative and exciting new opportunities for our undergraduates, while strengthening the programs we already offer. In the end, I also hope to raise the national and international visibility of the College and KU. This is a very special place. I want to make sure the rest of the world knows this as well.
As world leaders and health officials prepare for a possible bird flu pandemic, the research of a KU professor could minimize effects of the deadly disease and save the U.S. government money.

A. Townsend Peterson, KU professor of ecology and evolutionary biology and curator of ornithology at the Natural History Museum, is researching how to forecast the spread of avian flu — known as bird flu because the virus is carried by birds — in the United States.

Currently, the avian flu virus cannot spread from human to human. Most cases of avian influenza infection in humans have resulted from contact with infected poultry.

“What you don’t want is a lot of human cases where you could get co-infection of highly transmissible common flu and highly pathogenic bird flu,” Peterson said. “When these two viruses co-infect a host, they may trade genetic material and this is how you could get a highly transmissible and highly pathogenic virus that is dangerous.”

Minimizing the number of humans infected with bird flu begins with anticipating the spread of the disease. Peterson is working to do just that.

It is most likely that bird flu in the United States would initially be spread by migratory birds. Peterson has constructed a prototype that would allow accurate predictions about where the virus will spread next based on where it is detected.

“If you tell me where avian flu is in which season then we should be able to take bird migration information and predict where it’s going next,” Peterson said.

Peterson’s model would allow the U.S. government to prioritize areas in the United States for flu readiness, thus utilizing money and resources more efficiently.

Peterson has already briefed several U.S. Senators’ offices and several federal agencies about the project. He and five KU students/postdoctoral scholars are currently working to expand the prototype to a full operating system that covers all 400 migratory bird species.

“Hopefully we’ll have a full system ready for use before the flu is detected in North America,” Peterson said.

“We should be doing this sort of monitoring all the time — not just when the train is barreling down the track toward us. There are all sorts of bacterial diseases out there in the animal world, and we need to invest in understanding those diseases.”

— A. Townsend Peterson, KU professor of ecology and evolutionary biology and curator of ornithology at the Natural History Museum
Every year, almost half a million babies are born prematurely in the United States. These infants often have difficulties learning to eat, which can mean extensive hospital stays, invasive feeding tubes, and a variety of health and developmental problems.

But the NTrainer, a “motorized pacifier,” developed at KU and tested in area NICUs, is helping infants transition to oral feeding sooner, sleep better, gain weight faster and have shorter stays in the NICU.

Dr. Steven Barlow, KU professor of speech-language-hearing, and Dr. Don Finan, University of Colorado, developed the NTrainer, a non-invasive, therapeutic device that consists of a pacifier attached to computer-controlled sensors and motors. Through patterned stimulations of the lips, tongue and jaw, the NTrainer gives the babies’ brains pleasurable sensations that teach the infants how to properly suck.

Nearly a dozen KU graduate students are testing the NTrainer five days a week at two NICUs in Kansas. Students report that the infants respond positively to the training and their feeding ability improves quickly.

“After receiving the NTrainer stimulus either before or during each feeding (depending on whether they are being tube fed or bottle fed), the infants learn how to organize their suck and are able to feed from a bottle,” said Meredith Poore, speech-language-hearing PhD student.

Dr. Barlow’s research is currently funded by the National Institutes of Health and has been presented at various national and international academic conferences, in journal articles and featured in the media. The NTrainer has been well-received, with interest in testing it in additional NICUs and taking it to market.

“KU has provisional patents on the technology and is negotiating with perspective manufacturers. There is the possibility that this technology, developed in Kansas, could be used around the world,” Dr. Barlow said.

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—Dr. Steven Barlow, KU professor of speech-language-hearing, on the NTrainer, a motorized pacifier that helps premature babies learn to eat.
Confucianism has found a new home among the Jayhawks.

The most recent addition to the KU-Asia connection, the Confucius Institute (KUCI) at the Edwards Campus in Overland Park strengthens the University’s commitment to studying China.

“The Confucius Institute is a tremendous opportunity to build new bridges of cultural understanding between China and Kansas,” said Bill Tsutsui, who will serve as the institute’s executive director. “The institute’s public programs in Chinese language, culture and business practices will help Kansans master the challenges and opportunities of our increasingly integrated world.”

China has rapidly risen up the ranks in the past few years to become the third leading buyer of Kansas products, purchasing more than $300 million in Kansas goods and services in 2005, according to the state Department of Commerce.

KU already has several programs and departments dedicated to the study and appreciation of Asian cultures, including the Center for East Asian Studies, the East Asian Library, and the Kansas Asia Scholars Program. The Confucius Institute expands Chinese language instruction, training and professional development for Chinese language teachers and increases overall awareness of Chinese culture.

Along with its partnership with the University of Kansas, the institute works with public and private foundations to serve schools, government, and businesses in communities throughout the nation. This fall the institute began offering conversational Chinese classes catered to fit the time constraints of working adults.
Inside the College

Hollywood and Russell, Kan., seem worlds apart. Though the center of the entertainment industry and the center of Kansas may have few things in common, they share a link to filmmaker and television executive Steve Mills.

Joining Bob Dole as one of Russell’s most famous exports, Mills, liberal arts ’51, left rural life for an education atop Mount Oread. Mills then began his television career as a producer and director at KCTV 5 in Kansas City, Missouri, and eventually served as vice president at both ABC and CBS.

In April, students, friends, colleagues and alumni gathered to screen Mills’ latest documentary, Invisible Women. The film, which Mills co-produced for the Screen Actors Guild, explores the politics behind the dwindling number of quality television and film roles for women over the age of 40. The Lawrence screening was the second showing of the film, following the premiere in New York City.

“Qualitatively, artistically, as well as commercially, Steve Mills’ work has created quite a legacy,” said Chuck Berg, professor of theatre and film.

Not only has Mills made significant contributions to the entertainment industry, his philanthropic efforts have touched Kansans. In January 2005, Mills and his wife, Barbara Nash Mills, pledged $100,000 to the University, to be divided between the debate, film and education programs at KU.

Mills said his television and film career didn’t begin until after he left the state to study film at Ohio State University, where he earned a master’s degree in film in 1952. Few universities offered film programs at the time, he said.

“I’m happy that KU now has a film program,” said Mills, who sometimes guest lectures in the KU Department of Theatre and Film. “Barbara and I want to support those students and their projects.”

Over the years, the small-town boy who made it big in Hollywood has served as a motivation for other aspiring filmmakers at KU and across the state. Mills’ impressive resume includes working with Anthony Hopkins, Henry Fonda, James Garner and Alec Guinness, and winning multiple Peabody and Emmy awards.

“There are only three ages for women in Hollywood: babe, district attorney and ‘Driving Miss Daisy.’ Right now I want to be young, science-fiction young.”

— Goldie Hawn’s character, an aging movie diva, in “The First Wives Club,” after her Botox doctor asks why she doesn’t play characters her own age.
KU’s College of Liberal Arts and Sciences offers timeless knowledge. But just as our students and graduates must adapt in an ever-changing world, the College, too, is always evolving.

This year we welcomed Joseph E. Steinmetz on board as the 12th College dean in our history. As he maps out plans for the future, it seems a fitting time to indulge in a walk down memory lane. We chose four points in our history when the College faced new leadership to showcase the changing face of campus and student life.

The College is proud to have touched the lives of every student and graduate on the Hill in our over 100-year tradition. No matter how much times change, one thing remains the same: It’s always a great time to be a Jayhawk in the College!

Graphics by Kristi Wass
Sources: University Archives, KU University Relations
Special thanks to: Susan Rendall, University Theatre Costume Shop Manager
Several professors from the Department of African and African-American Studies continue to make an impact locally and internationally. Judith Williams was selected to participate in the Best Practices Institute of the KU Center for Teaching Excellence, Dorothy Pennington was elected to the KU Women’s Hall of Fame, and Elizabeth MacGonagle traveled to Iceland this year on a Fulbright Fellowship.

American Studies Program: Norm Yetman’s retirement was celebrated April 29th with panel discussions on “The U.S. in a Globalized World” and “Dimensions of Globalization.” Yetman began teaching at the University in 1966, and has won accolades including Outstanding Mortar Board Educator and a Chancellor’s Club Teaching Professorship. His work as a Fulbright Scholar has led him to Denmark, Argentina, Brazil, Liberia, South Africa, China, Poland, and Austria.

Anthropology Department: Faculty are succeeding around the globe. Pictured here, Brent Metz is leading 14 Kansas school teachers on a five-week Fulbright Group Study Abroad in Guatemala. Michael Crawford is conducting field research on the origins of the people of the Aleutian Archipelago. Crawford and his team have traced the origins of the Aleuts to Chukotka, near the site of the Bering Strait land bridge. David Frayer spent two weeks in Italy serving as a visiting lecturer and another two in Croatia completing a book.

The Applied Behavioral Science Department has teamed with the Division of Biology and Haskell University for a new outreach program. The 500 Nations Bridge Program developed a three-course ABS sequence for Haskell University students. Also this year, the Department established a Distinguished Alumni Contributions Award for alumni that have given back to the field of Applied Behavioral Science.

The research group of Dr. Wonpil Im, of the Center for Bioinformatics, has been designated as an official developer group for the Chemistry at Harvard Macromolecular Mechanics (CHARMM) program. The program is known for its study of macromolecular dynamics and mechanics. His contributions join many other well-known scientists throughout the world. CHARMM can be used for various chemical and conformational free energy calculations, and provides analysis of atomic coordinates and dynamics trajectories.

The Center for East Asian Studies new radio series, “Postcards from Asia,” allows enthusiasts to travel to China, Japan and Korea without leaving home. The sixty-second program is a collaboration between the Center and Kansas Public Radio. Each “postcard” gives listeners a brief glimpse of Korean, Japanese or Chinese culture. Dr. Bill Tsutsui, associate professor of history at KU, is the voice of “Postcards from Asia.”

The Chemistry Department will dedicate the Adams Institute on October 21, 2006. The group of labs is named in honor of the late Ralph N. “Buzz” Adams, who served as a member of the chemistry faculty from 1955 until his death in 2002. The Institute will be housed on the second floor of the new Multidisciplinary Research Building, a $40 million building on West Campus. The first Adams Distinguished Professor of Chemistry will be announced in conjunction with the dedication.

The Classics Department hosted its 31st Annual Honors Awards Ceremony on May 4, 2006. David Fredrick was the keynote speaker and gave a lecture titled, “Non Patris Familiae Triclinium Crederes: Toward a Cultural Geography of Roman Dining.” Students received awards for their ability to translate Greek and Latin and for written works on classical topics.

The Clinical Child Psychology Program was designated as the “Outstanding Training Program in Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology” for the 2004-2005 year by the Society for Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology. Congratulations to everyone who contributed to this nomination.

The Communication Studies Department was recognized as the University’s outstanding teaching unit at the Teaching Summit, hosted by the Center for Teaching Excellence in August 2005. The College also recognized the Department with an Excellence in Advising Award, making it the first department to win both of these awards in the same year. The KU debate team, coached by Communication Studies professor Scott Harris, ended the season as the top-ranked program in the country, ahead of Harvard and Dartmouth.

Wallace Johnson, professor of Chinese in the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, gave a lecture entitled “Nature in Traditional Chinese Thought” in February. He is the author of numerous books and articles on early Chinese law and has lectured widely on early Chinese culture. The lecture took place at the Ecumenical Christian Ministries building, and was offered to any student interested in East Asian cultures or languages.

Bernard Cornet, a professor in the Department of Economics, has been asked to organize the 2006 NSF/CEME Mathematical Economics Conference. The Conference, to be held October 6-8, 2006, on campus, is sponsored by NSF and administered by the National Bureau of Economic Research. Approximately 30 leading mathematical economists will participate. In other news, Professor Thomas Weiss retired after 38 years on the faculty. In his honor, Professor Joshua Rosenbloom organized an Economic History Conference and banquet in his honor. More than 60 alumni and previous faculty colleagues attended a retirement banquet.

The Department of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology recently added three new faculty members, building strength in ornithology, theoretical systematics, and evolutionary genomics. Michael Engel published The Evolution of Insects and received a Guggenheim Fellowship. Norm Slade received several teaching awards, Chris Hafler received an award for outstanding advising, and Town Peterson was honored for outstanding mentoring of graduate students. Leonard Kristalka and Ed Martinko received a $6.8 million NSF EPSCoR grant to study ecological effects of global change in this region. Tom Taylor was selected by President Bush to serve on the National Science Board, which oversees the National Science Foundation and advises the President and Congress on scientific matters.

Maryemma Graham, a professor in the English Department and president of the Toni Morrison Society, led society members and invited guests in celebrating the Nobel Prize-winning author’s 75th birthday at Princeton University. The Society is launching the Bench by the Road project, a literary initiative that will commemorate 10 sites in Morrison’s novels that are important in African-American history with specially crafted benches. Graham arranged with a local artist in Lawrence to design a bench that will be placed at one of the sites.

Ashleigh Klingman, former Environmental Studies Program student and Fulbright Scholar, is in the latest issue of the Chronicle of Higher Education for her work in the Galapagos Islands. She is currently studying fisheries cooperatives in San Cristobal, Galapagos Islands and organizing environmental youth groups on the island.

Center for European Studies: Students in The Hague, Netherlands, visited the International Criminal Court as part of the Summer Institute Program in 2006. The intensive four-week program provides participants with a first-hand view of the history, culture, institutions and policies that are molding Europe’s cultural heritage and its current society and peoples. Guest lectures and
readings in and around the cities of Berlin, Prague, Brussels, Paris, and Strasbourg are supplemented by visits to cultural and historical monuments, museums, and theaters.

The French and Italian Department hosted a film festival in Fall 2005. The festival featured five different films: Bon Voyage, Pas Sur La Bouche (Not on the Lips), Moolade, L’Esquive (Games of Love and Chance), and L’Autre Monde (The Other World). The films topics ranged from the German invasion of France to the ongoing political and religious turmoil in Algeria.

The Geography Department has renewed its partnership with the American Geographical Society and will continue fieldwork in Mexico. Jerry Dobson and Peter Herlihy received $250,000 from the U.S. Department of Defense to continue their work on land tenure systems there. Stephen Egbert received a grant from the U.S. Geological Survey to enhance remote sensing data and technology in Kansas. Shannon O’Lear received a grant from the NSF to study environmental conflict in Azerbaijan.

Nearly a half-million dollars worth of computer software has been donated to the Department of Geology and the Kansas Geological Survey. The donation comes from Geopolis Corporation, and is mainly used to understand and analyze data from seismic studies. At KU, the software will be used by faculty for research and by undergraduate students. The software helps identify faults in underground rocks, which are often clues in locating oil reservoirs.

In February, the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures hosted its annual Schülerkongress (student congress). Competitions included poetry recitation, prose reading, spelling, poster making, cultural tests and oral proficiency. Faculty and graduate teaching assistants from the department judged the various contests. More than 300 high school students attended this year’s event.

Spring 2006 was a busy semester for the Hall Center for the Humanities. The Center presented a number of public programs, including the “Abraham’s Children” lecture series, which explored the shared heritage of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. In February, Scott Turow delivered a Humanities Lecture Series (HLS) talk on “Confessions of a Death Penalty Agnostic” to 300 people. In March, the center hosted a Celebration of Books published by faculty in the Humanities, Social Sciences, and Fine Arts in 2005, and an April HLS lecture was given by Allan Cigler, Chancellors Club Teaching Professor of Political Science at KU, who focused on the 15-year domination of the Republican Party in U.S. politics.

The History of Art Department inaugurated a new lecture series entitled the Murphy Distinguished Alumni Lectures. The first lecture was delivered by James Ballinger, Director of the Phoenix Art Museum. Sally Cornelison, assistant professor of Italian Renaissance Art, received three fellowships for the summer and fall of 2006. Marni Kessler, Assistant Professor of Nineteenth-Century French Art, received the Byron T. Shutz Chancellor’s Distinguished Teaching Award and the Vice Provost for Research Book Subvention Award for her upcoming book.

The History Department: Charles Dobbs, professor of History, Iowa State University, speaks during the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations annual meeting, which brought to KU 280 scholars of diplomatic history and international relations from across the country and from some 15 other nations. Discussion topics included American-Shilite relations in post Baath Iraq, a historical perspective of 9/11, and the United States’ involvement in Saudi Arabian oil production and distribution.

The Honors Program will celebrate its 50th Anniversary in Spring 2007. Events will include special gatherings and alumni speakers. In April 2006, the program hosted its annual Undergraduate Research Awards Symposium. The program continues to develop new and exciting curricula, including a class entitled “Rebuilding New Orleans,” research based tutorials, and a capstone course in science and engineering.


The International Studies Master’s Program received praise in International Educator, a magazine specializing in educational exchanges between colleges in America and overseas. The magazine applauded KU’s commitment to sending students to study abroad and to bringing international students to Kansas. The article also noted that KU has the USA’s largest chapter of AIESEC, an international student organization that arranges internships worldwide.

The Kansas African Studies Center facilitated a public discussion of African immigrants in Kansas at a meeting of “Voice, Identity, Community: New African Immigrants to Kansas.” The project is sponsored by the Kansas Humanities Council. Farah Abdi, director of the Somali Foundation of Kansas City, was one of three speakers. Abdi discussed immigrant organizations and the issues they deal with. After the presentation, professors from the University commented on the presentations and the interviews.

Center of Latin American Studies: Elizabeth Kuznesof, professor of history and director of the Center of Latin American Studies at KU, chats with professors Karen Spalding, University of Connecticut, left, and Nancy Van Deusen, Western Washington University, right, during a break at “The Andean World: Environment, Identity and Nation Building” conference. Scholars of Latin America from KU were joined by 22 scholars from other U.S. institutions and seven scholars from Peru in presenting at the three-day conference.

The Linguistics Department is expanding its curriculum with new course offerings in psycholinguistics and neurolinguistics. The BS, MA, and Ph.D. course requirements have also been revamped over the last year to better serve the needs of the department’s students. Several professors received grants for the upcoming school year. Allard Jongman and Cliff Pye received research grants from the National Science Foundation. Jie Zhang received a research grant from the Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation in Taiwan.

The Math Department recently recognized twelve students and two professors for outstanding academic and teaching achievements. The recipients received more than $81,900 in awards and scholarships at the department’s 49th annual spring banquet. The Mathematics Graduate Students Association presented the G. Bailey Price Award for Excellence in Teaching to Robert Brown, professor of math. Another professor, Bill Paschke, received the $5,000 Max Wells Teaching Award in recognition of outstanding teaching.

The Molecular Biosciences Department has many faculty members making an impact in society and in the classroom. Scott Hawley received an American Cancer Society Research Professorship in 2005. Dr. Del Shankel was awarded the...
Distinguished Service Citation Award from the Alumni Association. Steve Benedict received the 2006 “Favorite Biology Professor” award, which is given annually by graduating seniors.

**Museum Studies Program:** Graduate student Elizabeth Schmidt tests taxidermy mounts for arsenic for a project for her MUSE 704 class, “Principles and Practices of Museum Collections Management.” The Museum Studies Program is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year. Since 1981, 145 museum professionals have graduated from the program, with an impressive 82% finding jobs in museums or closely related institutions.

The **Philosophy Department** announced Thomas E. Hill, Jr. as the 2006 Lindley Memorial lecturer. Hill, who hails from the University of North Carolina, has written extensively in ethics, the history of ethics, and political philosophy. The Lindley lecture series was established in 1941 in memory of Ernest H. Lindley, chancellor of the University of Kansas, and is sponsored by unique world leaders.

**Department of Public Administration:** The department hosted a campus session of the Executive Leadership Institute, sponsored by the National Forum for Black Public Administrators (NFBA). Joe Harkins, special assistant to Governor Sebelius, speaks to government administrators from across the country on campus for the three-day seminar. The department hopes to raise its visibility among African American local government administrators and students through the continued presence within the NFBA.

**Center for Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies:** Magdalina Arzakanian, Junior Faculty Development Program scholar, Armenia, Shannon O’Leary, KU professor of Geography, Nigar Isgandarova, JFDP scholar, Azerbaijan, and Azim Bayzoev, JFDP scholar, Tajikistan, discuss the situation in the Caucasus region with colleagues in Baku, Azerbaijan using an Internet webcam during the Central Asia/Caucasus Roundtable hosted by CREES in April 2006. Building on a U.S. State Department program that established video connections with universities in Mongolia, Kyrgyzstan, and Azerbaijan, the center has now established connections with Ivan Franko National University in Lviv, Ukraine, and Saint Petersburg State University.

**Sociology Department:** William G. Staples, professor and chair of Sociology, lectures at Ivan Franko University in Lviv, Ukraine, as part of a KU exchange program. The department is going global with faculty presenting and conducting research in many countries around the world including Austria, Azerbaijan, Canada, Denmark, England, Finland, Hungary, Nigeria, Peru, Puerto Rico, Russia, South Korea, Sweden and Turkey.

The Religious Studies Department has scheduled an exciting speaker for next year’s annual awards banquet. Derek Davis of Baylor University, generally recognized as the country’s leading authority on church-state relations, will speak at the Spring 2007 ceremony. In other news, several Religious Studies alumni have been doing very well in their respective fields. John Allen, with an M.A. from Religious Studies, is the Vatican correspondent for the National Catholic Reporter and an analyst for CNN. Carol Matthews, another M.A. graduate, is teaching at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis.

**Slavic Languages and Literature:** After eighteen years of planning, the department opened its first library in spring 2006. Professor Stephen J. Parker initiated the project, which began with a generous donation of Russian works from his mother, the late Prof. Fan Parker. Three generations of Parkers were on hand for a dedication ceremony of the Stephen J. and Fan Parker Library: Benjamin Parker, Richard Parker, Marie Luce and Stephen Parker. The library will also house a collection of Russian literature and Slavic folklore bequeathed by the late Professor Joseph L. Conrad.

Two professors from the Department of Theatre and Film directed productions for the summer season of the University Theatre. The first play, “And Then There Were None” was directed by John Gronbeck-Tedesco. John Staniunas, directed “Something’s Afoot,” a musical murder mystery. Madison Lacy will shoot a film this year for the National Parks Service’s African Burial Ground Visitor Center in Manhattan. Associate Professors Kevin Wilmott and Matt Jacobson will shoot an independent feature film BUNKER HILL in Kansas. Associate Professor Tamara Falicov’s forthcoming book, The Cinematic Tango: Contemporary Argentine Film (London: Wallflower Press, distributed in U.S. by Columbia Univ. Press) will be released in November.

A new program called BioScholars, is helping the Undergraduate Biology Program serve more students. BioScholars offers financial aid to deserving students that participate in undergraduate biology majors. The program is sponsored through donations from alumni.

**Women’s Studies Program:** The Program hosted a gender seminar to examine gender as a basic concept in humanistic scholarship and as a fundamental organizing principle in social life. Hannah Britton, Political Science and Women’s Studies professor, gave a lecture titled “Gender Quotas, Electoral Strategies and State Feminism in Africa.” She is pictured here at the annual banquet with Women’s Studies 601 students.
A s we close another successful year of fundraising for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, we reflect on the many wonderful gifts from our alumni and friends to support the College’s mission this past year. I am happy to announce that we received more than $4.7 million in gifts, pledges, and deferred commitments.

We are very grateful to each of you who invested in your alma mater by establishing an endowed scholarship, fellowship, professorship or opportunity fund to support generations of students and faculty. In addition, we appreciate those of you who continue to provide annual unrestricted gifts to the College, particularly through the Deans Club (minimum $1,000 gift).

We are excited to welcome our new dean, Dr. Joseph Steinmetz, as we begin the new fiscal year. As we travel around the country in the coming months, we look forward to sharing his vision for enhancing the progressive liberal arts education students receive in the College as well as funding opportunities to make it all happen. Until then…. Rock Chalk Jayhawk, Go KU!

Kathleen Brady
Senior Development Director

Please address donations and inquiries to:
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* Indicates the donor is deceased.

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Bill Tuttle, 2006 Steeples Service to Kansans Award

Bill Tuttle, professor of American Studies, was honored for his tireless service to the African-American community in and around Lawrence. Tuttle has been recognized as one of the country’s leading social historians of African-American life and is the recipient of numerous awards for teaching, research and writing.

KU Collegian
The major projects of Paul Scott, assistant professor of French, include editing a volume of essays entitled Martyrdom and Martyrs: Early Modern Perspectives; a research trip to Paris where he uncovered the sole surviving copy of a play that was previously thought to be lost, and serving as part of an international team translating Pascal’s Pensées into a major English translation.

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D ONORS TO THE COLLEGE

Vicky Unruh, Outstanding Research Project Award

Rainer Schiel completed his master’s degree with honors in physics and astronomy in December 2005. He is currently pursuing his Ph.D. while serving as a graduate teaching assistant. In his research project entitled “The Electro-Photon Model for Cosmic Ray Shower Evolution,” Schiel corrected the Griesen model, which has been used for the last 50 years. Upon discovering it was incomplete, Schiel came up with an alternative explanation thus going far beyond the expectations of a traditional research project.
Outside of her commendation for ward advisor by professor of Sociology, Joey Sprague, pro-

fessor of Sociology, is considered a caring and straightforward advisor by her students. She is commended for seeing students outside of her advising hours, taking the time to get to know students individually and directing them toward classes suited to their interests and career paths. Students appreciate Sprague’s honesty and willingness to share her opinion when advising in addition to her interest in their personal success.

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KU Collegian
Bill Picking, John C. Wright Graduate Mentor Award

Bill Picking, Associate Professor in the Division of Biological Sciences, was recognized by his students for his open-door policy. He was commended for his outstanding teaching methods and cultivating, well-organized lectures. Picking’s enthusiasm for his subject and life in general, his encouraging attitude toward students and their research, and welcoming demeanor and approachability in the laboratory were also appreciated.

In Memory

Bud Hirsch, J. Michael Young Academic Advisor Award in the Humanities Division

Bud Hirsch, professor of English and coordinator of Undergraduate Studies, was praised by his students for creating an engaging learning environment and recognizing literature’s ability to educate us about the world. He will be remembered for encouraging students to take a sampling of classes from all departments to maximize their educational experience as a supporter of cross-departmental collaboration. Hirsch, 61, taught at KU for more than 30 years and recently received a W.T. Kemper Fellowship for teaching and advising. He passed away September 3, 2006.

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The prestigious Alumni Distinguished Achievement Award is presented annually to graduates of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences who have excelled in his or her contributions to KU, profession or communities. These awards recognize excellence in many different areas including, but not limited to:

- The Arts
- Public Service
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For more information or to submit a nomination, contact:

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