With all of the recent success that KU has had in athletics, it seems timely that we also talk about the many successes in the academic arena that make KU the great institution it is.

Two years ago, the College collectively undertook a comprehensive planning process to outline general goals and directions for the College for the next few years. The result was a formal planning document that we are now using to guide developments of our primary missions of research and teaching. I am very pleased that thanks to the great creativity of our faculty and students, many of the ideas that were articulated during the planning process are now becoming reality.

This summer, the College launched two new centers designed to enhance teaching, research and scholarship here at KU. The Center for the Analysis of Data is being developed to provide students and faculty with a valuable intellectual home and expanded resources for the design, analysis and interpretation of complex data sets. The Center for Global and International Studies has also been launched. The CGIS will coordinate the many research and teaching efforts of the College that involve international scholarship.

Many other ideas that came from our strategic planning exercise are also taking shape. We are offering more flexible ways for faculty to do their teaching and for students to learn, including the introduction of 1.5 credit eight-week courses, the integration of more web-based features in existing courses, creation of multi- and interdisciplinary team-taught courses, more research and scholarship opportunities for undergraduates and the development of many new undergraduate and graduate programs.

I could list many other initiatives that are under development in the College, including programs featured in this issue of The Collegian. I just note at this time that we will continue to explore ways to tap into the great energy and creativity of members of the College faculty to strengthen us further and enhance KU's reputation as a leader among public institutions in the liberal arts and sciences.

In my humble opinion, KU is a great place to be a scholar!
For more than a decade, the College has recognized the outstanding achievements of its graduates through Alumni Distinguished Achievement Awards. The awards are the highest honor bestowed by the College on alumni in recognition of contributions to their communities, professions or KU.

### Alumni Exemplify Success of Liberal Arts and Sciences Education

#### Distinguished Achievement Award Recipients

**Mary Dawson**
**Paleontologist**
*KU Degree: Doctorate in paleontology ’57*
Mary Dawson is an acclaimed paleontologist at the Carnegie Museum of Natural History in Pittsburgh, one of the largest of its kind in the world. She serves as curator emeritus of vertebrate paleontology and as an adjunct professor in the Department of Geology and Planetary Sciences at the University of Pittsburgh. Most of her research materials are fossils she has collected worldwide, with emphasis on Arctic regions and eastern Asia. Dawson received her doctorate in paleontology from the Department of Zoology (now part of the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology) at KU in 1957, a time when few women received doctoral degrees in any subject, especially paleontology.

**James Gunn**
**Science fiction author**
*KU Degrees: Bachelor’s in journalism ’47 and master’s in English ’51*
James Gunn is widely acknowledged as one of the most influential authors, scholars and educators in science fiction. He has penned 28 books, edited 12 books and written more than 100 published stories. Gunn is professor emeritus of English and director of the Center for the Study of Science Fiction at KU. He is most well-known as the author of “Alternate Worlds: The Illustrated History of Science Fiction” and as editor of the six-volume anthology “The Road to Science Fiction.” Gunn was named the 2007 Damon Knight Memorial Grand Master by the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America.

**Thomas Rudkin**
**PowerPoint inventor**
*KU Degree: Bachelor’s in mathematics ’73*
Thomas Rudkin is best known for his role as one of two engineers who wrote the first version of the software program PowerPoint. He has worked at Intel and Microsoft and as a self-employed information designer. Rudkin and his wife, Jann, are loyal KU graduates committed to the success of KU. Tom serves on KU’s International Programs advisory board; they both serve on the Biodiversity Institute/Natural History Museum advisory board and are longtime supporters of scholarship halls, the renovation of Spooner Hall for the Commons and the International House for visiting scholars.

**George Sheldon**
**Professor of surgery**
*KU Degrees: Bachelor’s in history ’57 and doctor of medicine ’61*
George Sheldon has served as chair of surgery for 17 years and professor of surgery and social medicine at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. He was a fellow in internal medicine at the Mayo Clinic, resident in surgery at the University of California-San Francisco and fellow in surgical biology at Harvard Medical School. Sheldon is one of fewer than 20 surgeons in the past 100 years to be president of all the major surgical organizations, including the American College of Surgeons, the American Surgical Association, the American Association for the Surgery of Trauma and the American Board of Surgery.

**Mary Dawson**
**Paleontologist**

**James Gunn**
**Science fiction author**

**Thomas Rudkin**
**PowerPoint inventor**

**George Sheldon**
**Professor of surgery**

Distinguished Alumni

For more than a decade, the College has recognized the outstanding achievements of its graduates through Alumni Distinguished Achievement Awards. The awards are the highest honor bestowed by the College on alumni in recognition of contributions to their communities, professions or KU.
Professors can be intimidating. So how can students make connections with faculty members so they will be ready to write recommendations or become a mentor?

The College launched a program in fall 2007 to provide an incentive for students to spend time with professors in a setting more relaxed than a classroom or faculty office. The Take Your Professor to Lunch program allows students to share a meal with a professor in a campus dining facility—all on the College’s tab.

“Taking your professor to lunch gives you a great opportunity to talk to them in a one-on-one setting,” said Lori McGinley, psychology senior. “It allows you to talk about things besides school, which really helps you get to know the other person.”

The program is simple. Students submit a short form signed by their professor to the Dean’s Office. In return, they receive a $15 campus dining voucher that can be used at the Crimson Café (Burge Union), the Market (Kansas Union) or the Underground (Wescoe Hall).

“Sharing and engaging with students is really a huge part of the pleasure of teaching,” said Linda Stone-Ferrier, professor and chair of art history. “Having lunch is just an informal way to engage, to let them know you are interested in their lives outside the classroom.”

Research shows students who establish an educational relationship with faculty members outside of the classroom will be more successful in their collegiate experience. 

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the University of Kansas is now accepting nominations for the 2009 Alumni Distinguished Achievement Award. Nominations are due October 15, 2008. For more information, go to clas.ku.edu and follow the Alumni & Friends link or contact Christie Appelhanz at cappel@ku.edu or 785.864.3516.
By the end of the school year, Kansas will have more than 400 openings for secondary math and science teachers with no one to fill them. The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the School of Education have teamed up to change that with the UKanTeach program, which allows math and science majors to earn their teaching license and a bachelor’s degree in four years. The program, designed after the UTeach program at the University of Texas in Austin, plans to produce 50 new math and science teachers for Kansas each year. Launched in 2007, UKanTeach gives students firsthand experience in designing curriculum and teaching K-12 students science/math lessons in local low-income schools. “[The] early field experience at the elementary level allows these KU students to try out teaching in an environment that seems less threatening to college students and, if they decide on a career in teaching, helps them understand the K-12 curricular continuum for science and math,” said Janis Lariviere. A master teacher with 24 years’ experience as a high school science teacher, she was instrumental in establishing the UKanTeach program at KU.

The National Math and Science Initiative awarded KU a $2.4 million grant to begin UKanTeach, allowing KU to offer students the first two introductory courses tuition-free. Competition for the grant included submissions from more than 50 universities. Other funds for the program have been contributed through the generosity of the Kauffman Foundation and Dr. Pete Rowland in memory of his mother, Elsie Fitzgerald Rowland.

“Both in Texas, and here in Kansas, the shortage of qualified math and science teachers is deeply disturbing,” Lariviere said. “Historically, across the country, research universities have not felt that it was their mission to recruit and prepare high numbers of teachers. But, in the last decade, the supply of teachers in the nation has not met the demand.” Lariviere came to KU with her husband, Provost Richard Lariviere, from the University of Texas in Austin, where she was an instructor and coordinator in the UTeach program for eight years.

“New programs can be somewhat difficult to start as change is often painful. Through hard work and commitment, KU faculty and staff have made this program possible,” Lariviere said.

“UKanTeach has gained traction quickly due to the tremendous need for the teachers it will prepare,” said Dr. Joseph Heppert, one of the program’s co-directors and chair of the chemistry department.

There are currently more than 60 students enrolled in UKanTeach courses. UKanTeach hopes to recruit more than 75 students each year, resulting in 300 students in the program at a time.

For more information, please visit the UKanTeach website at http://ukanteach.ku.edu/.

CAITLIN TEW IS A SENIOR, MINORING IN STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS.
Marc Langston

Marc Langston thinks young voters should be an active part of the political process, even if it means a few surprises here and there.

For Langston, one such moment came in December while campaigning in the snow for Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama in the New Hampshire primary and being chased out of a front yard by the homeowner’s pet donkey.

The Wichita native and honor roll student, who graduated with bachelor’s degrees in political science and art history, hopes to attend law school and prepare for a public service career.

At KU, he became a student senator, joined Young Democrats and served two years as its president as well as being president of College Democrats of Kansas. Prior to becoming a Dole Institute of Politics student intern this year, he participated in a study group with Steven Jacques, former Dole Fellow and former associate interim director of the Dole Institute.

Langston thinks students should seek opportunities to get to know candidates, legislators and other elected officials. With help from Jacques, now senior advance lead for the Obama presidential campaign, Langston quickly organized last August a KU Facebook group he named Barack Chalk Jayhawks and arranged for these students to meet Obama at a Kansas City, Mo., rally. They got Obama’s attention.

“I can’t imagine going anywhere else besides KU,” Langston said. “Opportunities I have had here, mostly due to the Dole Institute, make students I meet from Yale and Georgetown jealous.”

Mandy Cisneros: For Indigenous Nations Scholar, Law School Beckons

Growing up as a member of the Kansas Kickapoo Nation in Horton, Mandy Cisneros took the challenges facing her tribe to heart. She resolved to use her education to benefit the Kansas Kickapoo — and this ambition has led Cisneros to New Mexico, Capitol Hill and back home to Kansas.

“I’m just interested in being a voice,” said Cisneros. “There’s only about 1,600 Kansas Kickapoos. We’re a very small number, so it’s critical that everyone plays a part and contributes to the tribe.”

After earning a bachelor’s degree from the University of New Mexico, Cisneros graduated from KU with a master’s in indigenous nations studies. But her educational achievements won’t take her too far — geographically speaking. That’s because Cisneros will stay in Lawrence to enter the KU School of Law this fall.

“My mom cried when I told her I got into law school,” said Cisneros. “I’m the first in my family to get a four-year college degree as well as a master’s — and then get into law school.”

Cisneros will focus much of her legal education on issues facing the Kansas Kickapoo Nation. Most urgently, the tribe has a critical problem accessing quality drinking water. Thus, Cisneros has made the topic of water rights central to her studies.

Several faculty members in the Indigenous Nations Studies Program have been central to Cisneros’ academic success. She cited KU professors Angelique EagleWoman, Bobbi Rahder and Stacy L. Leeds as primary mentors.

While studying at KU, Cisneros has worked as a resident assistant in a dormitory at Haskell Indian Nations University. There, she answers residents’ inquiries and acts as a peer adviser to younger students — while drawing on her own experiences such as working as an intern on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C.
Ryan Rowan: Do well and give back

Ryan Rowan entered the University of Kansas with two goals: Do well and give back. He remembers his father, a KU graduate, driving him from their south Kansas City, Mo., home and saying that it was up to him to make the most of all that KU had to offer.

“He said that what I learn in the classroom is meaningless unless I can put it into action,” Rowan said. “Otherwise, it’s a waste of our money and KU’s time. That KU is here to make me a better student and a better leader, and it’s up to me to get every cent of value out of my education.”

And so he has.

As a KU Endowment Meritorious Scholar, Rowan will graduate with bachelor’s degrees in political science and African and African-American studies. As one of 10 graduating seniors honored with Chancellor’s Awards, Rowan was on the platform with the chancellor during commencement. He plans to attend law school, possibly going into public service or the military judiciary, particularly influenced by his grandfather, a World War II veteran.

At KU he has been active in Black Student Union, Black Men of Today, Am I My Brother’s Keeper and Rock Chalk Chalk Advisory Board. He is a graduate of KU’s LeaderShape Institute. Rowan was president of Phi Beta Sigma fraternity, president of KU’s National Pan-Hellenic Council and president of the Big 12 Council on Black Student Government.

Equally important to Rowan is taking part in Student Success programs that lend supportive assistance to minority students. He has been a KU Peer Adviser and a guide for KU’s HAWK Link academic retention program. Rowan also has been a KU TRIO mentor to sixth- and seventh-graders in the federally funded educational opportunity program.

Kate Giessel: Power of theater helps change world

Kate Giessel left KU with bachelor’s degrees in theater and linguistics and a minor in Latin American studies. She has always loved language and even enjoyed diagramming sentences in grade school.

“Languages are living things,” she said. “What is fascinating are these strings of sounds that we’ve assigned meaning and what they say about us as a community.”

The combination of her majors came together this year as she took the helm of a one-act play, “Linguistic.” The play, set in a small room in which four strangers are in quarantine, looks at a fictitious disease that causes aphasia, the neurological condition that takes away a person’s ability to process language.

Giessel spent about 18 months researching the play, talking with advisers in theater, English and neurolinguistics. She wanted to be sure she directed an accurate and sensitive production, and her actors delivered heartfelt performances. But still she felt like her show lacked a sense of greater purpose — something to make it last beyond a single night at the theater.

Then, about two weeks before the play was set to open, a 22-year-old friend suffered a stroke and lost the ability to speak.

“When I heard about my friend, I suddenly had much more of a sense of urgency to do it right,” said Giessel.

At performances, she distributed information on stroke awareness. She knew this was her opportunity to make a difference. If someone who attended her show later remembered what they had learned, her work would have transcended a single night at the theater.

“This was pretty alarming numbers to us,” said Nelson. “You have people who know that driving while talking on a cellular phone is dangerous, however, they do it anyway. And we just wanted to figure out why this is happening.”

Nelson said he hopes that people take a valuable lesson away from his research — that usually the risks of talking while driving far outweigh the rewards.

“Shannon, what are you doing?” asked an incredulous voice.

“I’m teaching,” Portillo replied. “What are you doing?”

Turns out the surprised student and Portillo had been in the same freshman English class in high school.

Such is the life of a 23-year-old graduate teaching assistant soon to be a 25-year-old assistant professor. Shannon Portillo earned her doctorate in public administration from KU this month and is headed to George Mason University to take a tenure-track position on the faculty of the Administration of Justice Department.

“I’ve loved my seven years at KU,” said Portillo, who also earned bachelor’s degrees in political science and international studies here. “But I’m ready for a ‘big kid’ job.”

Portillo credits her public administration advisers at KU with helping her succeed. Indeed, if John Nalbandian, professor of public administration, hadn’t given her an article about public administration, her path would have taken a much different direction. She also describes Chuck Epp, associate professor of public administration, as “hands down, the greatest adviser.”

Among Portillo’s accomplishments while at KU are Emily Taylor Women’s Resource Center Woman of Distinction; University Women’s Club Scholarship; Diversity in Academia Scholar, National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration; Melik scholarship for graduate study; Faculty Award, Pi Sigma Alpha, Political Science Honors Organization; Truman Scholar nominees; Dean’s Scholar Program, recognizing outstanding minority students interested in graduate school.

And soon she will head off to Fairfax, Va., for that “big kid” job.

“I’ve always known I wanted to be a professor,” Portillo said. “I could never imagine my life without school.”
AFRICAN & AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDIES Professor Shawn Alexander’s article, “Ven- geance Without Justice, Injustice Without Retribution: The Afro-American Council’s Struggle Against Racial Violence,” won the 2008 Frederick C. Luebke Award for outstanding scholarship. The prize, given each year to the best article published in the “Great Plains Quarterly,” includes a cash stipend. The judges noted that Alexander’s paper “was well researched and exceptionally well written. Moreover, the topic is one of great interest and significance.” Alexander has assumed interim directorship of the Largent Hughes African-American Studies Center.

AMERICAN STUDIES New faculty member Randall Jelks continues a department commitment to the research and teaching of African-American history and civil rights. During his research leave at UT-Austin, Professor Ruben Flores will investigate the roots of the American civil rights movement in the Mexican Revolution. Historian Leon Litwack’s lecture “Fight the Power” inaugurated an annual lecture series to honor Professor Emeritus William T. Tuttle and the establishment of the Tuttle Lecture Fund. The conference “Nuestra América in the U.S.2” was organized by Marta Camanero-Santange- lo, adviser to the new Latinas Studies minor.

ANTHROPOLOGY Assistant Professor of Anthropology Brent Metz, assisted by graduate student Rebecca Crossthwaite, led students in his “Mexamericans” course in a service learning project of recent Hispanic arrivals in Lawrence. The students conducted 128 surveys in Spanish that will be used to identify Hispanic backgrounds and needs for the newly-founded Centro Hispano/Hispanic Center in Lawrence. The Interna- tional Consortium for the Study of Tuberculosis, led by Professor Michael H. Crawford, has signed a memorandum of agreement for research on TB susceptibility in Mexican border populations. Field investigations are being initiated this summer in Chihuahua, Mexico, by Professor Bart Dean.

APPLIED BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE Professor Greg Madden received a National Institutes of Health grant for research on dopamine and the behavioral economics of gambling. Professor Ian Sheldon published “Law and Mental Health Professionals: Kansas” (American Psychological Association). Professor Steve Warren was named KU’s Vice-Provost for Research and Graduate Studies. Professor Glen White received Phi Beta Delta’s award for international scholar- ship and teaching. The department hired a new faculty member in early childhood. Assistant Professor Pam Neidert.

CENTER FOR BIOINFOMATICS Assistant Professor Yang Zhang became the second faculty member of the center to be awarded the prestigious Alfred P. Sloan Re- search Fellowship. Zhang’s research interests are in modeling of protein structure and interactions. Starting in 2005, Zhang has successfully developed his research program in the center to become one of the recognized leaders in the field. Assistant Professor Wai- pel Im received the fellowship award in 2007.

CHEMISTRY Professor Sue Lunte and her co-workers received a 2007 outstanding manuscript award from the Association of Pharmacologi- cal Scientists, a professional, scientific society of more than 12,000 members employed in academia, industry, government and other research institutes worldwide. The manuscript is titled: “A Microchip Electrophoresis Device With On-line Microdialysis Sampling and On-chip Sample Derivation by Naphthalene 2,3-dicarbboxaldehyde/2-mercaptoethanol for Amino Acid and Peptide Analysis.”

CHILD LANGUAGE Director Mabel Rice has been appointed to the advisory council of the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders. Professor John Johnson was named the Department’s Distinguished Alumni Award. Professor Nanette Ehlers on May 8 before the House Science and Technology Committee’s Subcommittee on Research and Science Education regarding her research on women in academic science. Professor Elizabeth Asiedu received the Byron T. Shutz Award for Excellence in Teaching and was recognized for her achievement during commencement.

COMMUNICATION STUDIES Faculty member Yan Bing Zhang became the 11th member of the department to win a prestigious Kemper Award last fall. KU has more Kemper Award winners than COMS. COMS faculty have been re- cognized for their research. Professor Nancy Bays twice appeared on public television in Canada to discuss new communication technologies and has been quoted in several important media outlets in the United States. Students in the program also have been honored, with the KU Debate Team spend- ing most of the 2007-2008 season ranked number one in the country, ahead of schools including Harvard, Dartmouth and Emory.

CLASSICS Classics and African and African-American studies worked together to sponsor four lec- tures dealing with intersections between the two departments. In February, they co-hosted the public lecture “Creating a Culture of Dis- semblance: African American Resistance to the Suppression of the Classics at Historically Black Colleges,” by Eugene O’Connor, manag- ing editor of The Ohio State University Press, and Kenneth Goings, OSU professor of Afri- can-American and African studies. In April, the guest was Martin Bernal, Cornell Uni- versity professor emeritus. He gave a public talk on “The Hybridity of Greek,” and presented the annual Marwa Africanus Lecture, “Black Athena and the Reaction to Her.”

CLINICAL CHILD PSYCHOLOGY In U.S. News and World Report’s “America’s Best Graduate Schools” rankings, released on March 28, the child psychology program at KU jumped six spots to be ranked 13th place among national public schools. This was one of seven graduate programs at the university that saw their ranking rise since last year.

COMPUTATION STUDIES Faculty member Yan Bing Zhang became the 11th member of the department to win a prestigious Kemper Award last fall. KU has more Kemper Award winners than COMS. COMS faculty have been re- cognized for their research. Professor Nancy Bays twice appeared on public television in Canada to discuss new communication technologies and has been quoted in several important media outlets in the United States. Students in the program also have been honored, with the KU Debate Team spend- ing most of the 2007-2008 season ranked number one in the country, ahead of schools including Harvard, Dartmouth and Emory.

CONCENTRATION IN EAST ASIAN STUDIES In April, the Center for East Asian Studies hosted an international conference, “Olym- pian Desires: Building Bodies and Nations in East Asia.” Geopolitics were the focus of two May events, which explored the current state of Eurasian security between China and Post-Soviet Central Asia, as well as the case of Tibet. The upcoming Olympics theme comes to a close this summer with a reading group co-sponsored by the Lawrence Public Library, “Beijing and the Olympics.”

ECOLOGY & EVOLUTIONARY BIOLOGY The Kenneth and Katie Armitage Education Center was dedicated at the KU Field Station in April. That same month, University of Texas Professor David M. Hillis, who earned a KU Ph.D. in 1985 and received a Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award from CLAS in 2006, was elected to the National Academy of Sciences. In May, Professor Michael Engel received the Charles Schuchert Award from the Paleontological Society, placing him in the company of luminaries including Stephen J. Gould and Niles Eldredge.

ECONOMICS The research of Professor Joshua Rosenbloom was featured in “The Boston Global” on May 18. Rosenbloom’s research is focused on the question of what caused the disparity between men and women in scientific fields. Professor Donna Virtue testified on Capitol Hill at the request of Congressman Vernon Ehlers on May 8 before the House Science and Technology Committee’s Subcommittee on Research and Science Education regarding her research on women in academic science. Professor Elizabeth Asiedu received the Byron T. Shutz Award for Excellence in Teaching and was recognized for her achievement during commencement.

ENGLISH In February, the Department of English co-hosted and co-sponsored the interna- tional conference, “Nuestra América in the U.S.2: A U.S. Latino/a Studies Conference.” Associate Professor Marta Camanero-San- tangelo chaired the event, which explored implications of the growth of the U.S. Latino population at the cusp of the 21st century. Literature and language were key subjects of the conference. Cornell University English Professor Helena Maria Viramontes deliv- ered the keynote address.
The department’s first Summer Language Institute (SLI) in Paris took place in 1962, making this year the program’s 46th anniversary. Badou Bouass, graduate teaching assistant in French and Italian, was honored by the Office of Graduate Studies with a Distinguished Service award for excellence in scholarship and pedagogy. In conjunction with the French Ministry of Culture, the French & Italian Department once again participated in the Tournées French and Francophone Film Festival, showcasing five French language films on KU’s Lawrence campus.

GEOGRAPHY
In October 2007, it was announced in “Science” magazine that Professor Jerry Dobson had been elected as a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science for his “diverse work on geographic information systems, advanced remote sensing and large-area change analysis, as well as for exemplary editorial and administrative work in geography.” The AAAS is an international non-profit organization dedicated to advancing science around the world by serving as an educator, leader, spokesperson and professional association.

GEOLOGY
The department is enjoying a significant upswing in numbers of students declaring their major in geology and attending its graduate program, now having more than 100 undergraduate majors and 70 graduate students. This group of students has been impressive in the last year, with four best paper acknowledgments at national and regional meetings, more Geological Society of America grants than any other school and more American Association of Petroleum Geologists grants than any other school. The department welcomed three new faculty members this year: Alison Ollivott in geology, Andreas Mueller in geochronology, and Evan Franseen in carbonate stratigraphy.

GERMANIC LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES
Norman Fahrer, a 1968 German graduate who participated in both of KU’s summer programs in Germany (Hölschörn 1963 and Eutin 1966), has generously established an endowed scholarship fund in memory of his father. His father, Dr. Walter Fahrer, was a professor of German at Bethany College in Lindberg. The Dr. Walter Fahrer Scholarship will provide a KU scholarship, which includes tuition and program fees, to a KU German major attending the Hölschörn Summer Institute.

HISTORY
In October 2005, Nicole Birgahm, a KU history major just a few days short of her 22nd birthday, was killed in the Boardwalk Apartments fire in Lawrence. In memory of her daughter, Nancy Birgahm of Wichita endowed the Nicole Birgahm Memorial Scholarship, which will annually recognize a history major who has overcome adversity to attain his or her personal goals. Fittingly, the first scholarship was presented this May to a survivor of the tragic Boardwalk fire, Yan Liu, a graduating senior in British history.

HEROENTOLOGY
Chung-Ju Liu was honored with the 2007 Retirement Research Foundation Award for Doctoral Dissertation Research from Professional Development 20 (Adult Development and Aging) of the American Psychological Association. Siye Leedahl was the recipient of two Master’s level paper awards from the Geomorphological Society of America for her paper, “Social Organizations and Aging: The Benefits of IVF Membership.” She was recognized by the society’s Emerging Scholar and Professional Organization and by the Social Research, Policy & Practice Section.

HALL CENTER FOR THE HUMANITIES
The center sponsored a number of public programs in the fall. This included Humanities Lecture Series talks by author Alexander McCall Smith, University of London Professor Sara Ahmed and China expert Orville Schell, Ann Cudd, professor of philosophy and women, gender and sexuality studies, received the center’s Byron Caldwell Smith Book Award. The center hosted documentary filmmaker Katja Eason at the Simons Public Humanities Fellow.

HUMANITIES & WESTERN CIVILIZATIONS
In October, faculty member Sandra Zimuls-Swartz presented the 2007 Don Yoder Lecture on Religion and Folklore at the national meeting of the American Folklore Society in Quebec. During February, HWC hosted lectures in two of its lecture series: Professor Kevin Wilmott delivered the 2007 Seaver Lecture on his film “CSA: Confederate States of America” and Michael Barringer-Mills, KU graduate and field coordinator for Doctors Without Borders, presented the 2007-08 Peace & Conflict Studies Lecture on “Medecins Sans Frontieres and Shrinking Humanities Space.”

INTERNATIONAL STUDIES
The Master of International Studies Organization (MISO), the program’s student group, continued its tradition of hosting “MISO and the Military” by inviting a current student who is also serving in the armed forces to present on their experiences overseas. This spring, Major Chris Pineo of the U.S. Marine Corps’ Joint Center for International Security Assistance and two Iraqi nationals who served as his translators offered our insightful perspectives on the situation in Iraq and prospects for the future.

KANSAS AFRICAN STUDIES CENTER
The Kansas African Studies Center hosted a groundbreaking interdisciplinary conference in March titled “Literary Studies and Environmental Studies in Africa.” Scholars from six disciplines and a dozen universities or research institutions in Africa, Europe and the United States presented a wide array of talks. Professors Garth Myers and Byron Caminero-Santana both gave keynote addresses. The Center of Latin American Studies is the proud recipient of a prestigious grant from the Tinker Foundation to fund graduate student research in Latin America, Spain and Portugal for 2008-2010. The College and the Office of Research & Graduate Studies provided the needed matching funds. Through this grant and with additional support from CBER and the Museum of Natural History, the Center was able to offer aid to 21 graduate students in support of their research for 2008.

LINGUISTICS
On the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the department and the 80th birthday of its founder, the College established the annual Frances Irregular lecture series. Professor Sara Rosen accepted a position at KU’s associate vice provost and dean of graduate studies. Professor Je Zhang received a grant from the National Science Foundation for his research on tone assimilation, bringing the number of NSF-supported faculty to three. Graduate student Wendy Hend received second prize in the student paper award from the Acoustical Society of America.

MATHEMATICS
April was National Mathematics Awareness Month. The department celebrated this year’s national theme of “Mathematics and Voting” with competitions and workshops. Prizes were awarded to the top students in each category during the mathematics department’s honors banquet on April 23 at the Adams Alumni Center. The competition had four levels: third and fourth grade, fifth and sixth grade, junior high and high school. Along with activities and contests for school children, the math department also scheduled a number of guest speakers for the KU community and the public.

MOLECULAR BIOSCIENCE
Professors Vidi Corbin, a geneticist and developmental biologist, and Krzysztof Kucera, a computational biophysicist, each received the coveted Kemper Award for distinguished teaching. Professor Audrey Lamb, a biochemist and crystallographer, received the prestigious K. BRAK faculty scholar award for her research on bioregenerative medicine in health and disease.

FRENCH & ITALIAN
The department’s first Summer Language Institute (SLI) in Paris took place in 1962, making this year the program’s 46th anniversary. Badou Bouass, graduate teaching assistant in French and Italian, was honored by the Office of Graduate Studies with a Distinguished Service award for excellence in scholarship and pedagogy. In conjunction with the French Ministry of Culture, the French & Italian Department once again participated in the Tournées French and Francophone Film Festival, showcasing five French language films on KU’s Lawrence campus.
MUSEUM STUDIES
Students in the public education class presented “School of Witchcraft and Wizardry,” an afternoon event at KU’s Natural History Museum and Biodiversity Research Center. The event drew over 400 people who learned about the art, history and science behind the popular book series in a program designed and developed by museum studies students. The nature of museums class partnered with the Freedom’s Frontier National Heritage Area to develop an exhibit concept and website concept complete with a sample podcast. The class final products will be connected as Freedom’s Frontier works with local museums to develop exhibits and expands its web presence.

PHILOSOPHY
Associate Professor Derrick Darby was awarded a Friends of the Hall Center Subvention Award for his book, “Rights, Race, and Recognition,” forthcoming from Cambridge University Press. The department hosted two E.H. Lindey Lectures: the 2007 lecture “Is There a Human Right to Democracy?” by Professor Seyla Benhabib of Yale and the 2008 lecture “Solidarity” by Professor David Wiggins, emeritus Wyleham Professor of Logic at Oxford University. The department is happy to announce the promotion of Ben Eggleton to associate professor.

PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY
Professor Adrian Meikle has been made a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science for his work in cosmology, astrobiology and public outreach. Professor Dave Benson has been cited by the American Physical Society as one of its top 534 out of 42,000 references. Professor Siyuan Han received the Chang Jiang Scholar Endowed Chair Award, sponsored by China’s Ministry of Education. Professor Hume Feldman organized the workshop “Present and Future of Peculiar Velocity Analysis.”

POLITICAL SCIENCE
Princeton University Press is publishing Professor Kate Weaver’s book “Hypocrisy Trap: The World Bank and the Poverty of Reform.” Professor John Kennedy and colleagues at Northwestern University, Xian, China, are developing a research center with funding from the Ford Foundation (Beijing). Professor Burdett Loomis received funding from the Kirklin Center for Congressional Studies for research on Bob Dole’s 1974 Senate campaign and was awarded a Hall Center Residential Fellowship for an expanded version of that project.

PSYCHOLOGY
In May, the Psychology Department held its first Recognition Ceremony for spring and summer graduates. Over 100 students attended, along with their families and friends, and it was very well received. The department looks forward to making it an annual event. At Commencement, Professor Patricia Hawley was honored with the Silver Anniversary Distinguished Teaching Award. Next year, four new faculty members will join the department in clinical, quantitative, and social psychology.

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
Assistant Professor Sanjay Pandey received the 2008 Marshall E. Dimock Award from the American Society for Public Administration. The Dimock Award is presented for the best lead article published during the previous year in the Public Administration Review. Pandey was awarded an article for an article co-authored with Donald Hoytman from the University of Wisconsin-Madison titled, “The Role of Organizations in Fostering Public Service Motivation.” On Feb. 16, 2008, members of the National Forum for Black Public Administrators (NFBPA) held the third Executive Leadership Institute at KU organized by the department. The three-day workshop focused on leadership in local government and community building.

SLAVIC LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES
Professor William J. Comer completed a four-year term as chair of the program committee that organizes presentations for the annual meeting of the American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages. Professor Maria Carkon was invited by Vice President for Academic Affairs Kenneth W. Rea to address several hundred faculty and students of Louisiana Tech University on the topic of “Russia’s Search for Identity after the Fall.” She was also invited by the Center for Slavic, Eurasian, and East European Studies (Duke University and the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill) to be the featured speaker for the Piedmont Slavic Colloquium. Marc L. Greenberg published A Short Reference Grammar of Slavic (LINCOM Studies in Slavic Linguistics, vol. 30) with LINCOM, Munich, in January 2008.

SOCIOLOGY
Saskia Sassen, a leading authority on globalization, delivered the annual Clark Lecture. Associate Professor Mehrnaz Najafizadeh has been awarded a Fulbright Senior Specialist grant to return to Azerbaijan. Professor Shirley Hill’s book, “Black Intimacies” has won the 2008 Midwest Sociological Society’s Distinguished Book Award. Professor Bill Staples’ reference work, “The Encyclopedia of Privacy,” was recognized as a CHOICE Outstanding Academic Title. Staples and Assistant Professor Brian Donavon are the next editors of The Sociological Quarterly.

SPANISH & PORTUGUESE
Antonio Simões received the 2008 Jessie Marie and Ann Cramer Rost Faculty Award for his Portuguese textbook, “Pois Não,” his co-authored book, “Brazilian Portuguese Pronunciation,” and his forthcoming book “Bairrão” that teaches advanced Portuguese through Brazilian popular music. Patricia Manning was promoted to associate professor with tenure. Her book, “Voicing Dissent in Seventeenth-Century Spain: Inquisition, Social Criticism and Theology in the Case of El Criticón,” was accepted by Brill.

SPEECH-LANGUAGE-HEARING SCIENCES & DISORDERS
SRH received the Center for Teaching Excellence’s Departmental Teaching Award in recognition of its efforts to improve assessment procedures and outcome measures. Professor John Brandt will retire in May after 37 years of service to the department. Professor Nancy Brady will join the faculty in the fall and will bring further expertise in developmental disabilities. The department continues to rank in the top 5 percent of programs in the field in receipt of NIH funding.

THEATRE & FILM
The two support organizations in the Department of Theatre and Film had a busy spring, raising funds for the film program and for a newly-established student ticket fund. KU Friends of Film was launched March 29 with a reception and an advanced screening of Professor Kevin Willmott’s newest feature film, “Bunker Hill.” Friends of the Theatre held a Benefit Auction and Concert by Kelley Hunt on April 26 as part of the Alums Come Home 5 celebration.

WOMEN, GENDER AND SEXUALITY STUDIES
The Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies Program held its annual banquet on May 8, recognizing 13 graduating seniors and three graduate certificate students. Jesse Jones and Nicole Potter were awarded the Virginia’s Purse Award, and Kelsey Sewell was recognized as the department’s Harvey S. Nelson Scholarship winner. Jennifer Osborn won the senior thesis prize. Professor John Younger has agreed to take the leadership of the program as acting director until a new director is named in the fall. Outgoing Director Ann Could will be moving into a new role as associate dean for the humanities in the College Dean’s Office.

Samantha Bennett is a 2006 graduate in psychology.
Much of your research has focused on social equity. Tell us about that and the direction of your more recent research.

Social equity has come to be a general phrase which summarizes issues of fairness and justice in the work of public officials. My initial work on the subject, done in the 1970s, is usually regarded as the starting point for the social equity perspective in the field of public administration. In the early years the social equity perspective was regarded by many as controversial. Now it is almost universally accepted as part of the public administration canon.


You’ve had a prestigious administrative career, serving on the National Academy of Public Administration. What are the highlights and how has your research in governmental ethics helped you to become a successful administrator?

Actually when I was a dean and later a university president, my work on social equity was more helpful than my work on ethics. Fairness to employees and to clients is, I believe, an essential element in the management of large enterprises, including universities.

You have been commended by your colleagues as a wonderful and dedicated teacher, incorporating unconventional teaching methods to assist in learning. How did the use of the song “Mamas, Don’t Let Your Babies Grow Up to be Cowboys” become part of your teaching regimen?

Learning should be fun. Students write and perform little Weird Al type lyrics to popular tunes, including “Mama, don’t let your babies grow up to be cowboys.” The word “cowboys” is changed to “bureaucrats” and the lyrics go on from there. The performances are good fun.

Your father was the owner of the Frederickson’s Fine Chocolates. Any anecdotes about growing up as the son of a chocolatier?

My dad died three years ago, at age 93. He opened Frederickson’s Fine Chocolates in 1937, and it is still in operation, run by my step-mother. Dad was a great candy maker and a creative salesman. In the months before Christmas, which is the big candy season, he would take me with him when he sold candy.

We would go into a factory and Dad would ask to see the foreman or the owner. Once we were in the presence of the owner, Dad would carefully open a fresh box of chocolates and offer the owner a piece. While the owner was eating that piece of candy Dad would suggest that a box of chocolates would be a nice part of the company’s Christmas bonus to its employees. The lesson was that it is very hard to say no to someone while you are eating something they have offered you. To increase the possibility of a “sympathy sale,” it also helps the salesman to bring an urchin along. I was that urchin.

I understand your hobbies range from a passion for cars to fly-fishing. Tell us what you do in your spare time when you are not teaching or serving the public.

I have many weaknesses and failings including cars, fishing, hunting, and the films of Woody Allen, Mel Brooks and Steve Martin.
May 4, 2007, is a day that I will never forget. This was the day that my town of Greensburg, Kan., was almost wiped off the face of the earth. The first EF-5 tornado since 1999 took every physical landmark of Greensburg I had known for 22 years. Those initial 12 hours following the tornado were the most frightening moments of my life. I had no idea if my family and friends were safe, and I did not know what had become of my hometown.

Fortunately, my home was one of the few that survived the tornado with only minor repairs needed. Lifelong friends were not so lucky. My brother, a KU freshman, and I made the trip home to help in the cleanup efforts. My first visit back left me in shock. There was almost nothing recognizable left, and I felt completely disoriented. This was not the town I knew.

The first few months were filled with despair. Since that time, despair has been replaced with hope and excitement. Our new city buildings will be built at the LEED Platinum level and the new school will be one of the most environmentally friendly in the United States. Greensburg is now a town that is focused on making the future a better place for generations to come. When Greensburg is completely rebuilt, it will be one of the most environmentally friendly towns in the nation, and that is something I am immensely proud of. While the physical landmarks of my childhood are gone, the community I have always loved remains and is determined to persevere.

**CHAMPION SPIRIT:**

**GREENSBURG ONE YEAR LATER**

BY STEPHANIE WHITE

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**JAYHAWKS INVITED TO RETURN TO CLASSROOM**

The College of Liberal Arts & Sciences and KU Continuing Education are thrilled to announce the first annual Mini College to be held June 1-5, 2009, on the KU campus. You are invited to join us for an incredible week of learning and fun. Choose from a range of lectures, tours, community events and social gatherings. You will have the opportunity to interact with KU faculty and administrators in a relaxed and friendly environment. Commute, stay in a local hotel, or for the full experience, a KU dorm room. You do not have to be a KU graduate to attend. This event is open to all adults.

To learn more, visit minicourse.ku.edu, return the form below or contact Jessica Beeson at 785-864-1761 or eliasb@ku.edu.

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